THE EAGLE

University of Charleston

From Barboursville to Charleston: The University of Charleston Celebrates 75 Years

By Nishelle Denson

The University of Charleston is celebrating 75 years of higher education at its riverfront location, so let's look back at the 134-year history of Golden Eagle culture.

1888 - Barboursville Seminary of the Southern Methodist Church

1901 - Renamed to Morris Harvey College: Morris Harvey was a Fayetteville coal operator who helped the University eliminate substantial debt.

1935 - Moved to downtown Charleston and merged with Kanawha Junior College and became affiliated with Mason College of Fine Arts and Music.

1942 - Became independent from the Methodist Church because of the merger between the Methodist church of the North and South.

1947 - Moved to current riverfront location.

1951 - Purchased the Young-Noyes House for the president of the college. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

1960 - John F. Kennedy kicked off his presidential campaign by addressing a full capacity crowd in Geary Student Union.

1975 - Enrollment dropped, and the school was offered to the state of West Virginia as a gift. It was denied. Leonard Riggleman, 19th president of the university, campaigned heavily against the school being acquired by the state.

1978 - Renamed University of Charleston.

1988 - Education concentrations were added to the curriculum.

1989 - Dr. Edwin Welch becomes president of the University and begins to update the campus and the academic offerings.

1997 - Clay Tower was built and became an instant landmark.

2003 - Football returns to campus. Brotherton Hall, Ratrie Hall, Middle Hall, East Apartments were built.

2004 - Riggleman Hall Library became the Erma Byrd Gallery.

2006 - School of Pharmacy is established, the first doctoral program on campus.

2008 - Graduate School of Business is established.

2012 - Physician's Assistant Program is added.

2013 - Established campuses in Beckley and Martinsburg.

2018 - Dr. Martin Roth begins his tenure as president. The University Bands are added to campus.

2021 - Piano Classes and Video Gaming Minor added to curriculum.

Then: Photo Courtesy of West Virginia Public Broadcasting

Now: Photo Courtesy of WV Metro News

Homecoming Football Game 2022
By Giang Bui

Homecoming is one of the most anticipated events at the University of Charleston. On Saturday, September 24, 2022, the football homecoming game took place at Laidley Field. On game day, UC provided transportation, enabling students who do not have personal vehicles to attend the game. UC also served some snacks for visiting students and parents. UC students could use meal swipes to snack and get drinks from here. They provided tacos, cheese, sausage, and other toppings.

"We drove 4 hours to come see my son play in this game," said a parent.

During half-time, UC hosted the Homecoming Royals Awards ceremony. Sidra Tahir and Haleigh Bennett got the most votes and became Homecoming Royals.

The football game went well; UC won against Alderson Broaddus 62 - 07.

"We are all very happy with the result, but we can still do better and score more points," said Marquise Herron, a home team player.

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New Recreational Courts at UC
By Ismael Sneed

Located between the dorms of Middle Hall and Brotherton Hall, the recreational courts can be seen clearly on MacCorkle Ave, from both dorms and from the Innovation Center. Open space was made for these courts with the demolition of the former Cox Hall, which was UC's oldest building prior to its demolition in 2021. The construction of the recreational courts was completed in the summer of this year and was ready for play when school started on August 22nd.

Every year, the University of Charleston has an event called 'Give for Gold,' in which students, student athletes and faculty make calls for donations to the school. This past spring semester, the Give for Gold project goal was to build a brand new sand volleyball court and blacktop basketball court, in which the University succeeded.

"We love walking downstairs from our room and being able to play sand," says Felipe Mendes on the Men's Volleyball team. The team used to drive to Magic Island to get their offseason and preseason sand training in. But UC's new sand court is very well kept, and players don't have to worry about miscellaneous rocks and sticks left in the sand like that of Magic Island, which can be hazardous to the feet. Magic Island is located 2.5 miles down the Kanawha River.

The blacktop basketball court is a hit among the basketball players and casual hoopers as well. People are seen using the basketball court just as often as the sand court, as it is a good place to casually get shots up if the gym is occupied. This is great for socializing with others, as students may be able to meet new people while playing a casual game of pick up, horse, or just getting some shots up.

A great socialization event that took place at UC was the co-ed sand volleyball tournament, with teams of 4. The Men's Volleyball team hosted the tourney and didn't allow more than 2 players to be on a team, with the rest having to be other students or other students from other sports.

The recreational courts are a great addition to UC, as they promote health, wellness, and socialization. Most students I have spoken to agreed that it brings a new aesthetic to UC, and makes it seem more inviting and playful. The best part about all this, is that students do not need to be in volleyball or basketball to participate, as the recreational courts are open to everyone on campus.

Welcoming the New UC Choir Director: Chris Brown
By Jason Fraley

Chris Brown started his journey with the University of Charleston Concert Choir and University Singers this fall. Brown has been a choir director for 20 years.

He began this semester with two performances, and he has many more planned for the spring.

"My hope is to have the choirs sing for on and off campus events. The University Singers have already performed for the White Coat Ceremony, and the National Anthem at the Dirty Bird's UC night. Future performances will include concert at Taylor Books, and with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus," Brown said.

Brown is also a choir director with the Appalachian Children's Chorus and serves as the choir teacher at Horace Man Middle School.

"I have only been here for three weeks, so I can only hope I have helped to promote school spirit, and bring positive attention to our community," said Brown.

Contact information: christopherbrown@ucwv.edu

UC's Crisis Management Plan, Explained
By Elijah Newell

What would you do if a disaster struck at UC? Would you know where to go or what to do to stay safe? Do you have a plan if things go wrong? The University of Charleston has already asked itself these questions and has created a plan to keep its students safe through significant disasters.

The plan is called the Crisis Management Procedures, and to find out more about it, I talked to Mr. David Traube, Vice President of Communications and Marketing at UC.

"The emergency response plan covers anything that could disrupt the normal activities of the community," Mr. Traube said. "This could include immediate threats to campus, environmental problems like chemical spills, city-wide issues in the Charleston area, or weather-related disturbances."

Traube explained that UC created the plan with local authorities like the Charleston Police Department to follow the best crisis management practices. The plan was last updated during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

Mr. Traube gave me a portion of UC's Crisis Management Procedures, which details the actions the leadership at UC will take to keep everyone on campus safe. The first thing to happen in an emergency is the assembly of a Crisis Management Team. This team will include the President of UC, Executive Vice Presidents (CFO, Enrollment, Provost), Vice President of Communication, Chief Information Officer, Chief of University Security, Director of Facility Services, Director of Human Resources, and the General Counsel.

The President also has the authority to appoint other officials to the CMT, such as the Vice Presidents of Student Affairs, Athletics, Advancement, and any Deans.

To give the CMT a place to assemble, the President or his designee may tell the Chief of University Security to create an Emergency Operations Center for the team to work. This room can be anywhere so long as it has access to multiple phone lines, radios, computers, large-scale campus maps, cable television, designated FAX machines, and other communication equipment.

Mr. Traube said that the CMT would contact students through various methods, including the School Messenger App UC reminds students to download to their phones. Traube said School Messenger allows the CMT "to alert multiple campus communities as efficiently and effectively as possible."

Once the team has assembled at the EOC, the President will declare a state of emergency for the affected areas of campus. The CMT will gather specific information about the disaster from emergency responders, UC security, and faculty members. When the CMT has enough information about the crisis to determine which departments will be affected, they will contact the Deans of all those departments so they can carry out their plans to keep their students out of harm's way.

While the official Crisis Management Plan document is an internal document for safety purposes, Mr. Traube said that any student who would like to learn more about the safety protocols at UC could get information from the Office of Safety and Security at any time. Students should either email Eric Smith at ericsmith@ucwv.edu or call the main office at 304-357-4857.

The University of Charleston created the Crisis Management Plan to protect the UC community from disaster. "The safety of the entire UC community is a top priority," Traube said.
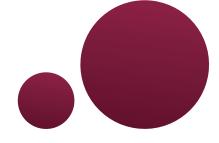
The Benefits of FINA 201 Financial Literacy
by Alec Beavers

The financial literacy class at UC was a huge help so that I could understand things that all adults must know. Some knowledge I gained from the class is how loans work, interest rates, credit cards, etc. This class teaches students information that all successful adults need to use in their everyday lives.

Students who have taken FINA 201 have said:

"I suggest this class to anyone in college or who really wants to manage their finances."

"It is a subject that I will use for the rest of my life."

"What we are learning is stuff I can actually use now to help myself in the future."

"I loved this course, and all the training was beneficial for life. I'm glad I chose this as my elective."

"I learned a lot in the course, and I am excited to apply the knowledge to real-world events."

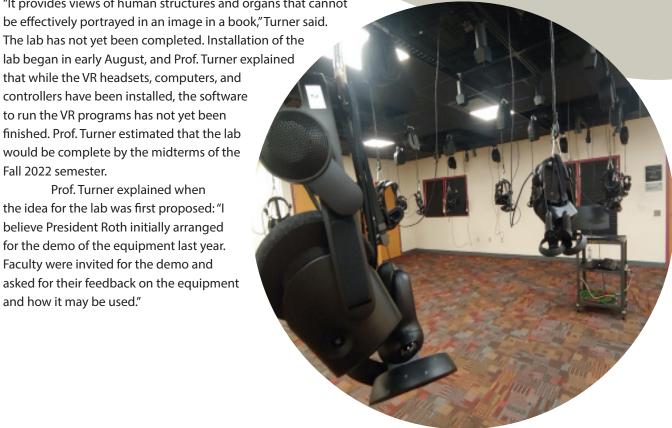## Virtual Reality Lab Nears Completion at UC
By Elijah Newell

The University of Charleston has nearly finished the installation of a virtual reality lab for the biology department. "I was on board with it from the 10-minute demo we were provided", said Dawn Turner, Associate Professor of Biology at UC. As far as Prof. Turner is aware, UC is the only undergraduate school in our area with a VR Lab.

Prof. Turner said the VR lab, on the second floor of the Clay Tower building, room CTB 212, will allow students to view human anatomy in 3-D. The VR headsets allow students to look at nearly every anatomical structure in a three-dimensional view that can be scaled and rotated for optimal observation. "It provides views of human structures and organs that cannot be effectively portrayed in an image in a book," Turner said. The lab has not yet been completed. Installation of the lab began in early August, and Prof. Turner explained that while the VR headsets, computers, and controllers have been installed, the software to run the VR programs has not yet been finished. Prof. Turner estimated that the lab would be complete by the midterms of the Fall 2022 semester.

Prof. Turner explained when the idea for the lab was first proposed: "I believe President Roth initially arranged for the demo of the equipment last year. Faculty were invited for the demo and asked for their feedback on the equipment and how it may be used."

Students with more questions about what they can do in the lab can ask Prof. Turner at dawnturner@ucwv.edu for more information, while students with questions about the technological components of the lab should talk to Zach Casto at zachariahcasto@ucwv.edu, in UC's IT department. Turner is excited that the University of Charleston has given this new tool to students. Turner said, "I knew it would be something that would really help our students to learn anatomy."

UC's Dance Team
By Jessica Gress

The University of Charleston has many different ensembles, such as the various choirs, the marching band, the symphonic wind ensemble, and the visual ensemble that performs with the marching band.
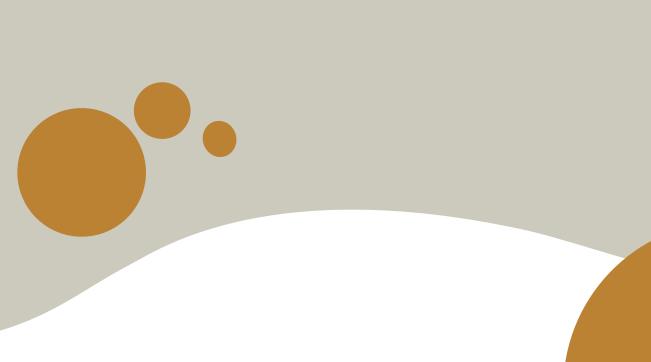
The UC visual ensemble has grown tremendously in the last 3 years from 3 members to now 12. The group is made up of students who have auditioned and been accepted by Mr. John Christian, the director of University Bands. The visual ensemble students are a part of the marching band in terms of performances and scholarships. The amount of growth that the ensemble has had is outstanding.

"I have been really impressed by how much the dance team has grown over the last year," said sophomore Elijah Newell. "They were pretty good when I came last year, but since we have started this semester, they have been performing really well. It seems like they have really stepped up their game."

Newell is a member of the marching and wind ensembles who joined in 2021 as a freshman. He's been able to see the growth of the visual ensemble for a short time. Kaylee Nott, the captain of the visual ensemble, has been with the group for 2 years now.

"When I first joined the team, we would choreograph our own dances, along with practicing them on our own. Walking into our third year, we are able to work in a professional studio with wonderful coaches and choreographers. The school has welcomed us to perform at sports and recreational events. The growth and opportunities surrounding this team are exponential and I am excited to see what the future holds."

If you are interested in joining the visual ensemble or have any questions, feel free to reach out to John Christian at johnchristian@ucwv.edu or Kaylee Nott at kayleenott@ucwv.edu.

You're Graduating: What Comes Next?

By Nishelle Denson

As many students start their senior year, they begin to contemplate their lives after graduation. Some students will immediately start their careers while others look ahead to graduate school. The idea of more schooling can be daunting. Where does one even start?

Students must ask themselves a few questions: Do I need a master's or doctorate to begin my career?

Is the cost equal to the benefits?

Can I maintain a work life balance?

If the answer is yes to any of the questions, then graduate school may be the right choice.

Although this is not a comprehensive list, it can serve as a jumping off point for those considering graduate school. Consider using this chart to keep track of schools and their requirements.

1   Look for schools that have the chosen degree program.
2   Look for any graduate assistance positions. (They can help offset costs.)
3   Contact the program administrator.
4   Notate deadlines/fees for each school.
5   Collect reference letters.
6   Proof CV/Resume. (Have it reviewed by a trusted advisor.)
7   Request transcripts.
8   Collect any required licenses or certificates.