

From: Susan Keefe
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 7:22 PM
To: Greg Jones
Subject: RE: Important Message from Dean L. Gregory Jones

Dear Greg,

First, my deepest congratulations and thanks for accepting the new position. It is a great honor to you, which means it is also a great honor to me, as a member of the Divinity School body, of which you are the head. But the thanks goes deeper, because you are showing the University and the world that the Divinity School is not a place of hypocrisy, not a place where we talk a lot about God but do not connect that with our membership in the campus, city, world. One leads by example far more than by words. You have been a terrific leader by putting in gear ways we can connect theology with life and the progress of humanity. Your new appointment to me is like a capstone, the farthest you could go in your leadership of the Divinity School. To become, yourself, the Senior Advisor for International Strategy for Duke University is to show how seriously you believe that a seminary is a seedbed to transform the world, and a challenge to everyone in the Divinity School to come out of their ivory towers (mea culpa!) and plant a patch anywhere and anyhow they can with their particular gifts.

I have been graced with 13 years of your wisdom and creativity in solving problems, opening doors, helping to re-vision our best skills. I have been amazed countless times at your appointment of a certain person or selection of a candidate or support for some project that turned out so wonderfully. I have no doubt that your same gifts will now do extraordinary things at a universal level. It is truly exciting to think what can happen now that you will have so many added resources at your disposal.

Your reputation as a theologian of reconciliation I hope will astonish all those outside of the Divinity School who hear of your appointment. Would that Duke becomes the exemplar of the 3rd millennium university, not by virtue of simply

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having a percentage of international students drawn to us, but by extending ourselves where we can discover and learn new ways of thinking and knowledge.

President Brodhead, a man of no small imagination himself, is tremendously fortunate for your willingness to serve. I will keep you and Susan especially in my prayers, as you make the transition and leave the company of so many dear friends who have been with you day in and day out. I do not see this as a farewell, but a celebration and the continuation of your leadership of Duke Divinity School in a bold and sacrificial way.

Love,

Susan K.