

SKIDMORE COMMENCEMENT REMARKS

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Hello, class of 2015! Are we happy?

I am Sibyl Waterman Haley, class of 1971 and president of the Skidmore College Alumni Association. Mine will be the last hand to shake yours as you cross this stage. I even have a present for each of you! And once you leave this stage, you will join me and 37,000 other graduates as members of the Skidmore College Alumni Association. Welcome!

I have some words of advice for you: slow down. Before you leave this campus, pause to remember who you were. Slow down and look at your friends, your professors, your families. Don't race away too quickly. Slow down and take a moment to let it all sink in. Think of your hard work, your accomplishments, the education you have received here. Slow down.

And once you've joined the hurly-burly of the grownup world, come back. You will find class reunions to be a lot of fun and very reinforcing. You will make new friends at each one you attend. Come back. You will also discover the bonds between Skidmore alumni, as we are welcoming, supportive, and helpful in both social and career situations. Come back.

And as your busy lives swirl you around, give back. As the alumni body supports each other, the support you can offer Skidmore with your time as a volunteer and your generosity is invaluable. Give back. Remember, the worth of your Skidmore diploma is as strong as the support you give to the place which presented it to you. Help make it possible for those less fortunate to have the opportunities you have enjoyed. Give back.

So . . . Slow down. Look back. Come back. Give back. You won't be sorry.

Congratulations, and hurray for the great class of 2015!