



Tuesday, September 17, 2024 • 3 p.m.
Holloway Hall, Jackson Family Auditorium

Good afternoon!

Just like each member of our SU family, I too have my own SU story. Our collective stories are tales of dreams pursued, challenges overcome and milestones achieved – each contributing to the broader story of our campus.

These stories are the very heartbeats of our university and help us

This summer, a group of faculty and doctoral students from the Seidel School journeyed to Crete, Greece, to present at the Federated Faculty Meeting. The group, which included faculty members from the School of Education, the School of Business, and the School of Health, Behavior, and Society, completed this year – are some of the driving forces to enhance the Seidel School's research and showcased the groundbreaking research that takes place on our campus.

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Understanding the importance of this project, the State provided an additional \$1 million to complete it, these additional monies from SU's own reserve funds to complete it, these additional monies from the University of Wyoming, where he served as vice president of the University System of Maryland.

A Look Back - Creating a Culture of Equity & Inclusion
When celebrating these accomplishments and their role in advancing the university's mission, it is important to recognize the contributions of all who have made it possible. These achievements possible. When celebrating these accomplishments and their role in advancing the university's mission, it is important to recognize the contributions of all who have made it possible.

Part of the Blackwell renovation is the installation of geothermal energy systems, which will reduce the building's carbon footprint and help to reduce the building's carbon footprint while upholding SU's enduring commitment to environmental responsibility.

and Belonging, which enhances collaboration across campus by uniting faculty, staff, and students in a shared commitment to equity and inclusion. Two standout programs that exemplify this comprehensive approach are the Blackwell renovation and the new Centennial Plaza.

Upon completing the installation this spring, we will restore the law of belonging, and paving the way for retention and success in and out of the classroom.

Two standout programs that exemplify this comprehensive approach are the Blackwell renovation and the new Centennial Plaza.

Campus improvements can sometimes be disruptive. Right now, we know the loss of the Blackwell parking lot is creating complications and inconveniences. We are currently working to remedy this.

powerful these programs can be. From Prince George's County, and PVIQA I SVM_ \PI\ KWUQVO \W ;ITQ[J]Z a 4 WWSQVO NWZ I [INM [XIKM \W TIVL [PM R

- Some of these steps include:
- increase student parking spaces;
- converting service vehicle spots to increase available parking spaces; and
- reviewing the shuttle system to alleviate pressure from main campus parking.

a mentee her freshman year. Aside from the connection to everything from clubs to study groups, Odzya Jahnaiya says that she wouldn't still be at SU if not for Powerful Connections and the people she's met. Growing from a mentee, to mentor, to mentor coordinator, Jahnaiya knows that she's a small, but mighty part of someone else's journey here at SU.

I know it creates a headache when a spot is not easily located, and please know we are working to remedy the issue. More information will be forthcoming via email, so please look for it soon.

Jahnaiya's journey with Powerful Connections illustrates how crucial support systems are in fostering personal growth and community.

The ongoing construction keeps us on track for the anticipated renovation of the Guerrieri Student Union upon Blackwell's completion. Funds for the project are already set aside, and we look forward to exploring how we can use this space strategically and M{KQMV\Ta \W UMM\ M^WT^QVO [\]LMV\ VZMM\ aKTQVO JQV[_Q\ P I\ \IKPML UQVQ KIV[)VW\PMZ XZWRMK\ JMVMA\QVO W]Z MV\ iQZM\ K WUJ\ JQV\ Q[258 M the 56 lot. Foundation, the planetarium will be primarily used for astronomy classes, while the projection dome can also be used for special events such as virtual reality experiences and movies.

communities. -IZTQMZ \PQ[aMIZ UIVa [I_ W{KM \ZI[P K ZMM\ aKTQVO JQV[_Q\ P I\ \IKPML UQVQ KIV[iQZM\ K WUJ\ JQV\ Q[258 M the 56 lot. Foundation, the planetarium will be primarily used for astronomy classes, while the projection dome can also be used for special events such as virtual reality experiences and movies.

These projects and achievements – along with many others

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hall to encourage students to donate unwanted items. Over these two periods, we collected nearly six and a half tons of donations, most of which went to local thrift stores!

All this work resulted in SU being named a Top Performer in the Energy Impact Area by the Association for the Advancement of ;][\IQVIJQTQ\ a QV 0QOPMZ -L]KI\QWV

From sustainability to access, SU is dedicated to advancing a culture WN MY]Q\ a IVL QVKT][QWV 7]Z KWUUQ\UMV\ M` \MVL[IKZW[[ITT I[XMK\[WN University life, ensuring that these values are woven into everything we do.

A Look Back – Distinction & Growth

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Once again, we were recognized as a top University by countless W]\TM\[NWZ W]Z M`KMTTMV\ IKILMUQK[[\]LMV\ []KKM[[IzWZLIJQTQ\ a IVL career readiness.

We also were recognized as a leader through numerous grants, including:

- I OZIV\ NZWU \PM 5IZaTIVL 0MZQ\IOM)ZMI)]\PWZQ\ a for interpretation and accessibility features at the Museum of Eastern Shore Culture – set to open on November 1;
- I OZIV\ NZWU \PM 6I\QWVIT ;KQMVKM .W]VLI\QWV OZIV\ML \W ,Z +TQN\WV /ZQ{V ,Z ;WXPQM ?IVO IVL 5QKPIMT 2MV[MV \PI\ will help SU use AI solutions to solve problems for local agency, J][QVM[[IVL VWV XZWÅ\ XIZ\VMZ[#
- I OZIV\ NZWU \PM 5IZaTIVL 0QOPMZ -L]KI\QWV +WU -L [2

Madison Cuthbert, an environmental and international studies major, will conduct research in Greece on the interconnectedness of science and policy in the role of minimizing microplastics in Greek University of the Aegean.

Naomi, who hopes to someday receive a Fulbright to study in France, one of the most competitive Fulbright locations across the globe. Naomi, who hopes to someday for life on Mars. After completing her Fulbright, Naomi plans to begin medical school and apply to be a physician through the U.S. Air Force

Students are not the only ones who continue to be recognized their research in Europe.

will spend the spring semester and part of next summer conducting research and teaching in her native home of Bulgaria with a focus on

Our commitment to providing experiential learning goes beyond their fundraising initiatives forward. Congratulations Michelle on this
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4I[\ a MIZ ^WTTMa JITT IVL UMV¼[IVL _W V year and a half ago, we set the goal of reaching 100 endowed
KPIUXQWV[PQX[# \MIU[XIZ\QKQXI\ML Scholarships to the Center for the Scholarship Program. As of today, we
baseball and softball won NCAA regional championships; and our PI^M XI[[ML \PM PITN_ Ia UIZS _Q\ P [KPV
_WUMV¼[TIKZW[[M \MIU _I[\PM VI\QWVITITank the SU Fund Book whose Endowment Incentive Program
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in the classroom is even more impressive. it easier for donors to contribute the initial investment needed to create

7VKM IOIQV [\]LMV\ \]PTM\M[PI^M P Q O raising support to MSU students. V [\]LMV\
athletes and are more likely to remain and graduate on time. In <PM[M [KPWTIZ[PQX[UISM I XZWNW]VL L C
ILLQ\QWV L]ZQVO \PM IKILMUQ K For instance, the Anne and John Gilhead Scholarship is sponsored
)TT)UMZQKIV[IVL WVM KWVNMZMVKM ; by SU faculty members Eileen Gilhead and Jill Forte in memory of
<PQ[aMIZ¼[QVKWUQVO KTI[[QVKT]LM Eileen Perez's M [\]LMV\ \]PTM\M KWPWZ\
M^MZ . NZM[PUMV IVL \ZIV[NMZ[7]Z -WVPI a W]Z J VPM V NP W]LIZ [RQX Q[Wz MZML \
I\PTM\M[[IVL[I \ ! _PQKP Q[\PM TIZ O Social Outreach who demonstrates a commitment to caring for
SU history. These numbers excitingly include the 14 members of the W \PMZ[<PQ[[XZQVO -UQT a 0I]V IKKM X\M
JZIVL VM_ _WUMV¼[IVL UMV¼[OWTN \M was't able to attend the thank you celebration since she had just given

A huge part of these students' college experiences will be their birth to a beautiful baby girl.
participation on these teams, and I am thrilled to welcome them to the In her note of thanks to Eileen and John, she wrote the following:
Flock and that we can provide them with the opportunity to play the "Please know that your scholarship is appreciated and has helped me
sport they love at the collegiate level. lzWZL Ua \]Q\QWV L]ZQVO [KPWWT aMIZ 1

<PQ[OZW]X _QTT IT[W Y]QKSTa TMIZV W]ZQ[V]Q MPVQ[[ZU N V W MQ M Q ZM LPXQZ a ML XIZ
dedication to this community beyond our campus. Earlier this year, internship while juggling pregnancy was demanding ... I have now
;ITQ[J]Za \]PTM\QK[_WV \PM ,Q^Q[QWV enrolled in graduate school of Qam I; Iaz to Qecome a licensed clinical
)_IZL NWZ UWZM \PIV ^WT]V\MMZ P Special Tower so Man provide therapy services to people with mental
participation rate. This is particularly impressive when you consider health disparities."

\PI\ ,Q^Q[QWV 111 Q[\PM TIZOM(\ 6+)) KWVNMZMVKM KWUXZQ[ML WN
colleges and universities. Raising resources goes beyond scholarships and campus initiatives;

0QOP QUXIK\ XZIK\QKM[IVL M` XMZQM V Q]Z K WITZ WQX Q^MQTK QTW V a[[JMK WUU]VQ\ a U
KMV\ZIT \W W]Z X]ZXW[M I[I]VQ^MZ[Q\ across the Eastern Shore. Our students especially play a pivotal role
member of our community. Even the smallest touch point can often be V \PQ[MVLMI^WZ 1VQ\QI\Q^M[TQSM :MT
QVKZMLQJTa [QOVQ^KIV\ NWZ W\PMZ[Night, led by our students, not only raise essential funds but also foster
awareness and engagement on important issues. And this spring, just

A Look Back – Raising Resources

As we continue to prioritize and enhance these vital elements, we KI][M[)LLQ\QWVITTa W]Z .ZI\MZVQ\ a IVL
ZMKWOVQbM \PI\ IKPQM^QVO W]Z OWIT[Z M V Q Z M Z U M L Z M P I Z SR] T M K X P U Q T W M Z / W X Q K
and creativity – it also necessitates robust support and resources. for their national and local causes last year.

In an incredible display of community support and generosity, this <PM LMLQKI\QWV WN ITT \PM[M [\]LMV\ [Z
[XZQVO[¼ /Q^QVO ,Ia _I[I ZM[W]VLQVO [PKK V]O? QAP QWZ R Q K M \PM] Z[M Z U M I \M[W]Z I
ZIQ[ML I KWUJQV ML \W\IT WN UWZM \PIV\PZW]ORPITZS[M W K V F M M^WZ\ WZ [UITTMZ
WN LMLQKI\ML []XWZ\MZ[<PQ[Q Uozdonment to Kari Qmes that the Zim E duc community and
the deep commitment of our alumni, friends and partners to our support our shared goals.
=VQ^MZ[Q\ a ¼[UQ[[QWV IVL ^Q[QWV 1 Wz MZ I JQO \PIVS aW] \W W]Z OMVMZW]]
matching gift donors Wayne and Melissa Judkins, who for the third year

A Look Back – Institutional Identity & Reputation

As we build on this momentum, it's essential to channel our success
in strengthening our Institutional Identity and Reputation. P W
W^MZ[MM[/Q^QVO ,Ia IVL W]Z AEI[P N]VLZIQ SMZ[X V Z \ P V N J W P Q V Z M W Z M O Q Q V M L^M[M U J
I[WVM WN \PM +WUU]VQ\ a .W]VLI\QWV¼ rich traditions and values. This year we introduced new regalia,
leadership and innovative approach have been instrumental in driving TMOIKa [MI\QVO IVL I ÅZ[\ OMVMZI\QWV P V

Looking Forward – Strategic Partnerships

To build on this momentum and further enhance our community and campus, we are also focusing on developing strategic partnerships.

7VM []KP XIZ\VMZ[PQX Q[_Q\P \PM ?QKWUQKW +W]V\a 8]JTQK 4QJZIZ a which has been instrumental in making the Performing Arts Center a

4QSM 5QLLTM ;\I\M[\PM [\ZI\MOQK XTIVVQVO XZWKM[[QV^WT^M[[\]LMV\[\ NIK]T\^a [\Iz IT]UVQ IVL KWUU]VQ\^a XIZ\VMZ[\W KZIN\ I ^Q[QWV ZMÆMK\QVO
our shared aspirations and strategic priorities. This will involve a series of workshops, forums and discussions designed to gather input, align our goals, and set actionable and measurable objectives for the years ahead.

Our aim is to develop a Strategic Plan that not only addresses immediate needs but also anticipates future trends and positions us for TWVO \MZU []KKM[[1 IU M`KQ\ML IJW]\ \PM XW\MV\QIT \PQ[XZWKM[[PWTLL[NWZ][\W ZMLMÅVM W]Z OWIT[QVVW^I\M W]Z XZIK\QKM[IVL N]Z\PMZ W]Z mission of excellence.

<WLIa 1 IU \PZQTTML \W IVVW]VKM \PI\ BMJILQIP 0ITT ^QKM XZM[QLMV\ WN QVKT][QWV IKKM[[IVL JMTWVOQVO IVL ,Z +PZQ[\^a ?MMZ LMIV WN
the Perdue School of Business, have agreed to serve as the Strategic 8TIV KW KPIQZ[*M WV \PM TWWSW]\ NWZ IV MUIQT NZWU W]Z KW KPIQZ[announcing the steering committee and with more information about how you can participate in the next few weeks.

Everyone's involvement in this process is invaluable, and I thank you all for your upcoming work.

Driven by Mission, Fueled by Rest

Now, all this work mean.áXd à > ðrivor yall f @I P 0 ð



Make Tomorrow Yours
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