

*Annual Report of Roanoke College
To the Virginia Synod, ELCA*

William Faulkner writes: *"A monument only says, 'At least I got this far,' while a footprint says, 'This is where I was when I moved again.'"*¹

This year at Roanoke College could be described as a time of monuments that have inspired thousands of footprints. Two significant monuments have been placed at Roanoke College: first, the Cregger Center was dedicated October 27. This is a 155,000-square-foot facility that rises five stories and features a 200-meter indoor track in the Kerr-Cregger Field House, a health and human performance lab, an athletic training clinic, a performance gymnasium, the Belk Fitness Center, team locker rooms and more. Second, three days later on Reformation Sunday, we dedicated a statue of Martin Luther in the Luther Plaza outside the Cregger Center. This is a stunning sculpture the serves to remind us of the bold heritage the Lutheran Church offers.

These two “monuments” indicate both how far we have come, but they also encourage us to continue on the path to educational excellence as a liberal arts college rooted in the Lutheran tradition. In 2017 we will be celebrating both the 175th anniversary of Roanoke College and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Our heritage gives momentum to our future.

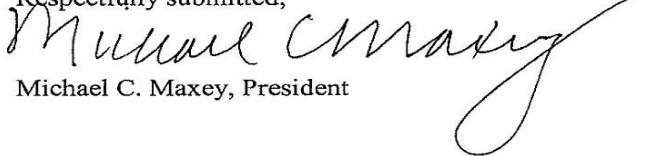
Here are the highlights of the college’s work in 2016:

- Financially, the college is on track to be operating in the black for the sixtieth consecutive year.
- The emerging initiative for “educating the whole person” promises to be one of the most significant steps forward for our students.
- The impact of the Cregger Center has exceeded expectations and will continue to do so. The Cregger Center hosted some six thousand visitors to campus in early December.
- The NCAA Division III Men’s and Women’s National Soccer Championship took place on the same weekend as our first indoor track and field meet and the dedication of the Moir Court.
- We are introducing a new semester-long program in the Yucatan region of Mexico. In this program, students spend the spring semester completing four courses in the Yucatan with a Roanoke faculty member for little more than their normal tuition, room, and board on campus.
- Three new academic programs have been added:
 - majors in Actuarial Science and Interdisciplinary Studies;
 - a concentration in Medicinal Chemistry
 - and we anticipate the approval of a new major in Public Health Studies.
- Plans are moving forward for extensive expansion and renovation of Trexler and Life Science buildings

- We continue to have excellent success in helping students apply for and secure highly prestigious, major national scholarships and fellowships.
 - This fall, Rebecca Hudon was named a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship, the College's first finalist in 108 years.
 - Briannah Gouveia was named a finalist for the Marshall Scholarship, only the second Roanoke College student to reach that level.
 - Eight current students applied for Fulbrights, students will also be applying for other scholarships this spring, such as Truman, Goldwater and Gilman.
- Retention of the freshman class from fall of 2015-Fall of 2016 was our second best ever, at 83.4%. Characteristics of students that correlated with better than average retention included living on campus, having higher academic ability, having been accepted (and deposited) to Roanoke early in the recruitment cycle, and being engaged on campus (participation in intramurals, choir, campus employment, etc.).
- Student perceptions of teaching quality continue to be quite high, with course evaluations this fall averaging 4.42 on a 5.0 scale.
- With an additional 18 months remaining in the \$200 M Roanoke Rising Campaign, we have reached \$183.6M or 91.79% of its \$200M goal.

One hundred seventy-five years ago, who could have dreamed that a College founded in a cabin by Lutheran pastors in the antebellum countryside would become what we enjoy today? Who now can imagine what the College will become in the future? With the support and partnership of the Lutheran Church, we have established benchmarks along our way, not only to show how far we've come, but to give us momentum into the years of discovery.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Maxey, President

¹ From William Faulkner's *The Town*.