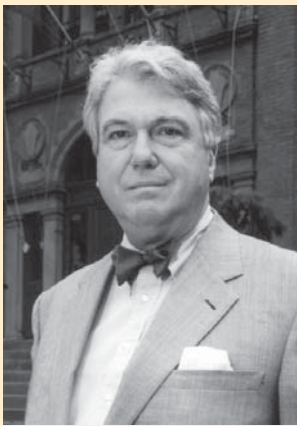


VFIC Update

VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES

VOLUME 5 · ISSUE 1



2007 Ethics Bowl Dinner
honors VFIC Trustee
J. Stewart Bryan III
of Media General Inc.
(see insert)

The mission of the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges is to advance the distinctive values and strengths of its 15 smaller, undergraduate residential Virginia member colleges. We do this by securing financial support from the private sector, increasing visibility, facilitating innovative and collaborative initiatives between the colleges, and supporting initiatives which ensure that this personalized educational experience remains an affordable choice for tomorrow's citizen-leaders.

Connecting Students with Employers

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER IS FOCUS OF NEW VFIC INITIATIVE

In a strategic decision, the VFIC Board of Trustees has approved a major new initiative for the organization, authorizing an additional staff member to coordinate a high-profile statewide program in career and workforce development. The initiative is aimed at effectively and efficiently connecting the HR/college recruiting staffs of Virginia's major employers with VFIC college students looking for internships and employment.



C. T. Hill

15 high quality liberal arts colleges have a talent pool that companies clearly like to tap, but many employers don't have enough staff to recruit at many of the smaller colleges. The VFIC is in a truly unique position to bridge this gap. We represent 20,000 students, so with centralized programs such as career fairs and interview days drawing in students from all of our colleges, we can provide an attractive and cost-effective means for corporate recruiters to connect with our students."

"This is a major move for the VFIC, and a win-win for employers, the colleges and the students," said VFIC Chairman C.T. Hill, Chairman, President and CEO of SunTrust Bank, Mid-Atlantic. "The VFIC's

The search is underway for a person to serve as Director of the *VFIC Center for Career and Workforce Development*, set to open June 1. According to Hill, the Director "will be responsible for getting to know the college recruiters and HR programs at Virginia's major employers, and then work with career services officers from the 15 colleges to develop and implement centralized programs to facilitate these recruiters meeting with students as prospective interns and employees."

Hill noted that "VFIC Trustee Mike Fraizer, Chairman, President and CEO of Genworth Financial, deserves the credit for this exciting initiative. Mike spearheaded the committee which developed this concept, tested it, and presented the final recommendation to the Board." Also important to the process, Mr. Hill



Mike Fraizer

noted, were "a strong team of consultants, Dave Hilborn and Tayloe Negus of Mercer Human Resources, who provided vital analysis and professional guidance" on the plan.



Dr. Daniel J. LaVista, Executive Director of SCHEV, speaker at the Hampton Roads Regional Meeting and luncheon host VFIC Trustee, Wick Moorman, Chairman, President & CEO of Norfolk Southern Corporation

VFIC TRUSTEES AND FRIENDS GATHER IN NORFOLK

Dr. Dan LaVista, Executive Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, was the keynote speaker for this year's Hampton Roads Donor Appreciation Luncheon held on March 29 at the national headquarters of Norfolk Southern Corporation. Dr. LaVista spoke on the major issues and trends influencing Virginia higher education in general and the private colleges and universities in particular.

The host for the special event was Charles W. "Wick" Moorman, Chairman, President and CEO of Norfolk Southern Corporation, and a VFIC Trustee. Among the guests were VFIC donors and friends from Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News and Portsmouth. Special guests

included Billy Greer of Virginia Wesleyan and Walter Bortz of Hampden-Sydney, and Trustees Alan Witt of Witt Mares, Vince Mastracco of Kaufman & Canoles and Tommy Johnson of Willcox & Savage.

Ned Moore, President of the VFIC, provided an update on recent activities of the VFIC, including the Ethics Bowl, efforts to expand undergraduate research opportunities, recent special grants, and the dramatic increase in scholarship support from donors. Among those cited as generous scholarship donors from the Hampton Roads area were Dollar Tree Stores Inc., Norfolk Southern Foundation, Witt Mares, and the Beazley Foundation.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBER COLLEGES

Emory & Henry College has announced plans to renovate two of its historic buildings: Wiley Hall, the main administrative building; and Byars Hall, which houses the visual and performing arts.

Two new academic programs have been implemented at Hampden-Sydney College: a minor in Environmental Studies, and a Center for the Study of Political Economy.

A new offering, a Certificate in Leadership Studies, will help Hollins University become a leader in the study of women and leadership.

Lynchburg College recently completed a \$4.25 million renovation of its primary athletic field, Shellenberger Field.

Mary Baldwin College has adopted "Learning for Civic Engagement in a Global Context" as the theme of the quality enhancement plan developed for the College's reaccreditation.

Marymount University's new Information Security Lab is now being used in courses in information systems and computer science. The lab, which includes virtualization software, is at the forefront in information security education.

Students and faculty at Randolph-Macon College are now able to obtain high-resolution 3-D images of living cells, thanks to the recent installation of a new confocal microscope purchased with a grant from the National Science Foundation.



Dr. Philip C. Stone, President of Bridgewater College, named Chair of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) which oversees all college accreditation processes in the Southeast.

On July 1, 2007 the name of Randolph-Macon Woman's College will be changed to Randolph College, reflecting the institution's decision to admit men starting with the incoming Fall 2007 freshman class, and to focus on becoming a global honors college.

Roanoke College received a major three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to implement faculty development initiatives.

In May, eight Sweet Briar College students will be in Guatemala to apply their engi-

neering coursework to implement a project they designed to bring clean running water to a rural middle school.

Shenandoah University recently earned initial accreditation from The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, which is the largest global accrediting body for business schools that offer degrees in business and accounting.

The National Science Foundation awarded the University of Richmond's math department a \$1.49 million grant to develop a program to recruit students to math early in their college careers and mentor them until they are prepared for graduate study.

When constructed, the LEED-certified platinum green laboratory science building being planned at Virginia Wesleyan College would be the only one at a liberal arts college in the world.

Dr. William Connelly, professor of political science at Washington and Lee University, was selected for a 2007 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

Two VFIC college presidents have announced plans to step down. Jim Davis will be retiring June 30, 2008 after 26 years at Shenandoah University. Sabine O'Hara will be leaving Roanoke College by June 30, 2007 after three years at the helm.

RECENT SPECIAL GIFTS AND GRANTS

With gratitude to the donors, the VFIC is pleased to recognize these recent major gifts which have been provided to strengthen the academic programs of our 15 Member Colleges and to support the outstanding young men and women seeking their undergraduate degrees at these liberal-arts institutions:

VERIZON FOUNDATION

The VFIC and the Verizon Foundation have partnered on a new three-year funding program to help member institutions provide incoming freshmen from under-represented populations with instruction and assistance in developing the computer skills needed to succeed in their academic careers. In a competitive grant application process, proposals from Emory & Henry, Hampden-Sydney, Marymount, Shenandoah, and Washington and Lee were selected for funding in 2007. Each will receive a \$22,500 grant to be invested in personalized computer literacy instruction for target students. The remaining 10 VFIC member colleges will be able to apply for grants over the next two years.

BEAZLEY FOUNDATION

The Trustees of the Portsmouth-based Beazley Foundation recently approved a VFIC proposal to provide \$125,000 a year for five years to continue the high-impact Beazley Scholars Program which has been in place for 20 years. Over 3,000 deserving VFIC college students from Portsmouth and the surrounding area have already benefited from Beazley Scholarships offered through the VFIC.

PHILIP MORRIS USA

Philip Morris USA has awarded the VFIC a grant of \$150,000 to support two different programs. \$100,000 was designated to continue the VFIC/Philip Morris USA Scholarship Program for minority and lower-income students at our VFIC colleges; and \$50,000 was designated as seed money to implement the VFIC's newest initiative, the Center for Career and Workforce Development.

THE CLAUDE MOORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Trustees of the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation recently approved a grant of \$80,000 distributed over two years to support the VFIC's Undergraduate Research Program, in which students spend the summer on their home campus working with a faculty mentor on significant scientific research. This experience enhances a student's current academic experience, and provides a leg up on admission to graduate school and on careers in the sciences.

FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT HIGHER EDUCATION

The Foundation for Independent Higher Education made a grant to make this summer's undergraduate research opportunities available to minority, first generation and lower-income students. This \$41,000 grant comes from the Foundation's First Opportunity Partners Venture Fund, dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for under-represented students at private colleges across the country.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT HIGHLIGHT

Ashley M. Graves

Junior

Student Body President-elect

Philip Morris USA/VFIC Scholar

Mary Baldwin College

Hometown: Richmond, Virginia

Major: Business Administration,

emphasis in Marketing/Management

"The VFIC/Philip Morris USA Scholarship has not only helped me financially and decreased my reliance on student loans, but it has opened a gateway to future internships and employment. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to pursue my education at Mary Baldwin College."



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A. Lea Booth
Walter Craigie
Thomas J. Lennon
T. Justin Moore
The Nunnally Family
John D. Munford
E. Claiborne Robins
VFIC 50th Anniversary

REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Greater Richmond
Hampton Roads
Greater Lynchburg
Northern Virginia
Roanoke/Southwest Virginia
Virginia Scholars Fund

**new for 2007*

Online Donation



To donate online,
visit our web site:
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and click on
the image you see above.

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JENNI BOOKER
Director of Programs
and Communications

MARILYN HEADLEY
Data and Web Manager

EMILY ZEHLER
Program Assistant/Office Manager

VFIC FISCAL YEAR ENDS MAY 31ST! SUPPORT THE ANNUAL FUND

For more than 50 years, the VFIC has built partnerships that strengthen private higher education. By supporting the 2007 VFIC Annual Fund, you can help ensure that the VFIC is there for the next generation, providing a quality liberal arts education and enhancing the collective spirit and impact of our 15 member institutions.

The VFIC has set an Annual Fund goal of \$3.3 Million for the current fiscal year which runs through May 31.

Your annual gift allows each of the VFIC institutions to meet high priority objectives on their campuses including:

- New or enhanced academic programs;
- Scholarships for deserving students;
- Development opportunities for faculty;
- Upgraded classroom technologies and expansion of library resources and;
- Campus facility preservation and enhancement.

We hope you will consider making a generous investment in the mission of the VFIC member institutions and the lives of our students and faculty.



*Gifts to the VFIC Annual Campaign
support our colleges in providing a
high-quality, personalized education*



VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES
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*Securing Brighter Futures
Since 1952*

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