



# St. Mary's College of Maryland

at Historic St. Mary's City

St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) is a 2,000-student liberal arts college in southern Maryland, and the state's only public honors college. It shares grounds with Historic St. Mary's City, site of the first capital of colonial Maryland. More than 80% of its students live on the waterfront campus. SMCM awards the Bachelor of Arts degree in 23 disciplines and a student-designed major, and a Master of Arts in Teaching degree.

## SMCM Would Like You To Know . . . .

February 2010

SMCM reduced its carbon dioxide emissions by 80 percent in 2009, largely driven by student initiatives including funding a geothermal heating and cooling system for the new River Center and purchasing clean energy credits. SMCM has the second-highest recycling rate (42%) of any Maryland public college or university. SMCM had the first state-funded LEED certified green building (Goodpaster Hall, 2007).

### New Rankings and Awards:

*U.S. News & World Report* and *Forbes* 2010 ranked SMCM in the top five public liberal arts colleges in the nation. SMCM has been in the *U.S. News'* 100 best colleges list for more than a decade.

Three SMCM students earned Fulbright awards in 2009 to teach overseas, more than any other Maryland college or university. Our faculty has earned 30 Fulbright research awards in the past 20 years.

*Kiplinger* magazine and *The Princeton Review* include SMCM in their 100 Best Value Colleges for 2010 lists.



SMCM biology professor Chris Tanner (left) and students perform water quality testing for the St. Mary's River Project, a state-funded research and monitoring effort for the river and its tributaries connecting to the Chesapeake Bay.

SMCM students were honored for exemplary service with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. In 2009, SMCM students donated a total of 14,265 hours of service to local community organizations.

The *Fiske Guide to Colleges 2010* selected SMCM as one of a handful of "small colleges and universities strong in music."

### Performance Outcomes:

SMCM has the highest four-year graduation rate of any public institution of higher education in Maryland.

The first-to-second year retention rate at SMCM for 2009 was 91%, a level attained by only the highest performing colleges and universities.

over

## **Performance Outcomes:** *cont'd.*

The average SAT score of the entering class in 2009 was 1230 (out of 1600), and their average GPA in high school was 3.78.

Our commitment to helping students afford college is reflected in 82% of the entering class in fall 2009 receiving financial aid, with 64% receiving scholarships from SMCM and our generous friends.

SMCM makes study abroad affordable through creative strategies. Over 40% of students study abroad in programs all over the world for the same price that students pay on campus.

More than 60% of SMCM alumni go on to graduate school. Two-thirds of SMCM alumni who seek jobs right after graduation enter fields directly related to their major and 98% of those graduates reported satisfaction with their job.

SMCM is seventh among small schools for producing Peace Corps volunteers.

In 2009, the majority of the graduating class completed a senior capstone experience. This is an 8-credit, independent, sustained endeavor of research or creative expression that is supervised by a faculty mentor and presented in a public forum. Student-faculty collaborations often result in a joint presentation at a national conference.

Teachers make up 13% of SMCM alumni; 95% of those who graduate with SMCM's Master of Arts in Teaching degree are employed within one year of graduation.

Physics professors work with SMCM students at Patuxent River Naval Air Station's particle physics laboratory under grants from the Office of Naval Research, capturing atoms and cooling them to a fraction of a degree above absolute zero, using lasers and magnetic fields. These student internships often lead to full-time jobs after graduation.

## **Sports Wins:**

The SMCM sailing team won the 2009 Co-ed National Dinghy Sailing Championship in San Francisco, bringing SMCM sailing teams to a total of 14 national championships in 16 years.

For three of the last five years, SMCM has led the Capital Athletic Conference with the highest percentage of student-athletes being named to the CAC All-Academic Team, including notching back-to-back top honors in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

The SMCM men's basketball team won its way into the Division III Sweet 16 in 2008.

The Lady Seahawks were the only women's soccer team in the Capital Athletic Conference to earn the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Team Academic Award for the 2008-2009 academic year. It was the sixth such award for the SMCM women's team and the third consecutive win.

SMCM senior women's lacrosse midfielder Lauren Carrier '09 was one of six athletes featured in the 4/6/09 edition of *Sports Illustrated's* "Faces in the Crowd."