Dear Graduating Seniors:

Again this year, the School of Business will have a separate commencement ceremony. This represents a great opportunity to celebrate your accomplishments with other School of Business graduates. It also offers the School the opportunity to select a Student Representative Commencement Speaker.

The student speaker will have an excellent opportunity to send off his/her classmates with personally meaningful insights and allow the audience of graduates to reflect on their common experiences and learning that took place at the School of Business and the University of Connecticut.  **Due to time constraints, the speech is limited to between two and three minutes.**

***As a graduating senior of the School of Business, you are invited to apply for the honor of representing your class at Commencement.***

To apply, you must submit the attached application with a copy of your resume no later than midnight on **WEDNESDAY,** **MARCH 22**.  The Student Representative Commencement Speaker may also be nominated by faculty or other students but all applicants must submit their own completed application form before the above deadline to be considered.

A Speaker Selection Committee (SSC), which has been charged with selecting the Student Representative Commencement Speaker, will screen the applications and determine a group of finalists.  Finalists will be notified no later than the end of the day on **MONDAY,** **MARCH 27.**  Selection of the finalists will be based on criteria including the applicants’ academic record, involvement in School of Business activities, topics to be addressed in the speech and faculty recommendations. You do **not** need to write the speech at this point, nor do you need to have a faculty member prepare a recommendation to accompany the application-we will contact the faculty member if we believe there is a need to talk with him/her.

The finalists will be invited to present their speeches to the SSC on **FRIDAY afternoon, April 7,** in the School of Business (room and time to be determined).  Based on the presentations the SSC will notify the speaker, and the two runners-up who will serve as the banner carriers leading all of the School of Business graduates into Gampel Pavilion on commencement morning, of their selection by no later than  **SATURDAY, APRIL 8**.  The speaker must have a brief bio ready for the University’s Commencement Committee by **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11** and his/her final speech ready for that Committee by **FRIDAY, APRIL 21.**   The speech will be presented at the **MAY 7, 2017** School of Business Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony which takes place at 9:00 AM in Gampel Pavilion.

Please submit your application (see attached) and resume to [StudentSpeaker@business.uconn.edu](mailto:StudentSpeaker@business.uconn.edu).  Good luck!

Sincerely,

David J. Papandria

Speaker Selection Committee

Assistant Head of Accounting Department