

## IUAA Seoul Reception

Remarks for Michael A. McRobbie

President

Indiana University

Renaissance Marriott Hotel

Seoul, South Korea

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for that kind introduction. It is a great pleasure to be here on my third official trip to Korea as president of Indiana University.

Let me introduce my wife Laurie, the First Lady of Indiana University. Both of us are delighted to see so many friends of IU here tonight.

I would like to thank the IU Korea Alumni Association for hosting and providing such generous support for this reception and for your great dedication to Indiana University. This wonderful occasion shows the great spirit of generosity at the heart of this wonderful group of IU alumni and friends. Let me offer a special word of thanks to Mr. Young Jin Kim and Mr. William Joo.

### 2. PRINCIPLES OF EXCELLENCE

It is a special pleasure to be here in Seoul as we near the end of another successful academic year. As many of you probably remember, this time of year brings a sense of excitement, and I am delighted to share that excitement with you tonight as I share with you some of Indiana University's achievements over the last few months.

Many of those achievements reflect the ten principles of excellence outlined in my fall State of the University address. Those principles guide all that we do at Indiana University.

## 2.1 AN EXCELLENT EDUCATION

The first principle is to provide an excellent education.

We are achieving that principle with over seventy programs ranked in the top twenty nationally, including programs in the Kelley School of Business, the School of Nursing, and the Jacobs School of Music.

Of course, our excellent music program reminds me of the wonderful concert at the Kumho Art Hall that Jacobs School alumni staged for visitors from IU in 2008. Both Laurie and I have very fond memories of that outstanding performance, and we are greatly looking forward to the performance later tonight as well.

And more students than ever are taking advantage of those excellent programs. In August, we welcomed a record 109,000 students. That is 16,000 more than a decade ago, and up 51,000 from back in the 1970s.

This fall at IU Bloomington, we welcomed more valedictorians than ever before among our beginning students. Those beginning students came in with record high grade point averages and average SAT scores of around 1200, up nearly 100 points compared to recent years.

## 2.2 AN EXCELLENT FACULTY

The second principle of excellence is recruiting and retaining an outstanding faculty.

I shared some of this earlier this evening, but good news about IU's outstanding faculty always bears repeating. Our faculty continue to receive accolades, including five faculty members who were recently inducted into the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Now we have a total of 55 members in that prestigious association.

We also have twenty faculty members in the National Academies; twenty in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; five in the American Philosophical Society, one of this nation's oldest scholarly societies founded by Benjamin Franklin; and one Fellow of the Royal Society, the British Commonwealth's largest and most important scholarly society and one of the oldest such societies in the world.

And I never tire of mentioning Distinguished Professor Elinor Ostrom's Nobel Prize in Economics in 2009.

With Dr. Ostrom's prize and Purdue's 2010 prize in Chemistry, the state of Indiana has been home to two Nobel laureates in two years, a remarkable statement about the level of research being conducted at this state's major research universities. The only state that matches that feat is Massachusetts with consecutive Nobels at Harvard and MIT.

## 2.3 EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Our outstanding faculty also brought in a new record of over \$600 million in grants and awards in support of their research, over half of which by our outstanding School of Medicine, the second largest school of medicine in the country. This exceeds our previous record by \$75 million.

## 2.4 THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION OF EXCELLENCE

Another principle focuses on enhancing the international dimensions of education, research, and engagement.

We have seen dramatic increases in international study among IU students. The numbers are quite dramatic even if we just consider IU Bloomington. In 1990, nearly 600 IU students studied abroad every year. Now the number is nearly 2,200.

And in the early 90's, we welcomed about 500 international students each year. Now we rank 15<sup>th</sup> in the country with over 4,600 at IU Bloomington, and 6,700 university-wide.

We jumped from 19<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> nationally in terms of the number of our students who study abroad, and our record number of international students come from 146 different countries.

South Korea is one of the top countries sending students to IU (nearly 1,200 students).

## 2.5 EXCELLENCE IN ENGAGEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

IU is also doing its part to help strengthen Indiana's economy.

We have set new records for the number of patent applications filed—228—and the royalties, fees, and milestone payments we have received—over \$14 million, which doubles the previous record in that area.

Over the last year, Indiana University has benefitted from a number of large-scale commercial transactions. These are associated with the sale of companies that IU faculty members helped to start.

About a year ago, Angel Learning was sold for \$100 million to Blackboard, Inc., of Washington, D.C. Angel Learning was started by IUPUI professor Ali Jafari and his graduate student David Mills.

Marcadia Biotech was founded in 2005 by IU Bloomington Chemistry Professor Richard DiMarchi and the late Gus Watanabe, former Chair of the Department of Medicine at the IU School of Medicine. In February, the sale of Marcadia Biotech was announced for around \$500 million.

Last month, we also announced the historic transformation of our hospital system Clarian Health into Indiana University Health, which takes the groundbreaking work of the IU School of Medicine to every corner of the state.

### 3. FRAMEWORK OF EXCELLENCE

#### 3.1 EXCELLENCE IN ADVANCEMENT

Another principle of excellence calls for expanding and enhancing essential volunteer, philanthropic, and other support.

Of course, I must say that the level of support we get from our Korean alumni is already truly remarkable. As I have been telling everyone I have met with, this chapter is one of our most active international alumni chapters, and I would argue it is one of the most active—and supportive—IU Alumni chapters in the world, and the university is deeply grateful for your gifts of time, energy, and resources.

Also in that regard, earlier this year, IU ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the Big Ten, 1<sup>st</sup> among public universities, and 10<sup>th</sup> among all U.S. colleges and universities in the amount of support it received from the private sector in FY2010.

Together, all IU campuses received \$342.8 million in gifts and non-governmental research grant funds in the last fiscal year. This is a 38.5% increase over FY2009 and is testimony to the quality of the university's programs and the deep generosity and dedication of IU alumni and friends.

This remarkable support is allowing IU to compete for the most outstanding students and faculty, and to build the facilities our faculty and students need for 21<sup>st</sup> century research and education.

### 3.2 BUILDING FOR EXCELLENCE

The final principle I will share tonight is providing excellent facilities that are vitally important for both the research and educational mission of the university. The current projects underway and planned at the university will add 1.5 million square feet of space. That is roughly equivalent to all of the space in Assembly Hall, the Wells Library, Memorial Stadium, and the IU Art Museum combined.

You may recall when I last visited that I spoke of the International Studies Building under discussion. I am pleased to say that the initial proposal for the building has been approved by the trustees, and the building is currently in the design phase. We have engaged the internationally renowned firm of architects the Polshek Partnership (now known as Ennead Architects), to develop preliminary plans for this building. They have proposed a truly magnificent design that will come to life on a site between the Wells Library and the Radio-TV Building, just north of the IU Auditorium and east of the Arboretum.

What is truly remarkable about this building is that, for the first time in the history of the university, our outstanding and extensive research and teaching on global cultures and processes will be housed in a single building, offering exciting possibilities for new interdisciplinary collaborations and cross-national projects.

The International Studies Building will house ten academic departments and 16 research centers or programs drawn from College of Arts and Sciences, the Kelley School of Business and the School of Education, and we greatly look forward to sharing further news on this project as it develops.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

That the university continues to progress in such a remarkable fashion is testimony to the dedication and generosity of thousands of IU alumni and friends. Our over 540,000 alumni are this university's greatest ambassadors, and your successes are a vital part of IU's great traditions of excellence.

Let me add that our Korean alumni, in particular, are among our finest international ambassadors. Over the past few days, I have met with remarkably successful businessmen, government leaders, faculty members at Korea's finest universities, members of the diplomatic core, all of whom are IU alumni. For that, we at the university are deeply grateful.

Again, it is a great pleasure to be here in this amazing city and sharing with you news another year of success at Indiana University.

You all are an important part of that story. The success of our alumni is a testimony to the power of an Indiana University education, and is a promise of the future for the prospective students who have joined us this evening. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for Indiana University.

Working together, we will continue to achieve our goals of true excellence in education and research.

Thank you very much and go IU!