The College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences accounts for nearly two-thirds of the more than 15,000 undergraduates at the University of Virginia, in addition to serving roughly 1,500 graduate students. It houses twenty-six academic departments, several of which are larger than some individual schools on Grounds, and more than two dozen interdisciplinary programs.

As a comprehensive school of arts and sciences, the College teaches and researches everything from art, music, and creative writing to nuclear physics – and the Graduate School produces the next generation of scholars, many of whom go on to teach at top-tier research universities.

A gift supports the College – the heart of Grounds – by preserving Jeffersonian teaching ideals while ensuring the ongoing excellence and eminence of U.Va.’s academic program.

PRIORITIES

For nearly two centuries, the College’s world-class faculty members have raised the caliber of undergraduate and graduate instruction while also conducting research, serving as advisors, and pursuing their own passions outside of the classroom, studio, and lab. Against a backdrop of impending faculty retirements, enrollment expansion, and waning state funding, we approach our third century with the knowledge that we must stretch our resources to sustain our tradition of academic excellence by recruiting and retaining the world’s best faculty. This pursuit will be challenging, and it will require significant private investment.

Through the Faculty Forward Campaign we seek $130 million in private funding to provide both immediate support for faculty hiring while also bolstering the College’s endowment, its capital base, so that our drive for faculty excellence can be sustained. This initiative will both protect and enhance the core of our mission: the excellence and rigor of our undergraduate educational experience and the eminence and research productivity of our faculty. We will realize our promising future through determination and generosity, by committing to moving faculty forward, and by driving distinction in all of our efforts.

In 2019, the University will celebrate its bicentennial, ushering in a new century of teaching and learning at the University of Virginia. As we approach this historic milestone, we pursue an ambitious goal of increasing the Arts & Sciences Benefactors Society from 1,298 members to 1,819 by the year 2019. Our success in reaching this goal will help the College hire and retain the best faculty and ensure the continued excellence of the undergraduate experience despite the challenge of enrollment growth and declining state funding.

Donors willing to rise to the challenge by joining the Benefactors Society with a 5-year pledge of a gift of $2,500 or more annually to the unrestricted College Fund will qualify for recognition on the Founder’s Challenge donor wall. This new donor wall will be going up in the newly renovated New Cabell Hall.