

Friday, May 20, 2015

7:30 P.M.

University Stadium

College of Humanities and Fine Arts

College of Business

(Cue band)

(Stage party proceeds in followed by faculty and then candidates led by student marshals)

(WARD at podium)

WARD:

GOOD EVENING. I AM MIKE WARD, INTERIM PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS OF CHICO STATE, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE 126TH COMMENCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO. WILL YOU PLEASE RISE AND REMAIN STANDING WHILE MUSIC MAJOR **BRITTANY MARIE MASLOSKI**, SINGS THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER.

(Singer - Masloski approaches podium/ Provost steps back)

MASLOSKI: [Star Spangled Banner]

WARD:

THANK YOU **BRITTANY**. IT IS MY PLEASURE AND HONOR TO
INTRODUCE THE PRESIDENT OF CHICO STATE **DR. PAUL ZINGG**
(ZINGG approaches podium/ WARD returns to seat)

ZINGG:

THANK YOU, **PROVOST WARD**. THIS EVENING WE ARE GATHERED AT
THIS COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE TO CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF OUR GRADUATES AND THEIR PLACE IN THE DISTINGUISHED
COMPANY OF UNIVERSITY-EDUCATED WOMEN AND MEN. IT IS AN
OCCASION WHEN WE RIGHTLY FEEL THEIR PRIDE, SHARE THEIR
HOPES, AND LOOK WITH THEM TOWARDS THE FUTURE.

TODAY WE CONFER THE BACHELOR'S DEGREES ON THOSE STUDENTS
COMPLETING MAJORS IN

- BUSINESS
- HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS

IT IS MY PLEASURE NOW TO INTRODUCE THE MEMBERS OF OUR PLATFORM PARTY.

STARTING IN THE **FRONT ROW, FROM MY RIGHT THEY ARE:**

JAMES (JIM) WILEY NIELSEN, OUR STATE SENATOR REPRESENTING DISTRICT 4

ROBERT KNIGHT, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS

TERRIS MCMAHAN-GRIMES, ALUMNI COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

DREW CALANDRELLA, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND HONORARY MARSHAL FOR THE DAY

JENNIFER MEADOWS, VICE CHAIR OF ACADEMIC SENATE AND MACE BEARER

MIKE WARD, PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND HONORARY MARSHAL FOR THE DAY

MANVIR CHAHAL, OUR REFLECTIONS SPEAKER,

JUDITH HENNESSEY, DEAN OF COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

ANNETTE HEILESON, CHAIR OF STAFF COUNCIL

SEATED IN THE SECOND ROW OF THE PLATFORM PARTY ARE:

KEN CHAPMAN, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

ABE BAILY, PROFESSOR EMERITUS WHO WILL READ THE NAMES OF OUR CANDIDATES.

SUSAN GREEN, HUMANITIES PROFESSOR AND SERVING TODAY AS A NAME READER.

BRITTANY MASLOSKI, OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER,
CHRISTIAN FOSEN, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND TODAY READING CANDIDATE NAMES.

DAVID AGOFF, BUSINESS FACULTY WHO WILL READ THE NAMES OF OUR CANDIDATES.

AND

JOSEPH ALEXANDER, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS

OUR MUSIC IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TALENTED MEMBERS OF THE CSU, CHICO WIND ENSEMBLE AND THEIR DIRECTOR,
DR. ROYCE TEVIS.

ZINGG:

IT GIVES ME GREAT PRIDE TO EXTEND ANOTHER IMPORTANT RECOGNITION EARLY IN OUR PROGRAM. OVER THE YEARS YOU HAVE BEEN AT CHICO STATE, YOU HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED AND ASSISTED BY AN EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED YOU, SUPPORTED YOU, AND INSPIRED YOU. THEY HAVE

DEDICATED THEIR PROFESSIONAL LIVES TO YOU AND THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE. THEY HAVE WON GUGGENHEIMS AND FULBRIGHTS; EXTENDED THE FRONTIERS OF THEIR DISCIPLINES; MASTERED THE ART OF TEACHING; AND PROVIDED INVALUABLE SERVICE TO THEIR UNIVERISTY AND ALL WHOM WE SERVE. THEY HAVE EARNED OUR APPRECIATION AND RESPECT.

GRADUATES, PLEASE JOIN ME IN A GREAT ROUND OF APPLAUSE AS I ASK TO STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED THE EXTRAORDINARY FACULTY OF YOUR COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS.

(Faculty stand)

ZINGG:

IT IS MY SPECIAL PLEASURE TO INVITE STATE SENATOR JIM NIELSEN TO THE PODIUM TO SHARE WITH US A FEW WORDS. SINCE ELECTION TO THE STATE SENATE IN 1978, JIM HAS BEEN A STEADFAST SUPPORTER OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IN OUR STATE AND AN INFORMED AND ENTHUSIASTIC ADVOCATE FOR CHICO STATE. HE APPRECIATES, IN PARTICULAR, OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE TAX PAYERS AND STAKEHOLDERS OF OUR STATE THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, HIGH OUR GRADUATION RATES AND STRONG RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE UNDERSCORE.

JIM'S SON ADAM IS GRADUATING TODAY WITH A B.A. IN PHILOSOPHY. ADAM IS THE FOURTH CHILD IN JIM'S FAMILY TO GRADUATE FROM THE CSU.

PLEASE WELCOME THE SENIOR MEMBER OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE OF CALIFORNIA, SENATOR JIM NIELSEN.

(NIELSEN approaches podium/ ZINGG returns to seat)

NIELSEN:

REMARKS

(NIELSEN returns to seat/ ZINGG returns to podium)

ZINGG:

THANK YOU SEANTOR NIELSEN, I NOW INVITE **DR. JENNIFER MEADOWS**, VICE CHAIR OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE TO WELCOME THE CANDIDATES.

(MEADOWS approaches podium/ ZINGG returns to seat)

MEADOWS:

Congratulations Graduates. I'm here to give you a last message from the faculty. I know you probably don't want another lecture, and

trust me, I'm fine with that. We've been lecturing to you for 4..5..6 years...

We are so proud of you. You have worked really hard to get here. You've been in school for most of your life. Kindergarten, elementary school, middle school – it's a miracle anybody makes it through middle school – high school and now college. You are done! - well most of you.

So here's my final message. Everything is going to change now that you're not in school. For a long time your goal was the degree and now you've crossed the finish line. Now what? That's up to you. Everyone of you has a distinct set of skills, talents, and interests that will lead you to success. Your time at Chico State has helped you discover and refine those skills, talents and interests. You are ready. Go out and be bold, fearless and courageous and remember to be grateful and kind. Seek the truth and be real. Be yourself.

(MEADOWS returns to seat/ ZINGG returns to podium)

ZINGG:

THANK YOU, **JENNIFER**. I AM PLEASED TO INTRODUCE TO YOU **MANVIR CHAHAL**, A CANDIDATE FOR THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**, WHO WILL PRESENT REFLECTIONS FOR THE DAY.

(CHAHAL approaches podium/ ZINGG returns to seat)

CHAHAL:

Good evening everyone, my name is Manvir Chahal, and I am a College of Business graduate with an option in accounting. Tonight, I have been given the honor of reflecting on my experiences here at Chico State. But first, CONGRATULATIONS to us all for making it to this day!! For many of us, it's been a long journey; while for others, it's been a REALLY long journey through college. We have two colleges in attendance tonight and I want to hear applause from each one when I call them out. First, there is the College of Humanities and Fine Arts (*WAIT*). And then there's my home away from home, the College of Business (*WAIT*). Lastly, I want to give recognition to the special people who have helped us get here. They might be friends, family, teachers, or even coworkers, but please, let's give them a hand!!

When you first come to Chico, you hear a lot of talk about the “Chico Experience.” Before I talk about my Chico experience, I want to read to you a quote by Steve Jobs. This quote really relates to the position that we are all in. He said: “You cannot connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future.” What he’s talking about here is that certain moments in our lives don’t necessarily seem relevant or important right now. But when you look back at a later point in time, they end up being crucial. After reading this quote, I started looking back to see what led me to make the decisions that I made, and ultimately how I became the person that I am today. My hope is that parts of my story and the lessons learned will relate to you.

I was raised in a small farm town less than an hour away from Chico. Growing up, my sense of family was a little different than everyone else because most of my family immigrated from India, and settled down together in the same town. So I was not raised by my parents alone, I was raised by over 15 family members who lived down the block from one another. But I am thankful for growing up with what I

like to call “a village upbringing” because it ultimately taught me to value relationships. And when I connected the dots for myself, I realized that I chose to go to college because my family pushed me to do so. They encouraged me to get an education, so that I would not have to work exhausting hours picking peaches, like they did, to make ends meet. Ironically, accountants actually work long hours. Unfortunately, it’s a little too late to change my major now.
(*PAUSE*)

But it was from my relationship with my family that I also learned the importance of giving back. Throughout my time here at Chico State, I’ve been involved with the students and the surrounding community in many different ways. I’ve tutored students who struggled in accounting, and helped them to pass the classes that they needed in order to complete their major. Luckily, I saw a few of them in the crowd right now! It’s nice to know I wasn't that bad of a tutor. What I noticed from my time as a tutor is that students who struggled the most, were the one’s who didn’t believe in their own abilities. It was through tutoring that I realized that I had a passion for helping others, especially those who are disadvantaged.

That is what led me to join and run the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, also called VITA. For those of you that do not know, VITA is a program that provides free tax preparation services to those in the community who need it most. This year alone, our volunteers impacted the surrounding community by over \$1 Million. Being involved with VITA has been one of my proudest accomplishments. That fact was made apparent to me when I ran into a couple last month that I've been helping for the past 3 years. I've helped them with everything from taxes to health care. I will never forget what they said to me when I saw them, they said "we can't believe you're graduating. We remember when you first started out, you didn't even have a beard, you just had whiskers on your face!" After meeting with them, I now know what the best thing about Chico is: it's community involvement. That is what has shaped my Chico experience, and that is what I've come to appreciate most about our school. We have CLIC, an organization on campus that provides free legal consultation to those who need it. We have CAVE, an organization that is committed to providing students with numerous volunteer opportunities from planting trees to adopting grandparents. That is what makes this campus unique, it's the scale of involvement within the local community! Look back at your time

here, and you'll see that you have been involved with a cause one way or another. Connecting the dots is a lot easier now as I'm about to graduate with all of you. My upbringing from an immigrant family shaped me to ultimately devote my college career to the service of those who needed help. I hope that many of you are connecting the dots for yourselves, and realizing how the smallest decisions in your life have added up, and brought you all here today.

At this point, I understand that you all must be tired of hearing my voice. Quite frankly, I am too, so I'll make this quick. The 3 key takeaways from my story that I have for you are this:

1) value relationships. One person cannot do everything by themselves. A close support network is essential to being able to reach your full potential; just like how my family pushed me to go to college. Everyone of you have a friend, a professor, or a boss that has greatly influenced your life one way or another.

2) Believe in yourself. I've tutored countless students, and the biggest obstacle that I've observed people face is themselves. If we convince ourselves that we can't do something, then we won't do something. And finally...

3) UNCERTAINTY... it's unavoidable. You cannot change that. What

you can change is how you look at it. Uncertainty is not a new feeling, many of us didn't know what we were going to do when we first came to Chico, or what our experience was going to be. Personally, I once changed my major twice in one semester. TWICE IN ONE SEMESTER!

Can you imagine how uncertain you are gonna be after that?! But it all worked out for the best. It helped me to find out what I'm passionate about.

We all shape our own experiences, and I hope that when all of you look back on your experience here at Chico State, you realize that you are well equipped to succeed. So as we all begin the next chapter of our lives, draw upon those past experiences and trust that you will end up where you need to be in the future.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK TO THE CLASS OF 2016!!!!

(CHAHAL returns to seat/ ZINGG to podium)

ZINGG:

THANK YOU, **MANVIR**. I AM NOW PLEASED TO INVITE **TERRIS MCMAHAN GRIMES**, 1973 ALUMNA OF THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS, AND HONORED AS A DISTINGUISHED

ALUMNA OF CHICO STATE UNIVERSITY, TO ADDRESS THE CANDIDATES.

(MCMAHAN GRIMES to podium/ ZINGG return to seat)

GRIMES:

Acknowledgement

President Zingg, Provost Ward, all distinguished guests, and the class of 2016 from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the College of Business; thank you for affording me the honor of sharing some thoughts with you on behalf of alumni.

Things Have Changed

When I look around campus, I can only marvel at how much things have changed, and how much they've remained the same.

Commented [G1]: Inserted: ,

For example:

In the olden days, when I was a young coed here, dorms themselves were not coed. They were strictly segregated according to the only two genders recognized back then.

Visiting Hours

We had closely monitored visiting hours during which the opposite sex was allowed in our rooms but **only** if we left our doors ajar a prescribed distance.

Some things Remain the Same

Things have changed, but fortunately, some things remain the same. Let me read a snippet our website:

*A hallmark of the Chico Experience **is** the dedication that faculty have to teaching **and** to their students... Countless alums attribute their success to the commitment faculty have to inspiring students.*

You know what I call that? **Truth in advertising.**

My Story

Let me tell you my story. I was born in Tucker, Arkansas some 60 years ago.

The little cabin we lived in had no electricity or running water. We had no light after sundown except from a lone coal oil lamp.

We Had Books

But, we had the essentials. We had books. There was a Bible, a Sears and Roebuck catalog, and a cookbook.

Ghost Stories

We also had a book of ghost stories with pen and ink drawings.

As a four-year-old, I spent hours paging through that book, studying the drawings and trying to make sense of them.

I would ask myself:

- What are those funny looking people doing?

- What are they thinking
- What are they saying?

Foundation

That book of pen and ink drawings laid the foundation for my career as a writer of fiction.

What's the Point?

But what's the point of this somewhat self-indulgent story?

The first lady of song, Ella Fitzgerald, said it best:

It isn't where you came from; it's where you're going that counts.

Quest for Education

When my parents decided to leave Arkansas in 1952, they didn't know exactly where they were going. The one thing they knew for sure was they were going to find a place where I could go to school and be educated.

Their quest led them to California, which ultimately led me to Chico State where *a faculty dedicated to teaching and to inspiring students* inspired me to follow my dream and become a writer.

Commented [G2]: Inserted: inspiring

It's Okay Not to Know Where You're Going

When you leave here, you might, like my parents, not know exactly where you're going. You might stumble and makes mistakes. Welcome it all. That is **life**.

It's okay as long as you keep moving and learning.

But, be careful to avoid wandering off into the dark side.

Juggler

I have a friend who has a graduate degree in physics. But he makes his living perched atop a unicycle juggling fruits and

vegetables. It's okay. He's happy. The moral: You are not your major. Do what brings you joy—if you can make a living at it. Otherwise, make it your hobby.

Commented [G3]: Inserted: ,

My Wish for You

My one wish for you is that you are endowed with the twin graces of kindness and compassion. And that they weld themselves to your conscience.

Kindness means not demonizing the poor and not electing people who do.

Kindness means not begrudging assistance to those who are in need including immigrants and the dispossessed.

Listen to what Franklin Delano Roosevelt said:

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough.

Congratulations class of 2016

(MCMAHAN GRIMES return to seat/ ZINGG to podium)

ZINGG:

THANK YOU, **TERRIS.**

CANDIDATES, NO ONE MAKES IT THROUGH A COLLEGE DEGREE PROGRAM WITHOUT SOME HELP. EACH OF YOU OWES GRATITUDE TO SOMEONE, PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN YOUR STRONGEST SUPPORTERS, GIVING YOU ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE AS WELL AS CONSIDERABLE HELP IN SO MANY OTHER WAYS AS YOU HAVE PREPARED TO MOVE OUT INTO THE WORLD. WE KNOW THEY TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TODAY AND YOUR GRADUATION IS A SINGULAR ACHIEVEMENT ON THEIR PART AS WELL. IT IS ONLY FITTING THE GRADUATING CLASS JOIN WITH THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY IN EXPRESSING THE APPRECIATION WE FEEL FOR THE FOLKS SURROUNDING US--YOUR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, SPOUSES, CHILDREN, AND SIGNIFICANT OTHERS WHO ARE PRESENT TODAY IN PERSON AND SPIRIT. GRADUATES WOULD YOU PLEASE

STAND AND HONOR AND THANK ALL THESE FOLKS WITH AN EXUBERANT ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

ZINGG:

TO ALL THE GRADUATES, TODAY YOU MOVE ON FROM A PLACE WHOSE GOAL HAS NOT ONLY FOCUSED ON EQUIPPING YOU TO MAKE A GOOD LIVING, BUT ON INSPIRING YOU TO LEAD A GOOD LIFE. IN FACT, AN EXEMPLARY LIFE.

SUCH A LIFE IS BUILT ON COMPELLING VIRTUES: COMPASSION AND CHARITY, CIVILITY AND RESPECT, HUMILITY AND HONOR. IT IS GROUNDED IN HOPE AND SERVICE, AND INFORMED WITH A SENSE OF JUSTICE. SUCH A LIFE EMBRACES THE EXAMPLE OF THE MANY AMONG YOU WHO HELPED JOPLIN, MISSOURI, REBUILD AFTER TORNADOES DEVASTED THE REGION; WHO BUILT A CAMPUS FOR OUR LOCAL SALVATION ARMY TO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED; WHO RAISED FUNDS AND HOPES FOR THE CHILDREN VICTIMS OF CANCER AT ST. JUDE; WHO DEVOTED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HOURS TO THE CHICO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, THE TORRES SHELTER, THE JESUS CENTER; WHO HAVE WORKED FOR A SAFER CHICO, A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT, AND A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE; WHO HAVE

TUTORED THE LESS FORTUNATE, PROVIDED COMPANY FOR THE LONELY, FED THE HUNGRY, HELPED THE HOMELESS, AND SUPPORTED OUR VETERANS.

EXAMPLES LIKE THESE AND SO MANY OTHERS REVEAL THAT YOU AND I, AND ALL PEOPLE, EVEN THE WEAKEST AND LEAST ADVANTAGED AMONG US, SHARE A COMMON HUMANITY AND POTENTIAL FOR GOODNESS.

IN THESE MATTERS, I URGE YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN ASPIRATIONS. FOR THE AUDACITY TO HOPE, TO DREAM OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE, UNDERSCORES WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN. WE CHERISH THIS QUALITY IN OURSELVES. YOU MUST SEE TO IT – YOU WHO ARE SO EQUIPPED TO KNOW BETTER – YOU MUST SEE TO IT THAT THE DREAMS OF OTHERS ARE NOT DESTROYED BY PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION, BY POVERTY AND IGNORANCE.

YES, GO CONFIDENTLY IN THE DIRECTION OF YOUR OWN DREAMS – AND ENABLE OTHERS TO HAVE THEIRS.

I URGE YOU TO CHAMPION REASON AND RESPECT, CIVILITY AND SENSIBILTIY, WHEN FACING DIVISIVE AND CONTENTIOUS ISSUES. LORD KNOWS, WE HAVE ENOUGH OF THEM. AND THEY ARE LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND GLOBAL. BUT THEY CANNOT BE RESOLVED

THROUGH DRIVE-BY DEBATES CHARACTERIZED BY INSULTS, SCREAMING AND DEMONIZING OR THROUGH A HIGHLY PARTISAN AGENDA WHERE SCORING POINTS WITH ONE'S NARROW POLITICAL BASE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN SOLVING PROBLEMS THROUGH COMPROMISE AND DIALOG.

I ESPECIALLY URGE YOU TO REJECT THE POLITICS OF FEAR THAT PUSHES US TO THE DARKER DEMONS OF OUR NATIONAL PSYCHE. INSTEAD, EMBRACE AN OUTLOOK THAT GUIDES US TO THE BETTER ANGELS OF OUR NATURE. PLEASE BUILD MORE BRIDGES, NOT HIGHER WALLS.

AND FINALLY, I URGE YOU TO THINK KINDLY OF THIS PLACE – THIS COMMUNITY OF PURPOSE AND SERVICE – THAT HAS READIED YOU AND ENCOURAGED YOU FOR THE DARING JOURNEYS AHEAD – WHETHER THEY ARE BRIEF VENTURES OR DEEP COMMITMENTS, WHETHER THEY TEST BOUNDARIES OR CROSS BORDERS, WHETHER THEY ARE INTELLECTUAL OR ATTITUDINAL, SPATIAL OR SPIRITUAL.

WE HOPE YOU LEAVE US MORE SELF-RELIANT, MORE TOLERANT, MORE CURIOUS, MORE IMBUED WITH HABITS OF THE HEART, MORE ABLE TO CONSTRUCT MEANING FROM EXPERIENCE THAN WHEN YOU FIRST JOINED US.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, WE ARE A BETTER PLACE
BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN HERE. WE WILL BECOME EVEN BETTER AS
YOU STAY IN TOUCH WITH US AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE CHICO
STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND AS YOU SHARE WITH US YOUR
JOURNEYS AND DECISIONS. AND ALWAYS, WE HOPE, ON THE SIDE OF
TRUTH, BEAUTY, AND KINDNESS.

CONGRATULATIONS, GODSPEED, AND BEST WISHES!

ZINGG:

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS AND GUESTS, FACULTY, AND FRIENDS, IT IS
NOW MY GREAT PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE THE CANDIDATES FOR
THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE. WILL **DR. ROBERT KNIGHT**, DEAN OF THE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS AND WILL DEAN JUDITH
HENNESSEY, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, PLEASE COME TO
THE PODIUM.

(KNIGHT & HENNESSEY approach podium/ ZINGG stands to side/)

KNIGHT:

PRESIDENT ZINGG, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS
ON BEHALF OF THE FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND
FINE ARTS IT IS MY HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU PRESIDENT ZINGG

THE CHICO STATE TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES IN HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS.

HENNESSEY:

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FACULTY, FRIENDS AND FAMILY IT IS MY DISTINCT PLEASURE ON BEHALF OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FACULTY TO PRESENT TO YOU, PRESIDENT ZINGG THE TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN CANDIDATES FOR BACHEOR'S DEGREES IN BUSINESS.

(ZINGG returns to podium)

ZINGG:

ALL CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE – PLEASE RISE, BY THE VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, I CONFER UPON EACH OF YOU, THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE APPROPRIATE TO THE COURSE OF STUDY YOU HAVE PURSUED, WITH ALL THE ATTENDANT RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DISTINCTIONS PERTAINING THERETO.

ZINGG:

GRADUATES PLEASE BE SEATED NOW AND COME FORWARD WHEN INVITED TO DO SO BY THE MARSHALLS.

(Marshals lead candidates to stage/ KNIGHT presents degrees stage right/ ALEXANDER presents degrees stage left/ ZINGG returns to seat)

(At conclusion of HFA candidates KNIGHT, ALEXANDER, and HFA name readers return to seats)

(Marshals lead candidates to stage/ Hennessey presents degrees stage left/ Chapman presents degrees stage right)

(At conclusion of BUS candidates HENNESSEY AND CHAPMAN, AND BUS name readers return to seats)

ZINGG:

GRADUATES, YOU MAY MOVE YOUR TASSELS TO THE LEFT OF YOUR CAP TO SIGNIFY THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION. CONGRATULATIONS!

(Pause for revelry)

PROVOST WARD:

TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN GRADUATES OF CHICO STATE, LET ME ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ON ALL THAT YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

WARD:

PLEASE WELCOME TO THE STAGE **INGRIDA ALISA BIRZNIEKS**, LIBERAL STUDIES MAJOR, TO SING THE UNIVERSITY HYMN.

(Birznieks approaches podium/ WARD returns to seat)

Birznieks: [UNIVERSITY HYMN]

(Provost WARD approaches podium/ Birznieks returns to seat)

PROVOST:

PLEASE RISE AS THE STAGE PARTY AND THE FACULTY EXIT THE STADIUM.

(Faculty and Marshals move to recessional positions)

(Cue band)

(Stage party exeunt, Faculty exeunt)