

A Gift For SU's Future

A New Home For Business

Legendary businessman and SU benefactor Frank Perdue passed away on March 31, 2005, and one year later his son Jim honored his father's commitment to Salisbury University by pledging \$8 million to construct a new home for the Perdue School of Business.

The new building will replace and expand the facilities that currently support the Perdue School's academic, research and public service programs. Funding for the Perdue School building comes from both public and private sources. The State has made a five-year, \$33 million commitment to the approximately \$45 million project that includes \$1.7 million in planning money in next year's capital budget. In addition to an



\$8 million gift from the Perdue Foundation, the Salisbury University Foundation will raise additional funds for the project. The Perdue contribution toward the building is the largest private donation for a capital project in the history of the University.



The announcement comes on the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Perdue School, created by a multimillion-dollar endowment from Frank Perdue and Perdue Farms, Inc. in 1986. Since its endowment, the Perdue School of Business graduate and undergraduate programs have earned accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), developed prestigious study abroad programs in China and now rank in the top 20 percent of business schools nationwide.

Partnering For SU Students

This gift marks an important partnership for the future of SU. Maryland Governor Robert L.



Ehrlich Jr. reflected on this relationship when he called it “A perfect example of the public and private sectors partnering successfully in support of Maryland higher education.”

“This extraordinary gift will transform the very face of this campus,” said SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach. “It will redefine the teaching capabilities of our faculty, and it will change the manner in which our students prepare for success in the knowledge-based economy. It will take the

collaboration between the University and this region’s employers to a new level and will enable us to accommodate more students while maintaining our high standards of quality.”

Ultimately, Jim Perdue’s decision to support SU demonstrates once again the wisdom and foresight his father exercised when he picked Salisbury University to lead in the development of a competent and innovative work force on Maryland’s Eastern Shore.

Growing With Maryland

As more students seek admission to the University System of Maryland (USM), its Board of Regents turned to Salisbury University to handle the expected enrollment growth. Last spring SU was declared one of the USM’s two growth institutions for its ability to provide a quality education to full-time students at a more economical rate than other USM institutions. The Regents saw that SU, which ranks next to last within the USM in state funding per student and receives far fewer state dollars than its national performance peers, is meeting the system’s high standards on every meaningful benchmark of accountability.

SU has over 7,000 students currently enrolled, and the University plans to receive an additional 1,000 students over the next five years to accommodate the increased demand for admission. To support this growth, the state has funded nearly \$50 million in capital dollars for the construction of a new Teacher Education and Technology Center on SU’s campus. In addition to new buildings, the governor’s operating budget for fiscal year 2007 will increase SU’s funding by approximately 15 percent. These additional funds will allow SU to expand its faculty and scholarship opportunities to better meet the need of its growing student body.



A Campaign Dream Come True

They call it, “Taking Excellence to New Heights.” “They” are SU and its Foundation. “It” is a multimillion dollar campaign for a new era for the University. The goal: to raise \$30 million by 2012. Reflecting on the goal, President Janet Dudley-Eshbach said, “Take a minute and dream of what we could become. [With this campaign] we begin our pursuit of that dream.”

With all the donations, public funding and planned gifts, one thing is obvious: Salisbury University dreams big, but what places SU ahead of the pack is not simply dreaming big, it is making dreams a reality.



CAMPAIGN 2012 PRIORITIES

- An Endowment for Scholarship
- Teacher Education and Technology Center Enhancements
- Franklin P. Perdue School of Business Building Project
- Fine Arts Support
- Library Enhancements
- Sea Gull Athletics
- Campus Enhancements and Outreach