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Endicott College Celebrates 25th Presidential Anniversary of Dr. Richard E. Wylie

College Hosting Gala to Highlight Quarter-Century of Growth and Success



Dr. Richard Wylie

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To honor the career of President Richard E. Wylie and celebrate the impressive list of improvements and achievements of Endicott College under his 25-year tenure, the College will host a Gala Celebration on May 5.

When President Wylie arrived in spring of 1987, Endicott College was a two-year women's college with an enrollment of 583 students and approximately 200 employees. The campus consisted of 28 buildings on 140 acres, and the operating budget was \$7.7 million with an endowment of \$3.9 million dollars. Twenty-five years later, this co-educational college will begin offering its first doctoral program in the fall. Almost 5,000 students study on the Beverly campus and around the world in a variety of majors that did not exist 25 years ago. There are 51 buildings on the 235-acre oceanfront campus, and the operating budget is \$85,828 million with an endowment of \$38.7 million. The college employs over 600 people.

This May Dr. Wylie celebrates his 25th anniversary leading Endicott College. He has overseen a remarkable transformation, guiding Endicott from its position as a small, two-year women's college to its status as one of the great success stories in higher education today. The College has become increasingly selective, setting strict academic standards for admission and accepting 50% of its applicant pool. Endicott earned four-year status in 1988 and became coeducational in 1994. In 1996 the Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies was founded and now offers Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Science in Technology and Nursing (M.S.), Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) and Master of Education (M.Ed.) degrees as well as accelerated Bachelor degrees for adult learners. In December, 2011 the College received approval to offer its first doctoral program, a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership, the first approved doctoral program on the North Shore.

During his tenure, Dr. Wylie has been instrumental in expanding the College's academic offerings. While internship and experiential learning remains the core of an Endicott education, over 90% of the degree programs now available

at Endicott did not exist in 1987. Most recently the College has created new programs in Biology and Biotechnology, Environmental Science, Political Science, History, Homeland Security, and International Studies. In addition to the Beverly campus, the College operates campuses in Mexico City, Mexico and Madrid, Spain.

The Beverly campus has seen remarkable change, almost doubling its landmass in the past ten years. A new Center for the Arts, residence halls, a state-of-the-art athletic facility with four new fields, and in-classroom implementation of cutting edge technology are but a few of the latest enhancements. Nearly all of the 51 buildings on campus have undergone redesign or renovation, including a major library addition and a new graduate school building.

Dr. Wylie became the fifth president of Endicott after successful careers as a professor at the University of Connecticut, a department chair at Temple University, dean at the University of Colorado, and a vice president and dean at Lesley University. He began his professional career as a teacher in the Gloucester Public Schools. He holds a bachelor's degree from Plymouth State University and a master's and doctorate from Boston University.

He served as President of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which accredits more than 2,500 schools, colleges, and universities in New England. He has consulted with ministries of education and government agencies in Ethiopia, Portugal, Spain, and Brazil. His accomplishments have earned him such recognitions as the Dr. Jack Mombourquette Award for International Education, the Dr. Richard J. Bradley Award for his contributions to school improvement through accreditation in New England, and he was recently named an Aspen Institute Ascend Fellow. Dr. Wylie was one of the founders and first chair of the Board of Trustees for the Urban College of Boston, a higher education institution committed to the advancement and education of the urban community.

Dr. Wylie, affectionately called "Doc" by the students, is heavily involved in the city of Beverly and on the North Shore as a volunteer and supporter of community initiatives. He is an active member of the North Shore Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Board of Directors of the Beverly School for the Deaf: The Children's Center for Communication, Main Streets Board of Directors, Beverly Rotary and he is a Director of the Beverly Cooperative Bank. He can be seen with Endicott students around the city as they engage in community service projects, and has long been viewed as one who stimulates and encourages others to become involved.

Dr. Wylie has authored numerous publications for professional journals, as well as monographs, book chapters, and a variety of children's books and curriculum materials. He is married to Mary Bateman Wylie of North Andover. They have four children: Kathleen Wylie Rocco of Grafton, Christopher of Bridgewater, Brian of Middleton, and Gregory of Concord. They have seven grandchildren.

His motivation for education came from his father, who taught at Boston University for forty-three years. The tradition will continue as his son Brian completes his Ph.D. in Higher Education in the near future.

In honor of Dr. Wylie's 25 years at Endicott College, a Gala Celebration is being planned at Misselwood on the Endicott campus for Saturday, May 5. For further information, please contact Institutional Advancement at 978-232-2017.