SCHOOL:  Seton Hall University

EVENT:  Baccalaureate Commencement Exercises

TIME:  Scheduled time 10:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

DATE OF EVENT:  May 21, 2012

KARASCH & ASSOCIATES

Captioner:  Annamarie

"This text is being provided in a rough draft format. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings."

(Event started at 11:00 a.m.)

(Music playing)

(Essex Shillelagh Pipes and Drums)

>> Good morning. We are about to begin today's proceedings. We will be conferring degrees today on the baccalaureate candidate of our colleges of arts and sciences, nursing, and education and human services, and our schools in business, theology, and diplomacy and international relations. The commencement ceremony dates back to university of the middle ages. It's the occasion on which the entire university community assembles in its various ranks

KARASCH & ASSOCIATES
or degrees each identified by its distinctive costume to confer new ranks and
degrees on its scholars who have demonstrated the learning appropriate for those
degrees. It is the custom at Seton Hall University to begin with a pipe band,
one of the Scottish origins of Saint Elizabeth Bayley Seton. For the 32nd year
our pipe band today is the Seton Hall University and Essex Shillelagh Pipes
and Drums. They are celebrating their 48th year as an ensemble.

(Applause)

(Bagpipes and drums)

>> Following the pipes and drums is the university's ROTC Color Guard.

Please rise and remain standing for the posting of the colors.

Following the Color Guard, is the Grand Marshal of the procession, Dr.
David Beneteau, chair of the faculty senate. The Grand Marshal is carrying
the University Mace, the symbol of the university's authority to teach and
confer degrees.

(Pomp and Circumstance playing)

>> Please be seated. At the head of the procession is the dais party which
encompasses members of Seton Hall University's board of trustees and board of
regents, Dr. Gabriel Esteban president of the university, and Dr. Larry
Robinson, the provost and executive vice president. In this group is the
recipient of our honorary degree Mr. Kenneth Hackett, and our keynote speaker
Mr. Scott Chesney.

Next in the procession are the faculty and administration of the university
who will take their seats in the front rows of the sections on the floor.

The first degree candidates in the procession are the candidates for the
bachelor of arts and bachelor of theology from the Immaculate Conception
Seminary School of Theology. The top honor student in the school is summa cum laude -- (applause) -- and the Pope Benedict the 16th award.

(Applause)

Next in the procession are the candidates for the degrees of bachelor of science and diplomacy and international relations. The top honors students are summa cum laude and international relations honors citation, Alexander Blake Cohen. Rachel Rosenstroock, a participant in the university honor's program and recipient of the honors citation, and Daniel Philip Schultz, a participant in the honor's program and recipient of the honors citation. Next in the procession are the candidates for the degree of bachelor of science in nursing from the college of nursing.

(Cheers and applause)

The top honor students in the college is Elizabeth Ann Fortes, recipient of the Ann Murphy award.

(Cheers and applause)

(Yelling)

Next in the procession are the candidates for the degree of bachelor of science in education from the college of education and human services.

(Applause)

The top honors students in the college are summa cum laude graduate Jessica Fuller, recipient of the mathematics honors citation and a participant in the mathematics honor's program, and Kerri Marie Rogers, recipient of the elementary and special education and speech honor's citation. Next in the procession are the candidates for the degrees of bachelor of arts and bachelor of science from the college of arts and sciences.
(Cheers and applause)

The top honors student in this college is summa cum laude graduate Victoria Fontaine, recipient of the mathematics honor's citation and participant in the honor's program. Ms. Fontaine delivered the address at yesterday's ceremony. The candidates for the bachelor of arts students have completed majors in anthropology, fine arts, art history, Asian studies, broadcasting and visual media, classical studies, communication, criminal justice, economics, English, history, Italian, liberal studies, modern languages, music, philosophy, political science, psychology, public relations and journalism, religious studies, social and behavioral sciences, social work, sociology and Spanish. Candidates for the bachelor of science degree have completed majors in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and physics.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Next in the procession are the candidates for the degrees of bachelor of science and business administration from the Stillman School of Business. The top honors students in the school are summa cum laude graduates Marisa Morabito, recipient of the finance honors citation, Li Duan, recipient of the accounting honor's citation and a participant in the honors program, Samantha Paige Lee, recipient of the accounting citation, Alina Bykovtseva, recipient of the finance honors citation, and Andrew Fisher Felbinger, recipient of the economics honors citation and participant in the business leadership program. Mr. Felbinger was selected to give the valedictory address at today's ceremony. The candidates for science in business administration have completed degrees in accounting, education, finance, management, information technology management, and marketing. Candidates for the bachelor's of arts and
administration have completed concentration arts and sciences, international studies and diplomacy and international relations.

(Cheers and applause)

(Yelling and screaming)

>> As a reminder, and before our master of ceremonies University Provost Dr. Larry Robinson begins the program, please take a moment to shut off all cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Good morning.

(Cheers and applause)

Welcome to the 155th commencement of Seton Hall University.

(Cheers)

Following tradition we will begin our commencement program with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. Leading us in the singing this morning will be Ms. Erin Sreen, she will be accompanied by Mr. John Nowik, university organist and director of music. After we have finished singing please remain standing for our commencement invocation to be delivered by Monsignor James Cafone, vice chair of the board of trustees, member of the board of regents and minister to the priest community, and assistant professor with the department of religious studies. Join with us now in the singing of the National Anthem.

(Singing the National Anthem)

(Cheers and applause)

>> Let us bow or heads and pray. Almighty and ever loving God, creator and father of us all, you sent your son Jesus into the world to be our Lord
and our savior, we are here with the people we love, the people who love us. As parents, siblings, relatives and friends, and as new graduates, we thank you for giving us each other. Today we express our gratitude that you have brought us to our graduation day. You have also given us talent and intellect and have blessed us with individual personalities. We have acquired knowledge and wisdom from our professors and our coaches as well as from each other. Our bodies have been strengthened, our minds have been enlarged, and our hearts have been stretched wide. We have learned that the worst handicap in life is a bad attitude. We have learned the tremendous difference between using people and loving them. You have made us all that we are and will be, you will be with us in all that we hope to become. Our years at Seton Hall have taught us many lessons but our college days have passed by so quickly. And today we know the joy and the anxiety of new beginnings. We have learned to believe that each of us is cherished by your generous love and infinite mercy. Lead us to those we are waiting for, to those who are waiting for us. Help us to remember that all that we do in this world, our most important task is to love one another as you love us. Then our lives will be joyful and the service of (indiscernible). Finally, we lift up our voices together to pray from our hearts.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

In the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Thank you, you, Monsignor Cafone and Ms. Sreen. Please be seated.

(Yelling)

As provost of Seton Hall University, I am deeply honored to serve as master of ceremonies. First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge and thank the families and friends of the graduating class of 2012. Without your love and support, a good number of these students would not have had the resources, financial, emotional, or otherwise to make it to today's ceremony. I now ask the graduates to rise and join us in applauding the families and other supporters of our students who are here today.

(Cheers and applause)

Graduates please be seated. Next I take pleasure in recognizing and acknowledging our faculty and ask our faculty to please stand.

(Cheers and applause)

These dedicated academics have been responsible for your journey for making your time here one of growth and self reflection and for that we thank them. We thank our faculty for their unwavering community to student service and the dissemination of knowledge. Thank you.

(Cheers and applause)

And now it's my pleasure to introduce to you by name the members of our two governing boards who are present today. The board of trustees has the ultimate legal responsibility for Seton Hall University, and the board of regents makes the policies that govern the university. Seton Hall University would not be what it is today were not for the enormous investment of time, talent, and personal resources by members of our board. We show them an immeasurable debt of gratitude. I would ask the audience to please hold their
applause until all of the board members have been introduces. First I would like to introduce his grace, the most reverend, John J. Myers, Archbishop of Newark, chair of the board of trustees and president of the board of regents. Your grace. Next I would like to introduce Monsignor James Cafone, vice chair of the board of trustees and member of the board of regents. Ms. Pamela Swartzberg, secretary of the board of trustees. Monsignor Robert Coleman, member of the board of trustees and well as rector and dean of the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. Monsignor Joseph Reilly, member of the board of trustees and rector of the college seminary. Dr. Eun-Sook Cho, member of the board of regents. Monsignor Kevin Hanbury, member of the board of regents. Mr. Michael J. Lucciola, member of the board of regents. Ms. Kent Manahan, member of the board of regents. Mr. Richard Mandelbaum, member of the board of regents. Mr. James Orsini, member of the board of regents and president of Seton Hall University alumni association. Mr. Edward Quinn, member of the board of regents. Please join me in honor of their service.

(Applause)

Allow me now to introduce to you the academic officers of the university, Dr. Gregory Burton, associate provost and dean for research and graduate students. Dr. Nicholas Snow, associate provost for finance and administration. Monsignor Robert Coleman, rector and dean of the Immaculate Conception seminary school of theology. Dr. Joseph DePierro, dean of the college of education and human services.

(Cheers)

Dr. Chris Grieco, dean of the university libraries. Dr. Joan Guetti, interim dean of the college of arts and sciences. Dr. Phyllis Hansell, dean
of the college of nursing.

(Cheers and applause)

Mr. Patrick Hobbs, dean of the law school. Dr. Nancy Low-Hogan, dean of continuing education and professional studies. Ambassador John Menzies, dean of the Whitehead school of diplomacy and international relations. Dr. Bryan Schulman, Dean of the school of health and medical science. And Dr. Joyce Strawser, dean of the Stillman School of Business.

(Cheers and applause)

Finally, let me introduce to you our Grand Marshal for today's ceremony, Dr. David Beneteau, associate professor of modern languages and chair of the faculty Senate. Please join me in recognizing them.

(Applause)

As we celebrate the university's 155th commencement ceremony, we would like to acknowledge to a special appreciation our many student servant leaders. Among though leaders are nine students who have completed a program in military science and will be commissioned tomorrow as second lieutenants. Eight students will be commissioned to the United States army and one student will be commissioned in to the United States Air Force. Join with me in recognizing them.

(Cheers and applause)

And now Ms. Audra Quintin, president of the class of 2012 will deliver the salutatory address. Ms. Quintin was selected for this honor by achieving first place in a competitive process. Ms. Quintin.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you for that warm welcome. Good morning. Archbishop Myers,
Mr. Chesney, Mr. Hackett, members of the board of trustees, members of the board of regents, members of the executive cabinet, President Esteban, Provost Robinson, deans, faculty, friends and of course Seton Hall students. I'm honored to be standing here in front of you to bring together a ceremony of our commencement. My name is Audra Quintin, and I'm the president of the class of 2012.

(Cheers)

I stand here before all 1290 graduating seniors to congratulate you on wrapping up a chapter of your life and drafting the next. Today the day of our commencement, we get a piece of paper, a diploma, which to many of our parents is worth a hefty sum but to us a promise to ourselves, a commitment to the contribution of life and the start of a new journey. This piece of paper is the concrete foundation to your future built by education, love, memory, friendships and choices. Today I'm here to tell you what many others may not, and it is that failure will dictate your victories. Life is borrowed time. And if you do not get your feet wet either in mud or crystal clear water you will never know what you're looking for. Life doesn't let you choose your battles, you decide how hard to fight. And which ever weapon of choice you do choose, be wise because although you might not know what is good for you, solve what's best. Despite your challenges and obstacles, you made it. All of you. Very soon you'll walk the stage and inch yourself closer to the real world, yes, the one all of our parents talk about. This real world is the one we all fear which will no longer involve stinky fraternity house floors, endless or useless library hours and sinful consumptions of fast food. However, no matter how frightening the open-ended opportunities may be that first breath
of fresh air once you exit this building outlines each and every one of you where you choose to go from here maps out your future and where you belong. Now parents, after 22 years of child raising you are officially unemployed. And out of protection it seems obvious you might not have told us that although some of our worst days lie ahead full of self doubt and possible failures, what we need to learn to do is fall back on everything that we built that diploma and conquer. Giving up is not an option. It is an excuse and an obstacle to your own triumph. To all of the ladies and gentlemen sitting in front of me today, you are no longer boys and girls. You are adults. And you are the dictator of your own universe so build a galaxy and never look back. When you leave here to not forget where you came. Congratulations.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Ms. Quintin. One of the privileges enjoyed by an institution of higher learning is that it may confer honorary degrees such degrees are awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to society and through their work have realized the ideals and aspirations to which Seton Hall is committed. We want to honor one such individual today. We would like to ask the candidate, Mr. Kenneth Hackett, to please rise. Mr. Hackett was the president of the Catholic Relief Services, one of the most effective and important relief agencies in the world. He recently retired from that position. He oversaw operations in more than 100 countries with a global staff of nearly 5,000. Mr. Hackett's service to Catholic Relief Services exemplifies the qualities of christian stewardship that this university seeks to impart to all of our students. A native of West Roxbury, Massachusetts, Mr. Hackett received his education at Boston College after which he joined the
Peace Corps and was assigned to serve in Ghana. Mr. Hackett joined CRS in 1972 starting in Sierra Leone. For four decades he served throughout Africa and Asia as well as increasingly responsible positions at agency headquarters. He has been recognized by numerous institutions of higher education having received honorary degrees from Boston College, Mount Saint Mary's University, New York Medical College, the University of Notre Dame, the University of San Diego and Villanova University among others. In 2004 Mr. Hackett was named a knight commander of the papal order of Saint Gregory the Great, one of the highest honors that layman may receive. Among his many prestigious committee and board appointments, Mr. Hackett is a member of the board of pontifical counsel cor unum, the Vatican body that coordinates the charitable work of church around the world for his achievements in the cause of global comradery in general and humanitarian relief. Seton Hall University proudly awards Kenneth Francis Hackett the degree of doctor of humane letters honoris causa.

(Applause)

Ms. Kent Manahan, a member of our board of regents will now confer the honorary degree among our distinguished honoree. Ms. Manahan.

>> In accordance with the authority granted to the board of regents of Seton Hall University, and at the direction of that board, I here by confer on this candidate the honorary degree for which he has been presented with all rights and privileges there unto and pertaining. In my name and in the name of the board of regents may I offer you our sincere congratulations.

(Applause)

>> Thank you, Ms. Manahan. Congratulations, Mr. Hackett. To introduce our keynote speaker it is my pleasure to welcome to the podium Monsignor Anthony
Ziccardi, vice president from mission and ministry. Monsignor Ziccardi.

(Applause)

>> Do not be afraid, so encouraged Pope John Paul the second in his inaugural sermon. Do not be afraid. It is a phrase he would repeat throughout his pontificate because he had a sense of life's immense challenges. He repeated it because it is found again and again also in the bible, both testaments. He never tired of repeating it because he understood what Jesus said. Fear is useless. What is needed is faith. Therefore in his exultations not the fear, John Paul was invited to share his faith as the antidote to personal and social paralysis. The speaker for today's commencement exercises is a man who knows all about paralysis. He is physically paralyzed himself, but he has never let it stand in the way of his living fully, purposefully. Struck by paralysis in his lower body at the age of 15, when he was told that others who have similar strokes usually died, he was filled with great gratitude to God for his life and with an immense appreciation for a great opportunities ahead of him. He came to Seton Hall and graduated in 1992 with a BA in communications. While at Seton Hall he worked for WSOU doing play-by-play commentary for our sports teams. Since then he's become an internationally recognized workshop and keynote speaker and his inspiring messages have changed countless lives. His insights have been applauded by Fortune 500 corporations and even audiences at United Nations, the pentagon and the FBI. Recently Mr. Chesney became executive director of raise hope foundation that trains mentors and places people with disabilities in the financial services industry. He's also a member of Seton Hall leadership advisory council. Today Scott is joined by his wife, two children and several family members. Soon to be graduates of
the class of 2012 it is my great pleasure to give you your fellow Seton Hall alumnist Mr. Scott Chesney.

(Applause)

>> Thank you.  Archbishop Myers, members of the board of trustees, members of the board of regents.  Distinguished guests.  Families, friends, alumni.  And obviously the members of the graduate -- members, graduates of the class of 2012.

(Cheers and applause)

I am honored, privileged, and a bit fearful to be here today.  But I am so happy to be here and to have this opportunity to come to you to let you know of the wonderful achievement that you've created here today and the defining moment that I hope you will carry with you the rest of your life.  How you define this moment is up to you.  I'd like to think that everybody single moment in your life so far has brought you up to this very moment in which I hope you take full responsibility for knowing full well it's brought you to this wonderful moment that you've created.  If you think about this any different move, any choice that you made in the different manner, you may not be here today.  Could have been going to a party, not going to a party.  It could have been studying, not studying.  I like to think about two people who enter this graduating class, imagine if Mr. Jordan Theodore and Mr. Herb Pope decided not come to Seton Hall to play basketball here.  You know what, Herb and Theo, I've got to tell you you could have gone down the road a little bit and played for that other university down off the turnpike but you know what, Scarlet red is not your color.

(Cheers)
I'm glad you made the choice to be here today. Yes, it's been 20 years since I sat in those same seats, folks. And graduated from this wonderful university. Seton Hall University. And I can honestly tell you 20 years later I am still sitting in that same seat.

(Laughter)

(Applause)

Sometimes things don't change and sometimes the impossible just takes a little longer. But I remember I could take myself back to that day when I graduated and I remember like it was yesterday. I was full of mixed emotions, there was a part of me that felt a tremendous essential of accomplishment and on the other hand, there was a tremendous amount of fear. Of uncertainty as to what the next step in my life was going to be. I remember shortly after returning home after graduation that day, and going to something that had given me a lot of security over the years. It was a poem that my father had given me shortly after I was paralyzed. 1986. It was a poem that's helped me not only get through that major time in my life, but helped me get through the transition that I faced in '92 and many other transitions, challenges, some good, some quite challenging and painful. I want to share with you that poem today, and I hope it brings some of the same comfort and joy and intestinal fortitude that it's given me. It's entitled it's okay. By Lane Carsons. It's okay to be afraid of the things we don't understand. It's okay to feel anxious when things aren't working our way. It's okay to feel lonely when you're with other people, it's okay to feel unfulfilled because you know something is missing even if you're not sure what it is. It's okay to think and worry and cry. It's okay to do whatever you have to do. But just remember, too, that
eventually you're going to adjust to the changes that life brings your way. And you'll realize that it's okay to laugh again and to love again. And it's okay to get to the point in life that is full and satisfying and good to you and it will be that way because you made it that way.

(Applause)

Now, I know many of you out there are sitting with mixed emotions. And that's okay. I know many of you out there have a clear direction on where you want to go, maybe it's a job that you've secured or have lined up or continuing education is where you want to go. It's okay. I want to let others of you know who you know what there might be an element of uncertainty there, you might have an idea but the plan might not be in place yet. And I want to let you know it's okay. And I know those there are others of you out there who are totally clueless right now who have absolutely no idea what you want to do, where you want to go. What you want to create. And I'm letting each and every one of you know that it's okay. And if anyone right now is any of those places in which you don't have that direction, you don't have this path that looks pretty clear for you right now, I want you to think about three individuals right now. And maybe the pressure isn't just that you're putting on your self, maybe it's those around up. I hope in will put a smile on your face and then put some of these people are putting that pressure on you a little bit out at bay for a little while. There are three individuals. The first individual is named Bill Gates. The second individual is his name is Mark Zuckerberg and the third individual which is in spirit today but the late Steve jobs. You can tell yourself and tell all of them that they have not accomplished something that you have accomplished. They have not obtained something you have a
obtained and that is a college degree. Give yourself a round of applause for that.

(Applause)

You know what I miss and I hope you miss it too? I ask you when was the last time someone asked you what you wanted to be when you grow up? What you wanted to be when you grow up. You know what, a lot of you are going the ask today what are you doing when you leave here, where are you going to work? What type of continuing education are you going to follow through with? Where are you going? And while all these questions are important, I don't want to minimize them. I'm in a place right now, still wondering what you want to be. Now that you have grown up. So doe into a favor ladies and gentlemen please close your eyes for a moment. I want you to bring the attention to the center of your chest, your heart at this moment. I want you to ask yourself what would it feel like if you knew you cannot fail? And what would be like if money wasn't an issue? Meaning you had plenty of it? What would you want to be right here right now? And what would you like to be doing? Last time I checked it's human beings, not human doings. Take a deep breath in through your nose and out through your mouth and please open your eyes. Maybe for that fleeting moment there was some level of excitement that came to you. Passion is your fuel. It is your 24-hour energy drink that is available to you at any moment if you want to tap into it knowing full well where ever it is that you're headed, I hope that you have that passion in your life. I hope there's also purpose. These are the destinations in life. These are the places that you're going to go. Full of trials and tribulations. And then you, you're the driver. You're the one who's going to determine how much passion you're going to have
in your life. You're the one who's going to determine what direction you're going to go into. You're going to be the one who is going to honor your greatest hour as a human being and that is your power to choose. So I ask you right now where are your choices going take you? You know where they brought you up to. Where are they going to take you? When I think of the word passion and the word purpose and I think of this drive called you, we have many individuals in this room who truly exemplify all of the meanings of these words. There's one individual comes to mind, someone who many of you know, someone who I know many of you just like me, if they're driving through this thing called life, you would so gladly sit shotgun next to them. I'm talking about Seton Hall's very own professor Michael Reuter of the business school.

(Cheers)

Professor Reuter, or as I call him Mike and he pretty much asks everyone to call him Mike. He is full of passion, so much it's contagious. He is full of so much purpose. His purpose is simple. To serve his students. To serve his fellow man. And his purpose and his passion grows each and every day to the point where it makes this man unstoppable. I actually think from time to time and I ask the question and I don't know who is responsible for it but I'm not even sure this man gets paid he loft his job so much. But there again so many other examples of people in the room with that same passion and purpose. And focusing on themselves as the driver in this thing called life. Now, since we have this, that mission to get that passion, to find our purpose and to be the driver through this thing called life, I think you need some navigation skills here. Over the past few months I've been think about you guys nonstop and probably the most a week ago. See, one of my passions in life is coaching
kids. I love coaching kids. I'm actually blessed to have the opportunity to coach my first grader. And 39 other first graders in this thing called track and field. And I think some navigational skills the other day that just reminded me of where you are now and may be where it is that you want to go. And I remember having them all there front and center looking at me as we are preparing to learn what it's like to do a 50-yard dash, very difficult for someone who want run but we are going to show them how it's done and at first we got them in every lane and said just look forward, don't look at either lane. I think it's a great message for all of you to stay in your lane, stay focused. Every once in a while and I remember one child, I think it was a butterfly or a moth, all of a sudden he became a little distracted and starting running out of his lane but he got back into that lane and finished the race. Of all the race, this thing called life that is we're going to face challenges. There was another young man lost both of his shoes while running. And stopped and put them back on and got up and finished the race. We all know when we are moving forward in our lives when we look left and right, we can actually slow down in life. Keep looking forward, keep meeting that goal. But also understanding that at the independent of this thing called race and all during the race, too, it is about service. It's about helping one another. I remember when a group we had different heats a group of kids ran through and all of a sudden one of the kids came up to me and I thought it was my son and he said daddy, do you know there's a little girl who forget to bring her water bottle, don't you have an extra one in your backpack? And I said yeah. And he went over and gave it to her. And it reminded us know matter what, no matter how focused we had are at our goals, no matter what it's we want to achieve we have
to remember that it's about service to others. And then I gathered them together and said each day we are here at practice there are two things we are going to remember and that's to try your best and have fun. I want to you imagine each and every day waking up and no matter how awesome the day looks or how challenging it may look, I want to you say to your self I'm going to try the best, no matter what I'm going to give it my all and try my best. No matter how the day actually pans out, no matter how awesome it actually was, or how challenging it was, before your head hits the pillow on the other side of the bed can yourself did I try my best and did I have fun? And if you can say to yourself that each and every day I promise you that is you're still going to face challenges in your life but they are going to be minor sped bumps as compared to major mountains you're going to have to climb. Each and every one of you is on a unique journey. It will not be dupe indicated. Never has, never will. Each and everyone one of you now has to honor that journey. But as I said before there are going to be challenges along the way. There are going to be challenges along the way. There was a student at a university not this university, another university, in which he got a term paper back and it was a C. And the theme of his term paper was to basically put together a business plan for a reliable overnight delivery service. He got a C. Many years later after he graduated ended up raising $138 million from the bank, some through investors, some through his family. 138 to start up a company called FedEx. I want you to take every failure and turn it into feedback knowing it's part of the journey and I want you to honor yourself for every success you've created and knowing the journey continues for you as well. Examine it, what it is that you're accomplishing here today. I said you know what, let me reach out to a few of
the graduates here. Let me see what you have to say. I asked them a few questions. Two of your students out there, what your biggest accomplishment was here. And what your biggest challenge was and how you handled it. I reached out to two students, one students got back to me within a few hours with maybe a paragraph of answers. The other student got back to me with a five-page dissertation. And I realized at that moment just how unique we really are. But you know what, both of these individuals can light up a room just by being in it. And I have that level of comfort just as I have with all of you out there today. That you're going to make it. The first individual, Mr. Peter Dill, where are you?

(Cheers)

Wave to Mr. Dill. Where are you? Hay it's nice to see you my friend, congratulations. Mr. Peter Dill told me his biggest challenge was the biggest achievement of the other individual I'm going to mention. His biggest challenge was freshman year. He said I came to this university thinking I knew everything about everything, and I was 18 years old and realized I didn't know a thing. As Peter said by getting together and making friends, becoming part of that Seton Hall pirate basketball team it allowed him to spread his wings and learn that from that experience of pressure in that year. So again, his biggest challenge eventually became his biggest achievement being a member of that incredible familiar with the men's basketball team and I know he would take that experience and go far in life. I salute you Mr. Dill.

(Applause)

>> The second individual Ms. Amanda Karpa. Where are you Ms. Karpa? Nice to see you my friend, congratulations to you. Ms. Karpa actually said freshman
year was the most rewarding best experience of her years. She said she was lost but they all came in the class of 2012 with this comradery, a sense of togetherness, they were all trying to find their groups in which they wanted to go and learn together. And Ms. Karpa ended up and if you meet her ability and her willingness to want to connect with others is contagious as well. I can tell she is a student of Mr. Michael Reuter. And basically where every she goes she tries to raise the level of spirit of everyone else around her. She's an opportunist. And I know that every sing experience she has in life she's going to make in most of. Congratulations to you Ms. Karpa.

(Applause)

Now I also had a chance is that our honorary degree recipient Mr. Ken Hackett, I sent him an e-mail and asked him because he's achieved so much you heard what was said about him. The man has achieved greatness in so many areas of life but I asked him what his college experience how it helped him to get to the point where he was today and he said whatever the conspiracy of events and experiences at college, he said I know that it would basically built on the foundation -- laid on the foundation of a faith filled family life. I thought that was powerful. I thought that was powerful. I congratulations you my friend on a wonderful degree that you've received today but also being the shining example to those around you today which takes me to a family that we have surrounding us today is that I think it's an extraordinarily symbolic moment. If you think about where you are right now in your seat and I hope that you carry this memory where ever you go is that you probably have some friends around you, maybe who you are going to call extended family and then look a little bit outside of that maybe there's a professor or two who you know
what you've added over the years to that extended family. Then you go beyond
and you see your Seton Hall family who will always be here to help you and to
support you and let you know that you don't have to go at this thing called
life alone and we are here to sport you. And you go a little further and there
your family and friends is again there's no absolute, no one in here who has
that journey that's not unique. It's unique to you. And will never be dupe
indicated. But again I want you to understand that you are not alone and that
it's okay where ever you are right now. The world right now is your greatest
classroom, it's your biggest classroom. Your life experiences are your daily
classes, some of which you will pass, some of which you will fail. But knowing
full well that a lot of those life experiences right now have led you up to
this moment. I will tell you right now today you have passed with flying colors.
I am proud of you, everyone in this room is proud of you. Thank you so much
for allowing me to be here today. Good luck on your journey, thank you.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Mr. Chesney for your inspiring comments. Dr. Gabriel
Esteban is Seton Hall's university 20th president. His strategic vision and
dedication to the premise and (indiscernible) of academics will keep Seton Hall
on the course for transformation to even greater success while it continues
to be a home of the mind, the heart and the spirit. To charge the class of
2012 I invite president Esteban to come forward. Dr. Esteban.

(Applause)

>> Thank you, Dr. Robinson. First of all congratulations, class of 2012.

(Applause)

Welcome Archbishop Myers, trustees, regents, distinguished faculty, and
colleagues. Students, parents, family, guests and friends. One part of your
journey of transformation has ended, another begins for you now. Along with
your parents, families and friends, I express my heartfelt congratulations and
pride in what you have accomplished. For me, these past several months have
been quite invigorating as my wife Josephine and I crisscrossed the country
meeting with our alumni, parents of our students and potential students of 23
separate events. Our journey took us from California to Chicago, from Dallas
to Red Bank, and we spoke to well over a thousand friends over the course of
this academic year. At one of the events I was presented a book by an alumni
and parent of a student. The book entitled we discovered Catholicism was
offered by Matthew Kelly. Kelly writes there are two things that differentiate
great leaders champions and saints from the rest of us. The first that is they
have a single mindedness purpose that guides them in their lives. The second
is that they develop habits to help them achieve their goals. Michael Jordan,
he writes as an example, wanted to be the greatest basketball player of all
time. So Jordan focused on developing habits to achieve his goal. One can
hardly imagine the number of hours he spent practicing his shots, studying game
films and working out. On the other hand, Mother Theresa's singular goal was
to love God with all her heart and to do his will. She devoted her entire long
life, 24 hours a day, seven-days a week in his service and let very little
distract her from doing God's will. What are your goals? What will your
passion be in life? Where will your journey take you? Today I charge you Seton
Hall class of 2012, to find your passion, and make the most of your lives and
the gifts you've been given as graduates of Seton Hall University and like those
before you, on your continuing journey you will be given opportunities to make
your mark on this world. Some of you will end up becoming CEO's of major
corporations. Or maybe create the next Facebook. Wherever you go on your
journey, please remember Seton Hall. Some of you may become school teachers,
nurses or other healthcare professionals (cheers) diplomats or priests (cheers)
answer your call to service. Please remember alma mater. Whatever your chosen
profession or field of endeavor, we ask that you live your lives guided by the
values of this great catholic university. We ask that you remember those who
came before you to make Seton Hall a great place to learn. We ask that you
think of those who will follow you as students and give back something of
yourself to them. They will stand on your shoulders and seek your guidance
as they find their way on their own journeys. In years to come you and your
generation will be evaluated not by what gained by yourselves, for yourself
but what you have done as servants of others, your country, community, family,
indeed the world. Never cease giving back to those who look to you now as
leaders with great position and great gifts. When you turn your blessings you
have received into blessings for other people then you will be leaders through
servant leaders. Peter Buffet, the son of Warren Buffet recently released a
book entitled life what is you make of it. In this book Peter writes that
economic prosperity may come and go, that's just how it is. The values are
the state of currency that earns us all important rewards. I charge you now
as you take the next steps on your journey to take the knowledge and values
we have received at Seton Hall into God's world. Value the people around you,
more than the things around you. Add value to all you touch with generosity
and consideration for the needs of others in that generous spirit stay close
to Seton Hall always, nurture those who follow you and give of yourselves with
out stiltling to this community that has formed and educated you. May the Lord of all the season, the Lord of our lives, keep you save on your continuing journey of transformation. Be not a fraud to ask for grace to sustain you and lift you up. In the words of saint Augustine, work as though everything depended on you. God bless and go pirates.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Dr. Esteban. It is now my pleasure to welcome again to the podium Monsignor James Cafone who will present his grace the most Reverend John J. Myers, Archbishop of Newark, Monsignor Cafone.

(Applause)

>> May I be permitted a personal note. I was sitting there thinking that in the more than 150 years of the history of this great university, almost all of our presidents have been Roman catholic priests and therefore there's something very unique that's happening today, the daughter of our president is graduating.

(Cheers and applause)

>> And so to me that's even more touching is the fact that her grandmother, her mother and father -- her grandmother came to see her graduate all the way from the Philippines. I'll ask her to stand.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Congratulations to all of our graduates and their families and members and their friends, many of whom I know have come from distant places. Now it is my privilege to introduce the president of Seton Hall university's board of regents and the chairman of our board of trustees, the most Reverend John Joseph Myers, archbishop of Newark.
His grace graduated from the north American clergy in Rome and was ordained into the priesthood in 1966 ordained a Bishop in 1987, he subsequently served as the dais and bishop of (indiscernible) and then was appointed Archbishop of Newark in 2001. We are justly proud that our Archbishop is also the chairman of the board of trustees of the north American college in Rome and is a sitting member on the boards of the catholic University of America in Washington and mount saint Mary's university in Maryland. His grace has dedicated himself to the goal of advancing catholic education in our ash by sees carrying forward the mission originally undertaken more than 150 years ago by the first bishop of Newark James Roosevelt Bayley. His grace the 9th shepherd of the arch diocese of Newark and its fifth archbishop. I am pleased to present to you the spiritual father of the church of Newark and of our beloved university, archbishop John J. Myers.

>> President Esteban, provost Robinson, distinguished guests and honorees, Mr. Chesney, Mr. Hackett, but most of all, men and women of Seton Hall's class of 2012, congratulations.

Today is the culmination of years of study and hard work. It is a great achievement for each one of you and you deserve to be praised. Equal praise is due to your parents, your families, your friends as has been mentioned and all who have supported you spiritual emotionally and financially during your time at Seton Hall. You are moving onto a new phase of your lives to something new and different and I hope exciting and fruitful. I am certain that you are
aware that you've had your world in constant tumult, culture, social, political and economic. It is easy to lose your bearings and become discouraged. In the endlessly shifting stands of today's global society you must find rocks of stability that will sustain you that will not fail you. You must have faith in yourselves, and generosity in your hearts. You must have faith in God. For those of us in the catholic faith that inspires this great university and those of our christian denominations that faith is a Jesus Christ the incarnate son of God. For those that follow the Jewish and Muslim traditions that faith is in the one God. For those whose culture and beliefs are founded in other traditions it is in the way of life in the customs and beliefs that they hold dear. As you enter the next phase of your lives, there is a very basic truth that must remain in your hearts. It is a very simple truth. We are created by God, you and I are created by God and we are created like God. Each one of us whether we are tall or short, large or small, whether we are beautiful or not so beautiful, whether we are rich or poor, or somewhere in between, each one of us is a reflection of anointing God, we are children of God. As a child of God each one of us is of infinite value from the moment of our conception to the moment of our natural death. To treat another person as of he or she was not of infinite value is a blasphemy. Created by God, we are created for God. God is one. His unity is all beauty. God is true. In him is all truth. God is good. In him is all that is good. As his creation we are created for unity, for the beautiful, for the true, for the good. Sometimes we deceive ourselves and seek satisfaction in the disunity of relativism and the ugly and the profane and what is false or what is evil. And we wonder why we are not satisfied. We are created for God and anything less than the one the beautiful,
the true and the good, anything less than God will never satisfy us. Deep in our hearts we are aware this is a moral universe that good and evil matter, that life and truth matter, that all continue to affirm all that is good, and to reject what is evil. Let us always live affirming life and truth. It is my hope that you will carry with you the spirit of Seton Hall and remember that all of us are called to the service of one another. And the words of the first letter of Saint Peter, as each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's a varied grace. Whoever preaches let it be with the words of God. Whoever serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies. So that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ to whom belonged glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

And I thank you.

(Applause)

(Yelling)

>> Thank you, Archbishop Myers. It is now time in the program when each baccalaureate candidate of the class of 2012 will be personally recognized.

(Cheers and applause)

Graduates will come onto the stage using the stairs on the left side of the stage as directed by their faculty and seating marshals. Graduates please present your name cards to the reader at the dais and then proceed across the stage for the personal congratulations of university officials. It is my pleasure to welcome to the podium Dr. Peter Ahr, associate professor of religion who will read the names of the graduates. A member of Seton Hall's class of 1962 Dr. Ahr is celebrating the 50th anniversary of receiving his baccalaureate degree. Dr. Ahr. (Applause)
Thank you, Mr. Robinson. We will begin with the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. These candidates will be greeted by Archbishop Myers, Ms. Kent Manahan and President Esteban. At the far end of the stage candidates will also be greeted by Mr. James Orsini, member of the board of regents and president of the Seton Hall alumni association. Candidates for the degree of bachelors of arts and theology, please come to the dais.

(Applause)
(Calling off names)
Congratulations, graduates.
(Cheers and applause)

Next we will welcome candidates from the John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations. These candidates will be greeted by his grace, Archbishop Myers, Ms. Kent Manahan, member of the board of regents, president Gabriel Esteban and Ambassador Menzies, dean of the school. At the far end of the stage they also be greeted by Mr. James Orsini, president of the Seton Hall University alumni association and member of the board of regents. Will the members of the John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations please rise and come to the dais.

(Calling off names)
Congratulations, graduates.
(Cheers and applause)

Next we will welcome candidates for the college of nursing.
(Cheers and applause)

These candidates will be greeted by Archbishop Myers, Ms. Kent Manahan, president Esteban and Dr. Phyllis Hansell, dean of the college. At the far
end of the stage candidate will also be greeted by Mr. James Orsini. Will the candidates for the degrees of bachelor of science please rise and come to the dais.

(Calling off names)

>> Congratulations.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Next we will welcome candidates from the college of education and human services.

(Cheers and applause)

These candidates will be greeted by his grace Archbishop Myers, Ms. Kent Manahan, President Esteban. And the far end of the stage candidates will also be greeted by from James Orsini, member of the board of regents and president of the Seton Hall University alumni association. Will the candidates for the degree of bachelor science and education please rise and come to the dais.

(Calling off names)

>> Congratulations, graduates.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Next we will welcome candidates from the college of arts and science.

(Cheers and applause)

These candidates will be greeted by his grace, Archbishop, Kent Manahan, president Esteban and (indiscernible) they will also be greeted by Mr. James Orsini, member of the board of regents and president of the Seton Hall University alumni association. Will the candidates for the degree bachelor of arts please rise and come to the dais.

(Calling off names)

KARASCH & ASSOCIATES
(Cheers and applause)

(Cheers and applause)

Congratulations, graduates.

(Cheers and applause)

Will the candidates for the degree bachelor of science please rise.

(Cheers and applause)

(Yelling)

(Screaming)

(Calling off names)

>> Congratulations, graduates.

(Cheers and applause)

Finally, we will welcome candidates from the Stillman School of Business.

(Cheers and applause)

These candidates will be greeted by his grace Archbishop Myers, Kent Manahan, president Gabriel Esteban, and (indiscernible) dean of the school. At the far end of the stage they will also be greeted by Mr. James Orsini, member of the boards of regents and president of the Seton Hall alumni association. Will the candidates for the degrees bachelor of science administration and business bachelor of arts in business administration, please come to the dais.

(Calling off names)

(Cheers and applause)

>> Congratulations, graduates.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Dr. Ahr, Mr. Orsini and all of our deans. Graduates, we now come to the heart of the ceremony.
(Cheers and applause)

The conferral of degrees. All degree candidates will please rise.

(Cheers and applause)

Ms. Kent Manahan, member of the board of regents will now come forward and confer these degrees. Ms. Manahan, on behalf of Seton Hall University, I certify that the candidates whose names are here by submitted have satisfied all the requirements to participate in the 2012 baccalaureate exercises. I ask that those who have completed all degree requirements be here by granted their degrees. Ms. Manahan.

(Cheers and applause)

>> By virtue of the authority vested in me by the board of regents of Seton Hall University, for those who have completed all of their degree requirements, I hereby confer on them the degrees for which they have been recommend by their respective deans with all of the rights, privileges, and obligations there unto and pertaining. In my name and in the name of the board of regents, may I offer you our sincere congratulations everyone!

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Ms. Manahan. Please remain standing as a symbol of your graduation please move your tassels from right to left on your caps.

(Cheers and applause)

As a momentum of this occasion please keep your caps as well as the tassel. Congratulations to all the new graduates of Seton Hall University and their families.

(Cheers and applause)

We are pleased to welcome 2498 new members to the ranks of Setonian alumni,
and an even 2500 if we count or honorary degree recipients.

(Cheers and applause)

Please be seated.

(Yelling)

>> Mr. Andrew Felbinger, a recipient of the economics honors citation and a participant in the business leadership program will deliver the valedictory address. Mr. Felbinger.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Remember? Remember waiting? Senior year, high school, ripping open that large envelope with Seton Hall's iconic logo stretched across the top, leading your eyes to that phrase congratulations, you've been accepted. Remember that? Well this will be impossible to forget. We are the graduating class of 2012.

(Cheers and applause)

Today marks another beautiful milestone in our lives and we are ready to embrace what follows. Fellow graduates, we have some very special people who are here to celebrate this joyous occasion with us all. Archbishop Myers, Mr. Chesney, Mr. Hackett, members of the board of trustees, members of the board of regents, president Esteban, provost Robinson, members of the executive cabinet, deans, faculty, families and friends. Thank you. You all made this possible.

(Cheers and applause)

Remember waiting for that instant that next semester's registration opened up so we can all get the schedules we wanted before classes filled up? Waiting for Ms. Virginia's perfectly golden brown, delightfully greasy breakfast
sandwiches? Waiting for our 21st birthdays so we can celebrate down at south oranges's favorite beef and ale house, Cryans? Waiting for this incredible day to cross this stage and graduate. Our four years have passed in the blink of an eye. We will remember the fall semesters. The rush on campus. The end of semester exams highlighted by the beauty of the university Christmas tree. Spring to that first 72 degree day, sun filled and jam packed on the university green. The taste of candy handed out by Father John on final's week and just how great spring semester always felt. These shared memories will be passed down from generations to generations. This was our home. And its founding in 1856 bishop James Roosevelt Bayley said that Seton Hall was to be a home for then the mind, the heart, and the spirit. Even before applying, we saw these words everywhere, across the main website, on its letterhead, publications, advertisements, even on the tiny blue pens handed out at college fairs. The minds, the hearts, the spirits. Short words, nice words, but at the time merely words. Over our years Bishop Bayley's words have been filled with rich, powerful and lifelong meaning. The mind, the faculty and staff who guided along the way. The waking up at 6:00 a.m. in order to get to our internships, co-ops, clinicals and our jobs all preparing us for our futures and pushing us beyond what we thought possible. Outside Walsh library a famous famous proverb reads, knowledge is a fountain of life to him that possesses it. Seton Hall has provided us this gift of knowledge which will be used as a springboard in all of our future endeavors. The heart, the friends with whom we laughed and cried. The loved ones we might never have met. That feeling of returning to campus after a long break and seeing the friends -- no, the family who have influenced our lives in ways we do not yet even fully know.
The collective goal to give back to our community. Surely in the same manner as Mother Teresa who once explained, the fruit of love is service. The spirit, the personal growth and development of each and every one of us individually and collectively. The unified cheer for every sports team which bear mother Seton's name. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton once stated let God's truth be our guide. Seton Hall and its precious values will continue to guide us forward in life. These collective memories foster that special meaning that Bishop Bayley surely envisioned. As we reflect on Bishop Bayley's original, the vision, the mind, the hearts and the spirit are no longer just words. They embody our home for the last four years. And our family with whom we lived, grew, laughed and cried. Yes, just as those who came before us did, the class of 2012 has contributed profoundly to what those words now mean. This Seton Hall home for the mind, the heart and the spirit not only housed us, but nurtured a bond among us all that will never be broken. Some of us are pursuing careers in nursing.

(Cheers and applause)
Some in education.

(Cheers and applause)
Some in diplomacy, theology, business, the arts and the science.

(Cheers)
A few moments ago we crossed this stage together. As one. And again as one we will proceed on our new paths in our new journeys in life. And to all of us here, family, friend, alumni, faculty, guests, please join my class and me in celebrating our togetherness by proclaiming around we are Seton Hall three times in unison. All together, please. We are Seton Hall! Faculty, we are
Seton Hall, one more, we are, Seton Hall!

>> Class of 2012, today we graduate as one. Thank you.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Mr. Felbinger. It is now my pleasure to welcome to the podium Mr. James Orsini, president of the Seton Hall alumni association will welcome the class of 2012. Mr. Orsini.

(Cheers and applause)

>> My fellow pirates, I feel like I've met each and every one of you individually shaking all your hands. We are today onto honor your achievements as your degree is conferred from this fine university as one door closes, my hope that is many more doors open for you this day. As president of the alumni association, I'm here today to welcome you into those alumni doors where more than 80,000 just like you currently stand in anticipation of your arrival. As servant leaders we look to you for just that, your service, and your leadership to this university. Seton Hall is a powerful network of tens of thousand of servant leader alumni. For the most part, smart men and women, good character, sound moral, and inviting personalities who hold prominent positions in business, sports, government, education, law, finance, healthcare, media, clergy, and many other fields. Upon graduation you know join these ranks. Leveraging this authentic network has its advantages. As we look to move beyond introduction and into expectation, there is a modest requirement. The ante, if you will, is that you give back. The network respects and honors (indiscernible). There are several ways to Pearl are personalize this give back. You can give your time serving as a volunteer at an event, it's very rewarding. I recently a attended an open house for high school juniors and
these students and their families were hungry to hear from recent grads ban what their experiences were like on campus. Don't underestimate the value of an hour of your time servicing those needs. You can give your talent, you know what gift God has graced you with and we ask that you find is it, hone it and share it back here at the university. It could be mentoring a student, it can be hiring an intern once you secure employment, it can be speaking to a group when invited back to do so. Don't let your talents go to waste. Use them to help others. And you can give it your treasure. Without financing our vision to become one of the top 100 universities and one of the top ten catholic institutions in the country will perish. Give what you can. The amount doesn't matter. The discipline to give does. Purpose in your heart to give back to our annual fund or the pirate blue or to a particular scholarship of interest, give where it matters most to you. I look forward to our continued dialogue as alumni and your continued support of this university. God's blessing upon you, go pirates.

(Cheers and applause)

>> Thank you, Mr. Orsini. We are coming to the end of the commencement ceremony, I must ask for you to give me your attention for just a few more moments so we can leave here speedily and safely. After the singing of the alma mater please remain seat forward the exit of the dais party and our students. We ask guests to exit the arena from the upper concourse gates. Robes may be returned just outside the entrance to the arena on the front plaza. Please remember that you're welcome to keep your caps and tassels. It is tradition that we end our commencement ceremony with the sing of the alma mater. It is my pleasure to welcome again Ms. Erin Spreen who will lead us in the singing
of the alma mater. The words and music are in the back of your program. Thank you.

(Singing the alma mater)

(Cheers and applause)

(Music, recessional Triumphal March From Aida)

(Commencement ended at 1:30 p.m.)

"This text is being provided in a rough draft format. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings."