When watching these two speeches, I feel that I have already begun to take steps to understanding how to make a speech powerful, and how Martin Luther King was able to be so successful. From the first speech, I found the opening theme, and how it was carried through the speech, to be very powerful. When Johnnetta Cole began the speech with calling everyone sisters and brothers, I saw this as an allusion to the communities of the south. But when she said the reason was because there was a shared vision, and because they are at the breakfast they have a shared vision, this was incredibly powerful to me. She also had a lot of powerful pauses and a good rhythm to her speech, which made it very enjoyable.

When the student speaker talked about choosing a major, and talked about certain majors being seen as "counterfeit", she had an inspiring message about what truly makes MIT the place it is. It is not about proving to someone you deserve their respect, but being proud about the major that you are. This is a fantastic message, and something that I have seen in the student body today. With the graduate speaker, I loved the torch metaphor, and I can absolutely relate it to my own life. There have been many people that have helped me along the way, and I find it to be very inspiring.

If I was a speaker at the breakfast, I would talk about the dynamics of sports, and how different games have changed as a result of doctor Martin Luther King. I would also talk about music and pop culture in general, and talk about the advances in culture that wouldn't have been possible without him. I would talk about myself being white, but enjoying rap music, for instance. I would be able to give a white perspective and the positive influences that I have seen from African Americans. It would be great if a black speaker could mirror what I was saying, just the other way around.

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