Nearly 300 invited guests were on campus to hear my 2012 Report to the Community last Monday. My message to our friends and supporters was a message of thanks.

In conjunction with our own efforts to invest strategically for the future, our community has invested in the IUPUI vision of making an impact every day. Through their philanthropic support of the IMPACT Campaign, they enabled us to make progress despite the economic challenges. It was time to update them on what we have achieved thanks to their support. It was time to tell them about the talented people we’ve recruited and retained because of contributions to endowed chairs and scholarships, the teaching and research programs we’ve been able to launch or grow, the civic engagement projects that gifts and grants have enabled us to sustain.

I invite you to view the presentation or read the transcript. You will be inspired by what you have done. You will be inspired by what we have received to support our work. You will be inspired to deliver on the challenges these gifts put before us.

In my closing statement, I asked the audience to consider what we would be like if all of us (the larger community and our academic community) hadn’t made the commitment to build this place and build this success. Imagine Indianapolis during the past 40 years without IUPUI. Now imagine what we can do in the next 40 years. It makes a difference what we do from here out.

Comments? Write chanellr@iupui.edu.