



HLC Accreditation Evidence

Title: Outstanding Graduates

Office of Origin PR

URL: <http://bartonccc.edu/news/outstanding-grads-commencement>

Document Summary:

Barton Community College honors Outstanding Graduates at commencement

May 13, 2016

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Photo by Brandon Steinert

Audree Aguilera of Chase and Riley Chrisler of Natoma were named Barton Community College's 2016 Outstanding Graduates. Dean of Student Services Angie Maddy introduced them and presented their awards, after which they took the opportunity to address their fellow graduates during the college's 46th commencement ceremony Friday.

Aguilera is the daughter of Mary and Gilbert Aguilera. During her Barton career, she has participated in Concert Choir, Hilltop Singers, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Orchestra, and the Prairie Winds Concert Band. Additionally, she has participated in the TRIO and Student Support Services Program and the Community Student Organization, as well as working as a peer tutor in the tutoring lab. She has recently accepted a position as the Community Development Coordinator in Lyons and in conjunction with this position will be working toward a graduate certificate in City and County Management through Wichita State University. Simultaneously, she will be continuing her education at Fort Hays State University where she will pursue her bachelor's degree in Public Administration and Management.

Aguilera spoke fondly to the audience about her time at Barton.

"Looking back on my two years here at Barton, I can honestly say Barton is filled with caring members of the faculty and staff. Being at Barton is like being in a huge family! Everyone truly cares about your well-being and success."

Chrisler is the son of Melissa and Tony Chrisler. While attending Barton, Riley has participated in Lambda Alpha Epsilon, the American Criminal Justice Association, serving as the club's treasurer. Additionally, Riley has been a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society and has worked throughout his Barton career both on his family farm and for the Russell County Sheriff's Department Detention Center. Riley will be transferring to Fort Hays State University where he will be pursuing his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

Chrisler focused his comments on thanking everyone at Barton, especially the faculty.

“The instructors at Barton are a remarkable group of people,” he said. “They are always ready and willing to do anything they can to promote the education and well-being of a student. Your commitment is appreciated by all.”