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GREAT EXPECTATIONS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR MARYLAND, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION UPDATE

Thanks to the support of our alumni and friends, the college's *Great Expectations* campaign has topped \$4 million! We still have a way to go to reach our goal of \$20 million.

To find out how you can invest in the future of the College of Education, please contact **Darcelle Wilson**, Assistant Dean for Development, at 301.405.6644 or email



Dear College of Education Alumni and Friends:

After a year of serving in an interim status, I am extremely pleased to have been named dean of the College of Education as of May 2008. Actually, there is a range of emotions I feel—pleased, hopeful, but mostly really excited. I am especially excited to share with you my vision for the future of this already great institution. In a nutshell, my vision is:

- to become the best research, land-grant college of education in the country, and
- to be relevant and responsive, adding value in statewide education issues (i.e., teacher shortages, achievement gap, and teaching and learning in the future)

My five-point plan to accomplish this includes the following signature themes:

1. **DIVERSITY**: Focusing on increasing the diversity of students and faculty so the college can benefit from contributions and ideas from multiple perspectives.
2. **INTERNATIONALIZATION**: Promoting a global perspective among our students and faculty by creating opportunities for our students and faculty to travel abroad, hosting international scholars, and supporting scholarship related to international perspectives.
3. **POLICY**: Taking advantage of our location close to the seat of government by influencing state and national education policy decisions.
4. **TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA**: Recognizing and exploring the impact of technology and media on the future of teaching and learning, and increasing the use of technology and media in our teaching and research.
5. **FACILITIES ENHANCEMENT**: Beginning with creating professional, inviting entrances in the Benjamin Building until funds are available for further enhancements to the building or we are able to get on the docket for a new building.

In other words, my goal is to have an alma mater of which you can continue to be proud.

Over the last year, I spent much time traveling to several regions throughout the state and around the country talking about various ways I envision leading the college, especially in terms of the *Great Expectations*, the campaign for the University of Maryland. The College of Education's goal to raise \$20 million by 2011 is but a small portion of the university's overall \$1 billion goal. We reached the \$4 million mark at the close of fiscal year 2008, with another \$16 million to go in a short three-and-a-half years. Funds raised during the campaign would be used primarily for critical program areas, scholarship support for students, and to attract and retain leading scholars with endowed chairs and professorships. So how can you become more involved?

For those of you who are not already members, I would encourage you to reconnect with your University of Maryland family and join the alumni association. By so doing, you will also be supporting the College of Education as a small portion of your annual \$45 membership fee is allocated to the college. In return, you will receive members-only discounts and other campus perks (to obtain more details and/or a membership application, call 301.405.4678, or visit www.alumni.umd.edu).

If you have specific interest in providing scholarship support for students, think about marking your gift for the *Endowment* to provide support for those students transferring from Maryland area community colleges. Transfer students start off their academic careers at the community college level for numerous reasons, however they lack access to some scholarship opportunities available to those students who come to the university as freshman. The creation of a \$500,000 endowment account will provide perpetual support for this special group of students.

Contributions large and small from our alumni and friends will go a long way in helping us reach our goals (see gift chart on this page). While all donations are welcomed and very much appreciated, gifts of \$1,000 or more with a designation to the College of Education Dean's Initiatives Fund—which will directly support the aforementioned five-point vision plan—come



with a membership into the University's distinguished Colonnade Society and the enjoyment of such rewards as:

- Distinctive members-only gifts
- Invitations to special events
- A designated staff liaison
- Honor roll recognition
- Subscription to the Colonnade Society bi-annual online newsletter
- Tax deduction on April 15

I look forward to serving as dean of this wonderful College of Education and I hope you are inspired to join us in becoming a nationally recognized Top 10 college of education. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

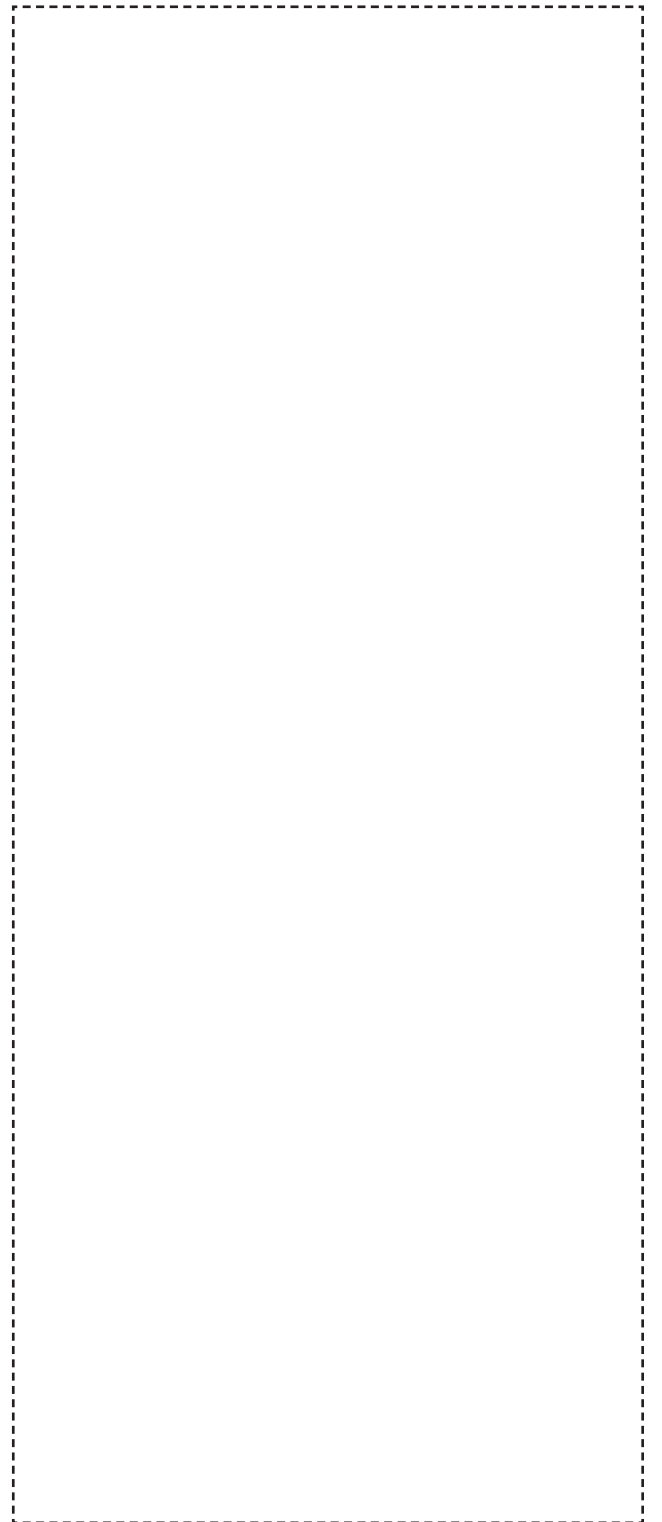
Sincerely,
Donna L. Wiseman
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The College of Education Alumni Chapter cordially invites you to...

a day of learning and discovery.

in invigorating dialogue with faculty and experts in the field of education.



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