

Student Lasallian Commencement Address

December 2017

Presented by Alexis Luna

Good morning, members of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Livingston, honored guests, faculty, staff, fellow graduates, parents, family, and friends.



relaxed lifestyle of Australia. During my time in Australia, I also realized that hatred, bigotry, and prejudice are not only problems faced in the U.S. but worldwide.

Before I left for Australia, I felt stuck at Lewis. Unsure about what I was expecting to get out of my college experience. Had I wasted a lot of money and racked up loans for nothing? I was searching for something. From my experiences of studying abroad, I felt a need to learn about the world and the truth that it holds.

So, what could I do? My course in Christian Social Teaching, allowed me to learn about what I was searching for. I was searching for the truth. Dr. Burke, helped us realize that it is our responsibility to help and serve others. He challenged us to understand that we have a part in making a difference in our world.

From the course and my involvement on campus, I was able to help others search for their faith, help with their spiritual journey, and help others succeed. I also believe that without the growth of my Lasallian character, one that includes respecting others as a matter of justice, I never would have made the decision to do volunteer service after graduation.

Without the support and dedication of Lewis faculty and staff members, and their spirit of association, many of our goals may not have been accomplished. The Lasallian values of Knowledge, Fidelity, Wisdom, Justice, and Association have been part of our journey at Lewis.

Think about the challenges you faced during your years at Lewis: those long, late nights studying or researching for projects, the stress of working and being a student at the same time, caring for a sick child or parent, changing majors when you felt it was not your calling, and countless of other crises you overcame often with faculty and staff support.

Be proud of all you have accomplished, but also think of the professors and faculty members who have journeyed with you during your time at Lewis. Their care and concern have helped you get here today, ready to graduate.

It seems to me, we have much to be thankful for. So, on behalf of my fellow graduates, I want to thank the faculty and staff for all you have done for us in the spirit of association.

My fellow graduates, I invite us all to continue to develop our Lasallian character after we graduate; to continue to live the value of Association wherever our future takes us; to teach others what it means to be a Lasallian; and to remember our responsibility as Lasallians which is to be the stone dropped into the water whose ripples can help change the world.

My fellow graduates, I wish you all the best. Congratulations on this day of graduation.