

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WINTER 2016 STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Chair Wilkinson, Members of the Board of Trustees, President Erickson:

One of the special components of tomorrow's graduation ceremonies is the student speaker's commencement address. I am pleased to introduce the young man who was selected as the student who will address the graduates tomorrow, Mr. Amer Mansoor.

Please join me, Amer.

Amer is from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He came to NMU in 2012 as a Medstart student. Upon his arrival he immediately got involved: he joined ASNMU and worked with them until 2014; he has been a member of the Pre-Med Club throughout his time here.

When Amer arrived he decided he wanted people here to understand his religion; he wanted to dispel misconceptions about Islam, so he started the Muslim Student Association. This group holds weekly prayer meetings to which the campus community is invited, and through activities has created awareness of Islam in the Marquette community.

Amer decided to major in Communication Studies. That major propelled him to become a news anchor for Public Eye News, a role he has held since 2014.

He has also worked as a researcher at the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center here on campus. And every summer during college, he has done research at the Karmanos Cancer Research Center and at St. John Macomb Oakland Hospital.

Amer is graduating Summa Cum Laude. He was chosen as the outstanding graduating senior in Communications Studies and he will begin his studies at Wayne State medical school in August. His plan right now is to become a neurosurgeon.

The theme of Amer's address tomorrow is acceptance, perseverance, and passion.

Chair Wilkinson, I believe you have a presentation to make.