Welcome to the fourth edition of the College of William & Mary’s Economic Development newsletter - CONNECTIVITY. Much has happened at William & Mary since the last edition of the newsletter.

The William & Mary family continues to reach high levels of achievement. For example, Paul Verkuil (‘61) was appointed by President Obama as chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States; six William & Mary graduate students were selected to present their research at the prestigious Graduate Student Research Forum; Dr. Eugene Burreson has received one of three Outstanding Scientist awards for Virginia for 2010; and Darren Sharper (‘97) was a key player for the Super Bowl champion New Orleans Saints.

In one way or another, these feats speak to the impact that William & Mary has - far and near. In the Office of Economic Development and Technology & Business Center, we too are working to leave a William & Mary imprint that reaches high levels of achievement.

I hope you enjoy reading CONNECTIVITY. I am also interested in hearing your feedback about this newsletter and on ways the Office of Economic Development and Technology & Business Center can better serve you. Fill out our contact card to let us know your thoughts. I look forward to hearing from you!

Thanks,

Leonard Sledge
Director - Office of Economic Development

[Connectivity]

- William & Mary’s Technology and Business Center Teams with James City County Economic Development Authority

The James City County Economic Development Authority (EDA) will join forces with the College of William & Mary to help expand the reach of its business incubator. The re-engineered approach, which will now be managed by William & Mary’s Technology and Business Center (TBC), will broaden the reach of the incubator to select businesses that may not necessarily be technology oriented. READ MORE

- William & Mary Receives Federal Grant to Expand Science and Engineering Education

A College of William & Mary program to encourage science and engineering education in middle schools will now be taken to the national level after receiving $900,000 in federal funding. The STEM Education Alliance at William & Mary’s School of Education received funding this month as part of its ongoing partnership with the Department of Defense’s National Defense Education Program (NDEP). To date, the program which works with school districts to encourage middle school students to explore careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), has received more than $3.8 million in federal support. READ MORE

- Students Celebrate MLK with Day of Serving and Learning

The metal roof groaned its disapproval as William & Mary students armed with crowbars and hammers forced it from its place atop the shed. Below, other students pulled aged plywood from the structure’s frame and tossed its splintered remains loudly into a dumpster. The students could have spent that morning - one of the last of their winter break - wearing pajamas and lounging around their houses. Instead, they opted to spend Martin Luther King Day honoring the holiday’s namesake by serving and learning in Petersburg, Virginia. READ MORE

- Virginia Institute of Marine Science a Partner in Coastal America Award

The Lynnhaven River Oyster Restoration Team, a partnership between the College of William & Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Virginia Beach, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, and Lynnhaven River NOW, has been selected to receive a 2009 Coastal America Partnership Award for innovative efforts to restore the river’s native oyster population. READ MORE

- Who’s in the Office of Economic Development

Get to know Steve Harrison, Graduate Assistant in the Office of Economic Development. Steve is completing his last semester of graduate studies in the Thomas Jefferson Program in Public Policy. Last summer Steve interned with the City of Virginia Beach’s Department of Economic Development. Favorite Movie - Pirates of the Caribbean; Favorite Meal - Snow Crab Legs; Best Vacation - Walt Disney World; Favorite Quote - “Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm” Ralph Waldo Emerson; Last Book Read - Game Change by John Heilemann and Mark Halperin.