As This Year Ends...

This year has left many of us feeling stunned with the catastrophic situations that have happened in our nation and around the world. I can’t remember a time in recent history when nature has taken such a toll on the human spirit. Our thoughts are with those whose families and friends have been impacted by these tragedies, and we wish them bravery as they begin their lives as a new year.

It was a little under a year ago that the horrific Asian tsunami struck, leaving behind death and destruction beyond description. It was an auspicious beginning for a year that has been marked by earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and other disasters. As a result of these tragedies, there has been an outpouring of donations and funding to support those who have been impacted in this nation and across the world. This generosity is inspiring because it reflects the best of the collective human spirit and our willingness to help others.

It has been interesting to note, however, that there are growing concerns being voiced among charitable organizations and philanthropic institutions that the unprecedented number of appeals for crisis funding and gifts in response to these situations could mean that donors decide to reduce their plans to give to local causes close to home. There is a term for this: it’s called “donor fatigue.”

I have a couple of thoughts regarding this. First of all, there isn’t a donor anywhere who feels the level of donor fatigue that a victim of one of these tragedies has had to endure and will continue to face in the months and years to come. We understand this, so I think “donor fatigue” is a poor descriptive term. Second, it hasn’t been my experience that if a cause is worthy and it is close to one’s heart, there is little restraint in one’s generosity and willingness to give.

As our alumni and friends know, the College of Education continues to raise funds that will be used several critical initiatives that support our students and faculty, enrich the teaching and learning environment, and help advance the college’s goals to be in the top tier of prestigious education institutions. I do not believe that we will see declines in support for the college or university because of the out-pouring of funding following the disasters and tragedies.

I prefer instead to approach this discussion of philanthropy from another perspective: There is a tremendous difference between an immediate response those affected by a disaster with emergency funds, and the thoughtful and planned philanthropy many donors embrace when making a decision to support a designated charity or institution.

We do not typically view gifts to support a capital campaign or endowment fund as urgent requests, even if the need is clearly defined and realistic. But need is need and thoughtful donors understand the difference between an immediate response those affected by a disaster and an investment in vision.

I understand this topic may not seem overly cheerful for this time of year, but because I am engaged in philanthropy, I feel it is appropriate to applaud the generosity of the people who voted their time and skills and made gifts to help those in need.

At the College of Education at the University of Maryland, we have witnessed of a bright future. Needless to say, we will not do it alone—it will be done through the collective generosity of our alumni and friends. Together we can secure the College’s future and establish it as the leader in the field of education.

On a personal note, I am very excited to be part of the University of Maryland family. I look forward to working with our alumni, friends, corporate colleagues, and business leaders in initiatives that advance the College of Education. We sincerely hope you will join us in these efforts. Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Andrew Shockey
Executive Director for Development

Children’s Advocate, David Gleason, is the 2005 Distinguished Alumnus

D avid Gleason has a humble answer to the simple question of why he has devoted his career to developing innovative global programs to help children: “I see my work as a spiritual journey to make the world better,” he explains.

Gleason is the 2005 recipient of the College of Education Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is one of 18 individuals honored Dec. 3 at the University of Maryland Alumni Association Awards Gala. Since earning his Ph.D in 1979 in the Department of Human Development, Gleason has been an advocate for early childhood education and improving the conditions for young children. During his career, he has been a leader in the private sector, corporate world, and in non-profits, holding positions that can make strategic connections between genuine needs and corporate resources.

An example of this philosophy is the essence of his current position, president of the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children—a non-profit organization that establishes early learning centers in homeless shelters. On a January trip back to Maryland from Nashville, Gleason joined executives from Johnson & Johnson, the Department of Human Services, and the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness, for ribbon cutting ceremonies at two new centers in southwest Washington, D.C.

“A homeless shelter is one of the saddest places in the country,” Gleason says. “Those we serve in homeless shelters may not have been lucky enough to be born with means.”

Bright Horizons secures corporate support to build child development centers in shelters where kids can play and learn. This foundation advances the mission of the Bright Horizons Family Solutions, a publicly held company that is a leading provider of employer-sponsored child care, early education and work-life solutions in the United States, Canada and Europe.

Advocacy and commitment to children are themes throughout his career. He is president of the World Forum on Early Care and Education, which assembled in Quebec this May to promote an international dialogue on the needs of young children. Gleason is treasurer of Corporate Voices for Working Families, whose mission is to bring together corporate, academic and advocacy groups with leading experts in early learning, after-school care, and the workplace, to deliver solutions to societal issues.

He is founder and board member of Ten Thousand Villages, a non-profit company with retail stores that sell crafts created by artisans from Third World countries through a Memonite and Brothers relief and development agency. His career includes stints in the private sector as vice president of Children’s World, which operated employer-sponsored child development centers. He also was a high school teacher in New Jersey, where he coached basketball and football.

In addition to his Maryland degree, Gleason holds a master’s degree from the University of Chicago in child development and a bachelor’s degree from St. Michael’s College in sociology and theology. He and his wife Corinne (an elementary school reading specialist) live in Nashville and are the parents of four children. It’s a busy life with family, work, volunteer service and travel, he says, and fulfilling.

“I believe in empowering other people,” Gleason says. “This isn’t about me. I believe it’s about nurturing something until it is successful.”

Deeply committed to his current work with Bright Horizons, this College of Education alumnus says he welcomes new opportunities and challenges yet to come. In the meantime, with dozens of child development centers open in shelters nation-wide, and ambitions to have 100 locations by year’s end, David Gleason will see many bright faces in those new bright spaces.
A Message from the Dean:

Before I share my thoughts in this year-end Endeavors column, I want to extend a message of support and encouragement from the College to all of you and to thank hundreds of alumni living in the hurricane-ravaged areas of the Gulf Coast, Florida, and the Atlantic seaboard. This has been a terrible storm season and we hope that you and your family members are safe.

Despite the current challenges we face as a nation, a number of recent publications have suggested that more challenges are looming: Education is at the center of one of these challenges. There is growing concern that our nation is lagging behind others in the production of teachers for the global economy. Of special concern is the impending shortage of workers in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. These workers are necessary for everything from medicine to nanotechnology to national defense.

Investment in educational research is more important today than ever. We must address the looming shortage head on by preparing and attracting more students in STEM.

Many areas of research in the college address these looming challenges. For example, our researchers study ways to enhance minority achievement, promote STEM careers, and increase the effectiveness of science and mathematics instruction. Still, we can do more.

With the help of individual and corporate donors, we can expand research that will make a difference in the workforce of the future. I believe this is an imperative, and I invite you to join me in investing in the future through education.

We seek gifts to support scholarships for worthy undergraduate and transfer students, fellowships for graduate students, endowed chairs and professorships to recruit talented scholars, named classrooms and technology enhanced labs for teacher preparation, and even a new wing on the Benjamin Building. All of these gifts will help us in research that makes a difference or in the production of professionals who will prepare the future workforce.

As this year ends, many of us make philanthropic decisions based on various motivations: being moved by the holiday spirit, making the best use of windfalls by the holiday spirit, making the best use of windfalls or profits, or, in a more pragmatic approach, taking advantage of tax and financial strategies that come with the holiday season. Many of us are moved to give, and take advantage of these opportunities to make a difference.

Many Baltimore-area Alumni Event is sponsored by the College of Education Alumni Chapter board of directors and supported by the efforts of a Baltimore-based sponsoring committee that raises funds in promoting the event. Planning for the 2006 Baltimore Area Alumni gathering is now underway. If you are interested in learning more, contact Pat Costantino, '66,'69, Director of Alumni Relations, at 301.405.5607, or send an email to provo@umd.edu. We are confident our alumni and friends will continue to take advantage of tax and financial strategies that come with the holiday spirit, making the best use of windfalls or profits.

Participants also had a chance to hear details on how a busy College of Education senior manages multiple priorities. Lucy Mitnick described her experiences in the early childhood education program within the Department of Human Development. Alumni were filled in on what it takes to prepare students to be highly effective educators in today's classrooms, thanks to a rigorous curriculum and dedicated faculty.

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The College of Education welcomed this September its new Executive Director of Development, Andrew Sheehy. A seasoned and successful fundraiser with a passion for education, Sheehy came to the University of Maryland from his position at the University of Iowa Foundation, in Iowa City, where he had served since 2001 as Director of Development for the College of Education and the Blume-Blank Center. He managed all components and initiatives related to the college and center campaigns to raise more than $17 million, exceeding the goal by 14 percent.

"Andrew brings to this new position enthusiasm and excitement about the College of Education’s highly ranked programs and potential for attracting private support that will help us advance our goal to become one of the top 10 colleges of education," said Edna Mora Szymanski, Dean of the College of Education. "We are thrilled to have Andrew join our ranks. He is looking forward to working closely with our alumni and friends."

Sheehy earned his bachelor of arts degree in Spanish from Grinnell College in Iowa. His previous positions have included associate director of development and associate dean of admission at Grinnell, and assistant director of admission at Beloit College in Wisconsin.

In his position at the College of Education, Sheehy works with Assistant Dean for Development Darcelle H. Wilson, Director of Alumni Relations Pat Costantino, and collaborates with Deborah Hudson, Assistant Dean for External Relations. Sheehy is its research agenda not only influences and impacts schools in this country, but worldwide. This is a very positive factor that will be influential to the campaign."

Sheehy Joins College’s Development Team

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Landmarks AND Legacies

A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION 1920 – PRESENT

T he College of Education History Project, Landmarks and Legacies, wants you to share a part of your past! Do you have photos of buildings that have long since disappeared? Do you recall a favorite professor or class experience? We are asking our alumni to share their personal written reminiscences to post on the Alumni Recollections page of the new College of Education history web site: www.education.umd.edu/CollegeHistory.

In recognition of the University of Maryland's 20th Anniversary Celebration, College of Education, Edna Mora Szymanski, charged members of the History Project Committee to assemble a timeline of significant events from the past 85 years. Committee members have spent nearly two years combing files, reviewing documents in University Archives, and talking with many faculty and staff who generously shared reminiscences, photos and artifacts to include in this timeline of significant events.

Now, it's your turn! We hope you will take a few moments to write us a letter, or send us an email with a favorite story or memory from your days at the College. Participation from our alumni is vital in ensuring the Landmarks and Legacies project reflects the College’s history in the most accurate and inclusive manner possible. We are particularly interested in information about significant events from the 1960s onward since this period is not well documented in the University Archives. Also, we’re really eager to identify our oldest alumni…we’ve found one of our graduates from 1928 already…did you graduate before that? Please send your suggestions and contributions by letter to: Deborah Hudson, Assistant Dean, College of Education, 3115 Benjamin Building, College Park, MD 20742, or email to Endeavors@umd.edu. If you have other materials (photographs and memorabilia) you would like to discuss, please email Elizabeth Tobey, Project Coordinator, at etobey@umd.edu.
We Would Like to Hear From You!
We’ve been happy to hear from more than 500 of you, but we have more than 35,000 alumni! Please take a moment to fill out this form and return it to the College of Education.

PERSONAL
Name ____________________________
Home Address ____________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
Preferred Email Address ____________________________
Spouse ____________________________
Is your spouse a University of Maryland graduate? ☐ Yes ☐ No Grad Years__________

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
Graduation Year_________ Department/Program Major________ Degree _______ 
Employer ____________________________ Title ____________________________

MY NEWS
____________________________________________________________

Check this box if you do NOT want your news to be part of ClassNotes

For biographies and photos of the 2005-06 alumni honorees, visit: www.education.umd.edu/infofor/alumniandfriends

Outstanding Leader

Thomas C. Healy's career in education spans the past 40 years. He began as an elementary school teacher in Rochester, Minn., and went on to teach his first college course at Winona State College by age 23. In 1972, Healy became a charter member of the faculty at the University of North Florida (UNF). In 1998, he was appointed Vice Chancellor of Government Affairs and established a Washington office for the State University System of Florida. In 2004 Healy was named the first Vice President for Government Relations at Indiana University (IU) and opened an IU Washington Office. (Ph.D. ~ Education, Administration, and Supervision, '72)

Outstanding Leader

William C. Steiner, Jr. has dedicated over 35 years to the administration of public secondary and higher education, holding various teaching, research and administrative positions. During his 13-year presidency, he led the county-wide development of a long-range master plan to transform Montgomery Junior College into a highly diversified, three-campus community college, renamed Montgomery College. In 1991, he retired as President Emeritus and a Professor Emeritus of Montgomery College. (Ph. D. ~ Education Administration, '61, M.A. ~ Arts and Humanities, '54; B.A. ~ Secondary Education English, '52)

Outstanding New Professional

Jairo Nelson Fuertes' career as a Professor of Education at Pennsylvania State University, she was recently tenured as a Professor of Education and served on the college's Board of Visitors. (Ph.D. ~ Human Development, '97)

Outstanding Professional

Bevere H. Senter was a state specialist in Community Resource Development with the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service for 20 years. He developed and contributed to many educational programs, facilitating the education of hundreds of thousands in various countries. After retiring from the Air Force Reserve as a Lt. Colonel, he served as coordinator of military personnel for the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Prince George's County, Md. Over the years he has been recognized for his contributions to the field, including appearing in Who's Who in Education, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in the World. (Ph.D. ~ Human and Community Development, '72, B.A. ~ Sociology, '67)

Outstanding Professional

Blossom H. Patterson worked with colleagues early in her career as a National Cancer Institute researcher to develop a method of using national survey data to characterize the U.S. diet. This work received national press and television coverage and formed the basis for the developed the Free-a-Day for Better Health Program. In collaboration with colleagues, she also designed and conducted a major human study to characterize changes in selenium metabolism—a potential cancer prevention agent—resulting from long-term supplementation. Patterson is a widely published author and has presented at several national and international conferences. (Ph.D. ~ Measurement, Statistics and Evaluation, '96, M.A. ~ Statistics, '82)

Outstanding New Scholar

Peggy Van Meter's research focuses on developing reading interventions for young students and studying effective strategies for learning from text. Her work has appeared in top journals, she has conducted a major human study to characterize changes in selenium metabolism—a potential cancer prevention agent—resulting from long-term supplementation. Patterson is a widely published author and has presented at several national and international conferences. (Ph.D. ~ Human Development, '97)

Outstanding New Scholar

James M. O'Neil is the author of the Gender Role Conflict Scale—a widely used measure of men's conflict with their gender roles that has been used in over 200 research studies. He is a professor of Psychology and Educational Psychology at the University of Connecticut, and a licensed psychologist in private practice in South Windsor, Conn. O'Neil was awarded a Fulbright Teaching Scholarship by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Teaching Fellow status by the University of Connecticut, and the Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinity; Division 51, of the American Psychological Association named him Researcher of the Year in 1997. (Ph.D., '73 and M.A., '72 ~ Counseling and Personnel Services)

Outstanding Teacher

Walter R. "Skip" Low is a sports medicine and physical education teacher at Chesapeake High School in Annapolis, Md. He serves as a member of the Maryland Education Association's Capital Region Board of Directors and coaches the school's Varsity Girls and Boys Track and Field teams. Low received several honors for his work, including the Phillip Merrill Presidential Scholar Award. He is a Maryland Annapolis County Teacher of the Year, was a finalist in the Maryland State Department of Education Teacher of the Year program, and is the Eastern District Association nominee for National Secondary Teacher of the Year. (B.S. ~ Curriculum and Instruction: Health and Human Performance, Physical Education, '87)

Outstanding Entrepreneur

Mary Alice Heavey is Vice President of Federal and International Government Affairs for Marathon Oil Company. Before this, Harris was general manager of Federal Governmental Affairs for USX Corporation (US Steel and Marathon Oil) and in 1997 was appointed president of the USX Foundation, Inc. Her vast experience with senior policy staffs from her years working with the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs and the U.S. House of Representatives. Before entering government service, Harris was an instructor at the University of Maryland in the former Communications Arts and Theatre Department, a speech therapist, and an elementary school teacher at public schools in Missouri as well as Montreal and Quebec, Canada. (Ph.D. ~ Human Development, '82)

Outstanding Service to the College of Education

Maries Smith Davison joined the College of Education as a member of faculty in 1971. In 1978 she was appointed Acting Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research and was a consultant to John Samson Toll, president of the University of Maryland System. She became Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in 1982 and in 1988 was appointed executive assistant to University of Maryland President William E. "Burt" Kirwan. Soon after, she was named the president’s Chief of Staff. Her accomplishments have been recognized with several awards, including the President’s Medal (1990)—the university’s highest honor. Although retired, Davison remains active with the College of Education, serving on the Center for Young Children Special Study Commission and as a member of the college’s Board of Visitors. (Ph.D. ~ Human Development, '71, M.S. ~ Nanning/ Psychiatric, '67)
Following is a list of upcoming events of interest to College of Education alumni and friends. For information on any of these events, please contact Pat Costantino ’66, ’69, Director of Alumni Relations, College of Education, at 301.405.5607, or send an email to pnc4@umd.edu. You can also visit our web site: www.education.umd.edu/infofor/alumniandfriends.

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005
University of Maryland Alumni Association Awards Gala
Reception: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner and Awards Ceremony: 6:30 p.m.
Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center
Sponsored by the University of Maryland Alumni Association, this event recognizes and honors alumni association award recipients and college/school distinguished alumni. The College of Education honoree is David Gleason ’79, Ph.D., who will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award. (Read more about Gleason in this issue of Endeavors. For ticket information, visit: www.umd.edu)

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005
University of Maryland International Awards Ceremony
5 p.m.
Prince George’s Room, Stamp Student Union
University Provost William Dever will present the Landmark Award to Judith Torney-Purta, Department of Human Development, in honor of her exceptional long-term achievements in support of international life at the university. For more information, contact Lucie Covey via email, lcovey@umd.edu.

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005
Colloquium Series Presentation: Center for Children, Relationships, and Culture
10 – 11:30 a.m.
3237 Benjamin Building
Rashi Zambrana, Department of Women’s Studies, University of Maryland, will present on the topic, “Health in Minority Populations.” All faculty, staff, students, and alumni are invited to attend. Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Kenneth Rubin, Human Development, via email, k Rubin@umd.edu.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 and Thursday, Dec. 8, 2005
Center for Young Children (CYC) Open House
8:30 a.m. – noon
Center for Young Children
All early childhood educators are invited to tour the CYC’s state-of-the-art facility, visit observation booths, and observe exemplary early childhood practices. For further information, visit: www.education.umd.edu/EDHD/CYC.

Friday, Dec. 9, 2005
Seasons of Thanks – Annual College of Education Donor Appreciation Event
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center
This annual event honors donors and benefactors who generously support student scholarships, graduate assistantships, research projects and other initiatives. Invitations have been sent. For more information, contact April D. Weimer via email, aweimer@umd.edu.

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2005
Series Lecture: “Making Success the Only Option!”
6 – 7 p.m.
University of Maryland Golf Club
Donald D. Deshler, director of the Center for Research on Learning and a professor in the School of Education at University of Kansas, will present on practical instructional approaches and curriculum materials proven to improve academic outcomes for at-risk adolescents. This is the first in a planned series of lectures sponsored by the University of Maryland Special Education Endowed Fund in honor of Jon B. Hebbeler. Pre-registration is required. The registration for ($10-professionals; $5 undergraduate students) will be collected upon arrival. For registration details or more information, send an email to: jhampdsc12event@frosmz.com.

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2005
University of Maryland Winter Commencement Ceremony
7 – 9:30 p.m.
Comcast Center
Tickets are not required for the December campus ceremony.

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2005
College of Education Graduation Ceremony
2 p.m.
Cole Student Activities Center
www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/graduation_ceremonies/

Winter Break – University closed.

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2006

Saturday, April 29, 2006
Maryland Day: Explore Our World
University of Maryland, College Park
The University of Maryland opens its doors to the community for a fun-filled day of exploration. Visit the campus and enjoy the hundreds of activities for young children, prospective students, alumni and friends. Stop by the College of Education tent on the mall to meet the Dean and learn about our programs. Special events are planned for the University of Maryland 150th Anniversary Celebration. www.umd.edu

Friday, May 19, 2006
College of Education – Silver and Gold Anniversary Celebration
University of Maryland, College Park
College of Education alumni from the Silver Class of 1981 and Gold Class of 1956 are invited to return to the University to celebrate their 25th and 50th graduation anniversaries. Alumni enjoy a reunion with their classmates and reminisce on that significant occasion in their lives by donning “silver and gold” graduation regalia and participating in a special awards ceremony. www.education.umd.edu/infofor/alumniandfriends.html

Monday, May 22, 2006
College of Education Spring 2006 Graduation
NOMI
Comcast Center
Silver and Gold alumni are invited to walk with the Class of 2006. (University commencement is on Sunday, May 21, Comcast Center) www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/graduation_ceremonies/

Saturday, June 24, 2006
Alumni College
Details TBD
College of Education alumni are invited to return to the college for a day of activities, including academic programs, special presentations, tours, and other events. Look for more information in the next edition of Endeavors, or visit: www.education.umd.edu/Alumni

Alumni Board Meetings 2006
Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006
Alumni Board Retreat
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Location: TBD
Thursday, April 13, 2006
Board of Directors’ Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
3237 Benjamin Building