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As we begin the fall term I wish it were possible for everyone at Grand Valley to become acquainted with everyone else. For me, knowing people and sharing ideas is a rich human experience. Though it is impossible to know everyone, I hope all of you will find relationships here that will help you develop trust in others and in yourself. I hope you find stimulating study that gives you insight into the nature of life and consequently into yourself.

We are striving here to have an institution where the quality of instruction is high. The faculty is providing more than one educational track so that students with different inclinations can educate themselves according to their own liking. We want a degree of variety and continuing high quality in the GVSC program. Reactions of students, faculty, and administrators can help us all determine how successful we are at achieving these goals and what we should do to be more effective.

Often the maze of organization, or sometimes the lack of organization, is confusing to a student, particularly when he wants to make a point or affect a decision concerning college life. If you ever find yourself in that position, I urge you to seek out some faculty member or administrator that you know to ascertain how you can responsibly make your view known. The President of the student body, Jack Baker, can be of help to you. Vice President for Student Affairs Kenneth Venderbush can also be of help to you, and I am always willing to listen to you. It is most important for individuals and groups on the campus to be in communication with one another in an effort to bring about mutual understanding.

In the excitement and sometimes chaos that exist on many campuses today, the formal course of instruction is often relegated a minor share of time in the student's consciousness. Though most of us would grant that curriculum revision should always be a possibility and more effective ways to teach constantly urged, there is merit for students and faculty members alike to focus their energies and intelligence on the subjects in the curriculum that they are currently studying. This does not preclude a continuing but complementary effort to bring about reform in the curriculum or the way...
that curriculum is formed. In a day when nearly everyone is on a "relevancy kick," this may be as relevant as any approach to one's personal growth.

My best wishes to all of you for a good year.

Arend D. Lubbers, President