

Welcome President Pines!



As Pines Begins His New Role, Our Q&A Shows a Leader Who's Inspirational, Techy—and a Trekker
Courtesy of Maryland Today Staff / July 1, 2020

Darryll J. Pines takes the helm of the University of Maryland today as its 34th president, following a 25-year career on campus as a faculty member, then dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering.

The Glenn L. Martin Professor of Aerospace Engineering is well known as a nationally prominent voice for engineering education, a leader intent on diversifying his field, an advocate for the student experience, a successful fundraiser for the university and an accomplished researcher in his own right.

But unless you've seen him leading engineering students in a cheer at the annual Alumni Cup competition, heard him crank some '70s funk or watched him reunite with his goldendoodle, Rocky, at the end of the day, you might not know how eminently approachable he is.

He paused as Maryland Today tossed him a rapid-fire series of fill-in-the-blank questions, and his responses reinforce his reputation as student-centered, equity-minded and relentlessly future-focused:

[Read More](#)

Fall Semester to Start Aug. 31 With In Person, Online, Blended Courses

The university has been engaged in an extensive and collaborative effort to develop a framework and plans for the phased reopening in Fall 2020. This planning has been coordinated with state and county officials and guided by recommendations of the University System of Maryland (USM). The university leadership is also consulting with the University Senate leadership in this planning process.

Seven work-groups and numerous subcommittees have worked tirelessly on these plans. In all, over 200 faculty, staff, administrators and outside experts have been involved in this planning process.

Four core principles inform the work of these groups:

- Prioritize the health and safety of every member of the university community.
- Protect and support the educational and research missions to maintain academic excellence.
- Make decisions grounded in our values of equity and inclusion.
- Provide timely and transparent communication to, and obtain feedback from, internal and external stakeholders about the proposed plans.

[Read More](#)

Alumni in the News

Emerging Leader: Jessica Jones '09



On June 17th, in the absence of the Annual Meeting & Housing Expo, HAND presented **Jessica Jones '09** with the 2020 Emerging Leader award!

"Jessica has been affiliated with the Master of Real Estate Development (MRED) Program at the University of Maryland for almost a decade. As an alumnus of the Program, we are proud of her work and achievements in the real estate development industry, specifically in preserving and developing affordable housing," said Director, Maria Day-Marshall.

[Read More](#)

Greg Kolbunicky '12: The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



(Photo: Studio for Spatial Practice)

An 1895 electric shop gets the ultimate jump start

MARYLYNNE PITZ
 Courtesy of Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When Greg Kobunicky bought an Italianate-style home on the North Side in 2017, a two-story ruin at the back of the property was included in the deal. Though his 1868 house in Allegheny West was a beauty, the small outbuilding was the beast of Buttercup Way..

[Read More](#)

Alumni Profile: Sebastian Sergi '09

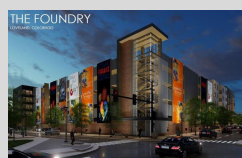


[Read More](#)

When **Sebastian Sergi's** employer asked if he could perform his job 100% from home this past March, it felt like a nonstarter. Sergi, who is a project executive for Sully Construction, typically spends 50% of his day in the field meeting with clients and visiting project sites. But Sully Construction is located in Westchester County, NY, the epicenter of the first widespread COVID-19 epidemic in the United States; typical fieldwork and client meetings would be off the table.

While Sergi's work certainly looks different these past few months, it's persevered, even in the face of a global pandemic. This is in large part because of the amazing team Sergi has helped cultivate at Scully; with the help of knowledgeable subcontractors and foremen, some creative scheduling and a strategic use of **technology**, it has been more or less business as usual. "The venue has certainly changed but my productivity and efficiency haven't, surprisingly," he says. "I thought **there might be an overall drop, but it hasn't slowed us down. It would be impossible without our team.**"

Colvin Case Study Challenge is Open!



2019 Winner: Colorado State University ~ The Foundry

The **Colvin Case Study Challenge** is a national intercollegiate real estate case study competition for full or part-time students enrolled in a college or a university real estate program (undergraduate or graduate or a university sanctioned real estate club/organization). The Challenge is to document a recent innovative real estate project within the team's metropolitan region. Unlike many other case competitions, this is a post-development report and documentation of a recently completed project (or project phase). The Challenge is designed to hone professional skills and reveal the knowledge base and understanding of markets, project valuation, finance, urban design and sustainability, entitlement processes and operational issues.

The competition may be offered for (a) course credit, (b) as part of a course requirement, or (c) as an extracurricular activity. The number of teams from an individual school or program is not limited.

[Learn More](#)