

Summer 2006

Commencement 2006: Exploring the Impossible

Linfield Magazine Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine

Recommended Citation

Linfield Magazine Staff (2006) "Commencement 2006: Exploring the Impossible," *Linfield Magazine*: Vol. 3 : No. 1 , Article 11.

Available at: https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/linfield_magazine/vol3/iss1/11

This article is brought to you for free via open access, courtesy of DigitalCommons@Linfield. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@linfield.edu.



Commencement 2006

Exploring the impossible

Explore the impossible and challenge the accepted wisdom, the deputy director of the National Science Foundation told the class of 2006 at commencement exercises on May 28.

“Challenging the accepted is risky business,” said Kathy L. Olsen, left, Oregon native and former NASA chief scientist to

the graduates, families and friends who braved cold, cloudy and wet conditions to attend the outdoor ceremony. “You may not succeed every time. But you must never be daunted by the stumbles and missteps that are inevitable in every life.”

Everyone desires to make a difference, she added. “There is much more joy in discovery and exploration when we aim to serve society’s needs and aspirations.

Exploration and discovery are sparks that keep light and fire in your life.

“Your education, today and throughout your lives, is your prepared mind,” she added. “You will always be ready to meet unexpected opportunities – and in my vocabulary, there are no problems, only challenges and opportunities. You will always be ready to meet unexpected opportunities if you have a thirst for the unknown, if you follow your passion and if you put to use your prepared mind. In fact, you might very well change the world.”

At his first Linfield commencement, President Thomas L. Hellie, top left, presented diplomas to 500 graduates – 312 from McMinnville, 86 from the Portland Campus and 102 from the Adult Degree Program. Baccalaureate was held Saturday evening with the Rev. Kent Harrop, pastor of the First Baptist Church in McMinnville, who spoke on “Grace: The Last Best Word.”