

# **Transcript of Remarks by Provost Katherine Frank**

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**Graduate Student Hooding Ceremony**

**Friday, June 9, 2017**

**Student Union and Recreation Center Ballroom, Central Washington University**

Thank you President Gaudino.

Welcome to the graduate student hooding ceremony. Thank you very much for joining us for this very important event.

This ceremony is all about our graduating graduate students and their faculty mentors so that is where the focus will be. My remarks will be short. We have organized this separate graduate student hooding ceremony for essentially two reasons:

First, unlike the undergraduate experience, the very nature of graduate studies is that it involves very close collaboration between students and their faculty mentors. The ceremony this evening will allow students and faculty directly involved in this advanced academic venture a proper closure to this part of their collaboration and also a chance for family and friends to get to know these graduate faculty mentors better.

Second, after this event, graduate students will be able to participate in both the processional and recessional graduating student parades at the Commencement ceremonies this weekend in full, distinguishing, hooded regalia that specifically marks their advanced academic achievement.

As Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Life, I heartily congratulate all the students here this evening! Your academic achievement is truly extraordinary, particularly when you consider that only about 9 percent of the American population has a Master's degree. I truly hope that the graduate education you received at Central was not only personally edifying and career enhancing but also that you will put this education to use for the greater good of your immediate community and the nation at large. A more educated society, as we all know, can only be a more respectful and there more civil society. Please do your part toward this end.