Joe Olander: Thank you very much, Dick. Ladies and Gentlemen, I know that I’ve had the dubious distinction of standing in between you and the dance. So consequently I’ll try to be brief and uncharacteristically clear. The first thing I should like to do tonight is ask all members of the Founding Festival Planning Committee to rise. (Applause) The second thing I’d like to do is to ask a person to rise who is in estimable value to the college’s 20 year history, and certainly shared by all of the presidents who are here tonight. And that person is Rita Grace. (Applause) To Larry Steinberg who affectionably and deservedly earns the title of Mr. Evergreen and who has been responsible for planning this 20th birthday celebration, I’d like to ask you to give us all a hand of applause on behalf of Larry. Larry, where are you? (Applause) I believe he’s out getting the band organized. This has been a wonderful week. It’s been replete with fond and effervescent memories of the college. And I’ve been impressed with the overriding concern of the people in the community who saw almost overnight a college placed in their midst. Think about it for a second. You’re a peaceful Olympia citizen and all of a sudden practically within one week you see a lot of weird people, a lot of dogs (laughter), a lot of long hair and beards and earrings in the ears. And then, ladies and gentlemen, and then the students came (laughter and applause). I couldn’t resist that actually (laughs). My task for tonight is really to be that of an interloper, a person who has been here only two years and who therefore seems somewhat fraudulent tonight because I am in effect the beneficiary of the outstanding efforts for 18 years or so of an extraordinarily dedicated faculty and staff, a curiously talented and dedicated student body, the blessings of a board of trustees historically who had the courage, the guts, the vision, to allow the innovation and the excellence to develop organically here. Yes, indeed, even the legislature, some legislators more than other legislators, who have been our strong supporters, and a community who has also been extremely supportive. An alumni with which we’re blessed, who as Dan has correctly pointed out, will be I think the basic indices for how we will be known in the future. I want to be uncharacteristically profound for a minute. Because the three presidents who were before me bring dignities this evening and believing in the concept of law, I believe I need to bring a little indignity with me (laughs). But I do want to be profound a little bit. As an Italian I’m proud to say that universities were first founded in the 13th century in Bologna, Italy, moved to Patois and then to Paris, then to Oxford and to Cambridge. And all of these universities have something in common. They were imbued with classical education. They organized their faculties into faculties of art, of theology, of law, and of medicine. And this organization pretty much with a classical albumen (?) held steadfast in this country until about the end of the third quarter of the 19th century. When after the Civil War, we saw something called the Moral Act which set up so called land grant universities whose basic purpose was to help this country get on its feet in terms of developing a sophisticated agricultural business, a peril of textile industries, and an engineering networking complex. And that went on and on and on practically unchanged, except that the classical education of Rome and of Greece lost its influence in American higher education and the instrumentalism that has become so almost tantamount to a definition of American education became pretty much in place. After World War II, the multi-universities began to emerge, the so called flagship research oriented universities. And then the 60s came. And the 60s were years of reform and of revolution, of dreams of heroes and heroines, and of skepticism about our institutional responses to parental (?) human needs. And that was the context it seems to me in which this institution was born. I doubt very seriously whether this kind of institution could be born now. I doubt very seriously in an era of MBAs and of yuppies and of button downed suits and of the indifference towards the kind of land and how it so successfully got for this institution. That could never be done again in my judgment. So the context of the birth of this college I think should not go unremarked tonight. Whether you want to call it a miracle or something that was planned or an accident, I am not sure. But that it is here is a reality and that has become this nation’s last hope for genuine liberal arts education reform is indeed a fate accomply (?) that we can all be proud of. What about the future? By 1997, Hispanics with constitute the largest minority in this country. Right now the birth rates of Blacks, of Hispanics, and of Asians are seven times those of the Anglo-Saxon population in our country. Indeed, this country will grow not so much as a function of birth rates, but as a function of immigration. And so the global reality that most nations outside of our own know exists will come home to roost. And the question I ask tonight is, how is American higher education going to be prepared for that? Evergreen is peculiarly suited it seems to me to deal with that kind of a world. The college was formulated about 20 years ago to deal with the context of its own birth. The principles of the college remain true today but the response of the college to the kind of demographic, economic, and political and economic imperatives that are going to come down the road are something that we need to be very alert to an always be open to. It seems to me that America has enterprise has got to be America transitioned to America as community. And the culture of compromise that is implicit in most public colleges and universities will gradually give way to more Evergreens let us say and a culture of conviction. So I suspect as the interloper what I want to do is to thank all of you who over time have made contributions to the establishment of Evergreen as we know and love it today. And also to sort of make a plea publicly that we don’t build institutions of higher education like we have built them before Evergreen. If you think about it, it’s very interesting. Since World War II after the rise of multi-universities, higher education has been episodically criticized very seriously. It’s being criticized now by private foundations, by federal and state governmental agencies, by indeed most educators. Certainly the population at large is critical of higher education. And yet despite this criticism, whenever we build a new institution, we build it just like we’ve done traditionally over time. And so I’d like to make a plea tonight on the celebration of the 20th anniversary of this college, that we establish a marginal (?) line, that no longer will we build institutions of higher education like we have in the past. Evergreen shows us the way for doing it better in the future. It ain’t perfect, ladies and gentlemen, but it shows us the way. And each of you can be duly proud of the contributions you have made. I think, Dick, while I step back to you and we should get to the dance. (Applause)

Dick: America as enterprise becoming America as community, Joe just said. And this is a model. The hardest part is over. The hardest part is over. We are founded if not quite established to use Charlie’s distinction. Victory has 12,029 founding fathers and mothers and we have indeed seen 20 years of making a difference. In Charlie’s words, all of us care. The dance begins on the second floor and all trustees and presidents and former presidents and former trustees are asked to move this way for a few photographs. Thank you all for coming and congratulations to us all. (Applause)