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Bernie Sanders Event Welcome

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Bernie Sanders event talking points

- Good morning, Is this not a Great Day to be a Bronco?
- Part of what a great university does is prepare its students to be engaged and informed citizens. That's what events like this are all about.
- Being engaged and informed means having a chance to listen and interact with a broad range of ideas. It means having an opportunity to define and refine the beliefs that are important to you as an individual and to hold tight to those beliefs--and act upon them. Next week, your chance to act upon your beliefs will come in the voting booth.
- Political discourse and dialogue are what we are all about this fall--this university and the rest of the nation.
- Today, one of the nation's critical voices in this year's dialogue is here to offer his perspective for consideration and, above all, urge you to vote your consciences. We are pleased to welcome Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, who has reached out to voters--especially young voters--in a unique and

uplifting way this year. I'm glad you're here to welcome him and listen to his views.

- As president of WMU, I could not be more proud of the respectful tenor of the debate on campus this fall. As each of us defines and refines our own beliefs, we need to continue to allow for the possibility that our friends, colleagues, fellow students, neighbors and families might arrive at a different conclusion. Respect and civility have been our hallmarks.

- I'm confident that those will continue to be our hallmarks as we move through this last tumultuous days of a campaign season that will be one for the record books. And when this campaign season is over and we have exercised our right to vote, we must all pledge to come together, reconcile our differences and move forward.

- If there is one critical message I hope you take away from today's gathering it is this. Our responsibility is to vote. We need to exercise our birthright and take this opportunity to be fully engaged and informed. We also need to be respectful of the decisions made next week. Win or lose, we can only have an impact if we vote. I'll see you at the polls on Nov. 8!

