

TRIBUTE TO FRANCE A. CORDOVA,
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside, California, are exceptional. Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Chancellor France Córdova is one of these individuals. On Wednesday, June 27, 2007, Chancellor Córdova will be honored at a farewell dinner in her honor.

Chancellor Córdova began her dynamic career conducting anthropological field work in a Zapotec Indian pueblo in Oaxaca, Mexico, after graduating cum laude from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in English. She went on to obtain her Ph.D. in physics from the California Institute of Technology. For 10 years, Córdova worked as a staff member of the Space Astronomy and Astrophysics Group at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. In 1989, Córdova moved across the U.S. to serve as department head of astronomy and astrophysics at Pennsylvania State University. In 1993, Córdova accepted a position as the Chief Scientist at NASA which she held until 1996. In this role, she served as the primary scientific advisor to the NASA Administrator and the principal interface between NASA headquarters and the broader scientific community.

In 1996, Córdova returned to her home state of California to serve as professor of physics and vice-chancellor for research at UC Santa Barbara. In 2002, Chancellor Córdova accepted the position of chancellor at the University of California, Riverside and the university has undergone dramatic changes under her leadership. The campus itself has been augmented and improved with the addition of new state-of-the-art buildings and parking for students. Academically, Chancellor Córdova has worked towards bringing a school of medicine to UCR which is expected to become a reality in the near future.

Chancellor Córdova's tireless passion for education has contributed immensely to the betterment of the University of California, Riverside. Many students, community leaders and residents are thankful for her service and leadership. I am proud to call Chancellor Córdova a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many are grateful for her service and salute her as she moves to Indiana to lead Purdue University as their new chancellor.

HONORING CANYON MIDDLE
SCHOOL OF CASTRO VALLEY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty, and staff of Can-

yon Middle School in Castro Valley, California for its clear record of success. Canyon Middle School has now been named one of the top performing middle schools in the country.

Today through June 23 in Arlington, Virginia Canyon Middle School will be recognized with 55 other high-performing schools across the nation as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform at their annual conference.

The faculty and staff at Canyon Middle School have clearly set high standards for performance. They have made it their daily mission to be academically excellent, developmentally responsive, and socially equitable. They challenge all of their students to use their minds, and as teachers and adult mentors to our young people, they are sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence. As a whole, Canyon Middle School strives to provide every student, regardless of background or life obstacles, with high-quality teachers, resources, and a viable support system.

Canyon Middle School's accomplishments represent its dedication and commitment to bolstering the success of our youth early on in their academic careers, so that they may achieve successful and productive lives as individuals. The service that Canyon Middle School provides to its students, their families, and the Castro Valley community is undeniable.

I salute Castro Valley Middle School's students, faculty, and staff for their exemplary performance, and I thank them for their outstanding service to the 9th Congressional District and to our country.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
KAREN HOLBROOK DURING HER
TENURE AS THE PRESIDENT OF
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it is a distinct honor for the central Ohio delegation to rise today to commend the leadership and accomplishments of Karen Holbrook during her tenure as the President of the Ohio State University. Holbrook became Ohio State's 13th president in October 2002, and has served the University and the greater university community nobly for 5 years by guiding Ohio State towards ever-increasing prominence in research initiatives and funding, higher academic standards, and enhanced community partnerships.

Ohio State has steadily risen in national rankings of universities since 2002, climbing to 19th among the Nation's public universities in U.S. News and World Report's 2007 edition of "America's Best Colleges." Under Holbrook's watch, the quality of the student body has also increased dramatically. Fifty-two percent of Ohio State's incoming freshmen in the fall of 2007 are expected to be in the top 10 percent of their high school class and 90 percent will be in the top 25 percent. Average ACT scores have also increased. Thanks to better-prepared incoming students and a nationally recognized First-Year Experience program, freshman-sophomore retention has risen to 91.5

percent, well above the average among similar universities.

The completion of the South Campus Gateway project, a mixed-use development of retail, entertainment, offices and housing, has revitalized the edge of campus through the Campus Partners initiative. These improvements have enhanced student life, revitalized an urban neighborhood and provided high-quality destinations for the campus community and visitors alike.

With annual research expenditures now at \$652 million a year, Ohio State is ranked 8th among public research universities in the Nation by the National Science Foundation based on the amount of sponsored research. Also, the University has risen from 5th to 3rd among public universities in industry-sponsored research. Holbrook presided over the creation of the Undergraduate Research Office to encourage and enable undergraduate students to connect to research projects as part of their educational experience. As a result, more than 300 students now participate in the annual Denman Undergraduate Forum.

Finally, Holbrook has led the University into strong partnerships in the community, especially with renowned research institute Battelle, which includes the Metro High School for students interested in science, technology, engineering and math, the Urban Arts Center, WOSU@COSI (a collaboration of the university's public media stations and the Center for Science and Industry), and the Battelle Center for Mathematics and Science Education Policy at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. These partnerships and initiatives are already bearing fruit, and their impact and importance will only increase down the road.

It is truly a pleasure to have worked with President Holbrook over the last 5 years and to have joined her in efforts that increased the prominence and reputation of a great institution. The Ohio State University is a better place because of Holbrook's leadership, and for that, all Buckeyes are forever in her debt.

Go Bucks! Beat Michigan!

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
KAREN HOLBROOK DURING HER
TENURE AS THE PRESIDENT OF
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HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

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