

# ceremony speaker



**Name:** Jonathan Oskverak

**College:** Health and Human Sciences

**Hometown:** Naperville, Ill.

**Commencement:** Colleges of Health and Human Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, 9:30 a.m., May 12

**Why do you believe you were chosen to speak?** Being selected didn't have much to do with a stellar application or my persuasiveness. Rather, the folks in charge selected me because I've had a long history of being involved at Purdue. If you want to write a good book, having a library of experiences allows you to write an interesting narrative. Speech writing is the same. I have had many experiences as a student, so I'll be able to represent a diverse range of students in my response. Still, nobody wants to listen to an arrogant speaker who talks about how wonderful he is. Humility is one of the most important traits for which I strive. My adviser and friends must have expressed this when writing their nominations. Also, sending my famous banana-nut bread with the application helped.

**What are your plans after graduation?** I'll be attending the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in August.

**What is your favorite thing about Purdue?** Without a doubt, I'm fortunate that I was able to get involved in so many activities while still doing well in class and having a social life. Where else can a student conduct research, write as an editor for a student-run daily newspaper, take great classes, serve on numerous boards, help the needy at home and abroad, lead a club and maintain a long-term relationship? I did it, but so did many others. That's why Purdue is a great school.