

## Hold Fast to Dreams

Excerpts from the Installation Address by Freeman A. Hrabowski, III  
Fifth President of UMBC

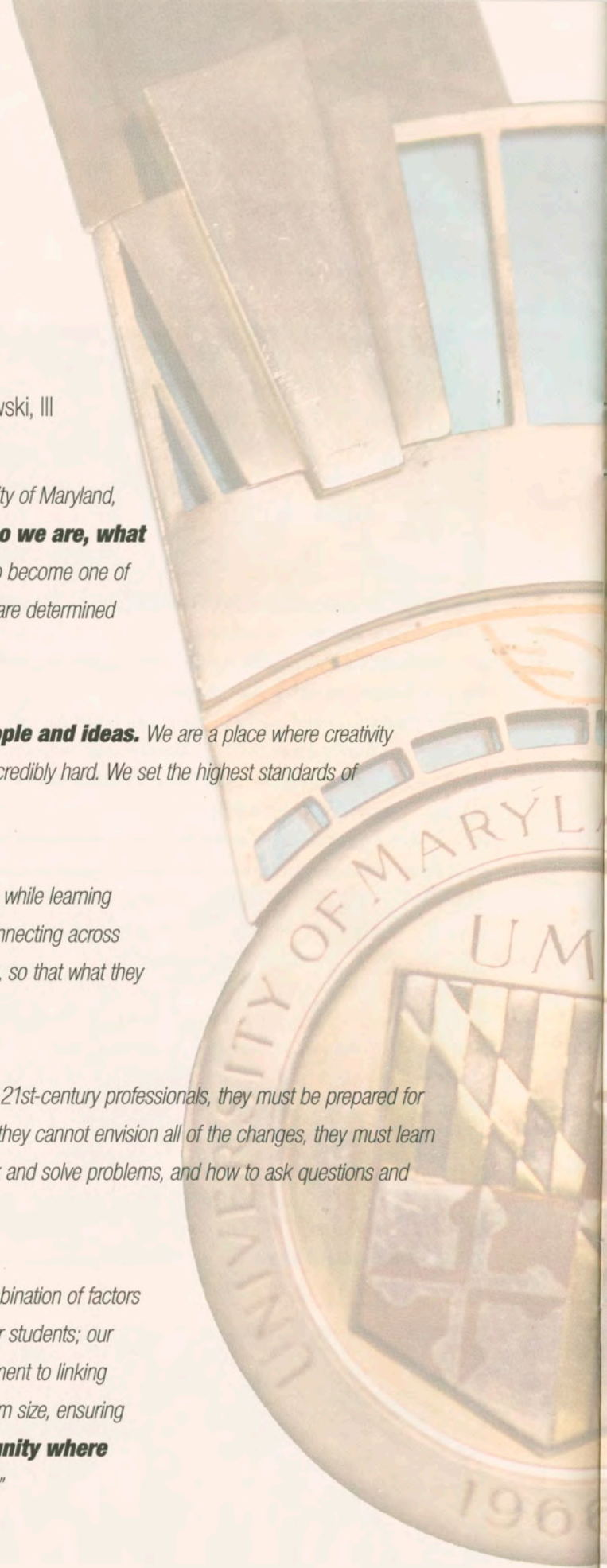
*"To all of you, I proclaim it an honor and privilege to lead the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. We are a university 'on the move.' **We know who we are, what we want to become, and how to get there.** We will work to become one of the best public research universities of our size in the world, and we are determined that our dream will not be deferred."*

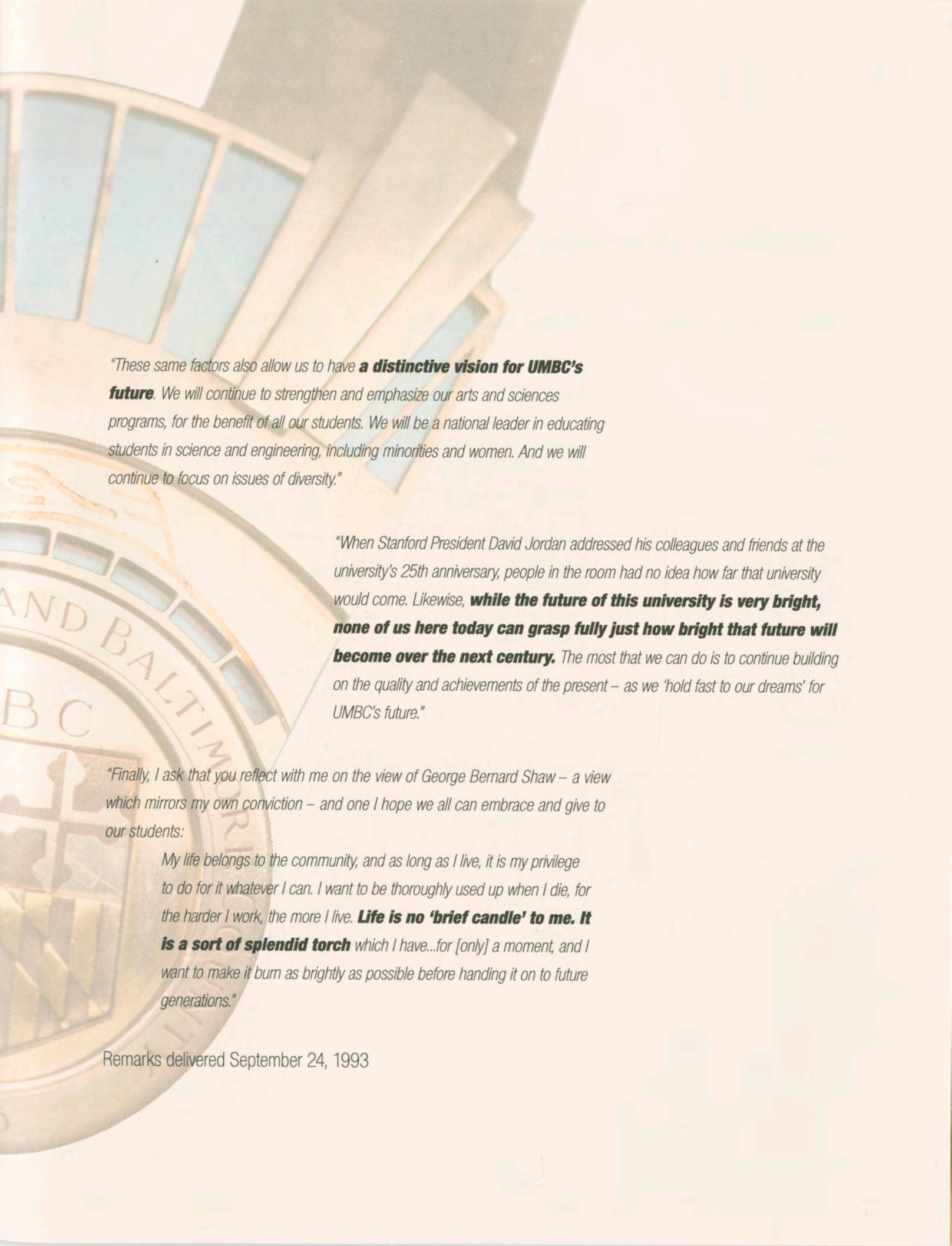
***"Above all, we value people and ideas.** We are a place where creativity flourishes and people work incredibly hard. We set the highest standards of achievement for ourselves."*

*"We strive to be a place where students appreciate their own culture, while learning to live and work together with people from different backgrounds, connecting across cultures. **We also want them to learn the value of service,** so that what they learn here not only influences their minds, but touches their hearts."*

*"Because our students will be 21st-century professionals, they must be prepared for enormous change. And while they cannot envision all of the changes, they must learn how to respond, how to attack and solve problems, and how to ask questions and work with diverse people."*

*"Since arriving at UMBC...I have come to appreciate the unusual combination of factors at work here: the enormous talents of the people, who care about our students; our focused academic programs, interdisciplinary strengths, and commitment to linking research and teaching; our youth and evolving status; and our medium size, ensuring us a critical mass of people and programs and **a campus community where people know each other by name, and can feel special.**"*





*"These same factors also allow us to have **a distinctive vision for UMBC's future.** We will continue to strengthen and emphasize our arts and sciences programs, for the benefit of all our students. We will be a national leader in educating students in science and engineering, including minorities and women. And we will continue to focus on issues of diversity."*

*"When Stanford President David Jordan addressed his colleagues and friends at the university's 25th anniversary, people in the room had no idea how far that university would come. Likewise, **while the future of this university is very bright, none of us here today can grasp fully just how bright that future will become over the next century.** The most that we can do is to continue building on the quality and achievements of the present – as we 'hold fast to our dreams' for UMBC's future."*

*"Finally, I ask that you reflect with me on the view of George Bernard Shaw – a view which mirrors my own conviction – and one I hope we all can embrace and give to our students:*

*My life belongs to the community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. **Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch** which I have...for [only] a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."*

Remarks delivered September 24, 1993