



December 20, 2006

Dear Dr. Canjar,

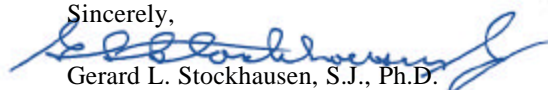
I have received your letter of 6 December 2006. Let me say first that the process of getting to a set of capital projects that UDM can afford has been long and arduous. We all—faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees—thought we would have reached an end sooner than we did. The necessary compromises and stretched-out timelines have taken a toll on everybody's patience and willingness to trust any promises that are made. I recognize that. Nevertheless, we are very close to beginning the projects that we all long to see happen. The various capital improvement projects around the McNichols Campus (such as the roofs, classrooms, the Titan Dining Room, and the Briggs ceilings) are the first step. The Dental School announcement is the second step. More is on the way.

As I have said at town-hall meetings and convocations since the 403b giveback in fiscal year 2005, I am very grateful for the cooperation of all the faculty, staff, and administrators of UDM, including in particular the membership of the UDMPU, in this effort. The contribution of the UDMPU, along with the contributions of many others, made a significant difference. UDM was facing a \$2 million deficit for fiscal year 2005, and the 403b giveback was one of several strategies that worked to fill up that gap. Thanks to everyone's cooperation, we did fill the gap and ended the year in the black. Had it not been for the giveback by the UDMPU and others and the resulting positive year-end, we would not be in a position to borrow at all. Thus the UDMPU made a significant contribution to UDM, and UDM really used the money from the give-back for the purpose it was intended.

Sharing of financial and staffing data is clearly envisioned by all parties as part of the work of shared governance. In its final description of the shared governance structure the Shared Governance Task Force (made up of UDMPU, other faculty, and administrative representatives) addresses administrative program review directly as a task it needs to address. Nevertheless, administrative functions are reviewed and restructured in an ongoing way, as is evident from the significant restructuring I announced a couple weeks ago.

Again, my gratitude to the members of the UDMPU for all their contributions—financial and otherwise—that have made a significant difference in getting UDM to the point where it is ready to launch some important projects for the future of the University.

Sincerely,



Gerard L. Stockhausen, S.J., Ph.D.
President