

FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY NEWS RELEASE

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FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY HOLDS SUMMER COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Columbus, Ohio – Franklin University, one of the leading educators of working adults in central Ohio, will celebrate the accomplishments of its 520 graduates this August when it holds its summer commencement ceremony.

In a commencement ceremony held on Sunday, August 13, 2006 at 2 p.m., Franklin Faculty, Adjunct Faculty and staff will join graduate family and friends as they watch Franklin degree candidates receive their degrees.

Nationally recognized leadership and military expert General Al Gray USMC (Ret.) will address the graduates. General Gray, who served as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1987 to 1991, was the 29th Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. In this capacity, he served as a military advisor to the President. During this time he also institutionalized and published a war fighting philosophy for Marines and implemented a new long range strategic planning process for the Corps. He retired from the United States Marine Corps in 1991 after forty-one years of service. General Gray is currently the Chairman of the Board for GlobeSecNine, Inc., and Chairman of the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies Board of Regents. Additionally, he is Chancellor of the Marine Military Academy, Chairman of the U.S. Marine Youth Foundation and Chairman of the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. He also serves as a trustee for Norwich University and the American Military University, where he is Chairman Emeritus. In March 2006, General Gray co-authored *The Conflicted Leader and Vantage Leadership* with Franklin University President Dr. Paul Otte.

In addition to delivering the Commencement address, General Gray will receive an Honorary Doctorate in Leadership.

Robert L. Bailey, retired CEO and Chairman of the Board of State Auto Insurance, will join General Gray when he also receives an Honorary Doctorate in Leadership at Sunday's ceremony. During Bailey's tenure at State Auto, sales rose from \$214 million to more than \$1 billion, while the company's net worth also increased from \$139 million to nearly \$1 billion, making State Auto one of the top performing property/casualty insurance organizations in the United States. In 2000, the Professional Insurance Agents Association named him the Insurance Industry Person of the Year. Bailey is the author of the Franklin University Press publication, *Plain Talk About Leadership; Silver Bullets for Success*, and is a current and former member of numerous boards and organizations, including Franklin University, where he is a past Chairman of the Board of Trustees and a current Trustee Emeritus. Franklin's Robert L. Bailey Teaching Award, which is awarded at each Commencement ceremony was named in his honor.

Franklin University

123RD Commencement Ceremony
Sunday, August 13, 2006, 2 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
Speaker: Retired U.S. Marine
Gen. Al Gray

Honorary Degrees

General Gray- Honorary Doctorate of
Community Leadership
Robert L. Bailey- Honorary Doctorate
of Leadership

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Page Two

“This has been a great year for Franklin University,” said Franklin President Paul Otte. “We continue to achieve growth while staying true to our commitment to providing the highest quality education, and to securing strong relationships through the Community College Alliance and eArmyU Programs.”

Franklin’s Community College Alliance (CCA) was founded in 1998 and has allowed Franklin to extend its online bachelor’s degree programs to students at more than 230 community colleges in 32 states across the United States and in the Bahamas. In addition, Franklin is one of the original 29 institutions to partner with the U.S. Army to provide education opportunities to active-duty soldiers stationed at home and abroad.

Founded in 1902, Franklin University is central Ohio’s leading and most experienced educator of adult students. Annually, nearly 10,000 students attend Franklin, both on-campus and online. Franklin offers 18 undergraduate majors and three graduate programs, including the Vantage MBA™, and graduates more than 1,500 students annually.

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