Glasgow Graduand Ceremony

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It’s commencement time at WKU as more than thirteen hundred graduates will participate in two ceremonies this weekend.

In this week’s View from the Hill, Amy Bingham shows us how an event on the Glasgow campus kicked off the festivities.

Have you heard the term “graduand”? I hadn’t either until last year when WKU’s Glasgow campus began having a ceremony in honor of them.

“Graduand, if you go to your Latin roots, is someone about to graduate.”

WKU Provost Gordon Emslie, who hails from Glasgow Scottland, says the term “graduand” is common across the pond and was even used in his own graduation program.

“The graduands will process into the arena and graduates will process out of arena, very picky about this there.”

This is the third time a special graduand ceremony has been held to honor seniors at the Glasgow campus.

“When I first arrived on WKU’s Glasgow campus there really wasn’t an event that allowed the Glasgow campus family to celebrate with students when they graduated.”

This year’s graduand ceremony went a step further with another Scottish tradition.

“I’m modeling the tartan stole, this is the Glasgow tarton and each graduand will receive one of these and will be expected or asked to wear it at commencement.”

The tartan stole will set the Glasgow seniors apart at Saturday’s main commencement ceremonies.

It’s a milestone worth celebrating twice and giving families a chance to relish the accomplishment.

“We’re growing this tradition on the Glasgow campus. We also wanted students to know they are part of something much bigger than WKU Glasgow.”

WKU’s 172nd commencement ceremonies will be held Saturday at 9:30 and two at Diddle Arena. President Gary Ransdell will deliver remarks at both ceremonies.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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