

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WINTER 2018 STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Chair Mahaney, 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 woman who was selected as the student who will address the graduates tomorrow, Ms. Alexandra Camarillo-Lugo.

Please join me, Alex.

Alex came to NMU in 2014 from Lake Forest, California, to study Criminal Justice. Why come to NMU, you may ask, all the way from California? Alex says she wanted to experience something entirely different; it was a personal challenge; NMU was affordable; and the Criminal Justice program was highly rated. She also thought she would attend our regional police academy.

Experiencing residence hall living, however, changed Alex's plans. She became a resident adviser her sophomore year and has worked in Housing ever since. She has served on the Housing staff development committee and presented to the paraprofessional staff about diversity, conduct and the use of campus resources.

Alex volunteered for five Wildcat Weekends, where she gave tours and presented to students about the criminal justice program. She worked as a counselor for two summers at Camp New Day, a camp for children whose parent or loved one has been incarcerated. She has been the Student Assistant Director for Young Wildcat Scholars for three summer sessions. This program brings sixth graders from our charter schools to Marquette for a three-day camp to experience college life so they learn college is a possibility for them.

Alex was selected as the outstanding graduating senior in criminal justice. She is graduating tomorrow with a major in Criminal Justice and a minor in English. She is moving to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where she will work as an Assistant Residence Hall Director. She will also pursue a Master's degree in Public Administration.

The theme of Alex's address tomorrow is overcoming adversity with the support of professors, advisers, family and friends and coming out stronger and better than before.

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