Letter from the President

If you’ve driven past campus along Route 13 recently, you know Salisbury University is developing a skyline! The Teacher Education and Technology Center at the College Avenue intersection, with its soaring colonnade, has been named one of the 10 best-designed new higher education buildings in the United States. To the south, at the Dogwood Drive intersection, a $45 million shopping and residence complex, called Sea Gull Square, is nearing completion and becomes home to over 600 students this fall. In between, the new building for the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business promises to be as appealing on the inside as it is out. It, too, opens in the fall. Architecturally, these three blend beautifully; collectively, I think they form a panorama of a campus that is traditional and state-of-the-art, dynamic yet thoughtful.

I frequently say that Salisbury University is on the move. It is, however, still a community that cherishes its history and heritage. This academic year, we have been celebrating several milestones. They include the silver anniversary of the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra, which, during its 25 years, has become a model of success throughout Maryland for town-gown collaboration. This is also the 30th anniversary of the Bellavance Honors Program, named after the late Thomas Bellavance, SU’s sixth president, who played an important role in laying the foundation for today’s campus. And, believe it or not, the University’s Dance Company is celebrating its golden anniversary—entertaining and educating audiences for 50 years!

I marked my own 10th anniversary as SU’s president this academic year—a decade that parallels that of the Student Research Conference, honoring the life of the mind in scholarly and creative ways, and SU’s Relay For Life, uniting the campus in confronting the scourge of cancer, which has touched so many we love.

None of these milestones would be possible were it not for the generous support of our SU alumni. From participating in board meetings, to attending cultural festivities, to answering the call during our annual Phonathon, to joining the President’s Club…everything you do enhances our reputation as A Maryland University of National Distinction. This became evident to many individuals beyond our campus when last year University System of Maryland data showed that SU had the highest percentage of alumni giving of any USM institution.

Thank you!

Reminiscing about the past and anticipating the future, SU celebrates its Homecoming November 4-6. I hope to see you then, if not sooner. We have much to look forward to—and for which to be grateful.

Janet Dudley-Eshbach, Ph.D.
President, Salisbury University