

# **Valencia Foundation**

## **Report to the Board of Trustees**

### **July 23, 2014**

#### **Valencia's Downtown Center is history**

In mid-July, the foundation closed a chapter – and a contract – on the Chicone building downtown. For more than 30 years, this building has served as a Valencia hub. A bargain basement sale with charitable intent, the purchase of 190 South Orange from the very generous Chicone family has since allowed the foundation to use 100 percent of every donation for its intended purpose.

This building – and the Chicones – have served Valencia, our donors, our professors and our students very well. The top-floor meeting space in our new building will be named in honor of Mr. Jerry Chicone. The new owners are a long-time Orlando family.

#### **Final solar suitcase makes its way to Kenya**

Dr. Deb Hall, professor of engineering, and her students built solar suitcases as part of her endowed faculty chair last year. All but one of these portable, renewable energy sources were delivered safely to a chosen charity in a region with limited electricity.

One never made it to its destination because the country was deemed unsafe for U.S. travelers after terroristic activity.

Rather than give up, Dr. Hall persisted to find an organization able to safely deliver the final case to Kenya, where it will serve the nonprofit agency Action for Children in Conflict. The Kenya mission team from Northland Church volunteered to hand-carry the solar case this month.

#### **2014-15 endowed chairs begin their studies**

Thirty-five tenured faculty members have been awarded a 2014 – 2015 Valencia Foundation Endowed Chair for Learning Leadership. The Endowed Chairs for Learning Leadership program recognizes and promotes academic excellence at the College through honoring outstanding members of Valencia's teaching faculty. In contrast to endowed chair programs at four-year institutions that aim to attract preeminent researchers, our program recognizes and supports Valencia faculty by providing resources needed for the advancement of instruction.

#### **Join us in helping to transform lives through philanthropy**

The Valencia Foundation board invites the college trustees to join us for gatherings and meetings this fall. These two governing boards have enjoyed members in common, including Raymer Maguire III, Jerry Buchanan, Ed Moore, and Larry Slocum, who have continued to serve as foundation directors long after their trustee terms.

If you would like to learn more about the foundation's work and meet the incredible volunteers who make it happen, please mark your calendars: Aug. 28, 5:30 p.m. board kick off; Sept. 24, 11:30 a.m. executive/board development meeting; Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m. board meeting; and Nov. 20 and 21 strategic planning retreat. You will also receive electronic invitations. Including trustees in the retreat experience is especially powerful for the foundation board members.