

School news: Buildings, programs, leaders and more

College campuses are ringing with the sounds of construction as schools start and complete expansion and renovation projects. Colleges also continue to launch new programs and work toward their mission goals. Here is a roundup of recent activities.

BRICKS & MORTAR

Several improvements are happening simultaneously at Eastern Mennonite University. Phase II of the University Commons is a \$2.4 million project to benefit fine arts programs. It includes a mainstage theater, studio theater, expanded coffeehouse with stage area and media lab. The school is also renovating the Elmwood residence hall.

Plans at Ferrum College call for a new athletic center to be named for retired coach Hank Norton. The \$5.5 million dollar facility will serve the men's and women's outdoor athletic teams and offer training facilities, a weight room and classrooms.

Marymount University will note its 60th anniversary with the ribbon-cutting for the 26th Street project, which includes Caruthers Hall, an academic building for sciences and health sciences, and a residence building, Rose Benté Lee Ostapenko Hall.

An addition to the Saint Paul's College campus is a newly constructed pedestrian bridge connecting the main campus to the John E. Thomasson Student Center. The bridge enhances student safety.

At Liberty University, the football team will play in the newly renovated Williams Stadium. The \$16 million expansion added 6,600 seats and a Jeffersonian-style five-story tower. The Lynchburg school just completed the Tower Theater at Campus North. The \$6 million project is a contemporary-style 600-seat theater consisting of balcony seating, orchestra pit and support area.

Emory & Henry College held the opening of a \$5.5 million Elm Hall, the first of three residence halls set for construction. Other projects include a \$7 million addition to Byars Hall, the College's Division of Visual and Performing Arts; a \$3 million renovation of Wiley Hall, the main administration building; and a \$1.5 million

upgrade to the Fred Selfe Athletic Stadium.

American University recently opened a new eco-friendly building for the School of International Service. Designed by renowned "green" architect William McDonough, the building is an environment-friendly structure.

Virginia Commonwealth University begins construction this fall on the West Grace Street student housing building that will include a parking deck and space for retail outlets. The student housing on the south side of Grace Street between Shafer and Laurel streets will provide 459 beds.

William & Mary's School of Education just dedicated its new, state-of-the-art building in late September. The \$48-million project includes a Literacy for Life center that will allow the school to hold

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training activities for more than 20,000 educators per year in one location.

At Radford University, a 2009 renovation of Young Hall established one of the most technologically advanced academic buildings in the U.S. This past spring, RU began construction of a \$44 million signature building for the College of Business and Economics.

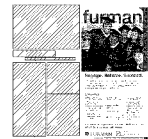
This summer, the University of Mary Washington started a \$20.4 million project to create a third campus. The Dahlgren campus near the Naval Support Facility in King George County will open in 2012. UMW's academic partners are George Mason, Old Dominion, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth and Virginia Tech—plus the Naval Postgraduate School and Germanna and Rappahannock community colleges.

PARTNERSHIPS

The College of William & Mary, the second oldest institution of higher education in the United States, and the oldest university in Scotland, the University of St. Andrews, are planning an undergraduate joint-degree program with enrollment starting in fall 2011. Students will complete two years at each institution and earn a Bachelor of Arts, International Honours.

Eastern Mennonite University has signed an agreement with Secure Futures, LLC, a solar energy developer, to install a solar photovoltaic array on the roof of EMU's main library. The system will have the capacity to generate 104.3 kilowatts of electricity, making it the largest solar project in Virginia

Virginia University of Lynchburg has entered into an



articulation agreement with Liberty University, which provides expanded options for VUL students, particularly those in the Associate of Arts and Science degree program. It encourages students to continue toward advanced degrees at Liberty.

Jefferson College of Health Sciences has moved into renovated spaces at Carilion Roanoke Community Hospital in downtown Roanoke. JCHS has partnered with the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine on an innovative program of interprofessional education for nurses, physicians and other health-care professionals.

OTHER PROGRAMS

“CoachLink,” a new program at Eastern Mennonite University, is aimed at helping students who are dealing with depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, attention deficit issues or other challenges. The program provides students with “life coaches” to guide, mentor and help them connect with campus services.

Marymount University has added the Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management, which combines knowledge of health-care systems, information technology and specialized information-management techniques.

Lynchburg College has launched its first doctorate program, a doctor of physical therapy, with an inaugural class of 52. LC is only the sixth school in Virginia to offer the degree.

Hollins University has added volleyball as an intercollegiate sport. The team is playing a provisional season in 2010-2011 and will become a competing member of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference next year.

Radford University just enrolled the inaugural class in a Doctorate of Nursing Practice program, the first of its kind in Virginia to be offered in an online distance-learning format. It will be offered to both post-baccalaureate and post-master's degree nursing students.

At Sweet Briar College, some students and faculty members are experimenting with new Apple iPads as part of a program funded by a Mellon Foundation grant. Both groups will share what they learn as part of a strategic effort to ensure that Sweet Briar is providing a digitally sophisticated education to all students.

American University now offers an undergraduate Certificate in Applied Ethics and Professional Responsibility. The program provides business students with a foundation for building their own ethical positions.

At Catholic University, new programs this fall include a Master of Science in Business Administration, Master of Science in Nuclear Environmental Protection, Master of Science in Materials Science, Master of Science in Biotechnology, and certificate, bachelor's and master's programs in Health Information Technology.

At Randolph College, the Randolph Innovative Student Experience (RISE) awards

give every student at Randolph the chance to receive a \$2,000 grant during their junior or senior year for research, scholarly or creative pursuits.

Beginning this fall, University of Mary Washington students can choose to major in the newly added Women's and Gender Studies.

Longwood University's new MBA Advantage Program allows students majoring in arts and sciences disciplines to earn a bachelor's degree and an MBA in about five years. Students are eligible to enter the program in their junior year.

King College in Bristol, Tenn., now offers a Performing & Visual Arts degree program in photography. The program will not only teach students the fine art of photography, but will also combine elements of digital media, videography and web design.

LEADERSHIP

At Virginia Union University, President Claude G. Perkins was formally inaugurated at a September ceremony. He has been on the job for 20 months.

The Board of Trustees of Virginia Intermont College this summer elected Dr. E. Clorisa Phillips as president of the college. She is the 17th president in Virginia Intermont's 126-year history and the first woman to hold the position.

This summer, Richard V. Hurley became the ninth president of the University of Mary Washington, where he served as executive vice president and chief financial officer and as acting president twice.

At Longwood University this summer, Brig. Gen. Patrick Finnegan became the 25th president. At the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he served as Dean of the Academic Board since 2005.

The new president at Jefferson College of Health Sciences is Dr. Nathaniel L. Bishop. The school's third president, Bishop moves to JCHS from its parent company, Carilion Clinic.

The Catholic University of America will inaugurate John H. Garvey as its 15th president Nov. 18 in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Garvey is a legal scholar specializing in first amendment rights and church-state relations. ■



The Intercollegiate Dressage Association team at Virginia Intermont College, known as the Lady Cobras, won its third national championship since 2006. Virginia Intermont equestrian teams have won a total of 14 national championships in various disciplines since 2000. Team members shown are Chelsea Dressler (from left), Claire Almon, Gigi Good and Elizabeth Mirson.



The ribbon-cutting for the new 26th Street Project at Marymount University will note the school's 60th anniversary.



The University of Mary Washington just moved 625 students into the new Eagle Landing apartment complex, connected to the campus by a covered, pedestrian bridge over busy U.S. 1 in Fredericksburg. The new 156-unit student apartment complex, and the adjacent building featuring restaurants, offices and a multilevel parking garage, signaled completion of the \$115 million first phase of the Village, a 23-acre mixed-use development.