Los Angeles Dinner (9/22/89)

Introduction

Almost exactly 25 years ago, in
- September, 1964, Anne and I first
- arrived in southern California
- on a day very much like this one
- ...hot and smoggy.

Hence, to paraphrase President Kennedy,
- “Ich bin ein Sudlander!!!”

Hence this trip out west brings back
- lots of memories...

Deja Vu

But, of course, there are other more
- recent memories...

In the words of Casey Stengel,
- “It seems like deja vu all over ago.”

Here we are back in southern California
- ...preparing to play UCLA in the Rose Bowl
- ...gathering together the western clans of
  - the Michigan family

Except it is September, not New Years!
- And it is HOT!!!

Indeed, the scheduling quirks caused by
- ...the last Rose Bowl in January 2
- ...tomorrow’s game with UCLA in the Rose Bowl
+ have given Michigan the rare opportunity to
  - be the first Big Ten team to ever ein
  - three games in the Rose Bowl in one
    - year (365 days, at least)
+ ...all we have to do is win the Big Ten and
  - come back and win the 1990 Rose Bowl
    - on January 1st!

Traditional Images of Michigan

Of course, what pulls us together this
- evening is not Bo and the boys...
- but rather our pride in and loyalty to
  - a great university, the University of Michigan!

But just what is this institution,
- this force that has had such an impact on our lives?

When we hear the word “Michigan”,
- we think of those traditional images of any college...
  - • great faculty challenging students in the classroom
  - • students toiling away in the library
  - • scientists in their labs, scholars pouring over their books,...

Special Images of Michigan

Ann Arbor on a Saturday afternoon in the fall...
- Leroy Hoard’s breakaway run
- Rumeal Robinson in Seattle

Michigan of the Big Chill
- SDS--Tom Hayden, teachins

Michigan of the Arts
- Jesse Norman, Kurt Mazur, Leonard Bernstein

Caring Michigan
- 750,000 patients

Silicon Valley East
- R&D Capital

The Michigan family...
- Camp Michigania

“Uncommon education for the common man”

What is Michigan?
- The prototype, the flagship, of the large,
With a serious commitment to quality
- ranked among the top 10 in virtually everything
- it does (not just football and basketball)
+ Unusual breadth and rich diversity
- liberal spirit, progressive vision
+ Extraordinary array of extracurricular activities
- performing arts
- intercollegiate athletics
+ Well-balanced portfolio
  + 1990 is cross-over year:
    - Tuition revenue > state support ("private public")
    - Federal R&D > state support ("national state")
+ The embodiment of the hopes and dreams,
  - commitment and stewardship of eight generations
  - of Michigan alumni!
+ But that is the University of Michigan of
  - yesterday and today.
- What about tomorrow?

Challenges before America
+ The themes of the 21st Century
  - pluralism, equal opportunity, equity and justice
  - globalization, world nation
  - age of knowledge
+ Key strategic resource: knowledge
  - educated people and ideas
- Key institutions: research universities
+ Just think of the challenges which cry out for attention
- the plight of our cities,
- the development of an underclass
- polarization of American society
- greenhouse effect and global change
- international competition
- Pacific Rim or Europe 1992
- health care: cancer, heart disease, AIDS
- new frontiers: outer space
- or spaceship Earth
+ But the greatest need of all is for leadership
  - and this is the University of Michigan's
  - great contribution to America...
  -...through its teaching, research, and service
  -...through its graduates and their achievements
+ Indeed, leadership is both
  - our heritage
  - and our destiny!

Leadership
+ Let me give you some examples of how
  - we are trying to achieve leadership today:
  + Of course, Michigan Wolverines
    - (Rose Bowl and NCAA)
  + Research and scholarship
    - (cystic fibrosis)
  + Academic programs
    + Humanities
      - Humanities Institute
    + Social Sciences
      - ISR
      - Education
      - Social Work
+ Professional Schools
  - Law
  - Business
  - Engineering
  - Health Sciences
  - Performing arts

+ But what about our response to the themes of change:
  - ...pluralism
  - ...globalization
  - ...knowledge?

+ 1) The Michigan Mandate
  + Making UM the model of a multicultural community by learning to link diversity with unity

+ 2) International Activities
  - Current strengths in Asia and Europe
  - Commitment to Latin America and Africa
  - (oh, yes....even Washington)

+ 3) “The Electronic University”
  + > 30,000 computers
    - (Mac, IBM, Apollo, Sun,...)
  - Manager of NSFnet
  - EDUCOM

+ But we have an even more ambitious mission of leadership:

+ To re-invent the university for the 21st Century
  + ...the forces of change will imply that the university must change
  - ...some university must step forward
  - ...why not Michigan?
  + ...after all, we did it before,
    - as American expanded to the frontier...
    - as it evolved through the industrial revolution...
    - as it absorbed wave after wave of immigrants

+ Let’s do it again, as America evolves
  - into a highly pluralistic, knowledge-intense world nation of the 21st Century!

+ Role of Alumni
  - And, of course, this is where you come in!

+ For a university achieves leadership...greatness...
  - ...through its people...
  - ...through their talents and abilities,
  - ...through their involvement and commitment.

+ The Michigan family extends far beyond those
  - on our campus for the moment, our students, faculty, and staff

+ It includes that army of maize and blue,
  - our 340,000 alumni, one of every thousand Americans!

+ Indeed, you have been...
  - ...and will continue to be even more...
  + ...the most critical factor in achieving and sustaining the greatness of your University.

+ And, of course, those of us presently serving
  - as leaders of the University are out in California
  - (“Michigan West”) this weekend
  - not to attend a football game...

+ But rather to trumpet “a call to arms”
  - ...to activate and energize our California alumni and friends....

+ A Call to Arms
  + We are seeking not just your financial support...
...but something far more important
- • your commitment
- • your involvement
- • and, most of all, your loyalty
- to the University of Michigan.

Quite frankly, we’re here seeking your help!

1) Your financial support
   + which provides the critical margin of excellence
   - for our programs
   + and which provides the financial aid through
   - which we can provide students from
   - less fortunate backgrounds with the
   - same opportunity for a Michigan education
   - that you enjoyed in years past

2) Your influence
   - Michigan produces leaders...
   - and many of you are in positions of influence
   - in the public or private sector and capable of
   - helping your university

3) Your help in telling the Michigan story to the nation
   - We are among the most visible universities in America
   - (CBS Morning News, Steve Fisher, activism)
   - ...let your Michigan pride show a bit!

4) Help us make new friends and enlist new supporters!

5) And most of all, become involved...
   + ...providing to our students a sense of the
   - potential of a Michigan education
   + ...providing to our faculty and staff
   - encouragement and support

In a very real sense, you as alumni and friends
- play the key role in passing the torch...
- in passing from one generation to the next
- the Michigan traditions of excellence and leadership.

Concluding Remarks
- You know, Michigan is really a very special place....
- It is one of only a handful of universities capable
  - of truly changing not only higher education,
  - but the nation and the world.
- We believe the challenge of re-inventing
  - the American university for the 21st Century
  + ...is not only an exciting and
  - challenging mission for the 1990s
  + ...but it is also a mission befitting
  - UM’s long heritage of leadership
  + ...and it is also a challenge worthy of
  - the army of maize and blue alumni
  - across the nation and around the world

Indeed, I’d be very surprised if you
- settled for anything less from your university!

The 1990s will be a time of great challenge
- opportunity, and responsibility for your university.
- But they will also be years of great excitement.

We urge you to join with us
- in this great adventure in which
- the University of Michigan prepares
- to become the University of the 21st Century!