

Excerpts from the Signature Event featuring Drew Gilpin Faust, President and Lincoln Professor of History, Harvard University

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"[Harvard] got involved last spring – through an alliance with MIT – to set up an organization called edX. EdX is devoted to MOOCs [massive open online courses] and to three goals in building those online courses. The first goal is really to understand how we can use technology better on our own campuses and how these ways of teaching can have an impact in our classrooms for our students in Cambridge and Boston. The second goal is to share the knowledge and discoveries that come out of Harvard with a much wider range of people all over the world. And the third goal is to develop a body of research and understanding based on the experience with these MOOCs that can be a foundation for research by anybody who would like to use those materials to understand better how teaching can operate in this new digital world." ~ Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, President and Lincoln Professor of History, Harvard University

"[Universities in the United States] are outstanding institutions because we are research institutions that have, in partnership with the federal government, produced the kinds of discoveries that have changed people's lives and fueled the American economy since that partnership was established after World War II. What's happening to that partnership now in the face of the federal deficit? How are we going to fund science and scientific discovery in the United States in the future, especially when we see competition from other parts of the world that are investing extremely heavily in their scientific and educational enterprises?" ~ Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, President and Lincoln Professor of History, Harvard University

"We need to have immigration policies that encourage people to stay and make it possible for individuals who have had the experiences and had the investment in their education to use that education in the United States. That, I think, is a critical priority for the nation. ~ *Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, President and Lincoln Professor of History, Harvard University*