

President, Student Government Association



After all that we have been through, today we rise with triumph armed with the tools of knowledge, courage, and faith and we look back and see the long road that we have traveled and the memories that we leave behind. Today, we can proudly say that, "we've survived our college years, thanks to our hard work and dedication.

To reach this very important moment in our lives, the culmination of our undergraduate studies, our hearts overflow with joy because of the satisfaction of knowing that we have accomplished our goals and reached our dreams. Still, our hearts are also filled with some melancholy because we have to leave behind something that has become an integral part of us.

To leave our beloved St. Francis College, our "Alma Mater," is not only to leave an institution, it is to leave a piece of our very own existence - a piece of our soul, and so many unforgettable moments that we will never relive again.

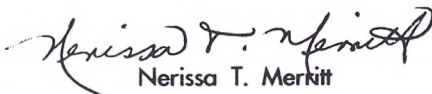
But besides all of these feelings of joy and celebration there exist a very special one: "Appreciation." That is why we shouldn't forget to say thanks to all of those people who have helped us to reach the place where we are today.

First of all, to God, because without Him nothing would have been possible. To our parents for believing in us. To our professors because we have found in them adoptive parents and with their patience, care and dedication, they have helped us to understand the incomprehensible. And especially to our friends and acquaintances because we were able to tackle so many hardships together.

Today, as we close another chapter in our lives and we say goodbye, we feel proud of who we are, where we are coming from and where we are going. At the same time, we see how in the spectrum of inevitable changes for the new millenium, a bright future awaits us. Thanks to the solid academic, moral and spiritual guidance that we have received here at St. Francis College, we are now capable of confronting all the challenges that life will put in our way.

Let us celebrate the happiness within our hearts and let us also reward ourselves for our individual achievements. Friends, life will take us through different paths, however, the profound footprints that St. Francis College has embedded in our hearts will be the binding force that will see us through the new millenium.

Thank You for the Memories, God Bless, and Good Luck Class of 1999.


Nerissa T. Merritt