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12-5-2008

## Fall Open House Welcome

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### WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Dunn, John M., "Fall Open House Welcome" (2008). *WMU President John Dunn*. 336.

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Fall Open House Welcome  
John M. Dunn  
Dec. 5, 2008

- Thank you all so much for being here this morning. Welcome students. And welcome student families.
- You're here because you want to know what Western Michigan University has to offer and whether it's the right fit for you. I can and will gladly give you a litany of all the reasons why you should carefully consider WMU and why you should listen closely and look carefully at what you'll hear and see today. As a matter of fact there's an admission staff stationed in the back of the room to tell me when to stop. I have a tendency to get pretty excited and go on too long when I tell people about all of the wonderful options they'll find here
- We've got a lot to brag about, and I always urge our faculty, staff and students to let our Bronco pride show. We have programs that are known nationally and internationally. As a matter of fact, if there was a "final four" in areas like jazz studies, engineering management, aviation, geosciences, creative writing or medieval studies, we'd be there every time.
- No matter what major you choose, we want you to be successful, so we've invested ourselves and our resources in making our programs the very best they can be. If you become a student here, you have to fulfill your part of the bargain, of course. I spend a lot of time telling students what they need to do. It's really not complicated. They've got to:
  - Go to class.
  - Find the library and plan to spend time there.

- Take advantage of all the advising and career exploration resources we have ready to offer.
- If student do all that, I guarantee our faculty and staff are so good, they'll make sure the rest happens. We have people in every college and in every office whose first priority to make sure our students succeed in class, find their career path and prepare for professional life.
- That total student experience is really the Western Edge--the advantage you get by being a student here and being fully immersed in campus life. You'll hear as well about the graduation compact and retention scholarship we offer as part of the Western Edge. That's our way of saying to you, that if you fulfill your part of the bargain, we'll make sure you earn a degree in the shortest time possible and are able to move quickly into the work force or on to graduate school.
- We want you to be Broncos as you start your career and find success in every aspect of college life. We want you to take real pride in what you find here and we want you to brag about your college experience--while you're a student and long afterward when you're an alum and making your mark on the world.
- I hope your visit today is wonderful and informative and I hope it provides you with all the information you need to make the right decision to become a Bronco. Enjoy the day. I hope to see you on campus in the future.