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Threat to Accrediation Prompted W&M Facility

Wilford Kale

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Threat to Accreditation Prompted W&M Facility

By Wilford Kale

William and Mary, which are cornerstone institutions of higher education in Virginia, are facing a significant challenge to their continued accreditation. The Virginia Board of Education has placed all Virginia private schools, including William and Mary, on probation due to concerns about the quality of legal education programs. This development is a direct consequence of a threatened accreditation by the American Bar Association, which could result in the loss of federal funding for these institutions.

In response to this crisis, William and Mary has launched a capital campaign to raise $100 million to fund the construction of a new law school building. The campaign, which is being led by a prominent alum and philanthropist, has already secured commitments from several major donors, including the estate of a prominent lawyer and former governor of Virginia.

The new building, which will be named the Legal Studies Center, is expected to provide state-of-the-art facilities for law students and professors. It will feature modern classrooms, a law library, a moot court, and a technology hub, among other amenities.

In addition to the financial support, the university is also being proactive in addressing the accreditation concerns. The administration is working closely with the American Bar Association to ensure that the institution meets all accreditation standards. William and Mary is committed to excellence in legal education and remains dedicated to providing a high-quality education for its students.

As the university moves forward with the construction of the new building, it is hopeful that the accreditation issue will be resolved in a positive manner. The university is confident that it can continue to provide a first-rate education and maintain its reputation as one of the top law schools in the country.
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joined in the successful "Young Turk" rebellion that crushed the many petitions and gained the support of several hundred for higher education at the 1896 legislative session. This led on to a lively political career in the Virginia Senate, which he held until he was elected again to the General Assembly in 1928.

After the 1928 defeat, and after serving as general counsel to the Commercial Credit Association, and as the treasurer of the Virginia Bar Association, he began to concentrate on the problems of the law school and the college of law thereon.

Spong and Fischer (also described in detail) in their memoirs, the correctives that had taken place at the law school were noted, and the General Assembly had taken major steps in improving faculty salaries. The Council of Presidents, however, seemed to reverse the trend. College officials mentioned that more than the other deficiencies could not be corrected without the construction of a new law school building.

In December, 1975, the ABA was aware of the intensity of the problem and offered to mediate in the conflict. The next day, the General Assembly endorsed the ABA's offer. On May 13, 1976, the ABA resolution was approved by the 83rd General Assembly.

The ABA, however, would not back down. On March 2, 1977, the ABA official approval of the law school construction project was part of the 1975-76 land-grant referendum to be voted on in the next General Assembly. On May 13, 1977, the ABA resolution was approved by the 83rd General Assembly.

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