

Hi, I'm Michelle Trawick, the new Dean for the College of Business Administration. On behalf of the incredible faculty and staff of our College ...congratulations graduates, you did it.

You have been looking forward to this day for many years.

It is a moment to celebrate, a moment to cherish. It's a true milestone.

And though the ways in which you are celebrating are unlike any we ever predicted, please know that your family in the College of Business Administration...we're celebrating with you.

Earlier in the ceremony, Chancellor Gold spoke about the importance of gratitude and he's right, it's important to say "thank you" to those

who have helped you achieve your goals. So, graduates, do me a favor, thank your parents or grandparents, your siblings, maybe your spouse, your partner, your kids. Maybe the neighbor who helped babysit for you so you could go to class? Or maybe that classmate who loaned you that awesome financial calculator for your big test. It's important to thank folks who helped you along the way.

And, for those of you who don't have that network of support that so many of us take for granted, today, we are lifting you up just a bit higher because you've accomplished your goals by yourself.

Our College also wants to thank you, graduates. We want to thank you for spending the last

several years with us in our classrooms in Mammel Hall or, most recently, in the classroom in your living room. We pride ourselves in our high-quality college of business and we are even better because we've had you with us.

Admittedly, the last several weeks have been different for all of us. But I want you to know that the way you've performed, the way the semester has turned out, is exactly what I expected after learning so much about you when I interviewed for this job last fall. I want you to know what I was told about you by your faculty and by your classmates.

They told me that you are motivated. You are dedicated. You are problem-solvers.

You are hard workers. You are innovative. You are resilient. You are thoughtful. And, you are achievers.

I want you to remember all of those things about you. All of those things that have grown during your time at UNO. Because those are the things that are going to help you achieve your next goal. Whether it's your first career job, your next big promotion, or maybe graduate school, all of those things will help you.

And, remember your family in the College of Business Administration, we're going to be watching you because we can't wait to see what you accomplish next.