EDUCOM Panel Introduction

Introductions

Welcome once again to all of you as

EDUCOM participants

And a particular welcome to my fellow panelists

here on the stage with me...

Joe Wyatt, Chancellor of Vanderbilt University

...and a fellow hacker from way back

Jim Powell, President of Reed College

...and a fellow member of the National Science Board

and Lionel Baldwin, founder and President of

the National Techological University

...and a fellow has-been Engineering Dean!

Role of Universities

We are here this morning to talk a bit about the

growing dependence of our nation's colleges and universities on information technology...

...and to speculate a bit about the future.

It is interesting that our panel spans the full range

of higher education...

- ...both public and private education
- ...from small liberal arts colleges to large research universities
- ...from comprehensive universities--indeed, multiversities to specialized institutions

And yet we are all drawn together by our

growing dependence on this extraordinary technology...

...and how it affects our triad mission of teaching, research, and service.

Indeed, on our campuses today we are in a very

real sense simultaneously developing and

implementing this technology as we go... ...which, I suppose is appropriate, for our institutions are the prime examples of the knowledge-based organizations which will characterize our nation and the world in the 21th Century.

Panel Discussion

We have challenged each of the panel members to

speculate a bit about the future of higher education...

...and the role that information technology can play--indeed, perhaps must play--in this future.

Let us begin by asking...

to offer his observations: