INSPIRING AND SUPPORTING
SELF-DETERMINATION AND AMBITION FOR ACHIEVEMENT

THE KIRBY PRESENCE AT LAFAYETTE
THE KIRBY PRESENCE AT LAFAYETTE

INSPIRING AND SUPPORTING
SELF-DETERMINATION AND AMBITION FOR ACHIEVEMENT

October 2017
Table of Contents

I. The Philosophy, Vision, and Generosity of Fred Morgan Kirby 6
II. Service to the College 16
III. Impact on Academic Excellence 26
IV. Impact on Athletics 34
V. Impact on Campus Life 42
VI. Impact on the Arts 50
The Kirbys at Lafayette

Fred Morgan Kirby  
Hon. LL.D. 1932  
Parent Class of 1915

Allan Price Kirby  
Class of 1915, Hon. L.H.D. 1946  
Parent Classes of 1942 and 1953

Fred Morgan Kirby II  
Class of 1942, Hon. LL.D. 1984  

Allan Price Kirby Jr.  
Class of 1953, Parent Class of 1976

S. Peter Lee  
Class of 1973, Parent Class of 2005

Jessie Kirby Lee  
Class of 1976, Parent Class of 2005

Fred Morgan Kirby III  
Class of 1980

S. Dillard Kirby  
Class of 1981, Parent Class of 2013

Elizabeth Burns Kirby  
Class of 1983

Jefferson Walker Kirby  
Class of 1984, Parent Class of 2019

Karen McCabe Kirby  
Class of 1987, Parent Class of 2019

Marian Jean Lee  
Class of 2005

Elizabeth Marie Kirby  
Class of 2013

Jane Julia Kirby  
Class of 2019

William Brush Kirby  
Class of 2019

A Century of Vision, Service, and Generosity

Lafayette College proudly bears the name of the Marquis de Lafayette, whose affinity for the ideals of freedom and liberty inspired his courage to shape his own identity, choose his own destiny, and become a champion of liberty—the hero of two worlds.

For the last century, the vision, service, and generosity of the Kirby family have strengthened and advanced Lafayette as an institution in the top echelon of undergraduate colleges. They have fostered the College's spirit of self-determination and ambition for achievement that were inspired by the Marquis. They have encouraged generations of students to shape their own identity, choose their own destiny, and make a difference, in the spirit of Fred Morgan Kirby's words at the dedication of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights in 1930:

The successful one is the man that strikes out for himself and does with his might the task before him neither imposing on anyone nor allowing anyone to impose on him. Students of Lafayette, I call on you to be individualistic, to be independent, to think for yourselves, to fear no man, to so conduct yourselves that the world will be better for you having lived.
THE PHILOSOPHY, VISION, and GENEROSITY OF FRED MORGAN KIRBY
There are men in the world today, both old and young, who think any way is good enough; they are the ones who are always at the foot of the ladder and complaining of their ill luck and envying their successful brothers. The successful one is the man that strikes out for himself and does with his might the task before him neither imposing on anyone nor allowing anyone to impose on him. Students of Lafayette, I call on you to be individualistic, to be independent, to think for yourselves, to fear no man, to so conduct yourselves that the world will be better for you having lived.

FRED MORGAN KIRBY
Dedication of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights
May 29, 1950
By virtue of personal initiative, courage, and wisdom, Fred Morgan Kirby advanced from modest beginnings to a place of great influence and service as co-founder of the F. W. Woolworth Company.

Known among associates for his quiet, resolute adherence to a personal philosophy he developed during years of hard work—that individual freedom and the right to pursue prosperity are paramount—he gained acclaim as an entrepreneur. At a time when the rights of industry leaders and workers were in the spotlight of public debate, his ideals informed not only his business practices, but also his decision to share his wealth with institutions who shared his vision.

While his generosity benefited his adopted hometown, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and many institutions of various kinds, Fred Morgan Kirby focused a great deal of philanthropic support on education, having always in mind, as Lafayette President William Mather Lewis noted, “the importance of a well-informed citizenry, fully cognizant of the great principles upon which the United States of America was founded and developed.”

AN ENDURING RELATIONSHIP BEGINS

When his son, Allan Price Kirby, matriculated at Lafayette College in 1911, Fred Morgan Kirby saw an alignment of the College’s educational philosophy with his own vision of a citizenry that fully embraced its constitutional liberties. In 1916, the College asked him to join the Board of Trustees. With characteristic modesty, he initially declined the role, but ultimately consented to serve, and did so from 1916 until his death in 1940.

He contributed regularly to the College, helping to close gaps in the budget following World War I and offering leadership and resources during the Million Dollar Fund campaign that began in 1919. In December of 1920, without fanfare, he made a gift of $100,000 to the College to establish the Fred Morgan Kirby Professorship of Civil Rights.

“The purpose of the gift,” President Lewis later noted, “was to establish a course of instruction in the civil rights of individuals, meaning all those absolute rights of persons, such as the right of personal security, the right of personal liberty, and the right to acquire and enjoy property as regulated and protected by law.” This echoed the Deed of Gift for the Kirby Professorship, which Fred Morgan Kirby had written himself: civil rights meant “those absolute rights of persons in the possession of property and in the enjoyment of personal security.”

The establishment of the Kirby Professorship brought to Lafayette—and to Fred Morgan Kirby—recognition as a leader in the movement to bring about in the people of the United States a fuller realization of the greatness of their government.

BUILDING A HOME FOR IDEALS

Fred Morgan Kirby’s second major gift to Lafayette heightened the College’s prominence in this arena. He funded the construction, for $600,000, of the magnificent Kirby Hall of Civil Rights to house the Kirby Professor and the growing Department of Government and Law. The building deepened the College’s commitment to this field of study and continued to stand as a physical realization of Fred Morgan Kirby’s belief in American constitutional law and as a symbol of the ideals of individual effort and attainment.

Reflective of his strong personal commitment, Fred Morgan Kirby was closely involved with decisions regarding the design of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights, which was created by architect Whitney Warren of the renowned firm Warren and Wetmore. Dedicated May 29, 1930, the building, made of Vermont granite, Italian travertine, and Indiana limestone and said to be the costliest construction on any American campus at the time, is notable for the decorative sculpture of Edward McCartan, which was intended to be instructional.

“Over the entrance is a bust of The Republic, identifiable by her Phrygian cap, a symbol both of classicism and—appropriately, for Lafayette—of the French Revolution,” wrote Prof. Robert S. Mattison in *Lafayette College Architecture: In Context*. “In the left side of the pediment is the personification of law, holding the Mosaic tablets...
In the founding of the Chair of Civil Rights was to teach both capital and labor individuals their rights, and incidentally, while learning their own rights, naturally they will learn the rights of the other fellow. When the rights of each side are well understood, whether in industrial controversies or any other sort of a controversy, a great deal is accomplished toward a settlement.

He devoted himself, his life, his fortune, his hereditary honors, his splendid hopes, all to the cause of liberty.

MARKING 80 YEARS

In 2010, Lafayette celebrated the 80th anniversary of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights with a rededication ceremony featuring an address by Nicholas Katzenbach, former Attorney General of the United States. His father, Edward Katzenbach, former Attorney General of New Jersey, was one of several prominent speakers at the dedication of the building in 1930.

At the 80th anniversary ceremony, S. Dillard Kirby offered remarks on behalf of the Kirby family: "Kirby Hall is a call from my great-grandfather that the study of government and law and civil rights is no less important than economics or engineering or medicine, but rather at the core of all we do and say here in America."

To mark the occasion, students, faculty, and staff collaborated to develop new lobby exhibits for Kirby Hall chronicling the history of civil rights in America and at Lafayette.

"The way in which Americans view civil rights has obviously changed dramatically over the past eight decades. Our students, in particular, were eager to see this building reflect more recent developments and new ideas," noted Lafayette President Daniel H. Weiss.

The College remains a premier center for political and constitutional scholarship, and government and law remains one of the most popular majors on campus.

In our recent Centennial celebration, we learned much of Lafayette’s history and particularly of those generous patrons who by gifts of endowment and buildings have done so much for the progress and development of our college. One of these men we are glad to honor today. We never could repay the debt of gratitude which we owe to him. He is one of the outstanding men of the commercial and industrial world, where he has been, by reason of his signal ability, blessed with great success. He has inscribed on the façade of the magnificent building which he has given to Lafayette, “Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?” To what splendid use he has given “his own.” The gift of the Chair of Civil Rights, endowed by him and placed in that beautiful building, was inspired by his devoted patriotism and desire to train the youth of our land in the fundamental principles of our scheme of government. It has done much already to stabilize the younger generation in those essential principles.

His own beautiful city of Wilkes-Barre has been the object of his generosity in establishing a health center, in the dedication of a public park, and in the establishing of a chair of Civil Rights in Wyoming Seminary. Only last winter the Pennsylvania Society of New York bestowed upon him the honor given to those who are distinguished by the achievements that have been made in the business world, in industry, and in public affairs.

Lafayette covets the right to make him one of her own; the Board of Trustees, in token of their regard and admiration for him, have instructed me to present him for the degree of LL.D.

CITATION FOR FRED MORGAN KIRBY

History Doctor of Laws
97th Commencement, June 1932
Read by Edward J. Fox, Chair, Board of Trustees

My idea in the founding of the Chair of Civil Rights was to teach both capital and labor individuals their rights, and incidentally, while learning their own rights, naturally they will learn the rights of the other fellow. When the rights of each side are well understood, whether in industrial controversies or any other sort of a controversy, a great deal is accomplished toward a settlement.

Inscriptions on the building epitomize Fred Morgan Kirby’s intention for Kirby Hall of Civil Rights:

- It is not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? (Matthew 20:15)
- Every man is the architect of his own fortune. (Pseudo Sallust)
- Every man is free to do that which he will provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man. (Herbert Spencer)
- Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- “Every man is the architect of his own fortune.” (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- “It has always been easier for me to express my feelings and sentiments by deeds than by words,” he said in accepting an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Lafayette’s 97th Commencement in June 1932. “Therefore I have, and do expect [these inscriptions] to say to generations to come that which I would like to say to them if I could."

At the building’s dedication, President Lewis drew a comparison between the College’s namesake and Fred Morgan Kirby by quoting John Quincy Adams: "At the building’s dedication, President Lewis drew a comparison between the College’s namesake and Fred Morgan Kirby by quoting John Quincy Adams: “Lafayette discovered no new principles of politics or of morals. He invented none...” Lafayette's history and generosity are highlighted in this passage.

"Lafayette discovered no new principles of politics or of morals. He invented none, even in the building’s details: draping the arched west window are the seals of the Thirteen Colonies; under the east windows, Tudor roses, referring to the English origins of our Constitution, alternate with fleurs-de-lis, representing the College’s French connection."

Fred Morgan Kirby

A unique resource at Lafayette is a recreation of Fred Morgan Kirby’s library, housed in Van Wickle Hall. The original bronze dedicatory plaque in Kirby Hall of Civil Rights.

Inscriptions on the building epitomize Fred Morgan Kirby’s intention for Kirby Hall of Civil Rights:

- It is not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? (Matthew 20:15)
- Every man is the architect of his own fortune. (Pseudo Sallust)
- Every man is free to do that which he will provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man. (Herbert Spencer)
- Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- “Every man is the architect of his own fortune.” (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- “It has always been easier for me to express my feelings and sentiments by deeds than by words,” he said in accepting an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Lafayette’s 97th Commencement in June 1932. “Therefore I have, and do expect [these inscriptions] to say to generations to come that which I would like to say to them if I could."

At the building’s dedication, President Lewis drew a comparison between the College’s namesake and Fred Morgan Kirby by quoting John Quincy Adams: "Lafayette discovered no new principles of politics or of morals. He invented none, even in the building’s details: draping the arched west window are the seals of the Thirteen Colonies; under the east windows, Tudor roses, referring to the English origins of our Constitution, alternate with fleurs-de-lis, representing the College’s French connection."

Fred Morgan Kirby

A unique resource at Lafayette is a recreation of Fred Morgan Kirby’s library, housed in Van Wickle Hall. The original bronze dedicatory plaque in Kirby Hall of Civil Rights.
Every citizen in this great Republic should find encouragement in the fact that the ideals of our forefathers still live in the hearts of such men as Mr. Fred Morgan Kirby, who gave their savings to furnish instruction to the youth of our land upon the true principles of Constitutional Freedom.

JOHN H. KIRBY
Expert in Constitutional Law

AN UNDERUTILIZED PHILANTHROPIC APPROACH

In 1998, the College completed a 10-month, $8.4 million renovation of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights, updating it with the technological capabilities and infrastructure of a thoroughly modern center for teaching, learning, and research while maintaining the distinctive character and ambiance that have always set it apart.

The Easton Heritage Alliance honored the project as one of the year’s most praiseworthy renovations of a historically significant building, praising the Kirby family and the College for “transforming one of the nation’s greatest academic buildings into a 21st-century center for learning while retaining its unique, historic character and features.”

The renovation of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights was made possible by an endowment established for the building’s maintenance and repair. This is an example of the Kirby family’s and F. M. Kirby Foundation’s longstanding philosophy of proactively establishing endowments to be used for future maintenance and repair at the outset of major capital projects. It is a notable aspect of their support for building projects at Lafayette. The Kirbys took this high-impact philanthropic approach in providing funding for Jessie A. Kirby Memorial Dormitory and Allan P. Kirby Field House/Sports Center as well as Kirby Hall of Civil Rights.

Scenes from Kirby Hall of Civil Rights (clockwise from top left): Equestrian sculpture of Marshal Ferdinand Foch; students in Kirby Library; bust of the Marquis de Lafayette.

Fred Morgan Kirby
Frank O. Salisbury
1931

14 | THE KIRBY PRESENCE AT LAFAYETTE
SERVICE to the COLLEGE
For three score years, Allan P. Kirby lived, in a remarkable measure, in and through Lafayette. He will continue to be an integral part of the College and an unseen friend of its students, faculty, and staff for generations to come.

K. ROALD BERGETHON
Lafayette President
May 1973
Advancing Growth and Progress

“Living In and Through Lafayette”

The Kirby family motto, Facta non Verba (Deeds not Words), embodies the family’s service to Lafayette, including the lengthy service of Allan Price Kirby, Class of 1915.

Like Fred Morgan Kirby before him, Allan P. Kirby achieved success as a business leader. Also like his father, he was a modest man whose ability to serve and lead quietly but powerfully benefited Lafayette greatly as he built upon his father’s legacy during an extraordinarily long, active career on behalf of the College’s growth and progress.

Allan was elected a life trustee in 1937 and served on the Board until his retirement and election to emeritus status in 1968. He was a member of the Board’s executive committee from 1950. During decades of active service to Lafayette from the late 1920s through the late 1960s, his presence and impact were felt in many areas, including, most notably, alumni engagement, fundraising, and campus planning.

LEADING ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

A founder of the modern Alumni Association, Allan inspired an era of renewed alumni engagement at Lafayette. He became a member of the association in 1922. He was vice president of the association in 1928, when the first full-time alumni secretary was appointed, and served an unprecedented two terms as president, from 1929 to 1931. In this role, he initiated and oversaw the publication, in November 1930, of the first issue of the College’s alumni magazine, The Lafayette Alumnus.

This launched the association, he said, “into the sea of journalism.” With characteristic enthusiasm, he wrote the publication’s first editorial, proclaiming its goal to be a “voice of the alumni.” He served on the magazine’s Advisory Committee for three decades.

The Lafayette Alumni Association of today emerged from Allan’s work. His service was the foundation upon which “everything that has developed since in the relationship between the College and its alumni is built,” wrote College historian Albert W. Gendebien ’34.

Today an endowment fund established by the F. M. Kirby Foundation supports the Alumni Association’s operating budget, expended for Alumni Reunion, communications, and more.
Mr. Kirby, I think you can imagine how happy I am, after so many years of friendship with you, to be the instrument of this honor and recognition on the part of Lafayette College.

In profound concern for the strengthening of college education, you have followed in the footsteps of your beloved father, who served this College magnificently, while finding place for distinguished assistance to many of our sister colleges. His foundation for the maintenance of truth and of principles of American government, you have sustained, as he would have hoped.

Great portraits and paintings significant in American history you have hung on the walls of the building he gave. Four more have been unveiled today. I am sure that his spirit rejoices that you believe in the things he believed in and sustain the principles which he deemed so important. Now with unmeasured energy and devotion, through the New Era Program, you have led Lafayette College forward to greater strength and larger service. So doing, you have made a major contribution to American education and American idealism.

CITATION FOR ALLAN PRICE KIRBY 1915
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters
Founders' Day, November 1946

As general chairman of the College's New Era Campaign of 1945–51, Allan was the person most responsible for the success of this important fundraising effort. Soon after its launch, the campaign exceeded its goal of $1 million. Allan influenced an increase in the target to $1.8 million and later oversaw the transition of the effort into the Five Million Dollar Campaign—a goal the College met by 1955. At the Alumni Association's annual dinner, he offered gratitude to the group for succeeding in its ambitious objective: "In contributing as you did, and in the excellent work you have done, you have, through your loyalty, interest, and generosity, exceeded the greatest hopes and expectations of the College."

Among Allan's accomplishments for Lafayette was his truly remarkable work as president of the Marquis Foundation, an organization that he and five other trustees formed in 1952 to purchase and, later, sell the St. Louis Car Company. That effort resulted, in 1958, in a contribution of $6 million to the College—the largest gift received in Lafayette's history, and, according to reports at the time, the largest single non-bequest gift ever made to an American four-year college.

About $1 million funded the construction, in 1960, of Marquis Hall, a student residence with a dining commons and recreational facilities that helped transform social life at Lafayette. About $5 million was added to the general endowment fund, of which $4.8 million was designated by the trustees as the Marquis-Allan P. Kirby Endowment Fund. Before the Marquis Foundation was dissolved in 1971, its additional gifts to Lafayette totaled $1 million.

"Assuming that a college has a fairly adequate physical plant, which Lafayette at the moment has, there is no money which will add so greatly to the strength and standing and independence of a college as unrestricted endowment, and there is no money so hard to get as unrestricted endowment," wrote Allan in a report on the Marquis Foundation in 1958. "We now have an opportunity such as has never been presented before, and perhaps may never come again, to make such a substantial increase in our general endowment."

A NEW ERA OF SUPPORT

Allan served as honorary chair of the Development Committee of the Board of Trustees during a $2 million campaign, in 1960–61, to build Skillman Library. He made two matching gift challenges totaling $650,000, accounting for two-thirds of the funds raised in the successful effort.

Always interested and involved in campus planning, Allan commissioned a comprehensive campus building plan by architect Donald F. Innes in 1941. In 1943 he was appointed chair of the trustees’ Ad Hoc Committee on Heating and Dormitories, which evolved into the New Era Committee.

Allan's greatest passion was College athletics, particularly Lafayette's football team. He organized efforts to interview prospective student-athletes and to raise funds for financial aid. In 1937 he and other members of the Class of 1915 formed the Maroon Club, which to this day supports the success of Lafayette's 23 Division I athletic programs.

WIDE-REACHING IMPACT

Allan served as honorary chair of the Development Committee of the Board of Trustees during a $2 million campaign, in 1960–61, to build Skillman Library. He made two matching gift challenges totaling $650,000, accounting for two-thirds of the funds raised in the successful effort.

Always interested and involved in campus planning, Allan commissioned a comprehensive campus building plan by architect Donald F. Innes in 1941. In 1943 he was appointed chair of the trustees’ Ad Hoc Committee on Heating and Dormitories, which evolved into the New Era Committee.

Allan's greatest passion was College athletics, particularly Lafayette's football team. He organized efforts to interview prospective student-athletes and to raise funds for financial aid. In 1937 he and other members of the Class of 1915 formed the Maroon Club, which to this day supports the success of Lafayette's 23 Division I athletic programs.

You have been an exemplar of our American heritage, and as such, you are the personification of all that is great in our American spirit. Your name has a special resonance at Lafayette College. Yourself the son and grandson of Lafayette graduates, you arrive on this platform only moments before the third and last of three sons of your own who have followed you here. And while we have as yet received no applications for admission from the next generation, we note with interest that you already have three grandchildren, whose schooling we shall monitor with keen anticipation.

There have been few years in this century when Lafayette lacked a Kirby among its students, on its Board of Trustees, or both. Like your father and grandfather, you have distinguished yourself in both roles. Like Lafayette, American industry has a rich heritage of fore about the Kirbys, whose roster of involvements touches many areas of commerce: F. W. Woolworth Co., the Chesapeake & Ohio, the New York Central, Investors Diversified Services, American Express, and above all, Allegheny Corporation, have benefitted from the acumen of generations of Kirbys.

Along with this signal ability in the ways of business, you have cultivated an interest in supporting and enhancing the places you love. You have assisted a range of worthy organizations in Central New Jersey, and in your beloved Adirondacks, community organizations in Central New Jersey, and above all, Lafayette College. Every area of the College—instruction, housing, athletics, even the beauty of these superb grounds—has benefitted from the generosity of you and your family.

Happiest when working quietly, far from the public eye, you have proven yourself a devoted and resourceful exemplar of the Kirby maxim that it's deeds that count, not words.

CITATION FOR FRED M. KIRBY II '42
Honorary Doctor of Laws
149th Convocation, May 1984
Read by Lafayette President David W. Ellis
Allan P. Kirby was proud that both of his sons, Fred Morgan Kirby II ’42 and Allan Price Kirby Jr. ’53, followed him in service to the College.

Fred M. Kirby II was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1967 and served until 1975. The College awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at the 149th Commencement in May 1984. At the same ceremony, Jefferson W. (Jeff) Kirby ’84, Fred’s son, was awarded the George Wharton Pepper Prize, having been voted by students and faculty as the senior “who most nearly represents the Lafayette ideal.” As an undergraduate, Fred M. Kirby II was a member of Lafayette’s undefeated football team of 1940. He was inducted into the Maroon Club Hall of Fame in 2007.

Allan P. Kirby Jr. served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association. A benefactor of the Lafayette chapter of his fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon, he provided leadership and financial support of the renovation of the DKE chapter house, the completion of which was celebrated at Homecoming in 2015. His grandson Brush is a DKE brother and a member of the Class of 2019.

Jeff Kirby served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2012. When he was elected to emeritus status, the Board expressed grateful appreciation for “faithful and notable service as Trustee, member of the Executive Committee, Chair and Vice Chair of the Board’s Committee on External Affairs, member of the Board’s Committee on Investments as Vice Chair, Board’s Committee on Educational Policy, Board’s Committee on Development and Alumni Affairs, Board’s Committee on Grounds and Buildings, and the Campaign Steering Committee.”

Jeff was a member of the Campaign Steering Committee and of the New York City Regional Campaign Committee during the Lafayette Leadership Campaign (1995–2001). He also has served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Council. In 1999 the Alumni Association presented him its Clifton P. Mayfield 1909 Award for outstanding service by a young alumnus. His wife, Karen McCabe Kirby, is a member of the Class of 1987, and his daughter Jane is a member of the Class of 2019.
Impact on Academic Excellence
The republican form of government can only be a complete success in countries where sound education is universal. The ballot in the hands of ignorant people is a dangerous weapon. He who contributes to the upbuilding of education is therefore aiding in the development and perpetuation of our national ideals. In connection with his generous and intelligent gifts to schools and colleges, Mr. Fred M. Kirby always has had in mind the importance of a well-informed citizenry, fully cognizant of the great principles upon which the United States of America was founded and developed. His emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of the individual has focused attention upon these important matters.

WILLIAM MATHER LEWIS
Lafayette President
Fred Morgan Kirby’s establishment of the Kirby Professorship and a program of education in civil rights at Lafayette gained attention and drew praise, both public and private, from many quarters.

An editorial in the Boston Transcript said, “The college does well to accept the gift, and has . . . the opportunity to affect current thought and correct some errors. Beyond all doubt the doctrine of individual rights, of individual initiative, of leadership on the part of the fittest individuals is the American doctrine. Throughout the whole formation of our history it has been the breath of our public and private life.”

Ernest Gray Smith, owner of the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader, wrote privately to Fred Morgan Kirby, “Conveying the idea of returning to the sound, old, and well-tried doctrines of Anglo-Saxon fundamentals of civil rights in modern teaching, the gift naturally invited much discussion not alone from its generous proportions, but as indicative of returning reason and tried philosophy in what a college should teach.”

Creating a Stellar Department

The College recruited Miller D. Steever, Class of 1909, from an established law practice in Washington, D.C., to be the first holder of the professorship beginning in 1921. Thanks to Steever and Eugene P. Chase, who joined the faculty in 1926—and to the magnificent Kirby Hall of Civil Rights itself—the Department of Government and Law became a stellar department at Lafayette during the years between the world wars. The department evolved to include a full curriculum of practical courses in American and foreign governments and political theory.

“From time to time Professor Steever conferred at some length with Fred M. Kirby, who always showed a keen desire to improve the potency of the Chair which he had established,” wrote President Lewis on the early years of the department’s growth. “For instance, a series of public lectures were financed, [and] many prominent in the affairs of the nation addressed students at Lafayette.”

Steever held the Kirby Professorship until he retired in 1952, and Chase succeeded him, serving until his retirement in 1963. Under Steever and Chase, the number of students who had been majors in the department and went on to careers in law, politics, and government service “was legion,” Gendebien wrote in The Biography of a College. Moreover, as the holder of the Kirby Professorship, the most prestigious chair on campus, Steever was a powerful influence on educational development overall at Lafayette.

A profile of Steever in The Lafayette Alumnus in 1940 notes that the courses given in his department “have been popular and attractive because their foundation has been based upon an idea that is receptive to so many of us in this age of confusion and chaos.” The courses in the department remain in demand today. Government and law is consistently one of the most popular majors on campus.
Support for faculty and academic excellence at Lafayette was also a top priority for Allan P. Kirby. In his recommendation regarding the use of the Marquis Foundation’s gift of $5 million to the College’s endowment he said, “The additional income which this increase in endowment will afford should provide the means for greatly improving the quality of teaching at Lafayette. There is nothing we can do which will so well serve the students who come to us for instruction, as to provide them with high-quality teaching. Nothing will add more to the prestige of our institution in the collegiate world than to acquire a reputation for providing instruction of the highest quality and having our faculty recognized as a community of front-rank teachers and scholars.”

As noted, Allan’s service to the College included his leadership of the successful campaign to raise $2 million for a new library, which opened in 1963 and was named for David Bishop Skillman, Class of 1913. The F. M. Kirby Foundation also provided support for an extensive expansion and renovation of the library, concluding in 2004, which added 28,000 square feet to the building and substantially transformed all of its interior spaces.

An endowed professorship in art history was established with the F. M. Kirby Foundation’s support during the Lafayette Leadership Campaign. College President Arthur J. Rothkopf ’55 was surprised by the announcement at the campaign’s conclusion in 2001 that donors had contributed funds to create a faculty position honoring him and his wife, Barbara. The chair has been held since its establishment by Diane Cole Ahl.
Fifty-three and a half years ago, on November 22, 1919, an important event in the life of Allan P. Kirby took place: Lafayette beat Lehigh in football. The following day, his first son was born. Each year for 10 years in a row, Lafayette beat Lehigh in football on, or about, my birthday. Each of these victories was a great joy to my father, and he regarded it as a birthday present to me. I tell you this so you will know that my earliest recollections of my father feature his great interest in athletics at Lafayette College.

FRED M. KIRBY II
Dedication of Allan P. Kirby Field House
June 2, 1973
A Passionate Interest
Supporting Fine Facilities and Programs

A
llan P. Kirby Field House was dedicated June 2, 1973, one month to the day after Allan Kirby’s death. A $4.4 million facility that included Ruel Natatorium, it was a new home for several varsity teams. It was part of a $5.1 million project, including the renovation of Alumni Memorial Gymnasium, to meet the needs of Lafayette’s intercollegiate, intramural, recreational, and physical education programs.

It had been a dream of Allens for more than 50 years. On the day he was elected a life member of the Board of Trustees in 1937, he offered to build a field house at Lafayette.

“When field houses were almost unheard of, my father visualized for Lafayette College a preeminent position with respect to such facilities and struggled for many years to convince Lafayette Presidents and trustees and others of the importance of such a complex,” said Fred M. Kirby II.

“In 1958, Mr. Kirby had hoped that the funds of the Marquis Foundation could be used for a field house. He came to recognize, however, the greater urgency of using these funds to increase the endowment so faculty salaries could be raised,” wrote Gendebien in The Biography of a College.

“I think you will all agree that it is a magnificent facility,” said Fred M. Kirby II at the dedication. “My mother, all of the children of Allan P. Kirby, all of their spouses, and various of his grandchildren are here today in appreciation of the tribute which you are all paying to my father in the naming of this complex. He knew, before he passed on a month ago, that Lafayette would dedicate today the field house of his dreams and that it would bear his name. Many thanks to all of you.”

A FACILITY OF MERIT
The F. M. Kirby Foundation’s gift of $32.625 million enabled the College to transform dramatically the field house into the Allan P. Kirby Sports Center during the Lafayette Leadership Campaign. Arguably the finest athletic complex of any college of its size in the country, it was dedicated in June 2000.

The $35 million center included a new, 110,000-square-foot intramural and recreational sports facility attached to the previously existing field house. The field house itself received a $2.5 million facelift and interior renovations. Athletic Business magazine recognized the project with its Facilities of Merit Award.

The gift was the largest ever received to that point by a college, university, or other non-profit organization in the Lehigh Valley. It included $26.25 million for the sports complex and $6.375 million to establish an endowment for future maintenance and repair of the complex.
Honoring Fred M. Kirby II

After Fred M. Kirby II’s death in 2011, the College retired the jersey number he had worn as a football player, 53, and reserved locker number 53 in Bourger Varsity Football House to house a simple, enduring tribute to him. He had taken pleasure and pride in the fact that he had played on the most recent undefeated team in Lafayette history in his junior year, 1940, and also played in the last game Lafayette won against Army.

“He would be very humble about such an honor and say many others were more deserving. But he would have accepted it with pride and let Mom know how much it meant to him,” S. Dillard Kirby said.

In 2013, the F. M. Kirby Foundation made a gift of $2 million to endow the head football coaching position at Lafayette in Fred M. Kirby II’s honor.

“In the long history of our College, no one has contributed to our community more fully or with greater spirit than did Fred Kirby. From the time of his youth until the end of his life, more than 90 years later, Fred devoted a significant portion of his time, his energy, his wisdom, and his philanthropy to Lafayette,” said President Daniel Weiss. “As all who knew him can attest, one of Fred’s greatest interests was the success and vitality of Lafayette athletics. He was a steadfast supporter of our athletics program and an especially avid football fan. We are proud to count Fred Kirby as a Leopard and an esteemed son of Lafayette.”

This was another example of the Kirby Foundation’s philosophy of funding maintenance endowments. “This approach has generally been part of the Kirby family DNA when representing lead support for a capital project,” S. Dillard Kirby said.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation provided the funding for a $1.7 million renovation of the sports center’s arena in 2013, featuring new seating, a video scoreboard, and an LED scorer’s table. “I think the College ought to and does try to be the best it can be in all realms, including athletics, academics, and other extracurricular activities, and this is a small representation of how that’s going on throughout the College,” Jeff Kirby said. “Like our father, our grandfather, and our great-grandfather before us, Dillard and I are proud of that.”

The F. M. Kirby Foundation supported the 2006 renovation of the College’s football stadium to include new spectator seating, FieldTurf playing surface, lights, video matrix board, and press box. In 2015, the Kirby Foundation’s support made possible the dedication of a control room in the press box in honor of Jim Finnen, who had served as public address announcer for Lafayette football and basketball for half a century. The Foundation’s support also helped make possible the installation of McCracken Gate at the football stadium and the renovation of Kamine Varsity House at the Metzgar Fields Athletic Complex. In 2016, the Foundation assisted with a thorough renovation of Weinstein Natatorium (formerly Ruef Natatorium).

The Foundation’s support for athletics at Lafayette includes annual funding for the Maroon Club, which was founded by Allan P. Kirby in 1937, and endowments that provide funds for programming, scholarships, and other needs.

Further Support for Athletics

The F. M. Kirby Foundation supported the 2006 renovation of the College’s football stadium to include new spectator seating, FieldTurf playing surface, lights, video matrix board, and press box. In 2015, the Kirby Foundation’s support made possible the dedication of a control room in the press box in honor of Jim Finnen, who had served as public address announcer for Lafayette football and basketball for half a century. The Foundation’s support also helped make possible the installation of McCracken Gate at the football stadium and the renovation of Kamine Varsity House at the Metzgar Fields Athletic Complex. In 2016, the Foundation assisted with a thorough renovation of Weinstein Natatorium (formerly Ruef Natatorium).

This was another example of the Kirby Foundation’s philosophy of funding maintenance endowments. “This approach has generally been part of the Kirby family DNA when representing lead support for a capital project,” S. Dillard Kirby said.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation provided the funding for a $1.7 million renovation of the sports center’s arena in 2013, featuring new seating, a video scoreboard, and an LED scorer’s table. “I think the College ought to and does try to be the best it can be in all realms, including athletics, academics, and other extracurricular activities, and this is a small representation of how that’s going on throughout the College,” Jeff Kirby said. “Like our father, our grandfather, and our great-grandfather before us, Dillard and I are proud of that.”

The F. M. Kirby Foundation provided the funding for a $1.7 million renovation of the sports center’s arena in 2013, featuring new seating, a video scoreboard, and an LED scorer’s table. “I think the College ought to and does try to be the best it can be in all realms, including athletics, academics, and other extracurricular activities, and this is a small representation of how that’s going on throughout the College,” Jeff Kirby said. “Like our father, our grandfather, and our great-grandfather before us, Dillard and I are proud of that.”
No one has asked me to make a speech, and I wouldn’t if I were asked, because public speaking does not come within the scope of my limited ability. However, I would like to say a few words informally about my mother, in whose memory it has been my privilege and pleasure to erect this building. Definitely it should be considered a memorial to all mothers, and especially to the mothers of all sons of Lafayette College. I am sure that is the way my mother would wish it, if for no other reason than that it was always her pleasure to share anything that she had with others.

ALLAN P. KIRBY
Dedication of Jessie A. Kirby Memorial Dormitory
June 8, 1950
Making a Truly Residential College

“Nothing Can Mean More to the Central Purpose of This Institution”

Two residence halls made possible by the Kirby family, Jessie A. Kirby Memorial Dormitory and Marquis Hall, were influential in transforming student life outside the classroom at Lafayette beginning in the middle years of the 20th century.

Dedicated at Commencement in 1950, Kirby Dormitory (now known as Kirby House), the largest and most modern residence hall on campus, was named for Jessie Amelia Kirby, the wife of Fred Morgan Kirby and mother of Allan P. Kirby. Built to the highest standards of the day, it housed 72 students and featured a dining room, kitchen, reception area, and game rooms.

Lafayette President Ralph Cooper Hutchison said, “It signifies what Lafayette wants to do and plans for its students. It brings to reality the vision that their lives of vigor and achievement may be lived in an atmosphere of culture and beauty.”

Hutchison cited the vision and generosity of Allan Kirby: “It is a further symbol of what every alumnus can do for his college. Few can do as much, but if all will do what they can for the strengthening of this independent education of a tenuous democracy, Lafayette will go on from strength to strength.”

Ten years later, Kirby House was joined on the campus by Marquis Hall, an even larger and more versatile facility, which came into being as the result of the Marquis Foundation’s purchase and sale of the St. Louis Car Company, an effort led by Allan Kirby. Dedicated in the fall of 1960, Marquis Hall housed more than 100 students and included a dining commons for 500 to 600, in addition to recreational facilities for students and a lounge and dining room for faculty.

Marquis Hall enabled big changes in social life at the College to occur. The most notable of these was the shift, in 1960, of fraternity rushing to the second semester. This was important, Allan Kirby explained, because it allowed first-year students “to gather lasting and favorable impressions during the early weeks and months and thus get off to a far more favorable and permanent start than has been possible in the past.”

Lafayette had been in need of a student dining hall since the mid-1920s. Because of the absence of eating facilities, the College had tolerated early fraternity rushing. The new commons in Marquis Hall meant that dining facilities would be available for first-year students.

“When it came time to decide just what we should give the College,” Allan Kirby said, “we knew what we wanted to do, and so we have Marquis Hall—a commons where all freshmen eat together, and many other desirable areas where freshmen may carry on much of their social life and remain free from fraternity rushing until they have had the opportunity to become acquainted at their leisure with members of their class and other classes.”

Marquis Hall made Lafayette “more markedly a truly residential college,” said Lloyd M. Felmly, Class of 1916, chairman of the Board of Trustees. It increased the “depth and strength of the personal bonds established among Lafayette men and between Lafayette men and the College.”

President Bergethon said Marquis Hall would improve Lafayette’s capacity to educate the young people who attend the College. “The attractiveness and usefulness of this building should help us to bring together at
Chateau Chavaniac (pictured above), Allan Kirby’s Easton estate modeled after the birthplace of the Marquis de Lafayette, is a distinctive contribution to the Lafayette campus community. It was built by Allan, in 1933, on Paxinosa Ridge, overlooking the Lafayette campus. On football weekends he entertained friends and housed the football team on the eves of home games.

In 1983, the F. M. Kirby Foundation donated the Chateau to Lafayette. It continues to be valued as a unique resource that supports the College’s educational mission. At the time of this gift, the Foundation established a fund for the Chateau’s maintenance and an additional Kirby Endowment Fund for Campus Beautification.

SUPPORTING THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

The Kirbys’ support of Lafayette extends to many areas of campus life outside the classroom, including merit-based aid for student-athletes and need-based financial aid for other students.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation has supported Zeta Psi, the fraternity of Allan, Fred II, Dillard, and Jeff. Allan Jr. is a long-time supporter of his fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon. He provided both leadership and financial support of the renovation of the fraternity’s chapter house, which was completed in 2015.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation provided support for the construction of the Carolyn Huntington Bailey Health Center, which opened in 1975, and continues its support for students’ health and well-being through an endowment that provides funds for the center’s operation.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation’s Endowment Fund for Campus Beautification helped make possible a dramatic transformation of the central campus, including the historic Quad, to create a more accessible, beautiful, and environmentally sustainable space at the heart of the campus. The College celebrated its completion in 2013. This fund also provided support for recent improvements to major campus gateways.

Allan Kirby, Jr. attends the renovation groundbreaking of Delta Kappa Epsilon Chapter House, June 7, 2014.

this college people of high ability, both at the student and at the teaching level. Nothing can mean more to the central purpose of this institution. For education in the best sense is not merely the passing on of information, but the contagion of attitudes and habits and values that encourage each individual to develop his greatest powers through inner discipline."

MAINTAINING A CONNECTED CAMPUS

Today, a program called Connected Communities provides a smooth transition into college life and helps students build affinity with their class year and with the College. Each entering student creates bonds of friendship within one of five commons and participates in learning modules that include topics such as financial literacy, well-being, and sustainability.

The idea of a more connected campus community has its roots in the thinking that prompted Allan Kirby and his colleagues to envision the advantages that Kirby House and Marquis Hall would bring to their college. ♦

Chateau Chavaniac (pictured above), Allan Kirby’s Easton estate modeled after the birthplace of the Marquis de Lafayette, is a distinctive contribution to the Lafayette campus community. It was built by Allan, in 1933, on Paxinosa Ridge, overlooking the Lafayette campus. On football weekends he entertained friends and housed the football team on the eves of home games.

In 1983, the F. M. Kirby Foundation donated the Chateau to Lafayette. It continues to be valued as a unique resource that supports the College’s educational mission. At the time of this gift, the Foundation established a fund for the Chateau’s maintenance and an additional Kirby Endowment Fund for Campus Beautification.

Supporting the College Community

The Kirbys’ support of Lafayette extends to many areas of campus life outside the classroom, including merit-based aid for student-athletes and need-based financial aid for other students.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation has supported Zeta Psi, the fraternity of Allan, Fred II, Dillard, and Jeff. Allan Jr. is a long-time supporter of his fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon. He provided both leadership and financial support of the renovation of the fraternity’s chapter house, which was completed in 2015.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation provided support for the construction of the Carolyn Huntington Bailey Health Center, which opened in 1975, and continues its support for students’ health and well-being through an endowment that provides funds for the center’s operation.

The F. M. Kirby Foundation’s Endowment Fund for Campus Beautification helped make possible a dramatic transformation of the central campus, including the historic Quad, to create a more accessible, beautiful, and environmentally sustainable space at the heart of the campus. The College celebrated its completion in 2013. This fund also provided support for recent improvements to major campus gateways.

Allan Kirby, Jr. attends the renovation groundbreaking of Delta Kappa Epsilon Chapter House, June 7, 2014.
Impact on The Arts
In retrospect, the composition of this group of paintings follows logically my father’s purpose in founding the Kirby Chair of Civil Rights, whereby he sought to give lasting expression to his deep personal devotion to those principles of human freedom and dignity that have developed and flourished here in America. In a sense, the Chair of Civil Rights is likewise a tribute to those great Americans who conceived our institutions and established our ideals.

ALLAN P. KIRBY
“The Philosophy Behind this Collection”
Catalogue, Kirby Collection of Historical Paintings, 1963
To complement Fred Morgan Kirby’s vision for the educational impact of the Kirby Professorship and Hall of Civil Rights, Allan Kirby assembled a collection of fine paintings of men who had laid the foundations of America’s greatness and of notable historic events.

“The assembling of a representative group of portraits of the Presidents of the United States, painted by outstanding artists, is the main purpose behind this collection,” Allan explained in his introduction to a catalogue of the collection published in 1963. “In the course of searching, however, many paintings of other historical subjects came to light,” he continued. “Therefore, the group was expanded to include a broad variety of subjects, bound together by a common bond; each is significant in terms of the historical or cultural development of this nation. It was evident that we could all profit from a closer acquaintance with those who have contributed importantly to the shaping of our national character.”

A VISUAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE PAST

Allan presented works in the collection to Lafayette between 1943 and 1953 to be displayed, principally, in Kirby Hall of Civil Rights and Kirby House. Today, the collection includes more than 35 portraits, including U.S. Presidents, American founders and later political leaders, and U.S. and world military and cultural leaders. It also includes portraits of Fred Morgan Kirby and Jessie A. Kirby by the English artists Frank O. Salisbury and Gerald Brockhurst, respectively.

Some paintings are familiar to generations of Americans because they have been widely reproduced in media, including textbooks and television productions on historical topics. The collection’s best known works include George Washington by James or Charles Willson Peale (c. 1779–82), Thomas Jefferson at the Natural Bridge by Caleb Boyle (c. 1801), Gouverneur Morris by Thomas Sully (c. 1808), Andrew Jackson by Rembrandt Peale (c. 1819), and Grover Cleveland by Eastman Johnson (c. 1890).

“These art treasures on our campus help to create a visual association with great individuals in the American past,” President Bergehon said. “This experience stimulates the ambition as well as the imagination of our students, faculty, alumni, and friends. In addition, these paintings add to the educational atmosphere the subtle but extremely important factor of refined perception and expression.”

A PROMINENT ADDITION

The College’s appreciation for the Kirby Collection endures, and its impact continues to grow. The latest addition, unveiled in October 2016, is a portrait of Thurgood Marshall painted by Ying-He Liu, whose family were among the victims of violence by Mao Zedong. It is displayed in Kirby Hall of Civil Rights between paintings of the Marquis de Lafayette and U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall.

The dedication ceremony included remarks by Liu; L’Eunice Faust ’17, president of Student Government; and Bruce Allen Murphy, Kirby Professor of Civil Rights.
“I love this portrait of Thurgood Marshall,” said Murphy, who is in his 20th year of service as the fifth teacher-scholar to hold the Kirby Professorship. “His transformative work on behalf of civil rights as the NAACP legal defense attorney, combined with his second, 24-year career on the Supreme Court on behalf of the same goals, sets him above many other deserving candidates for display in this remarkable building where civil rights is taught and studied through the lenses of both politics and law.”

A NEW FACILITY FOR STUDYING ART

With partial support from the F. M. Kirby Foundation, planning is under way for a new facility in the Williams Center for the Arts to house the College’s art collections, providing additional protection for and access to pieces from the Kirby Collection and other works of art. The College envisions a 2,400-square-foot facility that will provide secure, climate-controlled storage; an area for handling and preparing artworks; and a location where classes of students, scholars, and the public can view pieces from the collections. The facility also will expand educational possibilities for students, including opportunities to curate “mini exhibitions” in connection with courses and honors theses.

HIGHLIGHTING THE COLLECTION

Paintings from the Kirby Collection made up a substantial portion of the works in a special exhibition, entitled *History Paintings: Highlights from the Lafayette College Art Collection*, mounted during the College’s 2007 celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de Lafayette: The Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, 1620 by Peter Frederick Rothermel (Detail, pp. 50–51) (1854)
The First Thanksgiving, 1621 by Edwin White (c. mid-1800s)
Arrival of the Compte de Rochambeau at Newport, July 10, 1780 by Edward Percy Moran (Date unknown)
Washington Greeting Lafayette at Mount Vernon, 1784 by Jno A. Brownscombe (c. early 1900s)
Barbara Frietchie, 1862 by Davres Malone Carter (1876)
Lincoln at Gettysburg, 1865 by Albion Harris Bicknell (c. 1879)

Support for the Arts

In September 2016 the College celebrated the completion of a dramatic expansion of the Williams Arts Campus, at the base of College Hill, where the campus connects with downtown Easton. The project, for which the F. M. Kirby Foundation provided major support, included the construction of Buck Hall, which contains a black box theater and film screening room, and the transformation of a historic building to house a studio theater, television/video production studio, media labs, and editing suites. It increased the College’s space for the arts by almost 50 percent and created a spectacular gateway to the Lafayette campus and to Easton.

The Foundation also supports music education at Lafayette and programming at the Williams Center for the Arts, which brings to Lafayette world-class theater, dance, and music performers in addition to art exhibitions.

Opposite page, top: Rendering of the planned Art Study Center in the Williams Center for the Arts. Bottom: J. Dillard Kirby, Jeff Kirby, and artist Ying-He Liu at the dedication ceremony of Liu’s portrait of Thurgood Marshall.
To the Kirby Family:

Ever since Fred Morgan Kirby established the Professorship of Civil Rights nearly a century ago, the Lafayette College community has benefited immensely from the unprecedented depth and scope of your family’s commitment to our institution. Decades of steadfast support from the Kirby family have fostered tremendous growth and progress on our campus and played a significant role in elevating the College to its current place among the nation’s premier institutions of higher education.

In the pages of this volume, we strived to illuminate the magnitude of your family’s contributions to the College and the countless ways that the vision of F. M. Kirby and his descendants has inspired excellence and independence in those who call Lafayette home.

We cannot begin to tell the story of every Lafayette student who has decided to pursue a career in public service following a particularly rousing lecture by a Kirby Professor, met a lifelong friend in Kirby House, or achieved a personal record in the Kirby Sports Center. Through your generosity and dedication, you have molded the lives of talented students who have gone on to pay forward their Lafayette experience and improve our world in profound ways. Although such a storied history is impossible to commit completely to paper, we hope you enjoy this token of our immeasurable gratitude.

It is an honor to lead an institution so deeply marked by the Kirby legacy. Thank you for your service to the past and future of Lafayette College.

Warmly,

Alison R. Byerly
President

Edward W. Ahart
Chair, Board of Trustees