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Dean Steve Crosby
John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies

Dear Steve:

It is with great pleasure that I wish to announce the establishment of the Center for Peace, Democracy, and Development (CPDD) at the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies. The Center incorporates and replaces the Center for Democracy and Development, and combines its strengths with those of the Moakley Chair in Peace and Reconciliation and the Department of Conflict Resolution, Global Governance, and Human Security.

The new Center seeks creative solutions to empower peace actors and development specialists at all levels of fractured societies to address their tragic divisions, reinforcing the commitment to principles of peace and reconciliation, and building democracy "from the bottom, up." To achieve these goals, we offer practical expertise across the spectrum of conflict management and democratic governance, guided by academic research and evaluation. Key themes in the work of CPDD will be environmental conflict prevention, interfaith and inter-ethnic peacebuilding, development communications, and efforts to strengthen democratic governance and rule of law. Fundamental to the mission of the Center is mentoring the next generation of peace and democracy builders from the UMASS student body, who will play active parts in CPDD initiatives.

I am honored to be the first Executive Director of the new Center, and Michael Keating will be Operations Director. Padraig O'Malley and Edmund Beard will join the Advisory Board and be Senior Fellows, and faculty in the Department of Conflict Resolution, Global Governance, and Human Security are also invited to be Senior Fellows in the Center, as are other UMASS faculty with interests in these areas. Students from the McCormack School will also be recruited as key players in the work of the Center.

On behalf of the Center, allow me to thank you for your encouragement and support in helping to make this possible. We look forward to working with you to make this effort a success.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Darren Kew". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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