
8:00 P.M.

The convocation and candle lighting ceremony were held at Memorial Stadium.

The program included comments by Tarleton's new president, Dr. F. Dominic Dottavio, Dr. Leah Schultz (President of the Faculty Senate) and Shane Henry (President of the Student Government Association).

The convocation address was given by Dr. Christopher Guthrie, Professor of History.
The fall 2008 freshman class of 1,845 students was the largest in Tarleton’s history.
Convocation Ceremony: Students pledge their commitment to integrity, diversity, and civility.

Tarleton Color Song

Oh! Our hearts with joy are thrilling when the Tarleton colors wave, And our spirits rise with rapture when the Tarleton sons are brave:

Fight for victory, Fight for Honor, and success will crown the fight; ALL HAIL the proud defenders of the Purple and the White!

During the singing of the Color Song, Tarleton family members traditionally point upward.

Shown (l. to r.): Dr. Wanda Mercer, Vice President Student Life; Leah Schultz, Assistant Professor Computer Information Systems; Dr. Brad Chilton, Interim Provost; President Dottavio; Dr. Christopher Guthrie, Professor of Social Sciences.
Freshmen are officially welcomed to the Tarleton family and begin their journey of challenge, discovery, friendship, and opportunity.
Well, you hear this all the time about other schools, but the family atmosphere here at Tarleton is one of my favorite things. At the freshman convocation candle lighting ceremony, I really felt like I was a part of the Tarleton family and that means so much to me.”

--Amanda Ritchie

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“Your flame will burn with those of others of this great brotherhood and sisterhood until your life is finished and your Tarleton brothers and sisters lay your flame to rest.”