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10-27-2012

Greenleaf Scholarship Remarks

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WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Dunn, John M., "Greenleaf Scholarship Remarks" (2012). *WMU President John Dunn*. 425.

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Greenleaf Scholarship Remarks

John M. Dunn

Oct. 27, 2012

- Good afternoon. It's a pleasure for me to be here to meet all of you and to hear your stories. I have to say, this group of Greenleaf Scholars--like those who have won the award previously--represent the very best of WMU.
- You have an opportunity to work and observe at this firm that is led by a truly gifted individual, William Johnston. I know you will learn from his business acumen but I hope you also note and choose to emulate Mr. Johnston's other remarkable qualities, particularly his fierce commitment to this community and to the young people who study here.
- Bill is not a Kalamazoo native. He is a Kalamazooan by choice. This city became his home when he came here to attend WMU and he chose to stay and build a career--a life--here. He spent years as a successful educator before he switched to the world of finance. He's done well on both fronts. He's never lost his love for students not his desire to help them succeed. That's what today is about.
- Bill is also a tireless advocate for his university, for this business community, for our schools, for diversity and for the arts. I have the pleasure of working with him on a number of initiatives, and I can tell you this would not be the wonderful city it is without his energy, commitment and generosity.
- I also have to note Trustee Johnston's commitment to diversity—not just in the general sense of the term, although that is very important. He has chosen to ensure his profession has the opportunity to diversify by providing this kind of experience to gifted students like you, who come from all walks of life. He is making an

investment not just in this community, but in the way this profession grows and changes moving forward.

- Learn from him, watch how he operates and make your own commitment to your career, your discipline and your city. Make sure your contributions to your communities are deep, broad and meaningful. And resolve to reach back and make a difference in the lives of those who come after you.

- Thank you, Bill, for all you do. Congratulations, students. Make the most of this wonderful opportunity.