

MONICA WHITE: To bring greetings on behalf of the Fredonia College Foundation, and the community of donors, I am pleased to welcome Debra Horn Stachura a member of the Class of 1975 and chair of the Foundation Board of Directors. A resident of West Seneca, Ms. Stachura holds a master's degree from Buffalo State College. She is the owner of Buffalo Advertising Management and a 25-year media industry veteran. Ms. Stachura.

DEBRA STACHURA: Congratulations, President Horvath! It's with great excitement and pride that I stand here today — at my alma mater —welcoming you to your new position on behalf of the Fredonia College Foundation and its many generous donors.

Our foundation's mission is to promote, advance and support the activities and programs of SUNY Fredonia. In doing so, the foundation administers resources and supervises the investment of philanthropic funds for the benefit of the university and its nearly 5,600 students. In short, the dollars we raise go directly toward enhancing “The Fredonia Experience” in countless ways — from providing scholarships to high-achieving students who have met merit standards or have financial needs, to enhancing academic programming for all Fredonia students by providing classroom and laboratory equipment, international travel experiences, and esteemed campus visitors, such as those we've enjoyed this week.

I am thrilled to report that the Fredonia College Foundation, together with the support of the University Advancement Division, recently completed its five-year “Doors to Success” capital campaign. Despite having occurred predominantly during the worst recession since the Great Depression, our team not only met its \$15 million goal, we comfortably exceeded it — by \$1.7 million! As a result,

“Doors to Success” has become the foundation’s most successful capital campaign ever!

Thanks to the scores of alumni, friends and businesses who made over 30,000 gifts to the campaign, \$16.7 million dollars are now available to directly benefit our students through scholarships and other initiatives, thereby strengthening the educational, cultural, athletic and real-world experiences that are such an integral part of the Fredonia experience.

The foundation’s success has not been limited to the capital campaign. Its total assets reached \$24.5 million at the end of 2011 — nearly double their 2001 value. In the last six years, the number of endowments has climbed by 40%.

These remarkable figures clearly demonstrate that supporters of our college — our alumni, staff, foundations, industry and friends alike — recognize how vital their contributions and support are to ensuring that a SUNY Fredonia education remains accessible to future generations, and how valuable Fredonia graduates are in today’s society.

On behalf of the foundation board, its donors, fundraisers, and the students who benefit from its work, we look forward to partnering with you to provide strategic, innovative solutions to benefit generations of future Fredonians. We wish you the very best as President, and we thank you for all of the passion you will bring to this critical leadership position, as well as the wonderful opportunities you will provide for our deserving students.