

Claude Moore Foundation's \$5 Million Gift to UVa's School of Nursing

The Claude Moore Charitable Foundation of Fairfax, Va., has awarded the School of Nursing a challenge grant of \$5 million for a planned school expansion that will include a new nursing education building. The grant represents the largest single gift ever received by the School of Nursing.

"Nurses play a vital role in meeting the health care challenges of our time," said University President John T. Casteen III. "With a facility that prepares nurses for the growing complexity of their profession, the University will make a significant impact on the care delivered here and around the globe. I am deeply grateful to the trustees of the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation for their vision, generosity, and continuing commitment to nursing and medicine at the University."

This marks the second time in two years that the foundation has made a major grant to the UVa Health System. In December 2003, the foundation announced a gift of \$12.5 million toward the School of Medicine's new medical education building. The new buildings will be constructed across from one another, within sight of the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, providing clear visual evidence of the foundation's leadership in advancing health care education at UVa.

The proposed four-story, 32,000-square-foot Claude Moore Nursing Education Building will provide large, flexibly designed classrooms equipped with cutting-edge instructional technologies, a Student Life Center offering much-needed space devoted to student life and organizations, computer kiosks placed strategically throughout the building, conference rooms, and offices for administrators, faculty, staff, and graduate students.

When the new building is completed and part of the nursing school program has relocated there, the reconfiguration and renovation of McLeod Hall will begin. Dean Jeanette Lancaster, R.N., Ph.D., F.A.A.N., noted: "We have envisioned this expansion for a decade. Each year we turn away qualified applicants due to a lack of space, at a time when the shortage of nurses is increasingly severe. The foundation's gift toward the new building will truly transform the School of Nursing, not only providing more and improved space, but also enabling the school to expand its research mission, upgrade its clinical simulation labs, and graduate more new nurses."

Three foundation trustees are University alumni: Jesse Wilson (Col. '56, Law '63), Peter Arntson (Col. '60, Law '65), and Leigh Middleditch (Col. '51, Law '57). Wilson, who served with Middleditch

on the UVa Board of Visitors, said: "Dr. Moore believed education to be the engine that drives social change and progress, and he directed his philanthropy to that important end. We are confident this cutting-edge education facility will strengthen the School of Nursing, not only enabling it to improve methods of instruction, but also allowing the school to grow during a time when the shortage of nurses has become a public health problem for the Commonwealth and the nation."



Artist's rendering of the new nursing education building.