Ring Out Speech
April 28, 2017

Thank you Maddy for your sweet encouragement and your leadership during your time at Baylor. Your love for this university and for others is evident in everything you do. I am so grateful to accept this key from you, a dear friend of mine. This key is representative of so much in Baylor’s history. It is a symbol of our past, our traditions and our legacy. This key is also a symbol of the future of our university- it is a symbol of a promise to excellence and continuing the legacy paved for us by generations past. This passing of the key marks the shift in responsibility to the next generation of leaders, and I am so honored to receive this key from Maddy.

Physically, this key will open the time capsule in 2045. This time capsule not only contains items that represent our interests of the time, but it is also contains the traditions that make our university so special. Touring students always make a stop at the location where our time capsule is held. They pause and imagine what their time at Baylor will look like. Will Baylor become their home away from home? Who will become their best friends? Will they build community that endures long after they have left this University? As high school students we pondered those questions, as we tried to get a glimpse into what our four years at Baylor would look like. We navigated these questions and grew as women. We found those friendships, we found our home, and now here we are: Junior and Senior women who have found that community in every part of our collegiate experience.

By taking part in the Ring Out Ceremony today, you all have chosen to stand with the thousands of Baylor women who have come before you and engage in one of Baylor’s most special traditions. Since 1927, graduating seniors have passed the ivy to the incoming senior class. This ceremony marks the transition in leadership on campus. Now it is our turn to share this experience. We have big shoes to fill, and we are honored to be entrusted with these responsibilities.

Seniors, over this last year you have guided the three other classes and have served as mentors within our organizations, our classes, and our personal lives. You are confident, strong women who have achieved great success. You have all served the university so graciously and been the most beautiful example of what exemplary Baylor women look like. As you prepare to walk across the stage in just a few weeks, know that you have led us well and you will continue to be gracious leaders in the world. We cannot wait to see what you accomplish as you fling your green and gold afar.
Juniors, can you believe how fast our time has come? These last three years we have all had our challenges, but we have learned so much from those around us. We have found success through the people who have shown unwavering loyalty to us. These people have molded us into the women we are today, and we cannot thank them enough for that. Thankfully, our time here is not done. It is time for us to write our legacy and become the leaders we have been empowered to be. Soon than we think or hope, we will join the seniors as we walk across the stage to graduate.

This past year has been a time of change at Baylor. During these times especially, our class of 2018 has looked to the senior class for guidance and wisdom. This guidance has been pivotal in our success as a university, and we are sad to see them leave. As these seniors prepare to complete their time at Baylor, it is now our turn to fill the role that they are leaving behind. It is time for us, the class of 2018, to lead our university, to share our Christian faith, and to relentlessly encourage the classes below us who consider Baylor home. We are honored to carry on the legacy you are leaving behind, seniors. Thank you for leading us so well and empowering us to handle the responsibility you are entrusting us with. In the words of Saint Francis, “After doing what is necessary, we move on to what is possible.” Seniors, you have done more than what is necessary and we are so excited to see what is possible for you. Thank you for all you have done for us. We are devastated to see you go, but forever grateful for the way you have led us.

Amye Dickerson
Student Body President-Elect