



REMARKS ON THE INSTALLATION OF JEREMY HAEFNER AS CHANCELLOR

Tim Gallegos

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Good afternoon! I am excited to celebrate the Inauguration with you and honored to congratulate Chancellor Haefner on behalf of staff today.

Celebrations are a wonderful occasion to come together. It is essential to take time to notice what you achieved and what is to come. I have been at DU almost ten years and met many staff members on campus, as an electrician and the person who passes out Dove chocolates around campus. One person I met was a guy walking around in Converse sneakers. Many people wear Converse sneakers on campus, yet I always know when it is the Chancellor, or the “Chance,” as I call him. As I thought about chance or chances, I thought about baseball, which I played in college. Three days ago, I also watched my favorite baseball team, the Boston Red Sox, beat their long-time rival, the New York Yankees. What are the chances that a last-place team will make the playoffs the following year? Well, with the exceptional leadership, as the Red Sox have in Alex Cora, pretty good!

DU has excellent leadership! The Chance is fantastic. We are in good hands with him. He is approachable and cares about what happens here. I had a recent interaction with him during the back-to-school luncheon on the green in front of Mary Reed. I was sitting with the other electricians and looked up to see a pair of



Converse sneakers approaching. It was the Chance. I introduced Chancellor Haefner to the guys, and we began talking about cycling, triathlons, and fitness. Then, he left as calmly as he approached and said, “have a good day.” To me, that’s leadership. He speaks with everyone and listens to what you’re saying.

As DU moves forward, listening to the hopes and aspirations of staff will be central to DU’s success, and I am certain Chancellor Haefner will be right there supporting us as we support him. Thank you for what you do now and will do in the future, Chancellor Haefner! Again, let me extend a hearty congratulations on behalf of my staff colleagues.