

## **Baccalaureate and Commencement Student Speech Guidelines**

### **Baccalaureate:**

Theme: Reflecting back

### Key Questions:

- What Goucher moments helped to shape you?
  
- What are you taking with you?
  
- What questions can you pose to help your class reflect back on their Goucher journey?

### **Commencement:**

Theme: Looking forward

### Key Questions:

- What message do you want to leave with your class as you depart from Goucher?
  
- What questions do you hope your class will carry with them in their next phase of life?

### **Things to consider for both event speeches:**

- Write a speech that is no more than 5 minutes in length (or 2 pages, double-spaced). TIME YOURSELF reading the speech out loud to be sure of the length.
- Balance your own personal stories with those that will connect with others. Speak to how Goucher has impacted you, as well as members of your class. Keep in mind that this speech is for your entire class!
- Tie in key moments (Goucher, local, national) from different times in your college experience.
- Tell the story that you believe will best hold the attention of the audience.
- Incorporate both curricular and co-curricular themes.
- Connect with the theme of the event (as outlined above). Feel free to contact either Cynthia or Stacy if you want to learn more about the two events.