

# Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on August 26, 2016

Location: Marshall Hall

Remarks: ESF Convocation

Good afternoon. I would like to thank President Wheeler, and all the faculty and staff of SUNY-ESF for their work on this ceremony and for including me in it.

I would like to welcome you students, all of you, both to the College of Environmental Science and Forestry and to Syracuse.

I have known ESF for more than 35 years. I grew up near here, and my identical twin brother went to Upstate and lived with ESF students. I remember ESF students back then as smart, independent, big on the Adirondacks, biology, and trees, and excellent home brewers. When I returned to Syracuse to be Chancellor in December, 2013, I found this community, both on the SUNY-ESF and Syracuse University campuses and beyond, to remain filled with warm and wonderful people.

Syracuse University and SUNY-ESF have an extraordinary relationship. We share a long history on the Hill. We share many alumni and friends. We share many facilities, including our Archbold recreation facility, which is about to receive a many-million dollar renovation. We share libraries and research and researchers. And we have so many values in common. We are equals and peers, each with a unique mission, and at our best we have a symbiotic relationship that has evolved and improved each decade.

Because of that relationship, ESF students and Syracuse students have the benefit of being able to use many great services and support systems and activities of both schools. This includes enrolling in each other's classes, using each other's libraries and recreational services, taking part in our student activities, ranging from concerts to Quidditch, to travel to advocacy.

Scores of ESF students have been to my home for receptions and student activities. I know from those interactions that ESF students are wonderful, committed, inspired and

decent people. While this mutual relationship has existed for decades, both institutions continue to advance. President Wheeler and I have recently worked to evolve this relationship into a greater academic and research-based one.

This semester President Wheeler and I will be appointing faculty from our respective schools, charging them to recommend new joint academic and research-based initiatives. This effort will get started this academic year and create new opportunities for students and faculty that will make Syracuse and ESF even better. This will mark another milestone in the long and enduring relationship between our two institutions.

I'd encourage all of you to become fully involved in Syracuse, to explore our campuses and all we offer. I'd encourage you to reach out to other students - both the Green and the 22,000 students from 120 countries who are Orange.

Welcome to Syracuse and to the Hill. Thank you.

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