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Introduction of Scholars, delivered at Convocation on September 1, 1987

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INTRODUCTION OF SCHOLARS - CONVOCATION - SEPTEMBER 1, 1987

Time like an ever rolling stream bears all its academic sons and daughters to the college campus in the first week of September. There is a convergence every year at this time, and in the flow there are always some new people. At this convocation we introduce the best and brightest of the new students. To our new scholars we bid you welcome, and say to you and your families we are proud that you have selected us just as we have selected you to be our scholarship winners. Before I ask you to stand to be recognized, I want to mention a person who is not with us, who loved this college, who worked for it positively and continually, Robert Kleiner, a member of our Board who died in June, suddenly after addressing a group of people who were honoring him. Bob liked participating in events such as this, and we appreciated his interest and attention. The stream has carried him away from us, but our memories are long and appreciative.

But today it is our purpose to bring in the new, those who are alive to the possibilities that a new educational experience holds, our Presidential Scholars, the Paul I. Phillips Scholars, and the Valedictorian Scholars.
INTRODUCTION FOR PATRICK CATALDO - CONVOCATION - SEPTEMBER 1, 1987

For years we have heard that American industry has within its boundaries an educational establishment that enrolls more students than all of America's accredited colleges and universities. At Grand Valley we are active in international programs and throughout the country universities here have formed relationships with universities throughout the world, yet the most internationalized university appears to be unsophisticated when compared with the international educational activities of many major American companies. There is an educational world in industry that parallels our own, in many ways is doing the job universities claim for themselves. It is a world we know little about. There may be advantages to knowing more about it.

Our speaker today is just as much an educator as we are, and comes to us from the industrial world. Patrick A. Cataldo is Vice President of Educational Services of Digital Equipment Co. and is responsible for the design, development, delivery, and measurement of training programs for Digital employees and customers. His organization has over 3,200 employees worldwide, 100 training locations, and educates over 150,000 students per year. You might say he is President of the largest university in the United States.

He wants to keep in contact with the higher education community. Recently he was a guest for several days on the campus of Indiana State University, and before addressing this convocation, he addressed the faculty of the Seidman School of Business where he will return later this fall as a lecturer and business executive in residents. He is presently planning a new campus for Digital Education that will have 600,000 square feet of enclosed space and cost 70 million dollars.

Those of us who have visited with Pat in the last few days are caught up by his enthusiasm, an enthusiasm that is infused with intelligence and energy. He has the credentials from our world, an undergraduate degree from St. Francis College in Pennsylvania, and an MBA from Boston College. He is one of the nation's foremost educators in the world of industry. I am pleased to introduce to you Patrick A. Cataldo, Jr.