

Updates from Brevard College



Fall 2020



Dear Friends,

Brevard College is entering a very important new chapter in its history. It certainly is a “new normal” for all of us. We are beginning a new semester in the midst of a pandemic with new protocols for social distancing, wearing masks, and monitoring symptoms. Nevertheless, our students, faculty, and staff are ready for the semester as evidenced by the record retention rate of returning students and the large number of new students. The campus is a hub of activity again with everyone ready to embrace the 20/21 academic year... with all of its challenges and complexities.

We have implemented numerous new safety measures for the academic year; following CDC guidelines and recommendations. As a college that is committed to an experiential education, our faculty will teach in flexible ways, offering safe, in-person instruction, with a few of our most vulnerable faculty teaching online.

Fall sports have been postponed to the spring semester, allowing students to focus on their studies while practicing for a competitive season ahead. We are collaborating with the residential universities and colleges in our region, along with the Transylvania County Health Department, in an effort to keep the health and safety of our campus and local community as our highest priority.

We entered this academic year in a strong fiscal position, having ended with a balanced budget for the 9th consecutive year. The pandemic has affected several of our revenue streams, but through careful management, Brevard College’s financials are sound, and we were able to keep our work force employed and productive. Thanks to your loyal and generous support, we are weathering this pandemic “storm.”

***"We will emerge from
this time as an even
more resilient and
relevant college."***

Now, more than ever, we must stay the course. We are committed to move Brevard College forward, following the updated strategic master plan. We have enlarged the athletic stadium to accommodate football for their first on-campus season (albeit in the spring). The new Field House will be home to several sports, along with the new Human Performance lab, opening up the exciting possibility of a new academic program in Human Performance. The WLEE program will have a permanent home along King’s Creek in the historic, renovated Barn. And we will begin construction of a new residence hall on the Villages’ green to accommodate our growing enrollment.

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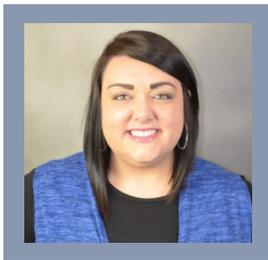
Tornados Touchdown at Home

Football is finally going to be played on campus and the Tornados are ecstatic! Over the summer, the Ives-Lemel Family Field was expanded to stadium-size with bleachers and a new field house added to support six teams. New athletic offices for staff and coaches will serve student-athletes in every sport. Students, alumni and fans in the stands can look forward to a top-tier experience. In the photo below, team representatives from each sport that will play in the new stadium get ready for practice this fall and competitive play in the spring.



"A true home field will heighten interest, promote attendance, and the sounds of game-day cheers for our bowl-championship, record-setting team will resound throughout the campus. Nothing can duplicate that experience. Having an on-campus field will also provide a tremendous boost to our recruiting capabilities. There is a reason the words 'there's no place like home' resonate so truly and deeply with so many."

—Bill Khayat, Head Football Coach



"I'm most excited about the expansion of space for our teams. It's incredible to have all of our teams compete on campus. We can't wait to provide a wonderful game day experience for our programs, students and spectators."

—Myranda Nash, Athletics Director

President Joyce, continued from page 1

We are on track to launch our first graduate programs within the next few years. Nevertheless, we are still “navigating uncharted waters,” requiring flexibility and adaptability. Most of our upcoming events will be virtual so that we can keep folks safe while upholding our traditions and standards. You can stay abreast of campus news and events by signing up for college updates at bit.ly/BrevardCollegeUpdates.

Thank you for extraordinary support and encouragement. Now, probably more than ever before, Brevard College needs your prayers and gifts. We will emerge from this time as an even more resilient and relevant college. Our students are benefiting from a personalized experiential education and are living our motto to “learn in order to serve.” Again, thank you for helping to make this possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David C. Joyce'.

David C. Joyce, President

WLEE Moves Into the Barn



WLEE faculty move into the historic Barn, which has been renovated to serve as WLEE's permanent home.

While experiential education is integrated throughout Brevard College, the Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education (WLEE) Program has been a flagship major since it began in 1996. WLEE students undertake a unique program through outdoor learning in a rich and biologically diverse mountain environment.

When the WLEE Program relocated from Ross Hall, the search began for a location that would be a better fit for its specialized activities. WLEE faculty and students found a perfect site in the historic Barn, an iconic structure in the heart of the campus that dates back to the college's founding on farmland.

With the help of the Cannon Charitable Trust, the Barn has been renovated to include outdoor education classrooms, a large Immersion Suite, and collaborative work spaces. Situated on King's Creek, there is ample storage for gear and equipment, outdoor lab space, an open-air pavilion classroom, and trails for walking, hiking and biking.

As a bonus, WLEE's move from its temporary home in E. Jones Residence Hall will free up 12 rooms, allowing the college to restore residential capacity for its growing enrollment.

Welcome home, WLEE!



"This move can only enhance the national reputation of our signature program. The wooded area behind is ideal for an outdoor classroom lab and there will be trails for walking, hiking and biking."

Dr. Jennifer Kafsky
Professor of Wilderness Leadership and
Experiential Education/
Experiential Education Division Chair/
Director of Teaching and Learning and BCP



The new "boathouse" features expanded indoor storage for WLEE's essential equipment such as kayaks and paddles.

