Power of Philanthropy

Introduction of the Batten Honors College, formation of academic schools honors visionary leadership of College’s founders and funders
Welcome to a special edition of Virginia Wesleyan’s Marlin Magazine!

We have so much going on at the College that we didn’t want to wait until the magazine’s spring edition to share it all with you. So enjoy the updates, photos, and features in this exciting special edition. We’ve included our annual report on financial support received by our many alumni and friends from around the country. We thank you!

After a busy summer of camps and conferences, we opened our fall term with my State of the College Address on August 23 and our first-ever Founders Day on September 8. With construction proceeding impressively on the new Greer Environmental Sciences Center and final touches being made on the Campus Master Plan, we have much facilities news to share.

We are also especially proud to announce the launching of the new Batten Honors College (named for Jane and her late husband, Frank Batten, Sr.), and the structuring of our academic programs into three named schools: The Susan S. Goode School of Arts and Humanities; The Joan P. Brock School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences; and The Birdsong School of Social Science. Read all about how these academic components will enhance and enrich an already strong, vigorous curriculum at Virginia Wesleyan.

In the meantime, I’ve been reaching out to Hampton Roads leaders in business, education, public service, the non-profit community, and the media. All have been extremely positive about our growth agenda for the College; these influential leaders respect our vision, support our goals, and admire our progress. They share our pride in the College, and we know you do, as well.

We have much yet to do, including increasing enrollment, private gift support, and engagement and giving participation by our more than 9,000 alumni. With your active leadership, I know we will continue to prosper as Coastal Virginia’s premier private, national liberal arts college.

Enjoy this special edition of our magazine, visit us often in person or online at www.vwc.edu, and don’t forget to make your financial commitment to The Excellence Fund or any of the funding priorities of VWC.

Last but not least, as always, it’s a great day to be a Marlin!

Sincerely,

Scott D. Miller, Ph.D.
President of the College
Virginia Wesleyan Celebrates Inaugural Founders Day

Virginia Wesleyan celebrated 55 years since its chartering with its first-ever Founders Day on September 8. The newly established tradition gave students, faculty and staff, and special friends an opportunity to honor the College’s founding and recognize important individuals in VWC history.

One such individual is Trustee Emeritus George Birdsong H’16, who served as keynote speaker during the Founders Day Convocation held in the Jane P. Batten Student Center. Mr. Birdsong and his wife, Sue, trace their connections with the College back to the groundbreaking for Bray Village (Village I) on July 18, 1965.

Honorary doctoral degrees were presented to Gary D. Bonnewell ’79 H’16, the first VWC graduate to serve as Board Chair, and Dr. Stephen S. Mansfield, College Archivist and former Dean of the College. VWC’s 2016 Alumni Awards recipients were also recognized.

Read more about the day’s celebrations at www.vwc.edu/foundersday.

Greer Environmental Sciences Center Moves Indoors

Not even Hurricane Matthew could slow down construction of the new Greer Environmental Sciences Center, which remains on schedule for a summer 2017 opening.

As of the end of October, the state-of-the-art facility is entirely enclosed from the elements and stands at 60 percent complete. Work over the winter months will focus on the interior finishes and infrastructure in the science labs.

A highlight of the center’s finishes will be its 

**sinker cypress**, which is featured on the exterior of the classroom portion of the building and prominent locations inside. Using 

**sinker** wood is considered a sustainable practice as it preserves many living trees—it is also prized for its beauty and will enhance the design of the new building.

The original campus greenhouse has been relocated to make way for installation of a new two-zoned (tropical and arid climate) greenhouse. The greenhouse plants and the extensive gardens located around the Greer Environmental Sciences Center will be installed near the end of construction but prior to the summer season.

Plans are also moving ahead for a new circle and parking that will connect the Village IV parking lot to Smith Drive. An anonymous gift of $371,150 makes this new roadway and 70 additional parking spaces possible. It will provide improved traffic flow, smoother drop-offs for the forthcoming YMCA Partnership Facility, and additional parking for faculty and staff.

Visit [www.vwc.edu/GESC](http://www.vwc.edu/GESC) to see construction progress documented during the latest drone fly-through.
TOP. Virginia Wesleyan’s new academic structure honors longtime supporters of the College, each of whom has served in various capacities on the Board of Trustees. Pictured (front row, from left) Susan Goode, Jane Batten H’06, Joan Brock H’10; (back row) George Birdsong H’16 and Sue Birdsong. BOTTOM. President Scott D. Miller (center) with newly appointed academic leaders (from left) Dr. Timothy O’Rourke, Dr. J. Christopher Haley, Dr. Maynard Schaus, Dr. Travis Malone, Dr. Robert Albertson, and Dr. Joyce Easter.
Power of Philanthropy

President Miller began his tenure as VWC’s fourth president on July 1, 2015, and has quickly made a number of transformative changes. Enhancement of the College’s academic structure comes as a result of Dr. Miller’s efforts to chart a vigorous course for expansion and collaboration, in addition to the direction set forth for the institution by its strategic plan, VWC 2020: Pathway to Prominence.

“We’re not afraid to move ahead boldly,” Dr. Miller says. “We consistently find ourselves breaking new ground—for exciting programs and partnerships, co-curricular initiatives, scholarships and professorships, and high-tech facilities for the new century. Our goal is not only to be the premier liberal arts college of Coastal Virginia, but also one that is known and respected throughout the nation for inspiring excellence and achievement.”

A series of administrative appointments accompany the College’s new academic changes. Dr. Timothy O’Rourke has been named Provost and Vice President; Dr. Maynard Schaus has become Associate Provost; Dr. Joyce Easter is the first Dean of The Batten Honors College; Dr. Travis Malone is the Dean of The Susan S. Goode School of Arts and Humanities; Dr. J. Christopher Haley is serving as Kenneth R. Perry Dean of The Joan P. Brock School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences; and Dr. Robert Albertson is the first Dean of The Birdsong School of Social Science.

The new academic structure went into effect at the start of the fall semester on August 29.
At President Miller’s State of the College Address in August, he announced plans for Phase I of the new Susan S. Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center. The project, which will be located in front of the existing Fine Arts Building, is named in honor of Board of Trustee member Susan S. Goode in recognition of a lead gift of $5 million to the project made by the Goode family.

The Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center will contribute to a welcoming presence near the entrance to campus, forming a new “front door” for the College. Upon entering campus, visitors will see athletic venues to the left and the fine and performing arts center to the right. The new facility is a prominent part of the Campus Master Plan currently under development.

Phase I includes construction of a new theater building that totals 28,200 square feet. The facility will provide a grand lobby, a theater with 300-350 seats, a raised stage and full-fly, and theater support spaces.

Renovation of the existing Fine Arts Building is also planned as part of Phase I.

Dr. Miller recently announced a new commitment from Trustee Emeritus Joan P. Brock H’10 and her husband, Macon, of $5 million toward the project. This leadership gift brings total commitments to $12.7 million.

Fundraising is ongoing for the initiative, and construction on Phase I will begin once cash on hand reaches $14 million.

Fundraising Continues for the Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center

Concurrent with the College’s strategic plan and Campus Master Plan, a $60 million capital campaign is helping to meet a number of important funding priorities. Scheduled to run until the year 2020, the campaign addresses these areas of opportunity. To learn how you can provide early leadership support for the campaign, please visit www.vwc.edu.

VWC 2020: Pathway to Prominence

VWC 2020: Pathway to Prominence $60,000,000

**Capital Improvements** $42,500,000
Greer Environmental Sciences Center
Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center
YMCA Partnership Facility
Residence Hall/Apartment Complex
Athletic Facilities

**Endowment** $10,000,000
Scholarships
Professorships
Facility Upkeep

**The Excellence Fund** $7,500,000
Baseball Field Named in Honor of Kenneth R. Perry

Virginia Wesleyan’s baseball field is receiving significant enhancements this semester thanks to the generosity of longtime VWC benefactors Joan H’10 and Macon Brock. The College will recognize Joan’s father and former Board member, Kenneth R. Perry, by naming the field in his memory.

“Joan and Macon Brock have been instrumental to the progress of Virginia Wesleyan throughout our history,” says President Miller. “We are appreciative of this support and it is fitting and proper that we honor Mr. Perry in this way.”

A contribution from the Brocks of $500,000 makes possible a new 370-seat grandstand; a climate-controlled press box with scorer’s table; renovation of the existing dugouts, including new benches, helmet and bat racks, and protective netting; a VWC-branded home-plate halo; relocation of the bull pens; four-foot black vinyl fencing with spectator-friendly sightlines; practice screen replacement; new pole and net backstop; and surrounding landscaping. Earlier, the Brocks’ generosity provided a new irrigation system as well as grading and re-sodding of the field.

Upgrades to Perry Field will be completed by the season’s start in February 2017. A formal dedication ceremony is forthcoming.

Oxford Village to Add Housing, Honor Wesley

In August 2016, President Scott Miller announced plans for the construction of a new housing facility on the 12.8-acre College-owned property across Wesleyan Drive from the main entrance to campus.

Though still in the planning stages, the development is to be an upscale, gated apartment community with approximately eight buildings and 260 units containing 450 beds. It will be named in honor of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism and namesake of Virginia Wesleyan College, who attended and was laid to rest at Christ Church in Oxford, England.

The facility will be designed to house faculty, staff and various student populations—most likely upper-level, graduate or international students—from Virginia Wesleyan or even other nearby organizations.

Planned amenities include a recreation area with a swimming pool, fitness center and bowling alley. The Franklin-Johnston Group of Virginia Beach has been selected as the College’s development partner for the project.
Virginia Wesleyan College completed the fiscal year on June 30, 2016, with revenues and transfers totaling $60,338,456, expenses of $60,309,772, and a net excess of revenues over expenses of $28,684. Contributed gifts and pledges for 2015-2016 totaled $6,584,826. Annual Fund gifts of $1,132,846 totaled 17 percent of all gifts and pledges. It continues to be a critical source of funds to meet operating needs and to fund annual scholarships, undergraduate research, study-away experiences and faculty development programs.

Virginia Wesleyan College’s endowment value is affected by several factors each year, including investment returns, new contributions, and the annual payout for College programs, scholarships and professorships. The endowment generated an investment return of -2.2 percent for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2016. It was valued at $52,577,000, decreasing from a market value of $57,361,000 on June 30, 2015. In 2016, distributions from the endowment contributed 7.6 percent of the operating budget of the College.
Operating Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2016

Revenues and Transfers
- Student Fees: $44,864,164
- Auxiliary Enterprises: $8,689,335
- Gifts, Grants and Transfers: $3,412,506
- Endowment Income: $2,870,415
- Interest Income: $51,958
- Other: $450,078
Total Revenues: $60,338,456

Expenditures
- Instruction: $13,585,238
- Student Aid: $22,668,662
- Institutional Support: $6,322,506
- Student Services: $6,584,283
- Auxiliary Enterprises: $4,507,092
- Long-term Debt: $2,467,731
- Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant: $2,712,774
- Academic Support: $1,461,486
Total Expenditures: $60,309,772

Net excess of Revenues Over Expenditures: $28,684

Summary of Contributions (Gifts and Pledges)
- Annual Fund: $1,132,846
- Other Operating: $2,701,574
- Capital: $2,037,182
- Endowment: $713,224
Total Contributions: $6,584,826
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Bryan and Laura Russo
Frank and Astrid Schiller
Jeff and Laurie Stredler
Funding Excellence at Virginia Wesleyan College

Annual giving is the cornerstone of philanthropy at VWC. Along with tuition revenue and other income sources, yearly giving by alumni and friends provides the vital revenue stream that supports a variety of funding priorities—benefiting students, faculty, and the campus community as a whole. When you give to The Excellence Fund, here’s what your gift can support:

**ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS**
Nearly 100 percent of Virginia Wesleyan College students require some financial assistance to pursue higher education. Merit and need-based scholarships help to bridge this gap and ensure access to an excellent education regardless of economic circumstances.

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**
High-impact academic experiences like undergraduate research, study-away, and internships play a critical role in securing successful futures for Virginia Wesleyan students.

**STUDENT LIFE**
Student life on campus includes community service projects, intramural sports, and other activities to help a diverse student body discover how rich the college experience can be.

**LIBRARY AND TECHNOLOGY**
According to a 2016 article published in TIME magazine, 65% of children entering kindergarten today will end up working in jobs that don’t even exist yet. Keeping classroom technology, electronic resources, and library volumes current is key to preparing our students for success in a rapidly changing world.

**ATHLETICS**
To maintain a competitive athletics program, teams rely on safe travel to games, tournaments, and conferences; protective gear and stable equipment; warm-up and competition uniforms; and the recruitment and retention of top-notch coaches and student-athletes.

Contribute to meaningful futures. Support the Excellence Fund. Use the envelope provided in this publication, visit www.vwc.edu/giveonline, call the Office of Annual Giving at 757.455.3115 or email excellencefund@vwc.edu