

Bonnie Lloyd-BSS- Friday, May 17, 2019

Hello everyone, welcome, and to all of the 2019 graduates from the collage of behavioral social sciences: congratulations!

I am honored to have been chosen as this year's student reflections speaker. My name is Bonnie-June Lloyd and I am graduating with a double major in anthropology and criminal justice, minor in psychology, pathway minor in ethics, justice and policy and the forensic identification certificate.

I started here in the fall of 2016 and I will officially end here in the fall of 2019. Let me just start by saying that getting here was far from easy.

2018 was the hardest year of my life. As was once said on Buffy the Vampire Slayer: "The hardest thing in this world is to live in it." In March, I lost my grandmother. In May I learned that I would have to turn 20 without my best friend of 14 years. In July I lost a close family friend and in November...I as well as most of the residents of Paradise, Magalia, Pulga and Concow lost everything in the Camp Fire.

This tragedy affected everyone here in one way or another, whether it was time lost in the classroom, loss of home or simply fear that the fire would reach Chico. As tragic as it is, it brought us all together as a community and inspired support all around.

Thanks to the support from the university and my wonderful professors I am here today to hopefully inspire you all to see that a block in the road does not mean that one can't get past it.

If there is something in your path I hope that my being here with all of you today can inspire you to utilize any road block to your advantage, use it to drive you and to not give up when things get hard.

To reference The Office: "You miss 100% of shots you don't take- Wayne Gretzky" -Michael Scott.

We all have our own stories, but they all intersect right here at the Chico State College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. We all have one thing in common...we are here to make a difference in a field we are passionate about.

To put it simply, "Saving people, hunting things...the family business" isn't just the business of the main characters of Supernatural, it's what we do every day here at the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Graduation is a big step for all of us because after this is all over, there is the real world, waiting for our input to make a difference.

I see your faces and I know you're scared, I'm scared! But "If you're not scared, then you're not taking a chance and if you're not taking a chance then what the hell are you doing anyway?"- Ted Mosby, How I Met Your Mother.

To all the family, friends, professors and university officials who are here today: you helped us get here. Thank you.

Congratulations Chico State 2019 Graduates!!

Catch you on the flippity flip!

Thank you.