Letter from the President

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All in all, academic year 2011-2012 was one of new beginnings. Last fall, we cut the ribbons on three new facilities on our campus: Sea Gull Square residence-retail complex; Perdue Hall, home to the Perdue School of Business; and the Henson Medical Simulation Center, serving students in nursing and the health sciences as well as community health providers. The latter two were made possible by significant gifts from the Arthur W. Perdue Foundation and the Richard A. Henson Foundation, Inc., respectively. Such benefactors were instrumental in SU's Campaign 2012, which closed this year having almost breached the $40 million mark.

Our undergraduate academics and research continued to strengthen, thanks to the work of our stellar faculty and augmented by the significant grant resources faculty helped to secure. SU celebrated its first student Fulbright Award. Graduate education received new focus, and international education boomed. Nine of the state's celebrated Teachers of the Year for 2011 were SU graduates, and SU's impacts across the state were also felt through strong programs in distance education. Athletic programs outdid themselves, with SU's men's lacrosse winning its 10th national championship and Sea Gull teams boasting 13 conference championships, five NCAA regional finalists and four NCAA quarterfinalists! Our cultural offerings continued to add richness to the campus and the community, while building our appreciation for the beauty and culture of all peoples.

As we embrace the next academic year with renewed vigor, I offer my thanks to all who continue to support those accomplishments in large and small ways.

Janet Dudley-Eshbach, Ph.D.
President

Business Education Partnership

SU signed an agreement allowing government contracting students at Cecil College in North East, MD, to simultaneously pursue bachelor's degrees in business management through SU's Perdue School of Business. Distance learning classrooms in Perdue Hall – part of some $3.1 million in new technology installed in the building – enable Perdue School faculty to broadcast lectures and class assignments some 120 miles north to Cecil. A live chat feature will allow those students to participate in class discussions. Since 2005, SU has partnered with Cecil to offer a bachelor's program in social work via distance learning. The business program not only will strengthen that partnership, but provide opportunities for the area's changing population. "We are particularly excited to offer this degree at Cecil College as part of our efforts to support the BRAC initiative at Aberdeen Proving Ground," said Dr. Melanie Perreault, associate provost.

Exceptional Faculty & Staff

Among numerous faculty honors awarded, Drs. Stephen Adams, Management and Marketing Department, and Donald Spickler, Mathematics and Computer Science Department, were the 2011 SU Distinguished Faculty Award honorees. Adams is an expert in the development of California's renowned Silicon Valley and Spickler is one of the campus' leading student research mentors. Also, Dr. George Whitehead, Psychology Department, was the latest recipient of the community's oldest civic award: the Salisbury Award, recognizing "service that has been the greatest benefit to the happiness, prosperity, intellectual advancement or moral growth of the community." Among staff, two earned the University System of Maryland's highest honor: the Board of Regents Staff Award for Excellence. Donna Messick garnered kudos for Extraordinary Public Service to the University or the Greater Community, and Sandra Ramses (below) won recognition for Exceptional Contribution to the Institution and/or Unit to Which the Person Belongs.