

This bias seems especially fierce in America today. Our world features a non-stop news cycle, continuous political campaigns and an obsession with quarterly earnings statements. We demand that messaging be instant, and we talk in tweets.

This short-term perspective threatens America's colleges and universities. Already it has done significant harm. Our nation has reduced its support for public colleges and universities, and it has squeezed the funding needed for research, innovation and scholarship.

In so doing, we risk squandering a national treasure. America's colleges and universities are a beacon to the world. Parents around the globe dream of sending their children here, scholars dream of landing a place here, and nations dream of creating universities like America's. Yet, here at home, we see a parade of reporters, politicians and pundits asking whether a college education is worth it—even though the economic evidence for the value of a college education is utterly overwhelming.

People discount this evidence because they worry, quite understandably, about the cost of college. They say that higher education should be more efficient so that it can be cheaper in the short term and equally valuable in the long term.

Make no mistake about it: Those of us who lead universities must make our institutions as efficient as possible. We must also ensure, through financial aid and other programs, that our colleges are accessible and affordable to students from every sector of our society. But there is a difference between expense and inefficiency. Expensive investments can be both efficient and valuable if their returns are sufficiently high.

When professors provide individualized attention to students, their time is expensive and valuable. When scholars strive day and night to enhance our understanding of the world, their activity is expensive and valuable. Great colleges and universities are not cheap. They require big investments, and they are also among the very best investments that this nation, or any nation, can make. And, as I have said in the past, great universities are also places where the human spirit soars. They are special communities where students, teachers and researchers strive to transcend their limitations and, on occasion, to expand the boundaries of human achievement.

I am grateful to be joined on this stage by Princeton alumni, and by former Princeton faculty members and administrators, who now serve as presidents of an extraordinary range of colleges and universities from throughout the world. Their presence here today symbolizes our need to work together on behalf of higher education. It also reminds us of Princeton's obligation and opportunity to play a leadership role in public discussions about the value of research and collegiate education today. Those debates are urgently important to the nation, to the world, and to this University's mission, and Princeton University must be boldly active within them.

Long-term institutions, be they educational or political, can flourish only if they inspire energetic commitment in the short term. Madison knew this. Even "the most rational government," he said, must have the "prejudices of the community on its side." (Fed. 49, Rossiter 315).

In his famous debates with Stephen Douglas, Abraham Lincoln called attention to this country's annual celebrations on the Fourth of July. He insisted that the "cannon which thunders [the] annual joyous return" of our independence serves to remind us of the basic principles upon which this country is founded and which unite us as a people. [P.

Angle, Created Equal: the Complete Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858, at 130 (Ottawa); see also id., at 40 (Chicago)]. Civic pride, and the colorful and noisy celebrations that go with it, can reshape self-interest and motivate people to care about their collective future.

We, too, at Princeton have traditions of joyous return. We even have cannons—though our most famous one is buried deep in the ground behind Nassau Hall and none of them thunder anymore. But joyous return: We do that very well. "Going back to Nassau Hall" is woven into the music and the soul of this place. We go back to Nassau Hall for Reunions, for Commencement and Baccalaureate, for Alumni Day and the Service of Remembrance, and occasionally for special ceremonies like this one. In so doing, we renew the camaraderie that enlivens our commitment to this University, and we rededicate ourselves to the principles for which Princeton stands and upon which it depends.

I would not presume to enumerate all of those principles, but prominent among them are these basic convictions:

That liberal arts education is a vital foundation for both individual flourishing and the well-being of our society;

That residential and extracurricular experience both supplement and reinforce the lessons of the classroom, building character and skills that last a lifetime;

That rigorous research and scholarship are indispensable for understanding the human condition and improving the world;

That learning, discovery and understanding are valuable not only instrumentally but also for their own sake, as sources of the joy and fulfillment that make a human life worth living;

That scholarship and teaching are mutually reinforcing activities—that scholars learn from their students' questions, and that students learn best when they are exposed to, and can participate in, research that extends the frontiers of knowledge;

That we must cultivate new generations of talent enthusiastically and unselfishly;

That all social and economic groups should have access to the educational resources of this great University and to higher education more generally;

That we as a University, and we as alumni, must constantly rededicate ourselves to the nation's service and to the service of all nations; and last, but most certainly not least,

That a great university can and should be the heart of an alumni community that not only engages in a lifetime of learning, leadership and service, but that continues to do all it can to sustain, strengthen and nourish this University—ensuring that it can live up to these principles and achieve its highest aspirations through all the generations yet to come.

I am honored to accept the presidency of this, our beloved University, and I will work with you enthusiastically to sustain the excellence of what we are doing now, to realize more perfectly the ideals to which we are committed, and to demonstrate by argument and deed the extraordinary value of Princeton University, and of all the colleges and universities that help to bring out the best in the people of this country and this world.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly this afternoon, thank you for coming back once more to Nassau Hall, and thank you, most of all, for your sincere commitment to this place and this community that matter so deeply to all of us. Thank you!

CHIEF PATRICK PRIORE

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a career of service to the community of Tullytown Borough by Police Chief Patrick Priore.

Chief Priore retired from the force at the end of August after serving more than 15 years as chief and nearly 24 years with the department overall.

The Chief's commitment to the people of Lower Bucks County was well known and widely respected. His dedication to protecting the people of his region continued even after he was seriously injured in the line of duty in May of 2009—an injury that forced him into an early retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Chief Priore for many years. A law enforcement professional of the highest integrity, Pat has been a good friend and confidant to me and an abiding influence on his officers and community. Most of all, he is a great father and husband. These traits are being passed through Pat's family and in to the community that has been privileged to have been blessed with his leadership, courage and faithful commitment to service.

While Chief Priore may no longer be the head of the Tullytown Borough Police Department, we still recognize and honor his service and sacrifice today and wish him the best during his retirement.

Chief: I salute you. I thank you. And the people of Tullytown thank you.

THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FOUNDING OF FULL GOSPEL AS-  
SEMBLY CHURCH

**HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 11, 2013*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 35th anniversary of the founding of Full Gospel Assembly Church in Brooklyn, NY. Pastor Michael Bacchus and members of the congregation commemorated this milestone at a banquet on October 4, 2013 at the Grand Prospect Hall in Brooklyn, NY.

Full Gospel Assembly was founded on October 1, 1978 by Pastor Michael Bacchus, Assistant Pastor Jesse Persuad and Brother Colin Wronge. The people of New York are grateful for the exemplary service and leadership of Pastor Bacchus, whose vision led the church from meeting in a classroom at Long Island University to building its own sanctuary on Sullivan Place in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn. Under the direction of Pastor Bacchus, the Queens Campus of Full Gospel Assembly opened in 2011. The Full Gospel Christian Academy, which was founded in 1985, continues to offer pre-K and kindergarten classes.

The leaders and parishioners of Full Gospel Assembly have touched the lives of countless individuals through their compassionate service. In 1986, the church sponsored its first