

## **Dear Ship Family,**

As the Fall semester of 2012 winds down, this is a time to reflect, give thanks, and a time to dream of the future. Thanksgiving allows us to each be thankful for what has been so special to us. Shortly, the entire 2012 Holiday Season – Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Muharram and other celebrations -- will be upon us and we will share the joy of family and the season. And after that, we all will look to the future as we make our resolutions for the year 2013!

In light of the time, I want to share some of the things for which I am thankful and wishes for the university for the future.

### ***I am thankful for:***

- The members of the campus community who, in their own ways, make Ship such an outstanding institution. From the students who bring curiosity and enthusiasm to campus, to faculty who instill in the students their love of learning, to the staff who ensure support our efforts to provide an education of excellence, to our alumni who continue their successes in the world.
- Opportunities to serve the region through our many academic and outreach programs.
- The completed Anthony F. Ceddia Union Building – what a facility!!....and the soon to be opening of Phase I of our residence halls....and on into Phases II and III.
- Outstanding students who excel inside and outside the classroom.
- Outstanding faculty members whose expertise in the classroom is exceeded only by their dedication to their students and our soon to be completed Academic Master Plan that will guide us for the next five years and beyond.
- The beginning of the public phase of our Comprehensive Campaign..... *Charting the Course – Lighting the Way*..... is off to a great start with \$27M raised toward our goal of \$45M and the support we receive from our many alumni and friends who understand and appreciate all that Ship does and provides. Thanks to you and so many others for this success.

### ***I have one main wish for 2013 and beyond:***

- Great joy and success to each and everyone of you in all you do!!

Simran Khurana said, “If you treat Thanksgiving Day as a mere custom, then you are missing out on the true meaning of the holiday. As much as we enjoy Thanksgiving for the dinner and the festivities, we must also rejoice for our good fortune. So, have fun with your family this thanksgiving, but don't forget to say “thank you.”

So, thanks to you, the entire Ship family, the inner spirit of this great university burns brightly. As we end this calendar year, I look forward to continuing our great success of ***OUR*** Shippensburg University providing an education of value with national and global quality!!!!

Thanks,



William N. Ruud, Ph.D., President  
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania