

Dedication/Inauguration - TESC
April 21, 1972

Today I act as a spokesman for the State of Washington, the Trustees of Evergreen College, the faculty, the staff, and the students of Evergreen.

Each of these has contributed greatly to the establishment of this institution and the success of this day. They all join in welcoming our guests and thanking them for coming.

Just a brief glance backward to recall how Evergreen came to be. In 1965, the Legislature created a Temporary Advisory Council on Public Higher Education. Their studies showed that an additional four-year college was needed and that it should be located in the Olympia area.

In 1967 the Legislature acted on this recommendation and appropriated money to acquire land and authorized the Governor to appoint a Board of five Trustees.

The intent of the Legislature was not that this be an exact replica of other four-year colleges although drawing on their wisdom and experience. It was recognized that here was a unique opportunity to develop some new ways to prepare students for life in a world of constant change.

Four years later, that College is in operation. Obviously, the physical plant is not complete but, in spite of limited space, the academic program is in full swing.

Now the time has come that this institution should be formally dedicated. As spokesman for the day, I herewith declare that it is dedicated to the future and particularly to the youth of the future. It is hoped that their vision, their strength and their happiness will be enhanced by their stay here on this beautiful campus under the guidance of the trained and original minds making up the faculty here at Evergreen.

It is my honor to present to you the man whose name appears on this handsome library--the Governor of the State of Washington, Daniel J. Evans.

GOVERNOR SPEAKS

The most important function of a Board of Trustees is the appointment of a President--and it is even more important if it is to be the First President. We needed a man who would understand and carry out the intent of the Legislature--a man who could steer the land development and building program, build a sound, capable administration and a faculty of academic excellence to implement the forward-looking program envisioned for Evergreen.

After review of dozens--even hundreds of names submitted--good fortune favored us by bringing us that particular man we sought. He has been Evergreen's President since November, 1968. We have come to know him well and we know that our judgment was correct. Now we re-affirm his appointment of November, 1968, and make it official by this ceremony.

Will President McCann please step forward. In the name of the State of Washington and by authority vested in me as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, I hereby install you, Charles John McCann, as the First President of The Evergreen State College (medallion around neck)

Introduce Dr. Charles Teske to make announcements and start the song.