Campaign Closing Remarks

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by Charles R. Bantz

On Saturday evening, at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, we celebrated the conclusion of the IUPUI IMPACT campaign – the largest and most successful comprehensive fundraising campaign in Indiana University’s nearly 200-year history. It raised $1.39 billion, exceeding its initial goal of $1.25 billion. Below are excerpts from the remarks I gave on the occasion:

Good evening. Thank you to all our friends and partners, those of you here in this room tonight and those with us through their impact.

Whether donors of treasure or self—tens of thousands of you all have brought us to this evening. Some of you have been with IUPUI on this journey for decades—and some of us are newer to the journey—but all of you here tonight are shareholders in this success! Thank you.

Some of you have given and given and given again. Thank you.

Some have given at home, in the community, on the campus. (Here I offer as an example, Sandra Petronio, my wife and partner). Thank you.

All have given to make a difference. Thank you.

What can one add to “thank you”?

What can one add to what has already been said?

The French Nobel Laureate, ANATOLE FRANCE offers a path when he said: “To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only plan but also believe.”

As I look out across this beautiful room, I see donors motivated by big dreams, powerful beliefs, who expect action and great accomplishments . . . [Citing three named schools in law, public health, and philanthropy; the Frank and Katrina Basile Center for Art, Design and Public Life; and the spaces created with support from Sid and Lois Eskenazi] All those big dreams oblige us, and inspire us, to accomplish the great things those donors envisioned.

[Referencing 69 RISE Scholarships, the Nina Scholars Program, and 22 endowed chairs]: We also depend on those whose dreams started smaller, but grow through their impact.

Your dreams have encouraged us to develop a new strategic plan: Our Commitment to Indiana and Beyond for the years ahead.

Your dreams have motivated us to act—and boldly.

Your dreams have inspired us to believe in ourselves beyond anything we could have hoped.

And with your dreams to give us the audacity, we will accomplish great things.

Thank you.

Comments? Write chancllr@iupui.edu.

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