



**Tai Sophia
Institute**

For Immediate Release

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**MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANT SECRETARY
VISITS TAI SOPHIA INSTITUTE
Visit Part of Governor's "Capital for a Day" Program**

(Laurel, MD) October 26, 2009 – Maryland Higher Education Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs Dr. George W. Reid visited Tai Sophia Institute this morning as part of Gov. O'Malley's "Capital for a Day" initiative in Laurel, MD. Reid toured the Institute and met with Tai Sophia President and Co-Founder Robert Duggan, Chancellor and Co-Founder Dianne Connelly, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer Frank Vitale, and Judith Broida, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"After offering higher education for more than 30 years, in my judgment, Tai Sophia Institute is one of the finest institutions of its kind in the United States," said Assistant Secretary Reid. "Tai Sophia is a fully accredited graduate school with multiple offerings – including a Master of Acupuncture, a Master of Science in Herbal Medicine, a Master of Arts in Transformative Leadership and Social Change, and the just-approved Graduate Certificate in Transformative Leadership. The Institute also offers continuing professional education and programs for the community. Governor O'Malley wants Maryland to be a leader in wellness and Tai Sophia's programs help do that."

"We are honored that Assistant Secretary Reid visited Tai Sophia Institute today on Laurel's day as 'Capital for a Day'," said Tai Sophia Provost Dr. Judi Broida. "Dr. Reid has visited the Institute before and understands the important role that our Institute plays now, and will in the future, in providing leadership for the State of Maryland in educating the workforce for a health system designed to emphasize wellness. Over the next several years, Tai Sophia plans to develop many more academic programs, as well as partnerships with other academic institutions and corporations, that will support the nation's new health and wellness initiatives."

During his visit Dr. Reid also heard briefings from the academic directors of Tai Sophia's Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, Integrative Health Science, and Transformative Leadership and Social Change graduate programs.

About Tai Sophia Institute

Tai Sophia Institute, a private, nonprofit academic institution based in Laurel, MD, is a leading center for wellness-based education, client care and public policy discourse. Founded in 1974, and first opening the doors of its healing arts clinic in 1975 in Columbia, MD, the Institute has evolved into a diverse health and

– more –

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wellness resource providing accredited graduate academic programs, continuing education, community wellness programs, and clinical services in acupuncture, nutritional counseling, herbal medicine, and more. The Institute's 12-acre main campus in Laurel, MD, also houses a bookstore, a library, herb and meditation gardens, and the Himmelfarb Art Gallery – all of which are open to the public, and an herbal dispensary. The Institute moved from its original Columbia, MD, location to Laurel in 2002.

Tai Sophia is accredited by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and offers master's degree and graduate certificate programs. The Institute's newest offering, the Graduate Certificate in Transformative Leadership, is now enrolling for the January 2010 class and is comprised of the first 12 credits of the Institute's innovative Transformative Leadership and Social Change master's degree program. Tai Sophia offers the nation's first and only Master of Science in Herbal Medicine and also offers a Graduate Certificate in Chinese Herbs. The Institute's Master of Acupuncture program was the first in the United States to be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

Tai Sophia's faculty, staff, and students annually donate more than 15,000 community service hours to a variety of projects, and its practitioners provide more than 35,500 treatments and consultations yearly. The Institute empowers wellness leaders, business executives and communities to learn the art of caring for and serving one another.

[NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos from Dr. Reid's visit are available by request.]

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