MUM Launches $16 Million Campaign to Upgrade Campus, Support Endowment

With the goal of transforming the experience of students and everyone on campus, MUM has launched a nearly $6 million capital campaign to renovate buildings, purchase Gate Ridge Court building, and support faculty development and research.

In addition, the campaign hopes to raise $10 million for the university’s endowment, which provides investment income and can be accessed if a serious financial need arises.

Generous donors have supported capital campaigns in the past, including covering most of the $8 million needed to construct the Argiro Student Center.

The goal of a capital campaign is to enable an institution to do more than the annual fund can cover. Within days of the campaign being announced, donors had already begun contributing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Donation Supports Renovation of Dorm 152 into Visitors Center

A top priority of the new capital campaign, renovating dorm 152 to accommodate visitors and students in low-residency programs, has begun thanks to a substantial donation that is allowing the work to commence.

Dorm 152 will now have a private bathroom for each of the 38 rooms, similar to the renovation of Dorm 153 over 40 years ago.

Both dorms will be used by those who enroll in the low-residency programs that entail coming to campus for brief periods, said David Todt, chief administrative officer at MUM. These include the popular MFA in screenwriting in which the students come for a 10-day residency at the beginning of each semester.

Dorm 153 had been used for this purpose, but Mr. Todt said that the growing interest in the MFA has exceeded the capacity of that building.

In addition, the two dorms with private baths will be used by the approximately 180 students in the programs in Ayurveda and integrative wellness when they come to campus for their clinical residencies. They will also used for to accommodate those on visitors weekends.

Work has begun on the east wing of dorm 152, with current full-time students still living in the west wing. Renovation of dorm 114 is expected to be completed in eight weeks to accommodate those students. The west wing of dorm 152 will then be renovated, with work expected to be completed at least by August.
FROM THE FOUNDER

“Established in higher consciousness man, would naturally behave righteously. Man behaves from his level of consciousness. Therefore, any teaching of right action without a means of raising consciousness will always be ineffective. It is much easier to raise man’s consciousness than to get him to act righteously.”

— Maharsi Mahesh Yogi, Science of Being

New Study Shows Students Find Relief from PTSD

Students at MUM’s partner institution in South Africa typically come from townships with high levels of violence and crime, and now a new study has found that practicing the Transcendental Meditation® technique helps them to cope with the resulting post-traumatic disorder and depression that they suffer.

Published in Psychological Reports, the study found that after 3.5 months of practicing the Transcendental Meditation® technique, most of the 34 Maharishi Institute students who participated in the study—all of whom were initially diagnosed with PTSD by mental health professionals—went below clinical threshold.

The capital campaign will also support repair and renovation of the Art Center and completing the extensive renovation of Henn Mansion.

In addition, work is being completed on the high-rise dorms, with generous donors already having provided the needed funding of over $450,000.

The campaign also seeks donor funding for student scholarships, faculty development and research, a chair of agroecology, Art Center programs, and development of a doctoral program in Maharishi AyurVedaSM and Integrative Medicine.

Other smaller projects include completing renovations to the Grace Ananda Recreation Center and the Argiro Student Center, as well as giving attention to Zimmerman Drive, the parking lot for Verrill Hall and Hildenbrand Hall, sidewalks, outdoor lighting, and the swimming pool.

A priority of the campaign is to transform the library into a campus hub that can be used for study, meetings, classes, online research, and social gatherings.

Shelving in the east wing will be removed and office walls immediately inside the east entrance also removed, creating an open space for study and online research. The circulation desk will be moved to the east wall so that students can conveniently check out books as they leave.

Classrooms in the library will be refurbished, and plans include renovating Spayde Theater as an appealing venue for plays, movies, and lectures.

Plans for the library also include renovating the science wing, in part to accommodate the new renewable energy track in the major in sustainable living.

All of the above initiatives are expected to total approximately $3.7 million. Another major goal of the campaign is to raise $2.1 million to purchase Gate Ridge Court, the large office building on the far west side of campus. It would be used for offices and classrooms.

Some of the impetus for this purchase comes from the university’s accrediting agency, which has suggested that the “far-flung” business department be consolidated into a single building easily accessible to students. It would also house the rapidly expanding Department of Physiology and Health, as well as MUM Online, which oversees MUM’s distance education programs.

Finally, the university is hoping a generous donor will contribute $10 million to the endowment that would serve as a matching gift over the next two years, with the goal of adding $20 million to the endowment.

For more detailed information see giving.mum.edu/capital-2019.

Editor: Jim Karpen
Contributing Writers: Livia Horvath
Maharishi University of Management
1000 N. 4th St., MR #694
Fairfield, IA 5255

jkarpen@mum.edu
641-42-0778
www.mum.edu/the-review/recent-issues

Published biweekly during the academic year.
© 2019 Maharishi University of Management
Transcendental Meditation®, TM-Sidhi®, Maharishi AyurVeda,
Consciousness-Based, Maharishi International University, and
Maharishi University of Management are protected trademarks and
are used in the U.S. under license or with permission.
MBA Students Earn High Scores in Global Simulation

Two teams of students in the accounting MBA recently continued an extraordinary streak of accomplishments in the CAPSIM business simulations, earning scores in the Capstone Simulation that placed them in the 98th and 94 percentiles compared to 1,450 participating graduate-level teams from around the world.

Three students from Mongolia were on the team scoring in the 98th percentile, Odonnjig Ganbold, Odontungaluag Tserendorj, and Tuvshinbayar Surenkhorloo, as well as Anas Mizyed from Jordan.

The team at the 94th percentile included Zoey Jiang from China, Kennedy Kamfwa, South Africa, and Benedick Etiandem Mbecha, Cameroon.

“The Capstone Simulation provides an important third-party assessment of our MBA student development,” said Professor Andrew Bargerstock, who teaches the students’ capstone course. “An MBA education is designed to prepare leaders for the future, leaders who possess good strategic and tactical insights based on data analysis and problem-solving skills. The accomplishments for these two groups demonstrates the high value created by the MBA education at our university.”

In CAPSIM simulations, students play the role of top management executive teams who guide the decision-making of their enterprise through eight years of multifaceted decisions, including sales and marketing, product development, manufacturing operations management, finance, human resource management, and total quality improvement.

Points are earned in each round (representing one year) of decisions based on the team’s performance on metrics for finance, customers, internal business processes, and learning & growth.

Among the competitor universities in the top 10 percent were University of California (Berkeley), University of Massachusetts (Amherst), Universities of North Carolina, Northern Iowa, Utah, and Seton Hall, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Kansas State University, and Hong Kong University of Science & Technology.

New Initiative to Improve Quality of Dorm Living

A new staff member and 15 work-study students are now focused on beautifying campus residence halls, thanks to an initiative by the Department of Student Life to empower students to improve the quality of their on-campus homes.

The Beautification Team will improve the cleanliness throughout each building, completing touch-up work and adding things to the building to increase comfort and aesthetic appeal, such as plants, art, furniture, lighting, student gardens, new paint, tea stations, etc., said Daniel Hanson, director of Residential Life.

New staff member Kelly Urban is leading this team of 15 work-study students in dorm-specific initiatives that improve the inside and outside of each student building – initiatives that will eventually expand into larger campus beautification projects.

Mr. Hanson said that the students working for this team will learn how to assess the needs of a building according to the needs of the population and invest their time and resources into the projects that will create the most benefit.

Each work-study student will have a budget for his or her building and will work with his or her team, with the resident advisors and building directors, and with the team leader and campus beautification committee to make the best decisions for the enhancement of campus as a whole.

“In the future, we are excited to see the Beautification Team develop into a campuswide resource that is able to help with larger projects, administrative buildings, and offices,” Mr. Hanson said. “The students are excited to have an opportunity to put energy into the improvement of their living environment, and the university is looking forward to what this team can accomplish.”

Faculty Attend Sustainability Workshop in DC

At the invitation of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in Washington, DC, two MUM professors recently participated in a workshop on incorporating sustainability into the curriculum.

Provost Scott Herriott and Sustainable Living Department Chair Sam James attended a workshop entitled, “Strengthening Sustainability Programs and Curricula at the Undergraduate and Graduate Levels.”

The purpose of the workshop was to bring together professors, government officials, and employers to discuss the current gaps in sustainability education relative to the skills and knowledge of sustainability needed in the current economy.

“We met in small groups to discuss the current practice of sustainability education,” Dr. Herriott said. “That gave Sam and me many opportunities to speak to the group. The academics were almost all from the sciences, so I commented extensively on the need for training in management so sustainability programs can be implemented effectively in corporations and cities.”

“It opened my eyes to the range of important areas of sustainability education nationally that still need a lot of development and refinement,” Dr. James said. “The current generation of students has needs and perspectives that must be integrated into our future sustainability courses.”
Presidential Hopeful Tulsi Gabbard Visits Campus

As the election season heats up, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for president visited campus recently – her second stop in Iowa during her initial foray on the campaign trail.

Tulsi Gabbard, who represents Hawaii in Congress, gave a talk at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center and then came to campus for lunch and a 45-minute meeting with university officials.

Ms. Gabbard practices meditation, is aware of MUM, and was eager to visit. She traveled to Iowa on the private jet of Nat Goldhaber, who is friends with Ms. Gabbard and who originally helped found Maharishi International University.

“I found her to be very centered, aware, articulate, knowledgeable, down to earth, and committed to creating a better quality of life for our country,” said Craig Pearson, MUM vice-president of academic affairs.

Ms. Gabbard answered questions during her meeting in the Argiro Student Center with President John Hagelin, his administrative cabinet, and the Academic Planning Council.

She was very interested in MUM, and president Hagelin told her about Consciousness-Based education, the strong interest in the university’s programs in Ayurveda and integrative wellness, and the coherence-creating effect of the Transcendental Meditation and TM-Sidhi® programs.

“She wants to come back,” Dr. Pearson said. She had originally planned to come last fall, but her schedule didn’t allow it.

“We welcome any candidate to come to campus and hear about the education that we offer,” Dr. Pearson said.

Eleanna Anagnos Exhibiting in Unity Gallery

Eleanna Anagnos, an abstract visual artist who creates contemporary art, including paintings, works on paper, mixed media, collages, and plaster sculptures, will be exhibiting her work in Unity Gallery in March.

Examples of her work can be viewed at www.eleanna.com.

Ms. Anagnos is currently Grant Wood Painting Fellow in Iowa City, a visiting assistant professor in painting and drawing at the University of Iowa, and codirector of the Ortega y Gasset Projects. Located in Brooklyn, New York, the Ortega y Gasset Projects is a non-profit artist-run curatorial collective and exhibition space.

The opening reception will be held Friday, March 1, 7:30-9:00 p.m. at Unity Gallery in the MUM library.

The exhibit will run through March 30.

The library hours are Monday–Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday 7:15 to 9:00 p.m.

For more information, email art@mum.edu or visit the Unity Gallery website at www.unitygalleryiowa.com.