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## Speech to the Krakow University of Economics, delivered on August 6, 2014

Arend D. Lubbers Grand Valley State University

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Krakow University of Economics Arend D. Lubbers, President Emeritus Grand Valley State University August 6, 2014

Forty years ago our two universities initiated a cooperation that has provided unique personal and academic experiences for hundreds of faculty and students. Lives have been changed positively; careers enhanced, for the partcipants. I clearly remember the day Rektor Fajferek and I signed the agreement between our two universities on Grand Valley's campus in Allendale, Michigan. We celebrated then, and we have had cause to celebrate many times since then.

Though the purpose of our exchange is to improve the scholarship and education of those who enter into it, friendships of long-standing develop, enriching life beyond academic achievement. Our collaboration on all levels is a model for university exchanges. We at Grand Valley appreciate what our friends at the University of Economics have done and continue to do to make our relationship so successful.