

1) Steere Professorship

Haverford has received a new gift of \$500,000 in support of the Douglas and Dorothy Steere Professorship in Quaker Studies. This outright gift completes the \$2.5 million funding for this new position at the College, which will help sustain the institution's Quaker heritage and help catalyze broad conversations among students, faculty, and friends about the history and enduring value of Quaker principles and practice.

The donor is Marlis Gildemeister '45, who was a student of the Steeres (and a classmate of Mary Esther Dasenbrock) in the Relief and Reconstruction program at Haverford. After her graduation, Marlis worked with the American Friends Service Committee in post-war Europe for many years before turning her energies to raising beef and timber on her family's alpine farm in Austria.

In celebrating the creation of the Steere Professorship, the Board would like to acknowledge the valuable leadership role of Board member and Clerk of the Corporation, Jonathan Evans '77, in bringing this effort to a successful close. We also thank the Corporation for its important role in completing the funding for this new position.

2) The Stone Fund for the Humanities

A second gift for academic achievement is a confirmed bequest of \$900,000 from Donald Stone, Class of 1959, to create "The Stone Fund for the Humanities." The income from this endowed fund will purchase books and technology relevant to the humanities for Magill Library, with a preference given to the field of French literature.

Donald Stone is a Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages and Literature at Harvard University. He is the author of books on Ronsard and French humanist tragedy and of numerous articles and editions dealing with Renaissance literature. He did his graduate work at Yale. Donald grew up in the Adirondack Village of Saranac Lake, NY and to this day credits Haverford with transforming his life.

3) VCAM

Dan Weiss confirms that over half the funding, totaling \$7.5 million, has been raised for the proposed renovation of the Old Gym, which will be transformed into a center for visual culture, arts, and media, which we now refer to as the VCAM.

This center -- which we will discuss at great length at this Board meeting -- will provide a valuable curricular anchor for visual studies across all disciplines, establish a new slate of technology-based educational opportunities for our students, revitalize a wasting asset at the center of our campus, and transform Haverford's image as a place for innovation.

Previously named in honor of former Board and Corporation member Tommy Ryan, Class of 1946, the Old Gym will no longer be known as Ryan. Before his passing in 2009, Tommy happily agreed to this change and identified something at Haverford that will bear his name in perpetuity. In keeping with Tommy's wishes, and in order to recognize his philanthropy and his volunteer leadership, Haverford has named a grove of trees just off College Lane near the Duck Pond in Tommy's honor.