Spring 2017 Commencement Student Speaker Application

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences invites its graduating seniors to apply as the student speaker at the 2017 Spring Commencement Ceremony taking place on Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

In order to qualify, you must:
1. Be earning a degree from UC Davis.
2. Must have a minimum of 160 units completed by the end of Winter quarter 2017.
3. Be in good academic standing.
4. Must have registered to participate for Commencement.

Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Friday April 14
Application Review & Initial Interviews: April 24 through April 28
Final Interview & Speech Audition: May 1 through May 5
Finalist Notified: by May 5

Application Procedure:
1. Your speech must be 3-5 minutes in length.
2. Prepare a draft of your speech. Please include a title. Your draft doesn’t need to be perfect, however it should sufficiently convey the tone and content of your speech (note: please no political or religious messages).
3. Applications can be dropped off, mailed, or emailed to:
   commencement@caes.ucdavis.edu
   College of Agricultural & Environmental Science Dean’s Office
   Attention: Commencement Coordinator
   One Shields Avenue
   150 Mrak Hall
   Davis, CA 95616

Selection Procedure:
The selection committee will review applications and invite a select number of candidates for interviews and auditions. We are looking for students who have an inspirational, up-beat, unusual, funny, or exceptionally moving story to tell, or an interesting way to tell it. Traditional speeches are also always welcome too, but feel free to be creative. The speech should make a connection to all attendees: faculty, family, friends, and others who have supported the efforts of the graduating students during their education here.

The speaker is chosen on the basis of speech content and presentation skills. Candidates who are invited to the audition should attend with a final version of the speech completed and be ready to give the speech as if at the actual commencement ceremony. The Final Interview & Audition is in front of a panel consisting of the Commencement Coordinator, faculty, staff, and selected students.

If you are selected to be the student speaker, you will be seated on stage during the ceremony, will have the opportunity to have pictures taken by a professional photographer, and are eligible to receive additional commencement tickets (based on availability) with VIP reserved seating.
Please provide the following information in your application:

Name:__________________________________________________________
Student ID:_____________________________________________________
Phone:________________________________________________________
Email:_________________________________________________________
Major(s):______________________________________________________

On a separate sheet of paper or separate page please:

1. Summarize your intended presentation. Include specific points or topics while sufficiently conveying the tone and content.

2. Explain your experience/qualifications to deliver this commencement speech.