



Good morning.

I want to thank you for inviting me here today.

I am especially thankful because if you believed everything you read in the newspapers these days, you'd probably think that I don't care about the University of Minnesota.

Well, if you believe that you'd be wrong.

While I may have a different vision for its future than others, I am extremely proud of the University of Minnesota.

The University represents everything great about Minnesota. The U's competitiveness, its creative genius, its diversity, and its excellent academics are all huge assets to the State of Minnesota.

For this reason I am proud to present to you this proclamation.