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Subject: With Gratitude, from Chancellor Michael F. Collins

To the UMass Chan Community, With Gratitude

As I conclude my time as chancellor, I would like to express my gratitude to the UMass Chan community for the privilege it has been to be your colleague throughout the past two decades!

From the first day we came to campus in 2007, Maryellen and I have been grateful for your warm welcome, steadfast support and genuine kindness.

We have so much to celebrate! While many focus on the four buildings that were constructed; the biotech park we acquired; the three strategic plans we implemented; the branch campuses we created in Springfield and Burlington; the collaboration with the other universities in the UMass system, in Worcester and across the globe; the nearly \$1 billion that was raised; the research and clinical accomplishments of our stellar faculty; and the economic and societal impact we made together—close to home and far away: I have always seen as our major accomplishment the learners and faculty we attracted to our campuses and whose careers we fostered and enhanced as we advanced together!

As chancellor, I have served under four governors, three UMass presidents and scores of trustees, and with more than twenty chancellors of the other UMass campuses; partnered with outstanding clinical affiliates; signed thousands of diplomas; and recognized that each day it was a distinct privilege to be chancellor of UMass Chan.

I am particularly grateful to Provost Flotte for his steadfast partnership throughout the decades. He is a man of great character, scientific accomplishment, educational achievement and clinical excellence. He has led our three schools and served with deans, vice provosts and vice chancellors, all of whom made outstanding contributions to our success.

Together, we attracted department chairs, clinical division chiefs and exceptional faculty who have contributed significantly to the growth and prestige of our campus. To each of you, please accept my sincere appreciation for your efforts and accomplishments.

To my administrative colleagues and the staff—particularly those who care for our grounds, clean our buildings and cater to every need—who ably serve our medical school: your dedication and commitment to our mission has been remarkable. It has been the privilege of a lifetime to be your colleague.

It is with great anticipation that I look forward to serving as a member of the faculty under the leadership of Chancellor McManus. With all our support—and for certain he has mine—our campus will continue its trajectory of excellence long into the future. Godspeed Chancellor McManus!

Throughout our years at UMass, Maryellen has been by my side. Her grace, keen intellect and warm smile have been welcoming, thoughtful and caring. Together, we look forward to what we know will be an ambitious future for and with UMass Chan.

I will forever be grateful to have been with you at UMass Chan—advancing together!

Michael F. Collins