

Congratulations, my fellow English Education graduates!

We've been through everything these past four years: COVID-19 couldn't stop us from learning, the long nights and difficult classes couldn't stop us from aspiring, the hours spent stressing couldn't stop us from succeeding. Now, nothing can stop us from being exactly who we were meant to be.

We've learned much more than the names for grammatical phrases. We've learned how to be teachers and mentors. We've learned how to be productive members of society. We've learned when to take a break from trying to decode Shakespeare to have fun.

We've done much more than read dozens of books. We've made friends and lesson plans. We've taught the next generation and our resumés are finally fleshed out. We've walked around a construction site that, I'm sure, will one day be a science building.

To say I'm proud of all of us would be an understatement. I know you are all going to go out into the world and make an impact on it in your own ways. Wherever you go and whatever you do, bring the lessons you've learned here with you. Be the amazing people you have every capability of being.

Thank you for making my IUP undergraduate experience unforgettable. Go Hawks!

~Alayna Pesce