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President Emeritus George C. Wright Speeches

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## GCW Remarks Men's & Women's Leadership Reception

George C. Wright

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**GCW Remarks**  
**Men's & Women's Leadership Reception**  
**September 13, 2007**

Since becoming President of Prairie View four years ago, I have been struck by the quality of our student leaders. I have found you all to be bright, engaging students who are really on the ball. As most of you know, I have taught or been an Administrator at a number of schools – schools that most people would say are among the best schools in the country. I would put our students in a category with any students from any of those universities.

I want to thank Vice President Laretta Byars and Provost Thomas-Smith and Associate Provost Michael McFrazier for launching the Women's and Men's Leadership Councils. The Women's Council was my idea and it speaks to my belief that Women should be encouraged to leadership and promoted, especially since they have been historically underrepresented and discriminated against in so many arenas. I want our students to leave here knowing they are equipped for success in the world.

We have Faculty, staff and Administrators, many of whom are here today, who are excellent role models for our students. They are deeply concerned about the challenges facing our young people today and make themselves available to mentor our students. I want to especially encourage those of you who are student leaders to go and meet these administrators and faculty – they can be very helpful in your journey.

Leadership is both an honor and a responsibility. When you are a leader, people put a special trust in you that we should not take lightly. As a leader, you will come to understand that you have an opportunity and a window to make a difference. It is up to you to make the most of those moments – not only to your personal benefit, but to the benefit of others. We are all responsible to help others. Find a Mentor and Be a Mentor. Your whole life should be about what you give. Take what you must to accomplish your goals, but give so that others can benefit from your talents, skills and accomplishments.

Thank you for your leadership and involvement with the Men's and Women's Leadership Councils.

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