



RICHMOND matters

A Newsletter for the University of Richmond Community
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Board raises total costs and expands financial aid for undergraduate students

IN BRIEF

- Entering first-year and transfer students' costs raised 26.9 percent; returning students will pay 5 percent more
- Additional revenue to fund strategic initiatives to directly benefit students

The University of Richmond's board of trustees voted Friday to set the 2005–06 total cost of attendance for entering first-year and transfer undergraduate students at \$40,510, an increase of 26.9 percent from the current academic year, and for returning undergraduate students at \$33,510, an increase of 5 percent. Total cost of attendance includes tuition, fees, room and board. Recognizing that currently enrolled students and their families had already budgeted for their college expenses based on the existing tuition rate, the board decided to exempt them from the larger increase.

In a sweeping move to help ensure that a Richmond education remains affordable, the board also voted to significantly expand its financial aid programs for undergraduate students. The University will use a sizeable portion of the increased tuition revenue to continue its policy of meeting 100 percent of a student's demonstrated financial need, which began in 2002. This policy places a \$4,000 cap on loan and work-study funding per year with the balance of demonstrated need met with need-based grants that do not have to be repaid.

Richmond is the only university in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and one of fewer than 40 universities in the country, to meet 100 percent of undergraduate students' demonstrated need and offer a "need-blind" admission policy. Applying or qualifying for need-based aid is not a factor in Richmond's admission decisions.

A significant portion of the revenue from the increased tuition will be dedicated to expanding need- and merit-based scholarships for undergraduates. Approximately 65 percent of Richmond undergraduate students currently receive some form of financial aid.

Tuition at Richmond is the primary revenue source for annual operations, as is the case with most private universities. Although the University's endowment is sizeable, it accounts for only 27 percent of the institution's total operating budget.

The additional tuition revenue will allow the University to accelerate the process for implementing many of its strategic

initiatives that will greatly enhance the undergraduate experience and directly benefit students.

These initiatives include increasing the amount of need- and merit-based scholarships, hiring additional faculty in a variety of disciplines, updating technology resources throughout the campus and reengineering classroom spaces to better facilitate discussion-based learning. Other initiatives include renovating or expanding existing buildings such as the science center, library, business school and dining hall, as well as constructing new facilities on campus.

When the tuition increase is implemented, the total cost of attending Richmond will be comparable to that of other selective private universities in the nation with which Richmond competes for top students, including Duke, Vanderbilt, Georgetown and Colgate.

"For the past several decades, the University of Richmond's tuition rate has been comparatively low and does not accurately reflect the high quality of our faculty, academic programs and campus resources," said Otis D. Coston Jr., rector of the board of trustees. "We are in the process of building one of the nation's great universities, and increasing tuition revenue will provide the resources needed to propel Richmond to the top echelon of academic excellence.

"We have a responsibility to our students and the nation to provide the highest quality educational experience within our reach."

The vast majority of Richmond alumni support this position. In a 2003 alumni survey, 95 percent of the respondents said that it was important for the university to pursue its vision to "become one of the finest small private universities in the nation."

"The University's generous financial aid program coupled with the increased academic quality resulting from the additional tuition revenue will enhance our ability to attract the best and brightest students from Virginia and beyond to our campus," said Pam Spence, dean of admission.

Leadership students create program to help homeless find jobs, housing

IN BRIEF

- Project Strive put into practice at The Daily Planet in Richmond
- HUD funds program with \$226,000 grant

Prior to attending the University, Lauren Johanson of Camarillo, Calif., and Jill Fasching of Mount Joy, Pa., never seriously thought about social justice issues.

Now the two seniors are responsible for developing a program that has measurably reduced homelessness in Richmond.

Their creation, titled Project Strive, has so far helped nearly 100 homeless men and women develop job readiness skills, obtain jobs and, for many of them, move into permanent shelter.

It began with a class, “Analyzing and Making Policy,” which the two students took as sophomores in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies.

“The focus of that class and of the leadership school that year was on homelessness,” explained Johanson. As a project, they looked at the inherent problems of day labor pools, traditional sources of employment for the homeless.

When the leadership school hosted a summit on homelessness later in the year, they presented their plan. Peter Prizzio, executive director of The Daily Planet, a service provider for the homeless, was in the audience and approached them afterward, beginning a dialog that resulted in The Daily Planet scrapping its existing vocational program and replacing it with Project Strive.

“We really had people willing to work with us and consider us peers in the project,” said Fasching, who added that they also had to meet with the board of The Daily Planet, as well as members of Homeward, a coordinating body for homeless services in Richmond, and business leaders “to convince them of the merits of the program.”

Project Strive combines education with job training to give the homeless the skills needed to obtain employment. Participants can earn a GED; learn how to fill out employment applications, interview and dress appropriately for work; complete a paid internship at The Daily Planet; and obtain a job. They are required to save part of any money they earn during the program to go toward a down payment on a room or apartment.

The success of Project Strive became apparent when The Daily Planet received a \$226,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to implement the program on a permanent basis. In a trial period, Prizzio said, 90 of 97 people who started the program became employed. After 30 days, 68 percent were still working and of those, he said, 70 percent had moved into permanent housing.

One Project Strive graduate is Joseph Henry, a house painter who moved to Richmond from Baltimore. After becoming homeless in Richmond, he tried working, but ended up angry, hungry and cold most of the time.

“When you think you don’t have nothing to offer, you’re kinda lost before you get started,” he said.

He heard about The Daily Planet and came for help. His case manager recommended that he try Project Strive, and after completing the program, he obtained employment with a painting contractor, moved into a townhouse and bought a car.

Henry’s goal is to maintain being self-supportive. “There’s nothing like making it on your own,” he said.

Penny Dortch agrees. She is still in the program, and has set her sights on being manager of a fast-food restaurant. A convicted felon and recovering addict, she has had many obstacles to overcome.

“When I first became homeless, I didn’t know which way to go,” she said. “I have little to no education. I thought the doors were shut for me. Now I have my goals in order. Project Strive let me know that there are still opportunities out there for me.”

She would like to meet Johanson and Fasching to thank them. “They let me know that it’s not over.”

That is the kind of comment that makes the long hours of work worthwhile for the students. “Having been involved in the Jepson School and specifically having worked with an amazing group of people on Project Strive, I will graduate with an entirely different perspective on the world around me,” said Johanson.

Fasching also learned valuable lessons from Project Strive. “I was given the unique opportunity to experience a piece of the public policy process that students usually only read about in textbooks,” she said. “In the future, I hope to pursue a career that encourages creative problem solving and that allows me to participate actively in the community.”

Their professor, Dr. Thomas Shields, is justifiably proud of their work. “The real application of leadership studies begins when the students get their hands dirty in helping our local community,” he said. “In terms of academic learning, Lauren and Jill were excellent students, but they also learned that the ideal of moral leadership occurs through action. Project Strive embodied the mission of Jepson—to educate people for and about leadership.”

—Linda Evans

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events

Oct. 21, 22, 24

International Film Series

Broken Wings (K'Nafayim Shvurot)

(Israel – Hebrew)

Set in the northern Israeli city of Haifi, the film could be a story of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Instead, writer-director Nir Bergman has created a scenario with universal appeal. The plot follows the life of a family that has lost a father and husband. It depicts their hardship, a situation that could take place anywhere in the world. Emotions run high, and the characters respond in unexpected ways to conflicts and frustrations. Thursday and Sunday showings are at 7:30 p.m. in Jepson Hall, room 118. Friday showing is at 3 p.m. in Adams Auditorium of Boatwright Memorial Library.

Oct. 22

Brown bag lunch (rescheduled)

“Fritz Eichenberg: Artist on the Witness Stand”

12-1 p.m., Joel and Lila Harnett Print Study Center

Lindsay Kurlak, '05, art history major and 2004 Harnett summer fellow, will speak. Bring your lunch. Soft drinks and dessert will be provided.

Oct. 23

Demonstration and workshop

“Traditional Botanical Illustration: Pen and Ink and Watercolor”

2-4 p.m., Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature

Sheila Hayden, W'85 and G'95, botanist and botanical illustrator, will present the program. Participants will have the opportunity to view the exhibition “Exotica: Plant Portraits from Around the World,” learn the basics of botanical illustration and create their own botanical illustrations.

Oct. 24

Arts Around the Lake

Area around Westhampton Lake

11 a.m.-5 p.m.

The 25th annual Arts Around the Lake juried fine arts show will be held on campus around Westhampton Lake. (In case of inclement weather, the show will be held in the Robins Center.) Please remember, no dogs are allowed at the show. See “Around Campus” for more details.

Oct. 25

Lecture, “Art, Math and Instinct”

Peter Spooner, curator, Tweed Museum of Art

7 p.m., Cousins Studio Theatre, Modlin Center

Peter Spooner, curator at the Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth and curator of the exhibition “New Math: Contemporary Art and the Mathematical Instinct,” will speak. A preview of the exhibit in Marsh Art Gallery and a reception will follow the lecture.

Oct. 27

WAC/PETE luncheon

“How to Grade Written Work”

Joe Essid, writing center director

12:30 p.m., Tyler Haynes Commons, Room 331

Joe Essid and other faculty from the Writing-Across-the-Curriculum Program and English 103 will lead a discussion of setting standards to assess writing, including numerical and letter-grade assessment. Learn how to establish a “pet-peeves” list and reduce grade inflation by “fair but firm” assessment. Please contact Pat Schoknecht (pschokne@richmond.edu; ext. 6689) to reserve a lunch.

Oct. 28, 29 and 31

International Film Series

Shaolin Soccer (Siulam Chukkau)

(Hong Kong, Cantonese)

This all-time box-office favorite throughout much of Asia is directed, co-written, co-produced and headlined by Stephen Chow, one of Hong Kong's top screen comics. Chow plays Sing, a martial artist who is determined to prove that the ancient teachings of the Shaolin masters are still relevant. The film follows Sing and his former martial arts classmates as they transfer their skills into the game of soccer, kicking balls so hard they catch fire or dig grooves in the ground as they plow toward the goal. In the end, the team must use these skills in a match of good against evil. The light comedy has generated a near cult following in Asia and received numerous awards at the 2002 Hong Kong Film Awards.

Thursday and Sunday showings are at 7:30 p.m. in Jepson Hall, room 118. Friday showing is at 3 p.m. in Adams Auditorium of Boatwright Memorial Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nov. 3

Lunchtime Forum

“Listening to the Big Bang”

11:30 a.m.–1:20 p.m., Heilman Dining Center

The second Lunchtime Forum for 2004–05, co-sponsored by the School of Arts & Sciences and the University Club, will feature Ted Bunn, assistant professor of physics, whose topic will be “Listening to the Big Bang.”

All faculty and staff from any academic school or administrative unit, including retired faculty and staff, who wish to participate in this forum are invited to pick up a free lunch in the University Club between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., take it to the Richmond Room and enjoy lunch and conversation until 12:30 p.m., when Bunn will be introduced. He will speak for 20 minutes, no more, about his scholarly work. A half-hour of questions, comments and discussion will follow, with the proceedings ending at 1:20 p.m., so participants may head to class or other appointments.

Anyone who plans to pick up a free lunch should sign up in advance at the University Club or reserve a lunch through Rosa Garcia of dining services (rgarcia2@richmond.edu or ext. 8511) by noon on Wednesday, Oct. 27. Of course, anyone who wishes to bring his or her own lunch, or not to have lunch, will also be welcome.

On Dec. 1, the third speaker in this year’s series, Doug Szajda (computer science), will share his ongoing research on “Securing Volunteer Internet-wide Computations: Can I Trust the Results of Processing Performed by Millions of Strangers?”

Nov. 4

Lecture, “Visual Thinking/Visual Computing”

Anne Morgan Spalter, Brown University

7 p.m., Cousins Studio Theatre, Modlin Center

Anne Morgan Spalter, visual computing research and artist in residence, Brown University Graphic Research, will speak. A viewing of the exhibition, “New Math: Contemporary Art and the Mathematical Instinct” will follow the lecture.

Meetings and Deadlines

Oct. 26, Nov. 30

Institutional Review Board

12:45 p.m., Dean’s Conference Room

Boatwright Administrative Wing, Room 4

Please remember that research involving human subjects may not begin before approval is received. Though some applications can be processed quickly through expedited review, others

must be considered by the entire committee at the next scheduled meeting. To avoid delay, please submit your application to the IRB well in advance—at least two to three weeks—of the planned starting date for your research. Applications are available online at oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/grad_a&s/forms/index.html.

Nov. 11

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

1 p.m., Dean’s Conference Room

Boatwright Administrative Wing, Room 4

All faculty contemplating research on animals are reminded that the federal government requires that such research be cleared by the University IACUC. Applications for proposals are available at oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/grad_a&s/forms/index.html.

Proposals should be submitted well in advance—at least two to three weeks—to be considered at a scheduled meeting of IACUC. Federal regulations also require that the University provide training and education for all individuals working with laboratory animals. To comply with those regulations, IACUC requires that all individuals—faculty, staff, lab assistants, and undergraduate and graduate students—working with laboratory animals view the film *Animal Care Matters* before beginning work. Copies of the film are available in the biology and psychology departments, the Media Resource Center and the Graduate School office.

Around Campus

Arts Around the Lake

The 25th annual Arts Around the Lake juried fine arts show will be held Oct. 24 from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. around Westhampton Lake. In case of inclement weather, the show will be held in the Robins Center. Please remember that no dogs are allowed at the show.

Approximately 100 Richmond-area artists will display and sell their juried artwork in various media.

Arts Around the Lake is sponsored by the Greater Richmond Alumni Chapter to benefit its scholarship fund. Admission and parking are free. Refreshments will be sold by local vendors.

Visitors to the show also may bid on artwork donated by the artists in a silent auction that will be held from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. in Tyler Haynes Commons. In case of inclement weather, the auction will be moved with the show to the Robins Center.

Early American Newspapers digital collection

Through a generous gift by Edwin S. Snead III, the libraries now have access to the digital collection *Early American Newspapers*.

This collection provides access to newspaper articles on history, culture, religion, commerce, education, politics and other topics from the colonial period through the Civil War (1690–1876). The database will eventually include more than one million pages from newspapers.

Early American Newspapers is available under “Online Databases” and through the library catalog on the libraries’ Web site at oncampus.richmond.edu/is/library.

University Museums opens new exhibition

On Oct. 26, Marsh Art Gallery will open “New Math: Contemporary Art and the Mathematical Instinct.”

The exhibition presents a group of more than 40 contemporary artists whose diverse works are constructed from, refer to or illustrate mathematical concepts and principles. “New Math” encompasses better-known forms of mathematical-based art, such as algorithmic art, as well as new digital and rapid prototyping technologies. The sensibilities of mathematical harmony in art and aesthetic beauty in mathematics are combined in this exhibition, which features installation sculpture and computer-generated art as well as more traditional forms of painting, graphic art and sculpture.

Organized by the Tweed Museum of Art at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, the exhibition was curated by Peter Spooner, curator of the Tweed Museum. The exhibition is made possible in part with support by the University’s Cultural Affairs Committee, the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science and the Department of Art and Art History. An exhibition catalogue, published by the Tweed Museum of Art, is available.

International film series opened strong

The international film series, sponsored by the Office of International Education, experienced its biggest opening to a series and the largest attendances for two films in a row this year. A total of 398 people viewed the opening movie, *Osama*, while 351 saw *I’m Not Scared*.

Continuing exhibitions in University Museums

On view at the Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature through July 10, 2005, is “Cheers! Drinking Glasses from the Permanent Collection,” with an additional display, “American Goblets from the Permanent Collection,” in the Booker Hall of Music lobby, Modlin Center for the Arts.

Also at the Lora Robins Gallery is “Fancy Rockingham Pottery: The Modeller and Ceramics in 19th Century America” through Feb. 27, 2005 and “Exotica: Plant Portraits from Around the World” until Nov. 14.

The Joel and Lila Harnett Print Study Center has on view through Dec. 5 “*In Praise of Folly* by Desiderius Erasmus: Wood Engravings by Fritz Eichenberg.”

Marsh Art Gallery has on view until Dec. 12 “New Math: Contemporary Art and the Mathematical Instinct” and until Dec. 5, “From ‘The Asphalt Jungle’: Prints and Drawings by Dawn Latane.” Also on view until Dec. 12 is “Martha MacLeish: Wall Constructions.”

Peple slide collection donated to University

Dr. Edward C. Peple, former faculty member and University administrator, recently donated several thousand slides to the Visual Resources Library in the Department of Art and Art History.

A 1932 graduate of the University, Dr. Peple went on to Harvard University where he earned a master’s degree in 1934 and a doctorate in 1936. The following year, he returned to Richmond to teach English. His career included terms as dean of the graduate school (1965–74) and assistant provost (1974–78). He was a founder of the Friends of the Library.

Beginning in 1959, international travel became his avocation. He led educational tours and documented the sites through slide photography. Upon his return to Richmond, he used the slides as teaching tools in his classes. Family members recalled that many of the architectural structures he shot during his first trip to England were still ravaged from the destruction of World War II and had not been reconstructed. Today, these images provide students with an important historical record.

Dr. Peple meticulously labeled his slides and cataloged them so that they are almost instantly usable by the University community.

“Because he used the slides so extensively at the University, it is fitting that they will reside here permanently and continue to support University-wide teaching,” said Sarah Falls, visual resources librarian.

University Communications publishes *Richmond Matters* every two weeks during the academic year.

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Oct. 25 is the deadline for submitting news and announcements for the Nov. 3 issue. Send information to rmatters@richmond.edu.



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