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GREETINGS from the Office of Institutional Advancement

Dear UMUC supporters and friends,

Happy New Year—and welcome to the Spring 2014 issue of Impact!

The mission of University of Maryland University College (UMUC) is to encourage students from all walks of life to reach their full potential, and in this edition of Impact, you will hear how much our students appreciate your generous scholarship support as they pursue their educational goals and dreams. This issue includes personal recollections from a Munich alumna who attended UMUC during the 1970s, along with inspiring stories about our dedicated donors, successful students, and prestigious programs.

I am excited to be a part of UMUC in 2014 as we strive to develop new student-centered initiatives and academic programs to both challenge and enlighten our students. I hope you take time to read about the wonderful happenings at this great university. As always, I welcome any feedback or suggestions that you have for the newsletter.

Sincerely,

CATHY SWEET
Vice President, Office of Institutional Advancement

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UMUC AT A GLANCE: FACTS AND FIGURES

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<tr>
<th>As of FY 2012, UMUC had alliances with all 16 Maryland community colleges, which included 351 articulated programs.</th>
<th>Currently, UMUC offers nearly 150 undergraduate and graduate programs and certificates* fully online. In FY 2012, UMUC offered 970 distinct courses online.</th>
<th>In FY 2013, UMUC had more than 261,000 online course enrollments.</th>
<th>As of FY 2013, UMUC enrolled 56,000 active-duty military servicemembers, reservists, veterans, and family members.</th>
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<td>The number of stateside students has more than doubled in the last 10 years, increasing to more than 42,000 in fall 2012.</td>
<td>In FY 2013, UMUC served more than 34,000 Marylanders.</td>
<td>As of spring 2013, 76 percent of undergraduate students enrolled in UMUC’s stateside programs were working full-time.</td>
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* More information about certificates, including gainful employment disclosures, is available at www.umuc.edu/certificates.

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SPRING 2014

CONTRIBUTORS
Taneka Chialastri
Pam Dello-Russo
Carla Solis

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT STAFF
The staff members of the Office of Institutional Advancement consider it a privilege to work with alumni and friends of UMUC and are committed to furthering our mission of providing excellent, world-class educational opportunities to adult students.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Unveiled: Works from the UMUC Art Collections

Exhibition Dates:
Sunday, February 9–Sunday, March 30, 2014

Arts Program Gallery
Gallery Hours: 9 a.m.–9 p.m., daily
UMUC Inn and Conference Center
Lower Level
3501 University Boulevard East
Adelphi, Maryland

Orkand Chair Distinguished Lecture
Thursday, March 20, 2014, 7–8:30 p.m.
UMUC Inn and Conference Center

Printmaking: Faculty Art Invitational 2014

Opening Reception:
Sunday, April 6, 2014, 3–5 p.m.
Exhibition Dates:
Sunday, April 6–Sunday, June 1, 2014

Arts Program Gallery
Gallery Hours: 9 a.m.–9 p.m., daily
UMUC Inn and Conference Center
Lower Level

Joseph Sheppard: On a Grand Scale

Opening Reception:
Sunday, April 27, 2014, 3–5 p.m.
Exhibition Dates:
Sunday, April 20, 2014–Sunday March 29, 2015
The Leroy Merritt Center for the Art of Joseph Sheppard
Dorothy L. and Henry A. Rosenberg Jr. Painting Gallery
Gallery Hours: 9 a.m.–7 p.m., daily
UMUC Inn and Conference Center

UMUC Commencement (Stateside)
Saturday–Sunday, May 17–18, 2014
Comcast Center
2001 Paint Branch Drive
College Park, Maryland

Annual Scholarship Appreciation Dinner
Thursday, May 29, 2014, 6 p.m.
UMUC Inn and Conference Center
By invitation only

LEADING BY EXAMPLE
Westleins Support Students’ Dreams

Patricia and David Westlein began their education at UMUC later in life. They married right out of high school, went to work, and started raising a family long before deciding to take on the additional challenges of earning college degrees.

UMUC turned out to be a perfect fit for their busy lives. They each earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism in 1988, and David went on to earn a master’s degree in management in 1995.

In the years since graduation, their connection to UMUC has remained strong. Both have given generously of their time and talent; Patricia has held several executive positions on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. They also began making gifts to UMUC as a way to help others benefit from higher education, just as they did.

“We both grew up poor and never dreamed we would have what we have today,” David says. “We were fortunate that our employers paid our tuition. We know that unless we had some help, we would not have been able to finish college. We are in a position to provide some modest help and wanted to do so.”

In 2009, the Westleins expanded their financial support of UMUC by establishing The Patricia and David Westlein Scholarship Fund, designated for undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need. In 2012, the fund was changed to The Marc David Westlein Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of the untimely death of their son, who also attended UMUC.

“Both of us and both of our children have received a good education in the University of Maryland system. A scholarship fund will hopefully help others for years to come.”

The Westlein family was recognized at last year’s scholarship dinner for the generous commitment they have made to UMUC.

Both Westleins have retired from senior management careers with large employers in the Washington, D.C., area and they are enjoying this new phase of life. Do they have advice for other couples thinking about endowing a scholarship fund or contributing to an existing one through a bequest? David answers succinctly: “Just do it!”

“Both of us and both of our children have received a good education in the University of Maryland system. A scholarship fund will hopefully help others for years to come.”
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT
Generous Donations by Li Family Enrich UMUC’s Art of China Collection

The magnificent art that comprises UMUC’s Art of China Collection is partially the result of gifts made by Thomas Li from his family’s vast collection that spans three generations. Many of the pieces donated by Mr. Li come from his grandfather’s extensive collection of art amassed during his lifetime. His grandfather, Li Yuanhong (1864-1928), started the collection during the Qing Dynasty (1616-1911). Li Yuanhong, a graduate of the Tianjin Naval Academy who majored in marine engineering, served as a high-ranking military officer in the Qing government. He helped overthrow the Qing Dynasty in the 1911 revolutionary war and later served as President of the Chinese Republic—twice—from 1916-1917 and again from 1922 to 1923. During his second presidency, Li Yuanhong was able to broker a peace agreement between the Northern and Southern factions of Chinese warlords. His invaluable scroll collection depicts this period of Chinese history. The scrolls pictured here do not have a title, but we know this pair contains seven calligraphic characters rendered to honor the 60th birthday of Gun Sun by Thomas Li’s grandfather. They are painted in heavy black ink, a formal style of calligraphy, with foliated flowers and branches. These scrolls were recently restored as the result of a generous gift from the Carpenter Foundation.

Li Yuanhong’s elder son, Thomas Li’s father, Edward (1901-1981), continued collecting art at the same time that he was building a successful coal mine and shipping company. Thomas Li remembers as a child sleeping in a bedroom containing six cedar cases full of paintings.

In 1937, Japan invaded China and the family fled south to Shanghai. Japanese troops eventually caught up with them there, and they lived under the Japanese occupation until the end of World War II. After the war, Thomas Li was offered a full scholarship to Gannon College in Erie, Pennsylvania; he began his studies there and in 1955 transferred to the University of Maryland, College Park, where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. During the 1970s, Thomas Li began bringing his family’s art collection to the United States, and in 2002, along with I-Ling Chow, he established the Art of China Collection at UMUC.

We are honored to display this vast collection where visitors, faculty, staff, and students can be transported back in time and have some exposure to China’s rich culture and history.

Mr. Thomas Li (left) and artist Davide Prete (right) at the Biennial Maryland Regional Juried Art Exhibition (BMRE) reception held at UMUC’s Arts Program Gallery in November.
STUDENTS SAY THANK YOU—IN MULTIPLE WAYS

At the Annual Scholarship Appreciation Dinner last spring, UMUC scholarship recipients came together to express thanks to the many donors who helped fund their education. And they did so with enthusiasm.

UMUC’s Office of Institutional Advancement had created posters with messages of thanks printed on them. During the dinner, students were invited to find signs that matched their own feelings: Thank you for “investing in my future,” “making my dreams a reality,” “hope,” “helping advance my career,” and others. Students posed with the signs of their choosing and had their photos taken, which were used to create a short video for current—and prospective—donors.

The students were eager to join in this innovative thank-you campaign, waiting their turn in line to be photographed with their signs.

“Individuals who support our students live all across the United States and around the world,” explains Pamela Dello-Russo, associate vice president for grants and donor relations. “We wanted to find a way to show them the faces of some of the students who have benefitted from their generosity. The impact that scholarship support has on our students—both personally and professionally—is immeasurable.”

Last year, UMUC awarded more than $4.3 million in scholarship funds to some 5,500 students. Without a doubt, these scholarships, supported by institutional funds from UMUC, corporations, organizations, individual donors, and alumni, have been instrumental in helping many students stay in school. More than half of UMUC students qualify for federal financial aid. Our student body is made up largely of working professionals, parents, military personnel, and their dependents, and that means there are many students who depend on the generous support from donors.

Students’ Hopes and Dreams Are on Display

Doris Davis, one of the students featured in the video, selected “making my dreams come true” as one of her signs. “I picked this sign because I always wanted to finish college but never was able to pay for it. After all these years, my dreams are coming true, thanks to the donor of my scholarship.” Davis, who received a Community College Transfer Scholarship funded by an anonymous donor, is currently a graduate cybersecurity major.

Sondra Roberts, a recipient of the Mark Gerencser Endowed Scholarship Fund, chose the word “hope” for her picture. “[Receiving this scholarship] has provided me with the hope to help me to complete my degree, which is a promise that I made to my father prior to his passing. It is the generosity of benefactors, like Mr. Mark Gerencser, that make hope a realization.” Roberts, a graduate cybersecurity major, will graduate this May.

Two Students Describe Unusual Obstacles to Success

Two UMUC students—Kudiratu Usman and William Quarles—who each received scholarship support, told personal, riveting stories about their aspirations and accomplishments.
Kudiratu Usman, a strong-willed young woman from Nigeria, has a passion for learning that she attributed to her parents. Usman, who is deaf, grew up in a country where deaf people often do not start school until the age of 15 and who face enormous obstacles to earning a living. She started school when she was eight and seemed from an early age to defy the expectation that she, like other deaf young people, would end up living on the streets.

“Educating myself as a disabled person has been very, very challenging,” she said. “If I had no education, I would be living on the streets too, but my parents believed in education.”

Usman, a recipient of the Ray Ehrensberger Scholarship, expects to earn an MBA this May, which she has been pursuing while also working full-time with the Internal Revenue Service. Prior to her enrolling at UMUC, she earned an undergraduate degree from Gallaudet University, the premier university for the deaf in the U.S. She said she chose to enroll at UMUC because of the convenience of taking classes online. Her goal is to return to Nigeria and use the business skills she has learned to help other women.

“I have observed so many deaf women living in the streets, [and] it broke my heart,” Usman said. “It has inspired me to help women start businesses so they can be more self-sustaining.”

William Quarles, who also spoke at the scholarship appreciation dinner, is a former Marine who was one of the American hostages taken by Iranian students and militants who stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in 1979. Back then, Quarles, who was released several weeks later, was a young servicemember on his second assignment as an embassy guard when the crisis erupted.

Quarles grew up in public housing, dropped out of high school, and joined the Marines, he said, “to see the world.” As a Private First Class stationed on Okinawa, Japan, he applied to be an embassy guard. Even though he did not meet the minimum requirements, which included achieving the rank of lance corporal, the interviewing officer recognized the private’s potential and ambition. He promoted Quarles on the spot—and gave him the job.

Once he left the military, Quarles joined the District of Columbia Police Department. He met his future wife at the Policeman’s Ball in 1985, and he talks about his two grown daughters with pride.

In 2009, Quarles was diagnosed with kidney disease and put on dialysis. The night of the scholarship dinner, he was recovering from a kidney transplant that had been performed only two weeks earlier.

Quarles is a recipient of a URS Wounded Warriors Scholarship. Remarkably, his physical setbacks have not deterred him from seeking further education. He hopes to earn a master’s degree by May 2014 and to pursue a doctorate in management from UMUC. His dream is to launch a third career in education, teaching law enforcement officials about hostage-taking, kidnapping, and terrorism.

“It’s never too late to pursue education,” said Quarles. “There are no restraints on us because of the choices we may have made in the past. We have to keep moving forward and getting better.”
ALUMNA LOOKS BACK FONDLY AT HER TIME ON THE MUNICH CAMPUS

In September of 1964, I'd graduated from high school in Rome, Italy, where my father was stationed at the American Embassy. It was time for me to go to college but my parents didn't want me back in the states alone, so the University of Maryland at Munich was the obvious solution. I was 18 with no idea what I wanted. Naturally, I complained bitterly about “having” to go to Munich! The truth was I was terrified. I'd never been on my own, had no ambitions, didn't speak German, and didn't know which unknown to be afraid of most. So I was afraid of everything.

I remember being driven (crying) to the airport to pick up a military flight bound for Munich. I was surprised to see that all the passengers were American college students. Some were entering freshmen like me, but some were sophomores who could tell us where things were and what we needed to do next. I didn't suddenly get brave, but I did start to ask questions, and that's when I began to see that this Munich thing had possibilities. I had no idea then what a priceless experience it would turn out to be.

At the UM facilities on McGraw Kaserne, I learned that our dorm had once housed German SS troops. The classroom building, labs, meal hall, auditorium, and meeting rooms were all used by Nazi Germany. The year before I got there, The Great Escape had been filmed very near to us in Perlacher Forest. One U of M classmate's father flew bombing raids on Munich and now his daughter was living in his former targets. The World War that had seemed distant when my parents talked about it became very real to me.

Students were barely registered and settled into new routines when the first cultural event began—the noisy, exuberant Oktoberfest. The legendary German beer festival featured carnival rides, food tents, huge beer tents, trestle tables, and German brass bands. Under the main tent, as crowds roared out traditional German drinking songs, we would stand and roar too. The songs were catchy and were great fun to sing, even when we didn't know the words.

Once snow fell in Munich, it didn't melt until spring. Snow removal was rare, so a dense pack of rutted, dirty snow built up on the parking lots. When the thaw finally came, the ice pack groaned and popped like a frozen lake. When spring came, walking to class across the rotting ice was treacherous. Without warning, your boot would break through the mush and you'd have a boot full of ice water.

Only years later did I realize how challenging the classes were, how much I learned, or how rare the cultural opportunities were. The school offered inexpensive, well-coordinated European bus tours. Because of the tour office, I was able to see Switzerland, Austria, Bavaria—and I even spent an unforgettable spring break in Paris. Munich itself was easy to explore and I have pictures of the Glockenspiel, the Frauenkirche, and the Hofbrauhaus. Evidence of the American bombing was still visible in a few places downtown. Even a callow 18-year-old can be brought to a sense of history in such a place.

The October 2013 Munich campus reunion in Adelphi this year felt like a homecoming. Organizers pulled together exhibits, yearbooks, memorabilia, a warm welcome by the UMUC community, and even foosball tables. I found myself in an old familiar role, the new kid. Only now that isn't frightening. At some level we'll always be new kids and, being military, we know how to introduce ourselves. I enjoyed seeing old friends and enjoyed making new ones. It was incredibly easy to be candid and open with people who have shared memories, who care for each other, and who are forever grateful to have gotten the opportunity to attend the Munich campus. We still sign our notes

Prosit,
Karkie (Jones) Tackett
UM-MC 1964-65

DID YOU KNOW?
Interesting Facts About UMUC’s Past and Present

- University of Maryland University College (UMUC) swept both divisions of the Maryland Cyber Challenge in October 2013, capturing first place in the collegiate and pro divisions. The impressive Cyber Padawans beat out Towson University, UMBC, and UMD.

- In November 2013, the Overseas Marylanders Reunion was well attended by retired administrators, which included former President T. Benjamin Massey and faculty who worked overseas to provide educational opportunities to students in various locations around the world.

- In July 2013, UMUC was awarded a DOD contract to continue our 64-year history of educating U.S. troops in Europe.

- On November 21, 2013, UMUC received the Sloan Consortium’s Outstanding Online Program award in recognition of our Master of Science in Biotechnology. The award was announced at the 19th Annual Sloan Consortium International Conference on Online Learning.
SUPPORT UMUC STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS
Give in a Way that Best Suits You

UMUC is committed to making high quality higher education accessible to all students regardless of their financial circumstances. You can help us continue to honor this commitment by making a gift that suits your vision and approach to philanthropy.

WAYS TO GIVE

**Online:** Make a secure contribution online. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. Visit [www.umuc.edu/impact](http://www.umuc.edu/impact).

**By Phone:** Make your gift conveniently by phone or ask any questions you may have about giving a gift to UMUC. Call 301-985-7110.

**By Mail:** Make checks payable to the UMUC Foundation and mail them to

University of Maryland University College
Office of Institutional Advancement
3501 University Boulevard East
Adelphi, MD 20783

TYPES OF GIFTS

**Outright Gifts:** Outright gifts are the simplest and most frequently used method of giving. You can contribute by personal check; by cash in the form of currency, money orders, or bank drafts; or online with your Visa, MasterCard, or American Express card.

**Electronic Funds Transfer:** By joining UMUC’s monthly giving program, you can have your contribution automatically deducted from your bank account on a biweekly or monthly basis. Each deduction will be reflected on your bank statement.

**Pledges:** You may make a long-term pledge to establish a major gift, such as an endowed scholarship, a memorial fund to honor a loved one, or a fund for an important university priority. Pledges allow you to make a more significant gift with a greater impact.

**Gift Planning:** Gift planning includes charitable reminder trusts, gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, and bequests or gifts of other assets supporting UMUC programs. You can also make UMUC part of your estate planning. Planned giving fits your financial needs while also helping support UMUC.

Stock certificates may be delivered to the University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc. (and earmarked for UMUC) or electronically transferred to the foundation by your broker. Gifts from securities are an easy way to benefit from double tax savings: full deductibility on the fair market value of the gift, plus no capital gains tax on the appreciation of the shares contributed.

**Gift Matching:** Today, more than 1,000 organizations have matching gift programs for employees and family members, and many have programs for retirees. Participating organizations match funds according to different ratios. The standard is to match donations dollar for dollar, but some organizations will contribute even more. Each organization has its own matching gift form and its own procedures. You can contact your employer’s benefits office for information on what your organization offers.

A UMUC undergraduate student shows her enthusiasm at the 2013 ceremony in Adelphi.

THE UMUC FOUNDATION

The University System of Maryland (USM) Foundation, doing business as the UMUC Foundation, is a 501(c)(3) corporation incorporated in 1978 and registered in the state of Maryland. The UMUC Foundation manages all private donations made to UMUC through the capital campaign, annual programs, and planned gifts. UMUC graciously accepts all donations offered through charitable fundraising and grant fundraising initiatives and through individual gifts. Funds are used to maximize the number and extent of tuition grants and scholarship awards for students and to enhance UMUC’s educational services by adding and improving undergraduate and graduate-level curriculum and supporting materials.

Address:
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Funds of the UMUC Foundation are administered by the University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Information may be obtained by writing to the foundation or by contacting the Maryland Secretary of State.

www.umuc.edu/impact

A UMUC undergraduate student shows her enthusiasm at the 2013 ceremony in Adelphi.