



Forging the Future

The Campaign for Hood College

Support Faculty in Teaching and Research

At Hood, outstanding faculty members cultivate an intellectual community where students are encouraged to explore, examine and scrutinize the significant questions that dominate the discourse of their disciplines. We have always known the value of faculty and student engagement to meaningful research and discovery, and it is a fundamental aspect of our curriculum.

Our Vision: Increase support for Hood faculty to inspire intellectual vitality and engage our students in applied research and discovery

Endowed Chairs – Attracting and Retaining the Best Professors

The excellence that Hood College is known for rests on the quality of our faculty and their commitment to teaching and learning. Our ability to create endowed professorships to recruit and support those faculty members depends on generous supporters. These professorships allow us to attract some of the great intellects and innovators to our institution and provide critical support for their work as teachers and scholars.

In higher education, there is strong competition for the very best faculty. Endowed chairs and professorships attract extraordinary teacher-scholar candidates; they also empower current faculty. Most recently, a national search brought Dr. Mary Jo Anderson to Hood College as the Delaplaine/Maryland Endowed Chair in Project Management. Dr. Anderson leads an important collaboration with Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc. and the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research to increase student-trainee participation, offer an annual symposium, and facilitate faculty-researcher exchanges and collaboration.

(Insert photo of Dr. Anderson with quote)

“I am honored to be in this innovative position to direct the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Project Management. It is exciting work to expand partnerships with businesses, government and nonprofit organizations to share expertise and resources as well as to provide high-impact learning opportunities to our students.”

[Dr. Mary Jo Anderson, Delaplaine/Maryland Endowed Chair in Project Management](#)

Hood College and our students will benefit from additional endowed chairs and the establishment of dean positions. Here are a few on the College’s wish list:

- Endowed Chair in Sustainability Studies, to grow and enhance this one-of-a-kind program in Maryland that examines the most complex obstacles to preserving our natural resources
- Endowed Chair of Finance in The George B. Delaplaine Jr. School of Business, to address the increased interest in analytical skills and financial modeling necessary to be successful in the business world
- Dean of The George B. Delaplaine Jr. School of Business, to lead the vision, oversee the current majors, direct the creation of the finance program, establish Data-Driven Frederick and develop new academic programs
- Dean of the new School of Health Sciences, to lead the vision, oversee the current majors, create exciting new programs in partnership with local health providers, and increase the visibility and impact of the School

The McCardell Professional Development Endowed Fund

The McCardell Fund was established by the Hood College Board of Associates in 1980 to provide funds for the professional development of faculty and staff. The Fund was renamed in 2001 to honor Robert C. McCardell, emeritus member of the Hood College Board of Associates, in recognition of his generous gifts and his family's association with the College since its founding in 1893. Every year, alumni and friends of the College contribute generously to the Fund, which has supported the professional development, research and curriculum development of both faculty and staff. It is the sole source of funding for independent summer research, and more than 180 individuals have been awarded \$825,000 in the past 40 years. The annual grant award process is highly competitive and has been instrumental in supporting the scholarship of Hood's faculty and improving student learning. However, there are always more requests for research support than funds available. With increased philanthropic support, so much more can be accomplished.

Some of the valuable research projects funded recently include:

- Investigating Vaccination Strategies Using Erdos-Reyni Random Graphs, led by Dr. Jill Tysse, assistant professor of mathematics
- Deadline: A History of Journalists Murdered in America, led by Dr. Elizabeth Atwood, assistant professor of journalism
- 1669: Language Acquisition and Global Economy in Louis XIV's France, led by Dr. Didier Course, professor of global languages and cultures
- Cold-Blooded Cognition: Exploring Leopard Geckos' Mechanisms for Navigation, led by Dr. Shannon Kundey, associate professor of psychology and counseling

(insert Dr. Course/student photo and reading room photo)

Dr. Didier Course with his students working at the National Library of France in Paris and the reading room there. Dr. Course said, "These grants have had a decisive influence on my scholarship and research agenda. I appreciate Hood's commitment to research and the funding to include students in this valuable learning."

(insert Dr. Tysse photo)

Dr. Jill Tysse (left) and Dr. Ann Stewart (right) from the math department pictured with students Chase Thibeault '20, Guinevere Hodge '21 and Michael Mullen '21 who worked together on Investigating Vaccination Strategies.

Summer Research Institute (SRI)

Through the Summer Research Institute (SRI), faculty-student teams apply for competitive summer research grants from the College. Students work with Hood faculty on a research project and receive a stipend and lodging for the period. Students learn all facets of the research process, while enhancing their critical thinking and communication skills. Projects frequently culminate in presentation of their findings at a regional or national conference, an achievement that facilitates graduate admission or post-baccalaureate employment. Recently, Hood College received generous funding from the Hearst Foundations to support the SRI, enabling additional teams of faculty and students to pursue research projects. Yet, additional support is needed to continue to grow this transformative program, as applications exceed current funding.

An example of a SRI is the summer 2020 project of Dr. Diane Graves, assistant professor of psychology and counseling, Greighson Rowe '22 and Mikaili Robertson '21. Entitled "Interdisciplinary STEM Education and Mentoring Transitioning to STEM Success: Role of Athletics and Psychosocial Factors in Student Success," the project focused on understanding the academic and psychosocial support that leads to student success when transitioning to college and pursuing degrees in the sciences. Data was collected from first-year students over the course of the academic year through focus groups and surveys. Greighson and Mikaili analyzed the research for themes and key vocabulary and created a follow-up student survey. Their data analysis identified success factors which were then shared with the IN TRANSIT program to increase student retention, academic self-efficacy and commitment to Hood. Through this work, the students mastered new quantitative and qualitative statistical techniques and acquired a better appreciation for their discipline and the research process.

Insert photos – group photo and 3 head shots

Greighson Rowe '22, an honors student majoring in psychology and Spanish, plans to study abroad in Spain and pursue a doctoral degree in psychology to provide counseling and support to immigrant children.

Mikaili Robertson '21, an honors student majoring in psychology with a minor in business administration, is a member of Hood's baseball team and has a passion for sports and fitness. His research interests are in sports psychology and the mental side of athletics. Mikaili plans to pursue a doctoral degree in sports psychology.

"Students learn best by doing. True to our mission, when faculty and students partner together through a research experience using their hearts, minds and hands we have seen student

transformation. Through a myriad of applied learning opportunities, our students will broaden their professional skills, expand their minds and reaffirm their goals for the future.”

Debbie Ricker, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (include photo)

Philanthropic Opportunities

During *Forging the Future: The Campaign for Hood College*, we seek \$2.5 million to support Hood faculty in teaching and research and grow the number of endowed chairs. Gift opportunities exist at various levels. Endowments provide a continuous stream of support from interest income, while current-use, expendable gifts support students and faculty immediately.

Join Us

Innovative teaching and research strengthens the College and opens new pathways to learning for students. You have the power to change a person’s life trajectory. Join us in support of our faculty and change a student’s life forever.

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Forging the Future: The Campaign for Hood College invites alumni, friends and supporters who believe in the College’s future to invest in it. We seek \$50 million in philanthropic support to provide more scholarships, ensure that every student graduates world- and work-ready and increase future support for our faculty. We will develop new degree programs that meet emerging needs and create new spaces in which to deliver them. By growing our endowment, we will strengthen Hood College for generations to come.