REMARKS TO OPEN BOWDOIN COLLEGE
219
th CONVOCATION
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
CLAYTON ROSE
DENIAL
I want to begin by thanking my faculty and staff colleagues for all of your amazing work over

help each of us live a meaningful life, to help us each find success and satisfaction in work, and
to be able to participate meaningfully in civic life. The idea of the liberal arts has its origins in
Antiquity and is an education intended to prepare one to participate in civic life and to be
productive and engaged citizens in the debates and decisions of the day.
For generation after generation, a Bowdoin education has provided our students with the
ability to think critically, to reason, to learn, to be nimble intellectually, and to communicate
thoughtfully and persuasively. We develop the ability to ask hard questions, and the skill and
disposition to