

Faculty Awards

This evening is a time to honor those among our

faculty who have achieved true distinction in teaching, research, and service.

It is a time of congratulations on a job well done...

and a time to take great pride in your accomplishments.

While the role of a faculty member at a leading institution

is probably among the most sought after and respected in our society, it is also far from easy...

The need to balance an array of complex roles

...teaching...whether at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional level

...scholarship

...and the associated grantsmanship in many fields

...public service

...both to the University and society at large

...administrative responsibilities

...citizens of the University community

...and, of course, those personal responsibilities to our families and our broader communities.

Further, unlike many other roles in our society,

a faculty member has to be self-driven.

It is our responsibility each day to determine what

is necessary to meet our responsibilities to our students and our scholarship

...to achieve excellence.

This is no small task, particularly when the demands on our time are so intense.

Hence, at this dinner I would like to stress a second

important theme beyond congratulation

...a theme of deep gratitude on behalf of the University

Thank You #1

Some universal theorems for the University:

1. The distinction of the University is

determined by the achievements of its faculty.

2. The key to the achievement of excellence is to attract the best people to the institution... give them the resources, the encouragement... to push to the limits of their abilities... and then get the hell out of their way...

Well, we must be doing something right, since your achievements have been truly spectacular!
And I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the University for your efforts and achievements.

A toast to those we honor this evening...

Thank You #2

The University is a meritocracy...
We place enormous stress on the achievements of our faculty in teaching, research, and service...
Yet, we must never forget that few of us can achieve excellence alone...

Red Dare:

"If you're driving down the road, and you see a turtle on a fence post... then you can be sure that bugger had to have some help to get up there..."

Hence, I would like to thank all of those who provided the help, support, and encouragement to make your achievements possible...as spouses, families, friends... parents and mentors.

I have no doubt that your efforts and sacrifices were equal to those we honor this evening... and you deserve both our deep gratitude and congratulations as well.

And hence a second toast to those who really made
this evening possible.