

(From left) Dr. Beatriz Hardy, SU dean of libraries and instructional resources; Barry Gossett, vice chair of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents; Maryland Delegate Norman Conway, chair of the House Appropriations Committee; SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach; and T. Greg Prince, SU vice president of advancement and executive director of the SU Foundation, Inc.



Letter from the President

Greetings! I am pleased to present Salisbury University's Annual Report for 2013-2014. This year, SU continued our steady march toward national distinction. New academic programs got underway, we broke ground on the Academic Commons, our Sea Gull Athletics teams performed extraordinarily well, faculty and staff were honored for their many accomplishments, and our students continued to excel. Salisbury University's rankings in national publications reflected those accomplishments, highlighting the University as one of the best, most efficient, and greenest of all colleges and universities across the United States.

In addition to achieving academic excellence, SU students demonstrated the value of service. From topping \$1 million raised for Relay For Life to packing meals for refugees in Syria, our Sea Gulls made a positive difference in the Salisbury community and throughout the world, and will continue to do so in the years to come.

SU has been the cultural hub for our region, and last year was no exception. Throughout the academic year, artists of all kinds were welcomed to campus: writers and poets; the Moscow ballet; Tibetan Monks; and our own students, faculty and staff from the theatre, dance and music departments graced venues throughout campus for the benefit of the arts and our campus community.

In sum, I am grateful every day to be a member of this thriving community where opportunities abound to live, learn and lead. I hope that in the pages of this publication, you will be surprised and impressed by the many facets of Salisbury University. Our students, faculty and staff continue to work hard every day to build our reputation as *A Maryland University of National Distinction*.

Janet Dudley-Eshbach, Ph.D.
President

A 'Ground Breaking' Addition to SU's Academic Facilities

With broad smiles and shiny shovels, Salisbury University broke ground on the Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons. At 224,071 square feet, the \$111.4 million facility will be the largest academic building in SU history. Home for a sorely needed new library, with it comes a reconfiguration of University classroom, research and study space in a manner that planners predict will change campus dynamics. The Guerrieri Academic Commons is a conscious attempt to transform learning at the institution – in ways which will not only impact how students and faculty interact, but, potentially, how the Lower Eastern Shore relates to the SU academic community. The new facility will allow SU to unite specialized academic programs – now scattered in different buildings – under one roof, adjacent to each another. With library resources, and librarians, only steps away, students and faculty will gain a new level of support and possibility.

On the Cover: For the first time in SU's 88-year history, graduate students had their own ceremony during SU's Spring 2014 Commencement exercises. Some 170 received master's degrees.

SU Honors the State and the State Honors SU

During the past year, SU bestowed its annual state legislator honor and the state bestowed two SU faculty with its annual professorship honor.

In recognition of outstanding public service, Maryland Senator Thomas M. "Mac" Middleton was named SU's 2014 John R. Hargreaves Distinguished Legislative Fellow. A lifelong resident of Charles County, Middleton is a four-term senator first elected to represent District 28 in 1995. He is the owner and operator of Cedar Hill Farm, near Waldorf, MD, and is the only full-time farmer in the Maryland General Assembly. For nearly 20 years, Middleton has co-chaired the Joint Subcommittee on Program Open Space and Agricultural Land Preservation.

For the second consecutive year, two SU professors won one of the University System of Maryland's most distinguished awards, which includes an \$80,000 prize. Dr. Michael Lewis, chair of SU's Environmental Studies Department, and Dr. Jill Caviglia-Harris, professor of economics and environmental studies, received the Wilson H. Elkins Professorship. The honor helps continue efforts initiated with their inaugural award in 2012. These include creating an organic farm, developing plans for a field station and integrating research on Amazon deforestation into the classroom.

Their three-part proposal for the award includes creating a campus organic farm; planning and designing a field research station; and extending Caviglia-Harris' existing research on the Brazilian Amazon to create research opportunities for undergraduates. The farm hopes to supply food to SU Dining Services and provide teaching opportunities for college and K-12 students. The sustainable research station will allow for study and exploration of the regional environment. Caviglia-Harris' work, which already has involved some students, will be used to facilitate ongoing undergraduate research through the development of a team-taught course and a campus-based summer research institute.

Three Regents Award Winners

Two Perdue School of Business faculty earned the University System of Maryland's highest faculty honor: the Regents' Award for Excellence. Dr. Leonard Arvi, Economics and Finance Department, was honored for mentoring and Dr. Frank Shipper, Management and Marketing Department, was honored for research and scholarship. Arvi is credited with ensuring that his students are adept at every form of networking, including using new technologies to connect. Recognized nationally and internationally as a scholar on employee-owned companies, Shipper has published extensively, including the book *Shared Entrepreneurship: A Path to Engaged Employee Ownership*, and contributed to the documentary *We Are the Owners* – all in the last three years.

On the staff side, Brenda Grodzicki received the Board of Regents Staff Award for Excellence. She is known for devoting "acute attention" to the operations of SU's 40-year-old academic journal *Literature/Film Quarterly*. Recognized for Effectiveness and Efficiency, she has been the journal's business manager and copy editor for the past decade. She was applauded for developing and implementing a plan that allowed it to earn over \$10,000 in additional royalty funds during the last fiscal year and this one.

Abundant Accolades

SU was honored by a number of rankings publications in the past year. For the second time, *University Business* magazine named SU among its spring "Models of Efficiency." *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine named SU among its "25 Best College Values Under \$30,000 a Year" in addition to naming SU among the Top 100 "Best Values in Public Colleges" for the past six years. *The Princeton Review*, in partnership with *USA Today*, named Salisbury among its Top 80 "Best Value" Public Colleges in the nation for 2014. For the 15th consecutive year, SU was ranked one of *The Best Colleges* by *The Princeton Review*. For the 17th consecutive year, SU was named one of *U.S. News & World Report's* Top Public Regional Universities in the North.



Caviglia-Harris and Lewis



Arvi, Grodzicki and Shipper



(Left) Maryland Senator Middleton

