

September 17, 2015

Dear Members of the Macaulay Community:

As you know, Dean Ann Kirschner, who has provided The Macaulay Honors College at CUNY with a decade of exemplary leadership establishing it as one of the nation's most competitive honors colleges, will step down early next year. I am delighted that Ann will assume a significant new role at CUNY as Special Advisor to the Chancellor for Strategic Partnerships.

Under Dean Kirschner's exceptional leadership, student achievement at Macaulay soared, with scores of prestigious fellowships, including two Rhodes Scholars, five Truman Fellows, and 36 Fulbrights. She developed signature leadership programs, such as the Goldsmith Scholars, Revson Scholars, the Kenan Fellows, and the Hertog Scholars. As a result of the growing positive reputation of Macaulay, applications increased by 80 percent and it has become one of America's most competitive honors colleges.

In her new post, Dr. Kirschner will lead our efforts to build strategic partnerships with key businesses and sectors in the economy to increase internship opportunities for our students and career options for our graduates. CUNY's extraordinary scale and its preeminence as the backbone of New York's workforce give it an essential role in the economic life of our city and state. I look forward to working closely with Dr. Kirschner and her colleagues across CUNY to significantly extend and deepen CUNY's alliance with businesses, sectors and organizations critical to New York's economic competitiveness.

A national search for a new Dean will begin this fall, consistent with the guidelines of the CUNY Board of Trustees. I am pleased to inform you that Provost Mary Pearl has agreed to serve as interim dean, beginning January 30, 2016. I am confident with Mary's leadership and your good work and support Macaulay will not miss a beat during the transition period.

Sincerely,



James B. Milliken