Dear Friends of the Provost:

I pray this letter finds you well and enjoying continued success. I am writing to you to ask you to be a part of a new program that I am starting here at Clark Atlanta University, **Friends of the Provost for Access and Excellence**. **Friends of the Provost for Access and Excellence** is designed to ensure that deserving students can stay in school (by providing "gap funding" to close the gap between what they can pay and actual cost) and have a value added experience (participating in leadership and mentoring programs, Study Abroad or conferences in their field) and junior faculty members can take full advantage of academic and research opportunities. I want to alleviate the obstacles that too often curtail them from reaching their goals. I ask you to invest your time, talent and or resources to assist me in this venture.

As leaders, we are often encouraged to “give back” to causes and institutions that undergird and strengthen the fabric of our communities. I am inviting you to “give forward” to deserving students who need resources, mentorship and “direction” and to junior faculty who will lead this institution's academic enterprise in the coming years.

Clark Atlanta University, with its dual, storied history and innumerable contributions to the arts, culture, science and technology, continues to prepare leaders and change agents who will shape and enhance the way we live. However, the University is not without its challenges. Therefore, I have created **Friends of the Provost for Access and Excellence** to help our students and junior faculty meet those challenges. You can mail your tax deductible contribution or you can go to the Clark Atlanta University website and to the home page or the Provost's page under the Administration tab. Once there, click on “Giving to CAU” and scroll down to Friends of the Provost to make your contribution.

Please know, however, that I am not just asking for your money. In addition to your recurring financial gift, you are being invited to share your time, talents and organizational access.

The e-brochure will explain the program in greater detail. You will find it on the “Provost's Page” under the “Administration” link on the site’s home page, or you can go directly to http://www.cau.edu/Provost_Welcome.aspx. I also invite you to contact me to discuss how you can maximize your forward giving to the students and junior faculty at Clark Atlanta University. I am confident that as you share with the students and junior faculty, you will discover unlimited returns on your investment.

Take care and peace be with you.

JOSEPH H. SILVER, SR.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs