

Student Lasallian Commencement Address
May 2006
Presented by: Michael P. Douglas

Good Morning Members of the Board of Trustees, Brother James, honored guests, faculty, staff, fellow graduates, parents, family and friends.

Entering Lewis University for the first time as a transfer student in the combined special and elementary education program, I never really considered that

President Brother James Gaffney, who I manage to see often and everywhere even though I have been a commuter student.

Of the values of the Lasallian tradition that have impacted our lives during our time at Lewis, the most important value to me, the value that brings me to this ceremony today, and this podium at this moment, is the value of Justice. I believe Justice is one of the most important aspects of education at

is able to apply the value of Justice to whatever profession we may pursue. As graduates we are blessed that we have matriculated at an institution that holds this principle in such high regard. As a Lewis Graduate I exhort you to be more aware of the less fortunate members of your communities and our responsibility to serve them. We are members of the select few who have the privilege of graduating from Lewis University, and we have a responsibility to take the skills and values we have been taught and use them in the service of Justice to benefit others. Let's go out from here today and fight those fights in your world that, in the words of Johnathon Kozol, "are big enough to matter, and small enough to win."