Remarks of Chancellor Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr.
University of California, Irvine
Dedication of Irvine Campus
June 20, 1964

Mr. President, Governor Brown, President Kerr, Members of the Board of Regents, our many distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It is my privilege on behalf of the family of the University of California at Irvine to welcome all of you here today to an event that marks the beginning of an exciting chapter in the nearly 100 year history of the University of California, its newest campus at Irvine, and the dramatically burgeoning County of Orange which this year celebrates its diamond jubilee.

Just three and one-half years from the day The Regents accepted the gift of 1000 acres from The Irvine Company and the deed was signed and recorded, we gather to dedicate a site on which shall rise an institution of higher education devoted to the purpose of giving opportunity to qualified youth to mature intellectually, morally, aesthetically, socially and vocationally.

As we lift our eyes from this place across the valley to the magnificent hills beyond, we are reminded of our responsibility to build here not merely an institution to prepare our youth for the traditional learned professions and career interests, but one which shall provide them opportunity to seek deeper insight into human experience and shall lead them to know the vast body of knowledge and heritage of beauty in all forms upon which our society rests.
We accept the responsibility of nurturing this heritage and of transmitting it through research and creative activity, enriched from generation to generation.

Irvine is not conceived as an isolated academia but as an institution that plays an active role in the transfer of learning to life. Learning and living are interrelated; education is both a means of individual development and of social progress. To learn more of our cultural heritage is not to escape from the vicissitudes and practicalities of life, it is a means of wrestling with them.

No one has described this process more eloquently or provocatively than the President of the University of California. It is my pleasure to present to you now the president, Clark Kerr.