

# THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE

## A BRIEF HISTORY

The University of Virginia's College at Wise, formerly Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia, is the only four-year, state-supported college in far southwestern Virginia and the only branch of the University of Virginia.

Situated on 367 acres in Wise County, UVa-Wise is an incredible example of the determination and perseverance of southwestern Virginia citizens. Before the College was created, there were no public colleges in Virginia west of Radford. Higher education was simply out of reach for most residents of Virginia's Appalachian Mountains.

When local residents Fred B. Greear, William A. Thompson, Kenneth P. Asbury, affectionately known as "the Three Wise Men," and others made their case to University of Virginia President Colgate Darden for establishing a college in Wise, the Commonwealth of Virginia supported the cause by offering \$5,000 to open, staff, and operate the two-year school for the first year.

Local supporters donated over \$6,000 to furnish and equip the classrooms. Wise County donated property and two sandstone buildings, remnants of the county poor farm, to house the first classes. All of these events happened in the winter of 1954. In September of that same year, Clinch Valley College opened its doors to 100 freshmen.

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Many of the first classes of graduates went on to the University and other senior institutions and became some of the region's most successful professionals. As more graduates of the two-year college expressed their preference to stay closer to home to complete their baccalaureate degrees, the College began the process to become a senior institution. The College first granted Bachelor of Arts degrees in June 1970. Bachelor of Science degrees were first awarded in 1973. Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees were first awarded in 1996. Approximately 7,000 students have received baccalaureates in one or more of the College's academic disciplines.

Perhaps the most significant event in the College's recent history is its adoption of a new name. On July 1, 1999, following passage of legislation by the Virginia General Assembly, Clinch Valley College became The University of Virginia's College at Wise.

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, the small college once nicknamed "Poor Farm University" is a vibrant senior institution ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation's top ten public liberal arts colleges. In recent years, the College has experienced an expansive building program, completion of a successful campaign, record enrollment, new international sister institution agreements and the recruitment of the next generation of talented faculty and staff.

## A PROFILE

The liberal arts foundation emphasized at UVa-Wise prepares students for professional careers, graduate study, and lifelong learning. The College's curriculum promotes the thoughtful development of the ideas, insights, values, competencies and behavior of an educated person. Its student-centered learning environment is characterized by small classes taught by faculty who focus on teaching excellence, creative and scholarly activities, and community service. Campus life provides a rich variety of cultural activities that broaden students' perspectives on the world and its evolving global society.

UVa-Wise offers undergraduate programs in the arts and sciences as well as undergraduate professional programs in business, nursing, teacher education and other fields, all characterized by a strong liberal arts experience.

UVa-Wise is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate degrees. The College's Department of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

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The nine men who have guided the institution are:

Samuel R. Crockett	1954–1957
Joseph C. Smiddy	1957–1985
Edmund Moomaw	1985–1986
Jerry D. Cardwell	1987–1988 (Interim)
Jimmy A. Knight	1988–1992
L. Jay Lemons	1992–2001
George E. Culbertson	2001 (Interim)
Steven H. Kaplan	2001-2004
Ernest H Ern	2004-Present (Interim)

Concurrently, five presidents have guided the University of Virginia:

Colgate W. Darden, Jr.	1947–1959
Edgar F. Shannon, Jr.	1959–1974
Frank L. Hereford, Jr.	1974–1985
Robert M. O’Neil	1985–1990
John T. Casteen, III	1990–Present

UVa-Wise is committed to expanding the spectrum of academic programs available for the residents of the region and beyond. In 1976, the College began reaching beyond its campus in Wise with a program of continuing education. The College is a partner in the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, where degree programs are available in Accounting, Administration of Justice, Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, History, Nursing, and Psychology.

In 1998, the College forged a sister institution agreement with Istanbul University, Turkey’s oldest and largest institution of higher learning. An agreement was reached with Dumlupinar University in Kutahya, Turkey in 1999. Cooperative programs beneficial to the students and faculty of the institutions will be developed, including mutual exchanges.

In 2000, UVa-Wise broadened its global outreach with the signing of a sister institution agreement with Cardenal Spinola University College CEU in Seville, Spain. The agreement encourages exchanges of students and faculty to experience the vibrant cultures of southern Spain and southern Europe.

In 2002 the College signed an agreement establishing a sister institution relationship with the Pädagogische Akademie Baden in Baden, Austria. This agreement will permit UVa-Wise students to experience an Austrian institution of higher education and the culture of that country. It will, in turn, encourage Austrian students to join us in Wise, adding to the diversity of our student population.

# MISSION AND GOALS

## **Mission Statement**

The University of Virginia's College at Wise, a public liberal arts institution, provides students with learning experiences that offer opportunities to develop the insight, competence, sensitivity, and integrity necessary for living enriched lives and for enriching the lives of others. Established in 1954 as a college of The University of Virginia, it is guided by the values of citizenship and altruism. Proud of its Appalachian heritage, the College continues to honor its commitment of service to Southwest Virginia, the nation, and the world. The College is guided by a legacy of teaching and scholarly excellence and by a dedication to quality in both the arts and sciences and professional programs. Above all, The University of Virginia's College at Wise is a diverse community of people who believe that information can be transformed into knowledge and that teaching and learning create a foundation for wisdom.

## **Desired Accomplishments and Goals**

**Teaching and learning at The University of Virginia's College at Wise are transformational experiences.**

- Students gain the skills necessary to continue to educate themselves.
- Students are prepared to assume responsibility of citizenship.
- Students learn to appreciate and respect diverse cultures.
- Students discover the importance of being involved in the community.
- Students understand the value of education.
- Students acquire an international perspective.
- Students value honor and integrity.
- Students develop leadership skills.

**The University of Virginia's College at Wise is nationally recognized for academic excellence in the liberal arts and specialized programs of study and is the college of choice for Southwest Virginia students.**

- The College is a community of learners supported by all constituents, faculty, staff and students.
- The College attracts and retains a talented faculty.
- The College provides resources necessary for the continued professional growth and development of the faculty.
- The College recruits a talented, culturally and geographically diverse student body.

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- The College's staff believes in its mission, supports its programs, and genuinely care about its students.
- The College combines the natural beauty of Southwest Virginia with state-of-the-art campus facilities.
- The College offers nationally recognized science and technology programs, which have a strong foundation in the liberal arts.

**The University of Virginia's College at Wise has built a strong sense of community and improved the quality of life for the region.**

- The College is the cultural center for the region.
- The College is an engine for economic growth.
- The College continues to strengthen the quality of K-12 education in Southwest Virginia in partnership with local schools.
- The College is a leader in environmental stewardship.
- The College plays an integral role in improving access to and the quality of healthcare in the region.

## FACILITIES

The 367-acre campus of UVa-Wise is situated on a plateau just outside the Town of Wise, Virginia. Older buildings of native cut Gladeville sandstone flank the modern, well-equipped buildings that form the core of campus.

### ALUMNI HALL

Alumni Hall, owned by the Alumni Association, has been completely remodeled and wired for the campus network. The facility houses the Office of Alumni Relations, and a large meeting room used for dinners, receptions, and professional meetings by the College and community.

### BOWERS-STURGILL HALL

Bowers-Sturgill Hall, one of the College's two original buildings and a former women's residence, was extensively renovated as the result of generous gifts from Hurshel Bowers and William J. Sturgill. The facility, formerly known as Martha Randolph Hall, now houses offices for the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for Development and College Relations, Admissions, and Financial Aid.

### CANTRELL HALL

Cantrell Hall is named for longtime Southwest Virginia legislator Orby Cantrell. The facility houses Campus Police, the Dining Hall, the Center for Student Development, Housing & Residence Life, and the Vice Chancellor for Administration.

## **THE CHAPEL OF ALL FAITHS**

The Chapel of All Faiths is used for religious services and a variety of other special events, particularly the Cohen Concert and Lecture Series, conferences, and cultural performances.

## **ATHLETIC FACILITIES**

The Fred B. Greear Gymnasium contains a basketball court, conditioning facilities, and offices for the intercollegiate athletics programs. Used as an auditorium, it can accommodate 850 spectators in comfortable, theatre-style seating. The facility is named for the Wise County attorney who was influential in the founding of the College.

Adjacent to the gymnasium are a junior Olympic-sized indoor swimming pool with dressing facilities, the new, state-of-the-art Humphreys Tennis Complex, and the College's baseball field which was renovated in 2003. Carl Smith Stadium, a new football facility equipped with an artificial turf field, is located at the western end of the campus. A softball field is located on the upper campus.

## **RESOURCE CENTER**

Situated on Darden Drive across from the main campus, the Resource Center includes the Offices of Accounting Services, the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Governmental Relations, Human Resources, the Powell River Project, Pro-Art, Printing Services, and College Services.

## **C. BASCOM SLEMP STUDENT CENTER**

C. Bascom Slemple Student Center was completed in the summer of 2003. The Slemple Student Center consists of the College Bookstore, Post Office, Papa Joe's Snack Bar, Student Leadership floor, conference facilities, and recreational facilities including three racquetball courts, fitness rooms, game room and lounge. The Slemple Student Center also houses Student Activities & Intramurals, and Outdoor Recreation.

## **LILA VICARS SMITH HOUSE**

The official residence of the College's chancellor is named in memory of Mrs. Lila Vicars Smith, a Wise resident who instilled the value of education in her son, Carl Smith. Since its construction in 1991, Mr. Smith has made many generous contributions in memory of his mother for improvements to the chancellor's residence. The Georgian-style home is the host site for numerous receptions and other special campus events during the academic year.

## **JOHN COOK WYLLIE LIBRARY**

The John Cook Wyllie Library, named in honor of a University of Virginia librarian, provides students with a lively and inviting place for

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study, research and recreational reading. When the College is in session, the Library is open seven days a week for a total of 77 1/2 hours of operation.

The building's new wing, named for the late Campbell S. Edmonds, a trustee of the Slemple Foundation, includes a periodical reading room, compact storage for bound periodicals and a classroom and lab used for teaching the use of computerized library resources.

The Library houses a collection of more than 120,800 book volumes, 28,000 volumes of bound periodicals, 1,500 periodical titles and 70,000 units of microforms, plus computer software and datafiles, compact discs, videos, DVDs and other audio-visual media. The periodical collection includes newspapers and magazines of general and scholarly interest. An online public access catalog provides easy access to the holdings. The John Cook Wyllie Library engages in many cooperative ventures with The University of Virginia's libraries.

The Library is a depository for federal and state documents, with special emphasis on publications related to Southwest Virginia. Many documents and manuscripts pertaining to the region, including the Historical Society of Southwest Virginia Collection and the James Taylor Adams Papers, are housed in Special Collections.

The Wyllie Library is a member of OCLC/SOLINET, an on-line computer network, which gives the Library access to collections throughout the world.

### SERVICES

**Circulation.** Books and other materials may be circulated for three weeks and may be renewed unless another patron has requested them. The CAVS card is the Library card and must be presented to borrow and renew material. A fee of 10 cents per day per item is charged for overdue materials.

**Interlibrary Loan.** Wyllie Library's collection satisfies most needs, but additional books and journal articles are available through Interlibrary Loan at no cost to students and faculty. Through OCLC/SOLINET membership, the Library can access library collections throughout the world for needed materials. ILL materials may be requested electronically through the library's homepage.

**Reference Services.** Six librarians and several trained assistants are available to assist students with reference questions. Reference service is enhanced with many full text databases, including InfoTrac, NewsBank and OVID. The library also has both on-site and remote access to many more bibliographic and full-text databases through VIVA (the Virtual

Library of Virginia), the World Wide Web, and also the collections of The University of Virginia through their on-line catalog, VIRGO.

**Reserve Material.** Many faculty place books, articles, and audiovisual materials on reserve for student use. Items are loaned for various periods including 2 hours, 1 day, 3 days and 7 days. Fines are 25 cents per hour for 2-hour reserve materials and 25 cents per day for other reserve items.

## CLASSROOMS AND OFFICES

Classrooms and faculty offices are located in Darden Hall, the Science Center and Zehmer Hall on the upper level of the campus, and in Smiddy Hall and the Theatre Building on the lower level.

**Darden Hall.** On May 17, 2002, the former Commonwealth Hall was renamed Darden Hall to honor the Colgate W. Darden family, who were instrumental in the founding of the college and continue to be supporters. The 35,000 square foot facility houses art studios, computer and mathematics laboratories, classrooms, the Technical Assistance Center and faculty offices. The Departments of Education, Mathematical Sciences, Nursing and Visual and Performing Arts maintain offices in the building.

**Music Center.** The Music Center houses faculty studios, offices, classrooms, rehearsal rooms, practice rooms, and an electronic piano lab.

**Science Center.** The Science Center, which recently underwent a major addition of chemistry and biology laboratories, houses a lecture hall, a computer laboratory, classrooms, laboratories and offices for the Department of Natural Science.

**Smiddy Hall.** Named for Chancellor Emeritus Joseph C. Smiddy, Smiddy Hall offers three large lecture halls and houses the offices for the Departments of Business and Economics and Social and Behavioral Sciences. The Offices of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, Academic Dean, Computer Services, Cashier, Registrar, Institutional Research, and Advising and Retention are also located in Smiddy Hall.

**Theatre Building.** The Theatre Building includes a flexible stage and a comfortable auditorium, which seats 150 people. Theatre classrooms and the office of the Theatre director are also located in the building.

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*Zehmer Hall.* Zehmer Hall is home to the Departments of History and Philosophy, Language and Literature, Student Support Services, and Media Services. Several specialized facilities are located in Zehmer Hall, including the Clinical Nursing Resource Center and the Oral Communications Lab, which offers students instruction in and assistance with public speaking.

The Department of Language and Literature also maintains a language laboratory for use by students in all foreign language classes. Located on the second floor, the lab contains all modern equipment, including tape recorders and computers designed to give students access to native speakers by way of tapes, access to foreign countries via the Internet, and access to other varied tools for reinforcement of language learning. A video room for viewing videos and films is also available. Hours of operation, which vary according to schedules of attendants, will be posted at the entrance to the laboratory at the beginning of each semester.

Student Support Services, which offers a number of academic support services, has offices and tutoring facilities in Zehmer Hall.

*Writing Center.* The Writing Center was established and is maintained in a collaborative effort by the Department of Language and Literature and Student Support Services. Students may come to the Center when they need help with writing, and the Center will also accept referrals from faculty members. Tutors are students who are experienced in tutoring for composition classes. The Writing Center contains six to eight computers for use by students during tutoring sessions.

## **SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER**

UVa-Wise offers seven baccalaureate degrees in Abingdon, Virginia, at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center. Located on the Virginia Highlands Community College campus, the program is designed for students to take upper-level courses in seven majors through UVa-Wise. More information about the Abingdon Programs is available on page 307 of this catalog, or by calling (276) 469-4017, or the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center at (800) SWCENTER (792-3683). Information can be obtained on line at [www.swcenter.edu](http://www.swcenter.edu).

## **WELDON COOPER CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE**

The University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service applies resources of the University to public problems and opportunities for government, public officials, businesses and the citizens of Virginia. Activities include research and compiling statistical data on

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demographics, economy and government; technical assistance in policy formulation and problem solving; seminars and conferences for public officials and civic leaders; and publications of social and economic data and public affairs of the state. The office is located in the Resource Center.

### **WISE-FM**

WISE-FM, a National Public Radio affiliate, broadcasts a variety of cultural and educational programming, plus Virginia and national news. The station's signal originates from the C. Bascom Slemple Center for Broadcasting, located on Faculty Row. Construction of the station was funded by the Slemple Foundation and a grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. Station programming is made possible by the generous support of local businesses, civic organizations, municipal bodies, charitable foundations and individuals.

WISE-FM broadcasts in Wise at 90.5 FM, in Big Stone Gap at 90.1 FM, in much of Russell and Washington counties at 90.1 FM, in Clintwood at 90.3 FM, in St. Paul at 90.9 FM, in Pound and Jenkins, Ky. at 91.3 FM, and in Norton at 91.7 FM. In 2003, WISE-FM entered into a full-time programming agreement with WVTF radio of the Virginia Tech Foundation, and in 2004, the license and assets of WISE-FM will be transferred to WVTF.

### **COMPUTER FACILITIES**

UVA-Wise is committed to providing the skills students will need as workers and responsible citizens in the information age. A campus-wide computer network provides students access to the Internet and on-campus network resources. The College has several departments integrating Internet usage and multimedia into the educational experience. Eight computer labs, all offering Internet access, are available to students.

*Technical Assistance Center* (Darden Hall) - Provides technology support services to faculty, staff and students as well as providing 20 PC computers for student use. The lab area is equipped with scanners and color printing capabilities. The Technical Assistance Center serves as the initial contact location for all technology support issues.

*Writing Center* (Zehmer Hall) - Supports writing needs for all academic departments with a network of eight Macintosh computers. Primary applications include word processing and desktop publishing.

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**Computer Science Lab** (Darden Hall) - Supports computer science coursework in a multi-platform, TCP/IP network environment. Thirty-seven computers support programming languages such as Visual Basic, Visual C++ and Ada. The PCs give access to two Linux servers that provide various other programming languages including C, Pascal, and LiSP. Microsoft Office 2000, Mathematica, Minitab and the Internet may be accessed using the PCs. A scanner, CD burner and LaserJet printers are available for student use. Limited dial-in access is available for off-campus access to the Linux machines for computer science students.

**Multimedia Lab** (Darden Hall) - Supports student development of graphic, audio, video, and web projects for all majors but especially education and visual arts. The lab houses 25 PC and eight Macintosh computers. The lab is equipped with scanners, high-end graphics machines, audio and video machines, photo quality printing and digital cameras.

**Science Lab** (Science Building) - Supports science coursework with a network of 10 PC computers. Primary applications are specialized science programs.

**Business Lab** (Smiddy Hall) - Supports business coursework with a network of 30 PC computers. Primary applications include word processing, spreadsheets and database.

**Language Lab** (Zehmer Hall) - Supports language and literature coursework with a network of 10 PC computers. Primary applications are specialized foreign language programs.

**Social and Behavioral Sciences Lab** (Smiddy Hall) - Five PC computers support students analyzing data with statistical software such as SPSS.

## ELECTRONIC CLASSROOMS

Electronic classrooms are situated in Zehmer Hall. These classrooms are used for both sending and receiving courses through two-way interactive television. The courses originate from the Wise campus or from distant sites such as The University of Virginia and other universities and community colleges.