Letter from the President

As Salisbury University continues to be considered a “hot school” for so many families who reside in Maryland and surrounding states, our faculty and staff remain dedicated to providing an exceptional education for students to prepare them for careers in a global society. The University, for example, expanded partnerships in Asia and Europe last fall, including connections I helped foster with the University of Malaga in southern Spain. I had the opportunity to speak with current SU students and alumni in Spain about their experience and how it changed their lives. Salisbury University is pushing past our borders to create opportunities to expose students to new environments, cultures and the global workforce.

Our faculty bring national and international experiences to the classroom, garnering awards for their research in a variety of areas. Dr. Stuart Hamilton of the Geography and Geosciences Department earned a prestigious $83,000 Prometheus Fellowship from the Ecuadorian government to explore the causes of sedimentation in that country’s Chone Estuary. Drs. Debra Webster and Lisa Seldonridge of the Nursing Department received nearly $300,000 from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to expand their “Standardized Patient Experience” training statewide. Collaboration between Drs. Randall Groth of the Education Specialties Department and Jennifer Berger of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department earned a National Science Foundation grant for a three-year summer research site related to math education. Faculty mentorship also helps students pursue their own research and grant opportunities. Junior Breck Sullivan, for example, became the sixth SU environmental studies student in the past five years to receive one of the field’s most prestigious undergraduate honors: an Environmental Protection Agency Greater Research Opportunity fellowship, worth up to $50,000.

So many exciting accomplishments by students and faculty help make Salisbury University A Maryland University of National Distinction. Guidebooks and surveys agree. For the seventh consecutive year, SU is one of Kiplinger’s Personal Finance’s Top 100 “Best Values in Public Colleges” and is also among the magazine’s “24 Best College Values Under $30,000 a Year.” SU earned other accolades for value from Washington Monthly, Money and Forbes, and was again named among the nation’s best colleges for 2015, according to The Princeton Review and U.S. News & World Report.

We hope you will continue to stay involved with SU and consider exploring our new programs and facilities. The first cohort of the Doctorate in Nursing Practice graduates this spring, and this fall our online Master of Business Administration launches, with the Master of Social Work and GIS management programs also available online. In addition, this year marks the start of construction on the Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons and a new and improved Sea Gull Stadium. Both will make it possible for our students to achieve their goals at the highest level.

Please consider supporting our students with your time, talents and treasure. Salisbury University’s evolution is based on the foundation that has been laid by you—our alumni. SU offers many opportunities for you to get involved and give back in the ways that are most meaningful to you. Mark your calendar to join us for Homecoming/Family Weekend 2015, which takes place Friday-Sunday, October 9-11. This is your chance to come back to campus and remember all the great people you met during your time at Salisbury. I look forward to sharing in your Sea Gull pride!

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

We invite your comments, criticisms, compliments, corrections and contributions…

Please write to: Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, Editor, SUMagazine, 1120 Camden Avenue, Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD 21801-6837. Or email us at alumni@salisbury.edu. The editor reserves the right to publish letters of interest.

This magazine was printed on recyclable, chlorine-free paper using vegetable-derived, low VOC (volatile organic compound) inks. The cover has a water-based, low VOC coating that is recyclable. It is also available digitally at: www.salisbury.edu/alumni/sumagazine

Pardon Our Error: In the 2014 issue of SUMagazine, Dr. Susan Battistoni’s name was misspelled in the article “Is That Seat Taken?: One Nurse’s Story.” The editor offers her apologies to Dr. Battistoni.