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April 24, 1999, Saturday, Final Edition

**NAME:** C.D. MOTE JR.

**SECTION:** METRO; Pg. B02

**LENGTH:** 478 words

**HEADLINE:** U-Md. Officially Installs New President

**BYLINE:** Eugene L. Meyer, Washington Post Staff Writer

**BODY:**

The University of Maryland yesterday officially inaugurated its 27th president, an academic engineer, administrator and seasoned fund-raiser who pledged to "build a culture of excellence" across the College Park campus.

C.D. Mote Jr., 61, actually arrived from California in September to lead Maryland's flagship state institution of higher learning, a sprawling university of 33,000 graduate and undergraduate students whose stature, he said, exceeds its reputation.

Upon coming to campus, he said in his inaugural address at the school's Memorial Chapel, he "encountered more frustration and uncertainty than I expected. I found many who felt that our climb has simply not been fast enough and not visible enough."

Similarly, he said, off campus he "encountered many of our alumni who were cautious about our aspirations, ready to be supportive, but not readily forthcoming with expressions of pride."

But Maryland has much to be proud of, Mote said, such as an engineering school ranked 17th in the nation and the College Park Scholars, an undergraduate honors program.

Mote, formerly vice chancellor for fund-raising and public relations at the University of California-Berkeley, said he intends to make Maryland a premier research university, emphasizing science and technology without slighting the humanities.

Mote noted that a third of the university's first-year students are in honors programs and that admission is becoming more selective. He said he is concerned about the financial ability of all students to pay for their education.

"I find that financial hardship for many prevents them from coming here, or even staying once they arrive," he said, calling finances "the principal obstacle" to graduation. Mote promised to increase financial aid. In-state tuition is currently \$ 4,699, and out-of-state students are charged \$ 11,211.

Mote said he wants to bring alumni and the community to College Park, starting with a campus-wide "open house" scheduled for today, consisting of 200 activities open to the public.

In an interview before his speech, Mote said he hoped to give his listeners a "clear message on where we're going, so everyone can see our trajectory, and hopefully, I can convince people to climb aboard and do some rowing."

The installation was attended by several other university presidents, state legislators and Gov. Parris N. Glendening (D), for 27 years a teacher at College Park and a strong advocate of increased funding for the school.

The ceremony culminated several days of inaugural events, highlighted also by the announcement Thursday of two gifts totaling \$ 21 million to the business school and the performing arts center. C.D. Mote Jr., left, the new president of the University of Maryland, shakes hands with Gov. Parris N. Glendening during the inauguration ceremony in College Park.

**GRAPHIC:** Photo, LARRY MORRIS

**LOAD-DATE:** April 24, 1999