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Margaret Lauren "Maggie" Rector, Class of 2011, Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

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Margaret Lauren “Maggie” Rector

“Maggie Rector is a silent leader on this campus. She guides through example, optimism and a relentless desire for all that is good. Her gentleness and humility are unmatched, and her smile never fails to light a room.” That’s what one student says of Maggie.

Another says, “Maggie shows compassion and caring for every individual she meets.” The stories abound, like this one: “Approaching winter break of her sophomore year, Maggie learned about an international student who was unable to travel home for the holiday and was to be at Rhodes, by herself, for several weeks. To Maggie, this couldn’t happen. Working with administrators, Maggie found a way to get this student to Atlanta to spend the holidays with Maggie’s family.”

A student says, “From teaching in a classroom to coordinating philanthropy events for her sorority, Maggie gives her heart to the organizations in which she is involved. As the Philanthropy chair for Chi Omega this year, she was instrumental in raising funds to grant a wish to a teenager through the Make a Wish Foundation.”

Another states, “Her passion for teaching and caring for children are apparent, and her love for those on this campus shines through every interaction she has with her fellow students. Day to day, she gives you her entire attention in conversations and remembers your concerns at a later time. Her passion for her future career and her friends make other people want to be around her and emulate her.” It is fitting that Maggie will be a corps member for Teach for America this fall.

In summarizing Maggie’s impact on others, one student writes, “It’s hard to encapsulate Maggie’s achievements and service, mostly due to the fact that she’s not boastful about what she does. Maggie never seeks recognition; conversely, she seems compelled to give and never think about getting. Maggie’s attitude, compassion and service drive those around her to be better.”

For her selfless compassion and service, it is my pleasure to recognize Maggie Rector as the female Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award recipient for the class of 2011.

William E. Troutt, President
May 14, 2011