Dear Members of the Class of 2010:

Although it is hard to believe, it has been almost four years since we began our academic journey at Colgate at the annual Founder’s Day Convocation ceremony—one of those longstanding rituals that create common bonds between all Colgate graduates. I hope you are excited to welcome your family and friends back to campus one last time to share in a few more of Colgate’s oldest traditions: torchlight, baccalaureate, and commencement.

Since arriving on Colgate’s campus, we have experienced a lot of change. We have witnessed the renovation of the Case Library and Geyer Center for Information Technology and the construction of the Robert H.N. Ho Science Center; we have won prestigious athletic championships; and, we have renewed and expanded our commitments to the environment and to diversity on campus. We have studied hard in our classes, created many lasting memories and lifelong friendships, and, of course, had endless amounts of fun. Most noticeable, however, is the tremendous personal growth that each one of us has experienced since our freshman year.

In just a few short months, our time as college students will end and we will enter a new phase of life. As we prepare for these new adventures, plans for the much-anticipated commencement ceremony have already begun. No matter what your fondest memory of Colgate is so far, Commencement is sure to be an event you will always remember.

Commencement weekend will be Saturday, May 15–Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Information about this long-awaited weekend has been sent to your parents. As you know, commencement is an important time, and preparation is the key to making sure our big day runs smoothly. Please be aware of deadlines. Check out the commencement website at www.colgate.edu/commencement to find all the information you need in one area.

- On-campus housing is available for families. Registration information has been sent home.
- Baccalaureate service will take place on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel. We will line up outside the chapel at 2:00 p.m. in our caps and gowns. Seating in the chapel is limited, so guests should arrive early.
- Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m., the Colgate Thirteen and Swinging ’Gates will perform in the chapel, the Resolutions in the Dana Arts Center, and the Dischords in Olin Hall. Seating is limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Torchlight ceremony is Saturday night at 9:00 p.m. This is a beautiful ceremony; for everyone’s safety, it is important to act responsibly so this tradition can be enjoyed by future Colgate graduates. Please do not drink before or during the ceremony — alcohol will be confiscated by members of the Colgate staff. In advance, thank you for your cooperation.
• The commencement ceremony will be held in Sanford Field House at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 16. The reservation process began February 2 and you can reserve up to 5 tickets for the ceremony through the portal.
• If you are concerned about having your name pronounced correctly, you are able to type in your phonetic spelling through the portal.
• Caps and gowns must be reserved in advance (available at no cost to you) on this website (http://college.jostens.com/jostens/college/home.jsp?affiliateId=1054346) by clicking under the cap and gown section. This is the only way to reserve your cap and gown. **The deadline for ordering caps and gowns is March 21. Since gowns will be customized, this date is firm and no orders will be taken after this date.**
• An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be provided during the ceremonies.

Watch your mailbox, your inbox, and www.colgate.edu/commencement for more information arriving in the next couple of months!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Oblinger
President, Class of 2010

P.S. After graduation, Colgatealumni.org will be our one-stop shop for university news and networking. The alumni office has already posted resources for the Class of 2010 at colgatealumni.org/seniors. Visit the site and activate your account using your `Gate Card ID number.