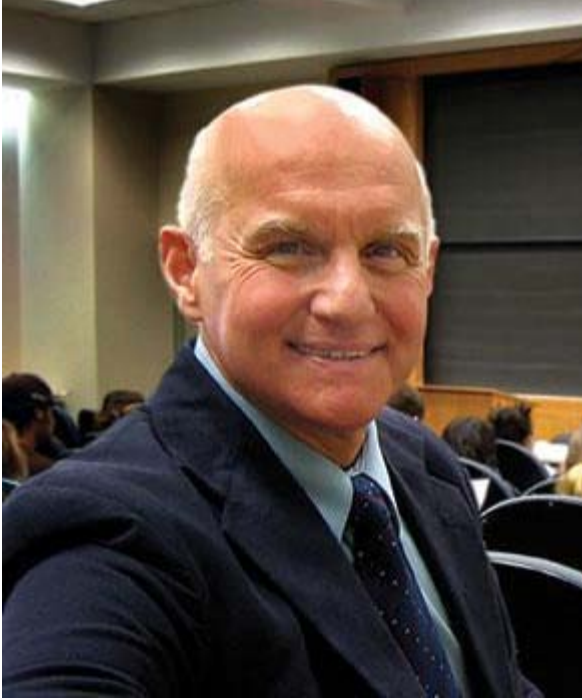


Provost to deliver address for University's Downstate Commencement ceremony

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William M. Hall, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Alfred University, will be the speaker at this year's Downstate Commencement ceremony to be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 15, in The Rotunda at Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn.

Hall, who will be retiring from Alfred University June 30, was instrumental in starting the Downstate master's degree programs for the University in fall 2006. To date, 515 graduates have completed their master's degrees through Alfred University's program, and another 64 will join the ranks Saturday.

Twelve will receive Master of Science Literacy Teacher degrees; 52 are to receive Master of Science in Education-Counseling degrees; six will receive Certificates of Advanced Study in Mental Health Counseling.

"As Bill Hall ends his career, after 33 years at Alfred University, we thought it would be fitting to have him deliver the commencement address for a program in which he has been so integrally involved," said President Charles M. Edmondson.

"Most of the graduates of the Downstate program are involved in education, and Bill Hall has dedicated his life to education as well. For our graduates who are also committing their careers and passion to education, his words will be inspirational," Edmondson added.

Hall has been provost at Alfred University since 2010. Prior to being named provost, Hall had served as associate provost for graduate and professional programs from 2006-09, in addition to being instrumental in launching the Downstate programs, through which Alfred University offers master's degrees in counseling, literacy, and public service administration at sites in Brooklyn and on Long Island.

He was dean of the College of Business from 2006-10, and was interim provost during the 2009-10 academic year. Prior to that he was dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences from 1997-2004, and interim provost from 2004-06.

Hall joined the Alfred University faculty in 1980 as a professor of sociology and director of the Criminal Justice

Program. He was founder of the Institute for Rural Justice, and was successful in securing more than \$1.6 million in funding for the institute through the federal Department of Justice. The Institute for Rural Justice led to the creation of a county-wide repository of information, an increased awareness of the issues associated with domestic violence in rural areas, and established of the Youth Court for Allegany County.

As dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Hall led the development and implementation of the First-Year Experience (FYE). Under his leadership, the College launched a new major in Global Studies; placed a new emphasis on undergraduate research; and added community service components to several courses.

As dean of the College of Business, Hall led the planning process that led to the creation of the College of Professional Studies that includes a School of Business.

Hall has published several papers in the areas of criminology, deviance, delinquency, juvenile justice and police behavior. He twice won Outstanding Teacher Awards from the University.

Active in the Alfred community, Hall was a village trustee for seven years, mayor for seven years, and an Allegany County legislator. He has served on various volunteer boards and organizations in the county.

Hall and his wife Lynne are the parents of two grown daughters and have a granddaughter.