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Capital Intern Program Reception Remarks

John M. Dunn
Western Michigan University, john.dunn@wmich.edu

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• Thank you to all of you for sharing details on your internships. And thank you to Dr. Houghton for continuing to grow and nurture this important program. A major reason for the quality of the internship opportunities available to WMU students is Dr. Houghton's work over the years to cultivate new opportunities and match the right student with the right opportunity.

• That means our students are appreciated and remembered. I can tell from what you've shared this afternoon, that will be the case for all of you as well. And your success on the job will help open doors for more of our students in the future.

• You bring to your roles in Lansing, a high level of creativity and energy. More important, I suspect that, like previous generations of students headed into public service, you bring a sense of idealism and selflessness that is all too needed at every level of government.

• I hope you also bring to government and public service some basic values you experienced as a member of the Western Michigan University community--civility, respect for differing viewpoints and the ability to critically hear and analyze information.

• We're proud of you for what you are accomplishing now, and we have high expectations and great hope for what you will accomplish in the future.
• Thank you for inviting me to be part of this event. I've enjoyed hearing about your work.