

George L. Hanbury, II, Ph.D
Nova Southeastern University's Sixth President
Remarks from Endowed Scholarship Donors Luncheon
Monday, March 25, 2013

“Giving Back to the Community and Others”

On behalf of the Chair and Trustees of NSU, I would like to reiterate Stacy's welcome to all of the benefactors and recipients of our endowed scholarships.

Today marks the second of such a “Big Thank You” lunch for donors and recipients and it is one that I would like to become a semiannual tradition.

It is a pleasure to have so many Trustees in attendance today and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce them to you and ask them to stand until all have been identified.

(Chinese Proverb)

When planning for a year, plant corn.

When planning for a decade, plant trees.

When planning for a life, train and educate people.

We are planning for a lifetime at NSU and I believe that by your support and involvement with your time, talents, and treasures, you too are planning for a lifetime.

You see, scholarships are both an expression of philanthropy by the donor and *a lesson in philanthropy for the student*. Creating a culture of “giving back to the community and others” is indeed one of our core values and the greatest testament to our core values is a demonstration by our students, faculty and staff.

Since my term as president began, I have asked Trustees, Deans, VPs, Faculty, Staff and even Students to consider establishing a Changing Life Scholarship fund

and they have positively responded. More than 100 people, clubs, and foundations have provided funds for scholarships in the last 20 months. From a minimum of \$250 from student clubs in the new Student Legacy Scholarship program to millions in Foundation, Individual, and Memorial Scholarships. Today, over 3,000, approximately 10% of our student body, receive some type of scholarship support. It's our challenge to see this percentage increased to 15% and possibly by 2020 - 20% through philanthropy.

Ladies and gentlemen, if we want to see this country continue to be the vanguard of freedom and democracy, it will only be through our reinforcement of the value of education at all levels and especially - higher education. We need to support and encourage the best and brightest students to pursue their academic dreams and ambitions through our financial support.

I have had heard from first time in college students, transfer students, graduate and professional students the profound impact that receiving a scholarship has had on their academic careers. And the saddest statement I have heard is, "President Hanbury, I love NSU but I can't continue to stay because of financial problems my family has experienced." My heart is broken.

But for our assistance, many of these students would not be able to pursue their academic dreams. Your scholarships confirm that their hard work, persistence and personal sacrifice is worthwhile.

I began my comments with an ancient Chinese Proverb, I will end them with an admonition from Winston Churchill, "You make a **Living** by what you **Get**, but you make a **Life** by what you **Give**."

I hope you have enjoyed meeting the student or students you have helped to achieve his or her dreams and I hope to see you next fall for our third "Big Thank You" luncheon.

Thank You.