WHAT IS THE JEFFERSON TRUST?

The Jefferson Trust is a donor-funded and donor-directed endowment that provides seed-money grants to innovative pan-University programs and projects, encouraging collaboration, creativity and leadership. It acts as a catalyst for new ideas that showcase some of the best thinking of students, faculty and staff, enhancing the student experience and the University’s worldwide reputation.

TIMELINE

In its first 10 years, the Jefferson Trust has changed the lives of the students, faculty and leaders of the University in a myriad of ways. Consider our history of impact:

- Idea was first conceived of by the Alumni Association Board of Managers; long-range planning begun
- Jefferson Trust formally established; awarded first grants of $296,000 in support of seven areas
- First grant with global impact made to “Water & Health in Limpopo,” which has engaged more than 115 students, produced more than 65 research papers and since the initial $50,000 Trust seed funding, has attracted additional outside investment of more than $6.5 million
- “Flash Seminars” program first established by Trust grant, which has now engaged over 1500 students and 150 faculty
- Donor Trustee board grows to 21 active members

The Jefferson Trust was founded by the Alumni Association of the University of Virginia to promote excellence by providing catalytic support to the University community for initiatives in pursuit of Jeffersonian ideals. A new paradigm in funding for higher education, the Trust provides consistent grant support to Trustee-selected projects from a wide variety of areas within the University that cannot or will not otherwise be funded.
University President asks Trust for $100,000 grant in support of the “Big Data Initiative,” ultimately resulting in establishment of new U.Va. Data Science Institute.

Trustee “Mentor” Program begins, providing additional engagement opportunities for donors and grant recipients; donor Trustee board grows to 40 members.

Endowment tops $20 million; with 71 grants receiving over $2.8 million of support since inception.

Phase I of a Pan-University Social Entrepreneurship initiative funded, ultimately resulting in new Batten School program.

One hundred twenty-three grants totalling more than $4.8 million have now been awarded, making an impact on nearly all areas and schools of the University.

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THE WATER AND HEALTH IN LIMPOPO PROJECT
CENTER FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

A $50,000 grant made in 2008 to the Center for Global Health not only engaged U.Va. students, faculty and staff in developing sustainable point-of-use water treatment for suffering communities, but also garnered more than $6.5 million in additional funding. Since that initial grant was made, The Water and Health in Limpopo Project has had catalytic impact on thousands of South African families, hundreds of students, faculty, researchers, and product developers from U.Va. and other institutions around the world. Significant accomplishments include:

• Engagement of 115 U.Va. students from eight schools in meaningful research
• More than 65 peer-reviewed publications and presentations to international academicians
• Sustained, collaborative relationships with the University of Venda, the Limpopo District Ministry of Health, and faculty from other universities
• Clean water systems for more than 6,000 Limpopo community members and the creation of dozens of jobs
• Development of two products for sustainable point-of-use water treatment: the Madi Drop and the Drinkable Book

Primary grant recipient Rebecca Dillingham, MD/MPH, and Director of the Center for Global Health, expresses her appreciation to the Trust for this game-changing, seed-money support: “The original support from the Jefferson Trust has been so critical for us … and we remain extraordinarily grateful!”

“WE HAVE RECEIVED JEFFERSON TRUST SUPPORT IN PAST YEARS. I THINK THE TRUST IS ONE OF THE GREATEST THINGS TO HAPPEN AT THE UNIVERSITY. IT UNLOCKS THE CREATIVITY OF THE STUDENTS AND THE FACULTY TO IMAGINE PROJECTS THAT THEY COULD NOT DO OTHERWISE.”

BILL SHERMAN
Director of Open Grounds
Associate Vice President for Research and Professor of Architecture
COLLEGE ADVISING SEMINAR (COLA) PROGRAM

With an early $21,000 grant from the Jefferson Trust, the COLA Program was launched in 2006 serving 112 first-year students. Today, the COLA program has grown to 60 classes that reach more than 1,000 first-year students each year. During course registration at summer orientation, students choose their COLA courses; their COLA seminar instructors are their advisers until the students declare a major. Each course is a fine mix of academics and academic advising. Students have the opportunity to make an early connection with a faculty member. This program inaugurated President Sullivan’s Total Advising Initiative, outlined in the University Strategic Plan.

DESIGN-DRIVEN MANUFACTURING

A rarity in the field of Architecture, the Design-Driven Manufacturing Studio gives students the opportunity to design at the material systems level and then take their designs into production, with consultation from industry experts. After laying the groundwork for the project in 2013, Professor Jeana Ripple applied to the Jefferson Trust for $14,000 in grant funding in 2014 to aid in the implementation phase of the project. Last December, with an audience of industry experts and guests from across Grounds, students from the Design-Driven Manufacturing Studio defended their projects and accepted criticism from guest architects. Not only were the projects aesthetically beautiful, but they were also sustainable and useful.
FLASH & PAVILION SEMINARS

In 2011-2012, the Jefferson Trust funded two innovative programs focused on seminar-style course offerings at U.Va.

Flash Seminars, a student-led initiative, are mini-classes announced one week in advance that provide opportunities for students, faculty and community members to discuss real-world topics in real time. Since receiving an initial grant of $8,000, more than 250 seminars have impacted more than 1,500 students and 150 professors, as well as community members. The Flash Seminar model is expanding nationwide in high schools, colleges and U.Va. Clubs.

Pavilion Seminars, launched the same year by the College of Arts & Sciences, are for-credit courses focused on faculty-student interaction, as seminars are limited to 15 students. Faculty members submit proposals for seminars and a committee selects the most promising to begin developing the courses to be offered over the academic year. Since the initial grant funding of $80,000 in the spring of 2012, more than 600 students have participated in 50 Pavilion Seminars, led by 41 faculty members.

“This IS SUCH A WONDERFUL PROGRAM. SOME APPLICATIONS COME FROM STUDENTS, SOME FROM FACULTY MEMBERS AND EVEN SOME EVEN COME FROM ADMINISTRATORS, BUT THEY ARE ALL IMAGINATIVE AND CREATIVE. I THINK THEY HELP TO MAKE THE UNIVERSITY A BETTER PLACE.”

TERESA A. SULLIVAN
President
University of Virginia
GROWING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP @ U.V.A.

In 2011, the Trust granted $55,000 to a student organization, Student Entrepreneurs for Economic Development (SEED), to nurture social entrepreneurship at the University. SEED goals included developing multiple courses, establishing University-wide competitions, and encouraging the establishment of a minor or certificate in social entrepreneurship.

In 2013, the Trust received a grant request from the Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy to expand this work and to create a pan-University Social Entrepreneurship Initiative. This initiative was a direct result of the “wide-ranging student demand, and directly from a specific, long-developing student initiative to foster social entrepreneurship at the University.” The Trust provided $90,000 and the Office of the Provost showed its support by matching the funding.

While Batten has provided direct leadership, multiple schools including the McIntire School of Commerce and Darden now offer cross-listed courses in the field, and McIntire has just announced a pan-University minor in entrepreneurship with a concentration in social entrepreneurship.

TEACHERS IN THE MOVEMENT

With the goal of collecting and digitizing 100 oral histories from teachers who were active in the Civil Rights Movement, Curry School Professor Derrick Alridge sought $30,000 in funding from the Jefferson Trust in 2014 for his Teachers in the Movement Project. The project consists of videotaping first-person accounts of educators who participated, either by community involvement or by active participation, in integrating the schools in their communities. A website is being established that will house these interviews, along with coordinating curricular activities, so that teachers throughout the country will be able to access these video recordings as they prepare lessons on the Civil Rights Movement.

Professor Alridge believes that the Teachers in the Movement Project will be “on par someday with other major oral history projects that cover the Civil Rights Movement, such as The Behind the Veil Project at Duke and the Southern Oral History Project at the University of North Carolina.”
To date, the Jefferson Trust has awarded more than $4.8 million to 123 programs and projects at the University.

**GRANTS BY SCHOOL** 2006-15

- Arts & Sciences: $1,065,024
- Nursing: $132,393
- Batten: $90,000
- Engineering & Applied Sciences: $288,057
- Architecture: $171,500
- McIntire: $78,000
- Medicine: $142,690
- Darden: $79,400
- Law: $100,000
- Curry: $383,893

**GRANTS BY TYPE** 2006-15

- Student Life/Experience: $3,744,309
- Community Relations: $984,976
- Faculty Excellence: $745,683
- Science/Technology: $2,138,459
- Arts: $1,918,682
- Global: $751,920
- Pan University: $1,717,216
- Medicine: $142,690
- Darden: $79,400
- Law: $100,000
- Curry: $383,893
- Batten: $90,000
- Nursing: $132,393
- Engineering & Applied Sciences: $288,057
- Architecture: $171,500
- McIntire: $78,000

A grant may be counted in multiple categories. This is true for both charts.

“THE BEST IDEA FOR A GRANT IS THE ONE THAT WE HAVEN’T HEARD ABOUT YET. EVERY YEAR THE NEW IDEAS ARE SO PHENOMENAL AND THAT’S WHAT MAKES THIS SO MUCH FUN. IT’S A GREAT ORGANIZATION AND WE WANT THE IDEAS TO KEEP ON COMING.”

**PHIL NESMITH, COL’77**
St. Elmo Trustee of the Jefferson Trust
To further the Vision and Mission of the Trust, every proposal must have, first and foremost, a clear and direct benefit to students. The Trust does not make a distinction between undergraduate and graduate students; “students” are defined as current or future University students enrolled in degree-related programs.

- The Trust must be able to see in the proposal how all the monies are to be used and the funded activity completed.
- The Trust has a preference for new programs or exceptional “one-offs” as opposed to participating in sustaining an already-ongoing effort.
- The Trust will strive to make sure (within the confines of the proposals presented to us) that we have a balance among local, state, national and international needs.
- We welcome and encourage applications from student groups and for student-led initiatives.
- As the Trust serves the entire University community, it must be sensitive to as much cross-Grounds representation as possible in its grant awards. The Trust looks at grant patterns from year to year to ensure that the grants are not concentrated too deeply in any one part of the University.
- The Trust will audit the use of funds and will analyze whether or not the program was successful.

RESTRICTIONS

- The Trust will not make grants that call for financial draw downs over multiple years where the successive draws are dependent upon as-yet-unknown or undefined activities or status. However, awardees are free to use grant funds over multiple years.
- Pure brick-and-mortar proposals must demonstrate that they meet some objective other than standard construction or maintenance.
- Similarly, the Trust does not consider proposals that merely fund salaries. Any sort of salary or stipend must be tangential to or in furtherance of some larger program and must not be the purpose in and of itself.
- The Trust will not fund anything that is otherwise a budgetary item. In other words, the Trust will not step in and fund something that has been pared down or refused in the University budget process.

Applicants should not hesitate to ask questions. It is desirable that potential applicants contact the Trust’s Grant Administrator with questions about how their proposals may or may not fit within these guidelines.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2005-15
The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) plans to create a New Faculty Teaching Fellows Program to address the needs of a large influx of new faculty over the next several years. This comprehensive multi-year program will onboard faculty through four features: participation in CTE’s successful Course Design Institute; a year-long faculty learning community; one-on-one mentoring; and a reflective teaching statement. The pilot program was expanded in 2015-16 due to high demand, from 12 to 36 participants.

IGNITE: LAUNCHING THE NEXT GENERATION OF U.VA. FACULTY FOR TEACHING SUCCESS

$49,760

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“For us, the Jefferson Trust was huge! It helped get our project off the ground, hosting a forum at Darden that brought McIntire, Batten and the Law School together. Thanks to the Trust for making this possible—it’s been one of the most rewarding aspects of my years at Darden!”

ROBERT LANGLEY
Darden student and grant recipient for Darden Impact Ventures
The Charlottesville Debate League is a U.Va. student organization that teaches debate to local middle school students. Initial success has encouraged expansion to other schools in the area. Grant-supported goals include formal mentoring by U.Va. students for Charlottesville students; hosting an annual debate tournament; expanding the program to include Charlottesville High School; and partnering with the Curry School to build a training program for student teachers/mentors.

CHARLOTTESVILLE DEBATE LEAGUE

$58,975

This program will provide a platform for collaboration that will enable research at micro and nano scales to enrich the University’s life science researchers and students with knowledge of cutting-edge imaging technologies. By offering monthly departmental seminars on emerging technologies, U.Va. researchers and students from various disciplines will be exposed to the forefront of the broader field of imaging technology from innovators who develop new imaging methods.

IMAGING TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

$15,000

Darden Impact Ventures, a student-run impact venture club, furthers education in venture capital and impact investing by partnering with and supporting innovative for-profit enterprises. Jefferson Trust grant funds will pay for the subscription fee for Investor’s Circle and for costs associated with intra-University speaker series and seminars; attendance at conferences; and business school competitions.

DARDEN IMPACT VENTURES

$8,000
After receiving unfurnished space in Ruffner Hall designated as a new teaching laboratory, the Kinesiology Department sought funding from the Jefferson Trust to provide interactive and psychometric learning equipment for the new laboratory. This equipment will allow students to experiment and learn kinesiology techniques by doing rather than reading about or watching videos of the various methods.

The University of Virginia has always been a place where students have participated in civic engagement. This initiative maps the network of public service projects that currently exists at the University in order to understand the impact of service activities, identify gaps in service, and develop a strategic plan to improve service opportunities that benefit the community and students. Individual students and student organizations often request service opportunity information and with the help of this grant, students will ascertain the information they need to be active in community service and public service.

“THERE IS SO MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT MONROE HILL THAT NEEDS TO BE UNCOVERED AND SHARED. THE JEFFERSON TRUST WAS THE RIGHT PLACE TO GO ... THEY LISTENED TO US AND HELPED US START THIS PROJECT. I’M SO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT!”

STEPHEN PLASKON
Associate Professor, Curry School and Director of Studies, Brown Residential College
INTEGRATED LEARNING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCHOOL LEADERS

$43,500

Jefferson Trust grant funds will be used to develop and pilot a new model of integrated learning to support Curry School of Education graduate students who are preparing for educational leadership roles. This initiative consists of online classes, facilitated small groups, and field-based learning as the basis for teaching courses in the Master’s program. Jefferson Trust funding will aid in the development and launch of the initial pilot program and in evaluation and revision of the program in year two.

LIBRA: OPENING ACCESS TO ALUMNI THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

$58,350

U.Va. alumni theses and dissertations will now be accessible online in electronic format via the Libra Institutional Repository. This initiative entails digitizing several hundred of the most valuable, rare and unique of the University’s 30,000-plus print theses and dissertations from 1885-2012. During the two-year project, the 500 most frequently circulated files will be digitized, followed by theses and dissertations in Civil Rights and American history from the 1960s forward.

MONROE HILL

$85,000

The spirit and the history of the buildings and grounds now home to Brown College on Monroe Hill represent an important part of the history of U.Va. and the legacy of James Monroe. The historical significance and perspective of Monroe Hill have been somewhat overlooked. This project intends to invite student participation in research, documentation, illustration, and sharing of significant information about Monroe Hill, as well as create a documentary film to enlighten students and others about the role that James Monroe played at the University. Accompanying educational materials and discussion guides will also be part of the project.
The goal of this project is to create a comprehensive curriculum to prevent and respond to sexual assault on college campuses that can serve as a model for the nation. This holistic curriculum will provide an overarching framework for a variety of tailored initiatives, including those focused on: security measures; reporting processes; health-care support; bystander programs; faculty and administrator responsibilities and actions; youth- and student-centered activities that engender healthy relationships; and best practices for conducting climate surveys and measuring impact. It will serve as an umbrella and general guide for selecting specific initiatives and programs.

The goal of this initiative is to develop future leaders in the research area of environmental sustainability and resilience with the creation of a new program called the Graduate Sustainability Research Forum, and with a new fellowship opportunity—the Graduate Fellowship in Environmental Sustainability and Resilience. The forum will build a community among current graduate students from across the University, in collaboration with faculty and other students surrounding five main research clusters: resilience of coastal communities; global water and food resilience; climate-earth feedbacks; sustainable cities; and energy.

“I AM INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO THE TRUST FOR THIS GRANT. IT’S GOING TO ALLOW US TO EXPAND OUR PROGRAM AND MAKE THE UNIVERSITY A NATIONAL LEADER ON HOW TO REDESIGN FOOD AID.”

WILLIAM HENAGAN
Fourth-year student and grant recipient for Greens to Grounds
As part of the national Sustained Dialogue Institute, PULSE creates an immersive, overnight retreat off-Grounds for 70 student participants to engage in their experiences of identity and to build trust, while supported by a mindful curriculum. Jefferson Trust funding will provide for the second of two such retreats, along with post-retreat evaluations and development of institutional partnerships.

INTEGRATION OF ROTMAN INTERACTIVE TRADER SOFTWARE INTO THE B.S. IN COMMERCE CURRICULUM

$18,000

Taking place over two academic years, this proposal aims to replace the UpTick Market Simulator used at the McIntire School of Business with the Rotman Interactive Trader as trading simulation software used in the classroom. The proposed program seeks to elevate classroom technology at McIntire to the state-of-the-art standard already adopted by other leading business schools.

PULSE AT U.V.A.

$19,340

Greens to Grounds provides students with a weekly box of locally grown produce paired with educational programming including: video cooking tutorials, recipes, cooking classes and a blog. This student-run organization’s goals are to educate the U.Va. community in sustainable agriculture and to support the local agricultural community. Funding will support start-up costs and develop organizational capacity, along with providing low-income students with healthy food options. In the long term, membership fees will cover expenses.
“THE TRUST OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO NOT ONLY SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY, BUT TO ALSO BE ACTIVE IN WHERE THE SUPPORT IS GOING.
I LOVE THE GRANT PROCESS AND ENJOY LISTENING TO THE APPLICANTS TALK ABOUT THEIR PROJECTS. WE THEN GET TO MAKE A DECISION OF WHERE OUR INVESTMENT GOES.”

JULIE FUTCHE, CURRY ’94
Trustee of the Jefferson Trust
A FAMILY LEGACY IN THE MAKING

When Larry Sperling (Col ’81) was a U.Va. fourth-year, he was honored and proud to be invited to join other outstanding classmates as a resident of the Lawn, Room 45 West. His father, Herbert Sperling (Col ’48) graduated from the University, and Larry’s family continues that legacy, with sons Owen (Col ’16) and Eliot (Col ’19) both students on Grounds today. Move-in day this year was especially exciting and meaningful to the family legacy, however, as Owen opened the door on his new residence—Larry’s previous Lawn Room 45 West!

Larry’s legacy has also been evident in his philanthropic support of the University, including two terms as a Trustee of the Jefferson Trust. Making an initial gift in 2010, Larry found his experience with the Trust so meaningful that he made an additional Trustee-level gift in 2013, explaining that “once I saw the good work the Trust was doing, I immediately knew that I had found a home for my support of U.Va.”

“As an alumnus, the Trust is one of the most direct ways to give back to the University. The tangible and transparent aspects of how donations to the Jefferson Trust are used to benefit the entire University community, and the fact that alumni who serve as ‘donor trustees’ make the grant decisions, was very appealing to me,” says Larry. He also has enjoyed getting to know both the diverse group of alumni who support the Trust, as well as the many faculty members and students who are awarded grants each year.

Although the Sperlings live in Singapore, Larry has not felt that living overseas has been a barrier to his Trust involvement. “I have also participated in the mentoring program, which has allowed me to have direct involvement with grant winners and be involved in the oversight of the awards being made.” He adds, “It is this opportunity for direct involvement that makes the Trust so unique.”

Larry encourages all who are part of the U.Va. community to give back and invest in the areas that speak to their passions. Investing in the Jefferson Trust has allowed the Sperling family to join forces with other alumni, parents and friends in helping to turn innovative ideas into realities—and continue their legacy in a most meaningful way.
“THE CORNERSTONE FOR SUCCESS OF THE TRUST HAS BEEN THE COMMITMENT OF TIME, ENERGY AND RESOURCES FROM OUR GENEROUS TRUSTEES AND OTHER DONORS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH A TALENTED AND DEDICATED STAFF. WE ARE FORTUNATE AND THANKFUL TO HAVE SUCH A GREAT GROUP OF PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE.”

MARK A. VICTOR PINHO, COM ’99
Chair of the Jefferson Trust

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2014 / 15

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UBS AG
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The U.Va. Alumni Association has a long history of honoring and providing recognition for our best and brightest students, faculty and staff members. Each year, awards are conferred upon members of the University community who have distinguished themselves in the following areas:

- **U.Va. Alumni Association’s Distinguished Professor Award**
  $10,000 award and Life Membership in the Alumni Association

- **U.Va. Alumni Association’s Ernest H. Ern Distinguished Student Award**
  (named in honor of longtime University professor and administrator Ernest H. Ern) $5,000 award and Life Membership in the Alumni Association

- **U.Va. Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Award**
  $5,000 award for a member of the University community exhibiting distinguished leadership

- **Intramural-Recreational Sports Awards**
  two club teams representing the University for success in terms of competition, performance, community service and other achievements
“IN JUST A DECADE, JEFFERSON TRUST TRUSTEES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STIMULATE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE LIFE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA. TARGETED GRANTS HAVE CREATED AN IMPACT ON THE INSTITUTION, WHICH CONTINUES TO FOSTER NEW PROGRAMS AND IDEAS.”

WAYNE COZART
Executive Director, The Jefferson Trust
<table>
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“Young Jefferson”
painted by David Silvette (b. 1909)
1976, oil on canvas.
A gift of Lawrence Lewis Jr. ’40 to the Alumni Association in 1982.
The painting hangs above the fireplace in the Annex of Alumni Hall.