

## Student Affairs continues evolution

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Vice Chancellor for Administration

Napoleon Hill once said, "The starting point of all achievement is desire. Keep this constantly in mind. Weak desires bring weak results, just as a small amount of fire makes a small amount of heat." The stalwart desire that set forth the establishment of our College 50 years ago is still strong today - just look at the Division of Student Affairs' comprehensive student life program.

Only ten years ago, the Division was dramatically different. At that time, several departments, including activities and intramurals, career development and counseling were staffed by part-time and/or student personnel; outdoor recreation didn't even exist.

The last decade has brought significant changes in staffing and available resources. Today, the Division maintains a \$7+ million budget encompassing Athletics; the Campus Bookstore; Campus Police; the Center for Student Development and Leadership; Facilities Management; Greek Life; Housing and Residence Life; Student Activities; Intramurals and Outdoor Recreation; and Summer Conferencing. With the College's continued emphasis on co-curricular student life programs and initiatives, the Division has grown exponentially in both programs and physical infrastructures.

The College's continued emphasis on physical improvements and their direct impact on the Division are staggering. In just the last five years, the following facilities have been added, thanks in large part to the generosity and support of our alumni and friends: the C. Bascom Slep Student Center; Stallard Baseball Field; Henson Hall residential facility, the Jim Humphreys Tennis Complex, Carl Smith



*The new residence hall currently under construction across from the lake will house 120 students when it opens for the spring semester of 2006.*

Stadium improvements, Humphreys -Thomas Field House, a women's softball facility; and intramural/activities recreational fields.

A continued emphasis on quality people and quality programs is reflected in student participation and satisfaction and in the recognition the Division has received. Athletics is an AAC Champions of Character designee; Campus Police has maintained its top safety ranking among Virginia's public colleges and universities for five of the past six years; the Center for Student Development and Leadership has assisted hundreds of students; Facilities Management completes thousands of work orders campus-wide each year; for the second consecutive year, Housing and Residence Life has operated residence halls filled to capacity; the number of students participating in Student Activities, Intramurals and Outdoor Recreation numbers in the thousands each year; and more than 8,000 participants have used the recreational spaces of the C. Bascom Slep Student Center since it opened in 2003.

The Division of Student Affairs' mission to provide programs and opportunities to enhance each student's academic experience and to augment individual development underscores the strong desire exhibited some 50 years ago by the College's founders.

## Record number of graduates awarded degrees at UVa-Wise

The largest graduating class in the 50-year history of The University of Virginia's College at Wise participated in commencement exercises on Saturday, May 22. Some 279 graduates received degrees during the College's 35th commencement ceremony.

Virginia Attorney General Jerry W. Kilgore, a 1983 graduate of UVa-Wise, delivered the keynote address. "This College gave me the skills and education I needed to succeed," Kilgore told the Class of 2004. "The degrees you receive today are a testament to the skills and education that will help you succeed."

