

UVA-WISE PLANS TO ADD MAJORS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

UVA-Wise students should have two new technology majors to choose from beginning in the fall of 2005.

During its November meeting, the UVA-Wise Board approved majors in Computer Science and Management Information Systems. The majors still require approval from the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The BOV and SCHEV are expected to endorse the new majors early next year.

"We think these programs will attract a significant number of the best and brightest students from the Southwest Virginia region and beyond," said Gil Blackburn, provost and senior vice chancellor. "Additionally, we expect these majors to be an important factor in the economic growth of the region."

The Computer Science major will require the addition of several advanced courses in mathematics, chemistry and physics. The necessary instructors, facilities, equipment, classrooms,

laboratories and software are already in place to support the new major. UVA-Wise hopes to recruit significant numbers of new students with this major and also expects to attract students who until now have been double majors in Math and Computer Information Systems.

Management Information Systems (MIS) will combine computer science classes and business classes. As proposed, it will require no new faculty or resources and only one new class, a capstone class that will integrate business and computer science. The MIS major is expected to produce graduates who will understand the needs of the business, and who will also be able to manage the computer system needs of these businesses.

The new majors will serve as a significant step toward the College's ultimate goal of adding a software engineering program. Only six accredited software engineering programs exist in the United States, none are located in Virginia.

Crockett Hall's history captured on canvas

Betsy Ross Koller, an artist whose work has adorned UNICEF greeting cards and holiday boxes of Nestlé chocolate, has captured the image of Crockett Hall on canvas.

Koller's painting illustrates the building's past as part of the Wise County poor farm. The family shown tending their crops is "rich in spirit, rich in a desire to take care of themselves," Koller says. "Crockett Hall is a place of honor and dignity and tradition, then and today."

Crockett Hall was part of the Wise County poor farm before being renovated to house the entire College when it opened in 1954. In later years, the building was used as a student residence hall. It is currently closed and awaiting a renovation project which will begin early next year.

The original painting "Crockett Hall" was donated to UVA-Wise by Koller in honor of the College's 50th anniversary. Gaynell Fowler of Grundy later purchased the painting at a benefit auction. Fowler, whose \$10,000 purchase price will benefit UVA-Wise, graciously donated the original artwork back to the College. It will hang in Crockett Hall after the building's renovation is completed.

Prints of "Crockett Hall" may be purchased for \$100 in the UVA-Wise Campus Bookstore. The high-quality artist prints are 19 inches tall and 25 inches wide. All proceeds from the sale of



Don M. Green '61, president of the UVA-Wise Foundation Board and a member of the UVA-Wise Board, introduced artist Betsy Ross Koller to the story of Crockett Hall.

"Crockett Hall" prints will benefit UVA-Wise. Greeting cards featuring "Crockett Hall" are also available in the Campus Bookstore.

A native of Zanesville, Ohio, Koller developed her unique artistic style while living in Switzerland. She first began painting as a hobby, studying Swiss naive art. Her alpine scenes were soon joined by works depicting her idyllic country childhood. Koller's award-winning images have been exhibited widely in the United States and Europe. Her paintings can be found in public and private collections across the U.S., Europe and as far away as South Africa.