



College of Graduate Studies and Research

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May 8, 2020

Dear Graduates,

It is with great pride and joy that I congratulate you on your graduation from Coastal Carolina University's graduate programs. Today you step into the elite company of the 13 percent of American adults who have earned a graduate degree. This unique accomplishment is a testament to your perseverance and determination, your rich foundation of knowledge, your capacity for critical analysis and complex thought, and your unlimited potential.

Though today is a wonderful celebration, it pales in importance next to the daily acts of steadfast effort and integrity that got you here. As you move on to conquer new challenges, you can step out in confidence knowing that your training at Coastal Carolina University has prepared you to be a leader and a role model. Whether you will be a teacher or a business manager, a researcher or a writer, a data analyst or a principal, a musician or an accountant, a front office manager or the glue behind-the-scenes, I urge you to use your gifts to be the positive difference in your community, at your work, and among your family and friends.

One of the great pleasures of graduate education is to watch individuals transition from students to colleagues. It has been our great pleasure to teach and work alongside you. Well done, colleagues!

Best of luck,

Rob Young Interim Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research Professor, Department of Marine Science