

HERITAGE SOCIETY LUNCHEON WELCOME REMARKS
PRESIDENT MARY A. PAPAZIAN
OCTOBER 31, 2017

Thank you.

Hello, everyone! Happy Halloween! Anyone in a costume today?

Well it is a *treat* to see all of you again.

Heritage Society recognition luncheon which came within few months

And I am delighted to take on that role. Today, hear an update from Marie Tuite, who since we last met has been permanently appointed as our director of athletics.

She also will introduce you to our new head football coach, Brent Brennan
Brent is a star in the making.

I think it is important that you know what Marie and her team are doing to set forth a clear path forward for Spartan athletics.

More than that, I want you to see how committed they are and how committed we *all* are to equipping student-athletes for successful lives.

We want to win on the field. Some of our fall teams are having nor do we aspire to be

We are, however, committed to helping provide every student-athlete and all students, for that matter with the opportunity to be a champion in life. *That* is what your generosity helps make possible.

Speaking of which: I have exciting news to share.

Spartan alumnus Terry Potts and his wife, Andrea Brown, have made a multi.

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Last year, we had begun thinking about a long-range campus strategic plan.

Today, the planning is well underway. By this time next year, I should have a plan to share with you.

Last year, I promised that we would intensify our regional engagement efforts, and that San José State would no longer be ignored when major regional decisions were being made.

Today, we are participating in or convening conversations about a host of major regional policy issues affecting us all.

The future of BART in downtown San Jose.

Rising demand for affordable housing.

Unrelenting traffic congestion that threatens to undermine economic development and job creation. And more.

A major, urban public university *should* be at the epicenter of conversations like these. And today, we are.

We continue rising in national stature. Earlier this fall, the Sierra Club ranked San José 50 most
sustainable universities. (We

And we recently were ranked *fourth* nationally out of more than

In short, we are doing our job. And we have much more to do.