

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “1976/02/27 - University of Miami Founders Day Banquet, Miami, Florida” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Final Draft

University of Miami Founders Day Banquet, February 27, 1976

Thank you for inviting me to share this special evening with you. I'm honored to be one of the few people from outside the academic community to speak to this annual event.

I feel very at home, because I know we share a common concern--the education of a new generation of Americans.

I marvel at the young people of this country, and I have great faith in their abilities. I believe as parents, educators, and citizens, our generation has a responsibility to provide an education that will serve these young people long after we are gone.

I've seen with my own children how important a variety of educational institutions are. Our dual system of private and public education provides this diversity and it is important to keep the balance private universities offer.

Private universities help keep alive specialized disciplines. One of these special areas, theology, is of particular interest to our oldest son, Mike. But there are many other unusual and important areas where private universities have been very prominent.



The special program at the University of Miami in marine and atmospheric sciences is an excellent example of how private

universities promote exploration into unique specializations. Often these explorations prepare the way for wider interest and concern.

One of my personal interests is how education, both private and public, keeps alive academic and artistic traditions that enrich our cultural lives. Education, as this university shows, is more than scientific and legal knowledge. It also includes inquiries into many topics from the origin of our universe to the reasons for human behavior.

Your financial support of the University of Miami shows your interest in the future, because only through education of the next generation can we hope to keep our Nation strong and make the world a more liveable place for others.

Your generosity makes academic programs and buildings possible, but, equally important, you help make the riches of this academic community accessible to students from many social and economic backgrounds.

We cannot imagine what knowledge our children will need tomorrow, but today we can give them the opportunity to learn and the freedom to explore new ideas.

I join you in believing we can best give them the intellectual tools to respond to their world through private and public education.

Mrs. Ford:
Univ. of Miami Founders Dinner
February 27, 1976

Thank you for inviting me to share this special evening. I feel very much at home, because I know you care about learning and about people.

Last week, I reminisced with members of The National Parent Teachers Association about my experiences in sending four children through twelve years of school.

As I told them, my husband and I believe you don't just send children off to school, you try to share their world and their experiences.

As we watched each one of them go off to the first grade, we knew what their world would be like....ABC's and learning to count. But each year, their worlds expanded with new friends, new interests, and new challenges.

As we've watched them in college, we've been even more fascinated at the worlds they are building for themselves.

Colleges are very special places for learning . . . not just about ideas . . . but about people. It's possible to go to a library and read about ideas, but what makes the college experience special is the people.

I'm sure you remember as I do, a very special teacher who turned a required course into a lifetime enthusiasm. I'm sure you remember, too, the friends you made and the you had.

By setting aside a time and a place for learning, we give our children more than the opportunity to prepare for a job. We give them breathing space to explore new ideas and meet new people.

Because we are a people of many interests in a nation with many needs, the diversity provided by our system of private and public universities and colleges is very important. We've seen in our own family how private and public education meets the different needs and interests of our four children.

Private colleges help keep alive special traditions like Theology, which our son Mike is now studying. Some offer a smaller, more personal experience which our daughter Susan enjoys at her college.

But whether private or public, our institutions of higher education are more than books and buildings . . . they are people working and learning together.

In many ways, we cannot prepare our children for the future, even through education. But we can help them to use their minds, to be open to new ideas and to understand people from different backgrounds.

Your financial support of The University of Miami shows you understand the importance of giving our young people a learning place . . . because only by helping open their hearts and minds can we hope to keep our nation strong and make the world more livable.

Thank you.

University of Miami Founders Day Banquet, February 27, 1976

Our dual system of private and public education has long served our Nation well, and, today, we continue to need the balance provided by private universities such as the University of Miami.

Private universities help keep alive specialized disciplines and foster new ~~XXXX~~ academic concerns. The special program here in marine and atmospheric sciences is an excellent example of how private universities explore ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ unusual ^{and important} areas. Often ~~by~~ these explorations prepare the way for greater public interest and concern.

Our family has attended a variety of private and public schools and universities. Our oldest son, Mike, attended Wake Forest University. My husband graduated from a public university and a private university law school. We think this dual system is important and that both types of education complement each other.

I applaud your financial commitment to the University of Miami. Your generosity not only funds programs and buildings, but also helps ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ with scholarships. The accessibility of private education to students from many social and economic backgrounds is very important to the University as well

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~~XXXXXXXX~~

as to our country. The stability and strength of our democratic process truly depends upon the quality of ~~the~~ education.

Because of your gifts, this University has the economic freedom to grow academically. Your investment will long survive this time and place, because you are investing in ~~a~~ medical, legal, social and many other types of knowledge. Many ~~ix~~ lives beyond those of students at the University of Miami will be enriched and enlarged, because of your concern about education.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

I marvel at the young~~e~~ people of this country, and I have great faith in their abilities. We as parents, educators and citizens have a responsibility to give these young people the ~~opportunity~~ opportunity to learn and the freedom to use their knowledge. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ I join you in believing

we can best meet that ~~responsibility~~ responsibility through *both private*
and public
education.

Draft

University of Miami Founders Day Banquet, February 27, 1976

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Draft Dictated by phone Feb 27th

University of Miami Founders Day Banquet

Thank you for inviting me to share this special evening. I feel very much at home, ~~here~~ because I know you care about learning and about people.

Last week, I reminisced with members of the National Parent Teachers Association about my experiences in sending four children through 12 years of school.

As I told them, my husband and I believed you don't just send children off to school, you ~~should~~ ^{should} try to share their world and their ~~new~~ ^{new} experiences.

As we watched each one of them go off to the first grade, we knew what ~~they~~ ^{they} their new world would be like---ABCS ~~and~~ learning to count. But each year, their worlds expanded with new friends, ~~and~~ ^{and} new interests and new challenges.

As we ^{re} watched them in college, we've been even more ~~excited~~ ^{fascinated} at ~~what~~ ^{building} the worlds they are ~~finding~~ ^{finding} for themselves.

~~Universities~~ ^{Colleges} are very special places for learning---not just about ~~books and~~ ^{ideas} ideas---but about people. It's possible to go to ~~any~~ ^{read about} a library and explore ideas, but what makes ~~the~~ the college experience special is the people. ~~One professor~~ ^{subject} through ~~his~~ ^{subject} love for his speciality can really open up new doors for his students. ~~The~~

I'm sure you remember as I do a very special teacher,
who ~~made~~ turned a required course into a lifetime ~~interest.~~ ^{enthusiasm}

I'm sure you ~~know~~ also remember the friends ~~and~~ you made
during your college years ~~and the ~~opportunities~~ of fun -~~

^{By} ~~But~~ setting aside a time and a place for learning,
~~we give~~ ^{we} give our children ^{time} more than ~~the opportunity to ~~XXXXXX~~~~
~~XXXX~~ ^{give} prepare for a job we give them breathing space to
explore new ideas and meet new people.

learning,
And these places of ~~XXXXXX~~ our Nation's colleges ^(nr)
and universities, are ~~really~~ places for exploration both
academic and personal.

Because we are a ~~diverse~~ people of many interests and
a Nation with many ~~XXXX~~ needs, the diversity provided by
our system of private and public universities is ^{very} important.

~~Through your financial ~~and~~ support of the University~~
dual
~~of Miami, you contribute to keeping this system alive. ~~A ~~XXXX~~~~~~

We've seen in our own family how private and public colleges ^{edu center}
meets the different ^{and interest} needs of our four children.

~~Your support to this one place of learning does more~~
~~than help provide needed books and buildings, you ~~XXXXXX~~~~
keep

~~XX~~

~~the~~ colleges

Private ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ help keep alive special traditions

like theology, which ~~is the special interest~~ of our son, Mike, ^{is}
~~new studying.~~

~~They~~ Some offer a smaller, more personal atmosphere
which our daughter Susan enjoys at Mount Vernon College

But whether private ~~or~~ or public, our institutions of
higher education

are more than books and buildings---they are

peopz people working and learning together.

In many ways, we cannot ~~even~~ prepare ^{for} children for the
future even through education, but we can ~~teach~~ ^{help} them to use their
minds, ~~are~~ ^{to know} to be open to new ideas and ~~interested in~~ people from
different backgrounds. ~~For~~

Your financial support of the University of Miami shows
you understand the ~~important~~ importance of giving our young people
a learning place---~~the~~ because only by helping open their minds
and hearts can we hope to keep our Nation strong and make the
world ~~more~~ more liveable ~~for others~~.

thank you

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33124

*To Leo Cowley
Larry Estrine*

Henry Stanford 305-284-5155

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
P. O. BOX 248073
EA CODE 305 / 284-3114

January 19, 1976

*- Richardson
- Simon*

*Pres interview agreed - now
is your mark:*

*- Lynn Clark
- Tallahassee Nelson
904 + 224-5000*

Mr. William Nicholson
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

This is to confirm our telephone conversations today regarding the University of Miami's invitation to President Ford to be the guest of honor and speaker for our annual Society of University Founders Banquet on Friday evening, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. This annual affair is one of the major social events of the South Florida area and brings together the business, professional, social, and philanthropic leaders in this part of the country.

I have enclosed a copy of the "program" for last year's banquet and also a booklet on the Society. This booklet describes this organization and lists the persons, corporations and foundations which, as of a year ago, had made a contribution of \$50,000 or more to the University of Miami. In addition, I am enclosing a directory of the Board of Trustees of the University of Miami which may be of interest to you.

Our Founders Banquet will be held again this year in the main ballroom of the Hotel Fontainebleau on Miami Beach. We anticipate approximately 1,000 carefully selected guests in attendance. Dress will be black tie. Our Board of Trustees and President are hosts for this invitational event. This is the first time in the history of the Founders Banquet that a speaker outside the University family has been asked to provide the keynote address.

Naturally, we will expect to comply and assist you and the President's staff with any and all requirements for this proposed Presidential visit. Should a formal invitation to President Ford be desirable for the record, please let me know and I know that Dr. Henry King Stanford, President of the University of Miami, will send it on to The White House immediately.

We believe the President will enjoy speaking to this audience. As you know, the timing is excellent and we are certain as always the news media will give excellent coverage to this event.

We look forward to hearing from you towards the end of this week.

My best regards to you.

Cordially,

Lynn B. Clarke
Lynn B. Clarke





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We had initially suggested that the President appear at the Founder's Day Banquet held by the University of Miami at the Fontainebleau Hotel, however, this event is scheduled for March 6 and cannot be changed. The Fontainebleau is booked the prior week for a United Jewish Appeal Banquet and much of the University's support does come from this group. Therefore, they are very reluctant to move it out of the Fontainebleau and compete with this particular banquet. Generally, at the Founder's Day Banquet, there are approximately 1,000 supporters of the University in attendance with those people having pledged \$50,000 or more to the University over a five year period, receiving special recognition and plaques. It is a popular evening and always well attended by local wealthy contributors with a sizeable portion should be Republican or at least Presidential supporters. We can expand the group to include others, which we feel should be at the event. If it is possible, to move the President's trip up one week to March 6, I would certainly recommend this occasion. However, it might be pushing it too close to the primary itself.