

Walk in the footsteps of Boots.

Jefferson's design for the Lawn makes it clear he intended faculty to be not just teachers to their students, but neighbors and friends. For decades, no professor has better exemplified that tradition than Ernest "Boots" Mead.

To celebrate his life and work, a group of Mr. Mead's friends and former students founded The Mead Endowment, which sponsors programs that encourage University faculty to become more involved with students and student life.

Recently, we honored nine outstanding faculty members from the College and one from Darden at a dinner in the Rotunda.



PROFESSOR ERNEST "BOOTS" MEAD
LEGENDARY FRIEND OF STUDENTS

Alev Erisir and Ignacio Provencio will take students to the prestigious Annual Meeting of the Society of Neuroscience in Washington, which is attended by 35,000 scientists.

Mitchell Green will invite his students to "Know Thyself on Two Wheels" using neuroscience, philosophy, psychology and even Buddhism to prepare physically, mentally and spiritually for the MS 150 bike ride which will raise funds for multiple sclerosis research.

Margarita Nafpaktitis and five students will attend the Russian Film Symposium in Pittsburgh for screenings and discussions with renowned Russian film scholars.

Over a series of meals, Deborah Lawrence will work with students to design a course on sustainable living, exploring issues of ecology, politics, equity economics and religion.

Inspired by Goethe's quote that "Architecture is frozen music," sound designer Michael Rasbury is assembling an interdisciplinary group of students to see if it's actually possible to express the visible world as sound.

Chad Wellmon will accompany students to Berlin and use the city's historic boulevards as his classroom during a January term study abroad seminar.

Mary Margaret Frank of Darden will engage students across graduate programs in Business, Public Health, Nursing and Medicine in an exploration of HIV/AIDS in the US and abroad, with field trips to meet experts.

BIG IDEAS — FOR SMALL GROUPS

Mr. Mead is renowned for his small seminar class, which he still teaches, even in retirement. So The Mead Endowment provides funds for each faculty honoree to create a program which will allow them involvement with students in ways not afforded by classroom routines.



Deborah McGrady will take students in her Joan of Arc course to galleries that hold treasures from the era and a Shakespeare play in which Joan plays a leading role.

Linda Columbus will host lunch seminars for undergrad Chemistry research students, at which they will take turns presenting and discussing their work to develop their confidence, critical thinking and communication skills.

TO LEARN MORE

E-mail Tom Darbyshire at darbyshire.tom@gmail.com or call Molly Bass at Alumni Hall: 434-243-9019.



The Mead Endowment

A program created in honor of Ernest "Boots" Mead to celebrate and perpetuate the University's unique tradition of faculty interaction with students.

THE MEAD HONORED FACULTY 2008

LINDA COLUMBUS CHEMISTRY	ALEV ERISIR BIOLOGY	MARY MARGARET FRANK DARDEN	MITCHELL GREEN PHILOSOPHY	DEBORAH LAWRENCE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
DEBORAH McGRADY FRENCH	MARGARITIS NAFPAKTITIS SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURE	IGNACIA PROVENCIO BIOLOGY	MICHAEL RASBURY DRAMA	CHAD WELLMON GERMAN