The Paul Merage School of Business is pleased to welcome a student speaker representing the entire Class of 2017 to its Commencement Ceremony program on June 19, 2017. Special reserved VIP seating will be provided for the student speaker’s family/guests at Commencement.

Following are the instructions and timeline for application:

- The student speaker must be a graduating member of the Class of 2017 of any of the major degree programs of the Merage School.
- The speech must be limited to no more than three minutes.
- Please submit the following by April 5, 2017, to Diane Sagey at dsagey@uci.edu:
  - a written copy of your speech in a Word document (that can be edited). Include your name and degree program at the front of the document only.
  - a 1 minute video of you (framed from the waist to the top of your head) giving the first minute of your speech. Video quality will not be judged: don’t worry about perfect lighting; set camera setting to low resolution so file size is small enough to email.
- You will receive a confirmation of receipt from Diane by April 7.
- Judging will be based on the applicability of the message to all audience members (specifically all ages/programs of graduates, and even family and guests), how well it stirs thought and emotion, and overall poise.
- Depending on the number of entries, a group of semi-finalists will be chosen to partake in public speaking coaching (a valued skill whether you are the finalist or not) in mid-April (exact date and time TBD).
- The semi-finalists will give their speech live to the judging panel on or about the week of April 17 in the late afternoon.
  - Final judging will be based on final live delivery/performance of content.
- One finalist will be announced on or about May 1.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Sagey at dsagey@uci.edu.