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JOHN HYLAND

HYLAND--John W., Jr.

The President, Trustees and community of Teachers College, Columbia University mourn the loss of our beloved friend and truly exceptional Trustee leader Jack Hyland. For 30 years as a Trustee and the last 14 as Board Co-Chair, Jack played a leading role in strengthening Teachers College's reputation and impact as the preeminent graduate school of education, health and psychology. With a steady hand, unfailing sense of humor, and ability to convene great minds, Jack helped to lead the Board through two presidential searches and two historic fundraising campaigns. More recently, Jack was the Board's driving force in strategic innovation: He championed both the College's push into the digital education market and its efforts to be at the forefront of education technology research and practice. Jack was a true Renaissance man: With a background in theoretical physics, he became a successful investment banking executive and media advisor, a celebrated author of two critically acclaimed books (with a third to be published soon), a professional photographer, art enthusiast and landscape connoisseur. Yet Teachers College benefited most of all from Jack's unparalleled skills as a master builder of relationships. He excelled not only at infusing each board member with his passion for education and love of TC, but also at creating deep bonds of camaraderie and understanding that brought out the best in everyone. Jack loved Teachers College. Like a proud parent, he never tired of bragging, "TC is the oldest, largest, and best graduate school of education -- by far." And Teachers College loved Jack back, awarding him its highest honor for a non-educator: the Cleveland E. Dodge Medal for Distinguished Service to Education. On that occasion last year, Jack quoted George Bernard Shaw: "We have a splendid torch, which we have got hold of for the moment, and we want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it to future generations." No one made that torch burn more brightly than Jack himself. We offer our condolences to his partner, Larry Wentz; to his former wife, Karen Conant Hyland; to his children, Liza, Jonathan and Susannah, and grandchildren; and to so many others whose lives he touched. Susan Fuhrman, President William D. Rueckert, Co-Chair

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