

Endeavors

Dear Friends:

It is my very great honor to serve as Dean of the College of Education at the University of Maryland. We rank 22nd in the nation according to the most recent *U.S. News & World Report* survey and are actively working toward being recognized as one of the top 10 colleges of education in the nation.

Currently, our Counseling and Personnel Services department is ranked first, our Special Education department is ranked 10th, and the Education Policy Program in our Education Policy and Leadership department is ranked 9th. In fact, it is significant to note that we have programs in the top 20 in all specialties ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* except the one area in which we no longer have a program.

Our rankings reflect the strength of our faculty who conduct cutting edge research and receive grants and contracts from state and federal agencies and organizations. In fact, for fiscal year 2000-2001, the College attracted nearly \$21 million in sponsored research funding, more than triple the amount awarded in 1996, and a significant increase from last year's total of \$11.2 million. I invite you to take a virtual tour of our Institutes and Centers and publications to learn more about our research and outreach by visiting us at: www.education.umd.edu.

Our excellence is evidenced in other ways, too. Our faculty members are the recipients of many honors: several serve as editors on prestigious academic journals, or have leadership positions in their professional disciplines. They are passionate about their teaching and care deeply about their students.

The College of Education is on a positive trajectory for the future. Our Board of Visitors supports our initiatives and soon we will have a new College of Education Alumni Society. It will bring an important voice to the table as we plan for the future. Our alumni and friends continue to be vital to our success and will be in the future as we develop plans to construct an addition to the aging Benjamin Building.

In this, our first edition of *Endeavors*, you'll learn more about innovative faculty research projects, outreach programs, a study abroad venture, and the awards and honors bestowed on our faculty. Future issues will highlight alumni accomplishments so we need to hear from you. Send me an email at: Endeavors@umail.umd.edu, or return the form included with this newsletter.

We have a very bright future ahead as we strive to become one of the top ten colleges of education in the nation. Please take a moment to learn more about us and to let us know what you think.

Sincerely,

Edna Mora Szymanski

Edna Mora Szymanski, Dean, College of Education



College Project in Baltimore Schools Earns National Award

For Baltimore City elementary school students, math class is no longer something to be dreaded. Students feel empowered by an engaging, interactive experience that puts them at the center of the learning process.

The change is a result of the efforts of associate professor **Patricia Campbell**, Curriculum and Instruction, and her team of colleagues who have coordinated with Baltimore teachers to completely reform math instruction across the city. The five-year project, Mathematics: Application and Reasoning Skills (MARS Project), has made such a difference in instruction and student achievement that it recently received the Urban Impact Award from the Council of the Great City Schools. This consortium of the nation's largest urban school districts annually recognizes outstanding school-based projects conducted with universities that have had a positive and significant impact on teaching and learning.

In Baltimore, the impact of the MARS Project is evident in the classroom climate and test scores of students in the 107 elementary schools where the program is in place. Campbell says students are comfortable openly raising questions to build their understanding of math concepts. On the standardized Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) given in spring 2001, students showed gains of 17 to 24 percentile points over 1998 scores across grades 1-5.

The change in Baltimore schools came about through a collaborative approach, with the university becoming a full partner in assessing the problem and developing solutions that work for the district. The MARS Project is one of several initiatives in the College of Education aimed at helping to develop solutions to the problems of urban school systems.

Seven Outstanding Alumni Honored at College Ceremony

The College of Education and Phi Delta Kappa honor society hosted an awards ceremony and dinner to recognize seven distinguished alumni for their achievements in the field of education. The annual event on Nov. 13 was part of the college's observation of American Education Week. The ceremony, entitled "Celebrating Education: A Tribute to Teaching and Learning," honored the following College of Education alumni:

Outstanding Leader in Education

- **Joan Develin Coley**, President of Western Maryland College, a selective, private liberal arts college located in Westminster – *Ph.D., 1973, Department of Curriculum and Instruction*
- **Portia Shields**, President of Albany State University, part of the University System of Georgia – *Ph.D., 1974, Department of Curriculum and Instruction*

Outstanding Scholar in Education

- **Kimberly Hoagwood**, Associate Director for Child and Adolescent Research at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) – *Ph.D., 1987, Department of Counseling and Personnel Services*
- **Cynthia Stifter**, Professor of Human Development at The Pennsylvania State University – *Ph.D., 1987, Department of Human Development*

Outstanding Professional in Education

- **Robert Burns**, Assistant State Superintendent for Rehabilitation Services for the Maryland State Department of Education – *M.A., 1978, Department of Counseling and Personnel Services*

Outstanding New Professional in Education

- **P. Karen Murphy**, Assistant Professor in the School of Educational Policy and Leadership at Ohio State University – *Ph.D., 1998, Department of Human Development*

Distinguished Scholar in Education

- **Genevieve M. Knight**, Professor of Mathematics at Coppin State College – *Ph.D., 1970, Department of Curriculum and Instruction*



Portia Shields also has been chosen as recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award and will represent the College of Education at the University of Maryland Third Annual Alumni Association Awards Gala on Saturday, April 6, 2002, at the University Inn and Conference Center.

The University of Maryland Alumni Association is also honoring **Hotsy Alperstein, '43**, of Hotsy Alperstein and Associates, a casual furniture specialty store in Washington, D.C. Alperstein will be receiving the Gottwalls Memorial Award, presented annually to an alumnus who had provided service and promoted the welfare of the university and the Alumni Association over a period of years. A former boxer for the University of Maryland, he was also inducted into the University of Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990.

More than 500 guests are expected to attend the event, which will feature Johnny Holliday, "The Voice of the Terrapins," as the emcee and special alumni guest presenters.

To read more about these honorees or for information on the Alumni Awards Gala, visit www.education.umd.edu and click on "Alumni and Friends."

Current *U.S. News & World Report* Rankings:

- 22nd – College of Education, overall
- 1st – Counseling and Personnel Services, department rank
- 9th – Education Policy program
- 10th – Special Education, department rank
- 13th – Educational Psychology program
- 13th – Administration and Supervision program
- 14th – Higher Education Administration program
- 15th – Rehabilitation Counseling program (2001)
- 15th – Elementary Education program
- 17th – Curriculum and Instruction, department rank
- 18th – Secondary Education program
- 19th – Social/Philosophical Foundations program (2001)

ACHIEVEMENT CONFERENCE RESCHEDULED

The Inaugural Conference of the Maryland Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education, which was set for Sept. 13-14, was postponed. The conference, titled "Achievement – A Shared Imperative," has been rescheduled for June 20-21, 2002, at the University of Maryland.

Visit www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE for details.

Accolades & Honors

Roger Azevedo, *Human Development*, is the recipient of the Faculty Early Career Award from National Science Foundation (NSF). Azevedo's five-year, \$616,000 award is for his project titled, "The Role of Self-Regulated Learning in Students' Understanding of Science with Hypermedia." He will work in several schools to conduct research on self-regulated learning and design adaptive web-based hypermedia environments to foster students' learning.

Jim Roberts, *Measurement, Statistics and Evaluation*, received a NSF Faculty Early Career Award of \$350,000 over five years to increase the applicability and utility of item response theory models for unfolding in practical measurement situations. Among his research goals is to develop new psychometric models and software tools to better measure attitudes, preferences, and individual progression through developmental processes that occur in stages.

The National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) awarded Melanie Killen, *Human Development*, a grant of \$1.08 million over three years for her research project, "Social Reasoning About Exclusion and Rights." This is a multi-site project in which school environments and students' social experiences will be related to children's and adolescents' social evaluations of exclusion based on gender, race, and ethnicity.

Karen Harris and Steve Graham, *Special Education*, received the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Special Interest Group; Distinguished Research Award for 2001.

Steven Selden, *Education Policy and Leadership*, was honored by the Gustav Meyers Program for the Study of Human Rights in America in 2001 with the Honorable Mention Book Award for *Inheriting Shame: The Story of Eugenics in America*.

This March, Paul Power, retired chair of *Counseling and Personnel Services*, will receive the National Counsel of Rehabilitation Education (NCRE) Career Award. David Hershenson, *Counseling and Personnel Services*, is the recipient of 2001 Distinguished Career Research Award from American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA).

Summer Study Abroad Program Offered in Taxco, Mexico



This summer, from July 15 to Aug. 2, the University of Maryland, in collaboration with the Centro de Enseñanza para Extranjeros of the Universidad Autónoma de México, will offer a study abroad program in Taxco de Alarcon designed for ESOL (English as a Second Language) Teachers and Professionals.

The course offered by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction is EDCI 798, "International Perspectives on Language, Schooling and Culture: Cultural and Linguistic Immersion for Teachers of ESOL." The program will offer an intense cultural and linguistic immersion experience. Application deadline is **April 1, 2002**.

For information, visit www.umd.edu/studyabroad or contact Debra Suarez, Curriculum and Instruction, at ds315@umail.umd.edu.

Endeavors is a publication for Alumni and Friends of the College of Education at the University of Maryland. Address correspondence to: Deborah Hudson, Endeavors, 3119 Benjamin Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20742, or send an email to Endeavors@education.umd.edu.

Local Corporations Present Checks to Support the Bladensburg Project

Giant Food, Inc., PepsiCo and HumanVision recently became the latest contributors to support the Bladensburg Project, a new initiative of the university's Maryland Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education. The project is a collaborative effort of university researchers and school district teachers and administrators designed to develop reforms and interventions to improve the quality of teaching and student learning in a low-performing feeder school pattern. The strategies developed in this project will be adaptable to other groups of schools throughout the district.

Giant Food, Inc. and PepsiCo have each committed \$200,000 over three years to the project. HumanVision, a high-tech venture and incubator firm based in Prince George's County, contributed \$50,000. These companies join others, including Bank of America, Doctor's Hospital, Ryland Homes, The Michael Companies, Inc., and Mrs. Shirley Philips—all of whom have made gifts to the college in support of the project.

President C.D. Mote accepted the gifts on behalf of the university. "One of the biggest challenges facing our nation today is the achievement of students and particularly those in large urban school districts," Mote said.

Several research projects in the college are dedicated to addressing minority achievement, according to Edna Mora Szymanski, and corporate support is crucial to their success. The Bladensburg Project taps university faculty, researchers and graduate students to provide intense professional development to increase teachers' knowledge and leadership training for principals and other leaders at Bladensburg High, William Wirt Middle and Rogers Heights Elementary schools. The project also includes tutoring and other interventions to improve students' math and reading skills as well as other instructional support in the classroom. The program is being developed with direct involvement of school staff to assure that reforms address the specific needs of the teachers and students.

For more information on how area corporations are supporting this project, visit our Investors' Report at: www.education.umd.edu/MIMAUE.

MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR MINORITY ACHIEVEMENT AND URBAN EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Did You Know...

For a quick read on the latest facts of interest from the College of Education, visit www.education.umd.edu/didyouknow

College of Education Zooms with the University of Maryland

This has been a time of unprecedented change for your College of Education at the University of Maryland.

- Ten years ago the University had one academic program ranked in the Top 25. Today the University has 61 ranked programs, and of that number, 35 are from the College of Education.
- Our incoming freshmen GPA has risen from 3.00 to 3.76.

- The University's faculty includes six Pulitzer Prize winners, a Nobel Prize winner in physics, and scores of Fulbright Scholars. The chair of the College's Department of Education Policy and Leadership, Kenneth Strike, is a member of the National Academy of Education.
- We're out there every day collaborating on major research initiatives. Last year, the College attracted nearly \$21 million in external research funding—that's triple the amount received only five years ago.
- Thanks to the success of the Terrapins football, basketball, and lacrosse teams, we're achieving national recognition for athletics as well as academics.

To learn more about membership in the University of Maryland Alumni Association, zoom in and visit the association's web site: www.alumni.umd.edu. Your membership in the university's Alumni Association will help benefit the College of Education Alumni Society. Join today!



Stay Connected with Terp Email!

The University of Maryland Alumni Association is pleased to introduce the Terp Alumni Network—a FREE online community featuring an Alumni Directory and Permanent Terp Email. The Alumni Directory will help you locate others quickly through a database of current biographical data and a powerful search engine. Through Permanent Terp Email, you can maintain a permanent and personal email address that will never change even when you change jobs or mail providers. To register for the Terp Alumni Network, visit the College of Education home page, www.education.umd.edu/alumni or the Alumni Association's home page: www.alumni.umd.edu to update your alumni profile, search the Alumni Directory and establish your Permanent Terp Email.

Would you like to invest in educational excellence?

The University of Maryland College of Education ranks 22nd in the nation.
Our future is bright with progress and prestige.
There's a way that you can help today.

- Are you interested in making a gift that returns **fixed, guaranteed, lifetime income** to you and/or to one other person, and later supports the education initiatives at the University of Maryland?
- Are you able to make a gift of \$5,000 or more using cash or appreciated securities?
- Do you own stock or cash assets yielding 5% or less annually?
- Are you over 50 years of age?

If you can answer "yes" to at least three of these questions, a **Charitable Gift Annuity** to benefit the College of Education may be an ideal opportunity for you to invest in excellence. When you establish a gift annuity with a contribution of cash or appreciated securities, you receive in return a **fixed, lifetime, guaranteed annual payout** and a one-time charitable income tax deduction. Payout rates are higher the older you are.

For more information or a no-obligation gift annuity illustration tailored to your age and circumstances, contact: **Mary Sue Kivlighan, Office of External Relations, College of Education, 301.405.3130**

