



**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,  
EDUCATION AND SPORTS  
MINISTER**

Zagreb, March 3, 2010

Dear Ms. Pavic,

On behalf of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Croatian Scholarship Fund. Through its dedicated work and selfless endeavors to help the development of education in the country of origin, CSF has shown an incontestable vision of progress, sincere responsibility for its homeland, true love for its people as well as community spirit and social maturity by becoming the biggest Croatian-American organization for supporting gifted students in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, briefly an organization needed by Croatia and its students.

It is a special honor and pleasure for me to thank all members of CSF for their contribution to date and for your support of numerous students, and thus indirectly to the higher education system in Croatia. We are all aware of the fact that the success of an individual highly depends on the current system, and through your vision of a better Croatia you undoubtedly give it an added value. The impressive figure of 120 Croatian students who have been educated by the work of CSF testifies more than enough, not only of extraordinary success but also of the unity of Croatians, scattered all over the world, who are ready to lend each other a helping hand.

The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports is dedicated to improving the higher education system, in the sense of increasing the quality and competitiveness of programs as well as assuring the best possible conditions for tertiary education. An Act on Universities is being drafted which will help reorganize the system of Croatian universities, and by implementing the Bologna Process we steer our higher education programs towards learning outcomes compatible with the labor market. Our special aim is equality for all students at our universities. It is not easy to fulfill such criteria, so the role of CSF as well as of other organizations supporting students is of utmost importance.

Young people represent a special value and they are entitled to just and equal access to education and employment. The fact that CSF could recognize this 20 years ago is amazing. You not only help in educating students by granting them scholarships but you also give them the chance through acquired knowledge to become competitive on the labor market and in this way to get a better professional perspective.

Croatia is a country with strong emigration but knowledge knows no boundaries. Croatians and their descendants live on all continents but have permanent links to their country of origin, and you set the best example.

I wish you a lot of success in the further activities of CSF and I am convinced that you will continue with equal zeal creating leaders who will be the promoters of Croatia's future development.

Sincerely yours,

**Radovan Fuchs, Ph.D.**

**Ms. Mary Ann Pavic, President  
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