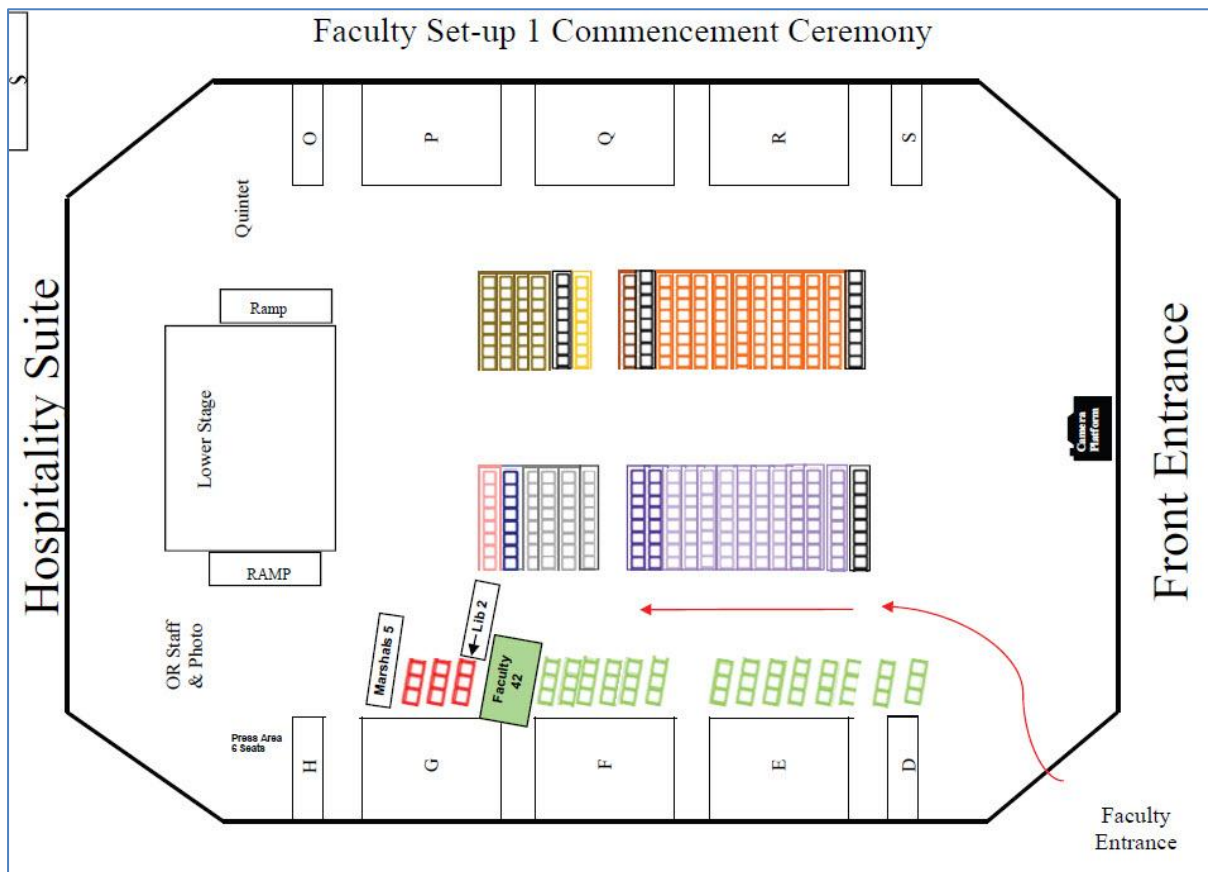
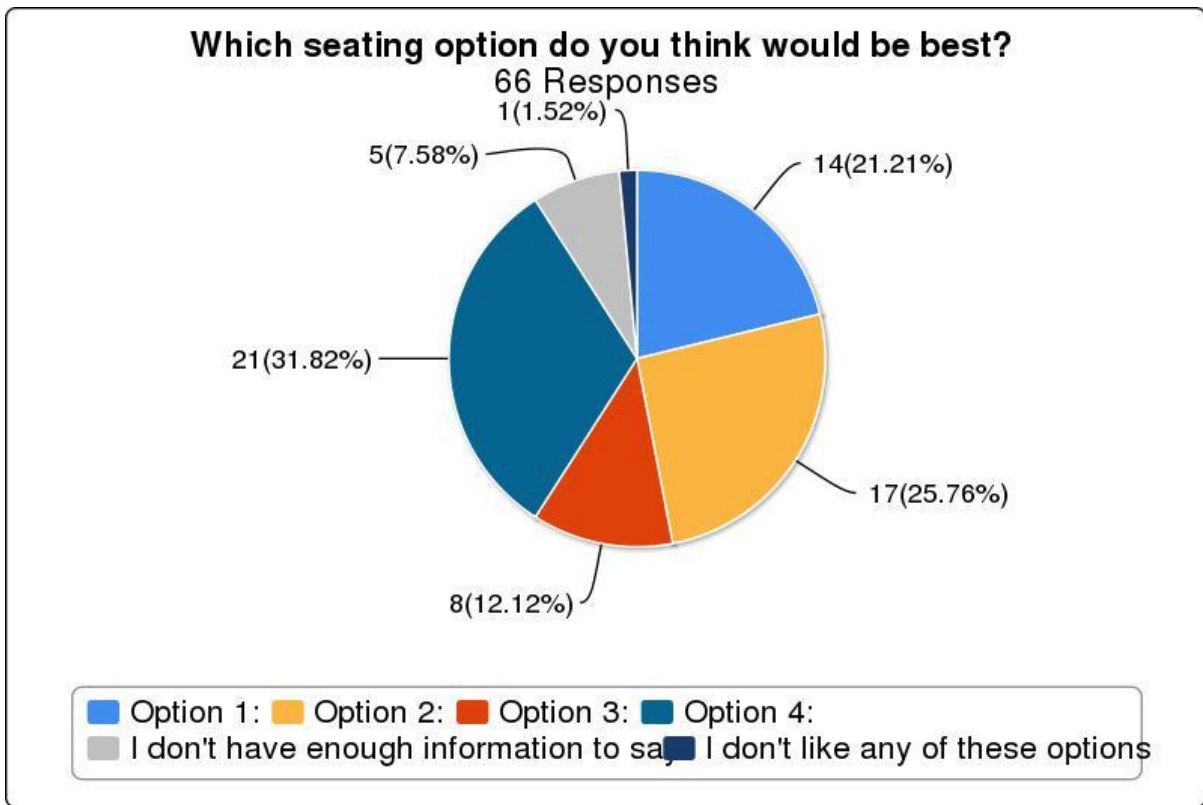
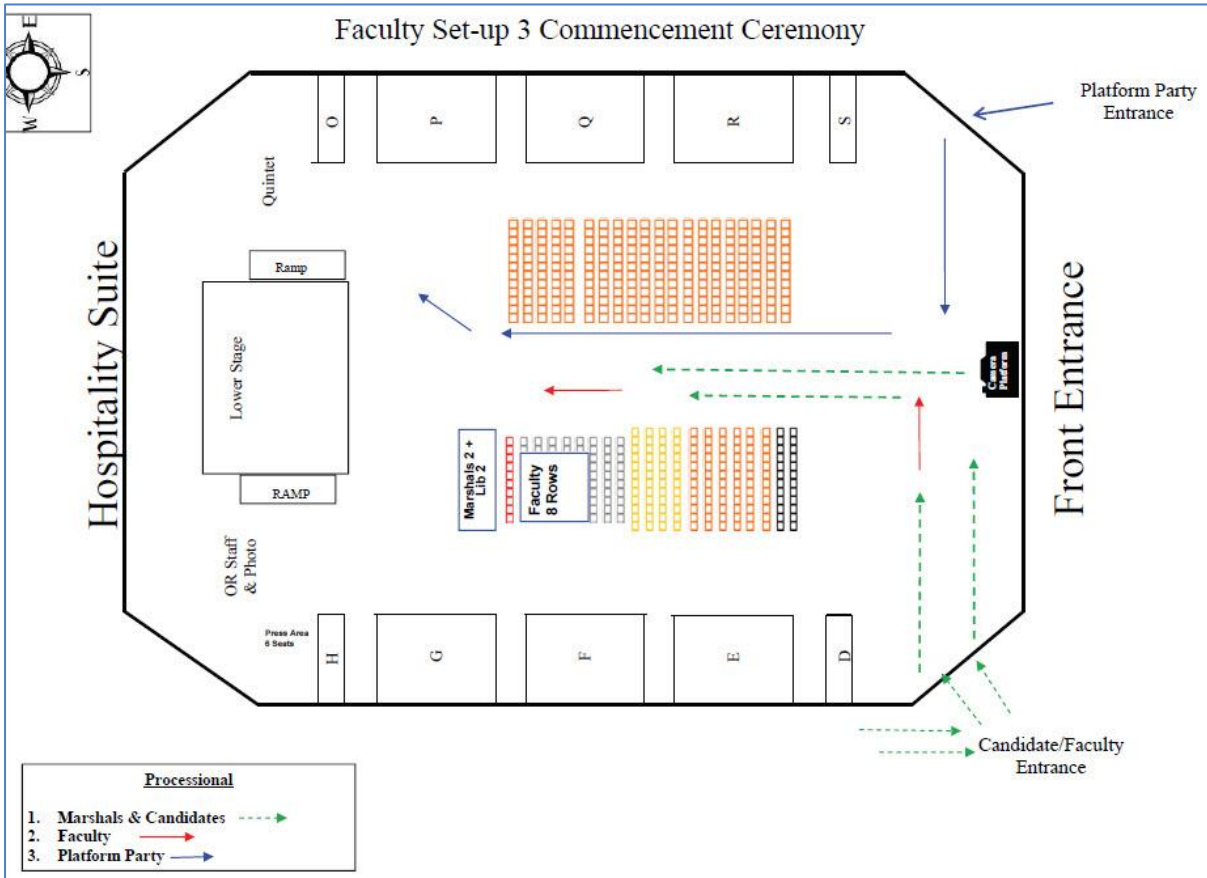
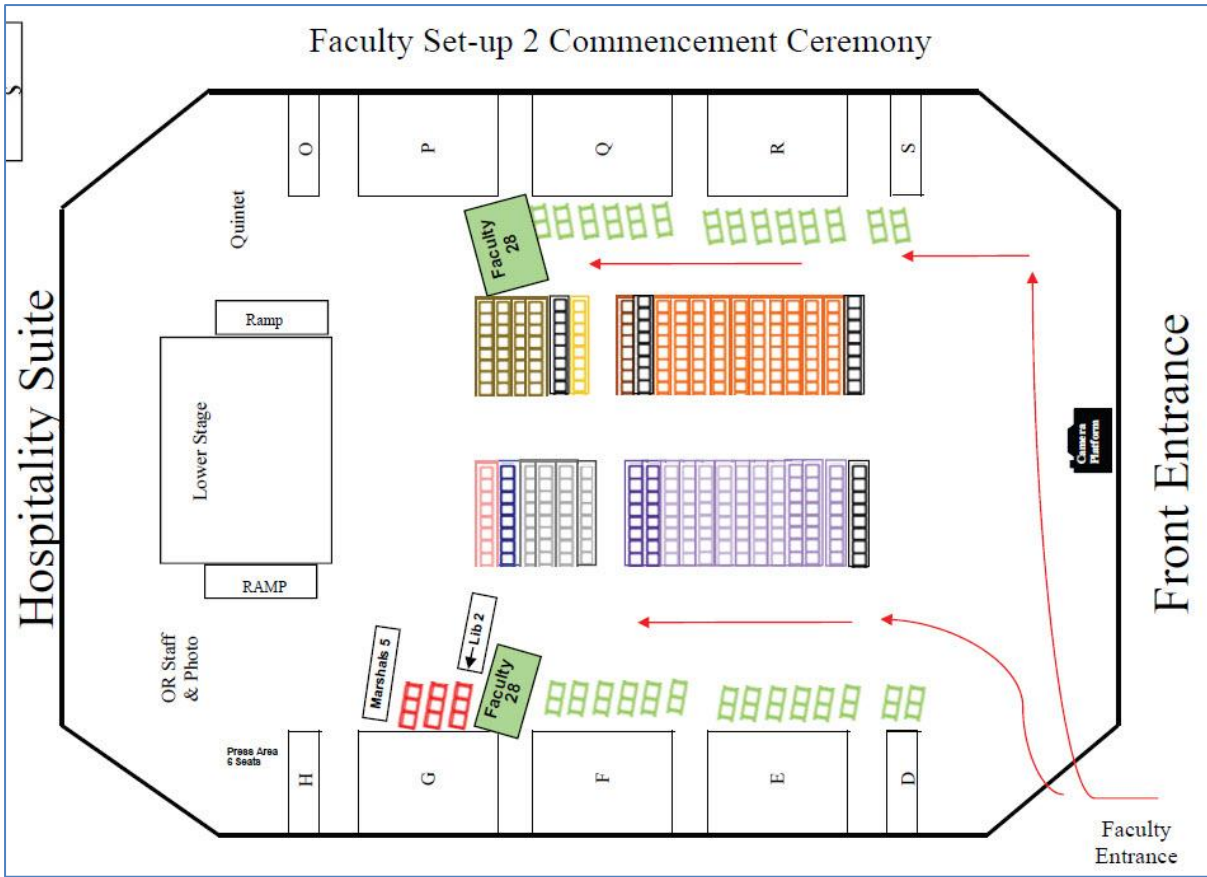
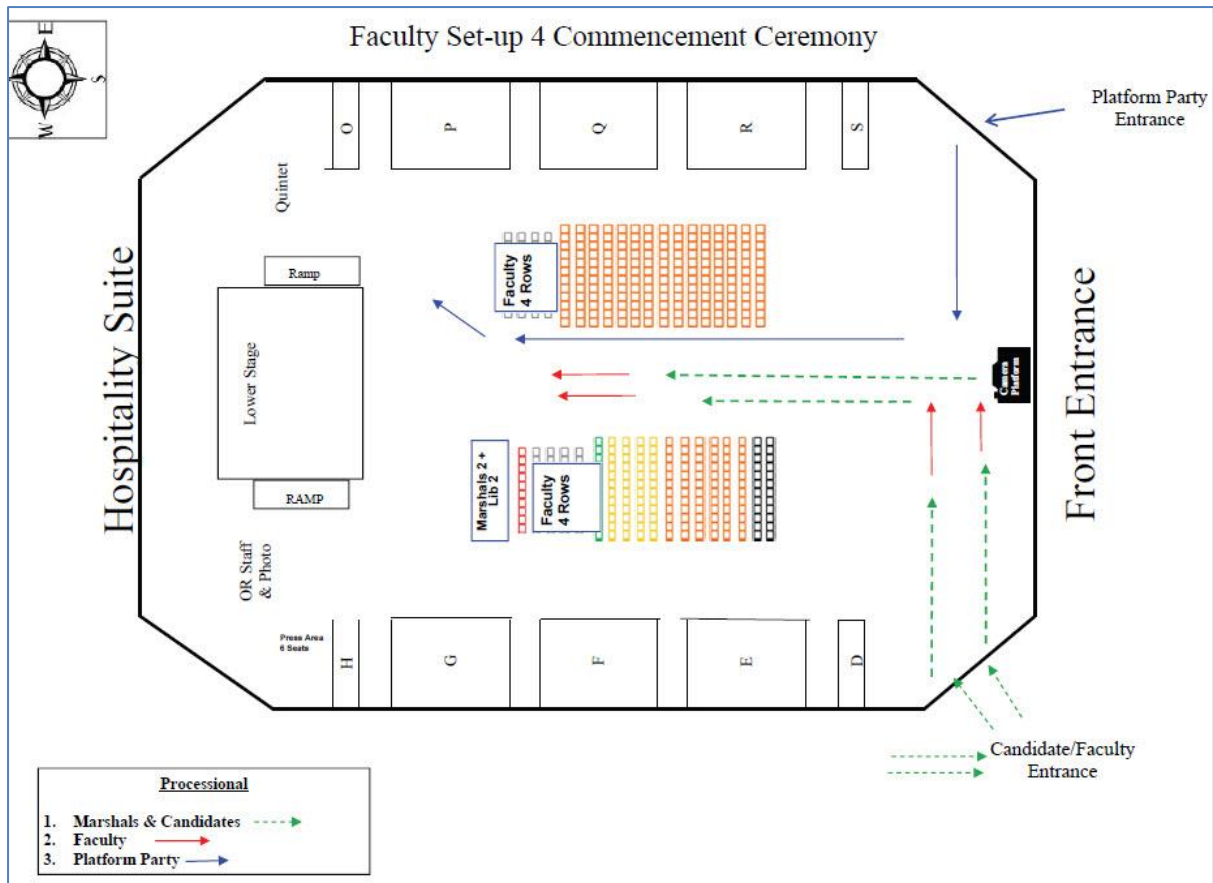


Faculty Seating at Commencement: Survey Results







Would you like to give any explanation for your preferences? Please provide any further thoughts you have about commencement seating for faculty.

32 Responses

- I was at the summer graduation. It was much better than the spring graduation since we did not have to file back to the seats after students were handed their degree. The first and the second are better, but the second allows for enough space to ensure faculty can stand right next to their chairs if they need to sit down.
- Seats need spaces between them for comfort.
- Option 1 or 2 are the best.
- I like three; it is the traditional way we have "always" done it. Students will see all their faculty in one place.
- I think both options 3 & 4 are viable.
- I do not have a strong preference but I think that options 2 or 4 might work better logistically, assuming that the the two faculty seating blocks would separate the faculty by Colleges. This would help eliminate the faculty getting in one another's way when they switch places. It might also be helpful if the faculty could line up on alternating sides of the arena. This would of course require some thought as to where the graduates from the different colleges were seating.and might be logistically impossible.
- Please give extra room between chairs, even if it means adding more rows. Thank you.
- Either option 1 or option 2 (depending on how many faculty RSVP, I suppose? With shorter rows for faculty we allow better ingress and egress for the greeting lines; we also allow a better opportunity for faculty to adjust the chair spacing a slight bit to accommodate comfortable spacing between people. I know that being overweight is unhealthy, and I understand that my weight problem is my responsibility. However, when I am crammed into a long row of chairs spaced closely I feel stigmatized and punished; I am terribly self-

conscious about overflowing the small folding chairs that we use and invading the personal space of the person next to me. This discomfort is exacerbated by the fact that I am wearing street clothes and a full-length wool gown with a hood that prevents any ventilation in the neck area and a tam that insulates my head, keeping the heat in there also. Add the fact that I am peri-menopausal (don't forget overweight, as I mentioned before) and I spend the entire ceremony sweating. Now I am sweating all over someone else's personal space. My department chair sends emails insisting that all faculty attend commencement but when I do attend I am very uncomfortable. Options 1 and 2 provide the most opportunity for relief from that discomfort.

This would be the best arrangement if we continue the receiving line of faculty for graduates. I would like to see the receiving line discontinued because we have gotten too big, many of the graduates bypass the receiving line, and the back and forth progression of faculty in and out of seats makes the whole ceremony look like a circus. If the receiving line is discontinued, then option 3 would be my preferred option.

I like it the way it is. I think that's the one I picked.

I think two sidelines makes the most sense to me.

I think faculty should be seated altogether.

It shows faculty as leaders.

keeps faculty together to make moving to and from the "congratulations line" simpler

Faculty sit separately by college and can go to the back to form the congratulation line from the sides (not the middle). Least probability in getting in each other's way.

The main thing is making sure there is accommodation for a receiving line. It doesn't really matter where we sit as long as we get to shake hands with the students as they come off the stage. .

Faculty should be on the platform. That used to be the case in many universities. They are the heart and soul of the University.

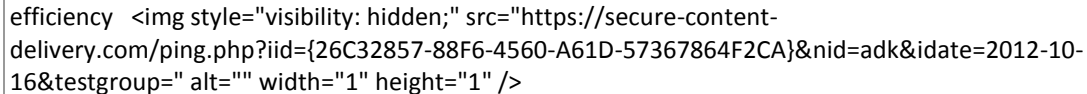
Option 2

Option 2

The faculty should not be put to the side. Bad body language. The Ushers do a fine job and we are organized. It's the student flow that is the problem.

3 or 4; I picked 3 primarily for the receiving line transition. In 3, I assume faculty would roll out to the left side to greet students at the back. If #4 is picked, faculty on the right side would have to pass students to get to the back (assuming they'd roll out on the right) or else they'd have to roll out on the center aisle. If center roll out doesn't cause a crowding with students as they line up to approach the stage (students wrapping around from center to the right side of seating to enter the right side of the stage) then I'd prefer 4.

Using Option 1, faculty will be all on one side, and less confusion.

If the University is going to continue the tradition of faculty shaking hands with graduates after the graduates walk across stage, the 2nd choice would seem to be the way to do that with maximum efficiency 

I just don't understand these options. If it is all about the receiving why can't I find them marked here?

Just an FYI - I am assuming what the drawing is indicating is that library faculty members will sit with the Marshalls rather than the faculty from the colleges. Explanation for preference: Commencement is for the students. Providing students with seating closer to the front may make it more enjoyable and memorable for them. I'm also OK with Option 1 if that is an easier solution, and just use Option #2 when we need more room for faculty.

I have not a lot of experience with the receiving lines, so I am not able to pick the best of these. One comment I do have from past ceremonies at fgcu is that seating was extremely close together so that faculty was pressed up against each other. It was very uncomfortable to sit like this for such a long time.

I like option 4 if we can find a way to alternate colleges so that one college can be moving away in one direction while the next college is coming in from the other direction. I'm not crazy about 1 and 2 just because I don't think the family/friends really want to be close to the faculty. I think they would rather be close to the graduates.

Since this spreads faculty out more, they will have the ability to congratulate all of their students that they wish individually (upon going up to walk or leaving the stage).

I think it would be very nice for the students to get the front seating instead of the faculty--it is their day, after all! Having faculty sit on the both sides of the students would look well balanced and allow faster traffic flow.

I prefer the sides because its less crowded

Like option 2 as a first choice and option 1 as a second choice.

I choose Option 3, I guess it is the ay we have mostly done it historically. I like that we are all together and that we are in the center - off to the side looks like we are marginalized. However I trust the Commencement staff and if that works better for the flow, I am OK with it. If we had to sit up in the stands - I would still come!