

CAMPAIGN FOR THE FUTURE

Volume 2, Issue 2 • June 2009

Explore. Prepare. Grow.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Excerpts from Commencement

Each of us in our respective generations has much to say about our experiences growing up. Some things that we would rather not remember – some that are worth savoring for a lifetime.



I remember being taught values as well as the subject matter contained in our books – many that were outdated. For example, a high school history book that ended with World War II - even though it was 1956.

We were taught respect – were told

that we would soon be in the job market – do your best – study hard – plan for the future – adapt to changing times and always meet the daily challenges with optimism and hope.

The values of hard work, ethical behavior, and compassion for others are not ones that should be confined to the 1940's and 1950's. They are as relevant today as they were 50 or 60 years ago.

I don't wish to return to those days, however, the values that we were taught speak to you graduates tonight.

I want you to think of the teacher who aided your journey through school; to name a friend who helped you through a difficult time; to name someone who taught you something worthwhile; to think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special – parents, children, spouse, siblings; to think of someone you enjoy spending time with, and to name a half a dozen heroes whose stories inspired you.

And most importantly reflect on your past but always look to the future with optimism, hard work, compassion, and hope.

I wish you well – and when you make the big time - don't forget to send RBC a check!!!

Dr. James B. McNeer, President



RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE OF THE COLLEGE of WILLIAM & MARY

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COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER 2009



“Things in the world are turned upside down right now.”

Honorable John Charles Thomas

The Honorable John Charles Thomas, former Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia and Senior Partner at Hunton and Williams in Richmond, VA. was the Richard Bland College Commencement Speaker for 2009. In his address, Judge Thomas said that at most typical commencements the speaker would tell the graduates that the world is a great place and that they will find what they're looking for -- but, he said, today everybody knows better so it is our job to confront reality and to address the difficulties that face our nation. Thomas, who came from a broken home plagued by alcoholism and poverty told the graduates that despite the hardships he faced growing up, he was never without hope. Thomas, who as one of the “freedom of choice” school students in 1965 helped to integrate Norfolk's Maury High School went on to attend the University of Virginia where he was one of only six black students in his entering class of 1400. Later, in 1982 he became the first black partner at Hunton and Williams and then in 1983 he became the first black and, at 32, the youngest justice in the history of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Thomas told the graduates that even though “things in the world are turned upside down right now,” they must not give up.” Thomas said, “You have to play your part in making this country better. You must remember that the education you got here at Richard Bland is part of what we need to

make this nation better.” The former justice reminded the audience of over 125 graduates plus family and friends that “the only thing that it takes for evil to prevail in this world, is for good people to sit down and do nothing.” Building on that theme he told the graduates that they must not be silent, they must not sit down, they must participate in the affairs of this nation. Thomas went on to say that he did not expect the graduates to tackle all of the major problems in the world at one time but he hoped that they would tackle the small problems that they encountered in their daily living. He urged them to fix the problems that were at hand and then he said that each one of them working on small problems here and there could have a world changing effect. In the end, Thomas quoted from the Poet Longfellow to remind the graduates that they must be “Builders.” He said, “All are architects of fate working in these walls of time. . . .” To the graduates of Richard Bland College, Judge Thomas said, “Be Builders.”



The Dr. James B. and Nancy W. McNeer Society

The Dr. James B. and Nancy W. McNeer Society was established by the Richard Bland College Foundation in 2009

Its objectives are:

- Ê to highlight the importance of Bequests in ensuring the continuing effectiveness of the College and securing its future,
- Ê to encourage and facilitate Bequests,
- Ê to honor in their lifetime those who have made Bequests.

Membership of the Dr. James B. and Nancy W. McNeer Society:

- Ê is open to anyone who has notified Richard Bland College in writing of an estate plan,
- Ê members will be invited to ongoing activities during the year,
- Ê all supporters who confirm their membership in the Dr. James B. and Nancy W. McNeer Society by December 31, 2009 will be recognized as Founding Members of the Society.

A bequest to Richard Bland College can be a powerful expression for the future of the College. An estate gift provides significant future support to Richard Bland College. If you would like to join others by making a bequest, simply include the following language in your will or trust:

I hereby give to the Foundation of Richard Bland College, a charitable corporation, the following described property: _____ Ê

OR the sum of: _____ Ê

OR _____ percent (____%) of the residue of my estate. Ê

Richard Bland College shall use this gift

Examples:

... where the need is greatest, Ê

... at the President's discretion, Ê

... to provide scholarships to worthy and needy students, Ê

... other as designated by the donor. Ê

Bequests may be further restricted, for example, to establish a scholarship. All assets, including cash, securities, and real estate, may be transferred to the Richard Bland College Foundation through your estate. The Office of Advancement is ready to consult with you about bequests to Richard Bland College, and to help you with any questions you may have.

Summary of benefits:

- Ê Support of Richard Bland College
- Ê A bequest is deductible for federal estate tax purposes.
- Ê There is no limit on the amount of estate tax charitable deductions.
- Ê Bequests are generally not subject to state inheritance taxes.
- Ê Those who notify us of their intention to include Richard Bland College in their will become members of the Dr. James B. and Nancy W. McNeer Society.

For a confidential interview on bequests, please contact the Office of Advancement.

“And most importantly reflect on your past but always look to the future with optimism, hard work, compassion, and hope.”

Dr. James B. McNeer
President



From Left to Right:
 George Nasis, Moseley Architects; Dr. LeAnn Binger, Director of Advancement, Richard Bland College; Skip Smith, III, WM Jordan; Michael Shriver, Facilities Manager, Richard Bland College; Dr. Russell E. Whitaker, Jr. Dean of Administration and Finance, Richard Bland College; Dr. James B. McNeer, President, Richard Bland College; Dr. Vernon Lindquist, Provost and Dean of Faculty, Richard Bland College; Jim Pociulyko, Moseley Architects; Steve Martin, Division Chair, Science and Quantitative Methods, Richard Bland College; and Nate Jellerson, Facilities, Richard Bland College.

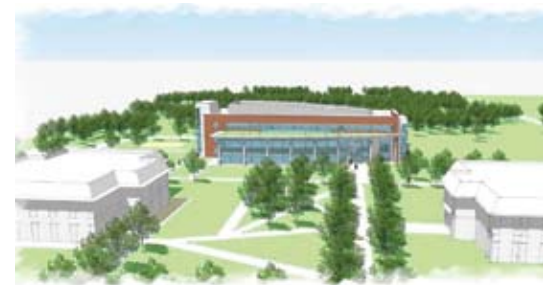
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BUILDING

Richard Bland College is taking its next important step in building for the future. After recently completing the construction of its first two residence halls, a full renovation of its campus library, and major renovations in the student commons to include a student health clinic, RBC has launched the construction of a major new classroom building.

This project is funded by money from the State of Virginia College Building Authority bonds to build the approximately 52,000 square foot, three story building. It will house academic computing, mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology classrooms, seminar rooms, and laboratories, as well as faculty offices, faculty and administrative offices, a faculty lounge and student lounge.

A monumental stairway will connect the first and second floors and an entrance lobby will open to the second floor. The classrooms and laboratories will have state of the art technology, including Smart Boards and wireless access throughout the building.

The building will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified, including a "green" or living roof on the lower roof level, and will be constructed using noncombustible construction practices. Construction choices minimize the impact this building has on the environment. The total budget for the building is \$19,000,000, and it will be ready for students and faculty in August, 2010.



WINE TASTING DINNER

The Richard Bland College Foundation and Title Sponsor Norfolk Southern held its first wine tasting dinner and silent auction on May 2, 2009 at the Country Club of Petersburg. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and attendees, the Foundation was able to raise over \$9500 toward the scholarship fund.



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OF THE COLLEGE of WILLIAM & MARY

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Richard Bland College Foundation Golf Tournament

September 9, 2009 Shotgun Start 12:00 noon

At The Country Club of Petersburg

Tournament Entry Form
(Captain's Choice Format)

Team Application \$400

Teams that have signed up and paid by August 3, 2009 will receive
4 mulligans (a \$20 value)

Team Members' Names and email/phone:

#1 _____

#2 _____

#3 _____

#4 _____

Team contact person's name: _____

Address: _____

Hole Sponsor: \$100 per hole

Name(s) for Hole Sponsorship(s) _____

Mail entry form and check or credit card (MasterCard or Visa) information to:

The Richard Bland College Foundation
11301 Johnson Rd., Petersburg, VA 23805
804.862.6115

Account Number
Expiration Date
Signature