

VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Annual Report
2014-2015





PASSING THE TORCH: The Board of Trustees selected Dr. Scott D. Miller (left) as the fourth president of Virginia Wesleyan College in February 2015. His appointment was the culmination of a national search that began after President William T. “Billy” Greer (right) announced his plans for a June 2015 retirement. The two presidents had a chance to meet on campus in the spring.

A Message From the Board Chair



Dear Virginia Wesleyan Community and Friends,

On behalf of the Virginia Wesleyan College Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to share with you the Virginia Wesleyan College Annual Report for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. As the first Virginia Wesleyan graduate to serve as Chair of the Board, it gives me a unique sense of pride to report on the College's accomplishments as we continue to pursue our mission of offering a rigorous liberal arts education that prepares each student for a meaningful life and career.

As you may know, this has been a time of great transition for Virginia Wesleyan. We celebrated President William T. Greer's 23 years of service and wished him well in retirement. We welcomed Dr. Scott D. Miller as the College's fourth president. We completed several key construction and renovation projects that will have lasting effects on the quality of the student experience at Virginia Wesleyan. We also saw significant financial gains and fundraising accomplishments. Some key points for 2014-2015 are noted below.

- Announcement of the Greer Environmental Sciences Center
- Groundbreaking and construction of Birdsong Field
- Continued modernization of Blocker Hall
- Gifts and pledges totaling \$27,868,836
- Total financial assets of \$148,792,027

In addition, Virginia Wesleyan College celebrated a variety of new and noteworthy institutional accomplishments. Among these were the establishment of the Peace Corps Prep Program and the American Culture and Tourism Management Internship Program. Michael Moran '15 became the first student to graduate as part of the College's Pre-Engineering Program offered in partnership with Old Dominion University. The VWC/ODU Weather Station was installed on campus and will remain in place for data collection for a period of three years. The Marlins Read community service program was recognized as a Model Partnership by Virginia Beach City Public Schools. Finally, the renovated Floyd E. Kellam, Jr. Social Science Lab celebrated its grand opening and is now in use for a variety of academic disciplines from criminal justice to business.

As always, we are thankful for the generosity of our alumni, parents, donors and friends. Your support is the key to our continued success and the successes of our graduates, my fellow Marlins who are making a difference in the community and the world each and every day. I invite you to join me in looking back with pride at 2014-2015 and looking forward to a strong and vibrant future for this special place that means so much to all of us. Go Marlins!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary D. Bonnewell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gary D. Bonnewell '79
Chair, Virginia Wesleyan College Board of Trustees



Greer Environmental Sciences Center: Coming Fall 2017

Virginia Wesleyan College announced in May 2015 plans to establish the Greer Environmental Sciences Center. Fully-funded by an anonymous donor, the new facility is scheduled for completion by fall 2017. It will honor retired Virginia Wesleyan president William T. “Billy” Greer for his long-standing advocacy for a thriving science program and commitment to environmental sustainability during his 23-year tenure at the College. Greer retired as president on June 30, 2015.

The design of this stunning facility’s sophisticated indoor and outdoor learning spaces embody “science on display” and will promote hands-on experiences, interactive learning and interdisciplinary research in

environmental science, marine biology and more. Its four teaching laboratories are organized around the Earth’s Spheres—atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere.

Dedicated research labs and an array of state-of-the-art scientific equipment will support student and faculty research and stimulate further collaborations with regional environmental organizations. Sustainable elements will be accessible to students for monitoring and research. Construction materials and plantings will demonstrate how a building can operate with efficiency and sensitivity to the natural world. The completed facility will complement nearly \$4 million in recent renovations to adjacent Blocker Hall.

Learn more at www.vwc.edu/GESC.

College Breaks Ground on Birdsong Field

The ceremonial first shovel hit the ground April 25, 2015 as Virginia Wesleyan College officially celebrated the planned addition of a \$2.9 million synthetic turf field at VWC’s Outdoor Athletic Complex. Scheduled for completion by fall 2015, “Birdsong Field” supports field hockey, men’s and women’s lacrosse and soccer, and intramural sports.

The field is named in honor of George and Sue Birdsong and Birdsong Corporation, who in January 2014 made a \$1 million challenge gift to be put toward its construction.

“The turf field will make a statement in terms of both function and form for Virginia Wesleyan,” said George Birdsong. “In addition to its many benefits for current and future athletes, it will be an attractive visual addition to campus that is part of our broader strategic goals for creating an inspiring sense of place.”

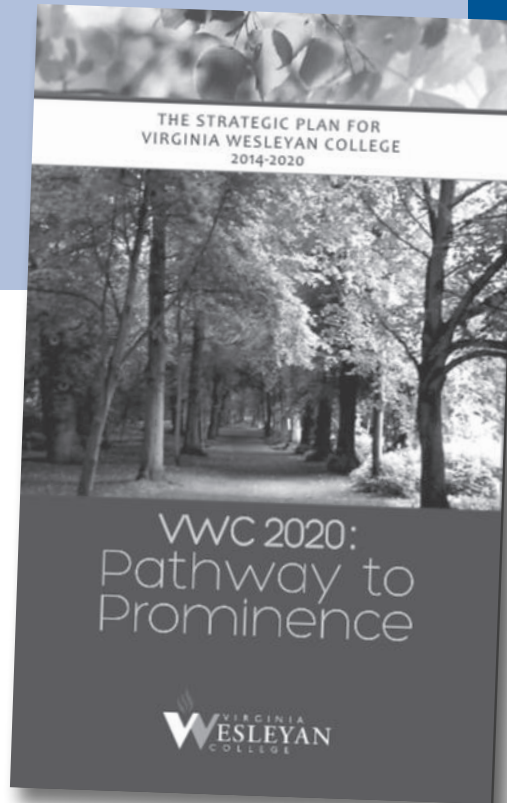


DIGGING IN: (From left) Virginia Wesleyan mascot Bob Marlin, VWC Board Chair Gary Bonnewell '79, Athletic Director Joanne Renn, George and Sue Birdsong, and VWC President Billy Greer at the groundbreaking for Birdsong Field.

Paphites Pavilion features a prominent entryway with ticketing, concessions and restrooms; an electronic scoreboard; field lighting; aluminum fencing and landscaping; a new parking lot; and surrounding green space for picnicking and tailgating. Potential for expansion exists for the future, with plans for a press box and permanent bleachers.

Implementing the Strategic Plan in Year One

Efforts to communicate the College's new strategic plan, *VWC 2020: Pathway to Prominence*, began immediately after the Virginia Wesleyan College Board of Trustees approved it in May 2014. In its first year, the freshly articulated vision, five strategic priorities and 20 key actions provided a catalyst for decision making, project initiatives and forward movement across campus. Here are some of the key strategic plan accomplishments from 2014-2015:



VISIBLE VISION: Marketing materials, including a tri-fold brochure (pictured), were created for easy reference and promotion of the new strategic plan.

- Identified the focus, brand and student outcomes for VWC's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), *See Change – Sea Change*, which will increase student opportunities for high impact educational practices such as internships, undergraduate research and study away.
- Supported faculty excellence through the addition of eight distinguished professors, each with the highest degrees in their fields; the "Talk About Teaching" faculty-led lecture series; and funding for Innovative Teaching and Engaged Learning (INTEL) faculty grants.
- Increased student engagement with the establishment of Commitment Days; financial support from scholarships; additional student support services; modification of the Student Success Plan; and creation of new student feedback processes.
- Expanded partnerships with organizations such as US-China Century Education Group to initiate the J-1 Visa program; collaboration with NATO-ACT; and formation of the Peace Corps Prep Program.
- Created an inspiring sense of place on campus by completing Phase III and IV of renovations to Blocker Hall; beginning construction on a synthetic turf field; garnering commitments of \$6.7 million toward the construction of an academic building for the arts; and announcing plans for the forthcoming Greer Environmental Sciences Center.

VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE 2014-2015 Profile

- 1,500** students
- 13** average class size
- 34** academic majors
- 70+** Clubs and Organizations
- 19** NCAA Division III athletic teams



RECOGNIZED as a GREEN COLLEGE and NAMED ONE OF THE NATION'S BEST INSTITUTIONS for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review



PARTNERSHIPS WITH KEY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS provide unique opportunities for students to broaden their studies

Going Global

HIGH NOTE: In between her studies of Spanish humanities at the University of Seville, Global Scholar Stephanie Harron '16 found time to visit beautiful cultural sites like Plaza de España in spring 2015.



From getting a first glimpse of the Arco de Trunfo in Barcelona to filling a water bottle at one of Rome's 2,500 public water fountains, the day-to-day moments of students studying abroad add up to transformational experiences and memories that last a lifetime.

Launched in 2012, Virginia Wesleyan's Global Scholars Program has helped increase the number of semester abroad experiences for students. The award program, which is made possible by a gift from an anonymous donor, covers costs associated with room, board, tuition and incidentals.

Students from all majors are chosen through a competitive application and interview process to study at a variety of institutions around the globe. The pilot program funds approximately 15 study abroad experiences each year.

A Message From Lina Green

Director of Alumni and Parent Relations



The 2014-2015 academic year was one of great progress for Virginia Wesleyan College alumni.

We continued implementation of the Alumni Association's strategic plan, which asks

Virginia Wesleyan graduates to connect, participate, champion and support their alma mater. It also encourages all alumni to get involved with the life of the College, whether through recruitment, student interaction, event participation, or a financial contribution that supports Virginia Wesleyan's strategic goals.

On that note, I am proud to announce that 100 percent of the Alumni Association Board of Directors made gifts to Virginia Wesleyan during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. I am tremendously grateful to each of our members, and I hope this dedication inspires others to join us in supporting the Annual Fund for Academic Excellence, Marlin Athletic Club, Alumni Legacy Endowed Scholarship or other special projects.

Virginia Wesleyan College alumni may hail from different backgrounds and generations, but they share a deep and abiding pride for their alma mater. We thank each of our graduates, not only for what they have done, but for what they will continue to do on behalf of the College.

Lina Green
757.455.2115
lina@vwc.edu

2014 Alumni Awards

The 2014 Alumni Awards were presented by the Virginia Wesleyan College Alumni Association on September 4, celebrating graduates who have achieved distinction in their fields while reflecting the College's commitment to service and dedication. This year's awards also recognized honorary alumni and remembered a former faculty member. Award recipients were honored at a special brunch reception, followed by an awards ceremony during VWC's annual Fall Convocation.



CELEBRATE AND COMMEMORATE: 2014 Alumni Awards honorees (from left) Howard D. Bartner '82, Anthony Stile, Jason Seward '05, and Teresa Annas '76.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Teresa Annas '76

Arts Staff Writer, *The Virginian-Pilot*

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Howard D. Bartner '82

Senior Vice President of Operations, Junior Achievement USA

GRADUATE OF THE LAST DECADE (GOLD) AWARD

Jason Seward '05

Dean of Freshmen/Director of the Jane P. Batten Student Center, Virginia Wesleyan College

HONORARY ALUMNA

Courtney Beth Dickerson Atwater (1981-2011)

HONORARY ALUMNUS

Anthony Stile

IN MEMORY

Thomas R. Fanney '76 (1954-2004)

Professor of Mathematics, Virginia Wesleyan College

Athletic Hall of Fame

The seventh class of honorees was inducted into Virginia Wesleyan College's Athletic Hall of Fame on February 21, 2015.

The four inductees were:

William T. Greer, Jr.

President, Virginia Wesleyan College (1992-2015)

Kelvin D. Murray, Jr. '06

Men's Soccer (2002-05)

Matthew D. Sinnen '83

Baseball (1977-80) and Golf (1983)

Lindsey J. Williams '08

Women's Soccer (2004-07)



BEST GAME: The seventh class of the VWC Athletic Hall of Fame included (from left): Lindsey J. Williams '08 (women's soccer); Matthew D. Sinnen '83 (baseball and golf); Kelvin D. Murray, Jr. '06 (men's soccer); and retired VWC President Billy Greer.



Our sincerest gratitude to the many alumni, parents, corporations, foundations and friends who have made gifts to Virginia Wesleyan College during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Commitments to support the Annual Fund for Academic Excellence, the Marlin Athletic Club, and endowment and capital projects are greatly appreciated. We also thank the members of the Virginia Wesleyan College Heritage Society for helping to secure the future of the College by making gifts through wills and estates. The generosity of our donors, now and in the future, continues to advance the educational mission of Virginia Wesleyan College.

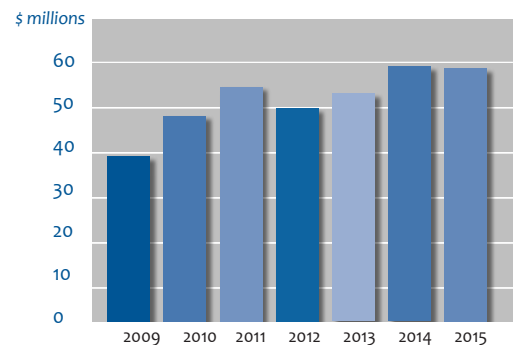
View a complete list of donors:
www.vwc.edu/donors

Virginia Wesleyan College completed the fiscal year on June 30, 2015 with revenues and transfers totaling \$61,472,619, expenses of \$61,316,596, and a net excess of revenues over expenses of \$156,023. Gifts and pledges for 2014-2015 totaled \$27,868,836. Annual Fund gifts of \$1,293,905 totaled 4.64 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 1.24 percent for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2015. It was valued at \$57,361,000, decreasing from a market value of \$57,713,000 on June 30, 2014. In 2015, distributions from the endowment contributed 5.19 percent of the operating budget of the College.

VALUE OF ENDOWMENT
 (as of June 30, 2015)

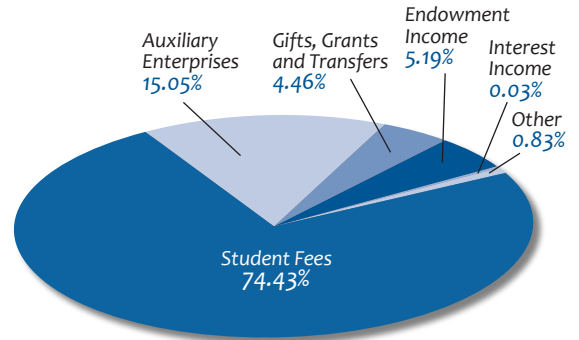
2009	\$38,225,000
2010	\$47,015,000
2011	\$53,285,000
2012	\$48,640,000
2013	\$51,827,000
2014	\$57,713,000
2015	\$57,361,000



OPERATING STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2015

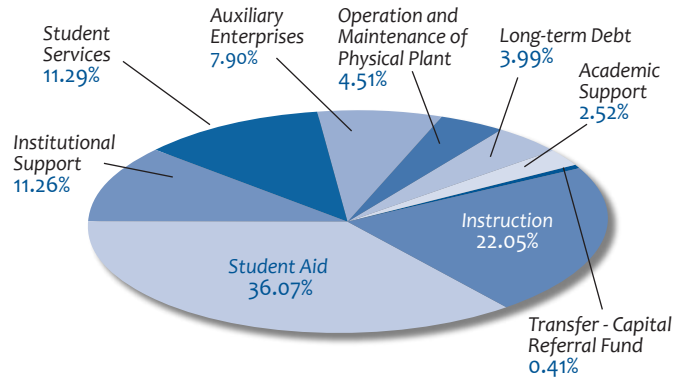
REVENUES AND TRANSFERS

Student Fees	\$45,754,548
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$9,248,774
Gifts, Grants and Transfers	\$2,744,187
Endowment Income	\$3,191,728
Interest Income	\$21,446
Other	\$511,936
	\$61,472,619



EXPENDITURES

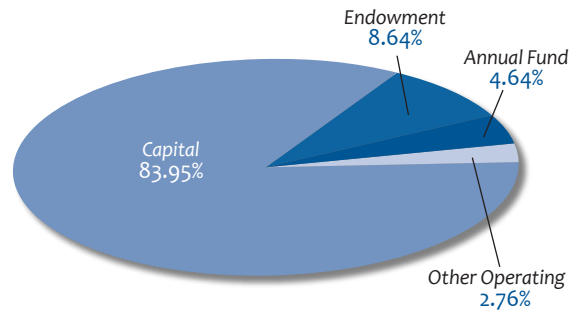
Instruction	\$13,522,410
Student Aid	\$22,114,415
Institutional Support	\$6,906,769
Student Services	\$6,925,193
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$4,843,913
Long-term Debt	\$2,446,109
Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant	\$2,763,454
Academic Support	\$1,544,333
Transfer - Capital Referral Fund	\$250,000
	\$61,316,596



Net excess of Revenues Over Expenditures **\$156,023**

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS (GIFTS AND PLEDGES)

Annual Fund	\$1,293,905
Other Operating	\$770,468
Capital	\$23,396,747
Endowment	\$2,407,716
	\$27,868,836





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**ex officio*

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Terms effective
September 17, 2014

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