

May 18, 2016

Mr. James L. Shea  
Chair, University System of Maryland Board of Regents  
3300 Metzert Road  
Adelphi, MD 20783

Dear Mr. Shea:

On behalf of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry, I seek permission from the University System of Maryland Board of Regents to change the purpose of two quasi-endowed funds held at the Common Trust. Because quasi-endowments are restricted not by the donor, but by the governing board, as fiduciary for the Common Trust, I believe the Board of Regents has the authority to approve these changes.

In the past two years, fundraising efforts at the University of Maryland, Baltimore have focused on providing more philanthropic financial aid to offset the burdensome debt our students acquire. Part of that effort has included a review of student loan funds, most of which were established prior to 1995 and sadly, remain unused. Students have no desire to accumulate more loan debt, so outright scholarships are a much more attractive option. And, because we have only a handful of loan funds (less than 10 university-wide), our unit finance offices find the loan collections process cumbersome and impracticable to administer.

With that in mind, I am hopeful the Board of Regents will approve this request to change the purpose of two quasi-endowed Common Trust funds from student loans to outright scholarships.

The Clyde Virginius Matthews Memorial Loan Fund was established in 1971 by bequest from Mrs. Sydney Weatherall Matthews as a memorial to her late husband, Clyde Virginius Matthews, the first Professor of Histology at the Dental School. Mrs. Matthews' Will declares that "the principal and income of said sum to be used as the Dean of the Dental School of the University of Maryland may determine to aid needy students at such schools, and I request but do not require that only the income be so used." Changing the purpose to scholarship would not negate Mrs. Matthews' intention of assisting needy students; in fact, it would assist our dental students to an even greater degree.

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The Carl H. and Etta C. Stoetzer Dental Educational Fund was also established in 1971 by a bequest from Carl H. Stoetzer. While Mr. Stoetzer directed that the gift be endowed by the Board of Regents and suggested that students repay the "scholarships," his Will goes on to state: "I specifically vest in the Board of Regents, however, the authority and discretion to determine the conditions upon which such scholarship shall be granted and to vary and change such conditions from time to time." We would honor Dr. Stoetzer's request that scholarships be awarded to "needy or worthy" students who have completed their first year of study and have demonstrated academic achievement.

The documentation establishing both quasi-endowments is included. I hope the Board of Regents will approve the University's request to change the purpose of these two funds from student loan to scholarship.

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing the Board's decision.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Dowdy  
Vice President, Development and Alumni Relations