

SPECIAL EDITION Winter 2019

# Virginia Wesleyan

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

## Environmental Excellence

Dedicated to a greener campus and greener world

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT | FUNDRAISING NEWS | CAPITAL PROJECTS





## Welcome to the Annual Report edition of *Virginia Wesleyan University Magazine!*

*It's been another outstanding year at VWU as we celebrate success on many fronts—especially through two national-niche programs of distinction which we highlight in this issue.*

Since opening in 2017, the Greer Environmental Sciences Center has earned numerous awards and recognition, including the Conservationist of the Year Award from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Housing state-of-the-art instrumentation, laboratories, and meeting rooms, the Center is a model of energy efficiency, sustainability, and environmental co-existence while opening new opportunities for teaching, research, and collaboration with other organizations such as the Nature Conservancy.

Complementing the Greer Center's focus on the natural world—especially that of our Chesapeake Bay watershed—is the Batten Honors College, now in its second year. The Batten Fellows and Shumadine Scholars learn environmental leadership along with other skills needed for global citizenship, engagement, and stewardship. Thanks to the visionary commitment of Trustee Emerita Jane P. Batten—the program is named for her and her late husband, Frank Batten, Sr.—the Batten Honors College has brought national distinction to Virginia Wesleyan, recruiting top students from throughout the country and around the world.

Virginia Wesleyan had other notable successes during the past year, including a new, academic-based strategic plan; strong early enrollment for our online programs and other offerings within University College; record fundraising and recognition of VWU this fall by the Association of Fundraising

Professionals as Outstanding Non-Profit in Fundraising; and an outstanding intercollegiate athletic program highlighted by back-to-back, NCAA Division III national softball championships!

Our students are learning in new and diverse ways and locations—in our conventional classrooms and laboratories (including outdoors), online, in evenings and weekends, at Westminster-Canterbury on Chesapeake Bay, aboard the *Ocean Explorer*, in the great museums and galleries of Europe, and as global scholars in other nations.

Virginia Wesleyan is the institution to watch as we continue to make history. I am confident that with your support, we will not only honor our heritage but also be guided by it as we establish new programs, partnerships, and traditions, fully realizing the potential of our institution.

Our gratitude goes to all who contribute financially and otherwise to our success. If you've already made a gift during the current 2018-2019 fiscal year, we thank you. If not, I invite you to do so online at [vwu.edu/giveonline](http://vwu.edu/giveonline), or by using the enclosed envelope.

And remember, *it's a great day to be a Marlin!*

Sincerely,

Scott D. Miller, Ph.D.  
President



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**ON THE COVER:** Batten Honors College students Brycen Columbus '22 and Sophie Gonzales '22 set sail aboard the *Ocean Explorer* research vessel, owned by the University in partnership with the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center.

# Landmark Foundation Expands Student Work Program

*Virginia Wesleyan's summer work program, Opus, has been extended to the full academic year thanks to a generous grant this fall from The Landmark Foundation of Norfolk.*

*Opus* was established two years ago through an initial private gift, and since its inception 46 students have participated. The program has been an overwhelming success, ensuring that students can continue their education at Virginia Wesleyan.

Preference is given to rising sophomores and juniors with a personal account balance owed of \$2,000 to \$3,000 who also demonstrate a commitment to academic studies and campus involvement. Projects focus on corrective maintenance, grounds and landscaping, and general campus beautification efforts.

The Landmark Foundation owns businesses including Dominion Enterprises and for many years *The Virginian-Pilot*. Frank Batten, Jr., serves as chairman, CEO and president of Landmark Media Enterprises and Dominion Enterprises. His mother Jane is a Trustee Emerita, a former VWU Board Chair, and the single greatest benefactor in University history.

Virginia Wesleyan deeply values the longstanding commitment of The Landmark Foundation and the Batten family to the University and its students.



.....  
The *Opus* program enabled Dazjae Johnson '21, an aspiring pediatric oncology therapist, to continue her education at Virginia Wesleyan.  
.....

## A Lifelong Learning Experience



Photo: SANDRA PARKER

**T**he adventure of learning continues at Westminster-Canterbury on Chesapeake Bay, a Virginia Beach life-care community for active retirees. This fall, members once again engaged in Virginia Wesleyan

University course offerings in religion, history, political science, and more through the Westminster/Wesleyan Lifelong Learning Institute.

The partnership was formalized in 2017 and was renewed this fall by Virginia Wesleyan President Scott D. Miller and President/CEO of Westminster-Canterbury Ben Unkle (*pictured*). The Lifelong Learning Institute continues to bring non-credit courses, taught at both VWU and at Westminster-Canterbury, to members at no cost to them. Those living at Westminster-Canterbury also receive free admission to the University's facilities, plays, concerts, lectures, and regular season athletic events.

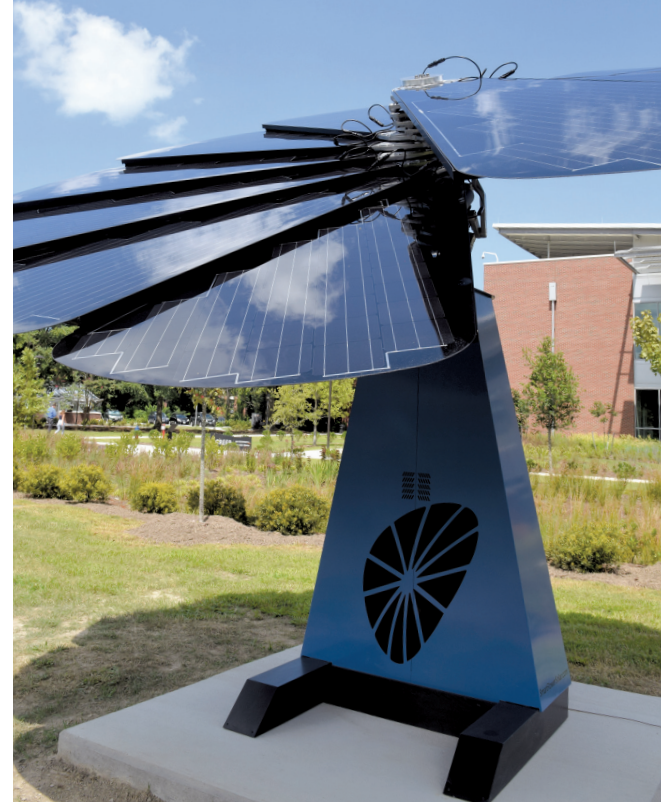
The partnership is a natural fit and truly a win-win for both organizations.



**Virginia Wesleyan University recognized as a “Green College” for its policies and practices in sustainability**

Virginia Wesleyan University has again been named among the most environmentally responsible colleges in the nation. The Princeton Review features VWU in the most recent edition of its book, *Guide to 399 Green Colleges*.

Schools were chosen for the guide based on data from The Princeton Review’s 2017-18 survey of hundreds of four-year colleges. “Green Rating” scores were tallied based on schools’ sustainability-related policies, practices, and programs. More than 25 data points were weighted in the tallies for the score, which was done on a scale of 60 to 99. Colleges with scores of 80 or higher were chosen for the guide.



# Dedicated to a greener campus and a green

In addition to its selection for the green colleges guide, VWU has consistently been recognized locally, regionally and nationally for its sustainability practices (*see inset page 3*). In the last year, the University has been praised for its distinctive national niche programs, the elite Batten Honors College and the LEED Gold Certified Greer Environmental Sciences Center; earned recognitions from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Elizabeth River Project; installed an innovative SmartFlower photovoltaic system; hosted summer environmental camps through community partnerships; and received funding for sustainable cell-phone charging stations on campus.

VWU President Scott D. Miller also

serves as chair of The Climate Leadership Network (formerly The American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment) and sits on the board of the prominent national environmental advocacy organization Second Nature. He leads the President’s Environmental Issues Council on campus and recently declared October 5 as Energy Efficiency Day at Virginia Wesleyan University.

“Our current and prospective students in environmental studies represent a real hope in those disciplines for all of us,” said Dr. Miller. “They have embraced the cause of a cleaner, healthier environment that will enrich our lives, and the lives of generations to come, in Coastal Virginia and throughout the world.”





PICTURED: (left) The SmartFlower solar system which generates 40 percent more energy than a traditional fixed solar panel. (bottom) The award-winning environmental sciences center opened in fall 2017 and offering unprecedented opportunities for students and fostering regional collaboration.

(center) The Batten Honors College grew to 77 total students with the arrival of the second cohort this fall. It will grow to approximately 160 students in the next two years. The highly selective Batten Honors College prepares leaders and environmental stewards. The curriculum explores diverse disciplines within the natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, and mathematics.

(top right) Freshman Batten Honors College student Sophie Gonzales aboard the *Ocean Explorer*, a research vessel owned by the University in partnership with the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center.



## ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

The University's ongoing sustainability efforts reflect a commitment to ethical conduct and social responsibility through environmental stewardship and education. Here are some of our most recent points of green pride:

- Opened the LEED Gold certified Greer Environmental Sciences Center in fall 2017, offering unprecedented opportunities for students through its indoor and outdoor classroom spaces and teaching and research laboratories, and fostering collaboration with like-minded organizations such as the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Environmental Center.
- Also in 2017, launched the Batten Honors College, a highly-selective program aiming to educate impactful global citizens through an environmental focus, an international study-away experience, and leadership training and development.

# er world



- Honored by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in 2018 with its top "Conservationist of the Year" award, which recognizes the Greer Environmental Sciences Center and the University's vision and dedication to educating the next generation of Bay leaders.
- Recently advanced to the top tier Model Level status in the Elizabeth River Project's River Star Business program.
- Installed a SmartFlower solar system on campus, which generates 40 percent more energy than a traditional fixed solar panel.
- In summer 2018, hosted the Environmental Explorers camp in partnership with the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation and YMCA Camp Red Feather, and also the Virginia Wesleyan Environmental Institute: Summer Scholars Program for ninth-grade girls interested in E-STEM fields.
- A participant in the Chesapeake Oyster Alliance partnership, a coalition dedicated to helping recover the Bay's oyster populations, and a member of Virginia's No Child Left Inside Coalition, a collaborative effort between organizations to promote outdoor learning.
- Selected by the PepsiCo Recycling Zero Impact Fund program to receive funding for two solar-powered umbrellas and two human-powered desk bicycles that function on campus as sustainable cell-phone charging stations for students.





# Cornerstone unveiled at the Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center

*The symbolic stone serves as the foundation for all others set around it*

**M**embers of the Virginia Wesleyan University Board of Trustees and the VWU campus community gathered in October 2018 for the unveiling of the cornerstone at the new Susan S. Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center.

The cornerstone bears the University seal and the name of benefactor and Trustee Susan Goode, namesake of this project and of the Susan S. Goode School of Arts and Humanities. The cornerstone is the first set into place in the construction of a masonry foundation—it's important because all other stones are set in reference to this one.

“As we begin this latest chapter in the growth and vitality of Virginia Wesleyan, we are honored to have Susan Goode with us today,” remarked President Scott D. Miller. “Susan and her husband, David, are enthusiastic advocates for the arts, not only recognizing the importance of these disciplines, but believing they are absolutely fundamental to a comprehensive liberal arts education.”

The cornerstone unveiling marked the halfway point of construction for the Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center. The structure will be enclosed to the elements before winter weather arrives, and the glass façade encasing the Eleanor and Henry

Watts Grand Lobby will soon be installed. The catwalk and lighting will be completed by year end, clearing the scaffolding to make way for the 300 seats in the Joan and Macon Brock Theatre.

In addition to supporting all of VWU's fine and performing arts events, the center will serve as a unique venue for visiting speakers, honorary inductions, and awards ceremonies, and it will play an important role in educating students of all ages.

*The Goode Fine and Performing Arts Center is scheduled to open in late winter 2019. Read more at [vwu.edu/goode](http://vwu.edu/goode).*



## Preserving a Treasured Landmark

**H**istory was made in November 2018 as the cupola and cross were placed atop The Beacon at Monumental Chapel, a milestone in the restoration of this historic campus icon. In recent years, a number of structural deficiencies were identified in the 44-year-old Frank E. Brown Campanile, known to many as simply “The Bell Tower,” and it was recommended the tower undergo extensive renovation or removal. An anonymous donor provided funds for a new architectural design and renovation. The new Beacon was completed in December 2018 and will continue to symbolize Virginia Wesleyan's United Methodist heritage and the passion of those who laid the University's foundation.



# Board of Trustees Welcomes New Members

The Virginia Wesleyan University Board of Trustees has elected six new members who began their service with the 2018-2019 fiscal year, Board Chair David Kaufman has announced.

"We are honored to have these distinguished civic leaders as members of our Board of Trustees," Kaufman said. "Their leadership, experience, and expertise will be a tremendous asset to the University, its students, and alumni."



**Sharon S. Goodwyn**  
Counsel, Hunton Andrews Kurth  
Norfolk, Virginia



**Jean T. Jenkins '89**  
Community Leader  
Virginia Beach, Virginia



**Robert W. McFarland**  
Partner, McGuireWoods  
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President, Hasbro North America  
Providence, Rhode Island



**James H. Shumadine**  
Co-President, The Employment Guide  
Norfolk, Virginia



**Joseph R. Thomas**  
Retired Regional Vice President, GEICO  
Virginia Beach, Virginia



(From Left) Dr. Scott D. Miller, VWU President, Paula Bazemore, VCIC Hampton Roads Program Manager, Jonathan Zur, VCIC President & CEO, and Martin Einhorn, Chair of the VCIC Tidewater Chapter.

## VCIC Makes History with VWU Office

*It's official: the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities has a new home*

**F**or the first time in its 83-year history, the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC) has expanded its physical presence beyond its Richmond home base, setting up an office on the campus of Virginia Wesleyan University.

At the November 2018 press conference celebrating this historic milestone, President Scott D. Miller welcomed VCIC to campus, noting that "Virginia Wesleyan's ties run deep with the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, and we are honored to work so collaboratively with this like-minded organization... Our work of instilling tolerance and acceptance is never finished, and I am confident that our partnership with VCIC will produce important and lasting results."

Paula Bazemore serves as VCIC's Hampton Roads Program Manager out of her VWU office in Allen Village.





# Thank You TO OUR DONORS

**W**ith this edition of Virginia Wesleyan University's Annual Report, we acknowledge the generous financial support of alumni and friends, faculty and staff, students and parents, businesses, foundations, and organizations during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, ending June 30.

On behalf of all who benefit from the leadership investment of our donors, we say thank you as we invite your continued engagement with, and support of, Virginia Wesleyan University.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Virginia Wesleyan University completed the fiscal year on June 30, 2018, with operating revenues totaling \$64,332,963, expenses of \$64,324,913, and a net excess of revenues over expenses of \$8,050. Contributed gifts and pledges for 2017-2018 totaled \$5,330,990. Excellence Fund gifts totaled \$1,132,215 and continue to be critical in meeting operating needs and funding annual scholarships, undergraduate research, study-away experiences and faculty development programs.

Virginia Wesleyan University's endowment value is affected by several factors each year, including investment returns, new contributions, and the annual payout for University programs, scholarships and professorships. The endowment generated an investment return of 8.7 percent for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2018. It was valued at \$58,696,815, increasing from a market value of \$56,770,385 on June 30, 2017.

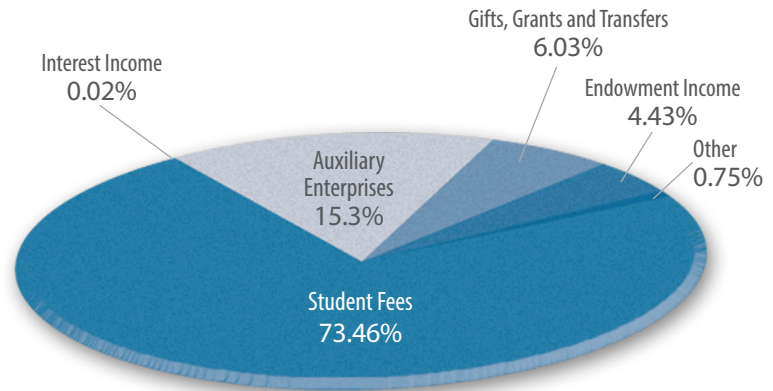


## OPERATING STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2018

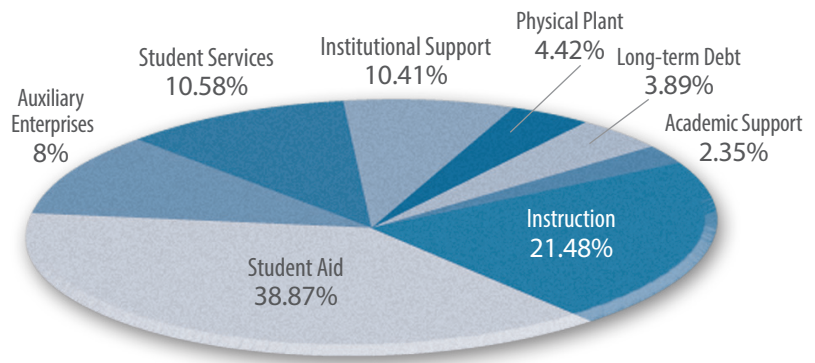
### REVENUES AND TRANSFERS

Student Fees	\$ 47,261,807
Auxiliary Enterprises	9,845,745
Gifts, Grants and Transfers	3,882,345
Endowment Income	2,850,732
Interest Income	12,662
Other	479,672
	<b>\$ 64,332,963</b>



### EXPENDITURES

Instruction	\$ 13,813,914
Student Aid	25,002,763
Institutional Support	6,696,529
Student Services	6,807,917
Auxiliary Enterprises	5,143,724
Long-term Debt	2,504,735
Operation and Maintenance of Physical Plant	2,840,918
Academic Support	1,514,413
	<b>\$ 64,324,913</b>



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View a complete list of donors: [vwu.edu/donors](http://vwu.edu/donors)



# 2018-2019

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The Board of Trustees is the governing body of Virginia Wesleyan University. It supports the University's mission, is responsible for securing adequate financial resources for the operation of the University, and establishes long-range goals and institutional policies.

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John A. Trinder

## ALUMNI COUNCIL

Virginia Wesleyan University has nearly 10,000 alumni in Coastal Virginia and throughout the United States and abroad. And, as Wesleyan grows, so does its alumni family. The principal purpose of the Alumni Council is to strengthen the bond between VWU graduates and Virginia Wesleyan University—its students, faculty, administration, and Board of Trustees. We value the Alumni Council's role in advocating for VWU and offering support for the enrollment and advancement programs of a growing, dynamic institution.

### 2017-2018 ALUMNI COUNCIL

**Troy DeLawrence '93, Chair**

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*President of the University*

**Kevin D. Otey '05, Vice Chair**

**Lori Simperts Harris '94 (Ex officio)**

*Executive Secretary*

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Lori Simperts Harris '94 *(Ex officio)*

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Scott D. Miller, Ph.D. *(Ex officio)*

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Katherine Shea-Sword '99

Edmund B. Stanton '02

Thomas W. Taylor '00, Ed.D., M.B.A.

Giorgio Valentini '98

Megan Watts '15

William H. Williard '82



## PRESIDENT'S PARENTS ROUNDTABLE

The President's Parents Roundtable serves as an important forum for the exchange of information concerning the various activities and programs of the University.

### CLASS OF 2019

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Brett and Kathy Crabtree  
Don and Vicki Lehner  
Alan and MaryBeth Lerch  
Tom and Susan Mercer  
Andy and Katie Miller  
Mike and Stacy Moffett  
Rona Nakamoto  
Steve Staman  
Anthony and Kellie Terry  
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Andy and Melissa Hipple  
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Collin and Kimberli Jones  
Daryl and Maria McKneely  
Bryan and Laura Russo  
Frank and Astrid Schiller  
Jeff and Laurie Stredler

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Glenn and Mary '86 Canter  
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William and Monique Lubick  
Hubert Pincon and  
Sheila Saliba-Pincon  
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Robert and Amy Scott  
Dory and Anne Marie Solomon

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Lee and Tanya Corbin  
Robert and Camilla Harrod  
Michele Hylton  
Stephanie Morris  
Deborah Palmer  
Craig and Vicki Signorelli  
Charles and Faye Sterling

## CORPORATE LEADERS COUNCIL

The Corporate Leaders Council is comprised of business leaders from Coastal Virginia who embrace, embody and similarly align with the University's vision and values in their management practices.

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Bruce Alperin  
Julie R. Anderson '96  
Chris Brandt  
John S. Burton, Esq. '95  
Dr. Samantha Coleman '98  
Karen Corrigan '97  
Robert W. Gillikin II '00  
Pierre Granger  
Stephanie Gorham  
Katherine "Kaddy" Hamilton '85  
Joe Harris '94  
Lynette Harris '78  
Mark E. Jones  
Sarah Kellam '92  
Daniel Mason '88  
Mavis McKenley '11  
Eli Miller '00  
Joseph "Joe" Ruddy '83



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“ I hope to live a life serving the international community through diplomatic affairs or international law. My study abroad and research experiences have provided a good foundation for a career in international affairs. ”

CALEB MERCER '19



YOUR GIFT  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE

*Thank You!*



“ My most important takeaway from my internship experience is to be humble and eager to learn. I learned how to communicate with others, like my coworkers and clients, in a professional fashion. Now I see my future. ”

JAYLA HARRIS '19

A gift to The Excellence Fund at Virginia Wesleyan University does so much more than show your support. It helps students today become who they want to be tomorrow.

**Support The Excellence Fund**

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