Your Visible Impact

Parents make incredible changes possible at Villanova, but those changes aren't always physical or tangible. Recently, we had the opportunity to see several transformations on campus and watch the progress on these projects.

These new additions to campus are very clear signs of the advances and enhancements that will result from the Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change. They are also visible reminders of the generosity Villanova parents demonstrate each year.

I look forward to sharing more updates with you about the vibrant transformations on campus.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Kind regards,

P.S. Giving Tuesday, the global day of giving, is December 2! Keep an eye on your inbox to find out how the Villanova Annual Fund is celebrating this year.

Students Igniting Change

Villanova students are continuing the traditions of truth, unity and love through their service activities on campus.

- A sophomore varsity lacrosse player and marketing major in the Villanova School of Business donated bone marrow to save a woman's life this fall. Nick Tortoriello found out he was a match after participating in Villanova Football Head Coach Andy Talley's annual bone marrow testing program on campus last spring. Read his inspirational story here.

- Nearly 5,000 students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff and friends volunteered at more than 140 sites for St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service on September 27. You can view a thank you video featuring students at some of the work sites here.
This past weekend marked the 26th consecutive year Villanova hosted the Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival. More than 2,000 volunteers supported this student-run event, which welcomed more than 1,000 athletes from across the state. Watch the VTV video from this very special weekend on campus!

Celebrating Capital Improvements

The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change promises to deliver a premier student-centered living and learning environment. Villanova students are already feeling the benefits of these gifts, as the University unveiled several new campus spaces this fall. Parents played a critical role by generously donating financial resources to fund each of these projects:

- The Higgins Soccer Complex on West Campus was dedicated on October 4. The renovated complex includes two FIFA approved artificial turf playing fields, providing a beautiful and robust space for the varsity men's and women's soccer teams to train and compete. The complex also grants greater availability for intramural, club sports teams and special events like the Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival to use the fields. Alumni and parents Patrick T. Higgins '79 CLAS and Julianne Bigelli-Higgins '80 CLAS made the project possible through a generous lead gift, and several other parents joined them in donating significant dollars toward the renovation.

- Villanova's virtual reality CAVE environment opened on October 2. The CAVE uses immersive video to create a 3D experience, transporting users to places like the Sistine Chapel, the Grand Canyon or the moon. This unique technology is a university-wide resource and research tool available to all Villanova students and faculty. You can find it at Falvey Memorial Library. Although the technology was funded through a $1.67 million grant from the National Science Foundation, a Villanova parent committed the dollars needed for the capital renovations.

- At Homecoming last month, the Department of Communications officially opened its new studio and multimedia classrooms in Garey Hall on West Campus. The new space provides a home for the department (one of the largest majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences!), with specialized technology and equipment that will further enhance communication studies and student projects. I am proud to tell you that every donor who contributed to this renovation is a Villanova parent, including a few alumni whose children are enrolled.

Campaign Update

As of today, $375 million of our $600 million goal has been raised through the Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change. Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, President, and University Advancement staff will be visiting several cities this year to continue the campaign's regional tour. Parents are encouraged to attend these events and learn about Villanova’s exciting future. See the list of cities and dates.

You can now view the campaign goals and priorities for each of Villanova's colleges on the campaign website. Browse through each section to watch videos from dedicated faculty members and see how these priorities will advance academic innovation and student opportunities.

The Fiscal Year 2014 Campaign Impact Report is now available online. This inaugural publication summarizes campaign progress through May 31 and looks ahead to priorities that remain for the coming years.