

1-1-2002

Duke Endowment awards \$2.6 million

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2002) "Duke Endowment awards \$2.6 million," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 44 : Iss. 4 , Article 21.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol44/iss4/21>

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Hipp Hall on schedule to open for fall term

Construction on Herman N. Hipp Hall, Furman's newest academic building, is proceeding rapidly, and all signs point to an on-schedule opening at the start of fall term 2002.

Named for the late Herman N. Hipp '35, a Greenville civic leader and longtime president of Liberty Life Insurance Company, the 35,000-square-foot, \$8.5 million building will house the departments of economics and business administration and education, the divisions of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education, and the Rushing Center for Advanced Technology.

Designed by the Greenville architectural firm of Neal Prince & Partners, Hipp Hall will boast LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, which is awarded to buildings that meet strict environmental standards. The U.S. Green Building Council, a group of building industry leaders that encourages construction of energy-efficient buildings, developed the LEED Green Buildings System for rating commercial, institutional and high-rise residential facilities based on criteria from six areas: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy efficiency, materials and resources, indoor air quality and innovative design. Hipp Hall will be the first LEED-certified building in South Carolina.

Recent gifts toward construction of the building include:

■ A capstone gift by the family of Robert (Red) '38 and Mary Hughes, in honor of their lifetime of generosity to Furman. Red Hughes, a leading Upstate businessman, is a past member of the Furman board of trustees. This gift will ensure LEED certification and will serve as a catalyst for programs on urban planning at Furman.

■ The Reid Team Room in the Department of Economics and Business Administration, donated by Wayne '68 and Rubye Reid. Wayne Reid, a past recipient of Furman's Alumni Service Award, is a longtime partner with Arthur Andersen in Atlanta, Ga., and has been responsible for the company's hiring of a number of Furman graduates over the years.

■ The Mary Mundy Morgan and Jane Morgan Hart Conference Room, donated by Thomas Hart '77 and his wife, Jane Morgan Hart '76. The room recognizes Jane Hart, who majored in education at Furman, and her mother. The Harts live in Summerville, S.C., and Tom is a partner with Alkon, Rhea & Hart Attorneys at Law.

■ A faculty office in the economics and business administration suite, donated by 1974 graduates Mac and Kathy Kendrick Beaty. Both majored in business administration at Furman; their daughter, Carrie '01, earned a degree in education. Mac and his brother own Greenwood Homes in Tucker, Ga.

Duke Endowment awards \$2.6 million

Furman has received a \$2.6 million grant from The Duke Endowment, the majority of which will go toward improving the James B. Duke Library.

Of the total award, \$1.9 million will help fund the renovation and expansion of the library. The total cost of the library project will be more than \$25 million. The Duke Endowment pledged \$9.5 million toward the project two years ago, and this year's gift represents the second payment.

Another \$100,000 will go to the university's James B. Duke Scholarship program. The remaining \$595,000 will support the Northwest Crescent Center, a child development and family services center in northwest Greenville County that Furman helped create.

"The James B. Duke Library is our top building priority, and it would have been impossible to undertake this project without The Duke Endowment's generous commitment," says Furman president David Shi. "We are deeply indebted to the endowment for the tremendous support it has provided Furman over the years."

The university's library project will include a complete renovation of the original building and the construction of a 48,000-square-foot addition that will be known as the Charlie Peace Wing. The addition is named for the father of Mary Peace Sterling, a Greenville resident and former Furman trustee.

The new wing will provide collaborative study rooms, reading and research areas, and additional space for the library's growing collection. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer.

The Duke Endowment was established in 1924 by industrialist and philanthropist James B. Duke. Its mission is to serve the people of North Carolina and South Carolina by supporting selected programs of higher education, health care, children's welfare and spiritual life.

Furman is one of four educational institutions in the Carolinas that receive annual financial support from The Duke Endowment. The others are Davidson College, Duke University and Johnson C. Smith University.

Charlie's Challenge generates strong support for university

Furman alumni are again rising to the challenge — Charlie's Challenge, that is.

Last summer, former trustee Mary Peace Sterling issued a challenge to alumni: For each gift made to the university during the 2001-2002 fiscal year, she would donate an additional \$100 toward construction of the Charlie Peace Wing of the James B. Duke Library. The new wing will be named for her father.

Furman alumni are responding, and through December 31 5,762 people had made a gift to the university, generating

\$576,200 in challenge funds for the library. By the time this article is published, the numbers are expected to surpass 6,000 and \$600,000.

Such strong response from Furman supporters is nothing new. From 1996-98, alumni made history by responding to the Herring Challenges, setting records in alumni giving and helping Furman reach 50 percent participation in annual giving for the first time. Last year, alumni helped set another record in annual giving through their response to the Rinker Challenges.

This year, they are on track to do it again.

These challenges, and alumni response, boost the educational program at Furman. Challenge dollars allow the university to meet its operational needs, help student groups such as Collegiate Educational Service Corps, and support vital areas, such as the library.

With the continued support of alumni and friends, 2001-2002 has the potential to be another record-setting year.

— David G. Ellison '72
Chair, Furman Fund Council