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## Remarks, delivered at the Foundation Luncheon on June 1, 1989

Arend D. Lubbers  
*Grand Valley State University*

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FOUNDATION LUNCHEON \_ June 1, 1989 - 12:00 noon

Si queris, peninsulae amoenam, **circumspice!** If you seek a brighter peninsula, look around you! Our Michigan motto has never been more appropriate than it is today for west Michigan. Look about you and you see a flourishing economy, a land of beautiful homes, and a quality of life to match their beauty. You see towns and cities aware of the rapid rate of social and economic change that envelops them, and they are in a renaissance, not decline. And as you look more closely you understand why this is happening. In the Old Testament **Proverbs** the sage **wrote**, "Where there is no vision the people perish." In west Michigan and Grand Rapids, for several generations, including our own, there has been and is vision. And beyond vision there has been commitment. Buildings rise out of the ground, entrepreneurs are encouraged, schools are a preoccupation, colleges and our university are supported as they strive to enhance and perpetuate the quality of life. West Michigan's most important natural resource is leadership. The past quarter of a century we have mined a particularly rich vein, and a most striking and successful group of leaders have led our economic, political, social

and cultural development. Thirteen years ago Grand Valley State University began to recognize the leaders of the west Michigan renaissance at the biannual celebration of the Grand Valley University Foundation, the Enrichment Fund Dinner. Other institutions and organizations have followed the example, one of the most recent such events, the impressive Junior Achievement Recognition Banquet.

Today the Development Committee of the University Foundation is initiating a new leadership award. Aware of the high quality of leadership in west Michigan and its important role in providing the citizens of our region with a high quality of life, the committee wants to focus the spotlight toward the future. To keep us moving in the right direction, a new generation of leaders must and is emerging. This new award will recognize young people who have excelled in contributing to the improvement of life in west Michigan, and who we expect will continue to be leaders in the coming years.

For Grand Valley State University the leadership of the region is as important as that of the University itself. As our society becomes

more complex, demands more highly developed minds and skills from a larger proportion of the citizenry, the University and the society come closer together and more interdependent. No region like ours can have the quality of life to which it aspires without an indigenous University. The University cannot prosper unless the region is well led and prospers. The Grand Valley Foundation to which you belong is the organization that has the responsibility to see that the region and their University are linked together in ways that guarantee the University will do what it must for the success of the region.

I thank you today, in the name of all of ~~us~~ <sup>of us</sup> who work at the University, for your gifts of money and goods, for your time given to the activities of the University in planning and in making decisions. I cannot promise that you will ever be free of the bond that binds Grand Valley to you. I can see that the bond is not a burden, but a delight and a partial fulfillment of your desire to see the place where you live come to full flower.

The person who plants so many of those seeds that grow and flourish, the person with the right and left hand, and the right and left brain

on whom we depend for so much, will be the next to address you,  
Joyce Hecht.

As the passing years make the present history, I believe you will come to appreciate even more the fact that you are the first, the pioneer recipients of the Young Leaders Award. Your portraits will hang on permanent display in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, the first among many. Your name will be carried by a student scholar at Grand Valley State University so long as there is a University. We intend to set aside a portion of the funds raised this year to endow a scholarship in each of your names. This will demonstrate how serious we are about encouraging young leaders now and in the future, and it will further demonstrate our high regard for both of you.

Richard DeVos is important to many people for many reasons. To me he is important as a friend, second as permanent chairman of our GVSU Foundation Enrichment Fund celebration, and third as an unusually effective Board of Control member of the University during a difficult period. He has long been active in Republican politics, and from the beginning supported George Bush for President. Because of these activities and his association with our speaker, we have invited him to introduce Mr. Teeter.

Order of Progression  
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**Acceptance Remarks: Fred Keller (1:00)**

Presentation of Award to Kate Pew Wolters.  
Wolters remains in place; Lubbers and Clark  
remain at podium.

**Remarks: Arend Lubbers (2:30)**

At conclusion of remarks, McLogan unveils  
portrait #2 while the replica is presented  
to Wolters by Clark.

**Acceptance Remarks: Kate Pew Wolters (1:00)**

**Announcement of Scholarships: Lubbers (1:30)**

At conclusion of scholarship announcement, Lubbers,  
DeVos and Teeter remain on platform. All other  
platform party members return to the floor while  
while Lubbers introduces Richard DeVos. (1:00)

12:56pm **Introduction of Speaker by Richard DeVos (2:30)**

At conclusion of introduction, DeVos and Lubbers  
return to the floor, leaving Teeter at the podium.

1:00pm **REMARKS: ROBERT TEETER (20:00)**

1:20pm **Q&A: Teeter (8:00)**

At 1:27pm McLogan joins Teeter at podium and  
indicates time for one last question & answer

1:28pm **Closing comments: McLogan (2:00)**

1:30pm **Adjournment**

GRAND VALLEY UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

All-Member Luncheon

Thursday, June 1, 1989

Order of Progression

- 11:30am Meet Robert Teeter at Concierge Desk (Bliss)
- 11:45am Assemble Platform Party in NE corner of Ambassador Ballroom: Johnson, Lubbers, Hecht, Clark, Keller, Wolters, DeVos, Teeter, McLogan
- Provide program assembly directions and answer any remaining questions from participants (McLogan/Hecht)
- 12:03pm Welcome and Invocation: Paul Johnson (3:00)
- 12:06pm Lunch is served; entree cleared (30:00)
- 12:36pm When clearing begins, platform party is escorted to stage (McLogan/Bliss) (2:00)
- Platform party ascends as follows: Lubbers, McLogan, Clark, Keller, (PODIUM) DeVos, Teeter, Hecht, Wolters. Chair positions will be marked.
- 12:38pm Remarks: Arend D. Lubbers (5:00)
- At conclusion of remarks, Lubbers introduces Joyce Hecht
- Remarks: Joyce Hecht (1:30)
- At conclusion of remarks, Hecht introduces Edward Clark.
- Announcement of Leadership Award: Edward Clark (1:00)
- Presentation of Award to Fred Keller. Keller and Lubbers are invited to podium by Clark.
- 12:46pm Remarks: Edward Clark (2:00)
- At conclusion of remarks, McLogan unveils portrait #1 while Lubbers presents replica to Keller.

I think it is appropriate that this honoring of Kate Pew Wolters should come within a few days of two major gifts to the community by the Steelcase Foundation. One was [\$10,000] to the Center for Women in Transition, based in Holland, and the other was [\$500,000] to the current Aquinas College capital campaign.

As Steelcase Foundation Executive Director since 1986, Kate has been a leading influence on the quality of life in our region. She directs a grant program that makes these kinds of gifts in human services, education, social welfare, the arts, and the environment. A sensitivity and understanding perhaps enriched by her own struggles and learning experiences, seems to have given her a special insight into programs and projects aimed at expanding opportunities for young people, and for the disabled, the elderly, and the disadvantaged.

Her sensitive expertise, and her willingness to serve, resulted in her appointment to the Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities -- a state planning group on which she has served since 1984. Prior to taking over leadership of the Steelcase Foundation, Kate was director of the Grand Rapids Center for Independent Living.

Kate's vocation as a leader in public service and philanthropic causes is echoed in her diverse avocations -- on the boards of Mary Free Bed Hospital and Rehabilitation Center and the Kent County AIDS Foundation, as well as on the boards of the Broadway Theatre Guild, the Grand Rapids Area Council on the Humanities, and the Grand Rapids Art Museum -- of whose Board she is President.

~~Like Fred~~, Kate illustrates a commitment to voluntarism in nourishing the quality of life in our region, and a personal integrity that elicits the respect -- and regard -- of us all.

Kate, I am honored to be able to give you the formal recognition you so richly deserve, as one of the first recipients of our Grand Valley Foundation Leadership Awards.

[Brief response from Kate Pew Wolters]

I thank you, today, in the name of all of us who work at the University for your gifts of money and goods, for your time given to <sup>the</sup> activities of <sup>the</sup> university in planning and in making decisions. I cannot promise that you will ever be free of the bond that binds Grand Valley to you, ~~but~~ I can see that the bond is not a burden, but a delight and a partial fulfillment of your desire to see the place where you live come to full flower.

The person who plants so many of those seeds that grow and flourish, the person with the right and left hand, and the right and left brain on whom we depend for so much will be the next to address you, Joyce Hecht.

Richard De Vos is important to many people for many reasons. To me he is most important as a friend, second, ~~a chairman~~ <sup>of the U.S. Foundation</sup> ~~of our~~ as permanent chairman of our Enrollment Fund ~~Donor~~ celebration, and third as <sup>of the Council</sup> an unusually effective Board of Control <sup>Member</sup> during ~~some~~ a difficult period. ~~Today he~~ ~~will introduce our speaker~~ He has long been active in Republican politics, and ~~early~~ from the beginning supported George Bush for President. Because of these activities <sup>his association with our speaker</sup> and ~~associations, too~~ and ~~as~~ we have invited him to introduce Mr. Teter.

As the <sup>passing</sup> years make the present history I believe you will come to appreciate even more the fact that you are the first, the pioneer recipients of the young leaders Award. Your portraits will hang on permanent display in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, the first among many. Your name will be carried by a student scholar at Grand Valley State University so long as there is a university. We intend to set aside a portion of the endowment funds raised this year to endow a scholarship in each of your names. This will demonstrate how serious we are about encouraging young leaders now and in the future, and it will further demonstrate our high regard for both of you.

learn what is needed and wanted  
from us, ~~It is one of the ways~~  
~~the Foundation~~ and the process of linking  
the university to the community moves  
forward.

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For Grand Valley State University the leadership of the region is as important as the that of the university itself. As our society becomes more complex, ~~the~~ demands more highly developed minds and skills from a larger proportion of the citizenry, the university and the society come closer together and more interdependent. No region like ours can have ~~the quality of life to which it aspires~~ <sup>the quality of life to which it aspires</sup> ~~move unless it is in the right direction~~ without <sup>an indigenous</sup> a university, in its midst. The university cannot prosper unless the region is well led and prospers. The Grand Valley Foundation to which you belong is the organization that has the responsibility to see that the region and their university are linked together in ways that ~~make the university guarantee that the uni-~~ university will do what it must for the ~~building~~ success of the region.

~~We~~ have just recently several Board members of the Foundation and Faculty and staff of the university entered into ~~disc~~ under the chairmanship of Glen Walters entered into discussions about the future of Grand Valley. Plans for the future will emerge from these discussions. ~~They will be~~ <sup>They will be</sup> ~~through~~ discussions like these we at the university ~~become~~

(3)

be leaders in the coming years. Their portraits will ~~be~~ hang on permanent display in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, and <sup>the earnings of a</sup> portion of the endowment funds raised this year will be used to ~~provide a~~ scholarship at Grand Valley State University in their honor. In perpetuity, there will be a Kate Lew Walters and Fred Keller scholar at our university.

~~to~~ be the awards

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Today, upon ~~action~~ of the Development Committee of the University Foundation, ~~a new award~~ is instituting a new leadership award. The ~~reason~~ aware of the high quality of leadership in west Michigan ~~the committee~~ and its important role in providing the citizens of our region with a high quality of life, the committee wants to ~~cast~~ <sup>focus</sup> the spot light towards the future. To keep us moving in the right direction a new generation of leaders must and is emerging. This new award will recognize young people who ~~have~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~made~~ <sup>have</sup> excelled in contributing to the improvement of life in west Michigan, and who we expect will continue to

(1)

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