

“Honoring Marilyn Glick: A Visionary in the Community”

Honorary Degree Conferral

Marilyn K. Glick

Remarks of Michael A. McRobbie

President

Indiana University

Lilly House

Indianapolis, Indiana

June 27, 2011

1. WELCOME

Laurie and I are delighted to welcome you all here this evening for this celebration in honor of a great friend and wonderful benefactor of this city, our state, and of Indiana University, Marilyn K. Glick.

We are delighted that she is joined by two of her daughters—Marianne and Arlene—and other members of her family. Her remarkable generosity and visionary spirit have had a transformative impact at Indiana University.

We will have more remarks a little later. Please enjoy your meal.

2. HONORARY DEGREE PRESENTATION

Again, thank you all for coming this evening.

It is now my privilege to recognize Marilyn K. Glick’s lifelong devotion to service

and philanthropy by conferring upon her an honorary degree, the highest academic accolade that IU can bestow.

She was only seven years old when she became the youngest volunteer for the Jewish National Fund's "Flower Day," thus beginning a commitment to community service that continues to this day.

She and her husband, Indianapolis businessman Eugene Glick, are among the most generous philanthropists in Indiana. Glick charitable funds have supported Indiana educational institutions, arts organizations, hospitals, and the Pro-100 program, a leadership program for underprivileged youth. Grant recipients have included the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, the Indianapolis Cultural Trail, and the Indiana Authors Award.

Marilyn Glick has always had a deep interest in the arts and began collecting art glass in the 1970s. She is now one of the nation's most noted collectors, and part of her magnificent collection is on display at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

In 1990, Governor Evan Bayh appointed Mrs. Glick to the Indiana Arts Commission on which she served for eight years. In 1997, she received the Sagamore of the Wabash from Governor Frank O'Bannon, and in October of 2003, Marilyn and Eugene Glick received an Indiana Governor's Arts Award.

Marilyn Glick has done so much and given so much in the state of Indiana and beyond that it is almost impossible to thank her for everything. But I hope you will grant me a point of privilege when I single out for special thanks the Glick Family Foundation's wonderful and generous gift of \$30 million, which enabled IU to build the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Eye Institute.

When the gift was announced, Marilyn Glick said, "Of all the philanthropy that we have given, our gift to build this eye institute and establish an endowment to

bring the best and brightest research to Indiana University is the most meaningful of any gift we have ever given. I've devoted over 30 years to helping prevent blindness and I'm so glad that we're able to do this." ¹

In recognition of her dedication and commitment to fighting disease and improving health, it is entirely fitting that Indiana University bestow on Marilyn K. Glick the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters.

Thus, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Trustees of Indiana University, I am proud to confer upon you, with honor, the degree Doctor of Humane Letters with all attendant rights and privileges.

Congratulations.

¹ Johnson, Bryan. "Marilyn Glick Tours Eugene and Marilyn Glick Eye Institute Building Site." Indianapolis, Indiana. Funcityfinder.com. < <http://indianapolis-indiana.funcityfinder.com/2010/10/04/marilyn-glick-tours-glick-eye-institute/>> Access date 26 June 2011.