

# Hollins News Flash - March 2010

## Campus

### Paris Abroad Directorship Endowed with \$1 Million Gift



"I gained my best friends in life while I was studying abroad," says **Jeannie Hall Rutherford '74**. The lifelong impact of her semester overseas inspired Rutherford and her husband, Thomas, to make a gift of \$1 million to support Hollins' study abroad program in Paris. This endowed fund will pay the salary and benefits for what will now be called the Rutherford Director of the Hollins Abroad Paris Program.

"For more than fifty years, Hollins has been nationally recognized for the quality of our study abroad programs," says President Nancy Gray. "This generous gift will help ensure our Paris program has strong, forward-thinking leadership for years to come and provides the best possible experience for our students, both academically and personally."

>> [Read more](#)

>> Learn more about [Study Abroad](#) at Hollins

### Hollins' Endowment Ranks Among Nation's Strongest in Weathering Recession

Hollins is among the top schools in the country in defying the economic downturn and maintaining a healthy financial endowment, according to a nationwide survey of public and private colleges and universities.

The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) found the value of college and university endowments across the U.S. fell by an average of 23 percent from 2008 to 2009.

However, Hollins' endowment value declined by only 7.2 percent during that time period, from \$120.2 million on June 30, 2008, to \$111.5 million as of June 30, 2009. (As of December 2009, the university's endowment had rebounded to a value of more than \$126.5 million.)

In comparing the 344 colleges and universities with endowments of \$100 million or more, Hollins had the seventh-best performance in the nation during 2008-2009.

In Virginia, Hollins was tops in endowment performance among the 15 schools with funds of \$100 million or more. Hollins also had the second-best performance overall among the nation's women's colleges.

"Despite the country's economic challenges, our alumnae have remained steadfast in their commitment to support the university. A conservative investment strategy also contributed to protecting our endowment from the worst of the recession's impact," said President Nancy Gray.

>> [Read more](#)

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### Media Spotlight on Hollins Researchers

Recently, a team of faculty and student researchers at Hollins made a remarkable discovery: beverages from soda fountain machines can harbor microorganisms that may contribute to episodic gastric distress in the general population and could potentially pose a more significant threat to people with

compromised immune systems. This research was then published online by the International Journal of Food Microbiology.

Since its publication, the research has attracted widespread media attention, from [CBS](#), [CNN.com](#), and many other national and international outlets. A Google search indicates that approximately 120 articles have been generated by this research.

Hollins congratulates biology department faculty members **Renee Godard**, **Rebecca Beach**, and **Amy White**, and students **Carolyn Belling '11** and **Vicki Kasza '09** for their outstanding work; we are thrilled to see them receive this well-deserved recognition. This research represents yet another example of what a tremendous group of faculty and students we have at Hollins and the special opportunities they have to collaborate with one another.

>> [Read more](#)

### Student and Faculty Highlights

- Professor of English **Cathy Hankla '80, MA '82** was awarded the James Boatwright II Prize for Poetry from Shenandoah magazine for her poem, "Bee Tree." The \$1,000 prize is for the best poem published by Shenandoah in a volume year (2009).
- **Paige Oberlin '11** was invited to speak on the plenary panel of the National Young Feminist Leadership Conference along with Congresswoman Rosa Delauro and others in Washington, DC, March 20-21. Here's a link to the conference and a video of Paige talking about last year's conference: <http://www.feministcampus.org/leadership/>.
- The **Environmental Advisory Board** is pleased to announce that the 2009-2010 student green fee will be used to purchase and plant trees on the Back Quad of campus. These trees will not only preserve and enhance the beauty of the Hollins campus but they will also remove carbon from the atmosphere and store it in their tissues as they grow. On average a tree can remove 50 pounds of carbon from the atmosphere each year.
- Hollins congratulates the following faculty members on their promotions to associate professor with tenure for **Michelle Abate**, English; **Pauline Kaldas**, English; and **Richard Michalski**, Psychology, effective July 1, 2010.

### Quad Quote

"The interns are all spectacular! I don't know how we will function when they go back to Hollins. Thank you for letting UBS borrow your students for the month of January. They get better and brighter every year."

--- Holly Hendrix '75, UBS Financial Services, President of Hollins Alumnae Association (at center in photo above)

Do you know of an **internship opportunity** for Hollins students at your office, or that of your spouse, neighbor, or friends? Contact Alumnae Relations at [alumnae@hollins.edu](mailto:alumnae@hollins.edu) or (800) 846-5371 to learn more!

### Links

[Alumnae Web site](#)

[Online Update Form](#)

[Online Alumnae/i Directory](#)

[Send class news](#)

[Give a gift online](#)

[Send a Hollins E-Card](#)

[Archives of News Flash](#)

## Retirees Have Combined 108 Years of Service

At the end of March, four employees who have made an invaluable contribution to Hollins through their many years of service will be retiring.



- Brenda LaPrade, printing, mailing and shipping supervisor, 42 years of service
- Ellen Witt, director of instructional technology, 29 years of service
- Gary Owen, maintenance supervisor, 21 years of service
- Norma King, alumnae and donor relations assistant, 16 years of service

Alumnae will know Norma as the "voice of Hollins" when they have called the alumnae relations office, and Norma has greeted thousands of alumnae who have returned to campus for reunions.

Please join all of us at Hollins in thanking these four dedicated employees for making this university a better place to learn and to work, and for the positive, lasting impact they have had on countless students, faculty, staff, and alumnae.

## New Volleyball Coach for Fall 2010

Jason Kozak, who spent six seasons as an assistant coach of the women's volleyball team at the University of Virginia, is the new head volleyball coach at Hollins. Hollins is adding volleyball as an intercollegiate sport this fall, playing a provisional season in 2010-2011 and then becoming a competing member of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference the following year.

>> [Read more](#)

## Alumnae/i

### Reunion 2010: June 4 - 6

Return to Hollins for Reunion 2010 for a weekend of old friends and new experiences. Reunion 2010 will celebrate all classes ending in 5 or 0 and the class of 2008 - but remember, the entire Hollins family, regardless of class year, is invited to return and bring their families.



#### Highlights:

- Celebrate **50 years of the Creative Writing Program** with an alumnae and faculty author fair
- **Siddy Wilson's Gifts to Hollins and its Museum:** the visual arts center and museum at Hollins
- Honoring **Professor of Art Bill White** upon his retirement
- **Hollins Women Making History:** alumnae panelists share their



### Scatter Garden at Hollins

Hollins is exploring the possibility of establishing a memorial garden on campus intended for the scattering of ashes.

A space in the area of the duPont Chapel has been identified and at this point we would like to know if this is of interest to our alumnae.

Please contact Diane Markert at (540) 326-6515 or [dmarkert@hollins.edu](mailto:dmarkert@hollins.edu) if you would like further information.



### The Hollins Campaign for Women Who Are Going Places

The largest fundraising campaign in Hollins' history

[Learn how you can make an impact on Hollins' future](#)

life experiences, moderated by **Anna Logan Lawson '65, MA '70**  
(Ph.D. UVA)

## Plan a Tinker Day Party

Alumnae chapters from across the country joined in on the Tinker Day tradition by hosting parties during October 2009. From hiking local mountains to celebrating with happy hours, dozens of chapters declared their own Tinker Days. Each received a Tinker Day declaration from President Gray and box of goodies to help the Tinker Day spirit spread.



We encourage everyone to seek out a Tinker Day party in their area during October 2010 or contact the Alumnae Relations office for more information on starting one: [alumnae@hollins.edu](mailto:alumnae@hollins.edu) or (800) 846-5371.

>> [Photos from 2009 Tinker Day Parties](#)

## Funding

### Save the date: 1842 Society Weekend in Philadelphia

**October 8 - 10, 2010**

Members of our leadership giving societies - the [1842 Society](#) and [Miss Matty's Circle](#) - are invited to join President Gray and the Hollins Trustees for a wonderful weekend in Philadelphia, featuring:



- Guided tours of the world-class collections at the **Philadelphia Museum of Art** and a tour of the **Barnes Foundation**. The Barnes, located on the fabled Main Line, is one of the finest private collections of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, and early modern art in the world. You'll see the collection in its original setting before its move to Philadelphia in 2011.
- A walking tour of the historic district with the executive director of the Athenaeum, including **Independence Hall** and the **Liberty Bell**.
- Unique access to two of Philadelphia's private homes: the **Powel House**, dating to 1765, and the **Physick House**, home of the Father of American Surgery.
- A reception at the **Union League Club**, and cocktails and dinner at the **Acorn Club**, the premier private women's club dating to 1889.
- And much more!

>> [Learn more](#)

>> [Make your gift online](#) and join the 1842 Society or Miss Matty's Circle

>> [Current Members](#) of the 1842 Society and Miss Matty's Circle

## Join Hollins in Ireland - January 2011

> Approximate cost will be \$2,900 and the trip will be about 14 days

*Study and Travel: The Ireland of W.B. Yeats, James Joyce, and Irish Mythology*

This study/travel opportunity will start in Dublin and then trace Irish literature and legend west to the town of Sligo and Yeats country.

An important feature: we will bring together current students and Hollins alumnae. **Let us know your interest:** Course Leaders Lawrence Wayne Markert, [wmarkert@hollins.edu](mailto:wmarkert@hollins.edu) and Diane Markert, [dmarkert@hollins.edu](mailto:dmarkert@hollins.edu)

Goal: \$125 million  
Gifts to Goal: March 2010

H — \$121 million

## Campaign Ends June 30th

We are in the last three months of the \$125 million [Hollins Campaign for Women Who Are Going Places](#) which will end with the counting of the last dollars postmarked June 30, 2010. The campaign is divided into three basic categories: Hollins Fund (\$22 million), endowment (\$78 million), and campus facilities (\$25 million). Since the campaign spans eight fiscal years and includes the annual

operating fund, many of the gifts are already working for Hollins, including:

- [Renovations](#) of Swannanoa Hall, Presser Hall, Moody Center, Bradley Hall, the Green Drawing Room, Beale Garden, West Building, Dana Science Building, Turner Hall, Kirby Riding Center, playing fields, and dance studio;
- As well as new sidewalks, signs, cooling tower, boiler, exercise equipment, landscaping, and a substantial start on improvements to the theatre.
- And [endowed scholarships](#), [professorships](#), and [academic support funds](#).

Gifts made to the [Hollins Fund](#) are expended in the year in which they are made and each year provide approximately 8 percent of the Hollins budget to support student scholarships, faculty salaries, and daily operating expenses.

[Endowments](#), by their nature, will work in perpetuity to fund undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, professorships and chairs, research funds, travel abroad and J-term opportunities, speaker's funds, and faculty salaries.

>> [Learn more](#)

## Upcoming Events

### [Alumnae Events](#)

Watch your mailbox, your inbox, or check Facebook or the Hollins Web site for more details on the following alumnae events!

**April 3** - Richmond Chapter Easter Egg hunt

**April 21** - Charlottesville Cocktail Reception

**April 28** - Richmond Cocktail Party

**April 29** - Lynchburg Chapter Event



**Register today for [Reunion 2010](#):**

**June 4-6!**

### [Campus Events](#)

- [Exhibits in the Wilson Museum](#)

**April 7 - 11:** [Theatre production](#): *Violet*, an uplifting off-Broadway musical

**April 15:** Distinguished Visiting Fellow of the Batten Leadership Institute: William B. Timmerman on "'Powering Up Communities from the Inside Out: Leading Innovation with a Servant Mindset"

**April 16:** Jackson Poetry Reading with Mark Doty, winner of the National Book Award for Poetry in 2008

**April 22 - 24:** [Spring Dance Works](#)

**April 26:** Distinguished Speaker Series: Greg Mortenson (sold out!)

**April 29:** Dee Hull Everist Visiting Speaker Series: Lecture by Cultural Critic Marjorie Garber

**May 23:** [Commencement](#), with speaker Natasha Trethewey M.A. '91, Pulitzer Prize winner