**Shuttle Service Paves the Way for Greater Community Involvement**

“Do you have a way for me to get to the site?” Since the CCE opened its doors in 2004, this question had become a familiar refrain among students without cars seeking opportunities to learn and serve in the Richmond community. Too often this lack of transportation was an obstacle to service these students could not overcome.

This changed in October of 2006 with the arrival of the CCE’s new service shuttle, which provides safe and reliable transportation to and from community service sites. Purchased with funding from the Suhoe Graham Foundation and the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, the shuttle, driven by a part-time employee, operates 20 hours per week during the academic year. With priority given to students involved in service learning courses and the University’s Build It community engagement initiative, the shuttle offers a needed complement to the sparse transportation resources currently available to students without private vehicles. The current offerings include a shuttle coordinated through the University Chaplaincy for students in the Bonner Scholars Program and limited, time-

**Apply Now for the CCE’s Summer Research and Civic Fellowships**

Students can receive up to $4500 for a 10-week independent or collaborative research project or academically grounded nonprofit internship.

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To learn more, or to download guidelines and application forms, please visit:

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**FEATURED PROGRAM Civic Engagement House**

This year marked the opening of the Civic Engagement House, an innovative co-ed residential program focused on community involvement. Located in the Atlantic House, this living and learning community provides students with opportunities to explore the greater Richmond community through study, service and co-curricular activities and to work closely with other students, faculty and staff who have similar interests. Residents were required to take a four-unit history course, the “Urban Crisis in Modern America,” offered in the fall semester and taught by CCE Acting Director Amy Howard.
STUDENT COORDINATOR SPOTLIGHT

Student Coordinator Stephanie Li says she can’t remember a time when she wasn’t involved in the CCE. This year Stephanie, a junior Sociology major on a pre-law track, has taken on coordination of the CCE’s ESL Tutoring Project, which matches student tutors with UR staff who want to improve their English skills. The work aligns with her interest in promoting racial and ethnic awareness on campus. “I feel that these issues are overlooked at UR, especially regarding the City of Richmond itself. Working at the CCE has opened my eyes to the disparities of the community and gives me an incentive to help build a bridge from UR to Richmond.”

Stephanie is also the resident assistant at the Global House and a founder of D-Squad, a non-competitive dance group open to anyone willing to learn more about hip-hop and step dance. “D-Squad is important to me because it is the epitome of diversity. We pride ourselves on our original moves. It also feels great to know I am bringing a little bit of my upbringing in NYC to campus.”

Stephanie hopes to return to New York after graduation to teach elementary school. Her future plans also include leading a performing arts program in urban schools and working as a victim advocate or lawyer in the area of domestic violence.

Senior Bonner and Oliver Hill Scholar Tanika Jackson has served the CCE as a Student Coordinator since it opened in 2004. In addition to completing an individually designed major that combines information systems, rhetoric and communication, and sociology, and volunteering at the Science Museum of Virginia and Fisher Elementary School, Tanika uses her skills to advise other students and to document how the CCE’s services are used.

Tanika counts her work with the CCE as one of her most meaningful experiences on campus. “I have enjoyed being a part of the CCE from its inception and watching it grow into a center which fosters awareness and advocates civic duty in the student body,” she said.

As a native of South Richmond, Tanika has contributed her personal knowledge of the area to the CCE’s efforts. She’s also conducting research on how education affects the lives of African-American women in Richmond and “tackles civic and social issues by using my right to vote candidly.”

Tanika’s senior thesis, which explores how people can manipulate their identities through talk and over the Internet, is further testament to her wide range of interests. To unwind, she sings in the Umoja Gospel Choir. Among Tanika’s future plans are a master’s degree in information systems and a career that combines that expertise with human resources.

(MOSCHLER, from page 1)

The Bonner Center for Civic Engagement
(804) 484-1600; (804) 484-1605 fax
engage@richmond.edu
http://engage.richmond.edu

Acting Director
Amy L. Howard

Service and Program Coordinator
Betsy Kelly

Administrator
Gail Oliver

Driver
Dick Moschler

Visiting Fellow
John V. Mooser

Director (on Sabbatical 06-07)
Douglas A. Hicks

times the size of this room,” he said. In a career spanning the evolution of personal computers, Dick has also managed information systems for CSX Corporation and Life Insurance Company of Virginia.

A lifelong Richmond resident, Dick knows a great deal about the local community. It has changed quite a bit over the years, he said, in the same way that the University of Richmond campus looks very different than it did when he was an undergrad majoring in math and physics. “A big change is the area of the Commons building,” Dick said. “We drove across the dam that connected the two campuses, which were very separate. I never had any females in my class.” Civic engagement was also rare. “Students stayed on campus, except for the athletes,” he said.

His interest in the CCE job grew in part out of curiosity about the changes in student life. “I wanted to contribute to a significant program — and make a little extra money, too,” he said. The best part of driving the shuttle, he said, is getting to meet new people.

Dick enjoys fishing and bowling as well, and has recently taken up golf. He is also active in his church, where he has driven a van similar to the service shuttle for nearly 20 years. “This new van is like a modern brother of that one,” he said. “But I can drive anything with four wheels and an engine.”
Civic Engagement House
(Continued from page 1)

In Fall 2006, 13 students lived in the Civic Engagement House (CEH). Their majors ranged from the sciences and humanities to leadership studies. We asked two of them, junior Vincent Cavallo and sophomore Jill Eisenberg, to share their experience.

Tell us about the Civic Engagement House.

Vincent: The Civic Engagement House is about connecting students to the City of Richmond. We study issues, history, and current events and connect them to those of other major cities around the nation. When we studied affordable housing, we went into the City of Richmond and met with a number of local nonprofits that provide shelter to the homeless or lobby for affordable housing, and we actually visited two recent developments in the city itself. It's a very hands-on atmosphere in which classroom knowledge is directly applied to the real-world.

Is there a common thread that exists among the residents?

Vincent: I think the common thread was an eagerness to get out into the City and figure out how it works the way it does. The CEH provided all of us with an opportunity to study and take action in Richmond to be a force of positive change.

What type of activities did you participate in during the fall semester?

Jill: Through networking, our friendships, and the class setting, the house enabled us to get involved on- and off-campus. We had guest lectures from civic leaders. We attended a public forum on affordable housing at the Richmond Times-Dispatch. We took field trips to learn about different neighborhoods, nonprofits, and urban issues. We also had an architect come to the house for a dinner to talk to us about green space and green building. None of these activities were required but most of us went because of how interesting they were.

How is the Civic Engagement House different from other residential settings?

Jill: This house enables mixing of different majors, it encourages leadership and teamwork, and supports each student's pursuit in their areas of interest.

Unlike other dorm settings, the CEH encourages us to reach out to each other. The house enables students to meet others whom they wouldn't have met through their regular social circles and daily schedules. My housemates have such broad interests. The Civic Engagement House is wonderful because it doesn't cater to one type of student – we run the gamut in politics and religion from liberal to conservative.

Vincent: The nice part about our situation is that the theme doesn't stay in the house, it sticks with you wherever you are on campus. It's a genuine community of engaged individuals who all offer unique perspectives.

How does the "Urban Crisis" class connect to life in the house?

Jill: I often didn't know where the class began and ended. It was great to have my classmates living next door to me when I had a question or when we wanted to continue the discussion from class – which often happened. By having common knowledge, we have been able to progress so much more than we would have otherwise.

What is your favorite part of living there?

Jill: I feel so fortunate to have been able to participate in this experience because I am inspired to know such great people. This house is proof that the UR study body is not entirely apathetic, and it has connected the students to a broader community outside of school. I feel that I will be able to apply the tools I have gained from the course and house to my community service and other activities.

How has this experience changed you?

Jill: I think it is crucial to know not only history but also what's going on around us now, so we can address problems in society directly. I cannot think of a better way to learn about the city's and state's history and people than getting to see and study those places. This program added a new perspective because we had a chance to learn without relying solely on textbooks.

Vincent: It has opened me up to contemporary issues I never would have recognized as a Classics major. Most people in the CEH are not Urban Practice and Policy majors, but we all have discovered a whole new set of issues that have challenged how we think and act in our daily lives.

(DIRECTOR, from page 1)

and to myself, I say that understanding social problems in context, and working to address them persistently over time, will yield results. My resolution this year: to persevere. The long, hard process of much-needed social change demands our investment.

THE BUILD IT CAMPUS-COMMUNITY FAIR IS MARCH 31!

Students, Staff, and Faculty please contact Betsy Kelly at 484-1609 or ekelly2@richmond.edu to find out how you can get involved in connecting the Richmond community.

For more news from the CCE, please visit http://engage.richmond.edu
brown bag discussions

1/26 A Biology Professor in a War Zone: Science and Security in Iraq and Afghanistan  
Dr. Peter Smallwood, Biology  
2/2 The Forgotten People of New Orleans: Race, Class, and the New Orleans 9th Ward  
Dr. Juliette Landphair, Westhampton College  
2/9 Deciding Death  
Corinna Lain, T.C. Williams School of Law  
2/16 U.S. Border Politics in the 1950's: The Same As Now Only Backwards  
Dr. Cindy Hahamovitch, College of William & Mary  
2/23 What Matters to Me and Why  
Dr. Tina Cade, Office of Multicultural Affairs  
Co-sponsored by the University Chaplaincy  
3/16 Building the Good Society: A Long Term Strategy for Achieving Social Justice in the United States  
Dr. Gar Alperovitz, University of Maryland  
Co-sponsored by the Jepson School of Leadership Studies  
3/23 Class Matters: One Book, One Campus Discussion  
4/13 Theatre for Social Change  
An interactive program created by Chuck Mike, Theatre, and students Josh Katz, Abby Kingston, Mario Brown, Kern Gardiner, and Farirayi Mapondera

*Discussions are from 12:30-1:15 p.m. in the Think Tank, 2nd Floor Commons

campus programs

1/16 Civic Engagement House Student Documentaries Screening  
Cross Over Ministries: Improving Health Care in the Latino Community  
Homelessness: It Could Be You  
Nutrition: A Crucial Tool for Affordability Housing in Richmond  
Youth, Violence and Gangs  
1/24 Civic Engagement House Student Documentaries Screening (encore)  
1/25 The Scoop: Using Media for Social Change  
Roberta Oster Sachs, T.C. Williams School of Law  
4 p.m., Brown Alley Room, Weinstein Hall  
1/31 Reflections on the Realities and Consequences of U.S. Diplomacy in the Middle East  
Dr. Andrew Bacevich, Boston University  
12 p.m., Jabin Library, Jepson School of Leadership Studies  
Co-sponsored by the Richmond Quest and the Jepson School of Leadership Studies  
2/7 Between Patty Hearst and Malcolm X: The Politics of Staging Politics on the Contemporary American Stage  
Anthony Davis, Composer  
Co-sponsored by the Richmond Quest, Cultural Affairs, and the Department of Music  
2/27 The Invisible in Richmond  
Mark Holmberg, Richmond Times-Dispatch

*Unless noted, programs are at 7 p.m. in the Brown Alley Room, Weinstein Hall