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# OUR SUCCESSES

## **Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre Appointed SU's 10th President**

The University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents appointed Dr. Carolyn "Lyn" Ringer Lepre as the next president of Salisbury University in May 2022. Dr. Lepre joined SU from Radford University (Radford, VA) where she served as the interim president and was previously provost and

vice president for academic affairs. A proven administrator, full professor and respected scholar, she also had a highly successful tenure at Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY) and served on faculty at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and California State University, Chico. Dr. Lepre's tenure as SU's President began on July 15, 2022, following the retirement of President Charles Wight.



**Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion Named In Honor of President Wight**

When SU President Charles Wight dedicated the Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion in 2018, he did so with the hope of building upon the campus' culture of diversity and inclusion. In recognition of his dedication to those ideals, SU's executive leadership renamed the facility the Charles A. Wight Multicultural Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion.

Dr. Wight was surprised with the tribute in June, just weeks prior to his planned retirement from the presidency. He also

was honored with the Spirit of Salisbury Award, presented to select individuals who have made continuous and notable contributions to the University's mission, quality and character.

The Wight Center for Equity, Justice and Inclusion is located in Blackwell Hall and provides support, education and engagement for under-resourced identities, benefiting students, faculty and staff.



### **USM Board of Regents' Awards for Excellence**

The University System of Maryland (USM) Board of Regents recognized two staff members in 2022 with one of its highest honors. Donna Carey, executive administrative assistant in the Fulton School of Liberal Arts Dean's Office was recognized in the Exceptional Contribution to the Institution category and Haley Cristea, instructional designer in the Instructional Design and Delivery Office, was honored in the Effectiveness and Efficiency category. Carey and Cristea were two of the seven recipients of the Board of Regents' Staff Award in 2022.

SU's latest award winners join a long list of faculty and staff honored by the Board of Regents for their achievements, including

the prior year recipients Dr. Celine Carayon, Dr. Ani Mathers, Dr. Kristen Walton and Crystal Kelly. Carayon earned the faculty award for Scholarship, Research or Creative Activity; Mathers and Walton earned the faculty award for Excellence in Mentoring; and Kelly earned the staff award for Effectiveness and Efficiency.

### **Sea Gull Pell Promise Program Announced**

SU is making it easier for first-year students who qualify for a federal Pell Grant to attend, launching a new program offering free tuition for four years. Through the new Sea Gull Pell Promise, SU covers any tuition costs remaining once eligible students' scholarships, grants and benefits are applied. To



qualify, prospective students must apply for admission directly out of high school with a minimum 3.75 high school grade point average and qualify for a Pell Grant by submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Funding is renewable up to four years (eight semesters total) for recipients who maintain eligibility.

**New Brand Launched: Make Tomorrow Yours**

In fall 2021, after a year-long effort led by a steering committee with input from numerous constituencies both on and off campus, SU introduced its new brand initiative: “Make Tomorrow Yours.” At its launch, SU President Charles Wight shared: “We

have accurately captured the long-standing commitment of our institution to providing students with rich and plentiful opportunities, as well as the dedication of our faculty and staff who change the trajectory of our students’ lives and open doors for graduates to thrive. Yes, we are tomorrow makers.”

**70** students have been winners of **PRESTIGIOUS NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE FELLOWSHIPS** in the past five years



### **Record Nine from SU Named 2022-23 Fulbright Students**

A record nine SU students and alumni have earned the prestigious U.S. Fulbright Student Award for the 2022-23 academic year. This is Salisbury's best year ever for the Fulbright Student Award, with a nearly 50% acceptance rate from original applicants. The Fulbright is the country's flagship international exchange program.

SU's 2022-2023 Fulbright Students are Kimberly Arriaga-Gonzalez, Abigail Boltz, Christian Ciattei, Aida Dadoo,

N'Tumahawa Kamara, Morgan McGlone-Smith, Nathaniel Sansom, Melanie Staszewsk, and Kylie Webb.

SU was named among the nation's top producers of Fulbright Students for 2021-2022 by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs for the fifth year in a row. SU also has been named among the nation's leading producers of Fulbright Scholars and was one of only five institutions to make both lists.

SU's 2021-2022 Fulbright Students were Abiodun Adeoye, Jessica Pierce, Julia Rohrer and Kathryn Stout.



### **Laconich Named USM Langenberg Legacy Fellow**

SU senior Dylan Laconich was selected among the inaugural class of Langenberg Legacy Fellows. The fellowship aims to foster civic education and civic engagement on and off campus.

Laconich, an urban and regional planning major from Arnold, MD, has long had a passion for civic engagement and giving back to the community in which he lives, in particular pertaining to the environment. He has been a member of the Environmental Student Association (ESA) and is a key player in the ESA's bee project.

For his Langenberg proposal, with guidance from Dr. Amal Ali of the Urban and Regional Planning Program, he chose to carry on with the environmental basis of the ESA projects, reaching out to a broader audience on the Eastern Shore. Laconich will be working with SU's Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE) and the City of Salisbury's Community Relations Department and Green Team.

**70+ AWARDS TOTALING**  
**\$6.3+M** in funds for research and public service projects