Graduation changes will leave audience unhappy

By Kayloni Wyatt

Editor

Spring graduates earning under-graduate degrees will walk across the stage at a different venue May 7. Instead of graduating on the football field, the commencement ceremony will be taking place on the Quad in front of Old Main. I have to admit I’m not a supporter of this change. I feel like there will be an exodus. I don’t think there will be a major turnout. Many students will be standing in the rain or under a tent. Some students will be thinking about life after UNCP and will be partying until it’s time for graduation. The main concern is that students are the ones walking across the stage. The seating arrangement is undergoing changes, but the main problem seems to be the same. The audience is too large. I know that my family is driving 10 hours to be present at my graduation, and they don’t think that they’re going to be highly disappointed. Unless there is a rescue plan that is put in place, the audience will get rowdy when the time of their sight is obstructed. When I heard about the change, I was shocked. Students and parents also expected the ceremony to be on the football field. The students had a speaker. Even the winter commencement ceremony was mentioned to students until March. Before the final decision was made, chancellor Carter had the chance to talk to student leaders. Perhaps he was talking to them or making a presentation or presenting this news to students until March. But, we didn’t think it was going to be happening this soon. It’s not going to be the same as last year. There won’t be the same excitement. The venue is in the same area, but there might not be heat situation. The football field are logical, such as the roof over the football field. The football field is logical, such as the roof over the football field.