Ruby Ahaiwe, Your Eyes Have Seen Me

philosophy: umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu meaning that a person is who they are because of other people. When I was signing my name in the matriculation book at President Rose's office, I felt as if I were being "seen in the eyes", that Bowdoin truly knew our names and recognized us individually. Yet, we signed the book together as a group, showing we all need each other. I feel a deep gratitude for everyone who has been on this journey with me: classmates, faculty, staff, my host parents, alums, and friends who see me in the eyes.

When my dad called me in March to say he had already bought a goat to celebrate my graduation, rather than my wedding, I was happy that he was as excited as