



# MAHARISHI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

*Founded by His Holiness Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in 1971*

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Despite unique and daunting challenges, this year is shaping up to be the most successful in MIU's history.

Throughout all the challenges, I have been absolutely overwhelmed by, and so deeply grateful for, the amazing support I have received from the world's most wonderful, most generous donor community. (*That would be you.*)

As COVID rages across our country, universities large and small have been compelled to make draconian cutbacks to address their enormous budget shortfalls. The pandemic has cost colleges nationwide an estimated \$120 billion, forcing massive layoffs and deep cuts to their core academic programs.

With your generous help, *and some serious support of nature*, we have soldiered on through this pandemic and economic downturn with few casualties. And in fact, most surprisingly, MIU is actually growing—and growing as never before. As of today, we have nearly twice the applications for this coming Spring entry as we had a year ago (apart from ComPro, which is still bottlenecked by visas).

And most interestingly, the vast majority of this new wave of students are coming specifically for Maharishi's unique knowledge—choosing Maharishi Vedic Science (a.k.a. Consciousness and Human Potential) or Maharishi AyurVeda as their major field of study. This is a brand-new trend—and *very exciting!*

Encouraged by this, we have launched a new major in *Enlightened Leadership*, a track optimized for young people who aspire for a career teaching Transcendental Meditation® or as a leader in one of our numerous international TM organizations. This new major is a dream-come-true for many, featuring long, deep TM and TM-Sidhi programs in the Golden Domes, living in Vastu dorms, enjoying advanced courses in the Bhagavad Gita, and taking the TM teacher training course along with specialized training for teaching TM in schools, to veterans, in government programs, and in the corporate world.

Growth across all these programs helps mitigate the inevitable, and substantial, loss of tuition revenue from our ComPro program. Also helping tremendously is our brand-new Master in Software Development (MSD) program. Our ComPro leaders, working in conjunction with

some generous and entrepreneurial Trustees, recently launched this MSD program designed for *American* students (who are unencumbered by ComPro's immigration issues). This highly remunerative program was brilliantly executed and an instant success, with an anticipated enrollment of over 100 new students *this year*.

With all this growth and success, *and with your generous support*, we shall overcome the dual challenges of COVID and ComPro this year, and we shall live to fight another day! (Or better still, we shall live to love another day!)

I can also report that we have received our final, formal confirmation of our 10-year extension of MIU's accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission. *We received such a stellar assessment*. All of us who are familiar with such reports agree that *we have never seen such a positive review!* This is a great achievement, and very heartening and confidence-building for all our faculty, staff, and Trustees alike.

Furthermore, we are making great inroads globally. Our *David Lynch Graduate School of Cinematic Arts* has attracted world-class partners in Shanghai and throughout China. David Lynch was so excited to hear all the news yesterday, when he gave us final blessings to proceed and charged us to *Enlighten China!*



The new *Wege Center for the Arts*—an exquisite, top-to-bottom renovation of our venerable ‘old Student Union’ building—is on schedule for its Grand Opening on December 13th. This building will be the most striking visual transformation of our campus\* since the Argiro Student Center was completed 12 years ago. It will become the buzzing hub of our esteemed

arts programs, including Fine Arts, Cinematic Arts, and Creative Writing. These departments have forged a dynamic collaboration, and thereby achieved a critical mass for the arts at MIU. Don't miss this Grand Opening! If you are out-of-town, please join us virtually—we will send you a Zoom link closer to the event.

(\*We have also benefited greatly from equally striking interior transformations—of our student dormitories and our Guest & Conference center, through the generous support of our Board Chair Jeffrey Abramson and other generous donors.)

Finally, I've been hosting strategic meetings with our numerous academic and administrative departments, brain-storming new ideas for growth and potential investment. All our wonderful older and emerging younger leaders are helping us vet and prioritize our needs, as well as the various opportunities that lie before us

These strategic meetings underscore again what brilliant faculty and staff we have—beyond what I or anyone could hope for. They are working so diligently and have made great personal sacrifices to ensure the growth and future success of Maharishi's precious and historic University dedicated to *Education for Enlightenment*.

*So ... (breath) ...* This year we have tackled once-in-a-generation challenges head on—and we have emerged the stronger for it. But we still, *very much*, need your support. The losses from this year's ComPro contraction will be felt even more strongly next year. We face hundreds of thousands of as-yet-unbudgeted COVID expenses this Winter, and perhaps even this Spring. These are short-term challenges within the much bigger picture of extraordinary growth and success. But they *are* challenges, nonetheless. Very real challenges.

Just like last year, this year's [Annual Fund](#) is crucial. I must therefore ask all of you to please, once again, rise to the calling and give *as much as you possibly can*. The [Annual Fund](#) is central to our operations, our stability, strength, and survival.

[Please give generously!](#)

I thank you, as always, for your kind and loving support.



John Hagelin, President  
Maharishi International University

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