University of Hawaii Centennial
and Inauguration of Virginia Hinshaw as UH-Manoa Chancellor
November 19, 2007
3 p.m., Kennedy Theatre, 1770 East West Road

Remarks by UC Davis Chancellor Larry N. Vanderhoef (3-5 minutes)

- I am honored to offer brief remarks this afternoon in celebration of the university’s Centennial and of my good friend Virginia Hinshaw’s inauguration as chancellor of the UH Manoa campus.
- How fitting it is that you’ve chosen the theme of “gifts” for today’s celebration, and the gift of “partnership” in connection with UC Davis and me.
- I’ve had the opportunity to get to know the University of Hawaii through service on the Western Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation team. The notion of “gifts” and “partnership” fits UH – and UC Davis – to a T.
- We have much in common – UH Manoa and UC Davis:
  - … We share a land-grant university heritage and its special obligation that we share our gifts of teaching, research and service with our communities – that we make a positive difference in people’s lives each and every day.
  - … We are both celebrating a Centennial, honoring the past while forging a future that will glow a bit brighter with each new partnership at every level.
  - … And we share Virginia Hinshaw.
She was a gift to us when she came to UC Davis as our provost six years ago, and she is the best of partners.

At UC Davis, her dynamic leadership was felt virtually everywhere. But I bet you’re not surprised by that.

If you’ve heard Virginia speak much, you know she never met an occasion that didn’t call for a quote.

Well, I’ll see her one quote and raise her an editorial cartoon this afternoon.

First the quote. These wise words are from Robert N. Pirsig and, to me; they fit Virginia and the University of Hawaii so very well: “The place to improve the world is first in one’s own heart and head and hands, and then work outward from there.” Unquote. Is that not Virginia? Is that not you? Is that not a commitment to gift-giving and partnership? You know it is.

And now for the editorial cartoon. It was inspired many years ago by the late higher education statesman Clark Kerr. Kerr was a former president of the University of California and chancellor of its Berkeley campus, and the architect of California’s Master Plan for Higher Education.

In his 1963 Godkin lectures at Harvard, Kerr described the many roles a university president or chancellor must play.

That, in turn, inspired an editorial cartoonist at the San Francisco Chronicle to illustrate these common roles.
He drew a capped and gowned president with all sorts of labels, including one pointing out...

...a fine ear for dialogue...

...and a retractable neck for minimum stickout...

...This model leader was wearing rose-colored glasses for viewing the future population trend, with rear-view mirror for historical outlook...

...a hard hat for construction projects [pause] and for regents' meetings...

...and amphibious roller skates for keeping up with the times, skating on thin ice and walking on water.

Virginia, today's your day for walking on water.

May you always have a good wind at your back with your UH family and friends always beside you as you help to guide UH Manoa to an even brighter and bolder future.

Your higher education partners – and especially UC Davis – will be right there at your side – sharing and learning, and helping to prepare even greater gifts for the communities we serve.

Mahalo.