## Administrative Reflections

Commencement at St. Francis College has always meant several things to me. It always reminded me of where I came from. As a member of the class of '97, I can still remember my commencement ceremony like it was yesterday. As the one who had planned commencement for the better part of a decade at St. Francis College, it was the final event of the year, and it signaled the beginning of Summer! I remember countless smiles and tears... the look of pride on parents faces, and the look of relief on students' faces!

But commencement was never just an event. It is a celebration of why the faculty, administration and staff of St. Francis College are ultimately there: to instruct and guide students to the successful completion of their studies. Every step along the path a student follows at St. Francis College leads to that moment they walk across the stage. As such, there is no more important ceremony the College can hold.

Commencement is often bittersweet for students. It signals change, and, for many, it feels like leaving home. You should know it is also bittersweet for the faculty, staff, and administration of the College. We have come to know you over the years and you have become a part of the St. Francis College family. And although we hate to see you go, we are overjoyed when you come back to say hi. You will undoubtedly attend many commencement ceremonies in the years to come as a guest of family or friends. Just like they do for, I hope these ceremonies remind you of where you came from.

I wish you the best of luck and I hope to see you soon!

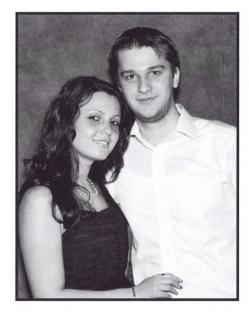
Chris Gibbons, Director of Special Events



## Smile... SFC Senior Candids











12