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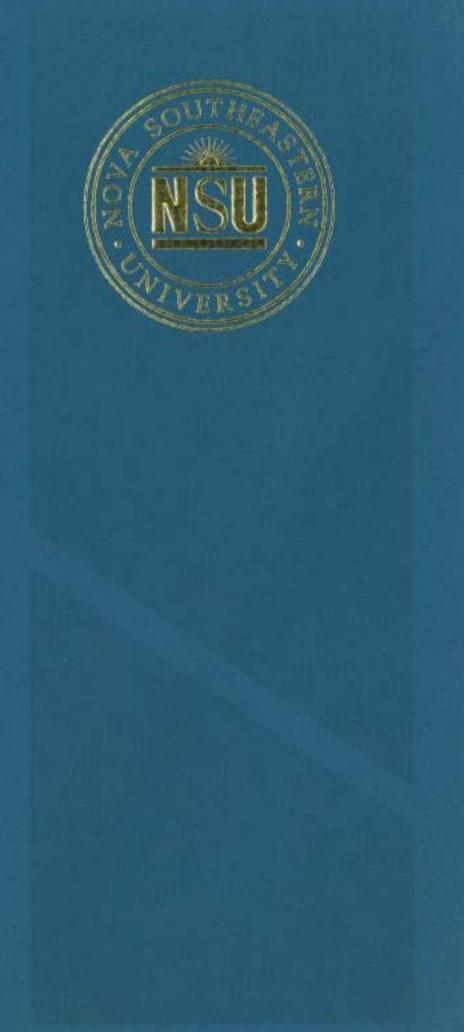


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Physician Assistant Department Physical Therapy Department Medical Science Audiology Department

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Sunday, July 13, 2003
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Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER MAYOR DIANA WASSERMAN-RUBIN



In November 2002 the voice of the people would forever change Broward County's governing charter and, as a result, Commissioner Diana Wasserman-Rubin would make history, becoming the very first Mayor of Broward County.

It's not surprising because Diana Wasserman-Rubin has lived a lifetime of "firsts." She was the first Hispanic-American elected to the Broward County Board of Commissioners in 2000. The first Hispanic-American, elected by the nine-member Commission, to serve as Vice-Chair in 2001. In 1998, she was the first Hispanic female elected countywide to the Broward County School Board. She was also the first Hispanic-American to serve on the South Broward Hospital District Board of Commissioners, and the first female to serve as Chair of the Board (1984-1988). In addition, she is the first Hispanic-American inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame.

Over the years, Mayor Wasserman-Rubin has held many elected and appointed offices on local, state and national levels. On the national level, she served as a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. Her state appointments include serving as a member of the Governor's Commission on Education. Locally, she successfully chaired the Broward County Fire Rescue Council. Under her leadership, consensus-building relationships were formed to improve and enhance the delivery of vital fire rescue services countywide.

Throughout her career in public service, Mayor Wasserman-Rubin received many awards, including the "Woman of Valor Award" (2003) and the Weizmann Institute of Science, "Woman of Vision Award (1997). She has a long list of notable achievements; these include the Swim Central Program, which has provided water safety education to more than 31,000 children; The Nutrition Committee, which researches ways to improve school lunches; and Smoke Free Class of 2000, a program to educate students about the hazards of smoking.

Born in Havana, Cuba, Mayor Wasserman-Rubin came to the United States in 1960 and she became a citizen in 1970. She is married to Richard Rubin, AIA. Diana Wasserman-Rubin continues to serve as a role model, motivator, inspiration, and mentor to all.

THE AUDIOLOGY OATH

As a Doctor of Audiology, I pledge to practice the art and science of my profession to the best of my ability and to be ethical in conduct.

I will respect and honor my teachers, and also those who forged the path I freely follow.

According to their example, I will continue to expand my knowledge and improve my skills.

I will collaborate with my fellow audiologists and other professionals for the benefit of our patients.

I will, to the best of my ability and judgment, evaluate, manage, and treat my patients.

I will willingly do no harm, but rather always strive to provide care according to the standards of the profession.

I will act to the benefit of those needing care, striving to see that none go untreated.

I will practice when competent to do so, and refer all others to practitioners capable of providing care in keeping with this oath.

I will aspire to personal and professional conduct free from corruption.

I will keep in confidence all information made known to me about my patients.

As a Doctor of Audiology, I agree to be held accountable for any violation of this Oath and the ethics of the profession. While I keep this Oath unviolated, may it be granted to me to enjoy life and the practice of the art and science of audiology, respected by all persons, in all times.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND REGALIA

The Academic Processional is a longstanding tradition which originated in medieval universities in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Attired in cap, hood and gown, the faculty would present itself and its students to the local community for inspection.

The gown was originally thought to be worn for warmth, and to denote authority and privilege.

Today, black is the color of the gown for all degrees, although variations represent

the difference in the level of the degree.

The medieval hood was worn as a protection from the elements or used as a satchel to carry scrolls and books. The modern hood worn today is lined with satin in the colors of the institution conferring the degree (Nova Southeastern University colors are blue and gray).

In addition, the hood is trimmed with various colors of velvet facing, each color representing the academic discipline in which the degree has been granted. Teal has been designated to represent physical therapy, gold for medical science, forest green for audiology, and salmon to represent public health.

The academic cap, at one time worn by freed Roman slaves, signifies

the wearer's right to academic freedom and attests to the dignity endowed upon

the wearer as well as the responsibility for maintaining

the highest practical and ethical standards.

During the Middle Ages, the mace was displayed as a symbol to command order during royal gatherings, ceremonies, and university classes. The mace progressed into a symbol of authority and today is frequently used to lead academic processions.

The mace was originally a wooden staff carried by royal messengers as a symbol to preserve order and usher royal functions. The early wooden staff of such royal messengers or lead ushers of ceremonial processions was transformed in the 14th century, into an elaborate sterling silver mace.

Eventually, in the 15th century, it evolved into a symbol of academic excellence and dignity.

Graduates who have been recognized for academic achievement by the college are wearing honor cords.

