CATHERINE McARDLE KELLEHER, CLASS OF 1960, we honor you today with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

You demonstrated a commitment to excellence even early on in your career, serving as a Fulbright Fellow in Berlin after graduating from Mount Holyoke with a bachelor’s degree in political science. Not long after, you earned a doctorate from MIT, going on to teach at Barnard College, the University of Illinois, Chicago, and the University of Michigan, before becoming a staff member at the National Security Council. In 1980 the College awarded you an honorary degree, which formally acknowledged your expertise in international politics.

Your national security acumen has only grown since then. Through a combination of a rich academic life and a dedication to government service, you have researched and lectured at a number of institutions on conventional and nuclear arms control and German, Russian, and European security issues. You were the second female professor in the history of the US National War College, where you taught in the military strategy department, and you continued to make strides for women by founding and leading Women in Security, an organization aiming to enhance the prospects for women in business and international relations. Your vast experience and service in US government roles includes your work as deputy assistant secretary of defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia and as US secretary of defense’s representative to NATO in Brussels during Bill Clinton’s presidency.

For your high level of sustained contributions to both excellence in academe and outstanding public service to your country, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you, on your fifty-fifth reunion, with the Mount Holyoke Alumnae Achievement Award.