



Western Michigan University  
ScholarWorks at WMU

---

WMU President John Dunn

Office of the President

---

10-26-2012

## Fall Open House Welcome

John M. Dunn

*Western Michigan University*, [john.dunn@wmich.edu](mailto:john.dunn@wmich.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/dunn>



Part of the Higher Education Commons

---

### WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Dunn, John M., "Fall Open House Welcome" (2012). *WMU President John Dunn*. 428.

<https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/dunn/428>

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of the President at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in WMU President John Dunn by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact [wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu](mailto:wmu-scholarworks@wmich.edu).



Fall Open House Welcome  
John M. Dunn  
October 26, 2012

- Thank you all so much for being here this morning. Welcome to all high school juniors and seniors who have traveled to Kalamazoo to discover what is so special about Western Michigan University. Welcome also to your parents, family members and teachers. It is because of your nurturing, encouragement--*and discipline*--that these soon-to-be-college students are prepared for the next steps in their lives.
- You're here because you want to know what Western Michigan University has to offer and whether it's the right fit for you. In other words, you are on the search for your next home—your academic home.

I can and will gladly give you a litany of reasons why you should carefully consider WMU and why you should listen closely and look carefully at what you'll hear and see today. 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 boast about. Many WMU programs 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 academic program you choose—and there are more than 230 of them— we want you to be totally engaged, so we've invested ourselves and our resources in making our programs the very best they can be. We have people in every college and in every office whose first priority is to make sure our students

succeed in class, find their career path and prepare to be the citizens and job-ready professionals who will lead our nation forward.

- We want you to be Broncos who look for fulfillment in every aspect of college life. We want you to be energized by what you learn here and we want you to boast about your college experience--while you're a student and long afterward when you're an alum and making your mark on the world.

- Your university experience will be transformative--because of what you learn both inside and outside the classroom. I know that because I had the good fortune to attend a diverse public university as a student. My worldview was changed dramatically by what I learned from my professors, of course, but also from what I discovered by studying, eating, living and working with students from around the globe and from every conceivable background. That was--a few--years ago, but that experience guided my career path and still influences and inspires me every day. That transformative experience is what we all wish for you.

- What kind of people will you meet here?

- Students from every ethnic and economic background

- Students of all ages and all the world's major belief systems

- Students from every state in the nation and all of Michigan's counties

- Students from more than 90 other countries on around the globe

- And Veterans--we have more vets who served in Iraq and Afghanistan than any other Michigan university, and we've been honored for being one of the nation's best colleges for vets.

- World-class academics await you here, and so do caring faculty who not only know how to teach their subjects, they are researchers, innovators, and experts in their

fields. Opportunities to broaden your horizons at Western Michigan University are limitless.

- So keep your eyes open and ask lots of questions today. I hope your visit is enlightening and very enjoyable. As you explore our campus, picture yourself in the classroom, hanging out in the resident hall, and working out in the student rec center. I hope this visit provides you with the information you need to make the right decision to become a Bronco. I'd like nothing better than to see you all again next fall (or the fall after), right here on this campus, as you take your next academic giant-step forward..

It's a great day to be a BRONCO.