



University of Lynchburg

Center for Innovation and  
and Strategic Partnerships

# Innovation Collaborative Newsletter

Fall 2023 Issue 7, October, 2023

## IC Project News:

### Dell Thrift and Pantry has arrived!

On Monday, September 11th, Dell Thrift & Pantry (DT&P) had its grand opening. It seems to be a great success so far. There have been over 980 visits, resulting in distribution of 134 pounds of hygiene products and 485 pounds of food. It is more difficult to track outgoing clothes, although it is being restocked several times per week. We have also collected clothing from both on and off campus partners and remain in need of male clothes.



The IC provided the initial funding for setting up Dell Thrift & Pantry to purchase shelving, clothes racks, collection boxes, signage and more. In collaboration with the Spiritual Life Center, Center for Community Engagement and Park View Community Mission's Food for Thought Program, food is picked up once a week that is shared between the Free Little Pantry outside of Spiritual Life and DT&P. There are also students with LESS (Lynchburg



Environmental Sustainability Society) and Bonner Leaders that are assisting with washing and sorting clothes. Students and staff from a variety of departments within Student Development are checking on the space to make sure that it remains clean and straightened.

As this is the first semester of having DT&P, the use of the space and types of items will be tracked to give a better understanding of the needs. We will also be evaluating sustainability practices and will encourage others to collaborate and assist with these needs.

If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact us through [serve@lynchburg.edu](mailto:serve@lynchburg.edu) or call 434-544-8158.



# A New Sculpture on Campus

On Friday October 6th, the Innovation Collaborative hosted a ribbon cutting celebration for the installation of a new sculpture created by students through a collaborative partnership with Vector Space.



"The Hive" was designed and built by students in Chelsea Tinklenberg's sculpture course (ART 222) in the Spring 2023 semester, in collaboration with Elise Spontarelli of Vector Space. The class took place at Vector Space, Lynchburg's community makerspace, where all phases of the sculpture were built. After several variations and prototypes, students created a hive design, bringing color and creativity to campus. Funding for this project was made possible through the Innovation Collaborative.

Student Artists: **Erin Boder, Ruby Bondurant, Logan Cantin, Alexander Gianascoli, Isaiah Romsdahl, Natalie Shuford**

## Artist statement by student sculptor Isaiah Romsdahl:

*"The Hive" really stands for much more than anything we ever prescribed to the sculpture. Throughout the entire process, there was an incredible amount of unity felt throughout this team, and this concept was visualized at its base, where three hex-pods rest together, carrying the others. On the other hand, there was also this sense that we were united in spite of our differences - everyone involved came from a different background, had a different aesthetic, and had a different vision for what the piece would look like if they were the only one putting their name on it. This unspoken sentiment was visualized not only through the orientation of the hex-pods furthest left and above, but through the colors chosen to be displayed on either side of "The Hive." This piece is a celebration of differences and a recognition that together we can accomplish so much more than we would individually."*



## Letter from the Chair

You may not recognize me as a member of the University of Lynchburg community, as my role as Major Gifts Officer keeps me off campus much of the time. But my work involves every aspect of the university. In my role, I use innovation and collaboration every day to make connections to help secure the financial resources needed for Lynchburg's success. I joined the Innovation Collaborative as a way to help move us forward as an institution. My Clifton Strengths are Ideation, Activator, Maximizer, Connectedness, and Futuristic and I thought they might be useful to this group. Little did I know they would land me in the role of Chair, and I am excited to put them to work in imagining future paths forward to support our university. This is not only my place of employment but is also my daughter's alma mater. I look forward to partnering with our fellow Lynchburg community members to improve the University experience for students and employees.

We would love to have you join us. Specific areas of need are communications, the sciences, graduate programs, and athletics. If you share our passion for advancing Lynchburg's future, please consider submitting an interest form today! [IC interest form](#)



–Kerry Kinnison, Major Gifts Officer and IC Chair



**LET'S INNOVATE!**

**Submit an idea and let's get started!**

**Or, join us on the committee!**

## IC Mission

The committee is comprised of staff and faculty from across campus working to foster a culture of innovation and help bring new ideas to fruition. Our mission is to seek ideas that:

- generate revenue
- reduce costs
- improve the campus experience and find ways to implement and maintain solutions for innovation and progress.

**email: [innovation@lynchburg.edu](mailto:innovation@lynchburg.edu)**

**Daniel Hall, Chief Innovation Officer**

**Kerry Kinnison, Chair**

**Alayna Roman, Secretary**

**Lauren Merek, Treasurer**

**Lisa Crutchfield, Membership Lead**