

Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on April 5, 2017

Location: Marriot Syracuse Downtown

Remarks: F.O.C.U.S Greater Syracuse Wisdom Keeper Event

Chancellor Syverud was introduced by Rosie Taravella, member of the
F.O.C.U.S Greater Syracuse Board of Directors

Good Evening. I am assigned to deliver the benediction after Bea's remarks and all of your tributes to her as a wisdom keeper.

First, I know that Bea's father, Juan Gonzalez, is here tonight, back in the Hotel Syracuse that is so much part of his family's history.

I would like first to thank Mr. Gonzalez:

Senor Gonzalez, Bienvenido y Gracias. Gracias por su hija, quien ha mejorado nuestra Universidad y nuestra comunidad de muchas maneras. De mi Corazon, mil gracias.

For those of you who speak Spanish as poorly as I do, I also want to alert you to the tribute that Bea just paid you in her remarks. The Puerto Rican saying that she quoted to you, in Spanish, means, I think: "Tell me who you walk with, and I will tell you where you are going." We should all be very grateful and honored that Bea has chosen to walk with all of us.

But some of those tributes you gave tonight sounded a bit like eulogies. Not so. Bea has taken on the culminating responsibility of her career as Vice President for Community Engagement, serving both of her greatest passions, our Community and our University. And folks, you aint seen nothin' yet!

I am grateful that we can celebrate Bea as a FOCUS wisdom keeper at the same time we are celebrating Chuckie Holstein's 20 years of leadership at Focus. Dr. Chuckie - she now has an honorary doctorate from Syracuse University - has made such a difference in this community. Thank you, Chuckie, for all you have done.

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