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Tomanek Hall: Letter, to Senator Bob Dole, from President Edward Hammond, May 13, 1991

Edward Hammond

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FYI
Phy. Sci. Bldg.

Fort Hays State University

Office of the President

600 Park Street

Hays, Kansas 67601-4099

May 13, 1991

*FYI
bcc sent to Rose Beach*

file

Senator Robert Dole
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bob:

I am sorry that I did not get a chance to talk with you in Lawrence at the Kansas Insurance Education Foundation Banquet. I was hoping to have the opportunity but your change in schedule prevented me from making contact.

I wanted to brief you on the progress we are making on the new science building. The Kansas Legislature has approved the project and forwarded to the Governor the initial appropriation request. I believe Governor Finney will sign it any day so we can proceed with the necessary site work and architectural planning this coming fall. We have submitted the paperwork to the Department of Energy and had no trouble in obtaining release of the federal funds you were so instrumental in obtaining for us.

In late May, I will be in Connecticut to meet with the IBM executive staff to iron out the details of their contribution to this project. In fact, IBM wants to work with us in advance of the building to make sure that the technology will be utilized and the faculty trained.

Even though groundbreaking ceremonies are more than a year away, I very much want you to be a part of the activity. Therefore, we will be in touch with you and your staff early so that your schedule can dictate the appropriate date and time for the ceremony. I do hope that you will be willing to take a paramount role in this event. All of Kansas is waiting to see what our new electronic environment for the sciences will be like.

In the interim, let me comment on our progress to date. Last Monday we demonstrated the first two-way interactive fiber optic video course presentation from Hays to Moundridge and Hutchinson. This demonstration provided the first trunkline hookup of the mini-networks that are developing in the state

Page 2
Senator Robert Dole
May 13, 1991

of Kansas. Next fall we will be accessing up to 52 different sites with two-way interactive video. By January of 1992, the major fiber optic trunklines should be in place. This will permit us to continue to develop our skills so that when the science building comes on-line we will have faculty ready to use and demonstrate not only this new telecommunications technology but the electronic learning environment that we are developing with IBM and the National Science Foundation.

I hope that you are as proud as I am of what Kansas can do to provide leadership in science education for our country. If you are ever close by, I would like to personally show you some of the technology we are already starting to mount in preparation for the new building.

Best wishes for a very enjoyable and successful summer. Thanks again for your hard work and support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'E. Hammond', written in a cursive style.

Edward H. Hammond
President

bmu