It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 1995 Student Honors Luncheon. Today we recognize Tech’s most outstanding scholars and leaders. To those of you who are being honored today, I would like to congratulate you. Through your hard work, dedication, and stick-to-itiveness, you have not only persevered, but triumphed. At an Institute where excellence is expected and every student is above average, you have proven yourself the best of the best.

I would also like to recognize the industry representatives who are here today—and thank you for your support of Georgia Tech. The scholarships, internships, and recognition you provide to our students are instrumental in helping them to become future industry leaders.

I would also be remiss if I did not thank the faculty who are here today. You have guided many of these students to the heights they have attained and your contributions are very much appreciated.

Student honorees, you chose a tough school. Yet, here you have flourished and excelled. I look forward to hearing of more of your accomplishments as you move forward into your bright future.

Before we move on to the awards portion of the luncheon, I’d like to tell a quick anecdote. As you know the Olympics are
important to Tech’s future. As you also know, Tech is one of the best technological universities in the country.

No other university can claim those distinctions—although many would definitely like to. For example, during recent Olympic tryouts, three young men showed up from three different universities. One was from the University of Georgia, another from the University of Tennessee, and yet another from M.I.T.

The gentlemen from M.I.T. arrived brandishing a state-of-the-art frisbee, complete with fog lights, wind gauge, and a tiny motor in case his arm got tired. The Olympic Committee member looked over the contraption and then asked the young man which event he wanted to enter.

The gentleman from M.I.T. answered, “The discus toss” and the Olympic Committee member nodded and wrote his name down on the list.

The next to arrive was the gentleman from Tennessee. He had whittled a broom handle to a fine point. He was asked what sport he would like to enter and he answered, “The javelin throw!”

The Olympic Committee member nodded okay and wrote his name down on the list of Olympic contenders.

The next to arrive was the gentleman from the University of Georgia. He arrived dressed in his best overalls and carrying a post hole digger. The Olympic Committee Member looked him up and down and asked, “What sport would you like to enter?”
The gentleman from UGA scratched his head and answered, “Why, fencing, of course!

Congratulations again to the honorees. It is a great pleasure to share lunch with you today.

Thank you.