

On this first anniversary of the trauma that struck the University of Iowa on November 1, 1991, a flood of painful memories sweeps over us. Again, we mourn the loss of Christoph Goertz, Dwight Nicholson, Linhua Shan, Robert Smith, and T. Anne Cleary, and the grievous injury inflicted upon Miya Sioson, and again we extend our sympathy to their families.

Over the past year, we cannot say that time has assuaged our loss. But these twelve months have allowed us a respite for healing. We have become a stronger and a more closely knit community, confirmed in our commitment to the work of hope and regeneration. All around us, there are signs of renewal.

Outside Van Allen Hall, a red oak sapling has taken root. It was planted at the instigation of students in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and is marked with a memorial plaque mounted on a boulder placed there by members of the faculty of that department. That growing tree expresses the strength of the department's intergenerational ties and the ongoing vitality of its work.

A few blocks away, along the bed of the former North Capitol Street, the T. Anne Cleary walkway is now under construction. Cleary Walk, which will be heavily used by students moving between the Pentacrest and the east side residence halls, will be a living reminder of Anne Cleary's contributions to her discipline of educational psychology, and of her unflinching sensitivity to the needs of students.

And a courageous young woman has begun her graduate studies, with the help of rehabilitative aids made possible, in part, by contributors to the Miya Sioson Fund at First National Bank in Iowa City. Miya has lost mobility in all four limbs and the fund remains open to ensure that she will have access, over a lifetime, to appropriate housing, personal assistance and advanced technological aids.

Today's concert offers us the opportunity to reflect, together, on our losses of last November 1, to encourage each other's hopes for the future, and to pledge our continuing commitment to our shared life as a University community.

Hunter R. Rawlings
President