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05.28.2009 | Campus and Community, President

Dear colleagues,

The vast majority of faculty and staff believe the University of Dayton to be a strong workplace with pockets of excellence across campus. We share a great sense of pride in our Catholic, Marianist heritage, and you appreciate the commitment and capability of the senior leadership team. Many express gratitude for the University's strong financial position in these difficult economic times.

Those are just a few of the key findings from a comprehensive campus climate survey the human resources office conducted this spring with ModernThink, the company that helped The Chronicle of Higher Education launch its "Great Colleges to Work For" program.

We also learned that we need to continue to raise the performance bar and focus more on professional development opportunities for all employees, particularly those in leadership roles. From the preliminary survey results, we believe the friendly, collegial environment we value so much can serve as the anchor for greater collaboration across campus.

Approximately 60 percent of faculty and staff responded to the survey, and a large number provided comments. That excellent response rate provides us with a strong set of data. As a campus community, we have an opportunity to talk to each other about the results, the values we cherish and new measures we'll take to make improvements.

Over the summer, I will meet with deans and vice presidents to develop strategies to address the issues you brought out in the survey. In the fall, we will publish and share a summary of the survey results. At that time, deans and vice presidents will share customized reports about their areas with you and discuss ways to move the University of Dayton from a very good place to work to a consistently excellent one.

Thank you for all you do to make the University of Dayton a pre-eminent Catholic, Marianist university. I wish you and your families all of God's blessings this summer.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Curran, President