Legacies: A Vision of Hope

In their own words

Members of the campus community—faculty and students who live the Hope experience day-to-day—offer reflections on how the Legacies: A Vision of Hope comprehensive campaign will make the strong Hope experience even better. The $105 million fund-raising effort has four primary components: renovating and expanding the Peale Science Center; constructing the DeVos Fieldhouse; increasing the endowment; and general campus improvements including the construction of the Martha Miller Center for communication, modern and classical languages, multicultural life and international education.

Science

To rank among the best in the natural sciences in all liberal arts institutions across the U.S., three components are essential: committed faculty, motivated students, and a facility that will provide the best technology in a changing world. Traditionally, Hope College had the first two; however, a new facility will be needed for her to continue to be nationally recognized in the future.

—Dr. Harvey Blankespoor
The Frederick Gazett and Helen Floor Dekker Professor Emeritus of Biology and CASE 1991 Professor of the Year

I am excited about the extension to Peale Science Center, allowing Hope College’s science departments to remain at the top of undergraduate research programs. With new laboratories, offices and classrooms, the building is a much needed step for a competitive science program. I only wish I was younger so that I could use the new facilities throughout my entire undergraduate education.

—Heather Mentzer ’05
Huntington, Pa.

Martha Miller Center

Students in the communication department receive an excellent and balanced education in various aspects of communication practice and theory. The Martha Miller Center will enhance our program and the educational experience in communication at Hope College in a variety of ways. New facilities and new equipment are needed to meet the needs of our growing department and to remain competitive with similar institutions.

—Dr. James Herrick
The Guy Vander Jagt Professor of Communication and Chairperson of the Department

I love the department of modern and classical languages not just for the sheer talent and knowledge of the faculty, but also because the faculty befriended the students. Unfortunately, space is so tight that the wonderful faculty are crunched into small offices where there is no room to work, much less meet—ever the foreign language library has been converted into a classroom. The new building will provide a home equal to the professors and the program.

—Rebecca Radall ’03
Hutchinson, Kan.

Endowment

As a leader in higher education, Hope College depends on its endowment to face challenges in sustaining excellence. The endowment allows Hope to hire elite scholars, and provide innovative teaching methods, technological advancement, building/classroom development and the overall ability to attract the best young adults from around the world to Hope College.

—Maxine De Bruyn
The Dorothy Wiley DeLong Professor of Dance and Chairperson of the Department

All throughout my senior year, hundreds of letters and information on different types of colleges and universities came to my mailbox. Honestly, I never thought about choosing to go to a private college because of the tuition fees. But because of the grant and endowment, Hope provided the opportunity for me to receive a better education without worrying about the cost.

—Teasha Smith ’06
Allegan, Mich.

De Vos Fieldhouse

As a prospective college student-athlete, I was drawn to Hope because of the great people and the facilities in which I would participate. The DeVos Fieldhouse will greatly enhance the college experience for both current Hope students and those of the future. The DeVos Fieldhouse will give Hope and the greater Holland area a beautiful facility where students will grow academically, athletically, and socially.

—Greg Immink ’05
Hudsonville, Mich.

I will love the privilege of serving as a teacher–coach in the new DeVos Fieldhouse. In this rich setting, which will meet a critical need for college and community alike, students will develop leadership skills through positive attitudes, creative thinking and contagious enthusiasm. Ultimately, our hope will be for them to heed their calling and become the people God intends.

—Dr. Glenn Van Wieren ’64
Professor of Kinesiology and Head Men’s Basketball Coach