

# REMARKS

**HAWAII DENTAL ALUMNI DINNER**

**PACIFIC CLUB**

**FEBRUARY 8, 1996**

- NOTES:
- Chancellor Schwartz will be introduced by Dean Reed/Russ Tabata or George Tanaka—this will be confirmed.
  - The audience is prominent UMKC School of Dentistry alumni and friends.

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((Following your introduction))

**THANK YOU FOR THE INTRODUCTION. AND LET ME CORRECT SOME MISINFORMATION...IT IS NOT TRUE THAT KANSAS CITY'S RECENT BELOW-ZERO WEATHER HAS FOLLOWED ME TO THE ISLANDS.**

**I DO WANT TO THANK ALL OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY ALUMNI, DR. TANAKA, DR. TABATA, DEAN REED, THE UMKC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO HELPED SHAPE THIS EVENT. I AM HONORED TO BE HERE.**

**ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING ASPECTS OF BEING UMKC'S CHANCELLOR IS THAT I AM OFTEN ON THE RECEIVING END OF HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS AND COMMENDATIONS FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPED BY UMKC PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.**

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**LIKE I WAS TAUGHT EARLY IN MY CHILDHOOD, I ALWAYS SAY 'THANK YOU'. THEN I QUICKLY TELL THEM THAT THE CREDIT RIGHTFULLY GOES TO THE PEOPLE WHO'VE WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE SURE OUR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.**

**I WOULD BE THE FIRST TO NAME OUR ALUMNI AS AMONG THOSE MOVERS AND SHAKERS.**

**THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY HAS FORGED AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION, ENHANCED, OF COURSE, BY THE EFFORTS OF ALUMNI WHO CARE TO BE INVOLVED. ALL OF US AT UMKC TAKE PRIDE IN THE SCHOOL'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**

**EACH YEAR, MORE THAN A HUNDRED NEW DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS GRADUATE FROM UMKC'S DENTAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS INTO PRIVATE PRACTICE OR OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ROLES.**

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**IN 1996, WE JOIN WITH YOU AS THE SCHOOL  
CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF SUCCESS FOR THE SIX-  
YEAR COMBINED BACCALAUREATE—D.D.S. DEGREE  
PROGRAM.**

**WE ALSO THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO  
CONTINUING DENTAL EDUCATION. IT WOULD BE  
IMPOSSIBLE TO MEASURE HOW MUCH GOODWILL  
IS CREATED BY THE DENTAL PROFESSIONALS WHO  
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL PROGRAMS.**

**I ESPECIALLY WISH TO COMMEND SCHOOL OF  
DENTISTRY ALUMNI FOR THEIR PASSIONATE  
SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL.**

**THE HAWAIIAN DENTAL ALUMNI, AS EVIDENCED BY  
THE TURNOUT FOR TODAY'S MEETING AND BY  
YOUR ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO KANSAS CITY FOR  
THE MIDWEST DENTAL CONFERENCE AND ALUMNI  
MEETING, IS AMONG THE MOST PASSIONATE.**

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**THIS RELATIONSHIP STANDS AS AN EXCELLENT  
ROLE MODEL FOR ALL UMKC STUDENTS WHEN  
THEY GRADUATE INTO THE REAL WORLD.**

**ANOTHER TYPE OF ROLE MODELING IS SERVICE  
BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THAT UMKC HAS  
PLEDGED TO SERVE. ONE EXAMPLE WOULD BE DR.  
MICHAEL MCCUNIFF AND DR. HARVEY EPLEE, WHO  
ARE HELPING TO IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH  
PROGRAMS IN RURAL MISSOURI.**

**IT IS MY HOPE THAT YOUR PASSION FOR THE  
SCHOOL'S FUTURE ALSO EXTENDS TO THE  
UNIVERSITY'S FUTURE.**

**ACTUALLY, I KNOW THIS IS ALREADY TRUE. THERE  
ARE A LOT OF EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING AT  
UMKC. I'M PLEASED TO TELL YOU ABOUT SOME OF  
THEM NOW.**

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**AN IMPORTANT BIT OF NEWS IS THAT MISSOURI GOVERNOR CARNAHAN HAS RECOMMENDED MORE THAN \$94 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN MISSOURI. THE 7.2 PERCENT INCREASE IS THE LARGEST SINCE 1986.**

**AT UMKC, THE LONG-AWAITED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BUILDING IS WELL INTO THE DEVELOPMENT STAGE. WHEN BUILT, IT WILL BE A MAJOR BOON TO EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH EFFORTS AT UMKC.**

**A BIT OF SAD NEWS. LAST FALL, ROBERT FLARSHEIM, A LONG-TIME FRIEND OF UMKC AND MY NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR FOR MANY YEARS — PASSED AWAY. HE THOUGHTFULLY HONORED UMKC WITH A GIFT OF MORE THAN \$8.7 MILLION, TO BE USED FOR ENHANCING UMKC.**

**NOT ALL BENEFACTORS OF UMKC MAKE THIS KIND OF ONE-TIME IMPACT, BUT EVERY GIFT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE. LAST YEAR 13,500 PEOPLE GAVE MORE THAN 21,000 GIFTS OF VARIOUS AMOUNTS TO UMKC.**

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**OUR ENDOWED CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS  
PROGRAM CONTINUES TO THRIVE.**

**AS WE NEAR THE HALFWAY MARK TO OUR GOAL  
OF 30 BY THE YEAR 2000, I CAN TELL YOU THAT A  
GLIMPSE INTO THE HORIZON REVEALS AS MANY AS  
FIVE NEW CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS OVER THE  
NEXT YEAR OR SO. MANY OF THESE, LIKE MANY OF  
OUR PREVIOUS ONES, WILL QUALIFY FOR THE  
MISSOURI MATCH PROGRAM.**

**A RECENT ACCOUNTING BY OUR ADVANCEMENT  
DIVISION NOTES THAT THE CURRENT VALUE OF  
ALL ENDOWMENTS AT UMKC IS ABOUT \$80  
MILLION. THIS IS ESSENTIAL IN ENSURING UMKC  
CAN COMPETE FAVORABLY FOR THE NATION'S TOP  
SCHOLAR-TEACHERS.**

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**BY APRIL, UMKC WILL HAVE COMPLETED A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN OF A SCOPE THAT INCLUDED UMKC'S ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP, FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CITY TRUSTEES...17 PLANNING TEAMS IN ALL.**

**THE RESULT WILL BE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS THAT WILL ADVANCE UMKC'S LONG-RANGE VISION. OUR MISSION STATEMENT IS TO BECOME "A PREMIER URBAN UNIVERSITY."**

**IN APRIL, I WILL PRESENT A TOP-TO-BOTTOM STRATEGIC PLAN FOR UMKC TO THE BOARD OF CURATORS.**

**A GLIMPSE INTO THIS VISION SHOWS THAT THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY IS A MAJOR PLAYER IN HELPING US FULFILL THE PROMISE OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT.**

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**LET ME GIVE YOU SOME EXAMPLES. UMKC'S  
INTERDISCIPLINARY PH.D. PROGRAM WILL  
RECEIVE FUNDING THAT WILL MOVE UMKC TO  
CARNEGIE FOUNDATION RESEARCH II  
STATUS...MARKING UMKC AS ONE OF THE ELITE  
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN AMERICA.**

**THE PLAN INCLUDES A STRATEGY FOR ENHANCING  
THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY'S ORAL BIOLOGY  
FACULTY AND EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING FOR  
THE MASTER'S AND INTERDISCIPLINARY PH.D. THE  
GOAL IS TO PLACE THE DENTAL SCHOOL AMONG  
THE TOP FIVE OF THE NATION'S 54 DENTAL  
SCHOOLS BY THE YEAR 2002.**

**ANOTHER INITIATIVE OF THE PLAN IS TO DEVELOP  
EMPHASES THAT PLACE UMKC IN A LEADERSHIP  
ROLE IN EMERGING FIELDS.**

**THESE IMPROVEMENTS AND ENHANCEMENTS WILL  
TOUCH COMPUTER SCIENCE, LAW, THE COLLEGE  
OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
AND THE CONSERVATORY.**



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**AND WHAT IS YOUR PART IN THIS PLAN? STAY INVOLVED. KEEP IN TOUCH. ASK QUESTIONS. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE UMKC THE KIND OF UNIVERSITY YOU AND I KNOW IT CAN BE — AND MUST BE IN THE NEW ERA AHEAD OF US.**

**AT THE BEGINNING I ASSURED YOU THAT I DIDN'T BRING ANY OF KANSAS CITY'S SUB-FREEZING WEATHER WITH ME .... BUT WOULD YOU MIND TERRIBLY IF I TOOK A LITTLE OF YOUR WEATHER BACK WITH ME?**

**THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO BRING THIS 'SNAPSHOT' OF UMKC TO YOU. CONGRATULATIONS, EVERYONE, ON A FANTASTIC EVENT.**