On Friday, Nov. 1, President Mike A. Fitts conducted the annual Homecoming Town Hall for Tulane alumni, parents, and faculty and staff. In a conversation at Dixon Hall with Satyajit Dattagupta, the Vice President of Enrollment Management in the Office of Undergraduate Admission, he discussed the incredible progress Tulane is making in enhancing the undergraduate student experience, including adding new residential communities and other buildings to both the uptown and downtown campuses.

President Fitts took questions from the audience members, many of them current parents, who asked about efforts to improve student health and safety, help new graduates develop a career path, and recognize some of the university’s pioneering alumni.

The session wasn’t all business, though. The audience enjoyed some lighthearted moments in which President Fitts discussed his Fitbit habit, his surprise presidential ancestry — he is a descendant of Abraham Lincoln — and his “appreciation” of Popeye’s fried chicken.