The Foundation for the University of the Virgin Islands has agreed to assume the management of the Title III Endowment that has been implemented as a part of the 2007-12 UVI Title III program. FUVI “was established to assist the University with developing and identifying revenues to support its mission.” The foundation has managed the other endowments associated with the institution, and has provided financial support to UVI for capacity building activities.

Recognizing the Title III Endowment Challenge Grant as an excellent opportunity to support the financial sustainability of the institution, UVI has committed to having an endowment with minimum deposits of $210,000.00 over the five-year grant cycle. The endowment is a mechanism that will provide essential funds to support costs necessary to operate the University.

The program allows up to twenty percent (20%) of the funds awarded in a grant year to be used for the purpose of establishing or enhancing an endowment. Funds allocated from the grant must be matched on a 1:1 basis by funds from the institution to build the endowment. The corpus of the endowment may not be disturbed for a period of twenty years after it has been established, and not more than fifty percent (50%) of the endowment’s income may be used in a given year.

Table 1. Annual Fundraising Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>UVI Commitment</th>
<th>Title III Commitment</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Future Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Future Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$105,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$105,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the US Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.
**WHAT IS A SMART CLASSROOM?**

With funding from Title III, the Information and Technology Services (ITS) Component has been able to provide ‘smart classrooms’ on both UVI campuses—St. Croix and St. Thomas. A smart classroom is equipped with audiovisual resources, allowing the instructor to use a wide variety of media to provide instruction. These include DVD’s, PowerPoint presentations, music and more, displayed through a digital projector.

Equipment available in rooms includes:
- PC with 2.8 GHz processor, 1 GB of RAM, 80 GB Hard Drive, 2 front USB ports, and a DVD drive. Every PC is also connected to the UVI network.
- Digital Projector. Each smart classroom has a PC in the room that is connected to a ceiling mounted digital projector.
- There is a VGA Hub in each Smart Classroom allowing anyone to connect their personal laptop to the projector.
- Access to a DVD Player that is built into the PC.

Smart classrooms are checked on a regular basis to ensure that all the equipment is working properly. For assistance and training on operating the equipment in the smart classrooms on both campuses, please contact the UVI Helpdesk at 693-1466 or e-mail helpdesk@uvi.edu.

The Smart Classrooms on the St. Thomas campus are located in:
- Teachers Education 212
- Business 206
- Nursing 214
- SFC 222
- Business 204W
- Teachers Education 216
- Nursing 201
- Business 103
- CAB 213

On the St. Croix Campus, the Smart Classrooms are located in:
- EVC 716
- EVC 303
- EVC 305
- EVC 207
- EVC 505
- EVC 501
- EVC 405
- EVC 408
- Q 100

Below is a list of all the software that has been installed on all Smart Classroom computers on campus. Any additional software can be installed by request as long as the software has the proper licenses. To request additional software be installed in the smart classroom’s, please contact the ITS Helpdesk at 693-1466 or e-mail helpdesk@uvi.edu.

- Microsoft office 2007
- Real VNC 4.0
- Windows Media Player 12
- F-Secure Client Security 8.00
- Internet Explorer 8
- Power DVD
- Real player 11.0.4
- WinZip 9.0
- Mozilla Firefox

**BIOLOGY LAB IMPROVEMENTS FUNDED BY CCRAA**

Through the initiation of the Title III College Cost Reduction and Access Act grant, the Biology Infrastructure and Instructional Improvement project was birthed. This project was launched to enhance both instruction by means of acquiring and utilizing up to date scientific apparatus as well as the laboratory facilities in the Science and Math building.

Last summer, Dr. Paul Jobsis, the project’s director, and the University’s Physical Plant Department worked tirelessly to complete much needed renovations to the biology laboratory. Although some minor setbacks were experienced, the lab was ready for the beginning of the Fall 2009 semester. The new biology lab is now fitted with refurbished lab tables, new desktops, overhead projectors, and an inverted microscope.

*Biology Lab on St. Thomas campus*
THE WILLIE MAC SETS SAIL…WITH TITLE III

For several years, the Willie Mac has hosted students on numerous expeditions. Now it has set sail with the University’s Title III program. Through the assistance of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act grant program, administered by the Title III project administration office, Dr. Paul Jobsis has been able to secure funding to renovate and upgrade the instructional vessel.

Some of these upgrades to the vessel include a new dive platform, new anchor chains, engine maintenance and a fresh coat of paint. But that’s not all! According to Ian Byrne, UVI’s Boats and Facilities Specialist, new benches are being constructed, and the interior of the vessel will receive further aesthetic modifications, all by the end of May.

As for safety, both students and dive instructors echoed the same sentiments when asked about the improvements made to the Willie Mac. Steve Prosterman, Diving & Marine Field Officer, stated “the new dive platform is a huge improvement over the old decrepit one it replaced. Not only aesthetically, but it is a safe, user-friendly platform, whereas the old platform had become a major safety concern and hazard at times.” One student stated “I feel much safer sitting on the new dive platform.”

INTRODUCING THE NEW CETL DIRECTOR, DR. CHRISTY VINEYARD

In the fall semester of the 2009-10 academic year, members of UVI faculty were invited to apply for a new position, Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). The CETL was developed through the support of the UVI Title III program, and opened in spring 2009. The Director’s position also receives 50% of its funding from the Title III program. The Office of the Provost and Information and Technology Services (ITS) are now pleased to announce that Christy Vineyard is the appointed CETL Director. Dr. Vineyard, formerly Visiting Assistant Professor of Management, began her new position on January 18, 2010.

Christy will provide leadership for faculty curriculum and technology development, provide training and system administration for the Blackboard Course Management System application, model innovative techniques for teaching with technology, and conduct research to review and promote the scholarship of teaching. Faculty interested in an assignment to CETL for course re-design and/or technology training, or faculty who have any course design and technology training needs may contact Christy at her office in Room L-104 of the Paiewonsky Library, or by telephone at 340-693-1214.

UVI’s Title III Program is currently administering the “Title III, Part B Strengthening Historically Black College and Universities” and the “College Cost Reduction and Access Act” grants. Both grants have adopted the university’s theme “Enhancing Institutional Infrastructural Capacity for Support of Student Success.” Funding for both grants is provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

For more information please contact Dayle Barry at 340-693-1054 or visit us at http://www.uvi.edu/sites/uvi/Pages/Sponsored_Programs-Title_III.aspx?CS.
INFORMATION CORNER

As a service to faculty and staff who are currently administering Title III projects and for those who hope to do so in the future, the project administration staff has provided some responses to frequently asked questions. This will continue in future issues of the newsletter.

Q. What activities can the Title III program support?

A. The program is a five-year discretionary grant that is awarded annually to participating Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) based on a formula. The types of projects (Legislatively Allowable Activities) that may be funded are articulated in the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and include the following:

1. purchase, rental, or lease of scientific or laboratory equipment for educational purposes;
2. construction, maintenance, renovation, and improvement in classroom, library, laboratory, and other instructional facilities;
3. support of faculty exchanges, faculty development and faculty fellowships to assist in attaining advanced degrees;
4. academic instruction in disciplines in which Black Americans are underrepresented;
5. purchase of library books, periodicals, microfilm, and other educational materials;
6. tutoring, counseling, and student service programs designed to improve academic success;
7. strengthening funds and administrative management;
8. joint use of facilities, such as laboratories and libraries, with partner institutions;
9. establishing or improving a development office to strengthen or improve contributions from alumni and the private sector;
10. establishing or enhancing a program of teacher education designed to qualify students to teach in a public elementary or secondary school, including preparation for teacher certification;
11. establishing community outreach programs which will encourage elementary and secondary students to develop the academic skills and the interest to pursue postsecondary education;
12. acquisition of real property in connection with the construction, renovation, or addition to or improvement of campus facilities;
13. education or financial information designed to improve the financial literacy and economic literacy of students or the students' families, especially with regard to student indebtedness and student assistance programs under Title IV;
14. services necessary for the implementation of projects or activities that are described in the grant application and that are approved, in advance, by the Secretary of the Department of Education, except that not more than two percent of the grant amount may be used for this purpose; and
15. other activities that carry out the purposes of the Title III legislation and are approved by the Secretary of the Department of Education.

Q. How do I get my Title III proposal funded?

A. Prior to the commencement of each five-year grant cycle, the institution formulates a Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) which indicates how it intends to utilize Title III grant funding over the five-year period. The plan is required to be consistent with the institution’s strategic plan. Faculty and staff are invited to submit proposals which are consistent with the strategic plan and with any of the fifteen Legislatively Allowable Activities to be considered for inclusion in the CDP. The final CDP and funding request are submitted to the US Department of Education for review and approval.

During the five-year cycle, there are sometimes opportunities for unspent funds to be used for smaller projects that were not initially included in the CDP, but which are consistent with the objectives thereof. The format available at http://www.uvi.edu/sites/uvi/Pages/Sponsored_Programs-Carry_Forward_Funding.aspx?s=CS may be used to submit a request for funding. The request must be reviewed internally by the School’s Dean of or the unit Director, the Component Head, and the Title III Coordinator before being submitted to the President for consideration. After the President has approved, the project proposal must be approved by the US Department of Education before funding may be made available for the activity.