

February 14, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Duke University Board of Trustees

FROM: Nannerl O. Keohane

RE: Summary of Activities

I am pleased to share with you this report on selected honors, activities, and events involving Duke faculty, students, staff, and alumni since the Board's December meeting. As always, if you have questions about any of these items, please feel free to contact me.

**"STORM OF THE CENTURY"**

We all know by now that none of the dire predictions came true as the clocks rolled over to the year 2000, but the weather made up for it. We would have to go way back in the record books to match anything like what we experienced in January -- four snowstorms and an ice storm in less than two weeks, with the last snowstorm breaking all records. RDU Airport officially recorded some 20 inches of snow. The Great Snow of 2000 forced the cancellation of three days of classes, but our students and the hospital's patients were safe, warm and well fed, thanks to all the Duke employees who rose to the occasion.

While many Duke students were experiencing -- some for the first time -- the joy of snowball fights, sledding, and the construction of snow figures of all shapes and varieties, the storms presented special challenges for our operating units. Facilities Management director Jerry Black reports that crews were already in place when the snow began falling on January 24. Their first priority was maintaining access to the hospital and its parking facilities. Once those areas were cleared, crews using three plows and a rented snow grader turned their attention to campus streets. Our plows are equipped to handle about five inches of snow, so streets had to be repeatedly plowed and sanded when the snow continued to fall through the night and the next day. Meanwhile, maintenance workers, police officers, staff, spouses, and community volunteers with four-wheel-drive vehicles ferried doctors, nurses, and other essential personnel to the hospital. Brenda Nevidjon, chief operating officer at the hospital, said drivers from Traffic and Parking did a wonderful job of getting key people to work. About 50 employees spent the night Monday in Duke Hospital, and about 100 were sleeping at the hospital Tuesday during the day to be available for the next shift. The weather also prompted the hospital to open its emergency child care center for employees. Our patients were well served.

With Governor Hunt and Durham Mayor Nick Tennyson declaring states of emergency and many roads impassable, many faculty and staff could not get to the campus. Class closings created some academic problems but, under the direction of Provost Peter Lange, the deans of Trinity College and the Pratt School of Engineering have scheduled makeup days on seven Saturdays and Sundays over the next three months. The plan, developed by the administration of the two schools in consultation with student representatives, preserves reading days at the end of the semester and minimizes the adverse impact of weekend classes on religious observances. It also is designed to avoid crucial basketball tournament weekends, should our men's and women's teams advance as far as we hope in March Madness. Few schools in the country, I suspect, need to build such calculations into their academic decision processes with as much regularity as we do.

I particularly want to salute Executive Vice President Tallman Trask, who coordinated a very complex set of decision processes in consultation with the provost and the leaders of the Duke University Health System, and Al Rossiter, director of our news service, who was responsible for communication to our many audiences. Our severe weather policy was severely tested, and while there were some glitches, the end result was as good as we could have hoped given the unprecedented and unanticipated storm. We will be tweaking the policy somewhat to reflect lessons learned for future severe weather emergencies.

## **Y2K**

That we had no significant problems with the year 2000 changeover is a credit to our staff. As trustee emeritus and federal Y2K czar John Koskinen can attest, the absence of serious trouble was not an accident. A few minor glitches occurred at Duke, but those that did were quickly fixed. Our kudos go to the Office of Information Technology and Medical Center Information Services, and to the men and women from across the university who met regularly over several months to assure that our Y2K preparations were on track. While we experienced no major upsets, our technical experts assure us that had the remediation work not been done, we surely would have. And additional good things have come out of this effort: we now have a much more productive and modern set of software tools that over the next few years will help Duke and the Health System's administrations become more effective and give us a good deal of useful information.

## **DUKE-DURHAM NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE**

I know that the Trustees have been very interested in the work Duke has been doing through the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership Initiative (NPI). Many of the programs we launched over the past few years in the 12 neighborhoods near campus, and the seven public schools that serve them, are bearing fruit -- none more so than the collaboration between and among Duke and the Walltown neighborhood north of Trinity Heights, near East Campus. Over the past few weeks there have been two major celebrations of progress in Walltown, highlighting the leadership that has emerged from the faith communities there.

In January I had the honor of participating in the dedication of the new St. James Baptist Church and Family Life Center. Located in the old Walltown Elementary School, the facility hosts a charter school as well as a library and computer laboratory funded in part by the Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties. The Reverend Luther Brooks, pastor of St. James Baptist Church, has long had a dream of a community center focused on the needs of children and members of the Walltown community. With the assistance of the Self-Help Credit Union and significant grants from Duke, that dream has become a reality.

Last week, Walltown also celebrated the dedication of the former Knox Street Grocery, once a center for drugs and prostitution and now -- thanks to a grant from Duke to Self-Help -- the headquarters for the new Walltown Neighborhood Ministries. The transformation of this rundown building into a community beacon of hope has enormous symbolic importance. This collaboration of five area churches partnering with our Divinity School in the Walltown Families and Children Initiative, a faith-based multifaceted neighborhood service effort, is funded by The Duke Endowment. Pastor Robert Daniels of St. John Baptist Church has provided strong leadership to this effort.

Efforts to rejuvenate Walltown, and the West End neighborhood closer to Duke's West Campus, received a boost in January with the news that The Duke Endowment has awarded \$325,000 through its Children and Families Initiative to support the NPI. Some \$186,000 will support three continuing pilot projects designed to

improve the lives of children, including our award-winning teen mentoring program, Partners for Youth. Additional funds provided by The Endowment have enabled the purchase of a building for a new teen center in the West End; Michael Palmer, our new director of community affairs, is working closely with West End community leaders on that project. Another \$139,000 will enable Duke to continue its collaborative revitalization work with the Self-Help Credit Union in the Walltown neighborhood.

We are particularly grateful to The Duke Endowment and to Duke Trustee John and Christy Mack, who last year gave Duke \$500,000 to provide Duke with flexible resources to accomplish some of the NPI's goals. Thanks to the Macks' generosity, we were able to provide a grant to Self-Help to purchase and rehabilitate the Knox Street Grocery. I also want to thank the Trustees for approving several years ago the establishment of a \$2 million affordable housing loan grant to the Self-Help Credit Union. As a result of that grant, some 29 houses in Walltown have been renovated, another four are ready for sale, and another 20 or so are planned. Based on the success of the Self-Help effort in Walltown, Habitat for Humanity has committed to build seven houses in the community over the next two years.

Our partnership with the once-troubled Walltown neighborhood has not gone unnoticed. Enclosed with my report is an editorial from the Durham *Herald-Sun* which describes some of these initiatives and the importance of this collaborative project with leadership from the Walltown community itself.

## **PLANNING PROCESS**

Strengthening Community and Citizenship was one of the five strategic themes for the university outlined in "Shaping our Future." In an update on our current planning process to the faculty last month, Provost Peter Lange noted that the Campaign for Duke has the potential to bring substantial new resources to our enterprise. How most effectively to deploy both these resources and those we already manage will be determined by the thorough-going discussion of our strategic priorities now underway.

Predicated on the belief that we must provide a framework of accountability and evaluation to monitor our investments and assess their effectiveness in meeting Duke's fundamental programmatic goals, the planning process is proceeding rapidly. It includes an assessment of our current strengths and weaknesses; an evaluation of the dynamic intellectual, socio-political, financial, and technological environments in which we must operate. The plan is intended to provide a compelling rationale for investments in academic programs and associated infrastructure, as well as financial and other strategies to support those investments. Provost Lange will provide a status report at our meeting, and several documents distributed in your meeting materials will give you a flavor of this serious effort. We expect to have a full draft version ready next October, with the final plan for full ratification by the Board meeting in February 2001.

Simultaneously with the development of the academic plan, Tallman Trask is developing a capital master plan. With the assistance of consultants, a good deal of thoughtful work has gone into it already, and we look forward to discussing it with you.

## **CAMPAIGN FOR DUKE**

The planning process and the establishment of clear priorities will be essential to the next phase of The Campaign for Duke. Thanks to the extraordinary leadership of campaign co-chairs Pete and Ginny Nicholas, and the fine work of our deans and development staff, more than \$1.1 billion has been raised. In December

alone, more than \$94 million was raised, the greatest fund-raising month in the university's history. That amount brought the 1999-2000 fiscal year total to \$216 million, nearly 50 percent ahead of this point in 1998-99, when Duke raised a record \$331 million.

Among the major gifts we have recently announced is \$13.5 million to establish the interdisciplinary Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life to improve research, education, and practice on caring for the dying. The gift was arranged by hospice pioneer and 1970 Duke Divinity School graduate Hugh A. Westbrook, chief executive officer of VITAS Healthcare Corp. of Miami. Dean Greg Jones and Professor Keith Meador, the director of the new Institute, have planned a major conference in early March which will bring together some of the leading practitioners, ethicists, physicians, pastors, and others concerned with this important topic. Rosalynn Carter will be the keynote speaker.

We also announced earlier this month that The Duke Endowment has awarded gifts to the university totaling \$8 million for financial aid and scholarships, including those given to undergraduate students from the Carolinas. Half of the gift will go to the B.N. Duke leadership program, which awards 10 merit scholarships to students in each entering class from North and South Carolina, chosen by a faculty committee for their leadership abilities and community involvement. Until now, a B.N. Duke scholarship covered 75 percent of Duke's tuition costs; the latest Duke Endowment gift allows scholarships to cover the entire cost of four years of tuition. The Duke Endowment gift also allocates \$2.5 million in permanent endowment for the Angier B. Duke Scholarship Program. An additional \$1 million will endow need-based scholarships in a challenge grant that seeks donors to give two-thirds of the total amount for a scholarship, with the Endowment making up the rest. Also, \$500,000 will go toward financial aid for graduate and professional students. We are extremely grateful to the leaders of The Duke Endowment for their sustained and generous support of goals and programs identified in The Campaign for Duke, goals that are vitally important to the university and to people in the Carolinas and elsewhere.

We also were very pleased to report that engineering alumnus and investment portfolio manager Jeffrey N. Vinik and his wife, Penny, are giving \$5 million to the Pratt School of Engineering to expand and improve the school's facilities. Jeff sees this gift as an investment that will help Duke address critical needs in engineering and technology. He is known for his ambitious, sound investments, and the impact of this investment in Duke will be great -- at the start of a whole new era for the engineering school.

The Jaycees of North Carolina, a statewide, 100-chapter civic organization, has committed \$1 million to the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center to support the expansion of the Jaycee-sponsored outpatient chemotherapy treatment room located in the Morris Cancer Clinics. This facility serves thousands of cancer patients each year, and the gift will help fund a second expansion of the cancer treatment room. The present facility, opened in 1996, is the product of a three-year Jaycee fund-raising effort that began with a \$200,000 gift in 1993.

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute announced in December that our School of Medicine will receive \$2.4 million to recruit promising young investigators and to establish new laboratories in the emerging fields of genetics and genomics. Because of the increasing importance of the role of genetics in human disease, Duke, as you know, is in the process of establishing the Duke Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy. The institute will focus on an integrated approach to the study of genetics and related issues by bringing together faculty members from medicine, basic science, law, ethics, theology, environmental research, engineering, and public policy. At a time when announcements of pathbreaking technological advances are occurring almost weekly, society must address the challenges associated with that technology, as highlighted by the recent death of a patient in a gene therapy program at the University of Pennsylvania. It's precisely because Duke has an exceptional array of resources to bring to bear on these questions that we can make a real contribution, distinguished as we are by our strength not only in the scientific and medical disciplines, but in areas such as ethics and public policy. Provost Lange and Dean of Medicine Ed Holmes will be reporting to you at our meeting on the latest developments in our planning.

In a closely related issue, Dean Holmes and Chancellor for Health Affairs Ralph Snyderman published a policy forum article in the January 28 issue of the journal *Science* recommending that the government's multiple human protection oversight responsibilities be centralized in a single office, and that regulations now on the books should be reviewed and overhauled. While endorsing oversight mechanisms to protect research subjects, our colleagues noted that regulatory and compliance mechanisms are overly complex, difficult to interpret and, at times, redundant. "Given the expansion of clinical research, it is time for a comprehensive review of subject protection legislation and oversight that was developed in a far different era. The goal should be an effective, simplified system that is understandable, that works, and that is adaptable to change." Ralph and Ed noted in the article that the action against Duke last May by the federal Office of Protection from Research Risks, while difficult and expensive, was an important learning experience for Duke on how oversight in this important area can be improved. I am told that legislation based on the principles identified in the Snyderman-Holmes article will soon be introduced in Congress.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

A few major personnel items bear specific mention. In a conference call meeting in January, the Executive Committee approved the appointment of A. Kenneth Pye Professor of Law Katharine T. Bartlett, an award-winning scholar and teacher, to succeed Pamela Gann as the new dean of the Duke School of Law. Dean Gann left last summer to become president of Claremont McKenna College. The Executive Committee also approved the reappointment of Lewis Siegel as dean of our Graduate School. As Provost Lange reported to the Executive Committee, Dean Siegel has done a superb job and received a strong recommendation for reappointment from the Faculty Review Committee. We are fortunate, indeed, to have academic leaders of the caliber of Kate Bartlett and Lew Siegel in key positions at a critical time.

The Trustees know, of course, that Gene McDonald has announced his plans to step down as president of Duke Management Company on June 30. Gene McDonald has been a key advisor to three Duke presidents, and has played a crucial role in Duke's growth and flourishing -- first as university counsel, then as executive vice president and, for the past 10 years, as president of DUMAC. DUMAC chair and Duke Trustee Bob Steel is chairing a committee that is conducting a national search for Gene's successor. The success of Duke's investment strategies under Gene's leadership reflects his vision as well as his managerial and financial acumen. We have been fortunate, indeed, to have had his commitment and leadership as DUMAC's founding president. I am confident that Trustee Steel and his colleagues on the search committee -- DUMAC board member Joe Grills, past DUMAC board member Alice Blackmore Hicks, Trustee Emeritus L. Neil Williams, Professor Campbell Harvey of the Fuqua School of Business, Executive Vice President Tallman Trask, and Kenneth Morris, Duke University Health System chief financial officer -- will identify a worthy successor.

## **RESEARCH**

Scientists at the medical center continue to report advances in several areas with the potential for improving health around the globe. For example, after studying more than 500 human blood vessels, a team of researchers led by Duke anesthesiologist Dr. Debra Schwinn has defined which types of an important class of contraction-controlling receptors line different types of blood vessels, and they demonstrated that the aging process changes this distribution. With this specific knowledge of the distribution of three known subtypes of receptors (known as alpha-1 adrenergic receptors [AR]), it should be easier to create highly specific drugs for treating such disorders as high blood pressure, shock, heart and prostate disease. This research was funded by the National Institute of Aging and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Like hearts, legs can also suffer from "attacks" when too little blood flows through clogged and narrowed arteries. Leg by-pass surgery and angioplasty can help some patients, but most people with leg clots simply walk as little as possible to avoid the pain. A novel therapy is being tested by Duke researchers at the Duke Clinical Research Institute to treat this condition (known medically as "intermittent claudication") using an "angiogenesis growth factor" to create new blood vessels around clogged leg arteries. Tests of these factors in heart disease have been ongoing, and this trial, led by physicians from our medical center and the University of Michigan, is by far the largest study of angiogenesis in leg arteries. Duke cardiologist Dr. Brian Annex leads the effort along with a researcher from Michigan. The Chiron Corp. is funding the research.

Duke experimental psychologist Amy Needham has found that shape seems to be the most important factor in babies' deciphering of the boundaries between two objects. In a study reported in the December issue of the journal *Infant Behavior & Development*, Needham showed that four-month-old infants rely more on the shape of objects than on their color or pattern to figure out that objects placed side by side are separate. The finding suggests a continuity in the way infants and adults analyze objects they see, since object shape is a critical element of adults' perception of object boundaries as well. In other words, it's possible that the most useful link in the chain of adult visual discrimination is one of the first things babies grasp. The work was supported by National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Less than three years after beginning a search for genes that confer a risk of developing autism, Duke geneticist Margaret Pericak-Vance and her colleagues have found evidence of two defects that may be linked to the complex combination of behaviors called autistic spectrum disorder. Such behaviors include failure to make eye contact, social withdrawal, lack of language, and repetitive behaviors such as rocking or head banging. Doctors believe that the disorder begins during development of the brain, possibly even before birth, and that the change prevents affected people from properly processing sensory information from their environment. With her team, Pericak-Vance, director of the Duke Center for Human Genetics and lead investigator of the autism genetic studies at Duke, located defects in tiny sections of chromosomes 15 and 7. The research was supported by Duke's Center for Human Genetics, the National Alliance of Autism Research, and by grants from the National Institutes of Health.

Duke researchers have discovered a biological mechanism in mice that prolongs morphine's painkilling effects and that could lead to the development of new drugs to make morphine last longer and relieve pain at lower doses. The researchers reported in the journal *Science* that morphine prevents pain longer and more completely when administered to mice genetically engineered to lack a protein switch called "beta-arrestin 2." Beta-arrestin normally comes into play after morphine is administered by blocking the chemical signal that morphine sends to the brain to suppress pain sensation. The findings came from the laboratories of James B. Duke Professor Robert Lefkowitz and Professor Marc Caron of the Department of Cell Biology, with funding from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Duke engineering researchers have devised a technique that could make the important task of protein purification easier. Ashutosh Chilkoti, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering, and graduate student Dan Meyer came up with a new method that involves harnessing cells to do much of the work in conjunction with small temperature adjustments and perhaps dashes of ordinary salt. They see their technique as a possible simpler substitute for current technology that separates out different molecules inside tall columns packed with resins. Chilkoti's research has been supported by the Whitaker Foundation.

A team of medical center researchers has figured out why donated livers can suffer a mysterious injury that damages their ability to perform well once transplanted. They discovered that the cold temperature needed to preserve one set of specialized cells during the time the organ is out of a body is actually producing a chain reaction that ultimately results in the death of a different group of liver cells. While the findings point to a possible drug to block this process, the study suggests that liver transplant patients should not receive platelet transfusions before their procedures, as some centers routinely insist. The research was led by Dr. Pierre-Alain

Clavien, chief transplant surgeon at Duke with a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

In an interesting finding with potential for AIDS treatment, Duke researchers found that HIV patients who take fewer pills tend to do better than patients who have more complex medication regimens. The research was based on an analysis of more than 3,000 patients involved in triple-drug combination trials to treat HIV infection. The researchers speculate that patients who take fewer pills are more likely to adhere to their medication regimen -- and therefore receive the greatest benefits of the therapy -- than those on complex regimens, who may find it more difficult to take multiple pills at different times during the day. Dr. John Bartlett, director of clinical research at the Duke University Center for AIDS Research, led the project in tandem with researchers and statisticians from Triangle Pharmaceuticals Inc. in Durham.

Duke scholars are using the local environment to address challenges facing wetlands. An eroded and degraded portion of Sandy Creek in western Durham is being transformed into eight acres of wetlands containing areas of open lake, cattail and sedge marshes, and sycamore and sweet gum forested bottomland as part of a Duke Wetland Center project to improve Durham's water quality. This Duke Forest project near the Washington Duke Inn and Golf Club will restore a former flood plain and create a pollution-sopping wetland environment that was once less rare in the Piedmont before the onslaught of development. Supported with construction money from two state sources -- \$582,500 from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and \$94,531 from the North Carolina Wetlands Restoration Program -- the project provides excellent teaching and research opportunities.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

I'm very pleased to report that for the seventh consecutive year, a Duke student has won a Rhodes scholarship. Julian Harris, a senior from Warner Robins, Georgia, was notified in December that he will be able to study for two years at Oxford University. Duke's 29th Rhodes scholar since 1917, Harris is one of only 32 U.S. students selected from some 935 candidates for the prestigious award this year. The Rhodes is his third major scholarship: he received an Angier B. Duke Scholarship upon his enrollment at Duke, and then last March he received a Truman Scholarship to pursue graduate studies toward a career in public service. Harris's academic work has concentrated on the intersection of health policy and medical ethics. He has been active in a number of leadership roles on campus and, in particular, has been an eloquent voice for ethical behavior as chair of the university's Honor Council.

We learned this past week that four Duke faculty members have received prestigious Sloan Fellowships -- Assistant Professors of Chemistry Ross Widenhoefer and Mark Grinstaff of the chemistry department, Assistant Professor Ashutosh Kotwal of the physics department, and Assistant Professor Tom Witelski of the mathematics department. Only 100 Sloan Fellowships are awarded each year in intense national competition to the most promising young scientists in the country. With four coming to Duke, we join a small group of lead institutions with that many multiple award winners. As Berndt Mueller, dean of natural sciences, said on reporting these awards to the provost, they "demonstrate the excellence of our hires in these fields during the past two to three years." We, of course, have been making systematic investments in some of the scientific disciplines, and it is encouraging to have the quality of our faculty recognized by the success of these young scholars in the Sloan competition.

The Trustees will also be pleased to note that two members of our faculty and two Trustees were featured in the December 23 issue of *Black Issues in Higher Education*, in a report on events and people that have transformed access to education during the 20th century. James B. Duke Professor Emeritus John Hope Franklin, Trustee Melinda Gates, and Research Professor Paula Giddings were cited for their vision in improving educational access for African Americans and other minorities. John Hope Franklin was singled out for his extraordinary

scholarship and leadership, Melinda and Bill Gates for their unprecedented pledge of \$1 billion to fund scholarships for minority students, and Paula Giddings for her groundbreaking study on women's social and political history. In a separate article in the magazine, Trustee Emeritus Samuel DuBois Cook was cited as one of the college and university presidents whose career in higher education had significantly contributed to racial progress. The annual Cook Society Lecture in his honor will be delivered on February 16. This year's speaker will be Stanford Professor Claude Steele, whose research documents that the under-performance of large segments of the African American population on educational achievement tests may be driven as much by stereotypical expectations as by ability or preparation.

John Hope Franklin also received important recognition last week when *Runaway Slaves: Rebels on the Plantation*, which he co-authored with UNC-Greensboro Professor Loren Schweningen, was named first-place winner of the 2000 Lincoln Prize. Based on some 300 pages of records, Professors Franklin and Schweningen challenge the persistent belief that American slaves were content with their chattel status.

I should mention as well the marvelous array of programs at Duke during Martin Luther King, Jr. Week in January. Pediatric cardiologist Dr. Brenda Armstrong, associate dean of medical education and director of admissions for the School of Medicine, kicked off the university's week-long celebration of Dr. King and his legacy with a powerful keynote speech at a candlelight vigil service in Duke Chapel. Armstrong, who was a member of the third class at Duke to accept black undergraduates, recalled what it was like to grow up in her racially segregated North Carolina hometown. Two days later, U.S. Representative John Lewis (D-GA), a civil rights hero in his own right and a close ally of Dr. King, told a crowd of 700 gathered in Duke Chapel that more than any American of the 20th century, Dr. King had the power to bring people together to do good. Vice President for Institutional Equity Myrna Adams and several members of the university community were instrumental in planning the many activities gracing during our week-long celebration.

Dr. Alvin F. Wells, a senior rheumatology fellow, has been awarded a \$315,000 grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to study the mechanisms of autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation created the four-year award, which is presented to minority physicians demonstrating superior academic and clinical skills and showing commitment to careers in academic medicine, to increase the number of under-represented minorities on the faculty at medical centers throughout the United States.

Chapel Organist David Arcus has been chosen as the year 2000 winner of the American Guild of Organists Holtkamp Award in Organ Composition for his work "Song of Ruth and Naomi," for organ and solo soprano voice. The award will be presented to Arcus this summer at the organization's national convention in Seattle, which will include a performance of his award-winning entry. This year's contest was open to composers from across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Taped in the Duke Chapel, his submission included a performance by Patricia D. Philipps, soloist with the Duke Chapel Choir. Those who know how wonderful an organist David Arcus is will be especially gratified to see him receive this well-deserved recognition.

## ATHLETICS

The winter sports season has been highlighted by the success (mostly) of the men's and women's basketball teams. Until the upset loss to Maryland last week, Coach K's young team had tallied 18 consecutive victories, shattering both ACC and Duke records. The women's team also has been in the top ten for much of the year, but suffered a setback when one of its star players and frequent "spark plug," Peppi Browne, sustained a severe leg injury. Under Coach Gail Goestenkors' strong leadership, the team will surely continue to do well as the season progresses.

Duke's Ali Curtis, a junior forward from Milan, Mich., has been selected as the winner of the 1999 Hermann Trophy, given to the outstanding male college soccer player in the United States. Curtis led the Atlantic Coast Conference with 17 goals and 40 points, helping the Blue Devils to the No. 1 seed for the NCAA tournament. Curtis, who scored six game-winning goals, including a run of four consecutive matches, led the Blue Devils to an undefeated regular season before they were upset by Santa Clara in the second round of the NCAAs.

Jon Jackson, former sports information director at Southern Methodist University, has been named sports information director at Duke, where he will oversee media relations for our 26 varsity sports. In addition, he will be responsible for Duke's sports information web site and day-to-day office management. He succeeds Mike Cragg, who was promoted to assistant athletic director and director of the Duke Basketball Legacy Fund.

## **A SOBERING CLOSE**

In my last written report to the Board, I called your attention to an article in *The New York Times Magazine* about binge drinking on college campuses, and noted that while Duke was not specifically mentioned, the concerns raised are ones to which we must pay careful attention. Alcohol is the current "drug of preference" among America's young people. Just as the generation of the '60s and '70s used their own drugs of preference in ways that often were extremely dangerous, the same can be said for today's students.

As last semester ended, one of our students died of pneumonia, which doctors believe was initially caused by alcohol-induced vomiting which got in his lungs. We have reason to believe that a second Duke student in another recent incident -- in this case a woman -- after having consumed excessive quantities of alcohol, passed out and that some of her vomit similarly made it to her lungs. Fortunately, thanks to prompt medical attention and antibiotics, her life is no longer in danger. These two cases coincide with allegations of alcohol-related hazing by a Duke sorority which led Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs Kacie Wallace to restrict the social privileges of Pi Beta Phi pending investigation and the possible issuance of formal charges through our judicial system. Dean Wallace also has restricted the activities of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, which reportedly also violated IFC rules at a mixer with Pi Beta Phi.

Deans Barbara Baker and Sue Wasiolek, Vice President Janet Dickerson, and Dr. William Christmas of the Department of Community and Family Medicine, who heads our Student Health Service, are extremely concerned about the excessive use of alcohol and the inability of students -- and, in some cases, parents -- to fully appreciate the consequences of alcohol-related behaviors. While none of these problems is unique to Duke, they represent issues that we must talk candidly about, both with our students and their parents. We will be doing so through a variety of mechanisms in the coming months.

I know I can count on your support as we educate, persuade, and help students find better ways to make Duke life -- including Greek life -- fun, rewarding, and safe.