



**From its earliest days, the lifeblood of the University of Virginia has been its world-class faculty. And it is this evolving array of leading scholars and teachers that will carry the University into a critically important future.**

The College has before it a breathtaking opportunity to ensure, and in fact to enhance, its trademark commitment to excellence at a moment of remarkable turnover in its faculty ranks. The recently completed \$5 million Legacy of Distinction Fund was created to address an upcoming wave of retirements based on the demographics of a faculty that includes more than 111 tenured members age 65 or over, and 53 of those age 70 or over.

Thanks to the success of this Fund, the College was able to allocate resources to make key hires in advance of these openings, allowing a valuable period of overlap. Thus far, it has funded the salaries of six incoming faculty for a period of three years during which they have prepared to take the reins from some of the University's most cherished educators.

Now that we have brought support to help recruit faculty, we are expanding the mission with Legacy of Distinction Fund II. In addition to assisting with recruitment, the Legacy of Distinction Fund II also allows funds to be used to retain our most promising faculty members who are sometimes recruited by other universities.

With this new fund in place, the Dean will be able to respond immediately and aggressively to retain these valuable faculty members. At the same time, the Legacy of Distinction Fund II will provide supplemental funds to enhance the College's competitiveness to make strategic hires as opportunities and needs arise.

At a time of increasing enrollment and in the face of the aforementioned surge in retirements, the Legacy of Distinction Fund II helps address fundamental challenges faced by all of us who care about the College and its future. These spendable, high-impact gifts are essential to retain our best faculty and to make exceptional new hires in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

We invite you to join us to shape the College for the next 30 years and beyond.

