



NAROPA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S FRIDAY LETTER

December 17, 2010

Dear Community:

Appreciation

This week I want to begin with appreciation and close with contemplation. I want to offer two general thank you messages – to the committees that were responsible for the fall graduation held last Saturday and for the committee that created the holiday party that we enjoyed as a faculty and staff this past week. Thank you for your extreme dedication to bringing the Naropa community together and for your diligent work. One special note to someone who coordinated a lot of work for both events – to Mary Pat Cullen, our campus events coordinator, for her labor and kindness in going above and beyond the call of duty.

Contemplation for the week Year!

We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives... not looking for flaws, but for potential. ~Ellen Goodman

As we close out the year 2010, we reflect on many changes that have occurred. Last year at this time we were beginning the budget initiative, completing the self-study report for the HLC and looking ahead to some reorganization. Although we are still working on many pieces, we can look back on 2010 and realize that we have grown and accomplished a great deal in the past twelve months.

I am proud of the work we have done together over the last twelve months. While there have been difficult times to be sure, we have come out of those days with a team of dedicated and superb people in every corner of the University. I believe it is time to acknowledge every individual here – each one of us is needed to fulfill our own potential and you all work very diligently to make Naropa a very special place to work.

Looking forward, I believe Ellen Goodman's quote reflects a spirit we can have as we face the blank slate of 2011. To review our roles here not as repairs but as fulfilling our potential is a significant readjustment at times in our thinking. We have a wonderful faculty and staff, amazing students and an amazing board. This is a moment for calm, for reflection on our own personal journeys and an

opportunity to move into 2011 with hope and promise to live the potential that we all have.

So thank you for making Naropa a special university. Thank you for bringing yourself and sharing your very self with our community. Thank you for facing the difficult times and the challenges with commitment to making Naropa a place where students can thrive. Thank you not just for your actions, but for being the people you are.

I wish each of you—and to those near to you -- the very happiest of holiday seasons, and a joyful new year in 2011. Go Naropa! And enjoy your well-deserved rest!



Happy 2011!

In the spirit of service,

Stuart C. Lord
President