

# Wallace 35th Reunion & Brunch Program

Instructions for Brunch and Photos .....Mary Beth Kellerman  
*Wallace Council President*

Welcome & Introduction of Special Guests .....Zulma Toro-Ramos  
*Dean, College of Engineering*

Message on Behalf of Mrs. Wallace .....Shelley Johnson  
*Granddaughter of Mrs. Wallace*

Remarks.....Don Beggs  
*President of Wichita State University*

Recognition of Graduating Seniors .....Mary Beth Kellerman  
*Wallace Council President*

## **Graduating Seniors**

Adam Koenig, aerospace  
Tanner Malone, mechanical (*couldn't be with us at the brunch*)  
Tan Nguyen, mechanical  
Allison Ronning, aerospace  
Grant Rudd, aerospace  
Gavin Smith, aerospace  
Stephen Turner, aerospace  
Amy Vest, aerospace  
Matt Wedel, aerospace

Wallace Alumni Scholarship Fund .....Elizabeth King  
*President and CEO, WSU Foundation*

Donor Testament.....Julie Acosta  
*Vice President Human Resources, The Boeing Company*  
*Parent to Three Wallace Scholars*

Closing Remarks.....Zulma Toro-Ramos  
*Dean, College of Engineering*

## Transcript of Speeches

### **Welcome & Introduction of Special Guests.....Zulma Toro-Ramos** ***Dean, College of Engineering***

“It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2012 Wallace Scholars graduating class celebration, which marks the 35th anniversary of the creation of the Dwane L. and Velma Wallace legacy at the Wichita State University College of Engineering.

We have been blessed by the opportunity to call Mrs. Velma L. Wallace a friend, a mentor, and a supporter of our College. Indeed, for this special occasion, I would like to ask all of the Wallace Scholars with us this morning, past, present and future, to stand so we can recognize you. As you can see, the Wallace Scholar program has impacted many, many lives.

Now, it is my pleasure to introduce some of the people who have come today to help us celebrate 35 years of the Dwane L. and Velma Wallace history and legacy and the accomplishments of the 2012 Wallace Scholar graduating class. Please hold your applause until all the guests have been introduced.

From the Wallace family, we have this morning with us Karen Johnson, Mrs. Wallace’s daughter, and her husband James. Velma’s granddaughter, Ms. Shelley Johnson.

We have with us a number of Wallace guests: Mr. Dave Strohm; Mr. Bob Hughes; Mr. Charlie Russell and his wife Gloria; Mr. Bruce Peterman and his wife Connie; Jeanette Wells, Mrs. Wallace’s assistant.

From Wichita State University, our president for 13 years, a friend of the College of Engineering, somebody that we will be missing after this year, President Don Beggs and Shirley Beggs. Dr. Elizabeth King, president and CEO of the Wichita State University Foundation; Dr. James Rhatigan, consultant to the Wichita State University

Foundation and Mrs. Wallace's friend; Megan Smith, director of development for engineering at the Wichita State University Foundation. Dr. Keith Pickus, provost at Wichita State University; Mary Herrin, vice president for administration and finance.

There are two very special guests with us this morning. Paul Lytle; he is a Wallace Scholar from the first graduating class in 1981, and his wife Virginia. We have with us also a member of the second Wallace Scholar class; Pam Stallard.

From the College of Engineering, Dr. Scott Miller, chair of the aerospace engineering department; Dr. John Watkins, chair of electrical engineering and computer science; Dr. Michael Jorgensen, program director of bioengineering; Dr. Hamid Lankarani, professor and Wallace adviser from mechanical engineering; Mrs. Samantha Corcoran, assistant dean.

We have this morning with us a very special guest as well that you are going to learn more about later; Mrs. Julie Acosta from Boeing.

Well, I have to recognize the people who made today's event possible, the 35th reunion planning committee: Joan Wagner, Laura Bernstorf, Troy Brown, Charity Kennedy, Megan Smith and Samantha Corcoran.

I would like to recognize also the graduating seniors, who will be presented to you later: Adam Koenig from aerospace, Tanner Malone from mechanical, Tan Nguyen from mechanical, Allison Ronning from aerospace, Grant Rudd from aerospace, Gavin Smith from aerospace, Stephen Turner from aerospace, Amy Vest from aerospace and Matt Wedel from aerospace. As you can see, a very good aerospace class! And, with us this morning, the parents and friends of graduating seniors. Will you please stand to be recognized, the parents and friends of the graduating seniors.

35 years ago, a couple of visionaries, Dwane L. and Velma L. Wallace, with the encouragement of Dean Charles Jakowatz, established a fund at Wichita State University to support scholarships

and graduate fellowships for engineering students as well as the purchase of equipment and any other special needs of the College of Engineering. Today, we come together to honor the Wallace vision, a deed that has allowed generations to enjoy the opportunities that the College of Engineering brings to their lives.

When the Wallace scholarship program began it supported 15 undergraduate scholarships and six graduate fellowships. Now, it supports over 45 scholarships per year and the number of Wallace Scholar alumni has reached 270. The scholarship first started as a \$150 per year award and has grown to a \$20,000 award over four years. What a difference!

Also, thanks to the generosity of these two pioneers, Dwane L. and Velma L. Wallace, the College of Engineering recognizes the contribution to engineering education and research of three faculty members and a graduate student every year through the Wallace Faculty and Graduate Student awards. In fact, this year's award recipients will be recognized tonight in our annual college banquet.

Even before my arrival at the Wichita State University College of Engineering I learned about Dwane L. and Velma L. Wallace's early commitment to creating excellence in engineering education at Wichita State University, and the unique role models they have been in the history of our college.

I had the opportunity of meeting Mrs. Wallace during the interview process for the position I now hold. Since that very first moment I realized that I was in front of a visionary, a leader, and a very special human being. My first impression of this charming lady was exactly right. She has taught me what it means to be committed and passionate about a cause, to be caring, and determined to make a difference in the lives of young people.

Mrs. Wallace has taught me why and how she has been so personally involved for 35 years in creating the next generation of engineers and innovators. Her inspiration in this endeavor has been her late pioneering husband, Dwane L. Wallace.

In 1976, the College of Engineering finished the construction of the new engineering complex; a facility of approximately 76,000 square feet at a cost of \$3.75M. That facility replaced WWII buildings in which the college operated for the previous 45 years. The new engineering complex provided the opportunity for Wichita State students to have an exciting and relative engineering education experience supported by laboratory work. This facility was dedicated in April 1977 in the name of Dwane L. and Velma L. Wallace.

Approximately 30 years after the completion of what was called Wallace Hall in 1977, we completed the construction of an addition to Wallace Hall: the Engineering Research Laboratory Building. Today, 35 years after the dedication of Wallace Hall we are in a new facility of research and engineering design.

In one way or another, all these facilities, which will continue to support the next generation of engineers and innovators, are part of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace's legacy to the College of Engineering at Wichita State University.

Velma (and I am speaking to Karen who represents Velma this morning), thank you for 35 years of legacy and support of the Wallace Scholars at the College of Engineering at Wichita State University.

As I said before, today we are celebrating the members of the 2012 Wallace Scholars graduating class for completing a very important journey in their lives: obtaining an engineering degree. I commend each and every member of this class on this occasion, and please accept my personal best wishes as well as those from the College of Engineering upon your graduation. I salute you on this occasion when you are joining the ranks of the Wallace Scholar alumni. Your experiences as a member of this select group will make you uniquely qualified to have a successful career and personal life.

It is important to recognize the transformational power of the Wallace Scholar program. I can say with confidence that the opportunities provided by this program, along with the experience-based

engineering education in our college during the last four years, have transformed you into engineering professionals, responsible global citizens, generous human beings, and visionary leaders.

I should also express my appreciation to all graduating and current Wallace Scholars for all you have contributed to our college, institution, and the Wichita community. You have been able to expand and grow the legacy of the architects of this special scholarship program that you are part of. These architects, who are none other than Dwane and Velma Wallace, deserve our admiration and gratitude. I will encourage you, Wallace Scholars, to remember these architects and be thankful for their vision. Because of Dwane and Velma Wallace's philanthropic spirit you have been able to enjoy a different college experience than your peers; full of opportunities of community engagement, leadership experiences, and extra-curricular activities. You even have been able to have the kind of real-world experience you thought would best fit your personal interest.

And to continue the celebration we have this morning, I am delighted to invite to the podium a very special guest. Ms. Shelley Johnson, Mrs. Wallace's granddaughter, who will share with us a message from our friend, Velma."

**Message on Behalf of Mrs. Wallace .....Shelley Johnson**  
***Granddaughter of Mrs. Wallace***

"Good morning! I will try my best to channel my grandmother, so of course I will thank my dear, dear friends President and Mrs. Beggs, I will think about my beloved Wallace Scholars, and of course I will think about my favorite granddaughter, Shelley Johnson.

I'm sorry that I'm not able to be with you this morning, but I want you all to know, though, that you are very much on my mind. The spring brunch for the Wallace Scholars is one of my favorite activities; it allows me the opportunity to celebrate the end of a successful year, wish seniors well as they move forward with their career goals, offer my best wishes for all of you who are returning, and this year,

welcome the alumni who have returned to commemorate this occasion. These are exciting times for all of you.

I'm aware that the job situation for engineers isn't what we would like it to be, but it is still better than last year. It is heartening to see, at both the state and national level, the emphasis being put on engineering education. Legislators are fully aware of the need for more engineers. There is a clear recognition that the nation's economic growth is tied to manufacturing and engineers will be an important part of that growth. Dr. Beggs reminded me that just a year ago the University Engineering Initiative Act was passed here in Kansas, with the goal of increasing the number of engineering graduates in Kansas. In these contentious times it is certainly heartwarming to see legislators engage in bipartisan support for students through scholarships and other incentives. I know that the long range picture isn't foremost on your mind if you're still looking for a job, but you will definitely benefit from these initiatives--you can count on it.

While I don't recommend it, career uncertainty in life isn't all bad. I remember very vividly how focused my husband, Dwane, was in the early 1930s in building Cessna Aircraft, one plane at a time. We were always just one plane away from staying open or having to close the company. This contributes to focus, believe me. All of us back in Wichita would wait by the phone to see if Dwane had made a sale or won an airshow to keep us going. Today, the success of Cessna may have an air of inevitability about it, but that was far from true. It was not until WWII approached that we knew we would survive and then prosper. Cessna succeeded because my husband's knowledge was on the forefront of innovation; he understood the need for quality control, which equates to reliability, reliability contributes to reputation, and reputation contributes to customers, new ones and repeat ones. Basically, I've given you a brief history of the Cessna Aircraft Company.

Engineering is a difficult educational path and I congratulate your efforts. I am so happy that Dwane and I made it possible for students to succeed by lightening their financial burden. It is our goal to help



highly motivated students who have insufficient financial resources. We viewed this as a very sound investment in the future.

One very wonderful surprise has emerged over the past 35 years, and that has been how the Wallace Scholars have worked to help each other. It has been a source of real pride for me to see how you have used your talents to pull for your classmates. I believe it is one of the things that sets the Wallace Scholars program apart.

While my health is uncertain at the present moment, this in no way diminishes my joy in congratulating you this morning. You cannot predict exactly how your future will take shape, but I do know that by attending school at Wichita State University you are establishing an educational foundation that will contribute to your success as long as you live. You will embody what Dwane and I had in mind in the beginning and I am grateful to all of you. Thank you.”

(Dean Toro-Ramos) “I know that all of us are missing Mrs. Wallace. To her, our thoughts, our hope that she will be able to join us in the future. Thank you for those inspiring words.

And now, it is my privilege to call to the podium a big friend of the College of Engineering, a very strong supporter of the Wallace Scholars, and a dear friend of Mrs. Wallace. President Beggs.”

**Remarks .....Don Beggs**  
***President of Wichita State University***

“Well, Shelley, nice job. Shirley and I, every week, go see Velma. What you’ve heard is Velma. You may look at Velma and not see her, but what you just heard is a part of every conversation every week that we have. It’s my job to report on the College of Engineering, the Wallace Scholars, and the different things that are going on. From one week to another, our conversation continues to be “we’re accomplishing what we want to accomplish for those children.” That’s just a part of her perception in terms of who you are and what you are; I know you’re still children to her. From our perspective, the



comments that Shelley prepared as the granddaughter couldn't be better.

Here we are again finishing a year. Looking at the freshman class, if we didn't know it in the photography, one of the criteria for being a Wallace Scholar seems to be getting taller every year. Robert [Collins], I don't know how you made it! But from our perspective, as we look at what's happened this year, it's been another spectacular year for the Wallace Scholars and for the College of Engineering. You have been a part of making that into something that we can all be very proud of.

In the fall in the picnic in our backyard, we always talk about what a privilege it is to be a Wallace Scholar and what an advantage it is to be a Wallace Scholar. Well, from our perspective this year, I believe that you as Wallace Scholars have continued to step it up again. You've reached out to fellow students in remarkable ways, exactly the ways that Velma wanted it to be. And so from my perspective, for those of you who are current Wallace Scholars in school, you're carrying on the tradition that started 35 years ago. So take pride in that, take pride in who you are and what you are because that is the expectation of the Wallace family. We are here to advance engineering and you do that through quality people.

Now, there were some things that were signed early on in terms of your coming in. I'd like to encourage you (and some of you alums continue to do this)--now is the time to contact Velma with email or notes. And I encourage you to do that because it seems like every other week when we're with Velma she's telling us about hearing from one of the Wallace Scholars. She's trying to remember which one you are and obviously she remembers you from when she knew you as a student. And for you as current students I would encourage you to do that, although I realize exams are going on, but if you're not overly busy then you're not a Wallace Scholar! Please continue to do that because that means a tremendous amount to Velma.

Again, congratulations, thank you all for coming here, and it's going to be fun to tell her about all this. Thank you very much."

**Recognition of Graduating Seniors .....Mary Beth Kellerman**  
***Wallace Council President***

**Adam Koenig**

- Major in aerospace engineering, minor in mathematics
- Member of AIAA, Christian Challenge, and Wichita Swing Dance Society
- Attending graduate school next year at Stanford University on a full fellowship
- “Thanks to Mrs. Wallace for allowing me to be a part of an excellent community that would otherwise have been inaccessible.”

**Tan Nguyen**

- Major: BSME, Minor: Mathematics
- Activities: Tutor for Student Support Services, Referee for Kansas BEST Robotics, Participated in Formula SAE, Engineers Without Borders, & Engineering Council for a few years.
- Plans for after graduation: Got a job... at Cessna as a Mechanical Systems Engineer specializing in Environmental Controls Systems. Plan to serve a 2-year mission. Get married. Have kids. Live a happy simple life. Die peacefully.
- “Thank you Mrs. Wallace, for your generous support throughout the years. Your charity allowed me to concentrate on school and to live life the Timon and Pumbaa way, *Hakuna Matata*... it means no worries. It has given me time in my youth, something that I could never buy back once it passed. That time allowed me to grow and learn more about myself and my interests. Being a Wallace Scholar was a big reason why I got the job I have today. I am so grateful to be a Wallace Scholar and proud to be a part of this family. Thank you.”

**Allison Ronning**

- Aerospace Major with minors in French and Math
- Currently work at Spirit AeroSystems as a design engineer
- Accepted to law school for patent/intellectual property law
- WSU involvement; Delta Gamma, Women’s Panhellenic Association, Student Ambassador Society, Order of Omega, and student orientation leader

- “Being a Wallace Scholar opened so many doors for me as a WSU student. I was able to get heavily involved in many student organizations that gave me valuable leadership skills as well as the opportunity to intern at NASA Glenn, Bombardier Learjet, and Spirit AeroSystems.”

### **Grant Rudd**

- Major-Aerospace Engineering
- Minors-Math, Business Administration
- Activities-Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, MDA volunteer work, and other minor ones
- After Graduation-Accepted full time position at NIAR in the Full Scale Structural Test Lab
- “Thank you Mrs. Wallace for all the assistance you have given us throughout our college careers. Your words of wisdom have been very helpful to us, and will continue to be for a very long time. We will always remember and appreciate everything that you have done for us. Thank you.”

### **Gavin Smith**

- Major in aerospace engineering
- Involved in the Design/Build/Fly team for 4 years
- Member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity
- Participated in the formation of the Fairmount Flying Club
- “I would like to thank Mrs. Wallace for allowing me to be so involved on campus during my time at WSU, it has been a phenomenal experience!”

### **Stephen Turner**

- Major-Aerospace Engineering, Minor-Mathematics
- Activities-Stability and Controls lead for 2012 Design Build Fly team
- I plan to continue to work in the Aerospace industry in Wichita
- “I would like to thank Mrs. Wallace because I would not have been able to come to Wichita and have all of these opportunities without her generosity.”

### **Matt Wedel**

- Aerospace Engineering, Minor in Mathematics

- Member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity where I have had the following leadership Roles: President, Vice President of Membership Education, Vice President of Public Relations, Secretary
- Member of Interfraternity Council where I have had the following leadership roles: President, Scholarship Chair, Secretary
- Counselor for the American Legion Boys State of Kansas
- After I graduate in December, I plan to continue my education at the graduate level studying propulsion.
- “The Wallace Scholarship has given me the opportunity to focus on my academics and not have to worry about working all through college, and also giving me the opportunity to obtain leadership positions throughout Wichita State.”

### **Amy Vest**

- Amy is receiving her degree in aerospace engineering with a minor in mathematics.
- Throughout her four years at Wichita State, she has played in the WSU Concert Band.
- Amy has also been a member of Tau Beta Sigma, the national honorary band sorority, during her stay at WSU, serving as vice president of the organization for the past two years.
- Amy has also had the opportunity to work in the composites lab of the National Institute for Aviation Research for the past two years. She owes it to Mrs. Wallace since Amy was hired by a Wallace Scholar alumni looking for a fellow Wallace scholar for their assistant.
- After graduation, Amy would like to find a position in industry to put her skills to use. She also plans on catching up on sleep and trying to learn what it's like to not be a student.

(Dean Toro-Ramos) “I would like to invite to the podium Dr. Elizabeth King, president and CEO of the WSU Foundation, who will be talking to us about the Wallace Alumni scholarship fund. Elizabeth.”

**Wallace Alumni Scholarship Fund .....Elizabeth King**  
***President and CEO, WSU Foundation***

“Thank you very much, Zulma. We all appreciate the hard work of Dr. Toro-Ramos and her faculty and her staff. It is a college of excellence

for our university and our state, and we're very proud of the leadership you've given us Dr. Toro-Ramos. Thank you very, very much.

John D. Rockefeller is reported as having said that his philosophy in life is to "get all you can, can all you get, and sit on your can." Fortunately for all of us in this room, that was not the philosophy of Dwane and Velma Wallace, who, 35 years ago, as we've heard throughout this morning, 35 years ago created this amazing scholarship.

This scholarship is a prototype when Dr. Beggs and I are talking to other donors about possibly considering establishing a scholarship program; the number one example that we use is the Dwane and Velma Wallace scholarship. Because, not only is it the money that was given, but it was that personal time and attention given by Mrs. Wallace to each and every one of you.

Some of of you who are freshman and sophomores, you haven't experienced this as much as those of you who received the scholarship ten, 15 years ago. But it is a thriving scholarship because she has pushed and pushed and gotten this program to that point as was stated earlier, where the students support each other, and it is like a fraternity or sorority. We're so proud of it.

There are 270 Wallace Scholars. 270. Because once you're a Wallace Scholar you're always a Wallace Scholar. And I think to Velma, and Dr. Beggs mentioned this, that means there are 270 adopted children of Velma Wallace.

Ten years ago, a group of grateful Wallace alumni created the Wallace Alumni Legacy endowed scholarship. Their original goal was for \$100,000 but as they reached that halfway mark toward that \$100,000, typical Wallace Scholar style, they said "well, that's not enough!" so they raised the goal to \$150,000. This is a super scholarship because it is one that is being given to by Wallace Scholars and their family members.

At your place settings, at the middle of the table, you'll see an envelope. We would ask that Wallace Scholar alumni, parents, and anyone who is so inclined would consider taking one of those envelopes and consider either an outright gift or a multi-year or five-year pledge. If you want to talk about more ways how to do so, Megan Smith is here. Megan, stand up. Megan is our director of development for the College of Engineering; if you want to know anything about how to give a gift that will keep on giving (just as the Wallace scholarship has done for you) that is the means for doing so. We invite you to do that.

And I am now pleased announce a lead gift in this effort, from Julie-Ellen Acosta and her husband Carlos. They have committed \$25,000 to be matched by Boeing for another \$25,000, so a total gift of \$50,000 for the Wallace Alumni Legacy scholarship. Julie-Ellen and Carlos have probably a greater family connection to the Wallace Scholarship than anybody else, with three Wallace Scholar children, a Wallace Scholar sister-in-law, and probably others that we don't even know about.

Julie-Ellen is the vice president of Human Resources for The Boeing Company. She has been extremely involved in our university; she is serving on the WSU Foundation board of directors, she's also on the College of Engineering advisory board, and she is our lead focal for Wichita State with The Boeing Company. Julie-Ellen, we are so proud of you! I could probably give her entire speech time just to introducing her; I will not do so, but we are grateful for your generosity and we look forward to hearing from you."

**Donor Testament .....Julie Acosta**  
***Vice President Human Resources, The Boeing Company***  
***Parent to Three Wallace Scholars***

"Ok, we're going to make this a little fun. Everybody get out their brochure that we have for today. Now, I know I'm supposed to make this short, but most of you know that's difficult for me. Ok, so get out your brochures and I want you to--the first part of the conversation I'll have with you does have to do with Velma and Dwane--so I want you

to find my first picture with Dwane and Velma. And I'll give you a hint: its a totally different hair color. So I'll let you find that. If you can, I'd personally like to have a prize but I don't, but you can raise your hand or shout it out (my kids don't count!). Second page, lower left, a cute little bow tie. That was a great picture, I remember that outfit well.

But I want you to look at who I'm looking at. I'm definitely looking at Mrs. Wallace. I joined this effort--I can't believe it, but I sat down and worked the math--well over 30 years ago. When I graduated with my first degree in electrical engineering, I had an opportunity to be a part of helping shape the Wallace Scholarship program. Little did I know what kind of an impact that was going to have on my life, when I got the opportunity to actually work with both Dwane and Velma. There's no question in my mind Dean Wilhelm at that time knew what he was doing.

So Shelley, when you were giving your talk, can you imagine four years of that type of mentorship from your grandmother? Because that is exactly what I got. Now, I'll try really hard not to be emotional here. Her coaching was unbelievable that first four years. There's no question she impacted my life.

When you look at where we are today, when you look at the shortage that we have of engineers in the United States, can you imagine 35 years ago the vision that she and Dwane had for building a legacy that they wanted to believe in? I've never met anybody who so deeply and sincerely meant what she said, said what she did, and lived it out. And she and Dwane certainly did that. 35 years ago they began an effort to build a pipeline to the future, the pipeline of engineers. And it is such a privilege to have been part of shaping that.

Now, Velma spent so much time with me that I think she was convinced I was a Wallace Scholar. Every year we tried to let her know that, no, I helped her run the program. I was in Sam's [Corcoran] position, I think Sheila [O'Connor] is here (where are you at?), here's another one. We were all absolutely influenced by what Velma and Dwane did. And again, I just want to say that her sincere focus and Dwane's focus on the future of engineering certainly, at my



young age at that time (I think I was four at the time), certainly had a great influence on my life going forward. I'm not even sure that at that age I recognized I was being mentored and coached, but I can certainly say thirty-some years later I truly recognize that.

Now, little did I realize that 1995, 2000, and basically 2010 would also become important years; those were the years that my kids--my two oldest Joe, and Jennifer in 2000 and then Elisa in 2010--went through the DSI Competition and the Wallace Competition and were awarded with Wallace Scholarships. It was incredibly, incredibly important to my kids that they make their own way, do their own thing. So it was important in my case to not be associated with that, which I was not. They truly earned those recognitions on their own. I remember taking Elisa in 2010, I guess it was 2009 for the DSI [and Wallace] Competition. She had been accepted at a number of universities and I said that the one thing you have to do for me is at least compete in the DSI, and she certainly had the grades to do that. I believe you were accepted to Purdue, USC, a number of places; but for me, we made the trek to Wichita from St. Louis. All I can say is that the campus, the people, it was the Wallace, the whole Wallace Competition that sold her after that. We didn't know what was going to happen. And if I recall, since we were in St. Louis, the Wallace letters went out on a Friday (if I remember right), they received letters, but we did not get a letter. Let's just say there were lots of tears involved, but we received our letter on Monday. Because I knew nothing, I absolutely knew nothing, but I knew that her passion about attending Wichita State was real. She turned down the other universities, and it is truly, no question about it, it was that Wallace. The overwhelming feeling that she had that "they want me, Mom!" and that was her comment.

So those are my legacies, that's what I leave. I would like to make one comment about Pam [Stallard, second graduating class and her sister-in-law]. You heard it when Shelley's talked about the whole legacy and what the vision was 35 years ago. It wasn't just about the engineers in the pipeline, it was the teaching of those engineers. And so there were other funds put aside for teaching. Pam, an industrial engineering from Wichita State in the second year of the Wallace

Scholar's program, left engineering in the early 1990s. Sarah was born in 1988, she stayed home, then she went back and earned a teaching certificate through our College of Education at Wichita State and is now one of the premier math teachers in Maize (can't wait to get home to grade papers, in fact). But here is something that we do at Wichita State that is phenomenal; we take people with Pam's background and she is now teaching that next generation--the science, technology, engineering, mathematicians. We are incredibly proud of her and the legacy that she is also leaving.

So about a month ago I was back with Megan [Smith] on some other things, we were sitting at the table; I really didn't know anything about this scholarship that we're about to talk about. Out of the blue, that was one of the first things we talked about. I think it took me two nano-seconds, might even have been pico-seconds, and the answer was "yes, absolutely!" When I think about Velma and Dwane's, what their vision was, and what they have accomplished with all of you--all of the Wallace Scholars--when I think about our legacy, I think about the integrity, I think about what the Wallace Foundation stands for, there is no question in my mind as we go forward and we add to that--the legacy piece, the alumni piece--this is absolutely the right thing to do.

So I would encourage you, even if it is small, start small and work with your companies, whatever it is. I fully intend to be a spokesman or whatever I have to be; I truly believe with all my heart that this is absolutely the next place for us to go to build on what Shelley's grandmother and grandfather started.

With that, that's it, and thank you."

**A Special Gift for the Beggs .....Zulma Toro-Ramos**  
***Dean, College of Engineering***

"As I mentioned earlier today, next year when we will have the Wallace Brunch a very dear couple won't be with us because they will be enjoying the next phase of their lives. President Beggs and

Shirley, as you may know, will be retiring at the end of this year. We will miss you.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank you for 13 years of support to the College of Engineering. Out of those 13 years I have had the privilege of working for Dr. Beggs for almost seven. It has been a blessing in my life. You have taught me so much and you have taught me about the Wallace legacy and the Wallace Scholars.

And to show that appreciation, I have a gift for you this morning. A gift that represents a lot, a lot for the people of Puerto Rico. In the turn of the 20th century, when Puerto Rico became a part of the United States, there was a lot of poverty. And the people of Puerto Rico needed to survive somehow. They were very creative--they continue to be very creative--but at that time, they invented a rum. A rum made from sugar cane, made in the country, illegal (because they didn't have a permit from the government to produce the rum). Through the years, and after more of a century, now that rum has been refined and is the rum of the people of Puerto Rico. That's what I have for you today.

But, I will impose a condition: you cannot try it until retirement. And another condition: every time you have it I hope you think about the Wallace Scholar program, the Wichita State University College of Engineering, and your friend from Puerto Rico."

**Closing Remarks .....Zulma Toro-Ramos**  
***Dean, College of Engineering***

"I would like to thank each of you for celebrating with us the legacy of Dwane and Velma Wallace. 35 years of changing lives and developing engineers and innovators. Looking around the room, I am inspired to think how a celebration 35 years from now will look like. That celebration will include the children and grandchildren of some of you Wallace Scholars alumni, some of the children of the current Wallace Scholars this morning with us, and for sure it will include the engineering leaders of the city of Wichita, the state of Kansas.

Again, all of this is possible thanks to the generosity of Dwane and Velma Wallace; a true legacy for engineering education at Wichita State University.

Wallace Scholars graduating class, remember that we are very proud of you and you always will be a special member of our college family. We will be reaching out to you on a regular basis, as we have done already so far as you can see, to serve as role models for future generations of Wallace Scholars. Please let Mrs. Wallace and us in the college know, and I urge you to do that, about your personal and professional success and let us know if there is anything that we can do to support you in your professional and personal life. We are here to serve you.

It is impossible for us to leave without recognizing and congratulating the parents and friends here this morning. I would like to recognize you. To you, I must say that you, your support and strength you offer as your son or daughter or student walked the journey of engineering education with us is very much appreciated. To you, thank you very much.

To the Wallace Scholars staying with us, I would like to recognize once again your hard work and effort to maintain your Wallace Scholar status. I would also like to encourage you to keep your commitment to your goal of obtaining an engineering degree; that's the only way you will become a life-long Wallace Scholar, if you finish your degree. But also, while you finish the degree, please stay involved with the Wallace Scholar organization. You can count on me, you can count on our faculty and staff in the College of Engineering as you walk the journey to complete the engineering degree.

Again, thank you to you all and enjoy the rest of your day."