



**VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY, VA 23806

Office of the President

PHONE: (804) 524-5070  
FAX: (804) 524-6506

March 31, 2017

Dear Trojan Community,

I would like to personally thank the students, faculty, staff, alumni, my colleagues, friends and supporters for sharing in the inaugural celebration last week, a week I will always remember. The week was nothing short of amazing.

It is hard to fully express how meaningful each and every moment meant to me as well as my family. Throughout the week, from the stimulating prayer walk, to alumni returning to campus to share their knowledge with students, to the celebration of Founders Day, to the exceptional gala, we celebrated our rich legacy and tradition. We showcased what makes Virginia State University (VSU) remarkable.

During my inaugural address, I present my challenge to the VSU family, which is for each of us - in whatever role we have here - to greatly expand our vision beyond #VSUExcellence. My challenge to VSU is for us to let our excellent accomplishments (the work, the degrees, the awards, the grants and the accolades) be nowhere near as great as the quality of our leadership and the content of our individual and collective character.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Virginia State University.

Hail State! Hail State! Hail! Hail! Hail!

Sincerely,

Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D.  
President