

Creating Inclusive Convocations

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What is inclusiveness?

- Honouring diversity
- Making all participants feel welcome
- Enabling participation from all



Factors to consider

- Timing
- Accessibility concerns
- Language
- Naming and celebrating diversity
- Food
- Financial questions



Timing

- Religious holidays
- International student visa concerns



Accessibility Issues

- Mobility impairment
- Visual / hearing impairment



Preparing for convocation

- Application to graduate form
- Invite students to include a special message they'd like to have read as they cross the stage
- Place to log requests for accommodations



Ceremony

- Pronunciation of non-English names
- Visible diversity on the stage
- Formal but not stuffy
- Student-driven special message
- Co-presenting of diploma
- Handshaking
- Optional sash or pin
- Prayer



Reception

- Variety of foods (multicultural)
- Awareness of dietary restrictions
- Alcohol
- Circulating hosts representing diversity



Convocation beyond walls

- CCTV in spillover location
- Live streaming video



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