



“I hope you’ll remember how much Mary Washington changed your life and do what you can to provide the current students and faculty the same opportunities we were given.”

– Ellen Brown '69



Beyond the Classroom: An Endowment for Student Research and Learning



AS THE UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON strives to enhance its mission as a premier public liberal arts and sciences university, it is more important than ever to provide opportunities for student learning beyond the traditional classroom.

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Students pursue such experiences in a variety of ways. First-year students participate in a program designed to engage with faculty in research during the early stages of their undergraduate college careers. Upper-class students participate in individual research projects, internships, study away programs, and study abroad. These experiences provide students with the opportunity to study in rigorous academic programs while simultaneously immersing themselves in a different learning environment or culture.

PRIVATE SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL

All of these experiences impact student learning in ways that the traditional classroom cannot, and in ways that help shape students for future careers and learning. For this reason, the University has historically supported such “outside” learning endeavors with more funding than would normally be seen from an institution of its size.

Our ability to grow, and even continue at present levels of support, has been increasingly constrained by budget challenges in recent years. COVID-19 has only accelerated these challenges, and now the College of Arts and Sciences struggles to meet the funding demands of these rigorous, individualized programs for our students.



“The creation of this new endowment will significantly bolster our student learning experiences beyond the traditional classroom. While I know this is a big goal, let us start planning now to ensure that every student will have access to this critical support for years to come.”

– Dr. Keith Mellinger
Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences



The Impact:

Contributions to the endowment will help us develop additional creative learning opportunities beyond the classroom that inspire the next generation of experiential learning. Each year, the endowed fund will provide awards to students for the following activities:

- High-quality, yet often unpaid, internships
- Study away and study abroad experiences
- Independent research projects
- Registration for, and often travel to, conferences to present research findings
- Participation in the annual Summer Science Institute research program



THE CAMPAIGN

To continue and grow support for student learning opportunities, the College of Arts and Sciences aims to build a \$1 million endowed fund – *Beyond the Classroom: An Endowment for Student Research and Learning*. This fund would be the first of its kind at UMW and would distinguish the University in a way that would appeal to prospective students seeking unique undergraduate learning opportunities.

Reaching the **\$1 million goal** will enable the College of Arts and Sciences to provide approximately \$40,000 *every year* to support high-impact student learning experiences that take our students beyond the classroom.

Your gift is vital to help build this new endowment. For more information and to learn about giving opportunities, visit cas.umw.edu/BTCEndowment or contact the College of Arts and Sciences at **540-654-1052**.



1301 College Avenue
Fredericksburg, VA 22401