Mission: Our Keys To Success

SU’s Core Values
- Excellence
- Student Centeredness
- Learning
- Community
- Civic Engagement
- Diversity

Salisbury University’s mission is to cultivate and sustain a superior, student-centered learning community where students, faculty and staff are viewed as both teachers and learners, and where a commitment to excellence permeates all aspects of University life. We recruit exceptional and diverse faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students and support them as they work together to reach the University’s goals. Serving Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic region, we are concerned participants in responding to the educational, economic, cultural and social needs of our community and believe that service is a vital component of civic life. Our highest purpose is to empower our students with the knowledge, skills and core values that contribute to life-long learning and active citizenship in a democratic society and interdependent world.

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President's Message

Without a doubt, this has been an especially difficult year. The nation’s economic downturn ultimately resulted in significant reductions in Salisbury University’s state appropriation. Over the past two fiscal years, SU’s budgets have been reduced by over $9 million. Still, as you will see so clearly in the pages of this Annual Report, there were many wonderful things happening at SU this past academic year.

Building For The Future

The highpoint for this campus during 2002-2003 was the opening of Henson Science Hall, our new science and technology building. Students and faculty alike have been delighted with the facilities and equipment that have enhanced undergraduate research efforts in the sciences. Another new beginning was the launching of the Academy for Leadership in Education, a partnership among the Seidel School of Education and Professional Studies, SU’s Center for Professional Development, educators from the Eastern Shore school districts, and the Greater Salisbury Committee. The mission of the Academy is to provide a quality learning experience for aspiring leaders in the education world.

These past two semesters have proven to be a time of planning for our campus. We completed our facilities master planning process which will direct our growth for the foreseeable future. The consultants we hired observed that SU has room to grow as we expand our east campus facilities and make better use of space on our main campus. Our wish list includes the anticipated Teacher Education and Technology Center to replace Caruthers Hall, a new library, field house, a stand-alone home for the Perdue School of Business, and a fine and performing arts center. Near completion is our University-wide strategic plan. A University-wide committee under the leadership of Bryan Price, director of the Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Accountability, has reviewed national trends, regional developments and campus preferences to help set future priorities that will guide our energies and our fiscal resources.

Personal Milestones

On a personal note, I was pleased when my son, Joe, enrolled at Salisbury University this past fall. After having toured much of the eastern seaboard looking for the right college (one that just had to be near a beach for his surfing proclivities), he chose Salisbury University. I always knew he had a good head on his shoulders.

Another highlight for me was a 10-day trip to Cuba in December, 2002. Members of the Association of International Educators (NAFSA) participated in this trip whose purpose was to deliver much needed school and medical supplies, to promote greater understanding, and to explore the possibility of establishing future faculty and student exchanges. For me as a Latin American specialist, it was a special opportunity to see firsthand how this geographically-close U.S. neighbor has fared over the last several decades. As always, it felt wonderful to get back on U.S. soil!

Economic cycles ebb and flow. I know we will get through the current difficulties, and that better times will come again. I am confident of the continued progress of Salisbury University. Thanks to the hard work, diligence and loyalty of our faculty, staff and students, and the support of our alumni and friends throughout Maryland and beyond, SU has just been ranked fourth among all public universities in the North and 33rd among both public and private universities in the same category by U.S. News & World Report. The national accolades that Salisbury University continues to receive are well deserved indeed.

Janet Dudley-Eshbach
President