

Campus Successes

A Master Plan For Growth

SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach officially unveiled the campus' new Facilities Master Plan. Approved by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, it focuses on maintaining a compact academic core, strengthening connections between east and main campus, and enabling future projects in academic and student life, recreation, and the arts.

Some of the building highlights over the next decade are a proposed Field House on east campus, a Fine and Performing Arts Complex on main campus, and new residence halls. Included is the development of landscaped and well-lit walking and biking paths bordering the east campus rail line.

A clearly defined University District crossing Route 13 would be readily noticed by travelers using the heavily-trafficked north-south corridor, helping unite the nearly 200-acre main and east campuses.

The Facilities Master Plan "outlines enhancements to the University's already vibrant learning environment, our arboretum and cultural offerings," said the President. It "identifies improvements that will add utilitarian and beautiful spaces to learn, research, live, create and perform. Each project moves us closer to the vision of a campus that ranks as one of the nation's best mid-sized universities, both public and private."

The planning process was spearheaded by Ayers Saint Gross (ASG) of Baltimore, recognized nationally as one of the country's leaders in design and planning. The year-long planning process involved multiple sessions garnering input from campus and community groups including the City of Salisbury, Wicomico County, the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce and local neighborhood associations.

The 10-year plan is broken down into two five-year phases. Already underway in Phase One are the construction of the new \$117 million Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons, with much-needed new library, academic, research and meeting spaces on main campus, and a \$19 million stadium, also sorely needed, on east campus. Both are scheduled for completion in 2016.



English Language Institute Students

SU's AmeriCorps Program Celebrates 20 Years

2014-2023 Facilities Master Plan





Increased Internationalization: A Latin American literature and Spanish-language scholar, President Janet Dudley-Eshbach has made internationalization a priority, founding the Center for International Education and English Language Institute to encourage global experiences.

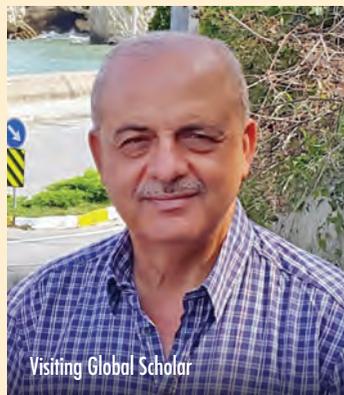
ELI Explores Regional Cultural Site

As part of SU's English Language Institute, 35 students from China learned about native people from the region when they visited the Chicone Village. The summer ELI program provides international university students with intensive English language instruction and immersion experiences that reflect American life, history and culture. The program's theme is the "good stewardship" of shared resources, environments and communities on the Eastern Shore and beyond. Students practice their language skills in formal English classes and in real-life settings through educational excursions and social activities with American students and families. They also meet local community leaders and attend talks and workshops.

Visiting Global Scholar

Dr. Ahmad Adib Sha'ar, a Syrian professor, displaced by that country's civil war, is a visiting global scholar at SU. He joined the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science for a one-year appointment beginning in the spring. Sha'ar teaches a Programming I course and continues his research in radar theory as well as in pedagogical strategies for teaching basic computer language in the K-12 curriculum.

Sha'ar was dean of research and a faculty member at Mamoun University in his hometown of Aleppo, Syria, when the campus became occupied by rebel forces and experienced mutual bombardment by rebel and government forces. He and his family were among more than



three million Syrians displaced by the conflict in 2013.

Salisbury civic leader Mitzi Perdue collaborated with the Institute for International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund to sponsor Sha'ar's residency at SU. A member of IIE's Board of Trustees in New York City, Perdue is a life-long advocate for international education.

ShoreCorps/PALS Celebrates 20 Years

For two decades, members of ShoreCorps/PALS (Partnership for Adolescents on the Lower Shore), SU's AmeriCorps program, have been tutoring students, assisting with after-school programs and promoting new youth initiatives.

ShoreCorps/PALS members serve with non-profit, education-based organizations working with area youth. The program recently expanded to assist seniors. It is expected to place up to 20 members this year, part of a tradition that has included some 500 members since its founding in 1995 by Dr. George Whitehead, psychology professor and project director.

The Corporation for National and Community Service and Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism fund some 40 percent of the program's annual budget. The additional 60 percent comes from matching funds provided by AmeriCorps service sites and in-kind contributions from SU. Sites requesting assistance pay between \$3,100 and \$8,500 per year, depending on how many hours the member is scheduled. In exchange for their service, members receive stipends of up to \$12,200 annually, in addition to six undergraduate college credits. Following their service, members receive an additional benefit of up to \$5,645 that may be applied toward college tuition or reducing qualified student loans.

At service sites, members assist children with education and social needs and help recruit and facilitate volunteers. Last year, members helped some 12,000 children and recruited over 1,200 volunteers.

Presidential Honors

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot presented SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach with Wicomico County's 2015 William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award.

Franchot lauded the University's growth in size and stature during Dudley-Eshbach's 15-year tenure, calling it "the Yale University of Maryland," only more affordable. Breaking with tradition, the Comptroller personally nominated Dudley-Eshbach for the award "because of the transformative impact she has had ... on this university and this town." Calling her "my favorite university president," he praised her commitment to opportunity and service, noting SU's positive economic impact on the region, estimated at \$420 million annually. It is one of Wicomico's biggest employers.

The Daily Record also honored SU's president by naming her to its 2015 listing of Influential Marylanders. The SU President joined Dr. Peggy Naleppa, president/CEO of Peninsula Regional Medical Center, as the lone Eastern Shore recipients of the recognition.

Fifty-one honorees were selected by the editors of *The Daily Record* for their significant contributions to their respective fields and for their leadership in Maryland in civic leadership, communications, education, finance, freestyle, general business, health care, law, philanthropy, real estate and technology.

