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Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Thank you, Jim, and greetings to everyone here today. As you know, *Campaign Carroll* is, by far, the most ambitious fundraising initiative in Carroll's history. At its heart are key academic projects that will position us for ongoing excellence in achieving our educational mission and for continued success in recruiting talented students in the increasingly competitive higher education market.

Over the last five years, campaign gifts from generous donors have already had a significant impact across campus. A comprehensive campaign such as this provides a range of opportunities for making a difference at Carroll. You heard Jim describe the primary outcomes of the campaign—a new science building, additional endowment funds and new program funds. Each will enhance teaching and learning across campus and support student success. In a campaign with many common threads, let me give you a perspective on the tapestry of impact. Here are a few of the campaign projects that are already transforming our work together:

- First, the Betty Lou Tikalsky House on Wright Street, which is home to many members of the Department of Communication

and Sociology, as well as to Dean Charles Byler and college staff.

- The spectacular new Joyce Paddock Bliss Art Gallery in Main Hall. As many of you well remember, the former art gallery was tucked away in a classroom in the basement of Humphrey Art Center. In contrast, the new Bliss Gallery sits at the heart of campus and signals the importance of the arts to our understanding of human experience.
- The renovation of the Van Male Fieldhouse will be nothing short of amazing when finished. It took spaces that were unseemly eyesores and transformed them into places of pride. There is also a general-use classroom for use by not only by exercise science and athletic training, but all programs across campus.
- The new Science Building will soon be a very visible part of the Campaign Carroll story, as it will provide three floors of state-of-the-art wet labs, research and teaching space. It is the largest single initiative of the campaign. The facilities of the new science building will support student and faculty research, enable new explorations and pedagogies, help us recruit new

students—we won't have to exclude science facilities from campus tours!—and serve as a lasting symbol of Carroll's steadfast commitment to advancing human progress through the discovery of new knowledge.

- The tapestry of impact of Campaign Carroll extends beyond campus boundaries and into our local communities as well. One great example is provided by those donors who are supporting our pre-college program. The program benefits high school students in the Milwaukee area who are economically less privileged and academically challenged—traits which, as we know, often go hand-in-hand. The pre-college experience creates a better understanding about college life and academic expectations, and it provides insight into possible careers. It's also a wonderful vehicle for Carroll students to work with individuals whose backgrounds are much different than their own.
- As some of you know, we are also the beneficiary of both private and federal support for renovations to the newly acquired property that will serve as a gateway to the Greene Field Station. The 1,100 square foot barn will become an onsite Research and Education Center that will house a high-tech classroom as well

as aquatic, terrestrial and atmospheric monitoring equipment. The Center will enable Carroll students and K-12 students around the region to monitor, research, and document issues related to the natural environment. The Center will also serve as home base for a new “Experimenting across the Curriculum” initiative being developed by Kevin McMahon, John Garrison and their colleagues. (An NSF grant to support that initiative was just submitted this morning!)

- A number of donors have also begun to support our Cross-Cultural Experience (CCE) program, the signature component of the Pioneer Core curriculum, which, as you know, is distinguished by its integrating theme of culture that extends from freshman to senior years. The Pio Core is now in its fourth year, and the impact of CCEs on students is measurable and transforming. Students’ post- travel reflections have documented fears being replaced by excitement, ignorance by understanding and the broadening of their sense of the world and their place within it. Faculty designed the curriculum to differentiate our graduates as they apply for their first jobs after college, and, most significantly, to enable them to successfully compete over their lifetimes in a globalized world.

- Newly endowed funds through the Campaign are enabling us to attract the best students and to fund endowed faculty chairs. These funds help make us less reliant on annual operating revenue and provide flexibility to allow us to tackle other strategic initiatives.
- In addition to all of these projects already completed or underway, we are excited to announce a new initiative that will be part of the campaign:

We are moving forward with a proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a challenge grant to establish an endowment to support a new Center for Integrated Studies of the Humanities. The grant would provide a 1-for-3 match for every dollar raised; we will request \$500,000 and will then need to raise \$1,500,000 to receive the full match. The Center will provide long-term support for interdisciplinary humanities programming across campus, allowing students and faculty to further their understanding of the ways that human knowledge extends across disciplinary divides. One example of this is the basis of a new program proposal for a Music Therapy program—the recent research that documents the generative impact that familiar music has on the brain of Alzheimer’s

patients. The Center for Integrated Studies of the Humanities will support programs to enable students and faculty across campus to explore new ideas aimed at enhancing our understanding of the connectedness of the human condition, and our common humanity, across disciplinary and global boundaries.

As I hope is abundantly clear, over the past few years *Campaign Carroll: The Common Thread* has already made a deep and dramatic impact on academic life at Carroll. It is truly a comprehensive campaign and, as such, it promises to do so much more. Each of us, and all of our students have already benefitted from programs under its aegis, and each of us has a big stake in its successful completion. The success of future generations of Pioneers depends on it.

There are many people who have brought us to this point – and certainly none more important than our very generous donors. Doug will now share some of the exciting news regarding our success to date – and about a few of those special friends who care deeply about Carroll and what we are doing. Doug....