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Subject: Commencement Speaker
From: Paul Tribble <ptribble@cnu.edu>
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To: faculty@cnu.edu, employees@cnu.edu

I am pleased to announce that Dean Douglas Gordon has agreed to give the commencement address on Sunday, May 17, 2009. He is a beloved teacher and respected academic administrator and no one has contributed more to our success than Dean Gordon during his distinguished 29 year tenure at CNU.

Prior to joining the CNU faculty in 1980, Dean Gordon earned a B.A. in English with Distinction from the University of Virginia and an M.A. and Ph.D. in English from the University of Tennessee.

A professor who instructs and inspires his students, Douglas Gordon has devoted himself to teaching first year students and also taught popular courses in Shakespearian and Victorian literature and his special topics course "Dogs in Literature."

Dr. Gordon has led and served this community of teacher scholars and students in many ways. As Chair of the Task Force on Curriculum and Academic Life, Dean Gordon was instrumental in shaping CNU's richly engaging liberal learning core curriculum. From 1986 to 1990 he served as Chair of the Department of English. He was twice elected as President of the Faculty Advisory Committee, the forerunner of our Faculty Senate and he served as an able member of the Strategic Planning Committee of Vision 2010 and the Budget Advisory Committee.

Dean Gordon also chaired the Football Feasibility Committee and served for 10 years as the Faculty Athletics Representative. Dean Gordon was the advisor to Alpha Chi, advisor to the National English Honorary Society Sigma Tau Delta, and Founder of CNU's chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Society.

Since 2003, Dr. Gordon has served as the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, articulating with passion and eloquence our commitment to shaping hearts and minds and producing good citizens and leaders. During his tenure we have seen the largest increase in faculty development in our university's history and the establishment of the highly successful Paideia Conference on undergraduate research.

I am confident that Dean Gordon's final lecture will instruct and inspire all the members of our CNU community.

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