2-17-2017

Research Recognition Luncheon Closing

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Good afternoon. My message to all of you being honored here today is "Thank you."

Thank you for continuing your research, discovery and creative activity. Thank you for sharing your work with us today. Thank you for modeling for our students the scholarly life well lived. Thank you for having an impact in your discipline, on our campus and in our community. And, thank you for making WMU the discovery-driven community that it is.
I've just returned from meeting with our alumni in Scottsdale and San Francisco. I wish you had been there as well to hear first-hand just how proud our former students--your former students--are of this University and what has been accomplished in recent years.

Without exception, our alumni express their satisfaction with the degrees they earned and the experiences they had here. And now, they see the value of their degrees grow exponentially with every successful WMU endeavor they learn about and every mention of their alma mater in the news or in professional settings. They are so proud to be Broncos and so proud of what you are accomplishing every day.

And, of course, they have questions about those of you who mentored them while they were here. I do my best to fill them in, but today's presentations tell me that I'm going to have to work harder to keep up. Please keep up this noteworthy pace of discovery and enjoy the rest of today. You've earned it. It's a celebration of what we do so well as a research university. Your work makes it all possible.

Thank you.