

The Beacon

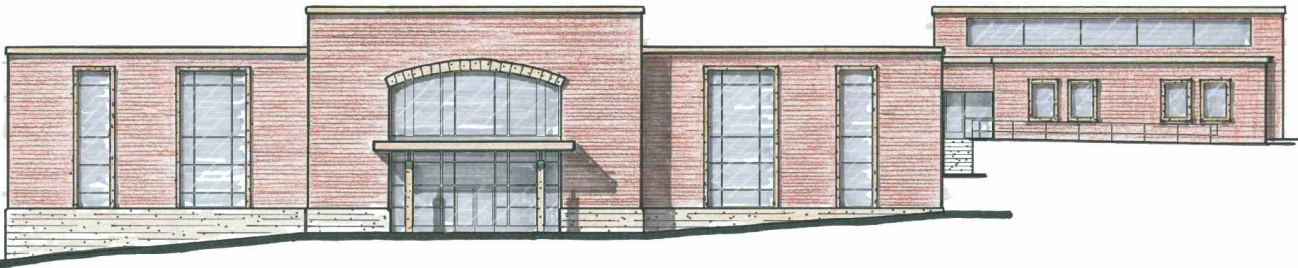
Newsletter for Lynchburg College
Winter 2009

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The Lynchburg College Leadership Initiatives

Meeting needs of students, community health, environmental science, and endowment funds

by Matthew L. Brandon



Architect's rendering of exterior renovations to the Capps building, future home of the DPT program.

In October, the Board of Trustees endorsed a fundraising initiative created by President Kenneth R. Garren. Adopted as the Lynchburg College Leadership Initiatives, they will prepare LC students to succeed in economic, civic, spiritual, and social communities throughout the world.

More information about each of these initiatives will be shared in the next issue of the *Lynchburg College Magazine*.

Health Sciences Building

An exciting new doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program, led by Dr. Kevin Brueilly, has garnered attention from regional media and prospective students. The program's most pressing need is a facility in which to educate up to 120 full-time graduate students. Other health science programs, including nursing and sports medicine, will also use the DPT facilities for instruction and clinical work. The College is partnering with the region's largest healthcare provider, Centra, and Central Virginia Community College to incorporate a nursing simulation laboratory into the curriculum. Lynchburg College's DPT program is expected to graduate its first class within three years of its 2010 launching.

Claytor Nature Study Center

Since Boyd Claytor donated 470 acres of Bedford land to Lynchburg College, the LC "western campus" has become a regional treasure used by school children, LC faculty and staff, and the greater Lynchburg community. As the College and community have come to understand the importance of preserving natural resources, the Center has offered opportunities to learn more about sustainable environments and water, land, and plants. To realize Mr. Claytor's vision, however, much more is needed.

The original farmhouse served the Claytor family for many years and now provides College conference and meeting sites. Upgrades to both the infrastructure and furnishings will maximize the visitor's experience and the property's value.

Meetings of science education groups, regional and statewide research project staff, and conservation groups occur regularly, and the Claytor Nature Study

Center welcomed hundreds of guests this year. These and other groups will benefit from a bridge across the Big Otter River so guests can access the entire facility, currently bisected by the waterway. Construction of elevated boardwalks in environmentally-sensitive areas and ecologically-sustainable small-scale lodging will provide additional access. Completion of these projects will prepare the Claytor Nature Study Center to be a leader in seeking sustainable management practices that have regional and national impact.

Burton Student Center

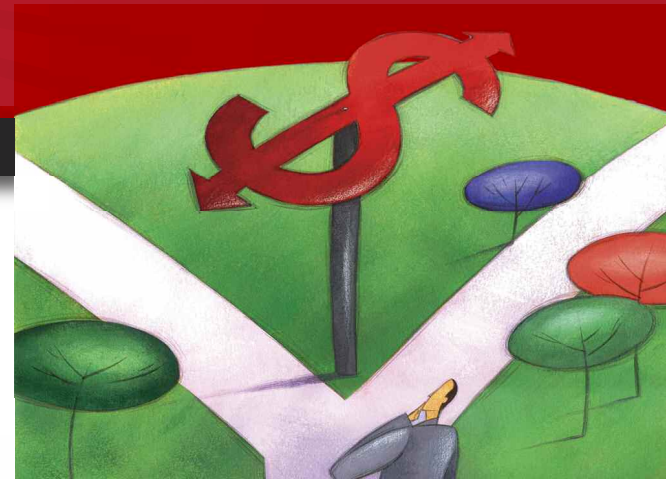
The campus's unofficial "family room" has needed renovation for many years as enrollment has grown in response to LC's national reputation for student success. Expansion of the Burton Student Center will provide updates to dining spaces, infrastructure and food preparation areas, student mailboxes, and the bookstore, and provide an exterior overhaul. Once completed, it will be a visual centerpiece, in the spirit of Elliot & Rosel Schewel Hall, and reflect the beauty and function of the College's best facilities and match the dynamism of the student body.

Financial Strength

The College's endowment includes large gifts that allow perpetual support for major initiatives. Endowed funds can serve goals consistent with the College's mission and strategic plan and are managed to provide financial support for future generations.

The Annual Fund allows the College some financial flexibility to meet current needs. Annual Fund gifts to LC are used for a variety of priorities, including, but not limited to, funding short-term tuition needs for students, providing supplies and technology for classroom instruction, enhancing the athletic experience for students, and ensuring that the campus remains safe and aesthetically welcoming.

Alumni, parent, faculty, staff, student, and community support for these projects will ensure that Lynchburg College remains at the forefront in its efforts to challenge, engage, and inspire students to succeed in a global economy. To learn more about these initiatives, visit www.lynchburg.edu/givingtoLC.



GIFT GUIDANCE BY GENE

Create your own legacy



Gene Frantz '71,
'76 M.Ed.

You have a unique opportunity to create your own legacy by endowing a scholarship or favorite program at Lynchburg College. This could be the most farsighted and enduring act of your lifetime with benefits for LC students far into the future.

What is an Endowment?

An endowment is simply a monetary contribution to create a permanent fund that will provide an ongoing source of annual income for a concern or program that is close to your heart, reflects your values, and helps meet a need of the College.

What Do You Want to Endow?

Perhaps you would like to see an annual scholarship in your name (or that of a loved one) presented to an LC student who has shown outstanding achievement and/or is in need of financial assistance. Or perhaps you would like to support faculty and staff members with opportunities for professional enrichment and development. Or you might be interested in establishing a library fund. You might even want to take the initiative to fund a program or project that is particularly important to Lynchburg College. Whatever you decide, it is important to remember that your gift is uniquely personal and should reflect your values and priorities while helping to advance the College's mission and programs.

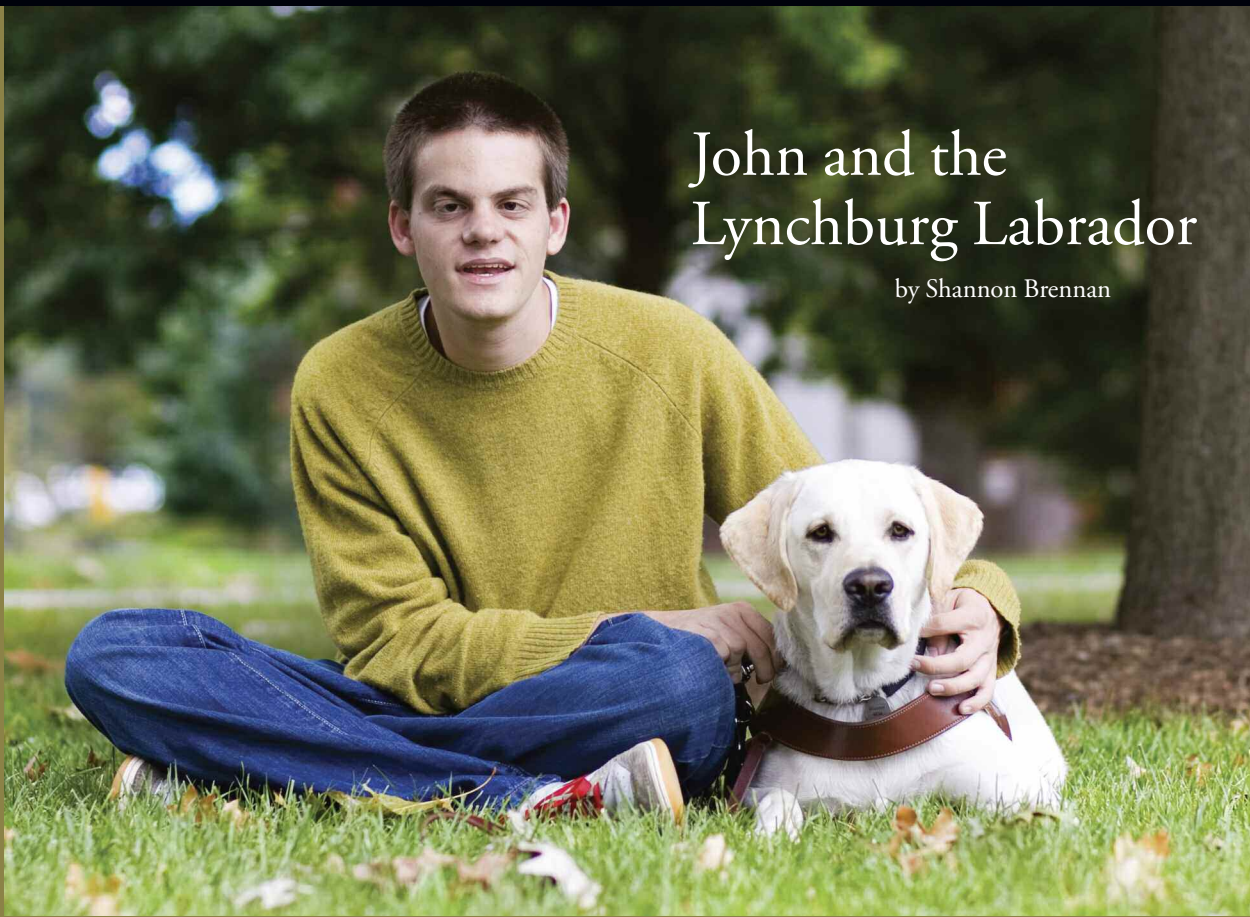
How Do You Set Up an Endowment?

Creating an endowment requires thought and careful planning. The easiest way is to contribute or bequeath funds directly to the College and specify how you want the annual income from the endowment used.

You should seek advice from your attorney and/or financial advisers, as well as from the LC Development Office to make sure your gift will accomplish your intended goals and be within College policy as set by the Board of Trustees.

Though you may not seek recognition for your generosity, we encourage you to notify Lynchburg College of your intention so we can show appreciation through membership in The Heritage Society or other appropriate ways.

Call me today at 434/544-8294 or 800/621-1669 to discuss the possibilities for creating your legacy.



John and the Lynchburg Labrador

by Shannon Brennan

John Pastorius '13 strides across campus with his dog, Houston, by his side. Except for an occasional hesitancy at sidewalk intersections, it would be easy to think he and Houston had been roaming the Dell for years.

John, however, is a freshman, and Houston has only been his dog guide companion since July. They have both learned the lay of the land quickly. "I haven't had a hard time transitioning to college," John said. "Lynchburg College is so accommodating."

Braille has been added to drink machines in the dining hall and Westover Room and to signs in John's residence hall. "Jaws" software reads e-mail for him, as well as content from LC's website. More importantly, an LC student is earning work study pay to transpose John's music into Braille.

For John, learning how to read music in Braille is a new skill that has opened up a new career aspiration for him. "I think I want to be a Braille music teacher," he said. John, who has perfect pitch and is a music education major, has always played by ear. And he has always loved music.

"I can't do anything without music on," he said. "I love country and western, which is odd seeing as how I play the French horn."

John is one of seven students who play French horn in the LC Wind Symphony and is a member of the eight-member Brass Ensemble. He is also learning piano. "It's a little easier than I thought it would be," he said.

"One would think an adjustment time among John, Houston, and the Music Department would

have been inevitable," said Dr. Oeida Hatcher, associate professor of music. "We could not have been more wrong. John and Houston are just regular music majors. Well that's not exactly true — John has perfect pitch and hears the nuances in music that we try and teach our other majors, and Houston has been caught falling asleep during lectures and rehearsals. But then again, we have other freshmen who do the same thing. John is just one of our many music students — fun loving and full of mischief."

While freshman year is usually a tough transition, John said he was well prepared for leaving his Smithfield, Virginia, home thanks to summer camps at the Colorado Center for the Blind. He learned how to cook, go grocery shopping, clean his apartment, and even get to and from a job at the Denver Art Museum. At that time, John got around with a cane, a skill he started learning at age four. John, who has been blind since birth from nerve damage caused by leukemia, can make out a few colors, but not much else.

Houston, a beautiful yellow Labrador, came into John's life last summer and has quickly become a campus favorite. In fact John thinks he could make a case for changing the College's mascot from the Hornet to the Lynchburg Labrador. "Everybody just loves Houston," he said.

Students, however, understand that Houston is a working dog and that he can't be interrupted while at work. When it's time to let him off his leash and run around the Dell, however, there are usually several students ready to romp with him. "That's what I love here," John said. "The students all try to help you. They all try to help each other."

Not that John needs a lot of help. "I don't consider blindness a disability," he said. "It's just an inconvenience to me."

Lynchburg College is absolutely at the top of my annual charitable priority list. I give to the Annual Fund before I give anywhere else. LC did a lot for me, and continues to do so for today's students. I know my gift supports those efforts.

Charles Collings '73, one of 12 donors to the Annual Fund each year for the last 34 years. Forty-four have given to the Annual Fund each of the past 25 years.

The Annual Fund
LYNCHBURG COLLEGE

A scholarship for African-American students

by Shannon Brennan



Roy Roberson Jr. '92 and Traci Jennings Roberson '92, '00 M.Ed. want to give future generations of African-American students the same access to a Lynchburg College education that they had.

"We feel like our lives have been made better by our Lynchburg College experience," said Roy, a

member of the LC Board of Trustees since 2005.

With the assistance of alumni and friends, the Robersons established the African-American Alumni Achievement Scholarship Fund on June 1, 2009. The fund will eventually award two scholarships a year to a deserving male and female. Students will need a minimum 2.75 QPA or higher and demonstrate leadership, a commitment to participate in the LC community, and financial need.

The Robersons, who like to entertain, decided to add a new dimension to their annual Labor Day cookout by inviting friends to help get their endowed

scholarship off the ground. They have managed to raise nearly \$15,000 already. Instead of waiting to reach \$25,000, the usual amount required for a scholarship to become active, the Robersons insisted that the first \$1,000 scholarship be awarded in the fall of 2010.

Matt Brandon, associate vice president for development and alumni relations, said the scholarship is a vital tool for the College. "It fits perfectly with the College's emphasis on making LC accessible to anyone demonstrating academic ability, leadership, and involvement," he said. "It's a great way to demonstrate that our African-American students are valued and performing equally with their peers."

Roy is president and owner of Roberson Financial Services, while Traci is the program manager for early intervention for Central Virginia Community Services. Roy said that he and his wife are acutely aware that it's difficult for people at their stage in life with two young children to make huge donations. But a large number of people giving gifts can create an endowed fund in relative short order. "We just need a lot of people to get excited," he said.



An enduring legacy

by Carolyn Austin Eubank '67

Doting grandparents Beezy and Topper Franke with (left to right) Kate Mann, John Faussemagne, and Grace Mann.

Dr. Walter R. “Topper” Franke Jr. ’64 was passionately devoted to his family, friends, faith, and alma mater. Even as they grieved his sudden death last July, Topper’s family knew that they wanted to do something meaningful to honor his life and legacy and to benefit Lynchburg College students.

Following his graduation in 1964, Topper served as a missionary bush pilot for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Zaire, thus launching his career with the denomination and whetting an appetite for world travel. After returning from Africa, Topper earned bachelor of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Texas Christian University. He held pastorates in Texas and Virginia and served as associate regional minister of the Christian Church in Virginia and in many other leadership roles in the denomination.

Demonstrating his belief in the importance of education, Topper served on the Salem (Virginia) School Board, led Christian Church youth camping and conference programs, and was deeply involved at his alma mater. A longtime member of LC’s Board of Trustees, he was a generous supporter of the College and led numerous fundraising initiatives, most recently galvanizing fundraising efforts for the Shellenberger, Moon, and Fox Fields renovations. In recognition of his service to church, community, and alma mater, he received LC’s Alumni Association’s T. Gibson Hobbs Memorial Award and was named Outstanding Volunteer Fund Raiser by the Virginia Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

In honor of Topper’s commitment to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Lynchburg College, as well as his belief in the educational value of world travel, his widow **Bernice “Beezy” Franke ’62** and their daughters **Kathryn “Katie B.” Faussemagne ’95** and Krystin Mann have established the Dr. Walter R. “Topper” Franke Jr. Study Abroad Scholarship Fund at LC. The fund will assist students who have financial need, are preparing for the ministry, and desire to participate in a College-approved study abroad program.

Michelle Davis, director of financial aid, says that “Study abroad programs require most students to finance their program fees and travel through federal and private student loans because scholarship opportunities are limited. Scholarships for study abroad promote affordable, quality experiences for students. We are grateful for this scholarship and for the opportunities it will afford our students.”

Beezy, Katie B., and Krystin recently agreed to be interviewed for The Beacon:

Why did you decide to establish a study abroad scholarship at LC in Topper’s name for students planning to enter the ministry?

Beezy: Due to scholarships, I was able to attend LC ... and there I met Topper and was off to forty-eight-plus years of adventure. We went to college, traveled the world, raised a family and, all that time, Topper kept religion, education, and love of family uppermost in his mind. He enjoyed learning, travelling, and sharing his life with all. He worked hard to establish scholarships for students in Galax, Virginia, his hometown; students and teachers here in Salem; and at LC.

Krystin: Dad felt that education was never ending, and he was always trying to learn more. Along with that love, Dad had a passion for travel, whether working as a bush pilot in Africa, scuba diving in the Caribbean or Egypt, or traveling through Europe with Mom and Katie. Dad loved learning about cultures — the people, the lives of those he visited. It was even more special to him if he stayed “with the locals” vs. being in a hotel with a tour group. Dad liked to quote “think globally, act locally,” and his love of learning about the world and its people really enhanced the person he was and was reflected in his ministry. Tolerance and understanding are integral parts of the ministry, and travel broadens those qualities. A scholarship helping students widen their world view to enhance their lives and ministry is a fitting tribute to Dad.

Katie B.: Dad loved to give to the College — never wanting something “named” for him, but for others who served the school so well. Dad’s purpose in life was to serve God, and he did — throughout the entire world, learning from every journey he took whether it was down the road to Galax or half a world away in Africa. After much conversation and understanding the nature of the contributions that were coming in, we decided that a scholarship in Dad’s name for students wanting to serve God and doing so through a variety of experiences would be a perfect fit.

LC Trustee issues challenge grant by Betty Cooper McKinney '62



Lynchburg College trustee Ellen Nygaard is putting her money where her heart is. A nurse and former member of the Lynchburg City School Board, she is issuing a \$65,000, 2-to-1 challenge grant to establish a nursing simulation laboratory. To claim the grant, Lynchburg College must raise \$130,000 in gifts and pledges on or before June 30, 2010.

"I've never done this before," Mrs. Nygaard said, "but I feel strongly about nursing and education, and I hope this gift will enhance nursing, the doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program, and all other health science education programs by providing a first rate training facility for our community."

While serving on the College's 2012 Commission and the DPT Task Force, Mrs. Nygaard became acutely aware of the need for nurses and new technology. "I applaud Lynchburg College for stepping into the future in a different way from

other small colleges and answering a need that is nationwide in scope," she said. "I am proud to be associated with a school that has such vision."

Mrs. Nygaard first became familiar with the College by attending events on campus and seeing the results of the College's various partnerships with the education community during her time on the School Board. "When I realized what a wonderful place LC is, I came to respect and appreciate the College, its programs, and its role in enhancing the quality of life in our community," she said.

The simulation lab will provide a risk-free environment where nursing students can have clinical experiences without the serious risks that accompany practicing healthcare skills on live patients. Dr. Linda Andrews, dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, explained, "Students could actually 'kill' someone in the lab, go through what went wrong, and then successfully perform the proper procedures as they do the exercise again." She added that the Virginia Board of Nursing has recognized the importance of simulated learning by recently approving guidelines that incorporate simulation experience for up to 25 percent of the 500 required hours of direct patient care.

The lab, to be known as the Central Virginia Regional Health Sciences Simulation and Virtual Learning Center, will operate under the oversight of the nonprofit Central Virginia Health Sciences Education Consortium and will serve as a key facility to train not only Lynchburg College undergraduate and graduate nursing students, but also Centra's School of Nursing, Central Virginia Community College's allied health programs, physical therapy students, and community health practitioners such as paramedics, fire fighters, and family practice residents. "This will be a learning environment for the community – not just for nursing," said Dr. Andrews. "It is a tremendous collaborative relationship," she added.

Dr. Angela Taylor, director of nursing at Lynchburg College, said the concept of team training will be a unique fea-

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ture of the lab, which will provide opportunities for residents and nurses to learn and work together. "Because of this, we can educate more healthcare workers than ever before, and with the shortage of healthcare providers looming in the near future, increasing the number of providers in the work force is critical," she explained. "When more healthcare providers are trained, the entire community benefits."

The lab will have seven stations and accommodate twenty-five to thirty students at any one time. Computer controlled, high fidelity, state-of-the-art human patient simulators or mannequins will be the primary simulation tools. SimMan 3G, SimBaby, and SimNewB will join earlier versions of SimMan and VitaSim Anne, which have been in use for several years. The new mannequins can be programmed to simulate common medical conditions as well as critical conditions. These can include a change in vital signs, turning blue from lack of oxygen, or a stress response that will occur through cardiac arrest or septic shock. The student has only minutes to respond to changes in heart rate, blood pressure, and breathing. Through videotaping capabilities, students receive information and feedback about their individual performances and their work as a team. "These experiences prepare students for real-life situations," said Dr. Taylor, "and help their transition into the world of independently functioning caregivers."

"This lab is a dream come true," said Dr. Andrews. "We've had this vision for so long, and we've worked continuously to see it realized."

Mrs. Nygaard has great hopes for the new lab and sees broad implications for the College and the community. "LC graduates often stay in the area," she said, "and the quality of education they receive enriches the quality of our life here. It's exciting to know that we can educate professionals who will take care of all of us."

Field Hockey's Allie Weir '10 Breaks NCAA Record

Allie Weir, a senior from Richmond, Virginia, broke the NCAA Division III record of 120 career goals in field hockey, set in 1976, during Homecoming 2009 when Lynchburg College won 12-0 over Sweet Briar College. Almuna **Phebe Phelps Long '84**, the previous Lynchburg College record holder with 106 goals, presented Allie with the game ball. Allie finished her career with 131 goals and 297 points, tying the Division III record of career points. Allie helped her team win its fourth consecutive Old Dominion Athletic Conference title.



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The Beacon

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