

For further information contact:

Ms. Jenni Booker
Director of Programs & Communications
Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges
8010 Ridge Road, Suite B, Richmond, Virginia 23229
Phone: (804) 288-6609 Fax: (804) 282-4635
E-mail: jenni.booker@vfic.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 13, 2009

**VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES
DISTRIBUTES \$3.39 MILLION FOR VIRGINIA COLLEGES
AND ELECTS ELEVEN NEW TRUSTEES**

RICHMOND, VA – The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges (VFIC) announced a year-end fundraising total of more than \$3.39 million at its recent Annual Meeting. More than \$3.2 million was directly distributed to its 15 member colleges.

G. S. “Sandy” Fitz-Hugh, Jr., *Senior Advisor* at Kaufman & Canoles Consulting chaired the meeting. **James E. Bundschuh**, *President* of Marymount University was elected Vice Chairman of the Board. In addition, eleven new VFIC business trustees were elected: **J. Edward Betts, Esq.**, Managing Partner, Christian & Barton LLP, **John R. Clark III**, President, Steuart Investment Company, **Robert J. Fitch**, Sr. VP of Government Relations, BAE Systems, **Gary M. Gore**, Richmond Market President, Bank of America, **Christopher B. Howard**, President, Hampden-Sydney College, **Jo Ellen J. Parker**, President, Sweet Briar College, **Robert D. Seabolt, Jr.**, Administrative Partner, Troutman Sanders, **Joseph R. Thomas**, Regional Vice President, GEICO, **Gary R. Thomson**, Partner in Charge, Goodman & Company LLP., **James C. Wheat III**, President, Blandfield Associates LLP and **Richard F. Williamson**, Partner, Blank Rome.

Special recognition was given to Eugene M. Bane Charitable Trust, The Brink's Company, W. T. Chapin, Inc., Farmers Bank, Grand Home Furnishings, Owens & Minor, Inc., Richmond Dry Goods Co., Inc., StellarOne and Suttle Motor Corporation who were recognized as 50-year contributors to the VFIC. In addition, Goodman & Company and Harris IT Services Corporation were recognized as having a newly established Brighter Futures Named Scholarship. Finally, the Hiter Harris Family was recognized for the creation of the new Hiter H. Harris Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

During its history, the VFIC has raised more than \$128 million dollars on behalf of its member institutions. Since 1990, the VFIC has awarded 9,382 annual supplemental scholarships to deserving students across the Commonwealth.

The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges is a nonprofit, fundraising, and programmatic partnership of colleges and supporting corporations. VFIC's Board of Trustees consists of 55 business leaders from Virginia and elsewhere, as well as the 15 member institutions' college presidents. VFIC member institutions are: Bridgewater College, Emory & Henry College, Hampden-Sydney College, Hollins University, Lynchburg College, Mary Baldwin College, Marymount University, Randolph College, Randolph-Macon College, Roanoke College, Shenandoah University, Sweet Briar College, University of Richmond, Virginia Wesleyan College, and Washington and Lee University.

2009 VFIC BOARD LEADERSHIP, NEW TRUSTEES AND NEW COLLEGE PRESIDENTS



J. Edward Betts, Esq.
Managing Partner
Christian & Barton LLP



John R. Clark III
President
Steuart Investment Company



Robert J. Fitch
Sr. VP, Government Relations
BAE Systems, Inc.



Gary M. Gore
Richmond Market President
Bank of America



Christopher B. Howard
President
Hampden-Sydney College



Jo Ellen J. Parker
President
Sweet Briar College



Robert D. Seabolt, Jr., Esq.
Administrative Partner
Troutman Sanders, LLP



Joseph R. Thomas "Joe"
Regional Vice President
GEICO



Gary R. Thomson, CPA
Partner-in-Charge
Goodman & Company



James C. Wheat III
President
Blandfield Associates, LLC



Richard F. Williamson, Esq.
Partner
Blank Rome LLP

###