

The partnership, with the technology-based education company K12 Inc., will allow Middlebury to achieve two goals, said Ronald D. Liebowitz, the president of the college: It will help more American students learn foreign languages, an area in which they lag far behind Europeans; and it will give Middlebury another source of revenue.

"We wanted to do something about the fact that not enough American students are learning other languages, and it's harder for students if they don't learn language until college," Mr. Liebowitz said. "It is also my belief, and I think our board's belief, that finding potential new sources of revenue is not a bad thing. By doing what we're doing with this venture, we hope to take some stress off our three traditional sources of revenue—fees, endowment and donations."

Middlebury, a 2,400-student liberal-arts college with an endowment of more than \$800 million, has offered summer immersion language classes for almost a century, and now teaches 10 languages in those programs at its campus and, as of last year, some at Mills College in Oakland, Calif.

Partnerships between universities and commercial entities have become increasingly common in recent years, but the Middlebury venture is unusual in that it ties the college's academic reputation in foreign languages to a third-party vendor. Moving into such an uncharted area carries risks, education experts said.

"These partnerships are starting as ways for colleges, which may feel themselves cash-strapped, to make some bucks," said Philip G. Altbach, the Monan professor of higher education at Boston College. "I have problems with the whole thing, particularly for a place like Middlebury, which has a reputation as one of the best liberal-arts colleges in the country, and for doing a very good job with languages. They should protect that brand. They are not known for online programs, and to jump in to the deep end of the swimming pool, with a for-profit, is in my view dangerous."

Mr. Liebowitz said that although the move carried risks, so, too, does inaction. "The way I see it, to retain our leadership in the teaching of foreign language, we have to evolve with the times," he said. "And where things are going, in terms of access and education, is online."

In 2008, Middlebury joined with the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a California graduate school, to start the Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy, an intensive language-immersion summer program for students in grades 8 through 12. That program, which will expand to new sites in the new venture, offers four-week residential sessions at Green Mountain College in Vermont, Oberlin College in Ohio, Pomona College in California, and Bard College at Simon's Rock in Massachusetts.

Middlebury has also expanded its academic-year study-abroad sites, the C. V. Starr-Middlebury Schools Abroad, to 35 cities across 14 countries. Almost half the students at those sites now come from other colleges.

A hallmark of Middlebury's language schools has been a formal pledge to speak only the language of study during the session.

Of course, online programs cannot replicate the immersion experience.

The online expertise for the venture will come from K12, a publicly traded company based in Herndon, Va. In partnership with charter schools and school districts, K12 operates online public-school programs in 25 states and Washington. K12 also operates the K12 International Academy, an accredited, diploma-granting online private school serving students in more than 40 countries.

"We plan to make the courses available to individual kids, home-school kids, charter virtual schools, and teachers who might want them as supplements," Mr. Liebowitz said. "I think the price point will be somewhere in the vicinity of \$100."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE DENNISON

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize an outstanding leader from my home State of Montana as he embarks on a new adventure in his life. Since 1990 George Dennison has served as the president of the University of Montana; he is now the longest serving president in the history of the institution. This summer on August 15, 20 years to the day after he began his duties at UM, President Dennison is retiring. I would like to speak today about some of George's achievements and all he has done to better higher education in Montana.

A historian by training, George earned a bachelor's degree with highest honors from the University of Montana in 1962, as well as his master's degree in 1963. After earning his Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington, George went on to serve as a professor and administrator for universities in Arkansas, Washington, and 18 years at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. George eventually returned to Missoula from Kalamazoo, MI, where he served as provost and vice president for academic affairs for Western Michigan University, to become president of the University of Montana in 1990.

I have enjoyed working with George during his tenure as president of the university. We share a strong desire to ensure that Montana's students have access to a high-quality, world class education that prepares them for the careers of the future and to be active members in their communities.

The University of Montana has seen tremendous growth under President Dennison's leadership. Over the past two decades, student enrollment has jumped from 10,000 to over 15,000. In the 20 years that George has served as president, more students have graduated from UM than did in the entire previous century. The number of doctorates awarded has increased from 15 to 75 annually. External research funding has expanded from \$7 million in 1990 to over \$170 million in 2010. The athletic programs at UM have competed well on a national level and have created a great sense of school and community spirit as the Griz have a faithful following throughout Big Sky country.

Like President Dennison, I strongly believe that an understanding of the world in which we live is essential to a well-rounded education. Under George's leadership, the university has developed strong international and exchange programs. Building on the work done by our dear friend Mike Mans-

field, the former Senate majority leader and Ambassador to Japan, UM has relationships with universities across Asia. These partnerships help strengthen our educational, diplomatic, and economic ties with our friends across the Pacific and carry on the legacy and good work of Mike and Maureen Mansfield.

One initiative on which I have been particularly proud to work with President Dennison is the educational and cultural exchange program that the university recently started with Vietnam. I invited the Vietnamese Ambassador to the U.S. to visit Missoula in 2008 to meet with President Dennison about the exchange. President Dennison then traveled to Vietnam last year to meet with several universities and subsequently signed memoranda of understanding with Can Tho University and Vietnamese National University to establish student and faculty exchanges. It is important that we provide our students, the leaders of tomorrow, with the knowledge they will need to thrive in our increasingly global society—this exchange program does just that.

George has received numerous awards and recognition during his time at UM including the Governor's Humanities Award in 2009, the Montana Excellence in Leadership Award in 2007, and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education Region VIII Leadership Award in 1999. President Dennison has received honorary doctorates from universities in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. During his career, George has had a number of historical works published. His 1976 book, "The Dorr War: Republicanism on Trial, 1831-1861," was runner-up in the Frederick Jackson Turner Award Competition. Upon retiring as president, George plans to spend the first years of his retirement writing a history of the University of Montana.

I would like to once again thank President Dennison for all his hard work and commend him for his leadership over the years. I wish him and Jane all the best as they start a new chapter in their life.●

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR E. KATZ

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I wish to commend the life's work of a good man and a great American, Arthur E. Katz.

On Friday, April 23, Arthur was inducted into the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Wall of Gallantry for his service to our Nation.

In 1963, Arthur graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, where soon afterward, he headed to Vietnam.

He served as commanding officer of USCGC *Point Cypress* from December 1965 to September 1966.

For his leadership and bravery during this tour of duty, Arthur was awarded a Bronze Star Medal for Valor.

Following his service in the Coast Guard, he went on to establish a successful business in Dunwoody, GA.

Arthur currently resides in Sandy Springs, a place he has come to love and call home. He is a devoted and loving husband of 46 years, father of three daughters and grandfather of seven.

As a well-respected member of the community, Arthur has been involved in numerous roles, such as the past president of the Temple Emanu-El synagogue in Sandy Springs and as a board member of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta.

His commitment to community service and volunteerism has been tremendously valuable, and I am sure he has touched many lives over the years.

Arthur Katz is a true champion of patriotism and it is only fitting that he be honored and featured at the Wall of Gallantry at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.●

RECOGNIZING PITNEY BOWES COMPANY

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the Pitney Bowes Company on the occasion of its 90th birthday. Headquartered in Stamford, Pitney Bowes has proven time and again that it is a true Connecticut institution, leading the way in innovation and facilitating progress in the mailing industry.

But at least as important as its financial success, is the kind of company that it is. The company is a notably progressive employer, capturing repeated honors for its commitment to diversity. It is regularly cited as among the best places to work for women, African Americans, and Hispanics. It does this because it is right but also because they know it makes smart business sense.

Pitney Bowes is also a corporate leader in health care. It is truly in the forefront of efforts to improve their employee and retiree health while at the same time reducing costs. The examples are numerous. The company learned that forcing people to make large copayments for the medications they need to manage chronic conditions often led employees to skip taking their medicine. This resulted in more trips to the doctor and hospital, higher costs, and more absenteeism. So the company reduced or eliminated employee copayments for these medications. It cost more in the short run, but a lot less in the long run, and the affected employees enjoy greater health and productivity.

The company put healthy food in its cafeterias and charges less for it. There are still lots of choices, some not so healthy, but you have to look harder for the less healthy foods, and you have to pay more. And either way, there are on-site gyms in many facilities.

The company also established on-site clinics to make it easier for employees and retirees to obtain medical care. Indeed, Pitney Bowes went so far as to arrange for specialist doctors, used by many of their employees, to hold office hours on-site. These efforts have been

recognized by the Obama administration, and Murray Martin, the chairman and CEO, met with the President last year to discuss the company's programs.

Finally, the company also has a profound commitment to community service, providing funding for education and literacy organizations, and encouraging employees to volunteer their time to a wide variety of causes. This is just another way in which Pitney Bowes has benefited our State.

At a time when many American companies have failed, and others have become deeply troubled, it is with pleasure that I am able to recognize a cutting-edge company with good old fashioned values. Congratulations, Pitney Bowes, on your 90th birthday.●

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize one of my State's great companies on the occasion of its 90th birthday. On April 23, 1920, Arthur Pitney and Walter Bowes officially formed the Pitney Bowes Company with its headquarters in Stamford, CT. Today the company is still headquartered in Stamford, and employs 33,000 individuals worldwide.

In 1912, Arthur Pitney introduced the postage meter in the United States. This device, which is used to create and apply physical evidence of postage to pieces of mail, has allowed postal officials and offices throughout the United States to process mail more efficiently. In 1920, he partnered with Walter Bowes, a successful entrepreneur, to form the Pitney Bowes Postage Meter Company. In order for the postage meter to be sold in the U.S., Congress had to act to permit the meter indicia to be recognized as postage.

Since its founding, Pitney Bowes has been at the forefront of technological innovation. It has added vastly to the intellectual capital of this country and currently manages an active patent portfolio of more than 3,000 inventions. Quite simply, it is a company that has been the source of many, many good ideas. Many of its scientists are based in its R&D facility in Shelton, CT. In addition, the company actually had one of the first "e-commerce" applications, with its meters able to download postage electronically since 1979.

Pitney Bowes continues to innovate and grow. Last year its R&D investment was \$182 million. It recently launched its newest mailing system. It also has become one of the world's largest software companies, helping its customers more accurately address their mail, deliver smarter marketing, provide more efficient government services, or locate their stores in the most promising location. The company also is a leader in the field of document management, helping government agencies, large companies and law firms manage their critical documents.

For more than 20 years, Pitney Bowes Financial Services International, a wholly-owned subsidiary, has been providing high-quality financial services for Pitney Bowes cus-

tomers throughout the international marketplace. For example, Pitney Bowes finances the purchase of postage in its meters for over 1 million customers.

Pitney Bowes has operated globally for decades, and currently generates almost 30 percent of its revenue outside of the United States. At its manufacturing facility in Danbury, the company assembles large-scale mailing machines for export to many countries. I have had the privilege of touring the facility and have enjoyed seeing the flags of the destination countries hung over the machines they will be receiving.

Pitney Bowes has a large and diverse customer base with 2 million customers worldwide, many of which are small businesses. It has been listed on the New York Stock Exchange since 1950, has been a component of the S&P 500 Stock Index continually since 1957, and first joined the Fortune 500 in 1962.

Over the years, I know that Pitney Bowes has also been a good partner to the Postal Service and cares passionately about maintaining a mail service that not only survives but thrives. Pitney Bowes took the lead in creating the Mailing Industry CEO Council, which for the last several years has been at the forefront of educating policymakers about the mailing industry. There was a time when many of us in Congress failed to appreciate the extent of the importance and impact of the mailing industry. But thanks to their efforts, we know that it is a big trillion dollar industry employing more than 8 million workers. The company and the CEO Council played important roles in helping us enact postal reform legislation after a decade of effort. The company's chairman and CEO, Murray Martin, continues to regularly visit us in Washington to share his insights on how Congress can help the Postal Service adjust in a rapidly changing world.

On behalf of the people of Connecticut and the rest of the Nation, I would like to honor Pitney Bowes on the occasion of its 90th birthday. I am certain that the company and its employees will continue to pioneer new technologies and services that will contribute to economic growth in the U.S. and abroad.●

TRIBUTE TO JORDAN SOMER

● Mr. JOHANNIS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize an outstanding young Nebraskan for her spirit of community service and for her dedication to making a difference in the lives of others.

Jordan Somer is currently a junior at Central High School in Omaha, NE. At Central High School, she is a member of the school's dance team and is involved in student clubs.

Jordan's vision was to create a pageant for girls and women with disabilities. In 2007, she founded the Miss Amazing Pageant. Now in its fourth