Northwestern is innovating social change based on compassion and concern to help solve one of the most fundamental problems of our time. This is bound to cause shock waves among alumni, friends, and the community at large. The students on campuses today are challenging the values and standards of our society as never before. In some cases they are employing extreme methods to gain their ends. When the dust is settled and we look to the deeper meaning of the actions at Northwestern, I believe we will find a source of pride and hope for the future.

Alumni deplore the tactics of lawlessness and blackmail that were used. They do not agree with all the phraseology of the document issued by the University. They are concerned with the ever increasing permissiveness on many college campuses today. They rightfully will expect that Northwestern will not tolerate further seizures of private property or submission to threats and that the administration will retain control of the institution as well as final authority in matters affecting student life and education. The University must protect the rights of all its students.

The campus must be the training ground for the democratic process. All parties must act responsibly. There must be ample opportunity in the future for good communications among students, faculty, and administration. Petition and redress of grievances are normal in a democracy, but these must be accomplished in an atmosphere of trust and mutual concern rather than in one of demand and threat. Students must recognize their responsibilities to others in the University as well as to the vast body of alumni and friends, who through devoted efforts of time, talents, and resources have made possible the present opportunity that students have for an education at Northwestern.

I urge alumni and friends of Northwestern to search their hearts carefully for the true meaning of the events of the past several days and to rally to the support of a great institution which is demonstrating courage and concern in the struggle for human dignity.