

September 21, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Duke University Board of Trustees

FROM: Richard H. Brodhead

RE: Summary of Activities

It will come as no surprise to the trustees that a great many interesting and exciting (particularly for me) activities have occurred at Duke since our May meeting, and I am happy to have an opportunity to inform the trustees about them.

We have a new entering class of students who, based on my initial experience with them, are already bringing great joy and energy to their new school. For any trustee who has spent the summer months on a desert island without benefit of a Blackberry or cell phone, it falls to me to let you know that in addition to a new president, we have a new chancellor for health affairs, a new dean of arts and sciences, a new dean of nursing, a new vice president for alumni affairs and development, a new executive director of alumni affairs, and a new executive director of development. We also have a new director of the Nasher Museum of Art. (The cupboard is not entirely bare, as President Keohane left me a marvelous cadre of administrative colleagues with whom to work. It is already clear that our new complement of leaders will mesh extremely well with the old hands). Gratified as I am by the exceptional quality of people we have appointed to senior leadership positions in recent months, I will admit to feeling relief that we are not searching for a new basketball coach, although we are looking for a new university minister. But more about these shortly.

I write this within a few days of inauguration, which was, to me, a completely splendid event. I was especially happy that so many current and past trustees and new friends at Duke were able to participate, along with so many old friends from my past life, in the inaugural ceremony and the array of Inaugural Week activities planned by University Marshal **Richard White**, Vice President and University Secretary **Allison Haltom** and her terrific team, and the Inauguration Planning Committee. Never having been inaugurated before, I didn't quite know what to expect, but I must say the whole week exceeded any expectation I might have had. I am extremely grateful.

## **Class of 2008**

Each year the arrival of our newest students provides a wonderful reminder of our purpose and institutional renewal. Director of Undergraduate Admissions **Christoph Guttentag** reports that Duke set another record with this year's entering class, receiving 16,747 applications – up slightly from 16,719 last year – for a class of 1,638. Of these, 13,811 applied to Trinity College of Arts and Sciences and 2,930 applied to the Pratt School of Engineering. The entering class consists of 1,369 Trinity students and 269 Pratt students. Given the planned increase in undergraduate enrollment in the Pratt School, we are particularly pleased that Pratt applicants have increased more than 50 percent in the last five years.

As planned, we filled 30 percent of the class through the Early Decision process. 1,385 students applied Early Decision, 499 were admitted, and 488 enrolled for the fall. Our overall admit rate was 22.7 percent, a 0.5 percent decrease from last year and a decrease of almost 8 percent from seven years ago.

Of those applying from schools that report class rank, 51 percent were ranked in the top 10 students in their class. We have reached a level of selectivity where we admitted only about one-third of them. Among the applicant pool were 1,459 school valedictorians; we were able to admit only 42 percent of them.

The middle 50 percent range of SAT scores for accepted students was 1390 to 1530. We had 2,926 applicants with SAT scores of 1500 or higher (compared to 2,559 applicants last year) and 221 applicants with scores of 1600 (compared to 208 last year).

Fifteen percent of the entering class is from North Carolina, with New York, Florida, Texas, and New Jersey rounding out the top five states. We are pleased that the class includes 130 students from 35 foreign countries. Students of color comprise over one-third of the entering class (17 percent Asian, 11 percent African American, and 6 percent Hispanic/Latino).

These statistics, of course, only tell part of the story. As Cindy and I hosted the freshmen for dessert at Knight House, we had first-hand experience of the intelligence, energy, and enthusiasm of our entering students. They love being Dukies and are an exceptional bunch. I'm confident they will challenge each other and our faculty in many positive and unforeseen ways, and we will give them many challenges as well, knowing they will rise to meet them.

## **Many Comings and One Going**

As you know, our new Chancellor for Health Affairs and President of the Duke University Health System **Victor Dzau** officially joined Duke on August 1. His influence is already being felt both in the Health System and at the University. Victor is a wonderful colleague and decisive leader for the Health System. Those of you who serve on the Health System board or were on campus for the inaugural panel discussion on Global Health Challenges will understand my enthusiasm. We'll have an opportunity to hear some of Victor's initial impressions of the Health System and Duke during our meeting.

**George McLendon** has been fully engaged as dean of the faculty of arts and sciences since July 1. Three new divisional deans have been appointed from the faculty, who make an extremely strong team. **N. Gregson Davis**, Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Professor of the Humanities in Classical Studies, is serving as dean of the humanities; **Stephen Nowicki**, the Anne T. & Robert M. Bass Associate Professor in the Department of Biology, is serving as dean of the natural sciences; and **Susan Roth**, Professor of Psychology, is serving as dean of the social sciences. If you have not had a chance to read it, I commend to you Dean McLendon's recent address to the Arts and Sciences Council, which speaks to the centrality of the college at Duke and the challenges and opportunities before it.  
(see <http://www.aas.duke.edu/admin/council/address/address2004-09-09.html>)

I know that Chancellor Dzau is particularly pleased that **Catherine Lynch Gilliss** has agreed to succeed **Mary Champagne** as dean of the School of Nursing, with the added title of vice chancellor for nursing affairs in the Duke University Health System, effective October 1. Dean Gilliss is an alumna of Duke, and we should be proud that she has left a school she lifted into the top ten to return "home." I have known Dean Gilliss from our time together at Yale, and am confident she will bring great strength to an emerging jewel in Duke's crown. As Dr. Dzau noted in announcing her appointment, "The School of Nursing is as important a part of Duke University Medical Center as nurses are to health care, and we are delighted to have recruited someone of Dr. Gilliss' stature to be its next leader."

**Kimerly Rorschach**, inaugural director of the Nasher Museum of Art, comes to us from the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago. Kim, who also started on July 1, brings considerable energy, experience, and taste to one of the most exciting projects at Duke. The Nasher promises to be a catalyst for Duke's renewed commitment to the arts across the disciplines. I expect that the trustees will be as amazed as Cindy and I were during our initial tour to see this spectacular new building with all it represents for the future of Duke.

The arts scene also has been enlivened by the appointment of **John V. Brown** as director of the jazz program and assistant professor of the practice of music. Brown, an accomplished jazz and classical musician who was visiting director of the Duke University Jazz Ensemble in 2003-04, has performed with many internationally known artists. He received a Grammy nomination for his performance and co-writing on Durham's own Nnenna Freelon's 1995 release, "Shaking Free."

To broad praise and to the delight of Provost **Peter Lange** and myself, **Katharine T. Bartlett** has agreed to be reappointed dean of the School of Law for a second five-year term. Under Dean Bartlett's leadership, the law school has attracted a number of outstanding new faculty – 15 since 2000 – in academic priority areas of international and comparative law, intellectual property, and other science- and technology-related fields, as well as constitutional law. Consistent with the law school's plan for excellence, several of these new faculty hold joint appointments with other schools, reflecting the law school's heightened commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship.

Under Kate Bartlett's leadership, the law school is also undergoing a transformation with an ambitious building program, thanks principally to a generous \$3 million gift from business executive Stanley A. Star and the Star Family Foundation. This summer, the law school completed aesthetic improvements to its exterior facade and the rebuilding of its two major lecture halls. A 28,000 square-foot addition is currently under construction. Modifications to the law school's atrium will begin next year. With the trustees' approval, we expect to name it the Star Atrium.

Central to the achievement of the ambitious plans of our deans and their faculties is the ability to attract the necessary resources. The Campaign for Duke demonstrated the remarkable loyalty of our alumni and the sophistication of our development program. As you will know, on July 1, **Robert Shepard** succeeded **John Piva** as our vice president for alumni affairs and development. In August, Bob announced the selection of **Sterly Wilder** as executive director of alumni affairs. (We are grateful to trustee emeritus Spike Yoh for chairing the search committee that recommended this appointment.) As Bob said in announcing Sterly's appointment, "She is a natural leader who bleeds 'Duke Blue.'" Sterly will assume her responsibilities formally on January 1 when **Laney Funderburk**, who is retiring after more than two decades as the leader of our alumni programs, steps down.

Yesterday we announced that **Ellen Medearis**, director of leadership and major gifts, has been named executive director of university development, succeeding Bob Shepard in the responsibility he carried during The Campaign for Duke. Many trustees will know Ellen from her effective work during The Campaign for Duke and particularly her leadership in securing support for the Nasher Museum of Art. While no administrative division has experienced as much change in top leadership positions, our new leadership team in alumni affairs and development combines experience and passionate commitment to Duke with vision and a palpable sense of renewed energy to achieve it. It speaks well for the maturity of Duke's alumni and development program that these key leadership appointments are internal promotions.

While on the topic of our alumni and development, it's worth commenting on our fundraising success this year. Duke alumni continue to support the university and its mission in many ways, and their generosity – as well as that of our non-alumni donors – is indicative of our shared ambitions for Duke and its priorities. I am pleased to report that on June 30, Duke closed the fiscal year with \$256,989,484 in charitable gifts from 91,831 donors, 44,604 of them alumni. The numbers of all donors and the alumni among them increased over the previous year, as did pledges for future contributions. The Annual Fund set a new record with about \$21.5 million of the total. Such success is music to a new president's ears.

I noted earlier that Dean of the Chapel **Will Willimon** will be leaving the university after more than 20 years, following his recent election as a bishop of the United Methodist Church. Assistant Dean **Craig Kocher** is assuming the leadership of the Chapel during the search for Will's successor. I am pleased that Trustee Charles Smith has agreed to chair the search committee for our next university minister. Will has already assumed his new bishopric in

Birmingham, Alabama, but will return on Sunday of our October meeting to preach in Duke Chapel. I suspect that many trustees will want to join his local admirers and me that morning in Duke Chapel.

### **Palestine Solidarity Movement Conference**

In an issue with religious as well as cultural and political overtones, the Fourth National Student Conference on the Palestine Solidarity Movement will take place at Duke on October 15-17. The conference, which is being hosted by Hiwar, a Duke student group, has identified the purposes of the event as supporting Palestine solidarity and convincing others to divest their stock in companies doing business in Israel. The Duke students who are organizing the conference tell us that they expect as many as 500 participants in the three-day program. Attendance will be limited to that number and is open to anyone who wishes to register.

To say that the news of the decision to have the conference at Duke has not been without controversy would be an understatement. As we have indicated in our statements and on our extensive Web site <<http://www.dukenews.duke.edu/psc.html>>, given the range of views and intensity of emotions associated with the Israel-Palestine conflict, we can anticipate an equally divergent collection of views on the conference, as well as on the appropriateness of Duke providing a venue for this student-sponsored event. Though we have received many phone calls, letters, and e-mails supporting Duke's decision to support free speech by allowing the conference, these have been overwhelmed by communications condemning us for doing so. I'm told that a petition circulating on the Internet now has more than 50,000 signatures urging us to prohibit the event.

The Palestine Solidarity Movement is a loose confederation largely of student groups at campuses across the country. Based on what we have learned from conversations with officials at universities that previously hosted this conference, and also from federal law enforcement authorities, who have told the Duke Police that the PSM has no ties to known terrorists, it is apparent that there is a good deal of misinformation being spread, particularly across the Internet, about the conference and our decision to provide a venue for it. I fully appreciate that the history of the Jewish people and the struggles that Israel has endured create real concerns on the part of those alumni who are upset with the university's decision. When these understandable concerns are fed by misinformation, the combination can be quite potent.

I have sought opportunities to meet with Jewish groups both on campus and in the local community, and just this morning I met with representatives of the major Jewish Federations in North Carolina. In these meetings and in our communications generally, we have tried to stress that the fact that Duke might host a speaker or a conference does not imply institutional endorsement of the views expressed. We have been able to confirm that the Palestine Solidarity Movement has not specifically endorsed violence, although people who have attended prior PSM conferences may have done so either at these conferences or in other settings.

I have stressed that I deplore the violence in the Middle East and the historic inability of the Israelis and Palestinians to find a workable solution to their longstanding and awful conflict, but I

truly believe that the long-term solution to these issues will come more from open and honest discussion and the education it produces than from squelching discussion.

At its core, this is a test of the university's commitment to academic freedom. The university must give wide protection to free speech and free debate. The free expression of ideas is the very essence of education. As I have met with concerned Jewish groups in the community, most recently at the Freeman Center for Jewish Life on campus, I have emphasized that when universities get in the business of suppressing speech, however vile, it lends credence to the notion that it is a legitimate function of the university to suppress speech. A notion is thereby validated that then can be activated and on another occasion – perhaps to suppress one's own dissent for unpopular expression. The day you start making it easy to shut down others' opinions is the day you license a curtailment of freedom from which we could each suffer in our turn. I have been grateful for the strong support I have received from trustees and others who remember the Bassett Affair and Duke's longstanding traditions of academic freedom and support for free speech.

I have publicly reaffirmed the university is not considering divestiture from Israel. Last year, President Keohane clearly stated the university's policy not to divest from Israel, and I have endorsed this policy and the principles that underlie it. Divestment from Israel is a very blunt instrument to address an extremely complex issue around which there is little consensus and a great diversity of opinions, both in the campus community and in the broader society. University policy makes clear that divestiture would be a last resort to be used only when a substantial community consensus exists to support such a course of action. I am aware of no change in the situation, either in the Middle East or on campus that would justify moving to a different policy.

The response of the Duke community and the local groups with which I have spoken has been encouraging. While many are upset with the positions that PSM supporters take, they appreciate the even greater importance of free speech and are providing educational and information programs that can help the campus community understand other perspectives on the conflict. The Freeman Center has organized a wide range of speakers, seminars, cultural programs, and other activities that will focus throughout the year on Israel and the challenges of being a democracy and a Jewish state in a region whose governments are autocratic and largely Muslim. Rather than condemn the conference, the Freeman Center and others on campus are identifying ways to bring additional information to the public with the aim of enhancing the campus community's understanding of the complex issues that have made this conflict so difficult to resolve. A house course on Israel and Palestine has been developed, and a number of faculty are exploring the issue in their classes. In addition, several nationally prominent speakers will be coming to Duke during the course of the year to help all of us have a broader and richer understanding of the history, cultural issues, political challenges, and potential solutions to the conflict between Israel and Palestine. In sum, we are working to make this controversy the stuff of education – to make the conference part of a broad, rich discussion of the Israel-Palestine conflict at Duke.

The Graduate and Professional Student Council has issued a strong statement supporting academic freedom and free speech as have the editors of *The Chronicle*. A number of local

newspapers have also editorialized in support of our decision. Others, including the Duke Conservative Union, have strongly criticized the university. The DCU's position is an exception to what we generally are hearing on campus and locally. But we also realize that, for those who may be distant from the campus or who have not seen our Web site, we need to be more aggressive in our communications. I plan to send a letter shortly to our alumni and will use the occasion to share my thoughts on these issues.

In terms of planning for this conference, Vice President for Student Affairs **Larry Moneta** and his staff are working closely with the student sponsors and in close coordination with Duke Police to be sure that we can provide a safe and secure environment for members of the campus community, the participants in the conference, and those who might be visiting the campus to protest the event. A number of faculty have stepped forward to indicate a willingness to serve as mediators at the conference, if needed.

At campuses where this annual conference has been held, there has been strong opposition to it from a number of organized pro-Israel and some Jewish groups and corresponding protests. Duke Police are working with the Durham Police and are in contact with other public safety agencies to plan for different protest contingencies.

This issue is on the agenda of the Student Affairs Committee and we also will have an opportunity to discuss the conference and our planning with the trustees at our meeting.

### **Duke University Health System**

There is encouraging financial news from the Duke University Health System, which turned in its best financial performance in recent years during the year ending June 30. Three years ago, our Health System experienced a \$48.1 million loss. This year, the Health System enjoyed \$55.5 million in operating income on patient revenue of about \$1.4 billion. This positive result reflects a number of tough decisions on the part of the Health System in a very difficult financial environment. But as Chancellor Dzaou reminds us, there are many more daunting challenges to academic health centers on the horizon.

Patient safety is a major priority of Chancellor Dzaou and the Health System leadership. Last month a patient at Durham Regional Hospital removed a tray from his room, smashed a window and jumped through it, falling three stories to a roof above the second floor of the hospital. I am told the patient suffered no neurological damage and is recovering. Based on his behavior, a request had been made by medical personnel that this patient have a person assigned to sit with him, but the patient jumped through the window prior to the time the designated sitter had arrived. Durham Regional officials immediately reported the event to the relevant regulatory body. After an investigation, the hospital was notified by the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services that unless corrective actions to preclude such an incident in the future could be demonstrated, effective September 5, the hospital no longer would be eligible to receive reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid patients.

Following the incident, Durham Regional's Chief Executive Officer **David McQuaid** instituted a number of corrective actions. These included a requirement to ensure that whenever a doctor determines a patient requires someone be with him for safety reasons, a hospital staff member will stay with that patient until the sitter arrives. I am pleased to report that when federal investigators returned to review the corrective action plan the hospital had taken, they removed the sanction and Durham Regional is now eligible for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. There will be, as is normally the case, a follow-up, comprehensive review of patient safety of Durham Regional, but given the absolute priority and commitment Chancellor Dzau has made to patient safety across the Health System, and the steps CEO McQuaid and his colleagues at Durham Regional are taking, we are confident that this review will be positive.

### **Campus Safety and Security**

Safety and security have occupied campus attention in the first weeks of the semester. I am dismayed to report that since the beginning of school, there have been four armed robberies affecting the campus. Two occurred on Central Campus, and one occurred near Brightleaf Square, several blocks from East Campus as four students were walking to an off-campus residence. The most recent occurred near Edens Quad on West Campus. Fortunately, no one was injured.

At Executive Vice President **Tallman Trask**'s direction, we have literally flooded the campus with police and security officers, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The emphasis is to have our officers visible throughout the campus with more officers walking the campus. Overtime has been authorized, joint patrols with the Durham Police have been established and expanded, and as many as 20 contract security staff are now working with our police and other safety personnel to patrol the campus. Even prior to the latest incidents, I had asked Tallman to head a small, high-level group consisting of Vice President for Campus Services **Kemel Dawkins**, Senior Vice President for Public Affairs and Government Relations **John Burness**, and Larry Moneta to work with the Duke Police and to provide me with recommendations by the end of this month on steps we need to take to ensure that our students and members of the campus community can study, learn, and work in a safe environment. The committee will look at everything from providing cameras near key buildings to improved lighting and organizational realignments. A letter to *The Chronicle* from Dr. Trask describing the steps we already have taken is available on-line at [http://www.dukenews.duke.edu/news/trask\\_security\\_0904.html](http://www.dukenews.duke.edu/news/trask_security_0904.html). We will discuss this important issue during our meeting.

### **Construction Update**

Duke's physical campus continues to bustle with construction. The landscape has changed dramatically even in the short time since I began visiting last winter. We have \$600 million in capital projects underway, nearing completion, or finished. I have already mentioned the Nasher Art Museum and the Law School projects. Construction of a new residence hall on East Campus to accommodate expanded undergraduate enrollment of the Pratt School began this summer, as

has work on the French Sciences Center. Expansion of the Divinity School, Perkins Library, and the Albert Eye Center are moving nicely, although the expansion of the Washington Duke Inn is somewhat behind schedule.

I want to say a special word about one of our most exciting new facilities, the \$97 million Center for Interdisciplinary Engineering, Medicine and Applied Sciences (CIEMAS), which opened August 16 on schedule. One week later the first classes were taught in the four-building, 322,000 square-foot complex. The sprawling center, facing Hudson Hall to the north, has created a wonderful new Engineering Quadrangle and more than doubles the Pratt School of Engineering's teaching and research space. Those of you who saw Pratt Dean **Kristina Johnson** during Inauguration Week will understand why she is smiling.

CIEMAS is a physical embodiment of Duke's interdisciplinary approach to technology, engineering, and bioscience, supporting teaching and research in bioengineering; photonics and communications systems; integrated sensors and simulators; and materials sciences and materials engineering. It also expands Pratt's partnership with the School of Medicine, providing laboratories for collaborative research in healthcare, genomics, and biotechnology. In 2005, CIEMAS will have a nanofabrication facility to support Pratt's collaborations with the Trinity College of Arts and Sciences. CIEMAS also supports a professional master's degree program in engineering management and entrepreneurship in collaboration with the School of Law and the Fuqua School of Business.

As I said in my inaugural address, the ultimate test of this marvelous new building will be the quality of the faculty, students, and resources we can assemble to capitalize on its great promise. I am confident we will realize this building's promise.

### **Duke and the Community**

One of the genuine joys of Cindy's and my initial months at Duke is getting to know Durham and the many ways in which Duke and Durham collaborate on education and other quality-of-life issues. I'd like to highlight a few of those.

More than 100 people attended a breakfast last month at the Community Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park that Duke co-sponsored with North Carolina Central University. The principal purpose of the breakfast was to highlight both Duke and North Carolina Central University's collaborative programs with the Durham Public Schools. One of the highlights of the program was a discussion of the good work of Duke's Project H.O.P.E. (Holistic Opportunities Plan for Enrichment), an intensive after-school program offered in four community-based sites in our partner neighborhoods. Two years ago, only 50 percent of the students involved in Project H.O.P.E. were reading at grade level, and about 60 percent were at the appropriate level in math. This year, those numbers rose to 69 percent in reading and 80 percent in math. The breakfast also highlighted the 21st Century Community Learning Center, a partnership between NCCU and Duke that is the first faith-based learning center in North Carolina supported by federal funds. The center's after-school programs at Fisher Memorial

United Holy Church and Northside Baptist Church began their second year of operation last month, with additional sites slated to open later in the fall.

NCCU Chancellor James Ammons and John Burness hosted the breakfast, which was highlighted by a panel discussion involving **Michael Palmer**, director of Duke's Office of Community Affairs, Durham Public Schools Superintendent Ann Denlinger, and Dr. Beverly Washington Jones, Dean of University College at NCCU.

Lyon Park is the home to a number of Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership programs and was also the site of a wonderful and fun community celebration to recognize the expansion of a health clinic sponsored by Duke Community Medicine and Lincoln Community Health Center and to welcome Cindy and me during Inaugural Week.

I am pleased to report that the City of Durham and Duke reached a compromise this summer on fees on new construction that substantially reduces the amount Duke originally was slated to pay under the city's impact fee guidelines. Although the university did not object to paying its fair share for the actual impact of our construction on city services, we objected to the formula used to calculate them. The new formula gives recognition to the fact that unlike residential or commercial construction projects that increase the demand for municipal infrastructure, the vast majority of Duke's construction is to accommodate our current overcrowded facilities and existing programs. The change in the formula Duke and the city agreed to reduces the impact fee rate for most of Duke's new facilities from about \$1,402 per 1,000 square feet to about \$784.

This summer, faculty in our Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences began a project to transform a heavily eroded, silt-clogged stretch of Durham's Sandy Creek into an eight-acre restored wetland and flood plain, designed to protect the drinking water supply and control storm water runoff in Durham. The \$1.5 million restoration, a project of the Duke University Wetland Center, will restore the natural flood plain and will recreate a healthy ecosystem that absorbs pollutants and improves wildlife habitat, according to **Curtis Richardson**, director of the Wetland Center and professor of resource ecology.

### **Washington Update**

The election season has slowed the traditional congressional calendar, but the appropriations season is in full swing, and much of the focus of our offices responsible for federal relations has been directed towards funding issues. To date, the Department of Defense Appropriations bill has been the only funding bill to pass both House and Senate and signed into law. This important bill contains funding for two of Duke's important federally-funded research programs: the Human Assisted Neural Devices (HAND) Program and the Medical Free Electron Laser (MFEL) Program, both of which fared rather well. The HAND Program received \$12 million, almost a 42 percent increase. The MFEL Program received a slight decrease, but was still funded at \$18.668 million – a strong result compared to the downward trend of a few years ago.

At her final meeting with the Board in May, President Keohane alerted the Trustees to a number of threats to higher education as part of the reauthorization process for the Higher Education Act (HEA). The HEA includes the vast majority of financial aid programs that serve our students and a variety of programs to support international programs, etc. Action on Reauthorization has sputtered to a stop. John Burness and Assistant Vice President for Federal Relations **Nan Nixon** report that this year's Reauthorization process has been the most politically contentious in their several decades of work in Washington. In light of the political pressures and the presidential campaign, it's all but certain that HEA is dead for the remainder of this session. We will continue to closely monitor this issue as we gear up for what likely will be an equally contentious 109<sup>th</sup> Congress.

### **Scholarship and Research Highlights**

In my inaugural address, I cited the Duke Clinical Research Institute as an exemplar of Duke's understanding of the importance of the balance between theory and practice and the arc that extends from inquiry through discovery to translation into practice. This balance is also characteristic of many of our programs, and I am pleased to report some recent examples.

The challenges and the quality of K-12 education in our nation are well known. While the Legislature in North Carolina grappled with the public school calendar this summer, Professor of Psychology **Harris Cooper**, director of Duke's Program in Education and an expert on year-round schooling, offered his conclusions from a study showing that students who attend year-round schools gain a small advantage over their counterparts who take a traditional 10- to 12-week break for the summer. The difference is larger for students who are struggling in school or come from low-wealth families.

Charter schools are also a topic of much debate in the education community, especially after the U.S. Department of Education's findings that children in charter schools are not performing as well on national math and reading tests as their counterparts in traditional public schools. Duke economist and Sanford Institute Professor **Helen Ladd** and University of Connecticut professor Robert Bifulco co-authored a study of North Carolina schools that reinforces the national data. Their study compared reading and math achievement gains for nearly 6,000 students in grades 4-8 while they were in North Carolina charter schools from 1996-2002 with the gains of those same students while they were in public schools.

**Nancy E. Hill**, associate professor of social psychology, recently published a study showing that students whose parents are involved in their schooling have higher career and educational goals, contradicting some previous research indicating that parents' involvement isn't that significant as children move into adolescence. In her study of nearly 500 black and white children from seventh through 11<sup>th</sup> grades, Hill found that parents' influence on how their children think about the future and perform in school continues through adolescence.

Professor **John March** in the Department of Psychiatry focused on the same age group in a study of adolescents and depression. There has been great interest recently in the question of

whether antidepressant drugs are effective in adolescent depression, particularly since there may be an association with increased suicide rates. The study found that the combination of antidepressant drugs and cognitive-behavioral therapy works best when treating depressed teens. (Cognitive-behavioral therapy is a psychotherapeutic treatment designed to create and reinforce positive thought patterns and behavior.) March compared children treated with the drug Prozac alone, cognitive-behavior therapy alone, the two combined and with a placebo administered to 439 depressed 12- to 17-year-olds. To their surprise, the researchers found that cognitive-behavioral therapy alone was no more effective than a placebo. The study was funded by the NIH and published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Duke's Center for the Study of Public Genomics is one of four university centers to receive a five-year, \$20 million grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, to study the ethical, legal, and social issues raised by genetic and genomic research. The Center for the Study of Public Genomics will use the funding to study the flow of information in genomic research. The grants are designed to be interdisciplinary, and will support the work of scholars in fields outside the disciplines of genetics and genomics, such as the behavioral and social sciences, clinical research, theology, public policy, and law.

### **Honors and Awards**

A number of members of the university community earned significant honors or awards, several of which I want to mention to you.

Trustee Emerita Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans has been selected as the 2004 recipient of the John Tyler Caldwell Award for the Humanities, presented each year by the North Carolina Humanities Council (NCHC). She was cited for civic leadership and engagement in public life through the breadth of her work and longstanding commitment to social justice, civil rights, and women's rights.

*Black Issues in Higher Education* marked its 20th anniversary with the inauguration of the John Hope Franklin Distinguished Contributor to Higher Education awards in honor of Professor Emeritus of History **John Hope Franklin**. Franklin was recognized for his extraordinary career as a historian and social activist. The eight-member awards selection committee included **Karla Holloway**, the William R. Kenan Professor of English and Professor of African and African American Studies, and James Ammons, chancellor of North Carolina Central University.

The American Political Science Association awarded the George V. Allen Professor of Political Science **Ole Holsti** with the 2003 award for Best Paper on foreign policy for "A Return to Isolationism and Unilateralism?" The award was presented to Professor Holsti at the American Political Science Association annual meeting in Chicago last month.

Four Duke scholars have been named National Humanities Center fellows for the 2004-2005 year. I'm pleased to note that Duke was the only institution to have more than two scholars

chosen. The Duke fellows are: **Michael Gillespie**, professor of political science, who will work on “The Unity and Disunity of Modernity”; **Margaret Humphreys**, associate professor of history, whose project is “The Civil War and American Medicine”; **Richard Jaffe**, assistant professor of religion, who will focus on “Seeking Shakyamuni: World Travel and the Reconstruction of Japanese Buddhism, 1868-1945”; and **Joel Marcus**, professor of religion, who will write about “The Passion Narrative in the Gospel of Mark.”

For her year at the center, Professor Humphreys also was named a Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellow by the American Council of Learned Societies. The fellowship is intended for recently tenured scholars in the humanities and social sciences and provides them with support to spend one year at a national research center.

Four outstanding members of the faculty have been elected fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. This group includes **Paul Lawrence Modrich**, James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) investigator; **Joseph R. Nevins**, James B. Duke Professor of Molecular Genetics and HHMI investigator; **Stuart L. Pimm**, Doris Duke Chair of Conservation Ecology; and **Anne Firor Scott**, W.K. Boyd Professor of History Emerita. I actually should have said that there are five new Duke members, since I will be inducted along with these distinguished colleagues at next month’s ceremony in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

A number of our students also have been recognized for their innovative work. A translucent, blue, flying-saucer-shaped underwater robot called Charybdis won the \$1,000 prize for innovation in the international 2004 Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Competition. The robot was created by Duke students and named after the mythical Greek sea monster. **Tyler Helble** was the lead electronic engineer on the project and captain of the Duke team from the Pratt School and the Department of Computer Science. The Duke team received support from the Lord Foundation, SAIC, Deep Ocean Engineering, DigiMarc, Subconn, American Standard, RD Instruments, Tritech International, Global Water Instrumentation, and the Duke Engineering Alumni Council.

**Sandeep “Sunny” Kishore**, who graduated in May with majors in biology and religion, has been awarded the Usher Cunningham Scholarship in the Medical Sciences at Oxford University’s Exeter College. While at Duke, Kishore played an active role in implementing the new honor code, was a leader in the university’s annual bone marrow registry drive, and was chair of the Duke Red Cross Cultural Diversity Committee. Kishore was also the editor of two campus publications, *Vertices*, the student journal of science and technology, and *Ethos*, the undergraduate journal of ethics. In his spare time, Kishore worked in a laboratory, studying a family of immune system receptors and their relation to the immune responses of bacteria.

### **Latest U.S. News Rankings**

The quality of our students and our faculty is generally recognized as the best measure of the quality of our university, so we were not surprised that Duke retained its top-five spot in *U.S.*

*News & World Report* magazine's latest annual ranking of national universities that offer doctoral degrees. The magazine lists Harvard and Princeton as No. 1, followed by Yale at No. 3 and the University of Pennsylvania at No. 4. Sharing the fifth spot with Duke are MIT and Stanford. Last year, Duke was ranked in a tie for fifth with CalTech, Stanford, and the University of Pennsylvania.

Duke also was singled out this year in four of eight categories of "programs to look for," which the magazine called "outstanding examples of academic programs that are believed to lead to student success." Duke was cited for its first-year experiences, undergraduate research and creative projects, study-abroad programs, and writing in the disciplines. *U.S. News* also lists Duke as eighth in a category called "great schools, great prices." The magazine's formula compares a school's academic quality with the net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of financial aid.

We know that the public pays great attention to these magazine surveys, even if on campus we recognize their limitations. Nonetheless, it is gratifying to be listed again in the small group of top universities.

### **Athletics**

The fall sports season has begun and several of our teams are experiencing strong years, including Men's Soccer (7- 0), Women's Field Hockey (6-1), Women's Volleyball (9-2), and women's cross country, where we are 20<sup>th</sup> ranked. Coach **Ted Roof**'s football team has lost its first three games, all on the road, and also suffered injuries to a number of its experienced players. The team, which is dominated by freshmen and sophomores, has played well in spurts. We are looking forward to having them play before a friendly crowd in Wallace Wade, including during the week of our meeting, against the Citadel.

The university was respectably represented among the thousands of athletes and coaches at this summer's biggest athletic event, the summer Olympic Games in Athens. **Gail Goestenkers** served as an assistant coach on the gold medal-winning women's basketball team. In addition to Goestenkers, the group included alums Blue Devils pole vaulter **Jillian Schwartz**, racewalker **Curt Clausen**, and basketball player **Carlos Boozer**, who won a bronze medal.

Duke's commitment to run a model program that serves the needs of our student-athletes and maintains high academic standards has been recognized again. The Athletic Department has been named the winner of the 2004 Excellence in Athletics Cup for the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). Duke earned high marks in eight categories, excelling on the field and in the classroom, in graduating African American student athletes and bringing equal numbers of women into sports, in financial aid, and in handling its finances well.

Duke also led the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Atlantic Coast Conference Academic Honor Roll in total selections for the 16<sup>th</sup> straight year. 369 Duke athletes made an ACC Academic Honor Roll. Duke's success is significant given that the conference contained a record 1,810 performers in 2003-04.

The Honor Roll is made up of student-athletes who participated in a varsity-level sport and registered a grade point average of 3.0 or better for the full academic year. Featured on this year's Honor Roll are several student-athletes who were National Players of the Year in the academic honor roll, including Duke men's basketball player **Nick Horvath**.

Seven new members are being enshrined into the Duke Sports Hall of Fame. Joining the 107 existing members of the Hall of Fame are men's basketball All-America and National Player of the Year **Danny Ferry**, legendary wrestling coach **Bill Harvey**, football All-America **Cedric Jones**, men's soccer National Player of the Year **John Kerr** and women's tennis standouts – and sisters – **Christine, Patricia, and Theresa O'Reilly**.

There is a great deal more I could have shared with you but I hope this summary gives you a sense of the excitement – intellectual, social, political, and athletic – that permeates our school. I look forward to exploring some of these topics with you at our meeting. In the meantime, please let me know if you have questions or if I may provide additional information.