



Western Michigan University
ScholarWorks at WMU

WMU President John Dunn

Office of the President

7-17-2016

PhD Cohort Dinner

John M. Dunn

Western Michigan University, 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., "PhD Cohort Dinner" (2016). *WMU President John Dunn*. 679.

<https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/dunn/679>

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.



DR Educators
July 17, 2016 – Fetzner Center
Dr. John M. Dunn

- Good evening. What a pleasure to have you all gathered here this evening.

- It has been my privilege over the past seven years to get to know so many citizens of your nation--from President Medina, to Education Ministers Melo and Amarante who have led and supported the so many higher education initiatives, to dozens of educators and coaches in your nation who are working diligently to bring top-notch academics and athletic opportunities to the youth of the Dominican Republic. Everyone I've met has a shared commitment to the transformational power of education.

- And, of course, over the past few years, I've had a chance to get to know the wonderful students who have traveled from the DR to study here. It has been a delight to spend time with them and with all of you. Each of you who graduate and return home will ensure there is a Bronco connection in the DR that will remain for years and years to come.

- During the years of our partnership with the Dominican Republic, I have traveled frequently to your nation and it is beginning to feel like a second home. Every trip there is characterized by the warmest of

welcomes and unparalleled hospitality. The reputation of your nation is well established here at Western Michigan University and the creativity, research and academic excellence of DR educators, like you, continue to extend that interest and reputation.

- Thank you for taking time away from your jobs and families to return to YOUR Western Michigan University campus. The purpose of this week's activities is, of course, to move along in the doctoral studies you began two years ago. In addition to the academic goals, however, I want each of you to feel the same warmth and hospitality here in Michigan that your country extends to all of us when we visit. I hope we succeeded.

- WMU has been very busy since you were last here. While many advancements have been behind the scenes in terms of technology, email platforms, curricula upgrades and the like, we've also changed our landscape a bit. Have you had a chance to visit Heritage Hall (the birthplace of this University located on Prospect Hill)? Another spectacular addition to campus is the Bronco dining facility not far from here in Goldsworth Valley. Don't head home without visiting that new attraction and sampling a few of its tasty offerings.

- Please plan to come back. And please plan to make Kalamazoo and Western Michigan University your home away from home. Thank you.