



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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THE UNIVERSITY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A Speech by the Secretary of State for External Affairs,
the Honourable Paul Martin, to the National Conference of
Canadian Universities and Colleges, Ottawa, April 20, 1964.

It is both a pleasure and a privilege for me to have this opportunity of speaking to this Conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges. "The University and International Affairs" is a subject with which many of you are closely concerned and one which has interested me intensely for a long time and I appreciate this opportunity of telling you of some of my own thoughts and hopes in this challenging field of endeavour.

There is a direct relationship between Canadian foreign policy and the work done at Canadian universities. Both in the formulation of Canadian policy and in the creation of public understanding and public support for Canadian foreign policy, it is absolutely essential that this relationship be vigorous and vibrant if Canada is to have a foreign policy which will allow us to have our maximum influence in today's changing world. Certainly, over the years there have been very close ties between the Department I am privileged to preside over and the universities. Some of our most distinguished Canadians, men like O.D. Skelton, R.A. MacKay, George Glazebrook, Norman Robertson, Marcel Cadieux and many others, have been and are equally at home in either milieu. I express the hope that this valuable interchange, which is part of the Canadian tradition, between the Department of External Affairs and the universities can grow and flourish even more in the days ahead.

The philosopher, Alfred North Whitehead, once said: "A university should be, at one and the same time, local, national and world wide. It is of the essence of learning that it be world wide and effectiveness requires local and national adaptations. It is not easy to hold the balance. But unless this difficult balance be held with some genius, the university is to that extent defective."

The primary responsibility of the university community must always be to itself, to its own ancient and honoured traditions of freedom. By remaining true to its own heritage of scholarship and learning and the relentless pursuit of truth, the university will respond to the great new demands which confront our contemporary world.