



RICHMOND matters

A Newsletter for the University of Richmond Community
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Boatwright Library will undergo expansion and renovation

IN BRIEF

- Nearly 19,000 square feet will be added, including nave and two-story learning commons
- New entrance will face Stern Plaza and connect to lake side of building

Boatwright Memorial Library is scheduled for a \$23 million renovation and expansion that will create a dramatic new entrance on Stern Plaza and provide nearly 19,000 additional square feet of space.

The project also will include a “soaring” nave connecting the new entrance with the current lake-side entrance, opening the building to pedestrians. Users will have access by elevator to all floors from a single location, separate collections of the same type will be housed in a common area and there will be more seating.

“We will create a dynamic new environment for collaborative work, showcase a high-end technology learning laboratory, expand our areas for quiet study and add new space to accommodate our growing collections,” said Kathy Monday, vice president for information services.

The nave, bathed in natural light from large windows on one side, will provide entrances to the two-story learning commons, “the nerve center of the library,” described Monday. In the commons, “people, ideas, collections, technologies and information resources will be brought together and made easily accessible,” said Monday.

The nave also will open on a cloistered garden, where faculty can hold open-air classes and students can read, study and converse over coffee.

The learning commons “should facilitate the research process from the point of recognition of a need for information to preparation of presentation of research findings,” said Jim Rettig, University librarian. It will provide space for reference, technical support, a writing center, an academic skills center and advanced technology.

The building will include more space for teaching, reading, administrative and staff offices, and user services, while minimizing the number of specialized service points. Total seating in the expanded facility will increase and include individual soft seating, individual carrels, study tables, computer stations, lounge areas and group study areas.

Above all, flexibility is paramount to the plan, said Rettig. “We want to maximize the use of public areas by designing them so they can accommodate varied uses over the course of a day.”

Several assumptions are built into the building’s plan: that most information recording media (books, microfilm, DVDs) are not duplicated in another source; distribution of the collections among various media will change over time; some collections will grow, but others, such as videotapes, may decline; and new media will emerge and further diversify the collections.

Rettig outlined plans for the building and collections in a series of briefings to the University community in the past month.

“We want the new library to optimize serendipitous discovery,” Rettig said, noting that stacks will remain open to browsers.

The original 1955 section of the building will not be used by the library once the new addition is operational, Rettig said. It could be transformed into administrative offices for other departments on campus.

The new entrance and landscaping will complete the academic quad surrounded by Weinstein, Ryland and Jepson halls.

Fundraising is ongoing for the project, which is part of the University’s \$200 million *Transforming Bright Minds* capital campaign.

Trust fund established for Jablin children

Anyone wishing to contribute to a trust fund for the three children of Fredric M. Jablin can send contributions to Sue Murphy in the Jepson School or directly to Cardinal Bank, 1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, VA 22101.

The account number is 5046008081 and the ABA number is 056008849. Funds may be wired to (703) 356-6060. The contact people at the bank are Reela Tahim and Pamela Fusco. Please call Sue Murphy at ext. 6086 with questions.

Fulbright Program makes awards to Richmond faculty member and students

IN BRIEF

- Edward Larkin teaching in Estonia
- Richmond among nation's top producers of student Fulbright awards

A University faculty member and three students have received awards from the Fulbright Program and are studying or teaching abroad this year.

Edward Larkin, assistant professor of English, received a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture on American studies and literature at Tallinn Pedagogical University in Tallinn, Estonia.

Larkin is teaching two classes, on American studies and American immigrant literature, while in Estonia. He is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals traveling abroad to some 140 countries through the Fulbright Scholar Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

"I was thrilled to win the award," Larkin said, "and my family is delighted at the prospect of this grand adventure. It represents an interesting opportunity to teach American literature, history and culture in one of the newly independent Baltic States, which was formerly a part of the Soviet Union."

With three student grant recipients, Richmond is included among the nation's top producers of Fulbright Awards for Students for 2004-05, according to the Fulbright Program.

The University tied for second in the Master's University

category and ninth overall in the South. Among Southern schools, Richmond tied with Vanderbilt, Rice and Georgia and finished ahead of Davidson, Tulane, University of the South, Washington and Lee, and Virginia Tech, all represented with two grantees.

Richmond's grantees are Michael Goff, of Hockessin, Del., who received a Fulbright grant to Germany in teaching English as a foreign language; Kevin Lingerfelt, of Fairfax, Va., who received a Fulbright to Ukraine in information sciences/systems; and Ian Billard, of Charlotte, N.C., who received a grant to China in East Asian/Pacific/Australian studies.

They are among approximately 1,100 students who left the United States this fall for more than 115 foreign countries as part of the Fulbright Student Program, the best-known source of overseas study grants in the country. Students from 550 different colleges or universities applied for the grants.

Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

Endowed chair honors Vietnam War Medal-of-Honor winner

The University has established an endowed chair of leadership studies in honor of Col. Leo K. Thorsness, a recipient of the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for military heroism. Thorsness, of Saddlebrooke, Ariz., is a former Air Force pilot who was shot down over Vietnam and survived six years in a North Vietnamese prison camp.

On a mission over North Vietnam on April 19, 1967, Thorsness and his wingman attacked and silenced two surface-to-air missile sites. In the attack on the second site, however, his wingman was shot down by anti-aircraft fire, and the two crew members parachuted from the plane. Thorsness kept them in sight, relaying their position to the Search and Rescue Center.

After shooting down a MiG-17, Thorsness was forced to leave the area because his plane was critically low on fuel. However, learning of other MiGs threatening the rescue helicopters, Thorsness, despite his fuel problem, decided to return alone through the hostile environment. Spying four MiGs, he shot one down and drove the others away before finally maneuvering his almost-empty-of-fuel aircraft to the

safety of a forward operating base. As he was landing, the plane's engine ran out of fuel and shut down. Eleven days after the experience, he was shot down on his 93rd mission and taken prisoner of war.

President Nixon awarded him the Medal of Honor on Oct. 15, 1973.

The University hosted a private dinner in honor of Thorsness and the creation of the Colonel Leo K. and Gaylee Thorsness Chair in Ethical Leadership at the Jepson School of Leadership Studies.

"Col. Thorsness and his wife, Gaylee, have led lives of unselfish service to others, the kinds of lives we hope our students will lead," said Jepson Dean Kenneth B. Ruscio.

"We are honored to have this association with two individuals who personify so many of the highest ideals of the Jepson School. The establishment of this endowed chair means that generations of students will graduate from the University with a greater awareness of why ethics is the cornerstone of leadership."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Events

Nov. 22

Jazz concert

7:30 p.m., Camp Concert Hall, Booker Hall of Music

Join conductor Mike Davison and the UR jazz ensemble for a concert featuring contemporary and Cuban classics. Percussionist Rafael Monteagudo will join the group as a special guest artist. From Havana, Cuba, Monteagudo recently appeared in *Modern Drummer* magazine and is an expert on the drum set and Cuban percussion. The concert is free and open to the public.

Dec. 1

Lunchtime Forum

Doug Szajda, speaker

11:30 a.m.–1:20 p.m.

Richmond Room, Heilman Dining Center

The third lunchtime forum, co-sponsored by the School of Arts & Sciences and the University Club, will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 1. Doug Szajda (computer science) will speak on “Securing Volunteer Internetwide Computations: Can I Trust the Results of Processing Performed by Millions of Strangers?”

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 Szajda will speak for 20 minutes, no more, about his scholarly work. A half-hour of questions, comments and discussion will follow, with the proceedings being brought to a close at 1:20 p.m., so that 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 contact Rosa Garcia of Dining Services (rgarcia2@richmond.edu or ext. 8511) by noon on Nov. 23. Anyone who wishes to bring his or her own lunch, or not to have lunch, will also be welcome.

On Feb. 2, the fourth speaker in this year's series, Tanja Softic (Art), will share her ongoing research on “De Rerum Natura: What Drawing Is.” Mark your calendars!

Dec. 1

WILL/WGSS Speaker Series

4 p.m., Brown-Alley Room, Weinstein Hall

Belinda Anderson, president of Virginia Union University, a historically black institution in Richmond, will discuss VUU's history and its current renaissance as well as her own career as an advocate for equal access to higher education. The event is co-sponsored by the Center for Civic Engagement, and is free and open to the public.

Nov. 18, 19 and 21

International Film Series

Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion (English)

This documentary by filmmaker Tony Peosay was 10 years in the making. It tells the story of the near destruction of the 1,700-year-old Tibetan culture, the oppression of its people and the optimism in their hopes that they will gain freedom. Friday showing is at 3 p.m. in the Adams Auditorium of Boatwright Library. Thursday and Sunday showings begin at 7:30 p.m. in Jepson Hall 118.

Meetings and Deadlines

Dec. 6 (date change)

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.

Around Campus

World War II documents from the Boatwright Library federal depository collection

Government-published pamphlets explaining why America went to war, the United States' relationship to Allied and Axis countries, and how soldiers could adjust to post-war life are now offered for permanent public view in an online collection, “America at War 1941–45.” The 60 documents are part of a larger collection of about 250, which the library eventually will digitize and make accessible via the Internet. View the collection at http://oncampus.richmond.edu/is/library/digital/america_at_war/Gateway.html.

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

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Nov. 22 is the deadline for submitting news and announcements for the Dec. 1 issue. Send information to rmatters@richmond.edu.



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