

SKIDMORE COMMENCEMENT REMARKS

May 16, 2015

Linda H. Toohey

President Glotzbach, members of the Class of 2015 and your families, faculty, distinguished guests—on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I welcome you to the 104th Commencement of this amazing college. Fulfillment of one of the board's most joyful responsibilities took place yesterday, when we proudly voted to grant degrees to just shy of 650 students.

On this day we celebrate and honor *you*: your achievements, your perseverance, your joy of learning, your intelligence, your zest for life, and the things we know you will accomplish in the future.

When you first arrived at Skidmore, I'm sure many of you only had a vague vision of this day, but from that day to this day, we the Skidmore community have been observing your growth, your strength, your aptitude, your creativity, and your swelling intelligence. In a very few moments we will be unbelievably proud to call you alumni.

You walk into a world that needs leadership, insight, intelligence. Through your energy and hard work and the education you've allowed yourself to achieve and absorb at Skidmore, we know you are prepared to take on the challenges that are presented to you the moment you leave the campus, for the rest of your life.

Today we honor your transition from students to alumni, and ask that as you continue on life's journey, you'll remember and recognize that some small portion of your success may have come from the strong connections you have made with extraordinary faculty and with the lifelong friends you have made and cherish through your involvement in community service, or a club or SGA, or athletics, or living together in the dorms or villages, or, yes, even those evenings spent on Caroline Street. All of those experiences are part of your Skidmore education.

Class of 2015, we look forward to watching and hearing about your myriad accomplishments. Stay in touch!