

Flower Show Opening (4/10/91)

Format: Liz Brater introduces JJD & JJD introduces the Governor

**Thanks to Mayor Brater and, Liz,
let me just extend my personal congratulations
and best wishes as you begin
what I am confident will be a very productive tenure as Mayor.
We look forward to working with you.**

**We are delighted to welcome Governor and Mrs. Engler
who are here to help celebrate this splendid
1991 Ann Arbor Flower and Garden Show,
an event that has been the pride and joy of our city for many years.
It is just one example of the beauty and community spirit
that makes this such a great place to live and work.**

**Governor, we appreciate your visit to us
especially since we know that you have taken up your new responsibilities
at one of the most painful and difficult periods in Michigan history
and we know this has added greatly to the burdens of your office.**

Michigan is at a crossroads.

**We are experiencing a
profound transformation of our economy and our society
as we move from an industrial economy to a new knowledge-based
and intensely competitive world economy.**

**This hasn't been and won't be an easy transition to make.
The impact of change is painfully apparent to Michigan workers,
industries,
communities, universities and schools-----in every sector of life.**

The choices ahead of us are hard ones.

**We will all have to make sacrifices---personally and institutionally.
to provide for our children what our parents have given to us.**

**As a compassionate people we must address the most pressing
needs of our people today, especially the most vulnerable of them.**

**But we also have to balance these needs with investment in our future---
our children---
because if we don't invest in cures, the symptoms will, in time, be fatal.**

I believe these changes mean that education -

-the development of our people must be our highest priority

We must provide the children and youth of Michigan

with the best education available anywhere in the world.

if we are to meet the challenges of the future.

We at the University welcome your pledge to do that.

and in turn pledge to help achieve this goal.

Here at the UM we are prepared to do our part

by cutting costs, paring down and eliminating every unnecessary function or expenditure

while at the same time improving the education and service we provide for Michigan citizens.

This won't be easy.

But we all must be willing to do our share

and to work together for the future good of our state.

Governor Engler has taken up leadership at a critical moment.

I know we all wish him well

and I hope we will all work together with him

and other state and community leaders

for the future of the people of Michigan.

Now it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you our new Governor, John Engler, and Michigan's wonderful new First Lady, Michele Engler.