

August 15, 2008

Dear UMW Neighbor:

As the new president of the University of Mary Washington, it is my great pleasure to send greetings to you and share my excitement for the coming year. I believe the University exists to educate our students and to serve the surrounding community. An important part of that service is fostering positive relationships with our neighbors and being responsive to your concerns. To that end, I write to inform you of upcoming events and to provide an update on our campus construction projects. I hope that you will take advantage of the many opportunities to experience all UMW has to offer, and I appreciate your patience with the increased traffic that occurs during our special events.

1 – Opening of Fall Semester: Residence halls open on Wednesday, August 20, for new students, and classes begin on August 25. Thank you for extending a warm welcome to our new and returning students as they arrive on campus.

2 – Family Weekend: Family Weekend will be held September 19-21 and will offer students and parents a wide variety of activities to enjoy. I hope you will take time to visit the museum and gallery exhibitions, participate in the 5K Run, or enjoy one of the many presentations offered by the students and staff of UMW. You can learn more about these exciting and educational events by visiting www.umw.edu/familyweekend.

3 – Homecoming: Homecoming will be held October 24-25. As part of the Homecoming celebration, the Student Government Association (SGA) will have a spectacular fireworks display on Saturday, October 25, following a student concert on Hanover Field. The fireworks will begin at approximately 9 p.m. and will be discharged from an area within the Facilities compound behind the Battlefield Athletic Complex. The display will last approximately one hour.

4 – Campus Construction Projects: Construction on and around campus continues to progress. Lee Hall will be completed this fall with an expected move-in date in December of this year. The renovated building will be a one-stop shop for student services with a bookstore and campus coffeehouse. Lee Hall will also provide much needed space for varied activities and programs. At the other end of campus, construction on Goolrick Field is nearing completion. With new lights and the installation of an artificial surface, the field will be ready for recreational and intercollegiate competition in September. Goolrick Hall will be expanded toward Route 1 in the spring of 2009 when we break ground on a new gymnasium. When completed, the gym will hold 2000 spectators when in performance mode and 2700 when in convocation mode.

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5 – College Avenue and William Street Houses: The house at 1201 William Street has been converted to faculty offices and seminar rooms for utilization this fall. The house at 1004 College Avenue is also undergoing conversion to faculty office space and will be open for the 2009 spring semester. Programs to be housed in these two facilities include Economics, Debate Team, and Creative Writing.

Having arrived on campus just over one month ago, I have already received a warm welcome from the University and the local community and aim to strengthen those relationships in the years ahead. I am eager to lead Mary Washington into a second century of greatness, and am committed to honoring the achievements of its past. Should you have questions about any University project or program, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Judy G. Hample

President