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### Gamma Sigma Delta Reception

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Congratulations!

To you, Parents, & Grandparents,  
& FAMILY MEMBERS

Emeritus Faculty!

1862 - 140 year age

1869 - 133 yrs.

• 1.1 million citizens

GAMMA SIGMA DELTA RECEPTION

APRIL 8, 2002

EAST UNION

JOHN C. OWENS

NU VICE PRESIDENT AND HARLAN VICE CHANCELLOR, IANR

Koutray - IF DAD - 2 WTS from Europe. what will he do when you come home from Texas?

"Teachers open the door, but you must enter by yourself."

I think of that old Chinese proverb today as we celebrate outstanding scholarship. I know our extremely talented and dedicated faculty, of whom I am especially proud, do a tremendous job of "opening doors" for those students who study with us in our classes in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences here at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Today we also are very proud of and for each of you students being recognized for your scholastic accomplishments.

You have entered through those doors there were held open to you, and succeeded so well. I know everyone here joins me in celebrating your achievements and congratulating each of you for the success that has brought you here.

Please also know that as you make your way throughout the coming years, we will continue to celebrate your successes. All good things that happen to you will make us proud. It's extremely gratifying to me to hear of our graduates who

remain in touch with the faculty and staff who have taught them, mentored them, worked with them, encouraged them, believed in them, and helped them not only learn how to make a living, but also how to live their lives. It's heartwarming to see faculty and staff celebrate the accomplishments of our current students and our graduates each time one does well. We are so pleased to be part of your preparation for your futures."

I also know your days currently are filled with classes and all the other educational opportunities that come your way, and my wish for you now and in the future is that you will constantly develop your learning skills so that you are lifelong learners." I think when people stop learning, they diminish living. I am a firm believer that life is meant for more than existence; life is meant for living – fully, passionately, with wonder, and with joy.

I hope you always will be curious about your world, and that you will be open to new experiences. I hope you have and will keep an appreciation for the gifts and talents of those around you, and those you meet, even if their gifts and talents are different from your own. Fostering that appreciation allows us to learn constantly.

I hope you always have the courage and enthusiasm to explore new ideas and new interests, and to wonder." Just to wonder. Just to ask "what if" and "why" and "how about...". People with a sense of wonder are people alive to all the

possibilities that surround them, able to grasp and explore what's needed to lead us onward. Wonder leads to discovery, and discovery is an adventure, finding ideas and knowledge <sup>"</sup>unknown<sup>"</sup> to us before. Discovery may come as a "eureka" moment, but my experience is that oftener it starts with a "hmmm, I wonder...", and then <sup>"</sup>the journey begins.

We hope that each of you students being honored here today are as proud of your successes as we are proud of you. We applaud you for your scholastic achievements, and we wish you <sup>"</sup>all the best<sup>"</sup> for a lifetime filled with, enthusiasm, learning, and wonder. Congratulations!

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