



JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY

THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY IN CLEVELAND

September 12, 2007

Dear Neighbor of John Carroll University:

In recent days, John Carroll University welcomed 3,400 undergraduate and graduate students back to campus to start the fall semester. We are delighted to have these bright young men and women in our midst, but we remain focused on our goal of increasing student enrollment back to the late-1990s level of 4,000 students. To help us accomplish that goal, we have been working with Sasaki Associates, a planning and design firm based in Watertown, Mass., to prepare a campus master plan. That plan will be used to guide our decisions about physical improvements on and near our campus over the next 10 to 20 years.

I'm writing to update you on the status of the master plan. Last spring, we hosted a community meeting on our campus to introduce representatives of Sasaki Associates and their local partners, Osborn Engineering. The Sasaki team presented some preliminary observations about our campus and the University's needs for academic, residential, student life, and parking facilities. We were pleased that so many of you attended that meeting and we appreciated your comments.

At that time, we stated that we planned to hold another community meeting in September to update you on our progress and to obtain additional feedback. However, while we are making significant progress, the investigative phase of the project has taken much longer than we originally envisioned. The reason is that in the late spring we asked the Sasaki group to conduct in-depth interviews with all units of the University so that we would better understand our needs and the options available to us. This give-and-take work took most of the summer to complete. The investigative phase is nearing completion as we enter the fall semester.

As a result of the additional work commissioned during the summer months, the timetable to complete the master plan has been extended. We are committed to working our way through a very complicated process carefully so that we will have the best possible plan for the good of the University as well as the community.

As the fall semester gets underway, Sasaki is preparing options for facility and land use that grew out of the needs-analysis phase of planning. The next step will be to present the collected data and preliminary options to our campus community. It will be important to obtain their feedback first. We also intend to meet with City officials to review the findings and the options and to obtain their comments.

After these discussions, we plan to hold another community meeting to present Sasaki's preliminary findings and proposed options, and to engage in conversation and receive your comments regarding the options that Sasaki has identified.

We have not yet scheduled a date for the fall community meeting. It probably will be in the latter part of November or early December. We will send you a letter of invitation as soon as we are confident that the work will be done and we can set a date.

We originally had hoped to complete the master plan by the end of 2007. Given the work that remains, we now anticipate that it will be completed early in 2008. Before the final plan is drafted, we will take your comments and suggestions into consideration along with those of our campus leaders, departments, committees, board of directors, and city officials.

If you have questions or suggestions about the planning process, please contact Jerry Sheehan, Associate Vice President for Government and Community Relations (397-4565; jsheehan@jcu.edu) or Robert Celli, Executive Director for facilities (397-4310; rcelli@jcu.edu).

Thank you again for your continuing interest in John Carroll University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Niehoff", is written over the printed name and title.

Robert Niehoff, S.J.
President