Henry Snyder Remarks

Good evening.

It is an exciting time in the life of Centre College as we welcome Dr. Milton Moreland and his family into our community. As you will learn tonight, if you have not already, there is lots to celebrate.

Now in our third century of service, Centre has a firm foundation thanks to over two decades of leadership by President Roush and Susie. From the beginning, it was the goal of the search committee to identify a leader who could take this foundation and continue driving the college forward.

Dr. Moreland brings a track record of success listening to and supporting students in word and deed. He is a leader who acts with students in mind. Throughout the search process, Dr. Moreland demonstrated a breadth of knowledge about student interests and needs. Whether it be supporting mental health or scholarships, Dr. Moreland is an advocate for college environments where learners can thrive. As a professor, he understands the meaningful impact a close-knit academic community has on students.

The search process was one students should be confident was thorough and inclusive, working with top tier professionals to identify a broad range of impressive candidates.

Identifying a candidate who understands student priorities could not have occurred as successfully as it did without the work of the Student Guidance Committee. This group served as a guiding voice during the search and consisted of students bringing many perspectives and ideas to the table. Members represented the diverse array of backgrounds that make up the Centre student body including, but not limited to, the International Student Association, Diversity Student Union, Athletic department, Title IX office and environmental interests. We identified 5 student priorities and how we wanted candidate to respond in the areas.
I’d like to thank these members by name:

Shanze Arshad          Pai Masavisut
Thomas Burkey          Kevin Wagoner
Digna Rosales Cruz     Xuemeng Yan
Katie Freemen          Stephanie Bamfo
Stephanie Keller       Grayson Smith
Dahabo Kerow           Adonis Logan
Grant Spicer

It was an honor to work with them. Students, if you see them on campus please thank them for the time they committed to this process.

I want to express my thanks to Centre’s Board of Trustees, and specifically Chairman Mark Nunnelly, for their commitment to ensuring the student voice was heard and valued throughout the search process. Their commitment to finding a president dedicated to student success is a defining characteristic of Centre and something we all should be proud of.

As the landscape of higher education continues to evolve, new challenges and opportunities will arise. I am more than confident in the leadership of Dr. Moreland to guide Centre through the start of its third century in a manner that will foster lasting success. To the first-years, sophomores, and juniors who will return to campus this fall, you should be excited about what the future holds. Continued evolution of our academic opportunities and the continued strengthening of campus resources will build an ever-stronger Centre.

To the students, my challenge to all of us is to be bold, courageous, and open-minded as we head into this next chapter of Centre’s story. You have a leader who wants to listen to you, support you, and see you succeed. Above all else, Dr. Moreland is committed to student success, to your success. For that, we celebrate.