

(Remarks made by the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., President, University of Notre Dame, at the Installation of Dr. John Brademas as President of New York University, New York, New York, October 14, 1981)

I take great pleasure in delivering greetings to John Brademas, on behalf of all the universities here present, as we welcome him to the ranks of university presidents. I believe I can say for my colleagues in the university world that we need all the strength and leadership we can muster these days as we face enormous new pressures from outside and inside the university.

The basic pressure is that which we impose on ourselves to keep striving for excellence in a world given all too easily to mediocrity. Each new president is a new voice added to our chorus. In the case of John Brademas, we have a veritable operatic performer. His life has been a symphony of effort to increase the quality of life in America, and his specialty has been to facilitate good education, especially in the arts and humanities, for all in America.

We welcome his voice today and our university world will be richer in every way as he articulates his dreams and ours in the days ahead. Most new presidents must be tentative in their early efforts. President Brademas will hit the ground running when the euphoria of today has passed.

The external pressures against the maintenance of both quality and equality in higher education will also find in him a worthy contender in the national lists. Most of the educational programs that are being diluted, diminished, or dismantled today

were originally, in large measure, crafted by John Brademas. The leadership he manifested so well in the Congress will now be continued in his new role within our fraternity of higher education. He really knows whereof he speaks. He was there at the creation. His hopes and dreams are undiminished.

John, I will be excused by my colleagues, if I greet you today with the affection of an old friend, your former constituent in the Third District of Northern Indiana. You never failed us or our best dreams then. You will not fail us now. We welcome you and give you our best wishes and prayers for all success in your new high calling. God bless you and the great University that you will lead to greater heights of equal opportunity and excellence.