

8-1996

Who Are You, Class of 1999

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Recommended Citation

Rahman, Michelle, "Who Are You, Class of 1999" (1996). *Who Are You Class of...Orientation Speeches*. 21.
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Once again we express a sincere welcome to the class of 1999 - all 152 of you. I thought it would be appropriate, this morning, to tell you and the faculty who you are. Can you guess who is who? Well - you've the next three years to find out.

You've come to us from 18 states and several foreign countries. Of those enrolled from out of state New York has sent us more than twice as many as any other state. You're from as far west as California and Arizona.

Forty-Six Percent of you are female and the class's average age is 25.5 years.

You range in age from 21 to 45.

You are graduates of 69 Universities or Colleges with the highest number, twenty-two, having graduated from UVA, 14 From JMU and 13 from William & Mary.

One of you graduated from Seoul National University.

102 of you - 67% - have been out of school at least one year and one of you has been out 23 years.

Your average LSAT is 158, which is the same as last year's class, and places you in the 77th %ile of all those who took that test during the past 3 years. Two of you scored 168 - the 97th %ile - on that test. Your average GPA is 3.1 and the highest GPA in your class is 4.07.

42 different majors are represented with the greatest number graduating with a major in - no surprise - political science. Seventeen of you were English majors and 16 History majors.

6 of you were paralegals and 3 of you are CPAs. 5 of you are engineers. Several of you interned in the White House and for members of the Senate and Congress.

One of you built a light weight, 2 seater airplane and flew the initial test flight.

One of you has been robbed at gun point and one of you has been giving riding lessons for handicapped children and adults.

One of you assisted with the African Heads of State Summit and one of your class studied at Oxford University for a year. Another has been a mental health worker for 7 years and one of your class studied for a semester in Australia.

One of your classmates is an All American High Jumper and represented the United States abroad becoming the International Champion in Wales.

Did you know that one of the women in your class was an environmental engineer for 6 years and

served on the Commission for the future of S.W. Virginia? One man has been an elementary teacher in the inner city school system and also served as a resource for students with profound behavior problems.

One of you is a microbiologist and one of you worked for a summer as a crab shredder.

Five of you are the children of judges and one of you is the grandson of the Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates. 5 of you are the sons and daughters of Law School alumni.

One of you is a physician and one an Eagle Scout. One is a percussionist, one composes original music and one of you served as a volunteer in Nairobi helping with the construction of a new University campus. Another restores vintage British cars and motorcycles.

Another of your class has, for several years served as a trade analyst for the Korean Trade Association which represents over 40,000 Korean companies engaged in foreign trade. Another translated and organized Russian Bio-Medical Resource material onto computer databases.

One of you has 14 letters in their last name and one is the 3rd of 7 children. One of you was born in Suriname - a Dutch country in South America - and another speaks and writes Arabic.

A woman in this class won the Virginia Press Women award for writing and photography and another has been the Associate Director of the ACLU of Virginia. Someone in this class volunteered for a lengthy period helping to simplify the life of a man with AIDS.

A woman in this class has been a police officer for 11 years and was only the second American after '72 Olympic Gold Medalist, Frank Shorter, to win an international race in Sao Paulo, Brazil. One gentleman in this class was a California model.

And so it goes - 152 different stories and 152 different factoids as they're sometimes called around here. But, half the fun is getting to know those who are going to become your life long friends so I'll stop now and wish you good luck and good fun on the adventure upon which you are embarking.