



VIRGINIA'S GATEWAY REGION
Economic Development Organization

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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the counties of
Chesterfield
Dinwiddie
Prince George
Surry
Sussex

the cities of
Colonial Heights
Hopewell
Petersburg

**VSU Gets Biggest Grant in the School's 128-year history,
new name for business school**

Progress Index staff writer, Michael Buettner reported on Tuesday, June 29th, the The Reginald F. Lewis Foundation presented VSU's Board of Visitors with the first installment of a \$1.5 million grant that will endow scholarships, student and faculty travel, and an academic achievement prize. In recognition of the grant, VSU will rename its business school the Reginald F. Lewis School of Business.

"Lewis was a 1965 VSU graduate. He attended the university on an athletic scholarship and went on to graduate from Harvard Law School. As a successful investor and entrepreneur, he became the first African American to build a billion-dollar company and was listed by Forbes magazine as one of the nation's 400 wealthiest people", Buettner reported.

Beverly A. Cooper, vice president of the foundation, said Lewis made support of education a priority for the foundation from the beginning, and in particular that "he wanted to make sure we celebrated his life at the schools he attended" because they had made his success possible.

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Virginia's Gateway Region exists to enhance the economic development opportunities for the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell and Petersburg, and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. The Gateway Region is a private, nonprofit economic development organization that is publicly and privately funded to facilitate new business opportunities, work with existing businesses, advance resources that will enhance the economic viability of the region and foster regional cooperation among the public and private entities that are involved in economic development activities. For more about VGR visit www.gatewayregion.com.