

Non-course Open Forum 7 – Jennie Lee clip

Contributors in clip: Jennie Lee

Clip transcript:

Jennie Lee:

And so it was really wonderful to be able to come here and to say thankyou: to architects, to builders, to staff, students of every kind. And of course my particular concern is that this university – which is already great – shall become greater still. And that no-one, no influence of any kind, shall ever be allowed to reduce its academic status. We have established here – you have established here, by the quality of your scholarship, you have established here a university that makes no compromise whatsoever on academic standards. Now that's its glory. Indeed, your Vice-Chancellor is now honouring the U.G.C. [University Grants Committee] by becoming a member of the U.G.C. – whether in the long run that will be for your good or not, we shall wait and see!

But there it is. A great, independent university which does not insult any man or woman, whatever their background, by offering them the second-best. Nothing but the best is good enough, and for me the special magic of any university is the library.