

Physical Plant

Davis & Elkins College is located in Elkins, a charming, town of 7,000 nestled in the Mountain Highlands of north central West Virginia. Despite its rural location, D&E is only a few hours away from some of the Mid-Atlantic's best cities!

- Baltimore, Md. - 4.5 hours
- Charleston, W.Va. - 2 hours
- Morgantown, W.Va. - 1.5 hours
- Pittsburgh, Pa. - 3 hours
- Richmond, Va. - 4.5 hours
- Washington, D.C. - 4 hours

Over the years, the physical plant of Davis & Elkins has expanded to include 22 major buildings on a 170-acre campus.

Facilities Include:

- **24/7 Student Computer Center** – The Booth Library features a comfortably designed, 24-hour, secure, keyless-entry computer lab that is available to students whenever there is a need to do on-line research or write a paper in quiet place. Students simply need to get an access code to use the entry system. During finals week, this computer lab is a popular place.
- **Augusta Dance Pavilion** – The Augusta Dance Pavilion was originally created to serve as the perfect place to have outdoor dances during the Augusta Heritage Center's annual, summer, weeklong workshops. This popular celebration of heritage music and crafts attracts several hundred participants annually, and features public dances in the pavilion that are enjoyed by the entire community. The Augusta Pavilion has become a great, open air space for student dances, activities, and even concerts. With its wood floor, band stand, and bare bulb lights it is reminiscent of old-time square dances in open air dance halls. The beauty of its woodland setting makes it a magical place to experience music and dance all night.
- **Booth Library** – Booth Library is the physical and intellectual center of the College, designed to support the information needs of students, faculty, staff and the community. An architectural gem, the Library has space to house 300,000 volumes, 450,000 microforms and 8,500 pieces of nonprint material. It includes a 24-hour, secure keyless-entry computer lab, a community meeting room, a two-story atrium, quiet study rooms and a group study lounge. It is also home to the student-run Beta Bean Café featuring hot and cold beverages and pastries. The Library's online catalog provides records for its physical collections, which include selected U.S. government documents, as well as access to a large collection of electronic books. Access is provided to over thirty online databases, which include thousands of periodical articles.

The Booth Library is part of the Bowen Central Library of Appalachia, which operates with the support of the Appalachian College Association and helps provide member institutions with the best library information resources. A spectacular feature is the building's setting and a pedestrian bridge which spans the College glen, tying the campus together. Offices for the College's TRiO programs, including Upward Bound and Veterans Upward Bound, as well as D&E Information Services are also located in the building. Booth Library was named in honor of the family of major donor Alex Booth.

- **Flynn Planetarium** – The planetarium, located in Eshleman Science Center, was recently refurbished and now features seasonal public “star shows” each semester. Originally opened in the early 1970s, the facility houses a new Venus star projector and recliner-style seating for up to 35 people.
- **George A. Myles Pool** – Named in honor of the late Randolph County businessman, the George A. Myles Pool is equipped with digital pace clocks and an electronic scoreboard. It is home to the Senator's Men and Women's Swim Teams, Elkins High School Swim Team, and the Elkins Otters, and is open to the public during specified hours.
- **Graceland** – Graceland is a stone mansion constructed of native sandstone and old growth West Virginia hardwoods that was the summer home of Senator Henry G. Davis. It was given to D&E in 1941 and was used for male student housing for 30 years and eventually closed. Now, this hillside retreat is one of West Virginia's most distinctive destinations, commanding a 20-mile view of the mountain highlands and surrounding City of Elkins.
- **Halliehurst** – Halliehurst (circa 1890) was built by Senator Stephen B. Elkins as a summer home. The 16,000-square-foot Victorian mansion and the surrounding farm were donated to the College in the 1920s by his widow, Mrs. Hallie Davis Elkins, who was also Senator Henry G. Davis's daughter. Halliehurst has served in many capacities over the years: housing for a College president, a women's dormitory, dining hall, music and art classrooms, and a counseling center. In 1985, a restoration effort was started, returning the building to its original elegance and reopening as the administrative headquarters for the College in the early 1990s. Now a National Historic Landmark, it houses the Office of the President, Development Office, and Office of Admission. The first floor is used for special events, including weddings and other private events arranged through D&E Hospitality Services.
- **Harper-McNeeley Auditorium** – Harper-McNeeley Auditorium is a 1,140-seat performance hall which serves the community and the region as the largest performance venue in the area. In 2012 it was renovated with new seating and a state-of-the-art lighting system. From classical piano performances by D&E artist-in-residence Jack Gibbons to the old time fiddle music of Augusta, Harper-McNeeley has showcased some of the best performances in the area.
- **Katherine S. Thomas Tennis Center** – Katherine S. Thomas Tennis Center, located on the front campus, provides four professionally finished courts where the D&E Senators men's and women's teams compete. All students as well as community members may enjoy use of the courts. The Vernon-Harris Pavilion lies beside the courts with convenient parking nearby.

- **The McDonnell Center for Health, Physical Education and Athletics** – The McDonnell Center for Health, Physical Education and Athletics is a dynamic, 41,333-square-foot home to Davis & Elkins College’s intercollegiate sports, physical education, recreation and fitness programs. Key spaces include the 1,220-seat arena, the Hilda and Robert R. Butler Lobby and D&E Athletic Hall of Fame, the Myles Ahead 200-meter indoor walking and jogging track, seven team locker rooms and a training facility. It is conveniently located near the Allen Athletic Fields Complex, George A. Myles Pool and the Robbins-Madden Fitness Center, with ample parking for the Colleges Senator NCAA, DII athletic events. The Center is named for the generous support of James. S. McDonnell, a trustee and the parent of a D&E graduate.
- **Memorial Gymnasium/Martin Field House** – An important practice area for D&E's athletic programs, Memorial Gymnasium/Martin Field House contains the Seybolt Indoor Golf Academy, Senator baseball and softball batting cages, as well as year-round practice space for soccer, baseball and softball. The only facility of its kind in the region, the Seybolt Indoor Golf Academy features full swing and short game practice areas, plus a golf simulator and clubhouse. The building was originally dedicated as Memorial Gymnasium in 1952 and was re-dedicated in honor of the Martin family in 2010.
- **Myles Ahead Walking Track** – Myles Ahead walking and jogging track, located in the McDonnell Center for Health, Physical Education, & Athletics, is equipped with a shock-absorbent surface and circles the upper level of the arena, providing a safe, comfortable place for students and community members alike to exercise regardless of weather.
- **Myles Center for the Arts/Hermanson Center** – Myles Center for the Arts is comprised of three key areas that provide teaching, recreational and gallery and performance spaces: Hermanson Center, Harper-McNeeley Auditorium and Paull Gallery. Hermanson Center includes recreational facilities – Robbins-Madden Fitness Center and George A. Myles Pool – as well as offices for Senator Athletics and classrooms for the Sport Science Department. Harper-McNeeley Auditorium is a 1,200-seat performance hall which serves the community and the region as the largest performance venue in the area. The Darby Collection inside The Stirrup Gallery is conveniently located a few steps from Harper-McNeeley. The spacious Joni and Buck Smith Forum is an open area flanked by floor-to-ceiling windows adjacent to The Stirrup Gallery. Complete with a stone fireplace and comfortable furniture, the area serves as a gathering spot for dinners, discussions and meetings. The Paull Gallery provides space for Community Education classes and other gatherings.
- **The Naylor Center for Teaching and Learning** – Located on the second floor of Charles E. Albert Hall, The Naylor Center for Teaching and Learning is equipped with large rooms for studying and tutoring sessions and a number of private, testing rooms. The Center is available for study groups, and offers one-on-one learning assistance and tutoring.
- **Paintball Course** – The Davis & Elkins College Student Veterans Association Paintball Course is located on back campus. Games for D&E students normally occur weekly and to help raise funds for veterans’ initiatives, both on and off campus. The SVA also offers the games to the public.

- **Robbins-Madden Fitness Center** – In a beautiful setting with flat screen televisions, D&E Robbins-Madden Fitness Center offers a variety of cardiovascular equipment, CYBEX strength equipment, and a complete free weight area with Olympic benches and racks.
- **Robbins Memorial Chapel** – Walter S. Robbins and Elisabeth Shonk Robbins Memorial Chapel is a post-modern, intimately scaled site for campus worship and reflection. It seats 120 people in the round, in three descending tiers. Abstract stained glass windows echo the chapel's spire, which reaches 80 feet above the ground. The building is named for the parents of the late William S. Robbins, who refurbished the chapel in their honor. His son, Don, is currently a D&E Trustee.
- **Robert E. Urban Nature Trail** – An approximately 30-acre area that provides a resource for nature study, teaching, scientific research, recreation, and quiet reflection, the Robert E. Urban Natural Trail is an important feature in the campus aesthetic, and a link to our historical and cultural heritage. Located on the ridge above Roxanna Booth and Gribble residence halls, the area has been maintained in a forested condition since the time that the Davis and Elkins families were living in the Graceland and Halliehurst mansions. The Nature Trail includes several different ecosystem types, including a stand of old-growth Appalachian hardwood forest with a number of trees, mostly oaks, which attain breast height diameters of three feet or more. Another small part of the area was planted in white pine in the 1940s. A smaller portion yet is essentially in an old-field successional sequence. The area is traversed by the self-guiding S. Benton Talbot Nature Trail.
- **Seybolt Indoor Golf Academy** – Named in honor of D&E alumnus Dick Seybolt, this indoor golf academy was designed and installed by one of the nation's top indoor golf turf companies – Turf Solutions. The academy course includes seven different grass heights, a sand trap and 'tough putts,' all designed to develop good playing habits. Built on a contoured base of gravel, limestone dust and sand to help players master their 'short' game, there is an adjacent chipping and driving area as well. A computer-controlled Golf Simulator provides the challenge of playing on six of the world's renowned championship courses. An avid golfer, Seybolt was intrigued with the idea of creating an indoor Golf Academy in a region subject to severe winters. Inspired by former D&E Head Golf Coach Wally Edgell and the student athletes, he offered to provide funds necessary to make their dream a reality. The indoor, year-round 'golf course' - unlike anything else in West Virginia – is located on the mezzanine of the restored Martin Field House.
- **Writing Center** – Located in Albert Hall, the Writing Center, and its online companion site, provide students with guidance and support on college papers and other writing assignments. Assistance is available not just for English essays, but also business theses and biology lab reports, history and political science research papers, psychology and sociology article reviews, take-home essay exams, job and grad school applications, basic word processing, résumés, senior projects, and more. The Writing Center is supervised by a faculty director from the Davis & Elkins College English Department and trained student consultants (who are graduates of an intense training process). Students at Davis & Elkins can depend on getting the writing support they need. The Writing Center is open to everyone: every student, in every class.