

COURIC TO CLASS OF 2011:

Graduation a Lifelong Process

Veteran TV broadcaster tells grads they are masters of their fate

LESS THAN 72 hours after graduating from her anchor's chair at *CBS Evening News*, Katie Couric advised Boston University seniors to embrace a lifetime of "inevitable" graduations.

Couric told the 20,000 plus people at BU's 138th Commencement on May 22 that taking the job as the first solo woman anchor of a network evening news broadcast five years ago was different from her 15 years cohosting the *Today* show, and she advised this year's graduates that while "getting out of your comfort zone can be, well, uncomfortable...today is just the first of many graduations in your life."

Couric left *CBS Evening News* to develop a syndicated talk show that she'll launch next year.

Under a cloudy sky, an appreciative audience responded warmly to Couric's several references

to BU culture, as well as her remark that she was glad to be at BU "instead of my safety school, BC."

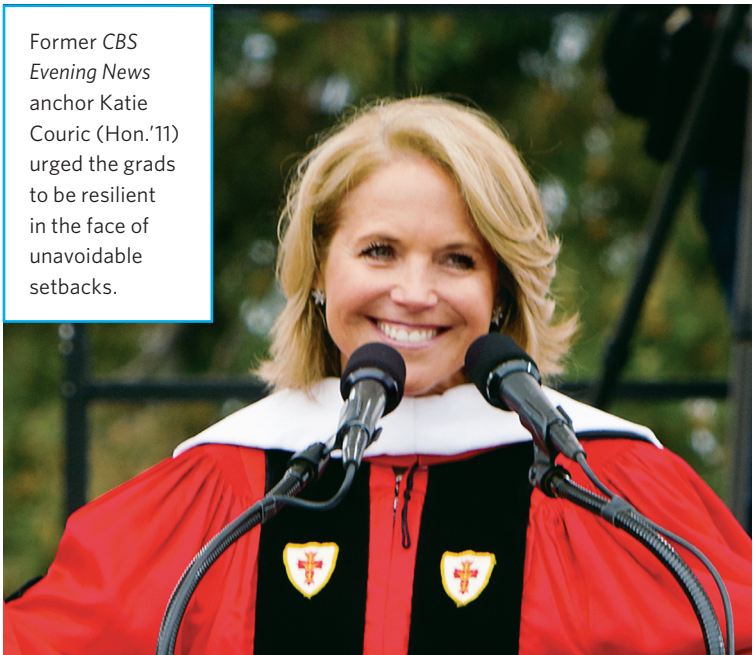
Couric received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from President Robert A. Brown. In addition, honorary degrees were awarded to activist and attorney Victoria Reggie Kennedy, Doctor

of Laws; chef, author, and BU instructor Jacques Pépin, Doctor of Humane Letters; painter and sculptor Frank Stella, Doctor of Fine Arts; National Public Radio journalist Nina Totenberg (COM'65), Doctor of Humane Letters; and Baccalaureate speaker Ahmed Zewail, a Nobel Prize-winning scientist and a professor at the California Institute of Technology, Doctor of Science.

At the ceremony, Brown presented the Metcalf Awards, the University's highest teaching honor: the Metcalf Cup and Prize for Excellence in Teaching to Judith Chaffee, a College of Fine Arts associate professor, and Metcalf Awards for Excellence in Teaching to Wayne LaMorte, a School of Public Health and School of Medicine professor, and David Walker, a School of Law professor.

Monica Narang (CAS'11), an English major, was the Commencement student speaker. **RICH BARLOW**

Former CBS Evening News anchor Katie Couric (Hon.'11) urged the grads to be resilient in the face of unavoidable setbacks.



WINSLOW MARTIN



VERNON DOUCETTE

MELODY KOMYEROV

VERNON DOUCETTE

VERNON DOUCETTE



CYDNEY SCOTT



Ahmed Zewail (Hon.'11), the Nobel Prize-winning chemist and advisor to President Barack Obama, gave the Baccalaureate address.



More than 5,000 students and 20,000 guests attended the 138th Commencement exercises.

WINSLOW MARTIN



PATRICK SINGLETON



Student speaker Monica Narang (CAS'11) said BU has helped each class make the transition to adulthood.



MELODY KOMYEROV

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