MICUA Matters

The Newsletter of the Maryland Independent College and University Association

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FAST FACT:

MICUA Return on Investment

- 3% of State funding for higher education
- 28% of degrees conferred by a four-year institution

MICA's Digital Fabrication Studio Looks to the Future

AS TECHNOLOGIES SUCH AS 3-D PRINTING have become increasingly popular, Maryland Institute College of Art has stayed on the cusp of the technological revolution. One of the most dynamic hubs of activity at MICA is the Digital Fabrication Studio, a facility housing 3-D printers, milling machines, laser cutters, a computer lab, and additional tools for creating interactive electronics, located in Mount Royal Station. The advent of 3-D printing—a technology that uses digital data to make practically any shape—is perhaps the most transformative technology in the world, and artists and designers at MICA have it right at their fingertips.

MICA students and faculty members across all disciplines embrace these tools and technologies to create innovative works of art. Most of these projects start either with the studio's 3-D scanners, which can be used to replicate or modify already made objects, or in the studio's computer lab, where computer-aided drafting takes place. Trained technicians on staff demonstrate how to use the technologies, while also ensuring the lab remains a safe working environment. At MICA, objects can be printed out of photopolymers, plastics, or a powder-based material similar to plaster.

One artist who could often be found in the Digital Fabrication Studio during her undergraduate studies was Karine Sarkissian '13 (environmental design), who utilized the technologies for her thesis project. The experience paid off in a big way when she was offered a job at an architectural firm after graduation. There, she'll continue to work with 3-D software, CNC routers, and 3-D printers. "It should be exciting as this is a relatively new technology that is booming everywhere. MICA students really have an advantage knowing so much so early in the evolution of 3-D printing," she added.





"I know that educational opportunity is at the heart of my family's story, as it is for families throughout our State."

GUEST COLUMN

By Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown

I RECENTLY JOINED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF OTHER MARYLAND PARENTS and helped my daughter, Rebecca, move into her dorm at college. I still find it hard to believe she's in college already—it feels like just yesterday that we were sending her off on her first day of elementary school.

As a parent, I know I'm not alone. We all have dreams for our children—dreams built on the foundation of a good education. It was the dream my father had when he came to this country from one of the poorest areas in Jamaica and became the first person in our family to go to college. I know that educational opportunity is at the heart of my family's story, as it is for families throughout our State.

For the past 230 years, Marylanders have had the opportunity to reach for those dreams at MICUA's 14 colleges and universities. From Baltimore to Frederick, Takoma Park to Chestertown and everywhere in between, the 64,000 students who enroll at a MICUA institution each year know that they're getting a world-class education that's going to help them achieve their dreams and provide them with the opportunity of a lifetime.

We believe in the work that institutions of higher education do, both for our children and our State. That's why for the past seven years, even as other states have neglected their colleges and universities, our administration has made supporting both our private and our public institutions a priority.

Since 2007, we've committed to funding \$69 million worth of new construction and renovation for MICUA schools-funds that have helped keep campuses from St. John's to Stevenson great places to learn, live, and work.

During that same period, we've invested over \$351 million in MICUA schools through the Sellinger program, which helps sponsor need-based grants and scholarships for Marylanders. These scholarships help students who have desire and ability to attend a MICUA school, but may not have been able to afford it otherwise. And by providing these scholarships, we're maintaining our commitment to keeping student loan debt low for Marylanders.

As we recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression, we will continue to invest in MICUA's students, because we know that a highly trained and skilled workforce creates jobs, builds strong communities, and positions Maryland for future growth and success. We're already seeing the results of these investments-today, we've recovered 100 percent of the jobs lost in the Great Recession, and we're seeing record numbers of Marylanders graduate from college, ready to enter the workforce.

These young people have an incredible impact on our State. More than 1,900 MICUA alumni teach in our schools, and MICUA students donate over 300,000 hours of volunteer time to their communities every year. If you've ever heard a Peabody student in concert; had a Capitol College graduate work on your company's IT network; or bought a product from a business founded at Loyola, then you've seen first-hand the impact that MICUA's institutions have on Maryland.

A college education is an essential part of training our workforce and growing our middle class. MICUA is going to be an important part of that future, and I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to ensure that we have the best schools - in both our public and private sectors—in the country.



Most Americans and Business Leaders Want Colleges to Provide a Broad-based Education

ACCORDING TO A PUBLIC-OPINION SURVEY released in September by Northeastern University, American higher education is held in high regard, but doubts persist about the system's ability to prepare students for success in today's economy. As many policy-makers and business leaders advance the need for education focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, a new national survey reveals that most Americans, and particularly hiring decision-makers, believe that broadly applicable skills such as writing and problemsolving are preferable to specific industry expertise.

According to the Northeastern University survey, nearly two-thirds of Americans (65 percent) and almost three-quarters of hiring decisionmakers (73 percent) believe that being well-rounded with a range of knowledge is more important than possessing industry-specific skills.

Americans continue to believe higher education is critical to achieving career success. A large majority (70 percent) say that a person's level of education is the most important factor in a job candidate's success in the employment market. Nearly three in four Americans (74 percent) believe that a college degree is more important today than it was for their parents' generation, by far exceeding other factors such as current economic conditions, socioeconomic status, nationality, and race.

The survey results were released September 17 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., where Northeastern hosted its second annual summit on the issues facing higher education. This year's event featured a high-profile panel of experts-moderated by Catherine Rampell of The New York Times—including Mitchell Daniels, President of Purdue University; James Kvaal, Deputy Director for Domestic Policy at the White House; Jeff Wilcox, Corporate Vice President for Engineering at Lockheed Martin Corporation; and Deborah Wince-Smith, President and CEO of the Council on Competitiveness.

MICUA Schools Named "Military Friendly"

IN SEPTEMBER, FIVE MICUA SCHOOLS were named "military friendly" by Victory Media in its 2014 Military Friendly Schools List. The annual list recognizes the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus. Capitol College, Hood College, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, McDaniel College, and Stevenson University all made the grade.

Compiled by Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life, the list was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 VA-approved schools nationwide. It was highlighted in the annual G.I. Jobs Guide to Military Friendly Schools ®, distributed in print and digital format to hundreds of thousands of active and former military personnel in early October.

Participation in the Yellow Ribbon program is one consideration in the ranking. The program allows colleges and universities to voluntarily enter into agreements with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to match up to 50% of tuition expenses that exceed the \$17,500 maximum. As a result, 100% of tuition expenses may be covered. All MICUA member institutions participate in the Yellow Ribbon program except Sojourner-Douglass College, which maintains tuition that is low enough to be fully reimbursed through the Act without need for the Yellow Ribbon enhancements.



MICUA CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Growing Enrollments, Revitalizing Neighborhoods

MICUA IS REQUESTING \$10.1 MILLION in capital improvement grants from the State to support "smart growth" construction and renovation projects for fiscal 2015. The projects will enable three MICUA colleges and universities to increase enrollment and address workforce needs while also revitalizing neighborhoods near campuses through the adaptive reuse or replacement of abandoned buildings. By readapting vacant buildings—and bringing in outside, private capital investments to complete the projects—MICUA schools will also contribute to the vitality of the surrounding areas in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Kent County.

Loyola University Maryland is requesting \$2.1 million for a multi-facility relocation and renovation project that will provide 35,000 square feet of academic space to support the University's strategic plan, namely the recently launched living-learning program. The University developed an innovative plan to transform existing spaces in four buildings on campus and relocate certain administrative services away from the main campus to a fifth building located at 4806 York Road in Baltimore City. The total project cost is \$4.6 million.

By moving administrative functions to York Road, space in Marion Burk Knott Hall, Maryland Hall, Beatty Hall, and the DeChairo College Center will be repurposed to provide additional classroom space. Currently, Knott Hall houses the only two classroom auditoriums on campus, which are heavily scheduled for classes and other large meetings. Loyola intends to renovate the auditoriums to increase the seating capacity by 30 percent, which will support larger groups of students in the living-learning program.

To initiate this project, the University recently purchased a York Road office building which requires structural renovation and other infrastructure to meet code. The cost of the project is relatively low compared to the cost of a new building. The acquisition of this building also supports Loyola's York Road Initiative, a community engagement effort aimed at improving the quality of life for all persons living, working, and learning in the York Road corridor. Through the talents and expertise of Loyola students, faculty, staff, and administration—particularly those from the Sellinger School of Business, School of Education, Clinical Centers at Belvedere Square, and the Center for Community Service and Justice—the University works together with neighbors to enhance area education and youth development, build civic capacity, and strengthen the commercial corridor.

"Loyola has been and will continue to be a driver of the local, State, and national economy as it grows its enrollments, increases its workforce, and prepares students for Maryland's knowledge-based economy," said Loyola President Rev. Brian Linnane, S.J. "The University is committed to strengthening Maryland's workforce,

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MICUA capital projects will enable colleges to increase enrollment and address workforce needs by expanding science, technology, engineering, and math educational opportunities.



Loyola University Maryland's multi-building renovation project will create more space for classrooms in several areas, including Knott Hall (above) and the DeChairo College Center (right).

particularly in the critical areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, a commitment that can be seen in the numbers of students given the opportunity to participate in original research. The State's support of this new project will make it possible for the University to continue making important strides in all of these areas."

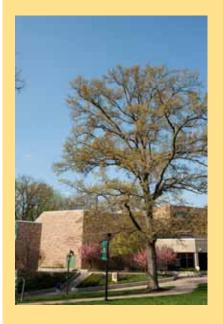
In recent years, Loyola's undergraduate enrollment has grown by more than 200 students. Currently, Loyola serves more than 3,900 undergraduates at its main campus in Baltimore City. By fall 2021, Loyola projects an enrollment of almost 4,500 students in undergraduate programs and more than 2,300 in graduate programs. In addition, Loyola is in the process of hiring at least 18 additional faculty in departments across the University to support a new living-learning initiative, known as Messina. The Messina program is designed to involve all first-year students in small, seminar-based classes and enrichment activities. The enrollment growth and programmatic demands have created a severe shortage of academic space at Loyola.

Stevenson University is seeking \$4 million to repurpose a former manufacturing facility, transforming the commercial area into classrooms, laboratories, offices, and support space needed to accommodate increasing student enrollments. The facility is located on the University's new Owings Mills North campus, adjacent to the existing Owings Mills campus. This building will house the School of the Sciences, which will relocate from the Greenspring Campus in Stevenson, Maryland, where it currently occupies space in three separate buildings: Knott Hall, the Science Center, and the Manuszak Center. The total project cost is \$9 million.

Stevenson is the fastest growing university in Maryland. Enrollments have increased by 24 percent over the past five years, including a 44 percent increase in student enrollment in the School of the Sciences. Dramatic enrollment growth, coupled with the recent approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission for three new academic programs in the sciences - Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science, and Master of Arts in Teaching in Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics—are driving the critical need for additional classroom, teaching laboratory, and research space.

(Continued on page 6)

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Stevenson is the fastest growing university in Maryland. Enrollments have increased by 24% over the past five years, including a 44% increase in student enrollment in the School of the Sciences.

Stevenson's science curricula reflect national best practices in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, and well-designed learning spaces play an important part in the overall process of achieving excellence in student learning. Furthermore, the University as a whole and the School of Sciences in particular are responsive to workforce needs and prepare graduates for meaningful careers. The project will include renovating existing laboratory, office, and manufacturing spaces, as well as adding new classroom, laboratory, office, and food service spaces to optimize both formal and informal learning areas throughout the building.

One of the unique opportunities that Stevenson is afforded by repurposing the manufacturing building is the ability to expand and distinguish the University's biotechnology program. Preserving one section of the existing building to permit bio-manufacturing operations per industry standards will set the University's biotechnology program apart and facilitate program growth and expansion into related areas. Current plans are underway to establish a small-scale green business in an applied science that will contribute to the local economy and engage the local community in STEM-related activities.

"The adaptive re-use of this manufacturing facility will create an academic STEM center that supports growth in the quality and quantity of student enrollment, optimizes delivery of current and new programs, attracts and retains high caliber faculty, promotes research, fosters expanded engagement with the local community and K-12 programs, and facilitates innovative entrepreneurial projects," said Stevenson President Kevin Manning.

Washington College is requesting \$4 million to demolish a dilapidated building that formerly housed the Kent County Board of Education and construct an academic building for the newly created departments of Anthropology and Earth and the Environment. The total project cost is \$10 million. As a result of a contraction in the local public school system, the current property was abandoned by the Board of Education and returned to the Kent County Commissioners.

(Continued on page 7)



Stevenson University's School of the Sciences will relocate to a facility formerly used to manufacture pharmaceuticals (above).



Washington College will replace a nearby abandoned building with a new structure (above) that will house the departments of Anthropology (right) and Earth and the Environment.

"As the largest private employer in Kent County, Washington College is an anchor in this region," says Washington College President Mitchell Reiss. "We are one of the few employers with a projected growth in workforce in a county that is burdened with one of the highest sustained unemployment rates in the State. This project also supports Governor O'Malley's Smart Growth Plan by razing an abandoned building that fronts a State scenic by-way (Route 213) and rebuilding a state-of-the-art academic facility in its place that will blend seamlessly with the neighboring dwellings."

In the past six years, Washington College has grown its student population from 1,222 to 1,512 and created 50 new faculty and staff positions, increasing its workforce by 10 percent. Past and expected growth of students and faculty across recently established departments has created severe academic space deficits. Washington College chose to work collaboratively with the Town of Chestertown and the Kent County Board of Commissioners to revitalize the depreciating property on Washington Avenue.

With approximately 14,000 square feet, the new academic building will include an anthropology laboratory, an environmental laboratory, a student common area, multiple group study spaces, eight offices for anthropology and environmental studies and sciences faculty, and one large general classroom. The building is designed to offer Kent, Cecil, and Queen Anne's Counties—as well as Chestertown state-of-the-art facilities and grounds for civic engagement. In the future, the College plans to extend this academic building for other departmental purposes.

The presence of an environmental studies and sciences laboratory in the new academic building will advance the College's commitment to developing a multidisciplinary approach to the study of the environment and nurturing citizen leaders poised to find solutions to complex environmental problems. As a LEED Gold project, the building itself will become an environmental laboratory. It will include an outdoor classroom and landscaping designed to serve the missions of the anthropology and environmental studies and sciences academic programs.

The Washington College project also supports Governor O'Malley's Smart Growth Plan by razing an abandoned building that fronts a State scenic by-way and rebuilding a state-of-theart academic facility in its place.





"Within 90 days of graduation, 95 percent plus of our new alumni have jobs, in their chosen fields, at competitive salaries."

AFFORDABILITY & VALUE

By Michael Wood, President of Capitol College

ACCESS TO, AND AFFORDABILITY OF, A QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION have long been hallmarks of the Capitol College vision. Having started as a trainer of Navy radio technicians, and worked its way from a technical institute to a four-year college, Capitol has always been sensitive to the financial needs and professional aspirations of its students, their parents, and their employers.

Since I became president nine years ago, undergraduate tuition has risen no more than 3.5 percent in any year. During the same time period, our contributions of scholarship support have increased over 300 percent. Eighty percent of our students receive some form of college-provided financial support. Additionally, we work closely with students and families to help them secure other forms of financial aid, including grants and loans. When testifying before the Maryland legislature, I was nicely "grilled" on how a college could keep tuition increases so small. I confessed that it is not easy. It is our responsibility to manage our resources and provide the best education that students can afford.

We also try to make paying our small bills (third lowest independent tuition in Maryland) easier. In addition to deferred payment plans, we provide a tuition lock, which means a senior pays what he or she did as a freshman. Capitol was an innovator of the tuition lock, and now many universities offer the same opportunity.

We also help students pay for their education by paying them to work. Many students serve as part-time College employees, and many also work as paid interns in business and government while pursuing their studies. Residence life on campus also helps students keep costs low. Parking is ample and free! Apartment-style units with kitchens also help manage food costs (though carryout pizza may still be the dominant food group). Our many online students benefit from the flexibility of scheduling and ease of learning from anywhere they can connect to the College through the Internet.

Keeping costs low enhances our value proposition. Students can spend more energy on learning, and their families can become more active supporters of the College. Active students in academic competition teams and technology clubs (Cyber Lab, Robotics Team, etc.) gain more public visibility and become seen as more valuable employees and citizens. And, the ultimate payoffs are jobs, careers, and professional satisfaction. Within 90 days of graduation, 95 percent plus of our new alumni have jobs, in their chosen fields, at competitive salaries. And, we guarantee that. This "Capitol Commitment" states that if you have completed your degree, done the required career-preparation work (seminars in resume writing, workplace expectations, etc.) and do not have a job, you can take up to 36 extra baccalaureate credits for free until you get a job in your field.

Capitol graduates can be proud of their rigorous STEM education supported by basic liberal arts, for lifelong learning and adaptation.

Capitol College is the only independent college in Maryland dedicated to education in engineering, computer science, information technology, and business through practices of leadership and innovation. Founded in 1927, Capitol offers associate, bachelor's and master's degrees, a Doctor of Science in Information Assurance, professional development training, and certificates. The College campus is located in Laurel, Maryland, a suburban setting midway between Baltimore and Washington, D.C.



Kevin Manning, President of Stevenson University, spoke about transformational leadership and led brainstorming exercises about Maryland's future at the Chamber's Economic Summit.

MICUA, Members Contribute to Economic Summit

THE MARYLAND COMPETIVENESS COALITION held an Economic Summit on September 6 to bring business leaders from across the State together to build consensus around how to accelerate job growth and business investment in Maryland. The event was held at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel. MICUA and representatives of its member colleges played an active role in the summit.

The Maryland Chamber of Commerce formed the coalition earlier this year, and representatives from all 60 organizational partners participated in the summit alongside legislative leaders, cabinet secretaries, and gubernatorial candidates. In total, 200 business leaders and elected officials participated in the discussion of how to help Maryland become a global leader through innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship.

MICUA, Johns Hopkins University, and Stevenson University are all partnering organizations in the coalition. Stevenson President and MICUA Board Chair Kevin Manning played a key role at the event as a speaker and facilitator.

The coalition is currently deliberating the results of the summit and will develop strategic action steps to help retain and grow more jobs for all Marylanders.

JHU Embarks on Multiyear Cost-savings Initiative

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY WILL EMBARK on an administrative excellence initiative designed to improve administrative service levels, curb spending growth, and allow the University to devote more resources to its core research, education, and service missions.

"The initiative will ultimately allow Johns Hopkins to strengthen administrative support of faculty and students, prepare for challenging financial times, and free resources needed to invest in achieving academic excellence," says Daniel Ennis, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration.

The initiative's first phase will address procurement, with specific focus on lab supplies, computers and other IT equipment, and service contracts. A Procurement Advisory Committee convened by Ennis and Provost Robert Lieberman will work with an outside consulting firm to evaluate the current procurement structure and processes, and identify opportunities for improvement.

A survey of all faculty and staff is planned to gain insight into the University community's purchasing practices and needs. The committee will make recommendations for improving procurement to the Senior Vice President and Provost later in the fall. In future phases, the initiative is expected to address IT expenditures across JHU, as well as administrative simplification.

"We know that every day [our employees] are carrying out the important work of discovery, research, and education, and that our efforts must yield tools to leverage [their] work and to help the University navigate this uncertain funding climate," Ennis says.



Daniel Ennis, JHU Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration

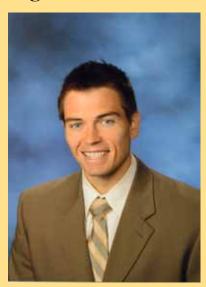
Joan Develin Coley Leads Notre Dame of Maryland University



NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY appointed Joan Develin Coley, President Emerita of McDaniel College, to serve as President of the University for one year while a search is conducted for the next permanent president of the institution. Dr. Coley assumed her new role on August 12, 2013. Among the many academic and civic honors bestowed on her are the University of Maryland's award as Outstanding Leader in Education and the Circle of Excellence honor from the Daily Record for being named on multiple occasions to the list of Maryland's Top 100 Women.

Dr. Coley comes to Notre Dame with a long record of service and success at McDaniel College, where she began in 1973 as a Professor of Education. During her nearly four decades at McDaniel she served as a Department Chair, Dean of Graduate Affairs, and Provost, and served as President of the liberal arts college from 2000 to 2010. During her presidency, she successfully transitioned what was then known as Western Maryland College through a comprehensive name change and repositioning, and led the most successful fundraising campaign in the College's history, exceeding the goal and raising \$77 million. She was instrumental in the College's adoption of an undergraduate curriculum with greater emphasis on global, interdisciplinary, and multicultural studies, and oversaw \$45 million in campus improvements for academic facilities, student residential life, and recreation.

Eight MICUA Alumni Named Teachers of the Year



Sean McComb, a Goucher College alumnus, has been named Maryland Teacher of Year.

EACH YEAR, BALTIMORE CITY AND MARYLAND'S 23 counties honor the best public school teachers in their districts with the coveted title: Teacher of the Year. Eight MICUAtrained teachers earned this year's awards, a testament to the quality of education at a Maryland independent institution. Winners include students and alumni from Goucher College, Hood College, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University Maryland, McDaniel College, Notre Dame of Maryland University, and Washington College. Sean McComb, an English teacher at Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts in Baltimore County, won the statewide title of Maryland Teacher of the Year on October 11. He completed a School Leadership certification program at Goucher College in August.

- Baltimore County: Sean McComb, Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts (Goucher College)
- Calvert County: Jon Cox, Southern Middle School (McDaniel College)
- Caroline County: Katherine Bridwell, North Caroline High School (Loyola University Maryland)
- Carroll County: Laura Doolan, Westminster High School (McDaniel College)
- Frederick County: Karl Kidd, Jr., Urbana Elementary School (Hood College)
- Howard County: George McGurl, Burleigh Manor Middle School (McDaniel College)
- Montgomery County: Christina Ulrich, Brookhaven Elementary School (Notre Dame of Maryland University, Johns Hopkins University)
- Queen Anne's County: Marlo Coppage, Queen Anne's County High School (Washington College)

For four years running, the Maryland Teacher of the Year title has gone to a MICUA graduate.





Boasting an all-vegetarian campus and LEED-Gold certification for its newest building, Washington Adventist University is committed to sustainability.

GOING GREEN: Washington Adventist University

FOR WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY, living in harmony with nature comes with the territory. The University runs an all-vegetarian campus, tremendously reducing its carbon footprint by not engaging in the transportation, storage, or consumption of any animal protein.

"We don't cook or store meat," said Mike Womack, food services manager. "And we buy a lot of our food from local farmers. There is a definite benefit to the institution and the community."

A vegetarian lifestyle is cited by environmentalists as one of the simplest and most effective ways to help the environment and improve individual health. According to an Environmental Defense Fund report, "if every American skipped one meal of chicken per week and substituted vegetarian foods instead, the carbon dioxide savings would be the same as taking more than a half-million cars off U.S. roads."

A vegetarian lifestyle also positively correlates with better health and ultimately lower health care costs by reducing cholesterol levels and the occurrence of some types of cancers and other lifestyle diseases.

In addition to maintaining an all-vegetarian campus, Washington Adventist University is greening its physical plant. With help from a State capital grant, WAU was recently able to complete the Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center, which was certified Gold by the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) program. LEED certification means, among other things, that the new building is designed to minimize the impact on ecosystems and water resources; promote smarter use of water to reduce potable water consumption; improve building energy performance through innovative strategies; utilize sustainable building materials and reduce waste; and enhance indoor air quality and access to daylight and views.

The first new building on campus in 40 years, the Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center features cutting-edge technology, multiple practice rooms, libraries, smart classrooms, recital rooms, and teaching studios.

The University also completed a relamping initiative that included replacing the lighting in the Science Building to reduce electric usage. Patrick Farley, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration, said the initiative was done in partnership with PEPCO/Lockheed Martin.

Washington Adventist University is a private liberal arts institution located in Takoma Park, Maryland. It is the only four-year residential college in Montgomery County, a popular suburb of Washington, D.C. Founded in 1904, the University offers 32 undergraduate programs and eight graduate programs. It has been ranked among the best regional colleges in the northern region and as one of the most diverse institutions of higher learning in the U.S.

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Maryland Independent College and University Association

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For questions or comments, please contact MICUA Communications Director Beth Mayer at 410-269-0306 or bmayer@micua.org.

SAVE THE DATE: February 18, 2014, is Maryland Independent Higher Education Day. Share and follow the experience at #IHED14!

Stevenson Offering Free MOOC Survey of Forensics

STEVENSON UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF GRADUATE and Professional Studies continues to make news by offering its first MOOC (massive open online course) this September. The course is a Survey of Forensics—with sections covering forensic studies, cyber forensics, and forensic science—meant to give professionals and career-changers an overview of the discipline and practice of forensics in its various forms. Tom Coogan, Professor and Chair of Forensic Studies at Stevenson, has just been selected a Maryland Innovator of the Year by the *Daily Record* for his work to establish and expand Stevenson's Forensic Studies program. Stevenson hosted its annual Forensic Symposium on October 16. This year's topic focused on emerging trends in the forensic investigation of information on mobile devices.

