HOLLY METCALF, CLASS OF 1981, 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.

Holly, your passion for and achievements in athletics set you on an early path to success. After graduation you served Mount Holyoke as a rowing coach, continuing your own training in the sport. As a member of the 1984 US Olympic Rowing Team, you brought home the gold medal in the women's eight. In addition, as a six-time member of the US national team, you won four world championship medals, and in 1990 you served as a coach for the world championships, celebrating as your crew earned the silver medal.

Throughout your career you have used rowing as a means to bring girls and women together. In 1994 you founded Row as One, an organization dedicated to providing coaching and training for master's level women rowers. In 1998 you initiated Girls Row Boston, a rowing program aimed to build girls’ strength and confidence through rowing. In a continued effort to build a sense of community among female athletes, you founded WeCanRow, helping breast cancer survivors build physical strength and establishing a group for them to support one another.

You have twice been recognized for your personal rowing accomplishments and community outreach as the recipient of the US Rowing Woman of the Year award. You have been inducted into the New England Sports Hall of Fame and the National Rowing Hall of Fame, and in 2013 you were one of the first class of inductees into the Mount Holyoke Athletics Hall of Fame.

Holly, for your sustained commitment to athletics and for using athletics as a means to build community for girls and women, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Mount Holyoke Alumnae Achievement Award on this, your thirty-fifth reunion.