

Albert A. Sheen Campus

Campus Overview

The 130-acre campus of the University of the Virgin Islands on St. Croix is located at Golden Grove, midway between the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted. Used by the University since 1964, the land was deeded to the University for educational purposes by the United States federal government in 1968. The entrance to the campus, from Queen Mary Highway, is lined by royal palm trees leading to the Research Technology Park, Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning, the residence hall complex and the Student Center. The main buildings include the Great House, which housed both classrooms and administrative offices before 1975; the Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning (the main academic building); the Northwest Wing, which was erected in 1989 and now houses the computer laboratories; the Research and Extension Center, which opened its doors in 1992 and houses the land-grant programs; and the nursing complex, which has been home to the School of Nursing since 1996.

On Sept. 23, 1996, in a regular session of the Virgin Islands Legislature, Act No. 6121 sponsored by then Sen. Adelbert Bryan was approved with two measures honoring local Virgin Islanders. This bill proposed to name the residence hall complex after dedicated educator, mentor and tradition bearer Mrs. Delta M. Dorsch. The University of the Virgin Islands named the complex the Delta M. Jackson Dorsch Complex at a dedication ceremony in her honor on Dec. 16, 2010.

As part of the same measure, Act No. 5121 proposed to name the St. Croix Campus after native and local attorney Albert A. Sheen, Sr. The campus was named the Albert A. Sheen Campus of the University of the Virgin Islands on March 24, 2011.

The Student Center houses a cafetorium, the Snack Bar, the Office of Student Activities, the Student Activities Lounge, the BUCS Fitness Center, a student mail room and the Campus Bookstore. Behind the Student Center are outdoor basketball, volleyball, tennis courts, and soccer fields used for physical education classes, intramural athletics and recreation. The soccer fields were established in July 2013. The Delta M. Jackson Dorsch Complex opened for student occupancy in January 1999. The residence hall complex is composed of 17 three-bedroom suites, the Office of Student Housing & Residence Life, a reception area, lounge, two study/seminar rooms, laundry facilities and on-campus living quarters for the Student Housing Supervisor.

Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning

Opened in 1975, the Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning is named for the U.S. Virgin Islands' first elected governor. This architecturally unique building is a modern air-conditioned, multi-level complex constructed around a landscaped courtyard with open-air walkways, galleries, attractive stonework, tropical foliage, miniature waterfalls and manmade ponds.

The Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning houses the library, classrooms, faculty offices, video conferencing facilities, and a 73-seat theater. It also houses several of the student support services, such as Academic Services, Financial Aid, the Center for Student Success (CSS), the Dean of Students as well as the Campus Operations, Business Services and Campus Security offices.

BUCS Fitness Center

In 2007 the BUCS Fitness Center was added to the Student Center. This 900 sq. ft. facility houses state-of-the-art fitness equipment and is fully staffed by students.

The Great Hall

From 2006 – 2007, the Albert A. Sheen Campus established several new facilities to enhance student learning and campus life. The North West Wing Great Hall is a multi-use space that can be configured to three classrooms or one large assembly space that seats up to 200. This space opened in conjunction with several new faculty offices and two classrooms in the Northwest Wing Annex.

The Great House

Before construction of the Melvin H. Evans Center for Learning was finished in 1975, all classes on the Albert A. Sheen Campus were conducted in the Great House, a 19th century historic building that was originally the main house of a sugar cane plantation. Completely renovated in 2001, the Great House now includes the Office of the President, Office of the Provost and the Health Services Center on the Albert A. Sheen Campus. Across from the Great House in Building B is the Caribbean Writer and the Office of Physical Plant and Maintenance.

Melvin H. Evans Center Library

See pg. 3 for information on the Albert A. Sheen Campus library.

Research and Extension Center

The Research and Extension Center contains several programs of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service. This state-of-the-art facility is home to the Biotechnology Laboratory, with its light- and temperature-controlled growth room, and molecular biology equipment; the Plant Science laboratory, where research is conducted in the areas of soil and plant analysis; a home economics food laboratory and four seminar rooms; 16 research faculty and staff offices; and a staff lounge. Also housed in the Research and Extension Center is the Office of Institutional Advancement on the Albert A. Sheen Campus.