I welcome you to Brock University.

If there is any setting, suitably made available to us by the Section of St. Paul Street United Church, it is somewhat cramped, but I and my colleagues and I would request you to have patience, and become imaginatively for a few weeks— let us hope not longer than six or seven. We think you will find at the Glendale Campus a lot waiting for you, though the waiting part is not our devising.

If, also, for several days, you find the setting, and your own place in it, strange and slightly bewildering, take courage. Other people have had this experience elsewhere, and have felt wildly uncertain. Remember also that you are the very first people to have this experience under the aegis of Brock University, and we all hope that you will treasure the collection of it for all of your lives.

There are a few things to be said, obvious enough, no doubt, but not less important for theurrance of use.

We think you would do well to put academic requirements first and extra-curricular activities second only after the first have been satisfied. The idea of excellence in academic achievement is an idea hardly new and requiring sustained effort and application to sustain; but, all of us would say, far beyond any measurement.

We would add you to think of your own part in this growing University in its very first year, when, if ever, it will be under searching scrutiny from outside. The people whose vision and hard work and perseverance and force of example have made this new foundation a reality are more interested in your welfare and progress than perhaps you realize and your
conduct and outward attitude of courtesy, and abilities will go a long distance towards fulfilling their dreams for Brock University. I have always been proud that for over 30 years I have been a member of a college in the University of Oxford, whose beginnings go back nearly 600 years*, and whose steadfast work has been, through twilight and shadow, 

*Nakyth Man. Perhaps some of my pride can be reflected in your everyday concern for the good name of Brock University.

There was at one stage a question whether we should begin our corporate existence in affiliation with some older foundation, or whether we should be independent from the start. The Founders' Committee resolved upon the second course, and here is no doubt in the minds of my colleagues and myself that this decision was right. I mention the point because the autonomy we already enjoy is a source of present strength and future help; we should build

* New College, Oxford, founded in 1379
The "hard work" phase is now; the glories may arrive later, but for the present you must put your backs into it, and work as you have never worked before. If you need a pleasant word to roll around in your academic tongues, try on "survive" and for sake the motto of this university: *survite*, to press forward, to press on.

I wish you good health, good fortune, and every success.
Starting in to university always calls up in my mind John Keats' imagery of The Realm of Gold, though he was writing at a time when platinum was not in common use, and before uranium had been discovered. Perhaps he thought of gold in the sense in which the Psalmist wrote of gold: "more to be desired than gold, yea than much fine gold"; though recent archaeological findings in Israel suggest that there was a time when copper was esteemed more precious—because it was more portable—than the gold already available.

But what I want to say is that it is important in your university experience that your Realm of Gold should not become the Realm of Brass. I mean that that the enthusiasm of Cortez—Keats should not descend to inert, unimaginable, slightly grudging make-do. I suppose it might be possible to spend three years in a university without ever realizing Keats is a Virile, mind-stretching idea, though I hope this will not happen at Brock. I hope also that your Brock experience will be full of new ideas; that you will find distance (or discover anew, for we are all discoverers in the Keatsian sense), "the subtle enchantment of the unfamiliar.

This is important, not only because of what it may do for you personally, but because it is the best of all
safeguards against arbitrariness in higher education. One of our purposes in the founding of Brock University is to demonstrate the certainty that it is not a condition of our academic existence to impose a uniform intellectual pattern on any or every discipline. We are the more resolved upon this course because we do not know what the shape of the sciences touching upon man and his environment will be some day be. We may range from apparent certainty to the infinitestimable, probable, and by the better for our weighing. It will also be a part of our intellectual mission not to strip human pursuits of a certain sense of poetry, or the theory that an existence, to be purposeful, must also be dull. Purposeful we should like always to be known as; dull never; and if to purposefulness we can add some eager quality of mind and generosity of heart, we shall be well along the broad highway of satisfaction.
1. Academic Standing / first
2. Young alumni / likely to object to expansion
3. The glamorous career later
4. Autonomy as a strength
5. Fraternities not contemplated
6. Out of town students / temporary campus
   Rue panse / show cancer / lodgings

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