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“Two Steps Ahead: Protect Your Digital Life”: Event Welcome/Intro of Congressman Upton

John M. Dunn

Western Michigan University, john.dunn@wmich.edu

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“Two Steps Ahead: Protect Your Digital Life” Event
Welcome/Intro of Congressman Upton
President John M. Dunn
July 13, 2015

Good morning and Welcome Michigan University. I am so pleased that our campus is the gathering site for this important event.

The topic today touches nearly every aspect of our lives. We all deal daily with both the power and fragility of the technology we use to learn, communicate, conduct personal and professional business, keep records, shop, bank, make travel plans and lay out our strategic plans.

Not a week passes without an instance of a data breach that causes us all to reconsider how we use our access to that technology and wonder how we can protect ourselves. So it's not a surprise to me that we have state and national leaders here to help us consider and reconsider how we approach cyber security. I'd like to acknowledge them.

First, of course, is Congressmen Fred Upton, chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (pause) I'll have a few bits of information to share about him in just a moment.

I'd also like to welcome:

State Representatives

- **Jon Hoadley, D-60**
- **Brandt Iden, R-61**
- **David Maturen, R-63**
- **Commander of State Cyber Command First Lieutenant Jim Ellis**
- **Comstock Township Supervisor Ann Nieuwenhuis (KNEE ehn highs)**

It's also like to welcome the district directors from the offices of **State Senators Margaret O'Brien and Tonya Schuitmaker.**

And finally, I want to acknowledge and thank our event organizers, the National Cyber Security Alliance. They're on a national tour with a core message we all need to heed--take a few moments to be thoughtful and smart. Make yourself and your family safe and secure online.

As I mentioned earlier, Congressman Fred Upton heads the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. His committee has jurisdiction over matters concerning energy, healthcare, the environment, telecommunications, commerce, manufacturing, and trade, as well as oversight and investigations. Just think how important cyber security is in every one of those sectors. Congressman Upton--Fred--signals that importance with his presence here today.

Fred Upton has represented the values of Southwest Michigan's Sixth Congressional District since 1987--more than 28 years. Prior to his election to Congress, Fred worked for President Ronald Reagan in the Office of Management and Budget.

Fred's top priorities are job creation, economic growth, and working to help all residents of Southwest Michigan live longer, better lives. He has been a valuable partner for this University and is committed to supporting the current and future industries so critical to the success of Southwest Michigan.

Please join me in welcoming to the podium Congressman Fred Upton.