

CAPTIONING PROVIDED
FOR THE DEAF AND
HARD- OF- HEARING.
>> GOOD EVENING.
EVERYONE.
WELCOME TO TUCSON
ARENA.
WE ARE GLAD YOU COULD
BE PART OF THIS
HISTORIC EVENING FOR
PIMA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE.
AS WITH ALL CLASSES AT
PIMA OVER THE LAST 40
YEARS THIS CLASS IS
FILLED WITH DIVERSITY,
ALL WALKS OF LIFE,
BACKGROUNDS MAKE UP
THE CLASS.
PEOPLE AROUND THE
COUNTRY, AROUND THE
WORLD HAVE CHOSEN
TUCSON AND PIMA TO BE
THEIR HOME AND CHAPTER
IN THEIR LIFE.

WE WILL TALK TO
GRADUATES AND HEAR
THEIR STORIES AND WHAT
THEIR EXPERIENCES HAVE
BEEN LIKE.

OUR FIRST GRADUATE IS
OUR COMMENCEMENT
SPEAKER TONIGHT,
MR. JOSHUA PLACE.

JOSH, WELCOME.

>> THANK YOU.

>> SO, JOSH, YOU HAVE
BEEN A STUDENT AT PIMA
SINCE YOU WERE 16.

YOU ARE WHAT, 20 NOW?
WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE
ENDING THIS CHAPTER IN
YOUR LIFE AS
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER?

>> IT IS A GREAT
ENDING TO THIS CHAPTER
IN MY LIFE.

I WANT TO POINT OUT
NOW AND IN MY SPEECH,
THIS IS JUST THE

BEGINNING OF THIS,
THIS NEW CHAPTER, NOT
THE END OF IT, OF ANY.
JUST THE BEGINNING.

>> TELL ME, YOUR
EXPERIENCE IS A LOT
DIFFERENT THAN MANY OF
YOUR CLASSMATES IN
THAT YOU WERE HOME
SCHOOLED.

WHAT WAS THE
TRANSITION LIKE GOING
FROM HOME SCHOOL TO
PIMA?

>> IT WAS A HUGE
TRANSITION, I DIDN' T
HAVE ANY BAD HABITS I
HAD TO BREAK.

ALL NEW HABITS TO
CREATE.

A GREAT TRANSITION FOR
ME.

>> WHAT DO YOU
REMEMBER FROM YOUR
TIME AT PIMA?

>> A MATH TEACHER,
MR. LOUIS LEON, MATH
TEACHER, AT DESERT
VISTA CAMPUS.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF MOST
OF MY CAREER HERE AT
PIMA.

JUST A GREAT TEACHER,
CONGRATULATIONS TO
HIM

>> NOW I BELIEVE YOU
ARE GETTING A FEW
DEGREES TONIGHT AND
CERTIFICATE, ONE OF
YOUR DEGREES IN
INTEGRATIVE DESIGN,
WHERE WILL YOU GO WITH
THAT?

>> PIMA HAS GIVEN ME
ALL THE REQUIREMENTS
TO START IN INTEGRATED
CIRCUIT LAYOUT DESIGN.
THIS IS THE BEGINNING,
I AM SO EXCITED FOR
IT.

THANK YOU, PIMA FOR
PROVIDING ME WITH THIS
I IS JUST AN AWESOME
TIME.

>> YOU ARE READY TO GO
RIGHT INTO THE WORK
FORCE?

>> I AM READY.

>> I HEARD YOU
PRACTICING EARLIER,
PRACTICING YOUR
SPEECH, FUN, AND
INSPIRATION IN THERE.
RIGHT NOW, WHAT CUE
YOU HAVE TO SAY TO
YOUR CLASSMATES?

>> THIS IS JUST THE
BEGINNING.

DON'T LOOK AT THIS AS
THE END OF SOMETHING
TO YOUR LIFE.

END OF A GREAT THING.
BEGINNING OF A
WONDERFUL THING.

SO, JUST,

CONGRATULATIONS.

>> JOSH, THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ALL RIGHT, WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER GRADUATE COME UP AND SHARE HER STORY.

GOOD EVENING.

TELL ME YOUR NAME AND YOUR MAJOR.

>> MY NAME IS ELISE ASHLEY GIBSON.

I AM PRACTICING IN THE VETERINARY PRACTICE ASSISTANT PROGRAM

>> THAT IS SOMETHING, FIRST THING I THINK OF IS FUN.

WE ALL GET JOY FROM OUR ANIMALS.

YOU CAN'T JUST BE ABOUT LOVING ANIMALS. THERE IS A LOT MORE TO IT.

>> A LOT MORE TO IT.

NOTHING THAT PEOPLE
THINK IT IS ALL FUN
AND GAMES.

IT IS NOT.

IT IS MORE THAN THAT.

A LOT OF HARD WORK.

A LOT OF STRESS.

AND YOU DON' T GET TO
PLAY WITH KITTENS AND
PUPPIES EVERY DAY.

>> A VERY REWARDING
CAREER AHEAD OF YOU I
AM SURE?

>> YES, VERY, VERY
REWARDING.

>> I ASKED JOSH, WHAT
IS THE MOST MEMORABLE
EXPERIENCE YOU HAD
HERE AT PIMA?

>> MEETING NEW PEOPLE.
CREATING FRIENDSHIPS
AND BONDS TO THE
PEOPLE, IN THE VET
FIELD.

WE ARE HARD, DEDICATED

WORKERS, NOT A LOT OF
PEOPLE OUT THERE THAT
ARE LIKE THAT IN THE
TYPE OF --
CAREER.

>> TELL ME ABOUT
FRIEND AND FAMILY THAT
ARE HERE EITHER HERE
IN THE AUDIENCE OR WHO
HAVE BEEN WITH YOU
THROUGH YOUR TIME AND
WHAT THAT HAS MEANT TO
YOU WHAT THAT SUPPORT
HAS MEANT?

>> IT HAS MEANT A LOT
TO ME.

THEY HAVE SEEN ME
STRUGGLE.

THEY HAVE SEEN ME FALL
DOWN AND BRING MYSELF
BACK UP.

THEY' RE THE WORLD TO
ME.

AND I GREATLY
APPRECIATE THEM FOR

IT.

>> SO WHAT IS NEXT FOR
YOU NOW, IMMEDIATE
PLANS, DO YOU HAVE A
JOB ALREADY?

>> I AM GOING TO GO
BACK TO PIMA.

I AM GOING TO GET MY
VET-TECH
CERTIFICATION, FROM
THERE I WILL BE A
VETERINARIAN AND
SPECIALIZE IN HORSES.

>> HORSES ARE LUCKY.
WE ARE THANKFUL YOU
MADE PIMA PART OF YOUR
LIFE.

GOOD LUCK.

>> THANK YOU.

>> OK ANOTHER GREAT
STORY, THEY JUST KEEP
COMING.

RIGHT THIS WAY.

HI, TELL ME YOUR NAME
AND MAJOR?

>> MY NAME IS JONATHAN
OUM, MY MAJOR IS,
ACTUALLY I HAVE HAD
TWO, BUSINESS AND
LIBERAL ARTS.

>> AND WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO WITH THOSE
DEGREES FROM HERE?

>> WELL, RIGHT NOW I
DON' T REALLY HAVE ANY
PLAN.

I WILL TAKE A BREAK
AND SEE WHAT IS NEXT.

>> WHAT HAS BEEN A
MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE
FOR YOU DURING YOUR
TIME HERE AT PIMA?

>> WELL, I CAME FROM A
FRENCH BACKGROUND.

AND YOU CAN IMAGINE
HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS
TO BE AT PIMA, COME
BACK TO ENGLISH
SCHOOL.

AND I MADE IT.

I AM VERY HAPPY AND
GLAD.

>> SO YOU HAD TO LEARN
ENGLISH AS YOU WERE
GOING THROUGH PIMA?

>> YEAH.

>> OF COURSE.

>> TELL ME ABOUT
FRIENDS AND FAMILY
THAT HAVE BEEN WITH
YOU DURING YOUR
JOURNEY AT PIMA?

>> IT WASN'T VERY EASY
BUT WITH SOME FRIENDS,
FRENCH FRIENDS, AND
SOME OTHER BECAUSE WE
HAD TO GO THROUGH MANY
OTHER REQUIREMENT
CLASSES BEFORE WE GOT
IN OUR MAJOR.

AND IT WAS SOME TIMES,
A LITTLE BIT STRESSFUL
BECAUSE IT ADDED MORE
TIME.

BUT AS I SAID BEFORE,

I AM VERY HAPPY WE
MADE IT.

>> AND WE ARE GLAD
THAT YOU ARE IN
TUCSON.

DO YOU, AFTER YOU TAKE
A BREAK, YOU SAY YOU
ARE GOING TO TAKE A
BREAK, DO YOU HAVE
SOME FUN PLANS FOR
THIS SUMMER?

>> NOT REALLY, NOT
REALLY.

>> NO, YOU ARE SERIOUS
ALL THE TIME, HUH?

>> YOU KNOW, I HAVE MY
KID HERE TOO, AND TAKE
A BREAK AND GIVE TO MY
KID A CHANCE TO GO TO
SCHOOL.

WE ARE GETTING OLD AND
WE NEED TO SUPPORT OUR
KID.

AND THAT' S WHY.

>> I WANT TO WISH YOU

WELL.

CONGRATULATIONS AND,
ALL THE BEST AND THE
-- WHETHER YOU DECIDE
TO GO ON TO SCHOOL OR
GET A JOB.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH
>> AND WHO IS OUR NEXT
GRADUATE?

WHAT IS YOUR NAME AND
MAJOR?

>> MY NAME IS JAMIE
BRANSON.

I CAME TO PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO
TAKE THE MEDICAL
ASSISTANT CLASS?

>> THROUGH CENTER FOR
TRAINING AND
DEVELOPMENT?

>> YES.

>> WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?

>> IT' S BEEN TOTALLY
AWESOME FROM THE
PRECOLLEGE COURSE ALL

THE WAY THROUGH.

MY ADVISORS, STUDENT
ADVISORS AND THE
TEAMERS, EVERY, ALL
MY, MY CLASSMATES,
EVERYBODY IT HAS JUST
BEEN GREAT.

>> SO WHAT, WHAT
BROUGHT YOU TO -- WHAT
BROUGHT YOU TO PIMA TO
GET INTO THE MEDICAL
ASSISTING?

WERE YOU CHANGING
CAREERS?

>> YES, YES.

>> TELL ME ABOUT THAT
AND WHY MEDICAL
ASSISTING?

>> WELL IT JUST SEEMED
LIKE THE THING TO DO,
A REALLY GOOD AT THE
TIME.

I AM STILL LOVING IT.

I GOT THIS FAR.

I WANT TO SAY

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
MY CLASSMATES.

HERE WE ARE.

>> YEAH, DEFINITELY.

IT HAS BEEN A, QUITE
AN EXPERIENCE, I AM
SURE.

TELL ME SOME OF THE
THINGS YOU WILL
REMEMBER MOST FROM
YOUR STUDIES?

>> ALL THE HARD WORK I
HAVE DONE, ALL OF US
TOGETHER.

AND, LIKE I SAID, MY,
MY -- MY TEACHERS AND
MY CLASSMATES.

AND THE SCHOOL.

AND ALL AND ALL.

THE PEOPLE I HAVE MET
IT'S GREAT.

>> AND I IMAGINE YOU
HAVE HAD FRIEND AND
FAMILY SUPPORTING YOU
THROUGH THE PROGRAM

THAT MUST MEAN A LOT
TO YOU, TELL ME ABOUT
THAT?

>> YES, A LOT OF
FRIENDS AND FAMILY
JUST HAVE, HAVE BEEN
ASKING ME TO KEEP
GOING, DO IT, THEY HAD
MORE FAITH IN ME THAN
I HAD IN MYSELF.

>> TELL ME, KEEP
GOING, WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO DO?

>> I THINK I WANT TO
CONTINUE FURTHER INTO
THE MEDICAL
PROFESSION.

I HAVEN' T MADE A
DECISION YET.

>> YOU COULD
POTENTIALLY GET A JOB,
WITH THIS CERTIFICATE
AND CONTINUE YOUR
STUDIES?

>> YES, YES.

>> WELL, WHAT ARE YOUR IMMEDIATE PLANS?

>> MY PLANS, I STILL HAVE SOME CLASSES TO TAKE.

AND, IN FOUR WEEKS I THINK IT IS FOUR WEEKS OF AN INTERNSHIP, I DON'T KNOW WHERE THAT IS GOING TO BE YET.

MAYBE I WILL GET A JOB RIGHT FROM THERE.

>> WELL, WHAT IS IT LIKE NOW THAT THE BIG DAY, YOU HAVE CLASSES LEFT, HERE, THIS IS THE BIG CELEBRATION.

I AM ALL EXCITED.

>> WELL, WE WISH YOU WELL.

CONGRATULATIONS.

ALL THE BEST.

>> THANK YOU.

>> LET'S HAVE OUR NEXT GRADUATE.

HI, WHAT IS YOUR NAME
AND MAJOR?

>> ELI, MY MAJOR --

>> I THINK THIS IS
HONORS PROGRAM

YOU ARE AN HONORS
PROGRAM AUTO TECH.

>> YES, YES.

>> TELL ME HOW YOU
CHOSE THAT FIELD AND
WHAT YOU HOPE TO DO
FROM HERE?

>> EVER SINCE I WAS
LITTLE I DESTROYED
EVERYTHING, I
REMEMBER, JUST --
DISARMING THE REMOTE
CONTROL TO SEE HOW IT
WORKS.

THEN WHEN I WAS 12, I
ACTUALLY STARTED
WORKING WITH MY UNCLE
IN MECHANICS, AFTER
SCHOOL, SUMMERTIME I
WOULD WORK THERE FULL

TIME.

AT AGE 16 WHEN I
GRADUATED FROM HIGH
SCHOOL, I STARTED
WORKING THERE.

AND THAT, THAT
BASICALLY MOTIVATED ME
TO GET A DEGREE,
CERTIFICATE AND BE
PROPERLY CERTIFIED.

>> SO CAN YOU, GO
RIGHT INTO THE FIELD
NOW AND WHAT, WHAT
LEVEL, HOW DO YOU
START IN THAT FIELD?

>> JUST WORK ON CARS,
BASICALLY.

BECAUSE AUTOMOTIVE IS
ALL ABOUT LEARNING
HOW, HOW EVERYTHING
WORKS TOGETHER.

HOW EVERYTHING IS ALL
COMPROMISED.

SO THAT SO THAT ALL
THE PIECES FIT

TOGETHER.

WHEN YOU WORK ON CARS
YOU CAN'T JUST LEARN
FROM BOOKS BUT YOU
ACTUALLY HAVE TO PUT
YOUR HAND IN THE OIL
AND THE GREASE AND GET
DIRTY AND DOWN WITH
IT.

>> THERE IS A LOT OF
OPPORTUNITY TO DO THAT
HERE AT PIMA, RIGHT?
A LOT OF HAND-ON WORK
YOU GOT TO DO?

>> YES, A LOT OF THE
TEACHERS SUCH AS
BRIAN, DAVID,
EVERYONE, ALL OF THE
TEACHERS THERE, THEY,
THEY HELP UNDERSTAND,
AND NOT ONLY THE
BASICS BUT THE THEORY.
THEY HELP YOU GO IN
DEPTH TO BE A
TECHNICIAN, LEARN HOW

A CAR MAKES AND MAKE
IT WORK.

>> YOU FEEL YOU HAVE
TOTALLY GOT THE SKILLS
YOU NEED AND ARE READY
TO GO TOMORROW EVEN?

>> YES, I AM

I FEEL LIKE, AMAZING
RIGHT NOW.

>> THAT IS, THAT IS
GREAT.

I KNOW YOU PROBABLY
HAVE FAMILY AND
FRIEND.

>> I WOULD LOOK TO
GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO MY
MOM AND DAD.

THOSE ARE THE ONES
LATE AT NIGHT.

AND ALL OF THAT
PUSHING ME THROUGH
HIGH SCHOOL AND BEING
THERE FOR ME.

>> WE CONGRATULATE
YOU, WISH YOU WELL.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> AND ALL RIGHT,

NEXT.

HI.

WHAT IS YOUR NAME,

WHAT WAS YOUR MAJOR?

>> MY NAME IS MICHAEL

GAMBI, MY MAJOR IS

COMPUTER NETWORK,

APPLIED TO SCIENCE.

>> AND WHAT BROUGHT

YOU TO PIMA?

>> I THINK -- I REALLY

LIKE IT BECAUSE THE

COLLEGE AND I NEED TO

INCREASE MORE MY

KNOWLEDGE.

BEFORE I DID BA,

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT,

BUT I NEED TO DO MORE

ABOUT COMPUTER BECAUSE

IT WORKS TOGETHER WITH

THE BUSINESS.

SO THIS WAY I TOOK

COMPUTER NETWORK SO TO
HELP ME A LOT TO DO A
LOT OF THINGS.

>> YOU HAD A WIDE
VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES
HERE AT PIMA.

TELL ME WHAT IS ONE OF
THE THINGS THAT WILL
STICK WITH YOU MOST,
AS FAR AS MEMORIES OF
CLASSMATES OR
EXPERIENCE IN CLASS?

>> IN CLASS WE HAVE A
LOT OF HELP,
ESPECIALLY COLLEAGUES
WE WORK TOGETHER AND
IF THERE IS
DIFFICULTIES WE WORK
AS A TEAM AS WE GROW.

SO THIS ENCOURAGED ME
TO DO MORE IN MY, IN
MY MAJOR.

>> TELL ME ABOUT
FRIEND AND FAMILY THAT
HAVE BEEN THERE DURING

YOUR TIME AT PIMA.
AND WHAT YOUR PLANS
ARE NOW?

>> I AM REALLY HAPPY
FOR MY FRIENDS WHO
REALLY STAND AND HELP
ME A LOT ENCOURAGING
ME.

I KNOW IT IS A BIG
CHALLENGE.

BUT THEY REALLY STAND
WITH ME AND ENCOURAGE
ME TO GO FORWARD
INSTEAD OF COMING
BACK.

SO THIS IS WHY TODAY I
AM HERE.

ENCOURAGING THAT, LET
THEM GO AHEAD AND DO
LIKE I DID.

>> CONGRATULATIONS.

AND WE WISH YOU ALL
THE BEST.

>> THANK YOU.

>> ALL RIGHT.

I THINK WE'LL TAKE A
BREAK, WHEN WE ROUND
UP SOME MORE GRADUATE
AND BE BACK IN A
COUPLE MINUTES.
THANK YOU.

>> HI.

WE ARE BACK WITH MORE
SOME, TO GET SOME MORE
STORIES FROM OUR
GRADUATES FROM CLASS
OF 2013.

WITH US IS THE OLDEST
GRADUATE IN THE CLASS,
ENRIQUETA FASSLER,
TELL US ABOUT YOUR
DEGREE AND WHY YOU
DECIDED TO PURSUE IT.

>> I AM GOING TO BE
FINISHING MY DEGREE
PARA LEGAL
CERTIFICATE.

I TRIED TO PURSUE

ASSOCIATE
CERTIFICATION BECAUSE
I WOULD LOOK TO LEARN
ABOUT SELF DEFENSE
WITH REGARD TO LEGAL
MATTERS IN THIS
SOCIETY SO IT GIVES ME
MUSCLES.

>> WELL, WHY DID YOU
DECIDE TO PURSUE THIS
AT THIS TIME, IN A
TIME WHEN MOST PEOPLE
ARE PLANNING
RETIREMENT TRIPS AND
JUST, SLEEPING IN LATE
AND WHAT PROMPTED YOU
TO GET INTO THIS NOW?

>> I HAD THE PASSION
OF LEARNING SINCE I
WAS A LITTLE GIRL.
MY FATHER WAS LIKE
THAT.

I EMULATE MY FATHER'S
IDEALS.

I GREW UP IN THE

PHILIPPINES.

NO SCHOOL IN FRONT OF
MY DOOR.

IN THE UNITED STATES,
COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
IN FRONT OF MY DOOR.

WHY NOT TAKE THE
OPPORTUNITY.

>> WHAT DID YOU DO FOR
WORK MOST OF YOUR
LIFE?

>> OK.

I FINISHED MY
EDUCATION DEGREE IN
THE PHILIPPINES AS A
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
MAJOR.

THEN I WENT TO U OF A
AS A MUSIC EDUCATION
MAJOR.

I TOOK MUSIC IN HERE
IN TUCSON.

I RETIRED.

AND IN HEALTH ARENA,
ENTERTAINMENT,

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, I
AM A PIANIST, I CAN
PLAY FOR THE
ALZHEIMER'S PATIENTS,
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO
SCHOOL TO EXERCISE MY
BRAIN.

>> IT IS OBVIOUS,
EDUCATION HAS BEEN A
VERY IMPORTANT PART OF
ALL OF YOUR LIFE.

I UNDERSTAND YOU SAID
YOU HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS
IN THE AUDIENCE, WHAT
WOULD YOU LOOK TO SAY
TO THEM RIGHT NOW?

>> I REALLY LOVE THAT
THEY ARE HERE.

THEY SURPRISED ME.
ONE JUST ARRIVED THIS
NOON FROM CALIFORNIA.
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS
COMING.

SO I WAS KNOW NERVOUS
AND I WAS PETRIFIED

WITH ALL THE PLANS
FROM ANNA LYNN MY
YOUNGEST, WHO FINISHED
ALSO FROM U OF A AND
CHERYL LYNN, WHO
FINISHED ASU, AND MY
FILIPINO COMMUNITY
FRIENDS ARE HERE,
SUPPORTING ME AND THEY
WANT TO WATCH ME
MARCH.

>> A GREAT BIG PARTY,
FULL OF SURPRISES, WE
WISH YOU WELL,
CONGRATULATIONS.

AND ALL THE BEST.

>> THANKS TO PCC.

>> WE ARE RUIING OUT OF
TIME.

WE WILL DOUBLE UP.

LET' S GET A COUPLE
MORE GRADUATES.

EACH OF YOU TELL ME
YOUR NAME AND WHAT
YOUR MAJOR IS?

>> MY NAME IS
YADIRALUAA,
ADMINISTRATION
JUSTICE.

>> MY NAME IS
ELRIACARRILLO,
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION.

>> TELL ME WHAT WAS
THE MOST MEMORABLE
PART OF YOUR
EXPERIENCE AT PIMA?

>> FOR ME IT WAS IN
THE ACTION WITH THE
TEACHERS, THEY REALLY
SUPPORTED US AND
WANTED US TO GET THIS
POINT.

SO THAT IS A GOOD
MEMORY FOR ME.

>> FOR ME IT WAS MY
ACCOUNTING CLASS,
WITH, MS. NANCY MEACH,
ACTUALLY THE TEACHER
THAT INSPIRED ME TO GO

INTO ACCOUNTING AT THE
U OF A.

>> YOU ARE STARTING IN
THE FALL, TELL ME MORE
ABOUT THAT AND WHAT
YOUR PLANS FOR THE
FUTURE ARE?

>> YES, I START AT THE
U OF A, ELLER COLLEGE,
FALL 2013.

>> DO YOU GO ON TO
PURSUE A DEGREE AFTER
PIMA?

>> YES, I WILL GO TO
THE U OF A IN SPRING
2014.

>> SINCE WE' RE RUNNING
OF TIME.

ASK YOU BOTH GIVE A
SHOUT OUT TO YOUR
FRIEND AND FAMILY HERE
TO SUPPORT YOU.

>> I WOULD JUST LIKE
TO THANK MY PARENTS
AND FAMILY FOR

SUPPORTING ME THROUGH
ALL OF THIS.

THEY' RE SUCH A BIG
PART OF MY LIFE AND
THEY' RE THE REASON WHY
I AM ABLE TO BE HERE
RIGHT NOW.

SO THANK YOU.

>> WELL, FOR ME MY
PARENTS, AND MY
SISTERS OF COURSE, AND
-- ESPECIALLY MY
BOYFRIEND SIMON.

GOT IT, BABY.

>> ALL RIGHT.

WELL THAT' S GREAT.

WE WISH YOU WELL.

CONGRATULATIONS.

CONGRATULATIONS.

LAST BUT CERTAIN LOW
NOT LEAST.

THESE TWO GENTLEMEN.

THEY' RE GOING TO TELL
ME ABOUT THEIR
EXPERIENCE.

RIGHT HERE AND RIGHT
HERE.

THERE YOU GO.

ALL RIGHT, TELL ME,
TELL ME YOUR NAME AND
MAJOR.

>> I AM JOE OWEN,
LIBERAL ARTS.

>> GREG WHEATON,
NURSING.

>> IN THE DEGREE
NURSING PROGRAM?

>> YES, I FINISHED
NOW.

>> YOU ARE DONE.

>> SO YOU WILL BE ABLE
TO GET INTO NURSING,
INTO THE NURSING FIELD
NOW?

>> YES, JUST GOT ONE
BOARD EXAM TO TAKE AND
I AM DONE.

>> WHAT ABOUT YOU?

>> I'M DOING LIBERAL
ARTS I PLAY TENNIS FOR

PIMA.

THAT' S WHAT I AM DOING
HERE.

>> ARE YOU GOING TO BE
ABLE, ARE YOU PLANNING
TO TRANSFER AND PLAY
TENNIS SOME WHERE?

>> YES, I GOT A
SCHOLARSHIP FOR
ARIZONA CHRISTIAN
UNIVERSITY.

I COMMITTED TO THE
SCHOOL AND PLAN TO
ATTEND THERE IN THE
FALL.

>> THAT' S GREAT.
TELL ME WHAT, YOU HAVE
GOT TWO PROBABLY
VASTLY DIFFERENT
EXPERIENCES, LIBERAL
ARTS AND NURSING.
TAKE TURNS, ASK EACH
WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?
WHAT WAS THE
EXPERIENCE AT PIMA

LIKE, WHAT ARE YOU
GOING TO TAKE AWAY
FROM THIS?

>> FOR ME, I LIKE
PIMA, THE
TEACHER/STUDENT RATIO
CAN GET CLOSE CONTACT
WITH YOUR TEACHERS AND
DEVELOP A PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP.

THAT'S WHAT I REALLY
LIKE ABOUT PIMA.
HOPEFULLY I CAN CARRY
THAT FORWARD WITH
TEACHERS IN THE
FUTURE.

>> PIMA IS I FEEL LIKE
THE NURSING DEGREE
PROGRAM IS REALLY,
REALLY BIG FLAG SHIP
OF LIKE, YOU KNOW,
NURSING SCHOOLS.
SO I AM REALLY PROUD
TO HAVE BEEN, YOU
KNOW, TO HAVE BEEN A

PART OF IT AND BE ABLE
TO GRADUATE FROM IT
AND ALSO REALLY
APPRECIATED HOW
INVOLVED THE TEACHERS
WERE IN LIKE, IN OUR,
IN OUR EDUCATION.
THEY WERE REALLY
INVOLVED.

THEY REALLY WANTED TO
SEE YOU SUCCEED.

SO THAT' S, AND I KIND
OF HOPE TO TEACH HERE
SOME DAY DOING THAT
EXACT SAME THING.

>> SO, EVENTUALLY GET
INTO TEACHING.

FIRST WORK IN THE
FIELD IN A FACILITY?

>> OH, YEAH, YEAH.

I' M STILL NOT REALLY
ALL THAT GOOD AT
NURSING YET.

>> YOU WILL BE BECAUSE
YOU WENT TO PIMA.

ALL RIGHT.

QUICKLY, EACH OF YOU
TELLS ME WHAT YOUR
FRIENDS AND FAMILY
HAVE MEANT TO YOU
DURING YOUR TIME HERE
AT PIMA.

>> WELL MY FAMILY
PARTICULARLY DEALT
WITH ME IT WAS SO
RIGOROUS OF A PROGRAM
AND I WAS KIND OF
FOCUSED, THERE IS
ANOTHER WAY FOR SAYING
JERKY DURING THE
PROGRAM

BUT THEY WERE VERY
UNDERSTANDING WHENEVER
I WAS SO FOCUSED I HAD
TO BOW OUT OF A LOT OF
FAMILY FUNCTIONS.

MY FRIENDS WERE THE
SAME WAY AND
SUPPORTIVE.

THEY WERE ALWAYS

SAYING HOW PROUD OF ME
THEY WERE, THAT WAS
PRETTY COOL.

IT HELPED ME GET
THROUGH IT.

SO --

>> WELL MY FRIEND
DIDN'T HELP ME OUT TOO
MUCH.

THEY WEREN'T REALLY
SUPPORTING ME
THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE
THING.

MY FAMILY ESPECIALLY
MY MOM HELPED ME WITH
EVERYTHING, HELPED ME
STAY UP, SUPPORTED ME
NO MATTER WHAT
SITUATION I WAS IN.

>> THAT'S GREAT.

WE WISH YOU WELL.

CONGRATULATIONS.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>> CONGRATULATIONS.

LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE ONE

MORE SPECIAL GUEST.

>> ALL RIGHT.

NOT A GRADUATE, AT

LEST NOT RECENT

GRADUATE AS I

UNDERSTAND.

TELL US WHAT YOU WANT

TO SAY.

>> WELL, I AM A

GRADUATE, GRADUATING

OF THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM, A

FULL TIME FACULTY

MEMBER AND FITNESS AND

SPORT SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT AND GOING

TO SCHOOL FOR PROBABLY

LAST SIX, SEVEN YEARS

TRYING TO COMPLETE THE

CERTIFICATE.

MY THOUGHT WAS I WOULD

GIVE MESSAGES TO MY

WIFE, NOT A VOCATION,

I AM LIKING THIS,

ENJOY IT, A GREAT

OPPORTUNITY.
HAD A COMPREHENSIVE
PROGRAM,
SOPHISTICATED, GREAT
INSTRUCTORS AND
SOMETHING THAT HAS
BEEN INTERESTING FOR
ME TO PURSUE.

NOW THE PROBLEM IS MY
WIFE WANTS ME TO GO
INTO CULINARY ART
AFTER I GRADUATE WITH
THIS PROGRAM.

SO, BUT IT HAS BEEN A
WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.
PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HAS A LOT OF GREAT
PROGRAMS, INSTRUCTORS
ARE EXCELLENT, I HAD
AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THIS AND
I THANK THEM FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY.

>> SO SOUND LIKE YOUR
WIFE IS REALLY GETTING

A LOT OUT OF YOUR
EDUCATION.

>> THIS IS A GOOD
RELATIONSHIP I
DEVELOPED WITH HER,
WORKED FOR BOTH OF US
REALLY WELL.

>> CONGRATULATIONS.
WISH YOU WELL.

>> APPRECIATE IT,
THANK YOU.

>> ALL THE BEST.

>> WELL I THINK THAT
WRAPS US UP FOR
TONIGHT.

GET TO YOUR SEATS.

WE WILL BE STARTING IN
JUST A FEW MINUTES.

THANKS AGAIN FOR BEING
HERE.

AN HISTORIC NIGHT FOR
PIMA.

YOU WILL HEAR ABOUT
THAT COMING UP IN JUST
A FEW MINUTES.

>> EXCUSE ME A
MOMENT.
COULD WE HAVE THE
DARLENE ROTANDI COME
DOWN TO THE ARENA
ENTRY WITH YOUR
SISTER' S PURSE.
DARLENE ROTUNDI.
THANK YOU.

>> WELCOME TO THE
TUCSON ARENA.
TAKE THE TIME TO
IDENTIFY EXITS IN THE
ARENA.
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY,
REMAIN CALM AND EXIT.
ALL EXITS ARE MARKED
WITH A LIGHTED SIGN.
IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS OR NEED
DIRECTIONS TO THE

EXITS PLEASE SPEAK TO
AN USHER OR TUCSON
ARENA EMPLOYEE.
THANK YOU AND ENJOY
THE PERFORMANCE.

>> GOOD EVENING.
WOULD YOU PLEASE RISE
AND JOIN ME FOR THE
SINGING OF THE
NATIONAL ANTHEM BY
RACHEL EZONNAEBI AND
JACQUELINE BLACK.

>> 'O SAY CAN YOU SEE
BY THE DAWN' S EARLY
LIGHT WHAT SO PROUDLY
WE HAILED AT THE
TWILIGHT' S LAST
GLEAMING WHOSE BROAD
STRIPES AND BRIGHT
STARS THROUGH THE
PERILOUS FIGHT O' ER
THE RAMPARTS WE
WATCHED WERE SO

GALLANTLY STREAMING
AND THE ROCKETS' RED
GLARE ROCKETS' RED
GLARE THE BOMBS
BURSTING IN AIR
BURSTING IN AIR GAVE
PROOF THROUGH THE
NIGHT THAT OUR FLAG
WAS STILL THERE 'O SAY
DOES THAT STAR
SPANGLED BANNER YET
WAVE O'ER THE LAND OF
THE FREE AND THE HOME
OF THE BRAVE.

>> WELCOME.

I AM DR. JERRY MIGLER
PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR
THE COLLEGE AND I HAVE
THE DISTINCT PLEASURE
OF SERVING AS YOUR
HOST FOR THIS
EVENING'S ACTIVITIES.

ON BEHALF OF THE
COLLEGE, I WANT TO
EXTEND A WARM WELCOME
TO THE FAMILIES AND
GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED
US AND A SPECIAL
WELCOME TO THE CLASS
OF 2013.

NOW I WOULD LIKE TO
INTRODUCE THE PERSONS
JOINING ME ON STAGE
TONIGHT.

PLEASE HOLD YOUR
APPLAUSE UNTIL
EVERYONE HAS BEEN
INTRODUCED.

I WILL BEGIN WITH OUR
BOARD OF GOVERNORS,
DR. BRENDA EVEN, CHAIR
OF THE BOARD OF
GOVERNORS, DISTRICT 1,
MR. DAVID LONGORIA
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

OF GOVERNORS DISTRICT

2, DR. SYLIVA LEE,

DISTRICT 3, MR. SCOTT

STEWART, DISTRICT 4,

AND MS. MS. MARTY

CORTEZ, DISTRICT 5.

NEXT OUR INTERIM

CHANCELLOR, DR. ZELEMA

HARRIS.

EXECUTIVE VICE

CHANCELLOR FOR FINANCE

AND ADMINISTRATION,

DR. DAVID BEA, YOUR

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER,

MR. JOSHUA PLACE.

WE ALSO HAVE THE

PRESIDENTS OF THE SIX

CAMPUSES WITH US, DR.

SUZANNE MILES,

COMMUNITY CAMPUS, DR.

JOHNSON BIA, DESERT

VISTA CAMPUS, DR. LUBA

CHLIWNIAK, DOWNTOWN

CAMPUS, CHARLOTTE

FUGETT, EAST CAMPUS,

DR. ALEX KAJSTURA,
NORTHWEST CAMPUS, AND
DR. LOU ALBERT, WEST
CAMPUS.

AND FACULTY
REPRESENTATIVES,
KIMLI SA DUCHICELA, AND
PATRICIA FIGUEROA.

NOW LET' S WELCOME

THEM!

[CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

THIS IS GOING TO BE A
SPECIAL EVENING FOR
EVERYONE AND WE WANT
YOU TO ENJOY EVERY
MINUTE OF IT.

SO, LET' S TAKE A
MINUTE TO MAKE CERTAIN
THAT OUR CELL PHONES
ARE OFF AND SILENT.

IN ADDITION, I WANT TO
REMI ND OUR GRADUATING
CLASS THAT IN A FEW
MINUTES WHEN YOU CROSS
THE STAGE TO RECEIVE

YOUR SCROLL, PLEASE
RETURN TO YOUR SEAT
AND BE SURE TO CHEER
ON YOUR CLASSMATES.

ONCE EVERYONE HAS
RECEIVED THEIR SCROLL

I WILL INVITE

DR. HARRIS TO THE
LECTERN TO FORMALLY
CONFER YOUR DEGREES.

THAT IS WHEN YOU MOVE
YOUR TASSEL FROM THE
RIGHT TO THE LEFT AND
DON'T WORRY THINGS
WILL MOVE ALONG QUITE
NICELY.

NOW CONTINUING WITH
OUR PROGRAM -- IT IS
MY PLEASURE TO
INTRODUCE OUR INTERIM
CHANCELLOR.

DR. ZELEMA HARRIS
SERVE AS INTERIM
CHANCELLOR OF PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE,

SINCE APRIL 16, TODAY
IS HER ONE MONTH
ANNIVERSARY.

A NATIVE OF EAST
TEXAS, HARRIS HAS BEEN
PASSIONATE ABOUT
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
SINCE TAKING HER
FIRST-CLASS ON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MOVEMENT AT UNIVERSITY
OF KANSAS IN THE
1970S.

THIS STATEMENT FROM
DR. HARRIS REFLECT HER
EDUCATIONAL
PHILOSOPHY.

I AM COMMITTED TO
DOING EVERYTHING I CAN
TO GET PEOPLE INTO THE
DOOR.

BUT NOT ONLY THAT, TO
ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE
THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE
SUCCESSFUL.

FROM 2007 TO 2011,
DR. HARRIS SERVED AS
CHANCELLOR OF ST.
LOUIS COMMUNITY
COLLEGE, MISSOURI'S
LARGEST COMMUNITY
COLLEGE SYSTEM
SHE SERVED AS
PRESIDENT OF PARKLAND
COLLEGE IN ILLINOIS,
AND PRESIDENT OF PENN
VALLEY COMMUNITY
COLLEGE IN KANSAS
CITY, MISSOURI.
DR. HARRIS EARNED HER
MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL
DEGREES FROM
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS.
SHE HOLDS A BACHELOR'S
DEGREE FROM PRAIRIE
VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, .
SO WITH THAT LET'S
MOVE ON.
I AM PLEASED TO
PRESENT TO YOU THE

INTERIM CHANCELLOR OF
PIMA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE, DR. ZELEMA
HARRIS.

>> GOOD EVENING AND
WELCOME.

TONIGHT AS WE HONOR
OUR GRADUATES WE
RECOGNIZE THAT
GRADUATION IS A
SPECIAL TIME FOR
STUDENTS AND THEIR
LOVED ONES.

BUT THIS YEAR PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S
GRADUATION IS A LITTLE
MORE SPECIAL THAN
MOST.

AND THAT IS BECAUSE
THE WOMEN AND MEN
RECEIVING DIPLOMAS AND
CERTIFICATES TONIGHT
ARE PART OF THE
LARGEST GRADUATING
CLASS IN PIMA

COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HISTORY.
THIS YEAR THERE ARE
3,756 CANDIDATES FOR
GRADUATION, A RECORD
FOR THE SCHOOL, AND A
TRULY REMARKABLE
ACHI EVEMENT.
THE DEGREES AND
CERTI FICATES TO BE
AWARDED TONIGHT ARE
DI VERSE AS ARE THE
GRADUATES THEMSELVES.
THIS YEAR' S CLASS
RANGES IN AGE FROM 17
YEARS OLD TO 70.
LIKE ALL PREMIERE
COMMUNITY COLLEGES,
PIMA SERVES EVERYONE.
IN THIS SENSE YOU ARE
PART OF A LONG
TRADI TI ON.
OVER THE PAST 10
YEARS, PIMA HAS
AWARDED DEGREES OR

CERTIFICATES TO NEARLY
32,000 STUDENTS.

THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE
GONE ON TO ACHIEVE
GREAT THINGS.

COLLECTIVELY OUR
GRADUATES HAVE BECOME
THE BACKBONE OF A
THRIVING, PROSPEROUS
TUCSON AND PIMA
COUNTY.

I HAVE BEEN IN TUCSON
AS WAS PREVIOUSLY
STATED FOR ABOUT A
MONTH, BUT EVERYWHERE
I GO I HEAR GOOD
THINGS ABOUT PIMA.

AT A SHOP ON THE NORTH
SIDE, OR RESTAURANT ON
THE EASTSIDE, THE
MESSAGES ARE THE SAME.
AND THEY ARE -- "PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS
MY COLLEGE."

PIMA IS, OF COURSE,

PROUD OF YOUR ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT.

YOUR FRIEND AND FAMILY
ARE PROUD OF YOU TOO.

I KNOW YOU ARE
THANKFUL FOR THEIR
SUPPORT.

MANY OF YOU WOULD NOT
BE HERE, YOU WOULDN' T
HAVE MADE IT THIS FAR,
WITHOUT THEIR HELP.

YOU, THE GRADUATES,
MIGHT WANT TO GIVE
YOUR LOVED ONES A
ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

THEY DESERVE IT.

[CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

ALSO, ALSO YOU SHOULD
REMEMBER THAT YOUR
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
IS A REFLECTION OF THE
AMAZING DEDICATION OF
A FACULTY AND STAFF.

PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
IS DEVOTED TO CREATING
A SUPPORT SYSTEM THAT
ALLOWS OUR STUDENTS TO
BE THEIR BEST.

AND WE SHOULD
RECOGNIZE THE
COLLEGE' S BOARD OF
GOVERNORS, THEY WORK
LONG HOURS DEALING
WITH MANY COMPLEX
ISSUES AND THEY DO IT
BECAUSE OF THEIR LOVE
FOR PIMA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE.

GIVE THAT YOU HAVE
GAINED MUCH FROM PCC,
IT IS AN APPROPRIATE
TIME TO TALK ABOUT
GIVING BACK.

I WOULD LIKE TO START
WITH THE WORD OF LABOR
AND CIVIL RIGHTS
ACTIVIST CESAR.
CHAVEZ, IF YOU ARE

OUTRAGED AT CONDITIONS
HE SAID THEN YOU CAN'T
POSSIBLY BE FREE OR
HAPPY UNTIL YOU DEVOTE
TIME TO CHANGING THEM
THAT MESSAGE RINGS
TRUE TODAY.

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO
MERELY KNOW THINGS,
ONE MUST HAVE THE
COURAGE TO DO THINGS.
ESPECIALLY THINGS THAT
MAKE THE WORLD A
BETTER PLACE FOR ALL
OF US AND THAT IS MY
CHALLENGE TO YOU.

AS YOU PROGRESS
THROUGH LIFE GIVE
SOMETHING BACK.

REMEMBER YOUR ROOTS.
HONOR YOUR COMMUNITY.
AND VOLUNTEER TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE.

I'LL CLOSE WITH THE
WORD OF AN EDUCATOR,

AUTHOR AND FORMER
MEMBER OF THE U. S.
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES --

"SERVICE SHE SAID IS
THE RENT WE PAY FOR
THE PRIVILEGE OF
LIVING ON THIS EARTH.
WHEN YOU MAKE HELPING
OTHERS A CORE PART OF
YOUR LIFE, EVERYONE
BENEFITS. "

I URGE YOU TO TAKE THE
LESSONS YOU HAVE
LEARNED AT PIMA AND
CREATE A LIFE WORTH
LIVING FOR YOURSELF
AND AS WELL AS FOR
OTHERS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH
AND CONGRATULATIONS.

>> THANK YOU,
DR. HARRIS.

GRADUATING CLASS
MEMBERS, PIMA COLLEGE
IS FULL OF MANY
STORIES THAT ANY ONE
OF YOU COULD SHARE ON
HOW YOU PERSEVERED TO
EARN YOUR DEGREE.

TONIGHT, ONE OF YOUR
CLASSMATES IS GOING TO
SHARE HIS STORY.

JOSHUA IS A TUCSON
AREA LOCAL WHO BEGAN
ATTENDING PIMA AT AGE
16 AND IS NOW
GRADUATING AT AGE 20
WITH TWO ASSOCIATE
DEGREES AND ONE
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE.

HE IS A MEMBER OF PHI
THETA KAPPA HONOR
SOCIETY AND MAINTAINED
A GRADE POINT OF 3.9
EARNING HIGHEST
HONORS.

JOSHUA IS AN ACTIVE

MUSICIAN AT HIS CHURCH
IN SAHUARITA WHERE HE
HAS SPENT THE LAST 17
YEARS.

HE IS GRADUATING FROM
COMPUTER- AIDED
DRAFTING & DESIGN
PROGRAM WITH AN
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
LAYOUT DESIGN
CONCENTRATION HOPING
TO START WORK RIGHT
AWAY.

PLEASE HELP ME WELCOME
YOUR STUDENT SPEAKER,
JOSHUA PLACE.

>> IT IS AN HONOR AND
GREAT PRIVILEGE TO
STAND BEFORE YOU ALL
TODAY.

FRIENDS, FAMILY,
FACULTY MEMBERS,
ADMINISTRATORS,
GRADUATES, AND TO
EVERYONE WHO IS JUST

NOW REALIZING THAT
THIS IS NOT THE GEM
SHOW, I WELCOME YOU TO
PIMA COMMUNITY

COLLEGE' S 201 #
GRADUATION CEREMONY.

THE TCC STAFF HAS
ASKED ME TO POINT OUT
THAT THERE ARE
EMERGENCY EXITS ON THE
RIGHT AND LEFT- HAND
SIDE OF THE BUILDING,
AND IN CASE MY SPEECH
CRASHES, YOUR CHAIRS
DO DOUBLE AS A
FLOTATION DEVICE.

IN MY SECOND SEMESTER
HERE AT PIMA I WAITED
IN CLASS FOR MY NEW
MATH INSTRUCTOR TO
ARRIVE.

ABRUPTLY, A MAN, WHO I
ASSUMED WAS LOST AND
SOMEHOW MANAGED TO
ESCAPE FROM THE

HOSPITAL BEGAN HASTILY
SCRIBBLING EQUATIONS
ON THE BOARD.

TO MY SURPRISE, THIS
MAN CONTINUED FOR THE
NEXT HOUR AND A HALF
-- BY THE END OF THAT
CLASS PERIOD, I HAD
LEARNED MORE ABOUT
QUADRATIC POLYNOMIALS
AND NATURAL LOGARITHMS
THAN EVER BEFORE.

HOWEVER, THE GREATEST
THING I LEARNED THAT
DAY WAS NOT FORMULAS,
IT WAS THAT PEOPLE, NO
MATTER HOW STRANGE OR
EXTRAVAGANT THEY MAY
SEEM ARE ALL CAPABLE
OF INCREDIBLE THINGS.

NOW, YOU ALL LOOK A
BIT CONCERNED -- DO
NOT WORRY.

I AM NOT HERE TO
LECTURE YOU ABOUT THE

SCIENCE OF HUMAN
BEHAVIOR,
NEUROPSYCHOLOGY, OR
JUST PLAIN PSYCHOLOGY.

NO.

I AM HERE TODAY TO
POINT OUT HOW LITTLE
WE KNOW.

YES, IF THE SOUND
ENGINEER IN THE BACK
HASN' T TURNED MY MIC
OFF YET, YOU DID HEAR
ME CORRECTLY.

TODAY IS NOT ONLY
ABOUT CELEBRATING HOW
MUCH WE HAVE LEARNED
THROUGH OUR EDUCATION
HERE AT PIMA, BUT IT
IS ALSO ABOUT
CELEBRATING HOW LITTLE
WE TRULY KNOW.

YOU SEE, THE MORE WE
KNOW, THE LESS THERE
IS TO LEARN, AND WHAT
WOULD LIFE BE LIKE

WITH NOTHING NEW TO
DISCOVER?
FOR ME, I AM HERE
CELEBRATING EVERYTHING
THAT I HAVE YET TO
DISCOVER, EVERYTHING I
HAVE YET TO LEARN, AND
EVERYTHING THAT IS YET
TO INVENTED FOR EVEN
IMAGINED.
TODAY WE ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT OUR
INSIGNIFICANCE IS
EXACTLY WHAT MAKES US
SIGNIFICANT.
YOU SEE THE STORY I
TOLD YOU ABOUT MY MATH
TEACHER, THE ONE WHO I
HAD BUILT UP IN MY
MIND TO BE THIS GREAT
AND POWERFUL, WISE
MATHEMATICIAN, WELL,
HE TRULY WAS EXACTLY
THE MAN I HAD IMAGINED
HIM TO BE.

HE JUST DIDN' T LOOK
EXACTLY WHAT I HAD
IMAGINED HIM TO LOOK
LIKE.

SOMEHOW, WHEN WE
EXPECT SOMETHING TO BE
GREAT, WE COMPARE IT
TO THE GREATEST MARVEL
OUR EYES HAVE EVER
SEEN.

A WISE MAN NAMED
AUGUSTINE SAID IT LIKE
THIS -- "MEN GO ABROAD
TO WONDER AT THE
HEIGHT OF MOUNTAINS,
THE HUGE WAVES OF THE
SEA, THE VAST COMPASS
OF THE OCEAN, AND THE
CIRCULAR MOTION OF THE
STARS, AND YET, THEY
PASS BY ONE ANOTHER,
AND THEY DON' T EVEN
NOTICE. "

WHETHER YOU ARE HERE
TODAY AS A PARENT, A

TEACHER, A FRIEND,
ADMINISTRATOR, A
GRADUATE, OR, OR THAT
GUY WHO STILL THINKS
THAT THIS IS THE GEM
SHOW -- WE ARE ALL
HERE FOR THE SAME
REASON, TO CELEBRATE
THE BEGINNING OF THE
REST OF OUR LIVES.
FOR US, THE GRADUATES,
WE ARE BEGINNING A NEW
CHAPTER IN OUR LIFE'S
BOOK.
BUT TODAY I CHALLENGE
THE BEST OF YOU TO BE
THE NEXT CHARACTER IN
ANOTHER PERSON'S BOOK.
BE THE NEXT MAIN
CHARACTER IN ANOTHER
PERSON'S LIFE.
AS I LOOK AT THE PAST
HEROES IN MY BOOK, MY
MATH TEACHER, MY
FAMILY, AND MY

FRIENDS, I BEGIN TO
LOOK AT ALL OF YOU
BEFORE ME WONDERING
WHAT CHAPTER OF LIFE
OUR PATHS WILL MEET.
EVEN IF TODAY IS THE
LAST DAY THAT OUR
PATHS CROSS, I AM SO
THANKFUL AND GRATEFUL
THAT IT HAPPENED AT
ALL.

IN CLOSING, I WANT TO
THANK ALL OF YOU,
EVERY ONE OF YOU, FOR
SUPPORTING PIMA'S 2013
GRADUATES.

AND TO MY FELLOW
GRADUATES, WE DID IT,
WE FINISHED THIS
CHAPTER, NOW LET US
TURN THE PAGE AND
CHANGE THE WORLD.
THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, JOSHUA,
FOR THOSE WONDERFUL
WORD AND FOR
REPRESENTING YOUR
CLASSMATES SO WELL.
NOW I THINK YOUR
FAMILY IS IN SECTION
204, THERE HAVE GOT TO
BE SOME VERY, VERY
PROUD PEOPLE THERE.
LET' S RECOGNIZE
JOSHUA' S FAMILY.
JOSHUA, ON BEHALF OF
PIMA COLLEGE, I
PRESENT YOU WITH THIS
PLAQUE TO REMIND YOU
OF YOUR PRESENTATION
TONIGHT AND TO THANK
YOU FOR YOUR
LEADERSHIP AT PIMA
COLLEGE.
NOW, WHAT WE HAVE ALL
BEEN WAITING FOR.
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
AND INTERIM CHANCELLOR

HARRIS, AS THE PROVOST
AND VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR ACADEMIC AND
STUDENT SERVICES I
HAVE THE HONOR TO
INFORM YOU THAT THE
FACULTY OF PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE HAS
CERTIFIED THAT THIS
YEAR, STUDENTS HAVE
FULFILLED THE
COLLEGE' S REQUIREMENTS
FOR 5,943 DEGREES AND
CERTIFICATES.
AND NOW, COLLEGE
REPRESENTATIVES WILL
PRESENT THE
CERTIFICATES AND
DEGREES EARNED BY THE
CLASS OF 2013 AND
GRADUATES, REMEMBER,
PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR
SEATS AND REMAIN THERE
UNTIL YOU HAVE
ACTUALLY BEEN

CONFERRED THE DEGREE

BY DR. HARRIS.

[CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

>> INTERIM CHANCELLOR

HARRIS, I HAVE THE

HONOR TO PRESENT TO

YOU THE CLASS OF 2013.

>> I WOULD LIKE TO

THANK PROVOST MIGLER

FOR OFFICIATING

TONIGHT.

I ALSO WANT TO THANK

THE READERS AND

INTERPRETERS FOR THE
WORK THEY HAVE DONE TO
MAKE THIS GRADUATION
CEREMONY SPECIAL FOR
THE CLASS OF 2013.

WILL THE GRADUATING
CLASS PLEASE STAND?

BY THE AUTHORITY AND
POWER VESTED IN ME BY
THE PIMA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD
OF GOVERNORS AND BY
THE STATE OF ARIZONA,

I NOW DECLARE YOU PIMA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GRADUATES WITH ALL THE
EARNED RIGHTS,
RESPONSIBILITIES, AND
PRIVILEGES.

YOU MAY NOW MOVE YOUR
TASSELS FROM RIGHT TO
LEFT --

CONGRATULATIONS,
GRADUATES!

THIS CONCLUDES THE

GRADUATION FOR THE
CLASS OF 2013.
THANK YOU ALL AND GOOD
EVENING.