



Dear Josey,

I'm writing you from the future not long before you graduate. First off, I want to tell you to listen to Mom's advice that things always work out. It might be hard for you to believe now, but it gets better and things will work out, I promise.

Your first couple semesters on your Ph.D. journey will be hard; really hard.

There will be times where you want to quit or times where you're unsure of your place in academia. You have a lot yet to learn but your professors and fellow Ph.D. students will challenge you and help you learn and grow.

Surround yourself with supportive friends and family and very soon, your dreams will become reality. You will get to spend years researching and writing about your passions and learn to love all that Omaha and the Midwest has to offer.

You will even meet and marry the love of your life during your four years at UNO. And in the end, you'll earn your Ph.D. and land your dream job. So, keep working hard and before you know it, you'll look back on your time at UNO as some of the best years of your life.

**With Love,
Dr. Hazelton-Boyle**