

Coming to Saint Mary's should always be a step forward, for every student.

We have the unique privilege of opening their minds to the world around them. In this aspiration, technology is one of the most important tools we have available.

What we teach here, and how we teach it, has to be real-world relevant, and it has to keep up both with the technologies and the philosophies that are constantly evolving off-campus. The benefits of providing our students with continually improved access to the world's new library are many, and they are immediate.

Our students and faculty are empowered in the learning environment through technologically advanced access to cross-

cultural views and information, up-to-the-minute data, and real-time communication amongst and between each other. We are not the first institution to recognize the value of technology as a learning tool, but we have acted quickly and responsibly to ensure that we develop an appropriate foundation for a new learning paradigm. We have many strengths here to build upon – this allows us to dream big, and positions us to take advantage of many future technological opportunities.

The new Student Technology Fund will enable us, over the next five years, to significantly improve existing computing labs around campus and will enable us to expand and integrate wireless technology into areas such as the new Learning Commons.

Improved access to the library of the world – particularly for those students who are not able to come to Saint Mary's with their own computing technology – will help us uphold our commitment to providing first-class learning opportunities for all our students. We can provide the very best of both worlds: a close-knit community to live and learn in, plus the entire world at their fingertips.

