Commencement Remarks
Marianna Walker, Chair of the Faculty
May 2012

Good morning! I am Marianna Walker, Chair of the Faculty.
I bring you greetings and congratulations on behalf of the faculty at East Carolina University.
Congratulations to each of you on your graduation. Today is a celebration and should be a reflection of your journey at ECU including the many experiences, strategies, accomplishments, and foundations that have resulted in earning a degree.

Think of how you have changed since you began at ECU. Contemplate how your discipline of study has made you view the world differently, especially in the 21st century. Have you developed communication and leadership skills that will define who you are? Will you pursue further education, as a result of your experiences at ECU, or will you pursue professional opportunities that you never imagined?

Navigate creatively through your world, but remember to focus on making a difference in all that you do. Communicate with confidence and poise, and remember to listen and alter your perspective whenever possible. Lead with respect, integrity, and dignity. Continue to learn and remember to teach. And of course, follow your dreams and have gratitude.

Please keep in touch with that special professor or two and come back to visit us. Remember what East Carolina University means to you and your future.

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision of tomorrow.

Yesterday - students…
Today – graduates…
Tomorrow – alumni…
Forever - Pirates!

Congratulations 2012 graduates! Thank you.