October 11, 2011

Dear Correspondent,

Welcome to Dartmouth College and the 2011 Republican Presidential Debate, cosponsored by Bloomberg Television and Washingtonpostlive.com. Dartmouth has a longstanding tradition of bringing presidential candidates to campus, and we are honored to host the Republican presidential candidates for this historic event.

Ranked #1 in "Best Undergraduate Teaching" by US News and World Report, Dartmouth has a lasting commitment to providing the best possible education for our undergraduate students. While offering internationally renowned graduate programs in engineering, business, medicine, and the arts & sciences, we remain committed to the educational ideals of teaching excellence and real-world learning experiences. Fostering active engagement in current social, economic, and political issues is integral to the Dartmouth mission, and it is a privilege for our students to have the opportunity to take part in campaign events leading up to every national election. One of the College's core values is to support the vigorous and open exchange of ideas within a community marked by mutual respect. Today we are pleased to provide our students, the general electorate, and you, the media, with the opportunity to engage in just such an exchange here on our campus.

The country's movement toward the 2012 presidential election is marked by a high level of interest in a range of important domestic issues affecting the US economy. An expert panel of College faculty and Dartmouth alumni journalists will preview these issues and other relevant points of discussion immediately before the debate. I invite you to view this panel discussion live on the Dartmouth YouTube page: http://www.youtube.com/Dartmouth

Thank you for your coverage of this important event. Your reporting will help the voters in our country make more informed decisions on Election Day.

Best regards,

Jim Yong Kim