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Longwood University

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# longwood

A MAGAZINE  
FOR ALUMNI  
AND FRIENDS  
OF LONGWOOD  
UNIVERSITY

**SPRING 2017**

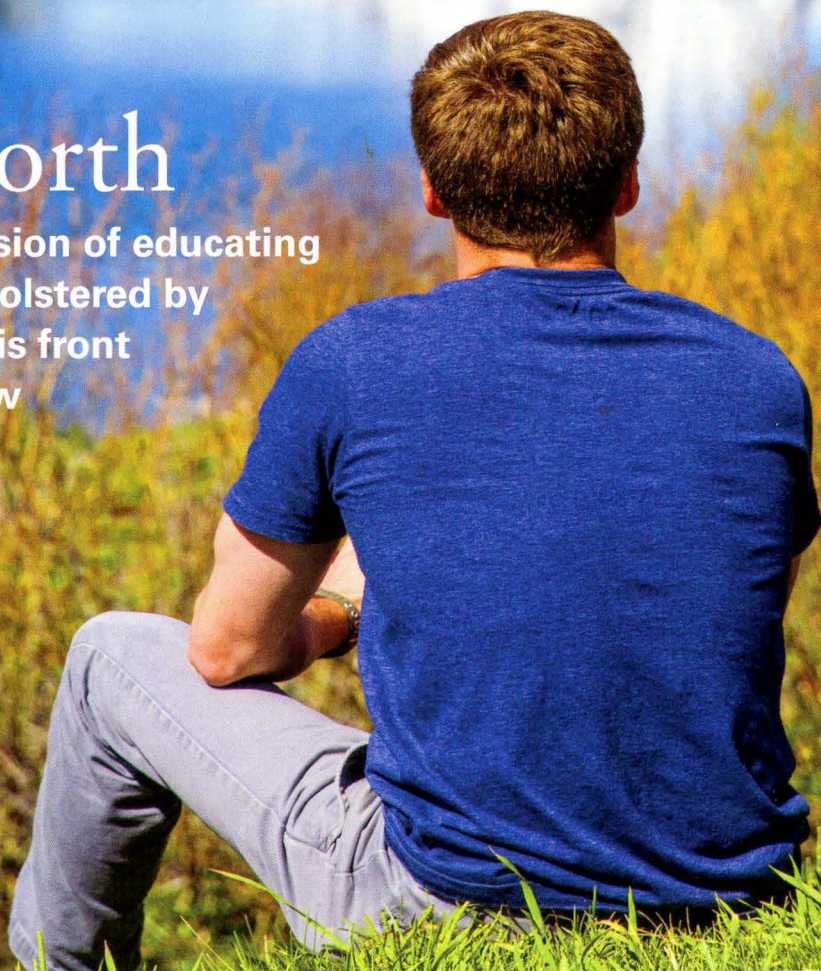
Q&A with President Reveley

College Preview for Kids

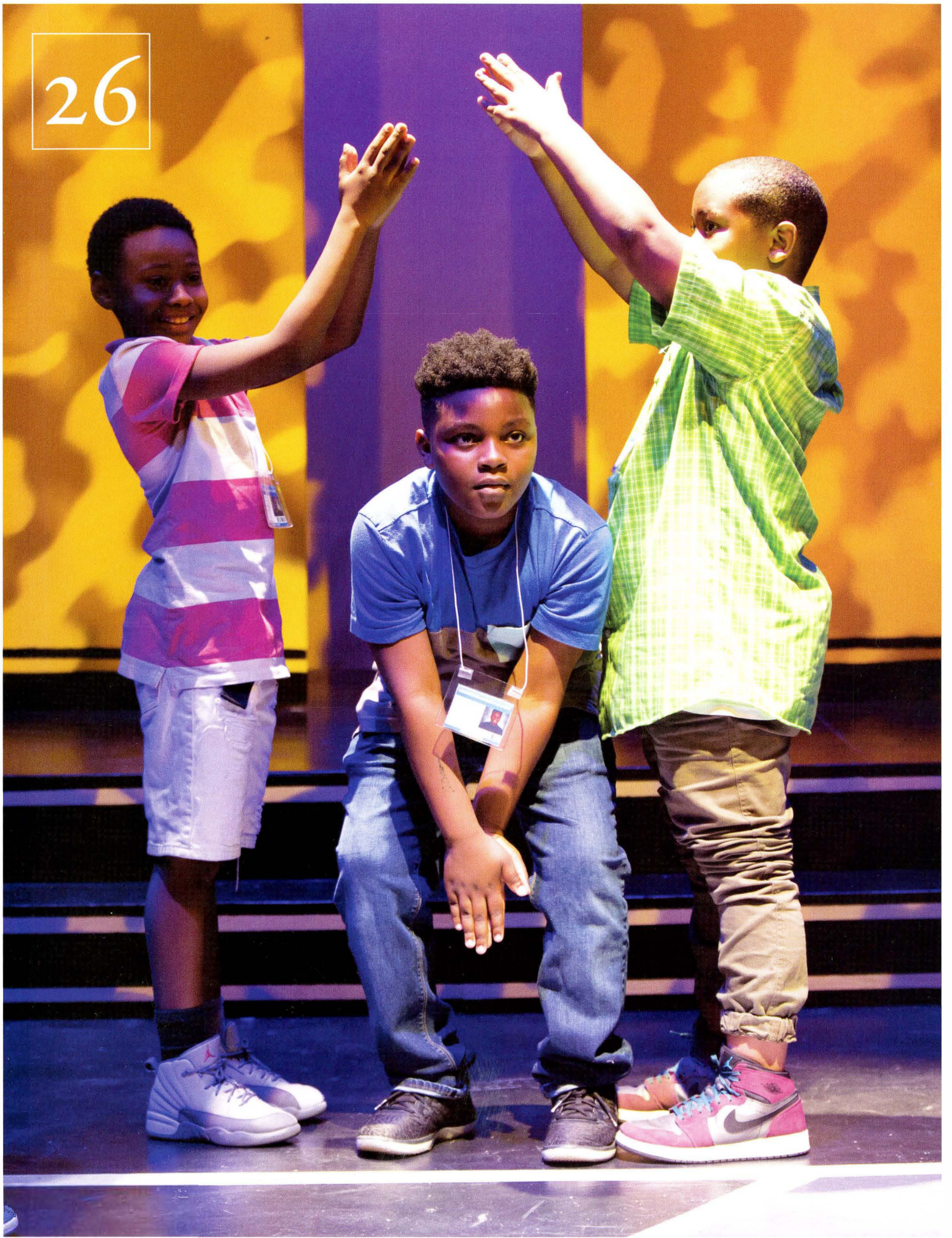
Honoring Outstanding Alumni

## True North

Longwood's mission of educating citizen leaders, bolstered by \$5.9 million gift, is front and center in new core curriculum









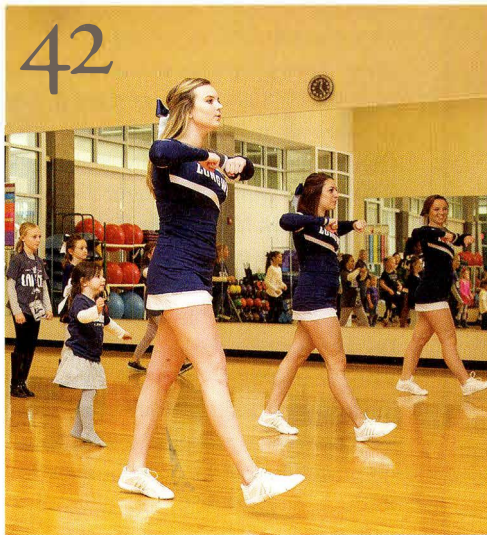
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\$5.9 million donation supports creation of courses central to core curriculum

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Longwood@Yellowstone is the model for new experience-rich courses emphasizing citizen leadership. The courses, made possible by a \$5.9 million gift, will work hand-in-glove with the university's new core curriculum. Story on Page 24. Photo by Andrea Dailey.



# longwood

A **MAGAZINE**

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS  
OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY

**SPRING 2017**

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**Published March 2017**



Dr. Joseph Jarman served as  
Longwood's 16th president  
from 1902-46.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**In this edition of the magazine**, you will read about many of the exciting developments at Longwood — campus construction, a remarkable new core curriculum focused on citizenship, an extraordinary gift from Joan '64 and Macon Brock that will help shape generations of students in unique ways.

You will also, in the interview that begins on Page 12, hear plenty from me, so I thought I might use this space share some words that have stuck with me from one of my predecessors.

Many of you with ties through the generations to Longwood know stories about the great Dr. Joseph Jarman, who led the institution from 1902 until 1946, one of the longer tenures of any president in American higher education. The institution transformed during those decades: beginning a baccalaureate curriculum, significantly strengthening engagement with Farmville and building the iconic Rotunda. Dr. Jarman was invoked often during my own childhood. My grandmother and her sisters were in the classes of 1940, 1942 and 1946, and my great-grandmother was part of the Jarman era, too, graduating in 1910. My great-grandfather also was a member of the faculty under Dr. Jarman and eventually chair of the Department of Biology here.

So when news came over the holidays that a member of the Class of 1928 had passed away, Marguerite Bailey at age 108, it prompted me to reflect on Dr. Jarman, and I recently came across a message he sent to alums soon after the time of Marguerite Bailey's school days. We have evolved and changed since then (we are 15 years a university now). Timeless qualities also endure, and you may enjoy this passage from Dr. Jarman's message, sent in 1934 to commemorate Longwood's 50th anniversary as a public institution. In 1934, those with recollections of the founding in 1839 would have been in their spritely 90s:

"There are some of you who have followed the career of the College from its beginning: you should be proud indeed to feel that you have been a proud part of her throughout her life; others of you know her only as she is today — You have not kept up with her growth and development through the years. To you she is simply your Alma Mater, you take her for granted and cannot realize that she has not always been as you knew her. But it is one hope that ... there is something of the spirit which makes for love and loyalty ... Loyalty is love translated into action: the love that is simply passive does not mean nearly so much as that which is always on the alert, ready to take up the cudgel in defense if defense is needed, to put in a word of affectionate commendation whenever the old College is mentioned, a love that still is alive and active ... no matter how far off may be the day of graduation — Time cannot drive loyalty such as this."

My thanks for your loyalty and support of Longwood.

**W. Taylor Reveley IV**  
President





Dr. Jane Richardson Taylor '71 is committed to providing quality education for young children.

## For the 'Little Ones'

### Alumna gives \$1 million to create innovative early childhood development center



Dr. Jane Richardson Taylor never set out to be a preschool director.

After two decades as a middle- and high-school administrator, her career was well-established, but a decision to take a year off to spend more time with her high-school-aged daughter, Sara, put her on a different path. When her church, St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Leesburg, needed someone to lead its preschool program, Taylor was available.

Over the next 16 years, Taylor—to her surprise—discovered a passion for early childhood education. Her feelings are so strong that she has now committed \$1 million to establish an early childhood development center at Longwood, which will open this year.

“When you work with little ones, it’s like you’ve gone to heaven. Every one of them is eager and excited about learning,” said Taylor ’71. “There is a critical need for well-educated early childhood teachers—I see it every day in my preschool. Children this age deserve someone who has been trained specifically

in this area because their minds are such little sponges.”

The center will bear the name of her first child, a son who died when he was 13 months old. The Andy Taylor Center for Early Childhood Development is set to have its grand

**‘When you work with little ones, it’s like you’ve gone to heaven. Every one of them is eager and excited about learning.’**

— DR. JANE RICHARDSON TAYLOR ’71

opening in fall 2017. It will be located at 211 Fourth Street in Farmville, just steps away from Longwood’s main campus.

For Dr. Sara Miller, the director and visionary behind the early childhood development center, the gift is galvanizing.

“Most people who start something like this aren’t bolstered from the beginning by a major financial gift that will support the program far into the future,” said Miller, assistant professor

of education. “To have someone who believes so fully in our vision for this center to support us so completely gives us great energy and momentum as we move toward launch. Dr. Taylor is an inspiration to all of us who have worked on this project, and her interest and support will have a significant impact on generations of children.”

The Andy Taylor Center for Early Childhood Development will provide a cutting-edge early childhood education to children of Longwood faculty and staff as well as community members not affiliated with the university. The center will employ the Reggio Emilia method of instruction, which encourages children to explore their environment and express themselves in a variety of ways, including through art, drama, dance and sculpture. The program is rooted in the principles of respect, responsibility and community. In the coming years, it also will become a valuable resource as a place where students in a developing early childhood education degree program can gain experience and conduct research.

The center is a key piece of Longwood’s Early Childhood Development Initiative, which in 2016 established free training sessions for regional child care providers to support the growing child care industry.

Miller also is working to develop a pilot program enabling child care providers who hold two-year associate’s degrees in early childhood development to enroll in Longwood’s program and emerge with bachelor’s degrees.

Taylor, the daughter of a U.S. Naval officer, spent much of her childhood and adolescence in Virginia Beach. Her older sister, Francine

R. Woodward ’68, preceded her as a teacher. When it came time for Taylor to choose a college, there was really only one choice: Longwood.

“I wanted to become a teacher, and there was no college with a better reputation for future teachers than Longwood,” she said. “In my career, I’ve worked with a lot of teachers, and Longwood continues to train some of the best.” — *Matthew McWilliams*



## LUPD makes top 20 in national ranking

For the eighth straight year, Longwood's police department has been named one of the top university security operations in the country.

The only Virginia college or university to make the list, Longwood is ranked No. 15 in the country in the higher education category in the annual list published by *Security Magazine*.

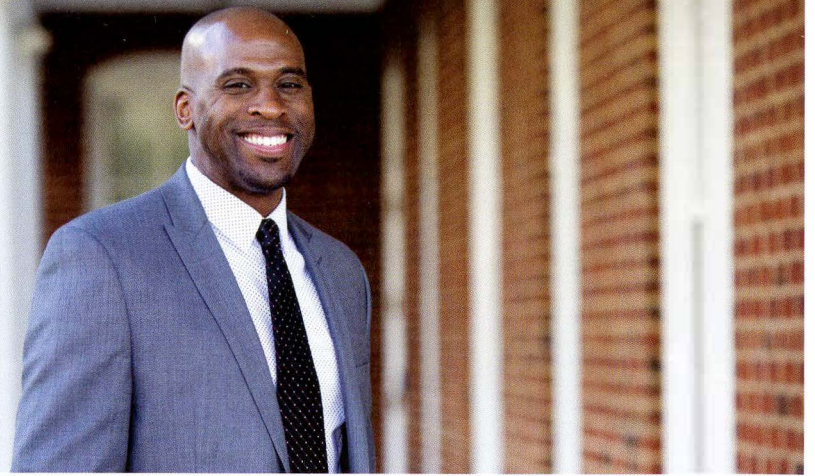


Col. Bob Beach, LUPD chief

"Our continued ranking at the top of this list is evidence of the work Longwood University police officers put in every day to make this campus one of the safest in the country," said Col. Bob Beach, LUPD chief. "We strive to look for ways to improve, become more efficient and integrate new technology in our approach to keeping our community safe—and those efforts have paid dividends."

The Longwood Police Department was front and center during the 2016 Vice Presidential Debate in October—an event where there were no arrests or major medical emergencies.

"When the spotlight was greatest, the Longwood Police Department shone bright," said Beach. "Our staff put on a display of strategic planning and flexibility when working with some of the top federal agencies in the country."



Jason Faulk

## Front and Center

### New admissions dean says staying focused on students is key to success

Longwood's new dean of admissions describes today's prospective college student as an astute judge of higher education options who knows what he or she wants.

"Students are getting a lot smarter," said Jason Faulk, a Virginia native who comes to Longwood from the University of North Texas-Dallas, where he served as director of admissions. "More of them are asking them-

Faulk joined UNT-D as an admissions counselor in 2012. His energy, quickness to learn and aptitude for taking on bigger challenges became apparent, and he was named the director of admissions in just a few months.

"Jason is really quite an extraordinary person, whose vision of a successful admissions department lines up with our initiatives at

### 'More [prospective students] are asking themselves how the schools they're considering fit with their personality and future plans ...'

— JASON FAULK, DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

selves how the schools they're considering fit with their personality and future plans, and what support systems are in place to help them along the way.

"You have to put students at the forefront of everything you do," he said. "If you write a policy or procedure and it doesn't have a student focus, you just wasted lots of time and money. Sometimes we forget that we're here for the student."

In his five years as admissions director at UNT-D, Faulk led an effort that resulted in a three-fold enrollment increase, from 1,000 to more than 3,000 students, while retention rates rose annually. On the surface, the fast-growing urban university seems a far cry from Longwood's stately, historic campus, but Faulk sees more similarities than differences.

"A lot of the student support we had at UNT-D was great at really helping our freshmen navigate that first year and build a plan for success and graduation. What Longwood has in place is much the same," he said.

Longwood," said Dr. Jennifer Green, associate vice president for enrollment management and student success. "In the past five years, we have shifted our approach to building classes made up of students who fit the Longwood culture and whom we can help be successful. Jason's demonstrated not only a commitment to that principle but also an ability to be creative in how we go about accomplishing it. Add the fact that he grew up in Virginia and has an understanding of the special dynamics at play in the state, and he is the total package."

Faulk was born in Suffolk, the son of a peanut farmer and a staffer at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He and his brother, both star track athletes in the rural southern Virginia town, became the first members of their family to go to college. Faulk ended up at Morehouse College in the heart of Atlanta and then earned a master's degree at Troy University. Prior to joining UNT-D, he taught high school and worked for a charter school system in Dallas. — *Matthew McWilliams*






International students have a \$545 million impact annually on the economy of Virginia.

## Strength in Numbers

### Virginia colleges, universities work together to recruit international students in Longwood-led consortium

 On a recent recruiting trip to Madrid, Spain, Longwood's Director of International Admissions and International Student/Scholar Services Patti Trent was approached by a young student who asked a strange question: whether Longwood's campus has orange and yellow leaves in the fall.

"I said absolutely we do," said Trent, "and pulled out our viewbook that's full of photos of our beautiful campus. She got very animated and started asking questions about our location, majors available, and then asked to be on our mailing list."

The lesson: Every student—especially international students—is looking for the right fit in a college. The broad array of higher education options in Virginia, complemented by that fall foliage, means the state often has exactly what students and parents are looking for.

Longwood this year led the launch of a statewide consortium, Study Virginia, to promote Virginia as a destination for higher education abroad. Study Virginia members will pool resources to identify common strengths and grow the pool of higher education applicants to Virginia colleges and universities.

"There's a real opportunity here for Virginia to promote itself as the premier destination for higher education for international students," said Molly McSweeney, Longwood's assistant director of international admissions and recruitment and chair of Study Virginia. "Our state is positioned to serve a wide swath of international students with diverse expectations.

"All colleges and universities in Virginia have made significant investments in recruiting international students. As partners in Study Virginia, we act more as allies than competitors, strengthening all options in the state with one point of contact and unified messaging," she said.

Study Virginia is working with the U.S. Department of Commerce's Commercial Service to identify opportunities to recruit foreign students through trade missions, international partnerships and marketing campaigns.

"It's easy to think that international students naturally flock to the United States because we have the world's top education system," said Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Domestic Operations Antwaun Griffin, who manages U.S.-based Commercial Service offices. "There is actually a lot of work universities need to do to recruit and admit foreign students, and then to bring them here. Our team is proud to support universities on these efforts, which in turn benefit the U.S. economy."

Economically, international students make a \$545 million impact annually on the Virginia economy and contribute significantly to colleges' financial health. Nationally, the impact is even greater: \$30 billion a year.

"The 18,000 international students studying in Virginia are putting more than 7,000 Virginians to work," said McSweeney. "That's a huge economic impact for the state."

Trent recalls a recruiting trip to Vietnam that was in many ways typical. Several students inquired about snowfall, and some placed an emphasis on being near communities of Vietnamese immigrants. Parents had other concerns.

"Several parents expressed a lot of interest in ... a college in a smaller town with a good safety record," said Trent. "Longwood fits that bill. For others who want more of an urban campus, it's great that through Study Virginia we can point them to somewhere nearby, which benefits the state as a whole, instead of offering no other option." —*Matthew McWilliams*

## "Small Talk"

overheard on the Longwood campus

"Republicans and Democrats in Washington agree on an awful lot behind closed doors. Politicians and policymakers are conditioned to emphasize the negative rather than the areas of agreement"

**Dr. Diane Lim** principal economist, The Conference Board, Vice Presidential Debate speaker series, October 2016

"We're losing species every day. Most of that stems from us. It's usually the unconscious product of our activities."

**Dr. Kal Ivanov** assistant curator of invertebrate zoology, Virginia Museum of Natural History, biology class guest presentation, October 2016

Jazz is all about improvisation. Nobody is telling you what to do."

**Robert Jospé** band leader and drummer with Inner Rhythm, Vice Presidential Debate speaker series, November 2016

"You cannot change policy unless you change people. Changing policy is one thing; changing people is another."

**Roland Martin** award-winning journalist and author, Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium, January 2017

"Success for entrepreneurs is easy. Sustaining it is the hard part."

**Tom DeWitt '80** president and CEO of SNVC, College of Business and Economics Alum-Net Workshop, February 2017

"Ulysses Grant was an incurable optimist who always expected everything to turn out all right, always expected to succeed, even after he had just failed."

**William C. "Jack" Davis** historian and author, 18th Annual Civil War Seminar, February 2017



## Newest residence halls draw rave reviews

With spacious lounge areas, handsome fireplaces and great views of the heart of central campus, Longwood's newest student residences—Sharp and Register halls—are getting rave reviews in their first year of occupancy.

"It feels like I'm living in a hotel," said Austin Van Horn '19, a history and modern languages major from Midlothian who lives in Register.

Located across from Greenwood Library, Sharp and Register are the first residence halls built on the main campus since 1992. They were designed with a goal of fostering a sense of community, which is accomplished, in part, by their smaller size and the configuration of the two-room suites.

"Residential academic communities are one of the things that make liberal arts education so unique and such a powerful experience," said Longwood President W.

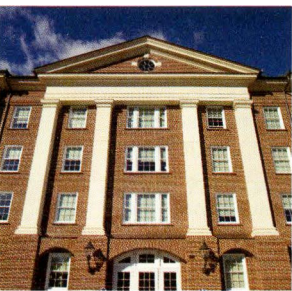
Taylor Reveley IV. "We are committed to investing in residence halls that bolster the natural camaraderie and collaboration of campus life."

Mirror images of each other, each of the four-story buildings houses 112 students.

Mikah Hosang '18, an exercise science major from Chesapeake who lives in Sharp, called the buildings "gorgeous on the outside and just as gorgeous on the inside."

"These buildings don't have the traditional look and feel of a residence hall," agreed Doug Howell '86, associate director of residential operations, adding that each has a first-floor parlor with chandeliers and Oriental rugs. "We tried to provide some nice, classic touches."

Ground broke on the \$16.5 million project in early summer 2015. The halls are named for Marc Sharp and Wilma Register Sharp '66 of Williamsburg, whose \$2 million gift in September 2015 endowed the deanship of the Cormier Honors College for Citizen Scholars.



Sharp and Register halls are a stunning addition to campus.



Ryan Carey '19 (left) and Allyson Stone '18 impressed Fox News with their 'attitude, work ethic and persistence.'

## When Lightning Strikes Twice

### Impressed with students' work during VP Debate, Fox News hires duo for Super Bowl assignment



How many times does a college student get the chance to assist a major television network with covering an event that draws millions of viewers around the world? Twice—if it happens to be a hard-working, energetic Longwood student.

Allyson Stone '18 and Ryan Carey '19 both had the opportunity to work with Fox News during the Vice Presidential Debate in October, thinking it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. But opportunity knocked again in late November, when Pete Flores, the network's production manager who had worked the debate, asked them if they were up for another assignment.

Before they knew it, they were headed to Houston for Super Bowl LI.

The pair were among only five "freelance employees" for Fox News during Super Bowl week. Flores, who had been impressed with Stone's and Carey's "attitude, work ethic and persistence" during the debate, kept them busy with an assortment of odd—yet essential—jobs.

They escorted guests for the show "Fox & Friends." They helped with a National Weatherperson's Day celebration for Fox weatherperson Janice Dean. They rounded up 100 bagels for breakfast one morning and toted at least 100 cases of water.

Stone, a communication studies major from Chesapeake who received internship credit for her experience, especially enjoyed accompanying Fox News anchor Ainsley Earhardt to an

interview at the ranch of Marcus Luttrell, a former Navy seal whose wartime heroics were featured in the hit film *Lone Survivor*. Carey, a nursing major from Virginia Beach, put her skills to work patching up a "Fox & Friends" guest chef who cut his hand.

Odd hours were the norm as well.

"Sometimes we had to go to work at 1:30 or 2 a.m. and work until 7 that evening. On game day, we were awake for 23 hours," said Stone.

Carey said she and Stone were "running on adrenaline that week. They told us we could take a nap if we needed one, but we never did."

After that napless 80-plus-hour week, the two students were rewarded with the kind of access that any Patriots or Falcons fan would have died for. After watching the game, they went down on the field, where they took and posed for photos, held a Patriots player's helmet and stood just a few feet from Patriots quarterback Tom Brady clutching his MVP trophy.

Five days after the big game, the young women were still recovering from the long hours on their feet. But they wouldn't trade the experience for anything.

"Hands-on work with Fox News was the ultimate way to enhance my degree," said Stone.

Despite different career plans, Carey's thoughts were similar. "This was an amazing week that I will never forget."

—Kent Booty





Adventurer Tori McClure (center), president of Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky, encouraged Longwood students to test their limits.

## Facing Her Demon

### First woman to row alone across the Atlantic shares what she learned on personal quest

Longwood students found out what courage, perseverance and personal growth look like last month when they met the first woman to row a boat, unassisted, across the Atlantic Ocean.

During a visit to Longwood in February, Tori McClure, a longtime explorer who is currently the president of Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky, provided a glimpse into what motivated her to get into that boat, twice, and face the 3,300-mile journey. She told students and those attending a public lecture that she did it to overcome lifelong “feelings of helplessness,” which she called her “constant demon.”

“I had to row 3,000 miles across the ocean to learn that to be human is to be flawed,” McClure said. “I learned that I’m only human, and that’s enough. Halfway across the ocean on my second trip, I realized that I could bicycle to the moon and still feel helpless, which is being human.”

She made the historic 81-day, 3,300-mile trip in 1999 aboard *American Pearl*, a 23-foot boat she built herself. Waves were sometimes as high as a seven-story building; some days she traveled as little as 15 feet.

Her attempt to row across the ocean the year before ended after rowing for 85 days across more than 3,000 miles, only to be stopped by Hurricane Danielle, which nearly killed her.

“The hurricane was flinging me around like a pingpong ball, and my boat capsized five or six times,” McClure said. “One capsizing dislocated my shoulder, and the next one put it back into place. My boat went so far under

the water that my ears popped.”

Because all of her long-range communications had been disabled five days into the trip, she couldn’t radio for help. She was rescued by a passing container ship.

Afterward, depressed by her unsuccessful attempt, she worked for a year for legendary boxer Muhammad Ali, whose advice convinced her to try again. “He told me, ‘You don’t want to go through life as the woman who almost rowed the ocean.’”

On her ocean-rowing trips, she “smelled whale-breath,” saw sea-turtles “the size of coffee tables,” as well as sharks and dolphins, and delighted in natural beauty. “The stars were magnificent. I couldn’t see the Big Dipper because there were so many stars. And it looked like there were a thousand lightning bugs in the water.”

Both voyages are chronicled in McClure’s memoir, *A Pearl in the Storm: How I Found My Heart in the Middle of the Ocean*. “Three-fourths of the book is about my failed trip. Like most people, I learn more from my failures than my successes.”

McClure also made headlines in 1989 as the first woman to ski to the geographic South Pole. “I went 50 days without a shower and with two pairs of socks. After three days, everything smells like Doritos,” she said of that trip.

McClure urged young people to get out of their comfort zones and “become comfortable with adversity.”

“How do we, as human beings, test our limits if we don’t do things we haven’t done before?” she asked. —*Kent Booty*

## LCVA plans party to support, celebrate the visual arts

Friends of the arts can provide support and dance the night away all in the same evening on April 29 in Farmville.

The Longwood Center for the Visual Arts is throwing a Beaux-Arts Bash from 8 p.m. to midnight that evening to support its collections, said LCVA Executive Director Rachel Talent Ivers.

Proceeds will go toward new acquisitions as well as the “care, preservation and interpretation of works in our possession,” said Ivers. “Collections are cultivated just as one would care for a garden. We identify and acquire works that fit in our collecting priorities, weed out those that are not and tend carefully to what we hold in the public trust.”



Revelers will be encouraged to wear masks.

Those interested in attending can choose from several options:

- Individual tickets are \$75 per person.
- Emerging artist benefactor tickets are \$125 per person, which includes early event access and a complimentary ticket allowing a graduating Longwood visual arts major to attend the event at no charge.
- Sponsorships start at \$250.

The benefactor tickets provide a wonderful networking opportunity for Longwood’s “newly minted artists,” said Ivers. “The students have the chance to talk about their art—which will be on view that night at the LCVA—with potential patrons, as well as celebrate their accomplishments.”

Also during the evening, the LCVA will announce the work selected as its traditional purchase from the senior exhibition.

For additional information about tickets, contact Beverley Roberts at robertsbn@longwood.edu or 434-395-2551; for sponsorship information, contact Ivers at iversrt@longwood.edu or 434-395-2404.



## CrashCourse

### Management 391: Professional Skills Development

#### Instructor

Patti Bowman Carey '82, director, McGaughy Professional Development Center, and lecturer in business communication

#### How to succeed in business

The course, which is required for business majors, prepares students for the workplace.

Students polish résumés, cover letters and elevator speeches. They also hone other skills that Carey considers "critical to success," including dining etiquette and how to dress for interviews and job situations. An etiquette

dinner and a presentation on proper business attire by a fashion-savvy Belk employee are regular features.

#### Passing the salt, pepper and etiquette muster

Among Carey's dinner tips: Offer the bread (or other food) to the person on your left and then pass it to the right; pass salt and pepper shakers, and cream and sugar, together; use the bread plate on your left and drink from the glasses on your right. Napkin etiquette includes not shaking the napkin while unfolding it (the napkin should remain folded in half with the crease toward one's lap) and using it to blot, not wipe, your lips.

#### Par for the course

This semester, for the first time, Carey is partnering with the men's and women's golf coaches to add golf instruction to the curriculum for those times when business dealings move from the office to the fairway. "I don't know of any Virginia university or college offering golf as part of its business curriculum," said Carey. In another new twist this spring, human resources and talent managers are providing feedback on students' cover letters in a cover letter clinic.

#### A soft touch

"I tell students their résumé may get them an interview, but their 'soft' skills will get them a job," said Carey, a former human resources vice president for East Coast Oil. "Business is all about etiquette, professionalism and making a good first impression. This is one of the most practical, useful classes that students take."



Josh Woodacre '18

## Number Theory

### Accounting scholarship supports career plans of 'quiet leader' who thinks doing taxes is fun

Josh Woodacre '18 isn't bothered by fellow students' reaction to his major.

"When people ask my major and I tell them, sometimes they shake their heads and say, 'I don't understand why,'" the accounting major from Prince George County said with a smile.

Woodacre plans to be a certified public accountant and work in tax preparation or auditing. In a tax-season internship this semester, he is working mostly on corporate tax returns in the Petersburg office of Mitchell Wiggins & Company. He works a half-day on Friday, all day Saturday and some Sundays.

"I'm learning a lot and having fun," he said of the paid internship, which he hopes to continue this summer. "Some people think accounting involves complicated math, but a lot of it is simple addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, in addition to the tax laws."

Woodacre is the 2016-17 recipient of the Larry C. & Elizabeth W. Tucker Scholarship in the College of Business and Economics.

The \$1,400 scholarship was created by Mr. Tucker, a Petersburg civic leader who is the father of David "Dee" Tucker '86. At one time, all three of Dee's daughters attended Longwood: Leanne Carroll '15, Lauren Tucker '17 and Rachel Tucker.

If his internship isn't keeping him busy enough, Woodacre is taking 19 credit hours this semester, including conceptual physics, and is social activities director of the Accounting Association. He has a 3.5 grade-point average in his business courses and a 3.3 GPA overall.

Winning a mock trade show in an eighth-grade marketing class, in which he and his partner made pillows, sparked Woodacre's interest in business. His career path became even clearer in high school, thanks to conversations with two cousins who were accountants and an accounting class he took his senior year.

"I've always been good in math and interested in business, so accounting just made sense," he said.

Woodacre is characterized as thoughtful and mature by his professors. He was called a "quiet leader" by Patti Bowman Carey '82, director of the McGaughy Professional Development Center and a lecturer in business communication.

"Josh is always diligent, personable and engaged," said Carey, who taught two classes Woodacre took last semester. "I have my students work in small groups, and his group often looked to him to be the leader. When he speaks, he has something to say."

Woodacre transferred to Longwood in fall 2015 after two years at Richard Bland College, following in the footsteps of his sister, Elizabeth Woodacre '14.

"I love Longwood. I love how close-knit everyone is, and I like the traditions," he said. "I also like the town of Farmville, which has a small-town atmosphere like where I'm from." —*Kent Booty*

If you are interested in helping a deserving student, please contact Institutional Advancement at [gifts@longwood.edu](mailto:gifts@longwood.edu).





Danzy Senna is the recipient of the 2016 Dos Passos Prize for Literature.

## The American Experience

### 2016 Dos Passos Award winner explores racial identity in her writing



Danzy Senna, a novelist and short story author who burst onto the American literary scene in 1998 with her critically acclaimed first novel, *Caucasia*, will be awarded the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature this month at Longwood.

“Danzy is a writer whose work stands out for its constant focus on identity, both as an American and as a person of biracial heritage,” said Dr. David Magill, associate professor of English at Longwood and chair of the Dos Passos Prize Committee. “She challenges readers on the values of their personal identity, and explores the idea of Americanism in a similar vein as John Dos Passos.”

Senna, the 35th author to be honored, will receive the prize at a March 30 ceremony on campus. She will meet with several English classes before the award presentation.

*Caucasia* is a coming-of-age story about a biracial girl in the mid-1970s who struggles with racial identity in a tumultuous world. It won the Alex Award from the American Library Association and was named a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year.

Senna’s second novel, *Symptomatic*, a psychological thriller, was published in 2004. Since then, she has written an autobiographical work on her biracial parentage—her mother is the celebrated poet Fanny Howe and her father is an African-American scholar.

She further explores the topic in her 2011 short-story collection, *You Are Free*.

“She is a talent on the rise,” said Magill. “Her works have all been widely praised, and there is already a groundswell of buzz about her upcoming novel. She is an exemplary author and most deserving of the 2016 Dos Passos Prize.”

The John Dos Passos Prize for Literature, founded in 1980, is named for the talented but often overlooked 20th-century American writer, best-known for his *U.S.A.* trilogy. The prize recognizes contemporary American authors who have produced a substantial body of published work that displays characteristics of Dos Passos’ writing: an intense and original exploration of specifically American themes, an experimental approach to form and an interest in a wide range of human experience.

Past Dos Passos Prize winners include Colson Whitehead, who won the 2016 National Book Award for Fiction, and icons of American literature such as Sherman Alexie, Annie Proulx, Ernest J. Gaines, Shelby Foote and Tom Wolfe. The 2015 winner, Paul Beatty, won the prestigious Man Booker Prize for his novel *The Sellout*.

The prize is awarded annually by the Longwood Department of English and Modern Languages. —*Matthew McWilliams*

## Students catch the ‘research bug’

“Research opens your mind to new ideas,” says Mahelet Mamo ’18, a biology major from Herndon.

She is one of many students who take advantage of the multiple research opportunities available to Longwood undergraduates across a variety of disciplines. Student research is a major component of Longwood’s Quality Enhancement Plan, which is part of the university’s accreditation process.

Mamo, who plans to be a physician, has been working in Dr. Björn Ludwar’s electrophysiology lab since her freshman year and more recently with Dr. Amorette Barber on a project related to developing an HIV vaccine.

“I like research because I like to find a new way; I like to innovate,” said Mamo, a member of the Cormier Honors College.

Other research projects conducted during fall 2016 and presented at the end of the semester in several poster sessions across campus included

- “Party Animals: The Effects of Candidate Favorability on the Likelihood of Voting”
- “False Memory: Can it be Created?”
- “Effects of Cell Phone Presence on Anxiety Levels: Cell Phone Addicts Wanted!”
- “Friend or Faux: Prosocial and Antisocial Social Media Use and Personality Traits”
- “Smells Like Therapy: The Effects of Aromatherapy on Stress”
- “Confidence in Big Business as a Proxy Measure of Views toward White Collar Crime”

Zach Fasana ’17, a biology major from Fairfax, will present his research results at a national conference next month. Working with Barber, Fasana examined the effectiveness of two ways to activate T cells, which are white blood cells that need to be activated to fight cancer. The project is part of ongoing cancer research being conducted in Barber’s tumor immunology lab.

“I came here wanting to be a doctor but now want a career in research. I’ve caught the research bug,” said Fasana, who plans to attend graduate school and study immunology. “The lab experience is a huge part of grad school, so this will help me. You can’t really get this in a class.”

He will present his project, “Inhibitory receptors PD1 and CTLA4 differentially regulate NFκB activation in NKG2D- and CD28-costimulated CDT cells,” at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR).



## 2 Longwood students among 25 in state chosen for scholarships

Two Longwood students who want to serve their country in the critical field of cybersecurity have attracted the attention and support of the commonwealth of Virginia—to the tune of \$20,000 annually for up to two years.

Tyler Chuba '18 and Michael Moore '18 are among 25 students (10 graduate students, 15 undergraduates) across Virginia selected

for the newly created Virginia Cyber Security Public Service Scholarship.

The commonwealth's return on its investment? Recipients commit to work for a state agency or institution for as many years as they receive the scholarship.

"This scholarship program fits well with our citizen leader model," said Dr. Darrell Carpenter, director of Long-

wood's Center for Cyber Security. "What better way to be a citizen leader than to serve your state? You'll also be paid well while doing it."

Chuba, majoring in information systems and cyber security, wants to work for the FBI on cyberrelated crimes, or possibly pursue a career in secure web development.

"Fighting cybercrimes requires constant education due to an ever-changing technology landscape, but I enjoy the constant learning component of the field. It keeps things less mundane," said Chuba, who is from Woodbridge. "There's been a huge increase in cyber warfare between nations, and it is a vital piece of national security."

Moore, of Richmond, also is majoring in information systems and cyber security. Even before he was chosen for the scholarship, he was planning a career in digital forensics and/or IT, likely with the FBI, CIA or Department of Defense.

"This is my way of serving my country. I want to give back to the people of this country one way or another," he said. "Going to college and seeing what this country has to offer has made me an even bigger patriot."



Tyler Chuba '18 (left) and Michael Moore '18



Longwood students partnered with a community agency in conducting the annual 'Point In Time Count' of the local homeless population. The data is a factor used in determining grant allocations.

## Down for the Count

### Students spend an evening helping with census of region's homeless population

Down a gravel road in the woods of a local county one recent evening, Longwood seniors Victoria Perry and Taylor Hughes interviewed a woman who lives in a shed that lacks heat, water and electricity.

The woman, a domestic violence survivor in her 40s, uses a propane heater to keep warm, buys water at Walmart and dreams of building a house on the property, which she owns. "Her life had crumbled just like dominos, and she can't stand back up on her feet," said Hughes, "but she's doing the best she can in the situation."

Hughes and Perry were among four members of Longwood's Sociology Club who searched for people in similar situations when they visited gas stations, fast-food restaurants, laundromats and parks in six nearby counties on an evening in late January. Along with fellow seniors Taylor Bryant and Lacy Hodges, they were volunteers in an annual homeless census coordinated by STEPS Inc., the regional community action agency.

STEPS partnered for the first time with outside organizations in the "Point In Time Count," or PIT Count, which is part of a statewide effort to provide a "snapshot" of each region's homeless population. Data from the count is a factor used in determining grant allocations for programs related to homelessness.

"It was sad but also eye-opening to see that where these people live is so different from where I live," said Bryant, a sociology major from Poquoson. "We went behind buildings and to dumpsters."

Each of the Longwood students served on a team of volunteers that was sent to locate

homeless individuals and families in two area counties.

"A lot of people who need help don't want to be found, so the homeless population is often overlooked anyway, especially in rural areas like this where they're harder to count than in urban areas," said Hughes, a sociology major from Virginia Beach.

The volunteers, who canvassed from 6 p.m. to midnight, had been provided information ahead of time by local law enforcement personnel as to where homeless persons might be found. Hodges, who spent part of her night riding with a deputy sheriff, interviewed a man living in an abandoned trailer, and Bryant interviewed a homeless person living at a motel.

The Sociology Club's involvement was prompted by Perry's interest in homelessness. Perry, the club's president, first heard about the count during her internship last semester in STEPS' housing program, where Bryant and Hughes are doing internships this semester. The agency seeks to prevent homelessness and responds to the problem by providing emergency shelter and rapidly rehousing residents of shelters.

"We have more homeless people in this area than you might think," said Perry, a sociology major from Warrenton.

An annual homeless count is required for agencies that receive Virginia Homeless Solutions funding from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

"With last year's grant, it turns out we needed more shelter money than we thought we would. STEPS has sheltered a lot of homeless people this year," said Amy Beatson, STEPS' director of planning and resource development. — *Kent Booty*



# Construction Zone

## Upchurch University Center

Completion of the Norman H. and Elsie Stossel Upchurch University Center, located on the site of the former Cunninghams residence complex, is expected by fall 2018.

One unique element of the new center will be the flooring in the multipurpose room. The original hardwood floors from North Cunningham, built in 1928, were saved and will be refinished and installed in the multipurpose room.

The three-story, 84,000-square-foot Upchurch University Center will have about 8,700 square feet of space devoted to office and meeting space for student organizations. The center will house the chamber room for the Student Government Association, as well as numerous areas where students can gather and collaborate on projects. Several new dining options will operate in the facility, including a Starbucks.

The center will house University Center and Student Activities staff, and was made possible by a \$4 million gift from Elsie Stossel Upchurch '43 of Front Royal.

## Brock Hall

Brock Hall, home of the Student Success Center, is set to open by the end of 2017.

The two-story, 25,000-square-foot building will house the Center for Academic Success; the Writing Center; the offices of the Registrar and Disability Resources; First Year Experience and Family Programs; and the associate vice president for enrollment management and student success.

The building is named for benefactors Joan '64 and Macon Brock, who recently made a \$5.9 million gift to Longwood—the largest in the university's history (see story on Page 24).

## Lancaster Hall Clock Tower

The clock tower atop Lancaster Hall recently underwent extensive repairs, believed to be the first major work to the tower since the building opened in 1939. All four clock faces were restored and two hands on each face were replaced; the clock mechanism was upgraded to an electronic system; and a new bell striker was installed. Also installed was a new LED lamp array system, providing lighting behind each clock face.

In addition, the damaged decorative guardrail and ornamental elements at the bell level were repaired and repainted. All parts of the tower received a fresh coat of white paint.

Lancaster, the former library, has housed offices for administrative staff since 1996.



Upchurch University Center



Brock Hall



Lancaster Hall



President Reveley takes a moment to reflect on what Longwood has achieved—and where it's going—as he completes his first four years in office

# STATE of the UNIVERSITY

PHOTOS BY MIKE KROPF '14

March 2017 marks the fourth anniversary of W. Taylor Reveley IV's appointment as Longwood's 26th president. In December, Board of Visitors Rector Robert W. Wertz '85 announced to the campus that Reveley had signed a contract extension to remain at Longwood through 2023. President Reveley recently sat down with *Longwood* magazine to share his thoughts on the direction of the university.





#### YOUR FIRST FOUR YEARS

have been eventful, from the adoption of a new campus master plan and core curriculum to hosting the Vice Presidential Debate. Looking to the future, what are your main priorities?

THESE LAST FOUR YEARS, Longwood has become an increasingly powerful voice not only in Virginia but more broadly. We are in a divisive and tumultuous time in the nation, perhaps everyone would agree, and I think that makes Longwood's distinctive mission of cultivating citizen leaders all the more important. That is the powerful thrust of what I think about when considering Longwood's future—how do we do that better?

Making the new core curriculum (see story on Page 16) as powerful as it can be for the future has been very much on the faculty's mind for a long time. The thought that occurred to me and a number of people was to marry it with our mission in a deep way. Citizen leadership has been an animating idea in student organizations and life on campus, but it hadn't necessarily been at the heart of the

curriculum. Now it will be, and it really will shape generations of students in a unique and powerful way.

Looking back over this past fall in particular, the most important long-term legacy of the Vice Presidential Debate will be kick-starting the new curriculum. But it also produced all sorts of connections across campus—people who hadn't necessarily had great cause to work together have been in the crucible together now, which will be instrumental for all sorts of endeavors Longwood undertakes in the future. I think we learned a great lesson about ourselves, too: that there is untapped potential here. Longwood hadn't entirely grasped all the things it had the wherewithal to do, but doing the debate so well has given everyone a sense of what we can do in the future.

**YOU OFTEN TALK about having Longwood in your bones—several generations of your family have been part of Longwood. How have you found that affects you as president?**

IT MAKES THE MOST difference with regard to the perspective that I have on Longwood. When I sit at my desk, I look right across my office at a portrait, from Longwood's art collection, of my great-grandfather Thomas Eason, who was the chair of the biology department here at the turn of the 20th century. And I was particularly close with my grandmother, Marie Eason Reveley, his daughter, Class of '40, first lady of Hampden-Sydney during my granddad's presidency there from the early 1960s through late '70s.

It's really wonderful to look across my office and see that portrait and wonder about my great-grandfather's thoughts and perspective in the early days of what felt like a very new century a hundred years ago. There have been dreams for this place, culminating over the generations, for a very long time. When I think most deeply about Longwood, I tend to think in long sweeps of time—what will this place be like a century from now, more so than just a year from now or even decade from now.



**YOU TEACH** a course each fall and host regular lunches with Longwood students. What sticks out to you about them?

**TEACHING** the course on the U.S. presidency every fall with the iconic Dr. Bill Harbour is one of the great joys of being here, drawing on my own background and work regarding the White House. It's a wonderful thing to see young Lancers thinking about how the past has enormous bearing on the future and how it can be a source of wisdom, solace and strength. When I meet with students or see them out and about on campus, there's a sense of camaraderie, teamwork, care for one another and a remarkable sense of optimism in the face of the country's challenges.

**THIS IS A TUMULTUOUS TIME** for public institutions. How strong is Longwood financially, and what needs to happen over the course of the next decade for it to thrive?

**WE ARE REMARKABLY STRONG**, and that's a testament to the people who have built that strength over many generations, something the Board of Visitors and I think about often. That said, all states across the country face a challenge in funding public higher education, and Virginia, despite enormous goodwill on the part of state officials and leaders, is no exception.

Over the next decade, we can expect public funding for Longwood to be most likely at roughly its current level, which is to say a good bit less than a decade ago let alone in prior times. That's a real challenge when you think about the prevailing issue of the cost of higher education, which simply cannot continue to escalate the way it has. The solution is to really engage every engine to make sure we have enough student scholarship funding philanthropically in the future to make sure Longwood remains affordable.

**WHERE ARE WE** compared with similar universities on that front?

**WE HAVE SOME GROUND** to catch up. We award roughly \$1.5 million in philanthropic scholarship funding each year, which is a small fraction of what students and families bear. Many of our peers are providing double or triple that amount.

**WHY ARE WE BEHIND?**

**THE HABIT OF PHILANTHROPY** across alumni and friends of an institution is almost a generational matter. UVA or William & Mary, for example, began that habit almost a century ago. Longwood, on the other hand, did not create the Longwood Foundation until the 1950s, and it's been only in the last generation or two that we have strongly nurtured the habit of philanthropy.

That's why I've made the alumni giving percentage a key barometer of how the university as a whole is doing. There is almost a direct correlation of that measure with the momentum of an institution. The simple act of making a contribution—no matter if it's \$10, \$100 or \$1,000—involves you powerfully with the alma mater. The better Longwood does at involving and engaging alumni, the stronger we will be.

**YOU'RE ALSO WORKING** to get more alumni coming back to campus, and part of that is shifting the way we do reunions (see story on Page 45). What is the hope behind that effort?

**ONE OF THE GREAT JOYS** in life is going back to the alma mater and seeing the things you loved and cherished during your time, and how they remain part of the fabric of the institution. That's a powerful experience,





especially when shared with alumni throughout the years and eras.

Perhaps even more important is how those coming of age now develop a real sense of what their own future can be like when they engage with alumni further established in life. We can all remember a time when we got help or advice along the way, and alumni can be in that great role of providing encouragement, assistance and connections going forward. One very practical step we've also taken in that regard is integrating our alumni and career services offices to work hand-in-hand.

**WHEN PEOPLE DO COME BACK,** they are often surprised by the number of things going on in Farmville. What are some things people can expect in the next few years?

**IN A WAY THAT'S RELATIVELY RARE** in American higher education, our campus and the downtown of Farmville are cheek to jowl with one another, and the work that the town and Longwood are doing to ensure a natural, walkable flow back and forth will have a great impact over time. In the next year and a half, alumni who come back will see our bookstore moved to its new location on Main Street, a new brewery, a recently opened wine bar, likely some new restaurants and the Weyanoke Hotel in full cry, which will be springing back to life as a boutique hotel right across High Street next year.

**VISITORS THIS YEAR** will also find a lot of construction on the central campus, like the new Upchurch University Center. Will Longwood's campus continue to have that distinctive feel alumni cherish?

**IT ABSOLUTELY WILL.** Altogether, about \$150 million in construction projects are shaping campus for the next generation. Maybe the foremost principle when we think about construction is to make sure the spirit and the beauty of Longwood are reflected in the new buildings, so that they have the same classical elegance as the Rotunda. If you haven't been to campus recently, when you're back next you'll find that Longwood's new buildings certainly do reflect that.

**'I am enormously excited about the momentum we have. Applications have been rising and rising—up almost 40 percent compared with four years ago.'**

— President W. Taylor Reveley IV

**WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST** about the years immediately ahead? Where do we need to push ourselves to get better?

**I AM ENORMOUSLY EXCITED** about the momentum we have. Applications have been rising and rising—up almost 40 percent compared with four years ago. Longwood's profile around Virginia and the country is increasingly robust. And a truly distinctive new curriculum that so strongly reinforces our mission is really going to strengthen this place. That, in combination with the new Brock Endowment for Transformational Learning (see story on Page 24), is genuinely going to strengthen the experience of teaching and learning that takes place here, in so many ways.

With that momentum, I'm particularly attentive to three things. First, that we do all we can to make sure our students have a strong network here and a strong pathway to graduation. Those personal connections with staff and faculty and fellow students are so important. Second, with the challenges of state funding, we have to ensure—with scholarship funding in particular—that we are doing our best to keep Longwood affordable. Third, we must ensure we continue to attract great faculty to Longwood—the future Jim Jordans, the Bill Harbours, the Susan Mayses. Our success depends fundamentally on the continued excellence of our faculty.

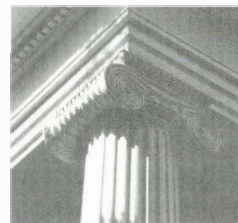
**ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE,** what is it like raising young children in Longwood House and on a college campus? And as a parent, husband and president, how do you manage everything? And how do you relax?

**RAISING CHILDREN** around our campus is a magical experience. There is this evocative phrase I came across not long ago that a cam-

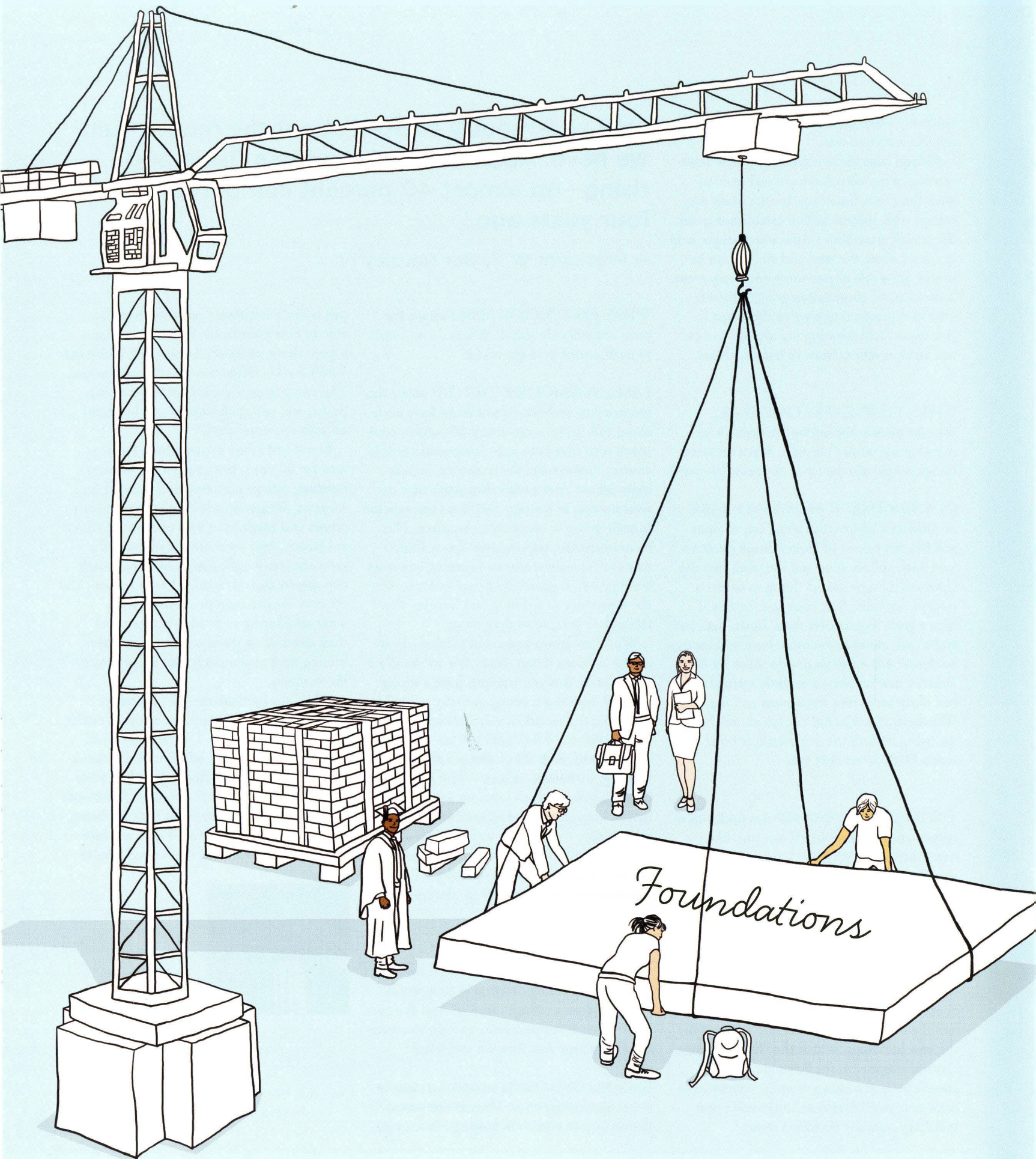
pus is like a temporary paradise. So to be able to raise your family around a college is a great thing, especially Longwood, which my family has cherished through the generations. The twins in particular love being in the house, and racing all through the backyard on warm summer days.

Marlo and I have actually been together now for 20 years, since right after we were finishing college ourselves, and married for 15 years. We got married my last year of law school and Marlo's last year of business school at Darden. And we are in the midst of the great modern juggling act now of balancing two careers and our family: keeping a watchful eye over the increasingly creative twins, while supporting each other's careers and their demanding travel schedules, and also finding time to genuinely and simply enjoy the moment.

When the particularly quiet junctures come, I'm a voracious and omnivorous reader of things high and low. I often find myself reading a lot of poetry, which usefully comes in consumable pieces. And a great bit of advice I got from a favorite Greek professor once was that, if you really want to relax the brain, go to a movie—even better if it's a matinee. So every once in a while that's what I do. ☺







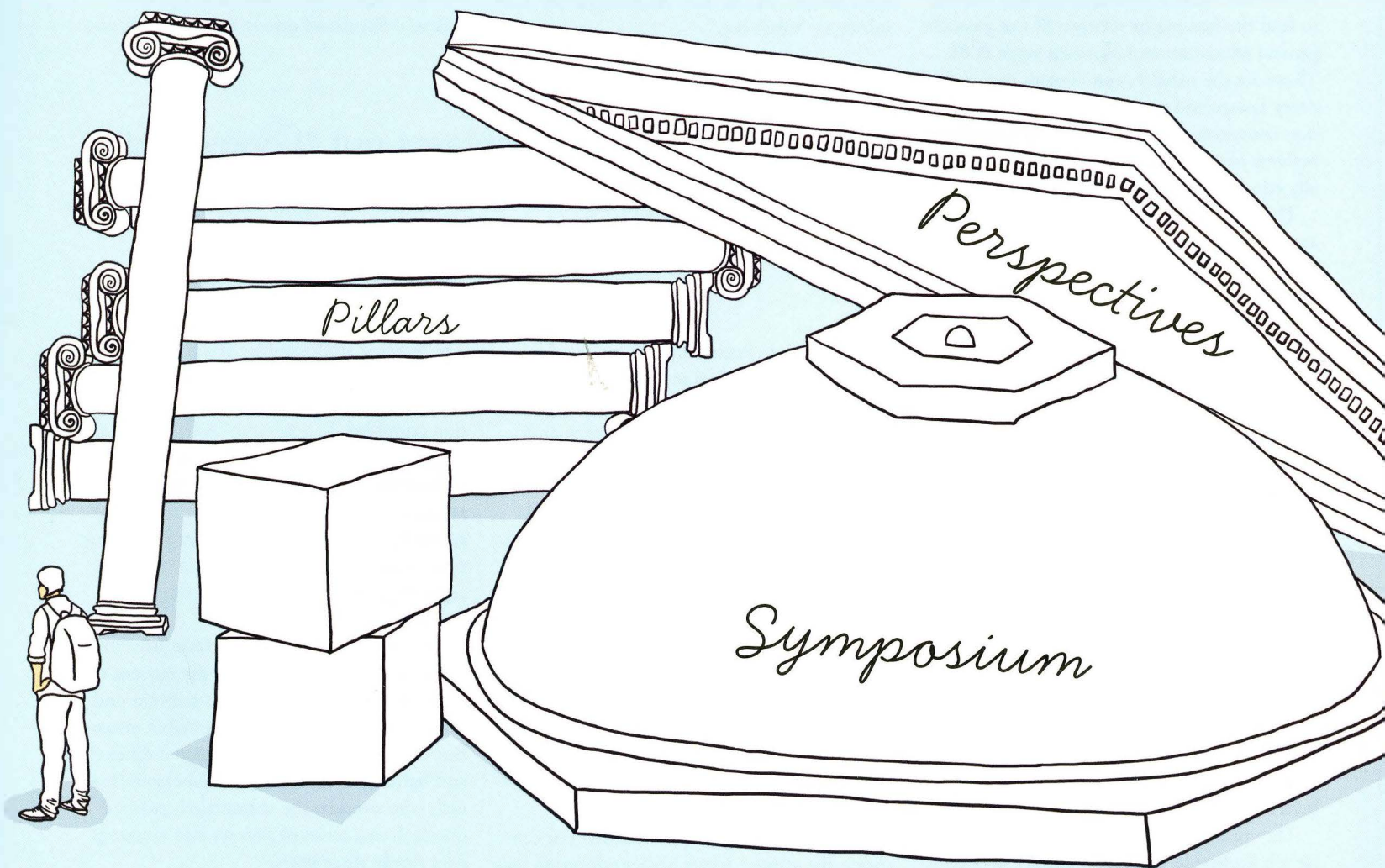


# A Bold Framework to Shape Citizen Leaders

How Longwood built a unique new core curriculum to help prepare students for careers and community leadership

BY JUSTIN POPE

ILLUSTRATIONS BY CLAIRE ROLLET





# One afternoon in July 2014, a small group of Longwood's leading faculty gathered along with then-Provost Ken Perkins in a conference room adjacent to the office of President W. Taylor Reveley IV.

A portrait of Thomas Eason, Reveley's great-grandfather and chair of Longwood's biology department a century earlier, hung on the wall. Reveley himself had been in office just over a year, and a period of transition, introductions and strategic planning was winding down. Longwood's 26th president was eager to start moving forward on key strategic initiatives.

The faculty that afternoon included mathematician Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell and historian Dr. Larissa Ferguson, chair and vice chair, respectively, of the Academic Core Curriculum Committee. The 13-member group from across Longwood had been created by the Faculty Senate soon after Reveley arrived to lead the first major revision of Longwood's general education requirements since 2001. These are the subjects and courses required of every Longwood graduate, regardless of major, that constitute the course of study Longwood believes necessary for a student to be "generally educated."

The committee's work would require close attention to seemingly dry academic details such as course sequencing, assessment and accreditation. But the questions they confronted were defining ones that would shape generations of students. How should Longwood prepare graduates for life and work in the 21st century? What should it mean to earn a Longwood degree?

Over recent months, the faculty committee had buried itself in research—surveys of students, alumni, faculty and employers. They had studied curricular trends at other leading institutions. And they had comprehensively reviewed Longwood's current "gen ed" curriculum, identifying strengths and shortcomings.

Some ideas had begun taking shape. Before moving forward, though, they wanted to hear from the president. The curriculum is the purview of faculty. But the committee knew success depended on alignment with the vision that Reveley, and the Board of Visitors, held for Longwood overall.

The committee wanted to put Longwood's citizen leadership mission—already so present

in campus culture—at the center of Longwood's academic program. Did the president share their faith that the core skills of the liberal arts and sciences—critical thinking, persuasive argument, problem solving—were not only the essential skills for citizens but also for the 21st century workplace? Did he want to tinker with the current gen ed system or start from scratch? And was Longwood's leadership committed to making the new curriculum successful?

Reveley was emphatic. The committee's work was "the most important thing happening at Longwood," he said. It was important to move methodically, he agreed, and build consensus across the faculty to ensure long-term success. But he also encouraged the committee to "think big."

'Build something that screams out "Longwood!" [And] make it the best in the country.'

— President W. Taylor Reveley IV

As for citizen leadership, Reveley said he considered the mission more essential than ever. Whatever the committee imagined and built, the work of shaping young men and women into citizen leaders should remain their "north star."

Above all, Reveley told the group: Build something unique that will resonate with students and alumni. The course of study Longwood students undertake should reflect and reinforce the distinctive strengths, personality and camaraderie of the university itself.

Put simply, he said, "Build something that screams out 'Longwood!'" And, he added, "make it the best in the country."

## Curriculum Drift

What should college students learn? For centuries, the answer across higher education was

to follow a single, narrow "core" curriculum, usually rooted in the classics.

But, as knowledge expanded exponentially, by the 20th century curricula began diverging into two portions: disciplinary majors, and a set of distribution requirements or general education courses that prepared students more broadly. Longwood's requirements were fairly typical. In the 1960s and 1970s, for instance, all students were required to take 12 credits of English, 12 of social science, 8 of science, and 6 each of math, psychology, art or music, and health and physical education (including a swim test requirement that remained in force through the 1990-91 academic catalog).

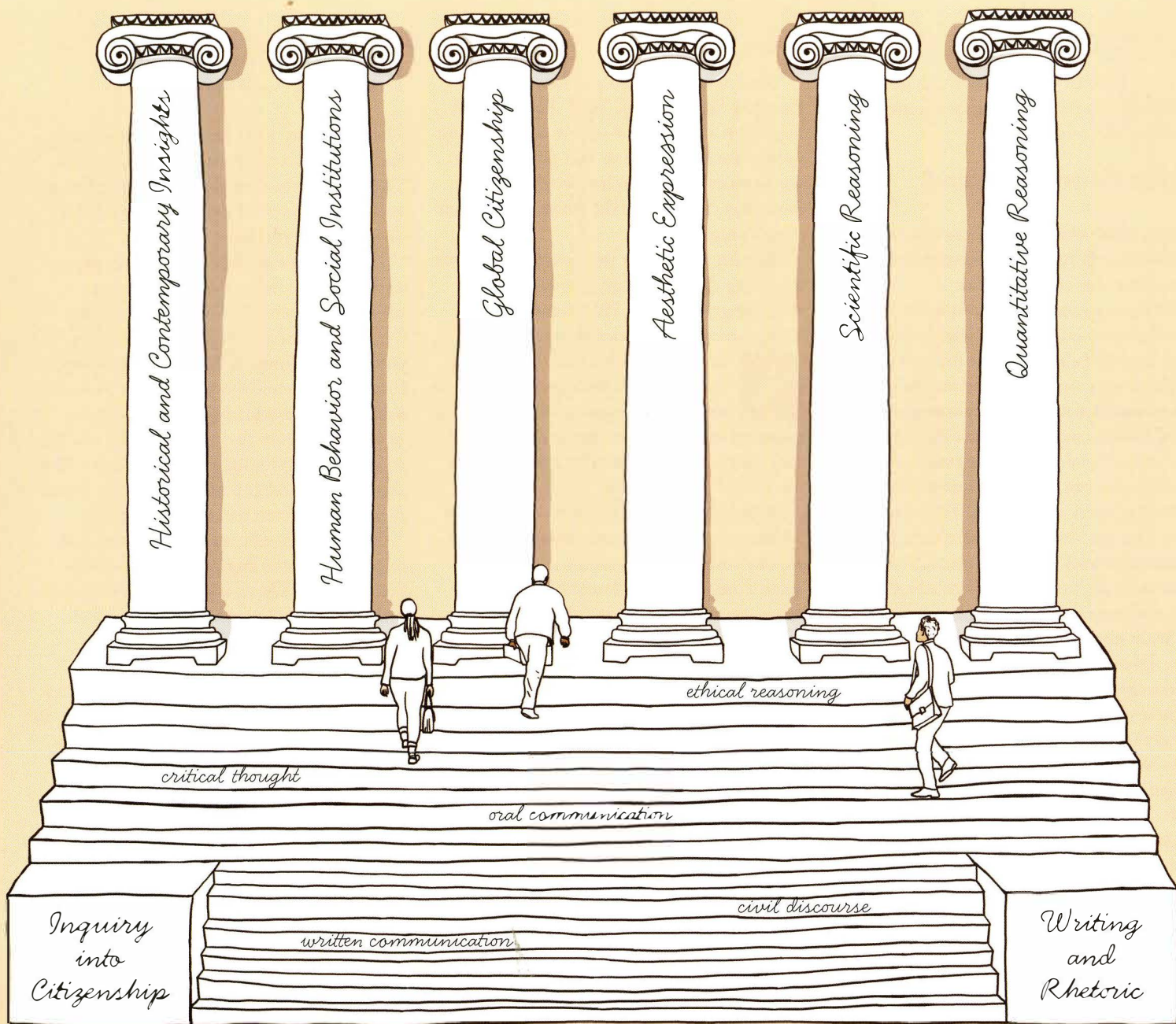
Over recent generations, however, many believe colleges and universities lost their way.

The learning students experienced in their majors expanded and strengthened their degrees in many ways, but the coherence of general education crumbled. In aiming to include more and more, gen ed risked accomplishing less and less.

Students were increasingly flummoxed by an expanding list of options that resembled a lengthy and overwhelming menu at a Chinese restaurant. Gen ed became a checklist, and college as a whole less than the sum of its parts.

At Longwood, the faculty committee found strengths worth preserving in the current curriculum, including a freshman seminar and broad exposure to a range of possible majors. But the program's 14 "goals" were inefficient and baffling to students, said Emerson-Stonnell, who oversaw the committee's student outreach in a series of surveys and meetings over nearly three years.





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## THE FOUNDATIONS

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### 8 CLASSES

Foundations courses that span the liberal arts and sciences—with a focus on effective communication, fundamental knowledge and informed citizenship—form the pillars of the curriculum, providing each student with the broad horizons and scholarly curiosity characteristic of all educated citizens.



“They just saw this as something to get out of the way—a bunch of hoops to jump through,” she said.

## Skills Students Need

Faculty, meanwhile, wanted more focus on improving writing and speaking skills as soon as students arrived on campus.

On the workforce front, employers made clear they wanted graduates who had done more than just check subject-matter boxes.

“Employers weren’t looking for the small things—an American history course or a world history course or French 101,” Emerson-Stonnell said. Rather, they want nimble thinkers who can apply different perspectives to solving practical problems. They want graduates who can write and speak clearly, continue to learn and work in diverse teams. Precise math skills are less essential than a broad understanding of quantitative reasoning.

“We’re not training students for jobs that exist right now,” Emerson-Stonnell said. “We need to give them skills to be independent learners so they can train themselves in a world that changes constantly.”

As ideas began to take shape, Longwood students offered some of the most useful feedback. Emerson-Stonnell remembers one particular lunch in November 2015 where the committee floated some early ideas and got sharp questions back.

“They said, ‘What do you mean by this?’” Emerson-Stonnell said. “And ‘This [course] helped me in my major—how are you going to help me if you remove that piece?’ What was wonderful was you had faculty and students there together at the tables, seeing each other’s perspectives.”

Students knew what they wanted, not just what they didn’t. Perhaps surprisingly, they were hungry for rigor. They wanted gen ed strengthened, not watered down.

**A**lso on their wish list: clear connections between their gen ed classes and their majors—those priceless moments when students connect something they learned in one class with a new perspective picked up in another.

Students wanted flexibility to explore new subjects. And it was the students as much as anyone who pushed to tie the curriculum more closely to citizen leadership, said committee member Dr. Wade Edwards, professor of French and chair of the Department of English and Modern Languages.

“They wanted a program that would help them understand the mission of the university,” he said.

Perhaps most of all, students wanted gen ed to feel like a central part of their Longwood experience, not an afterthought. They wanted to learn from Longwood’s best teachers and in small-class settings, not giant lectures. After all, that kind of learning experience was a main reason they’d chosen Longwood in the first place.

## Building Consensus

The committee went back to work, meeting for 2-1/2 hours every week in Ruffner Hall. The process was slow and methodical, but for good reason. Gen ed revisions have bitterly divided many campuses.

Typically, the conflict springs from departments fighting desperately to maintain a “piece” of the gen ed requirements, fearing they’ll lose funding and faculty slots if students aren’t compelled to take their courses. Faculty understandably also think their own subjects are particularly important for students. Notes from the creation of the first gen ed curriculum at Longwood in the late 1980s showed exactly that kind of infighting, which the committee was determined to avoid.

“We decided early on we were not going to go through the departments,” Emerson-Stonnell said. The new curriculum wouldn’t pick winners and losers. Instead, “we were going to do this as a university. We were going to treat this as a university program.”

If the committee could hold to that principle, every department could be invested in the new core. Any professor could develop new gen ed classes, perhaps in partnership with colleagues in other departments. All departments could have an opportunity to “sell” their majors to undecided students and to teach subject matter they valued, even to students who eventually chose other majors.

### CURRENT GEN ED

- Required for all current students and freshmen entering through fall 2017
- Goals: 14
- Student learning outcomes: 50
- Writing- and speaking-intensive courses outside gen ed
- Challenging for students to double major or minor in a second subject
- Internship (or the equivalent) required for every major
- Foreign language: 3 credits at 200 level or higher. Every student must show proficiency at intermediate level.

### NEW CORE CURRICULUM

- Implemented in fall 2018 for incoming freshmen
- Levels: 3
- Student learning outcomes: 19
- Writing- and speaking-infused courses throughout the core
- Facilitates double majors and minors
- Internship (or the equivalent) determined by individual departments
- Foreign language: All students must advance two semesters beyond their level of proficiency when they arrived, with options for more integrative language courses such as Spanish for medical professionals or German for business professionals.



Still, there were endless details. Should some gen ed classes also count toward a major? Should the foreign language requirement remain? And, if a core truly distinctive to Longwood emerged, how would the university make sure transfer students were fully a part of it?

“At each stage, we’d take our ideas back to faculty, hear their feedback and think again,” said Ferguson, now Longwood’s associate provost. “It was never a straight line. There were days where it felt like we were going around and around. But we would talk it out and then come back and take a step forward.”

To succeed fully, the new curriculum’s components needed to tie together in a way that was easily understandable by those on campus and beyond. A visual representation would help, the committee agreed. The group batted around ideas: a subway map, a pyramid, even an eyeball.

The closest parallel to the work they were doing was constructing a building. First, raw materials had to be identified. The next step was to construct an edifice that was functional, durable and, ideally, elegant.

In the end, they didn’t have to look far for inspiration. It was chemistry professor Dr. Melissa Rhoten who first noted how the structure taking shape—the foundation, the pillars, the signature overarching dome—had a certain familiarity. Soon sketches of the new curriculum bore a purposeful resemblance to Longwood’s classical Ruffner Hall, with its Rotunda dome on top.

Last fall, after further refinements, the committee presented the proposed core to Longwood’s Faculty Senate.

At many institutions, this would have been a contentious moment, with the modest goal of a watered-down proposal attracting enough support with a bare majority. At Longwood, there was indeed one last robust debate. But the three years of intensive collaboration paid off. In November, faculty passed the new curriculum with a resounding 22-3 vote, followed by a hearty round of applause for the committee’s exhausting work.

It was a “validating moment,” Edwards said. “I realized we had done this right—with transparency, collegiality and vision.” Now there was just one final hurdle to cross.

## Unveiling the Work

During the period when the new curriculum design has progressed, more than half the members of the Board of Visitors have been Longwood alumni, and the committee’s work was of special interest. Like Reveley, they saw an opportunity for Longwood to set itself apart from other institutions—to build something



### Core Curriculum Architects

Among the 13 faculty members appointed to the Academic Core Curriculum Committee were Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell (left), chair; Dr. Wade Edwards; and Dr. Larissa Ferguson, vice chair.

that would attract students, shape the people they became and stay with them throughout their lives.

On a crisp December Friday afternoon in Lancaster Hall, committee leaders assembled before the Board of Visitors. The two groups knew each other well. For three years, the faculty had provided regular progress reports to the board, whose approval was the final step of the curriculum’s development.

It was as if board members had witnessed a much-anticipated portrait at each stage of progress. At last, it was time to unveil the finished work.

Ferguson and Emerson-Stonnell gave their now well-rehearsed presentation. With the Rotunda-resembling design projected on a screen in Stallard Board Room, they guided

their audience through the stages of the curriculum from the perspective of future Longwood students:

- **Foundations—First Year:** a pair of first-year courses for every student: Inquiry into Citizenship and Writing and Rhetoric. These courses ensure Longwood students focus attentively on citizenship from the time they arrive, and begin to develop writing and speaking skills they’ll

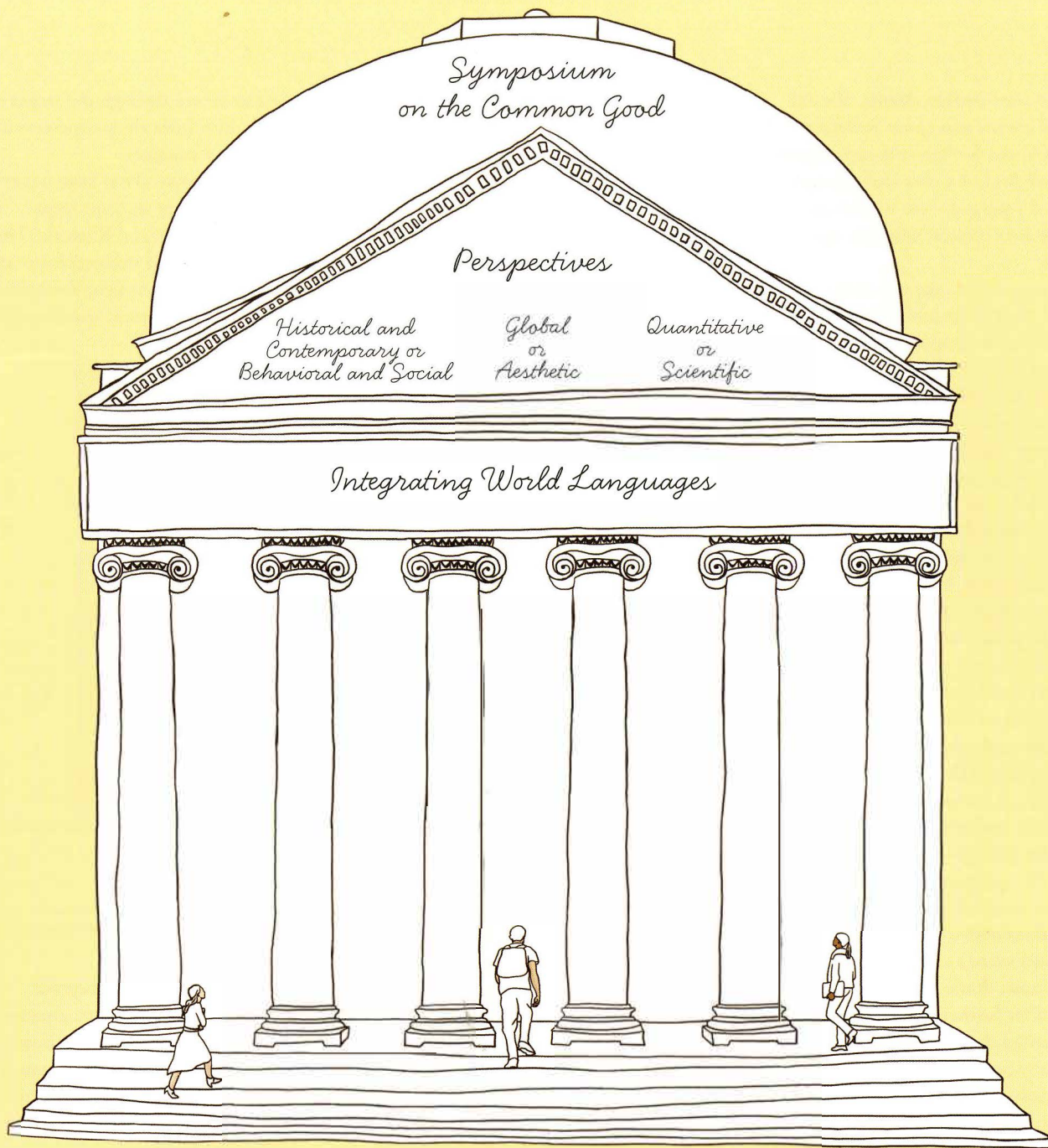
need at Longwood and beyond.

- **Foundations—Pillars:** courses introducing students to a range of disciplines and ensuring a broad-based general education. The six pillars: scientific reasoning; quantitative reasoning; historical and contemporary insights; human behavior and social institutions; aesthetic expression; and lastly global citizenship, including a modified language requirement.

- **Perspectives:** integrative learning experiences, designed to make connections among various disciplines. In these upper-level courses, which could take place off campus, students learn to evaluate and deploy data and evidence from multiple sources to address problems and advance arguments.

- **Symposium on the Common Good:** In the architectural model, this is the Rotunda dome,





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## PERSPECTIVES AND SYMPOSIUM

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### 5 CLASSES

Perspectives courses are a series of integrative learning experiences that encourage students to understand issues through multiple disciplinary lenses. The curriculum culminates in a Symposium on the Common Good that asks students to reflect upon and activate the skills and perspectives developed throughout their undergraduate careers.



the signature culmination overarching the entire core, unique to Longwood. With citizen leadership its focal point, the symposium allows students to tie together all their coursework and even extracurricular experiences as they reflect broadly on their own education. Symposium courses will focus on critical civic issues, preparing students for work as citizen leaders deeply engaged in such issues after graduation.

‘In a period of division in our country, the need for colleges and universities to prepare students for the challenges of day-to-day citizenship and democratic life has never been clearer.’

— Rector Robert Wertz ’85

**T**he committee explained other benefits to the Board of Visitors, as well. The 14 “goals” of Longwood’s current general education would give way to three levels. Fifty student learning outcomes would become a more intensive 19.

Students would now be allowed to count up to three general education courses toward their majors, eliminating an inefficiency that had proved a frustrating (and costly) obstacle to graduation. And the new curriculum would make it substantially easier to fulfill the requirements of double majors and minors.

In ways large and small, the new curriculum was designed to keep Longwood students on track—channeling them to majors where they would succeed, engaging and exciting them about their learning, and eliminating unnecessary hurdles.

Future students will be more likely to get Longwood’s finest teaching and learning experiences in the core curriculum, not just in their majors. The most creative faculty will be the ones who step up with course ideas. And it will happen in the small setting students insisted was so important. No core course will have more than 25 students, and some, such as Writing and Rhetoric, will be capped at 18.

“And it doesn’t matter if you’re in a major your parents don’t think is employable,” Emerson-Stonnell said. “You are going to have the skills employers want. You are

going to have career opportunities you may not have gotten with just the major,” she added.

Above all, the new curriculum for the first time puts Longwood’s citizen leadership mission firmly at the heart not just of its campus culture but also its academic program.

“Many institutions revise their core curricula from time to time, but very few explicitly tie those revisions to their institutional mis-

sion statements,” said Joan Neff, who succeeded Perkins in 2015 as Longwood’s provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The academic focus will help ensure the student development work undertaken by other parts of the university, such as student affairs and athletics, is powerfully in sync with Longwood’s classrooms.

“We now have an opportunity to do something very special at Longwood,” said Tim Pierson, Longwood’s vice president for student affairs. “The fact that the citizen leadership mission is integrated into this new core really plays off what we do in student affairs. It makes students so much more aware of what they’re learning and how to apply it. Our staff just connected with it right away.”

### ‘A Beacon Across Higher Education’

The Board of Visitors presentation lasted more than an hour, followed by questions. Thanks to the committee’s regular progress reports, addressing concerns along the way, the verdict was never in doubt.

But for Ferguson, Emerson-Stonnell and the other committee members, the board’s unanimous vote approving the curriculum and sustained applause were a moment of exceptional pride. Edwards likened their feelings to those

of an elephant who, after two years of carrying a calf, at last gives birth—pride, exhaustion, relief and angst for the parenting that still lies ahead as the curriculum springs fully to life in the years and decades to come.

The day after the meeting, Board of Visitors Rector Robert Wertz ’85 thanked the committee in an email to campus, calling the new core curriculum “elegant and robust, and both timeless and timely.”

“In a period of division in our country, the need for colleges and universities to prepare students for the challenges of day-to-day citizenship and democratic life has never been clearer,” Wertz wrote. “At Longwood, we have a long head start on this work. Our new core curriculum will not only help attract and retain students, but it will invigorate our mission, and serve as a beacon across higher education.”

That head start included the Vice Presidential Debate, Reveley noted. Many of the 30-plus classes developed by faculty from a range of disciplines in conjunction with the Vice Presidential Debate served as de facto pilot courses for the kind of teaching and learning the new curriculum will feature.

### A Core Curriculum Done Right

Now begins the next chapter: launching the new curriculum for students arriving in 2018 while “teaching out” the current curriculum to current Longwood students.

But Reveley couldn’t help reflecting on the distance already traveled and the distinctive elements of what has emerged.

“First is that fact that citizen leadership is the north star,” Reveley said. “That is unique in higher education, to the best of my knowledge. And the emphasis continues to be on the relationship between professors and students. The whole intent of the curriculum is to draw strength from that powerful faculty-student connection that happens on our campus.

“Everything about it really does scream out ‘Longwood,’” he said, “and I couldn’t be prouder.” 🍷

JUSTIN POPE IS LONGWOOD’S CHIEF OF STAFF.



# Transformative Times, Transformative Gift

\$5.9 million donation supports creation of additional  
Yellowstone-like courses central to core curriculum

BY MATTHEW MCWILLIAMS



Joan '64 and Macon Brock

**A**s Longwood moves forward with a new core curriculum, the university also has received an extraordinary boost from the largest gift in its history: \$5.9 million from Joan '64 and Macon Brock, to create the Brock Endowment for Transformational Learning.

The Brocks, acclaimed philanthropic and business leaders and dedicated Longwood supporters, have always been impressed by Longwood's commitment to its citizen leadership mission, and by the close ties that develop among Longwood students and faculty mentors. Longwood's environmental sciences program at Yellowstone National Park caught their eye as a place where those strengths were powerfully visible.

Now, thanks to the Brocks' gift, Longwood faculty from disciplines across the university will begin developing more such programs at other sites across the United States. An experience that today is enjoyed by a few dozen students each year could someday be an unforgettable part of the education of many, if not most, Longwood undergraduates.

Many of these Brock Experiences also will

fit hand-in-glove with the goals of the new core curriculum, approved in December by the Board of Visitors. The programs share many of the same goals: connecting students to Longwood's mission, providing hands-on lessons in civic issues and leadership, pushing students to make connections and solve problems across disciplines, and exposing them to new ideas and experiences that tie together their learning in Longwood's classrooms and beyond.

faculty to help coordinate the development of new programs like Longwood@Yellowstone, as the program is known, and a similar program developed more recently in Alaska.

"The Yellowstone program takes students out of their comfort zones, and that's where the transformation happens," he said. "Being outside the classroom in a totally new environment immediately broadens your perspective, but the real shift happens when students start applying the concepts they learned in the

'I have always felt so deeply proud of Longwood for taking on the serious work of preparing students for lives of citizen leadership.'

— Joan Brock '64

The Brock Experience will be a signature program that sets Longwood apart. Many other schools offer travel courses, but none with the interdisciplinary focus or transformational goal at its heart.

What will future Brock Experiences look like? Options are limitless, with ideas to come from faculty for how to take students beyond the walls of campus and apply their disciplines in fresh and exciting ways to real-world civic challenges. Programs could take place in other national parks, but also in a variety of settings ranging from wilderness to urban areas, and in places of, for example, historical, scientific or artistic importance.

Josh Blakely, who in his previous role as assistant dean of students traveled several times to Yellowstone, has been tapped to work with

classroom to real-world problems. That's when they start thinking like citizen leaders."

A team of administrators and faculty members will consider proposals and select two Macon F. and Joan Perry Brock Fellows this spring, and a two-year development period will begin. Two more faculty Brock Fellows will be selected in spring 2018 to develop new courses, and the process will repeat.

"I have always felt so deeply proud of Longwood for taking on the serious work of preparing students for lives of citizen leadership," said Joan Brock. "This is truly what sets Longwood apart, and it is what the world needs. In talking with President Reveley in recent months about how we could make a real difference, this idea took shape. Macon and I firmly believe that in the years and decades





Future Brock Experiences could take place in other national parks like Yellowstone (pictured here) but also in a variety of settings ranging from wilderness to urban areas.

to come, students will be drawn to Longwood by the opportunity to have the types of experiences this program will create, and those experiences will have a profound impact on them.”

Bobby Rae Allen '17 is among the Longwood students who can already speak to the impact of such experiences. An environmental sciences major from Reston, Allen went to Yellowstone in 2015. He had entered Longwood in the kinesiology department, but switched majors the spring semester of his sophomore year because he loved the outdoors. The Yellowstone program, under the leadership of Cormier Honors College Dean Alix Fink, convinced him he made the right decision.

“We confronted a range of societal and environmental issues out there that I had never thought of before,” he said. “When you are out there, working in groups to tackle a particular issue, time goes by so quickly. But when I returned to Longwood and started

working on the issues we were studying, it all started to make sense in a new way.”

Allen, who plans to work in watershed management when he graduates this spring, said his Yellowstone experience not only reinforced the work he's done in Longwood's classrooms but also will give him an advantage as he enters his career.

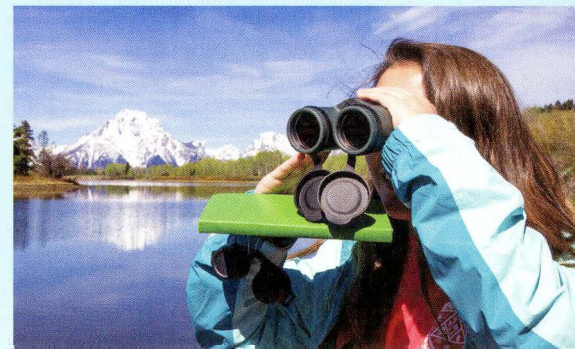
“I'm in a class now called Environmental Planning and Management, and the things we are studying are things we did at Yellowstone,” he said. “We also talk a lot about stakeholder involvement in decision making and environmental management, and that's almost entirely what we did at the park: talk to stakeholders and try to understand issues completely. That trip really is the embodiment of everything I want to do with my life.”

It's just that kind of experience that the Brocks hope their endowment will replicate for generations of Longwood students.

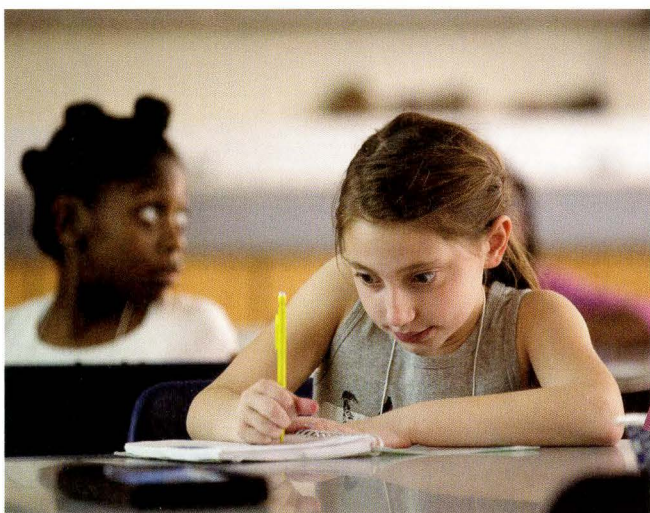
“I had a wonderful experience as a student

at Longwood, and it has been so exciting to watch the university thrive,” said Joan Brock, whose gifts with her husband, Macon, to the university include the naming gift for the Brock Commons corridor through central campus. Longwood's new student success building, which is located on Brock Commons and is set for completion in 2017, will carry the name Brock Hall in their honor.

“We have seen what happens to students on Longwood's Yellowstone National Park and Alaska programs, and it is exciting to think of so many more in the years ahead who will have new experiences along those lines. We are eager to see what wonderful ideas emerge from the faculty and come to fruition.”







# EARLY ADMISSION

## PROGRAM SHOWS LOCAL FOURTH-GRADERS THAT GOING TO COLLEGE IS WITHIN REACH

BY KENT BOOTY



When is it too early to start thinking about college? Definitely not fourth grade.

About 140 fourth-graders from Prince Edward County got what may have been their first taste of college life in February courtesy of a Longwood campuswide initiative known as Lancer for a Day.

Unseasonably warm weather on a Friday morning added to the high spirits of the honorary Lancers as they climbed down from several buses and filed into Hull Auditorium, where they started the day by pledging to follow Longwood's Honor Code. Later in the day, they would attend one of several classes taught by Longwood professors; have lunch in the D-Hall; and play team-building games with Longwood students.

Before they arrived on campus, the children had already completed the first phase of the program. They had "applied" to Longwood by

filling out forms and writing essays. They had received their acceptance letters and had been issued IDs.

Lancer for a Day, held this year for the second time, is designed to convince local elementary students that—despite what they might think—college is possible for them as long as they work hard and prepare.

"There are barriers to local students attending college, so it's important for them to visit a college campus and become enthused by the energy around them and see that college is not as daunting as they may think," said Danielle Welton Boxley '08, M.S. '14, a Prince Edward fourth-grade math and science teacher whose students attended Lancer for a Day both years. "Most of these students have never set foot on the Longwood campus, and many have never entertained thoughts of going to college."

The idea for the program came from a visit

by Dr. Patricia Hastings, an assistant professor of elementary education, to the elementary school, where she observed a Longwood student teacher in Boxley's class last March. Hastings, who was impressed with the class, asked the students just before leaving, "How many of you am I going to see at Longwood in a few years?," to which one student responded, "Why can't we come now?" Boxley was equally eager to share ideas for a collaborative effort in which students at her school could visit Longwood.

Hastings returned to campus "determined to find a way to make that happen." She got to work, and six weeks later the first Lancer for a Day event was held. It was an instant success.

"The program was unbelievably powerful the first year; the kids just ate it up," said Hastings, who added that the program also aims to thank the Prince Edward County





(opposite page, left) Morgan Wolf works diligently in the physics class, which explored the science of light. (opposite page, right) Haven Hogan '18, a nursing major from Gloucester, demonstrates how to listen to bowel sounds on a manikin in the simulation lab. Students in the nursing class also listened to heart and lung sounds and felt for various pulses. (above) Abby Deguzman '20, a liberal studies major from Chesapeake, was one of about 15 members of the student organization GROWTHE (Great Role-models Opening Windows To Higher Education) who interacted with the fourth-graders in team-building activities, escorted them to classes and ate lunch with them in the dining hall.

school system for letting Longwood students do their student teaching there.

"My colleagues and I were all looking at each other like, 'This is why we teach.' One graduate student said, 'A lot of people talk about collaboration, but you showed us what it is.' It was one of those defining moments that will stay with us."

Hastings relies on substantial help and support from her "awesome" Longwood colleagues to make Lancer for a Day a success. This year all three deans, 17 faculty members, men's basketball coach Jayson Gee and some of his players, the Call Me MISTER program and the student organization GROWTHE (Great Role-models Opening Windows To Higher Education) were among those involved. The keynote speaker was Cainan Townsend '15, a Prince Edward County native who is director of educational outreach for the Moton Museum in Farmville.

The children and their parents are enthusiastic about the program.

"At an open house at the school last August, one parent of a fourth-grader asked, 'Will my child get to do Lancer for a Day?'" said Hastings.

And receiving their acceptance letters is a big deal for many of the children. "You can't imagine the pride and excitement that generates," said Dr. Jodie Brinkmann, assistant professor of elementary education, another organizer of the event. "One parent said that her daughter screamed when she got her letter."

That excitement was still strong on the morning of the event. "This is cool to learn what it will actually be like when you come to college. I'm really excited," Riley Fulcher, 9, said in Hull Auditorium while waiting for the welcoming ceremony to begin.

Afterward, the honorary Lancers said they had a blast. "I hope we do this again in middle

school," said Matthew Coleman, 10.

Among this year's classes, all of which were activity-based, was a math/language arts class in which participants had to "save" their teacher by solving a set of puzzles and clues before time ran out. In a class on "chocolate economics," students bartered to understand international trade. They also learned about the science of light through lasers, bubbles and butterflies.

Boxley is "really proud" of the collaboration, which she said "infuses the kids with excitement, possibility and hope." A Prince Edward County native and an African-American, Boxley said her mother was impacted by the closing of the county schools from 1959-64 to avoid integration. "The history of education in Prince Edward County is complicated, but programs like this will touch the hearts, minds and souls—and futures—of students and lead them to aim higher," she said. "This has enormous potential."



Alumni Awards honor 6  
for achievements, service, loyalty

# Missions Accomplished

BY KENT BOOTY

In the Alumni Association's annual awards program this year, Longwood is honoring five alumni and a longtime friend of the university for their outstanding achievements and service to others.

Among the honorees are a software developer who worked on the Tomahawk cruise missile; a medical anthropologist whose responsibilities with the World Health Organization and the United Nations took her around the globe; and an alumna who,

in a variety of roles including rector of the Board of Visitors, has given countless hours of service to her alma mater in the six decades since her graduation.

Begun in 1970, the awards program has singled out those whose accomplishments are deserving of recognition. All of this year's recipients embody the spirit and purpose of citizen leadership and, through their actions and the examples they set, serve as ambassadors for Longwood and the education it provides.





## Shirley Wood Grant '73

William Henry Ruffner Alumni Award



**Shirley Grant** attended Longwood at a time when it was all-female and known for producing teachers. Grant, who majored in math, decided on a road less traveled. Instead of taking her skills into the classroom, she put them to work for the Department of Defense.

During the majority of her 40-year career, she was involved in the development of computer software for the Tomahawk cruise missile program. Working at the Navy's Dahlgren research and development facility near Fredericksburg, Grant focused mainly on the weapon control software required to prepare, launch and monitor the missile before and after firing from U.S. surface ships and, subsequently, from the United Kingdom's Royal Navy submarines. The Tomahawk became operational in 1983—two years after she began working on the system—and was first deployed in combat during Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

Grant, who retired in 2014, spent the final 20 years of her career managing the design modifications needed to enable the UK to make the system work aboard that country's submarines and, equally important, crew training to allow the missile's safe firing by a foreign country. Her responsibilities, which began when the UK considered buying the missile system in 1994, included establishing whether the U.S. system could be modified to work with pre-existing systems in the UK. She traveled more than 20 times to England and Scotland, leading the team that tested the system once it was installed.

"My job was always interesting, always challenging," said Grant, who received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1985 and 1998. "I always had to learn something new."

Grant began her Dahlgren career in November 1973, working initially as a computer programmer. Before switching to the Tomahawk project, she worked on the Poseidon and Trident weapons systems, both of which are submarine-launched missiles.

She met her husband, David, a native of Scotland, when he worked for the UK's Ministry of Defense. The couple lives in Fredericksburg.



**Cheryl Andrews** helped put herself through Longwood by writing advertising copy for the former Thalhimers department store in Richmond. Now she runs the largest travel and hospitality public relations company in south Florida, spending about 30 to 40 percent of her time traveling.

Andrews is president and CEO of Cheryl Andrews Marketing

Communications, founded in 1987 and based in the Miami suburb of Coral Gables. The company has grown from a one-woman operation to include 18 employees, and its current clients include the tourist boards of Costa Rica, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, and Montserrat, as well as several high-profile resorts and boutique hotels.

"Our motto is, 'We're here to make good things happen for other people,'" said Andrews. "I love what I do, and I don't plan to retire any time soon."

Andrews was named one of the "Top 25 Most Extraordinary Minds in Sales and Marketing" by the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International in 2006. "Still, the only awards we really care about are those we win for our clients, which means adding to their bottom line," she said.

After the English and journalism major graduated from Longwood, she traveled and lived in several places, including



## Cheryl Andrews '70

Thomas Jefferson Professional Achievement Award

Washington, D.C., where, working with the National Organization for Women, she wrote congressional testimony to get Title IX passed. She moved to Miami in 1977 and started writing marketing materials for resorts, in addition to teaching. Eventually she branched out when one of her clients, the now-defunct Key Biscayne Hotel and Villas, was so pleased with her advertising work that they asked her to also handle their public relations and marketing.

In addition to her home in Miami, Andrews has owned a home on Nevis, part of the Caribbean Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, since 2001. "I call it 3.5 Seasons—it's almost, but not quite, the Four Seasons," she said.



**Dr. Mayling Simpson** had planned to be a high-school biology teacher until she experienced a "great epiphany" during a trip to Europe in the summer of 1967 that changed her outlook on life.

"I realized from a young age that I live in a privileged country and had a privileged upbringing," she said. "Once I started traveling, I realized I could have been born under different





## Dr. Mayling Simpson '68

Jabez Lamar Monroe Curry  
Humanitarian Alumni Award

circumstances—I could be that person in the slum in the Philippines or living in rural poverty in the Ethiopian countryside. I was given a great education, and I was not going to spend it on myself but on others.”

She decided to become a medical anthropologist, merging her interests in biology, medicine and health. Armed with her Longwood degree as well as a master’s and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, she directed her efforts toward improving water and sanitation systems in communities around the globe.

During her 40-year career, she lived full-time in eight countries, primarily in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, and worked for some of the most respected agencies in the field: senior technical officer for the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland; senior health advisor for Catholic Relief Services in East Africa; and consultant for the United Nations Development Programme.

The work was about meeting what Simpson calls “the most basic needs that we now take for granted: clean water and sanitation, infant feeding practices and education on how to prevent diarrhea, malaria and HIV/AIDS.”

Simpson, who lives in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, has been a part-time consultant since retiring six years ago. She misses traveling and living abroad.

“It’s stimulating to learn about other cultures. I’m addicted to it,” she said. “And I love the challenge of a public health or social justice problem.”



Nearly 65 years after entering Longwood, **Dr. Helen Warriner-Burke** is as devoted as ever to her beloved alma mater.

She currently chairs the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts board and also serves on the Real Estate Foundation board. She was on the Board of Visitors from 2002-10, serving as rec-tor in her last year, and also is a former member of the Alumni and Foundation boards and the Hull Springs Farm strategic planning task force.

“I have been progressively impressed with the university’s quality and professionalism,” said Warriner-Burke, retired supervisor of foreign languages for the Virginia Department of Education

Family members share a connection to her alma mater. Her husband, Pat Burke, taught history at Longwood from 1968-79. Their son, Brendan, is a 2003 Longwood alumnus, and Warriner-Burke’s sister, Lee Scott ’62, followed her to Longwood, where she met her husband, Dr. Marvin Scott, professor emeritus of biology, who chaired the natural sciences department for many years.

The Loyalty Award is Warriner-Burke’s third honor from Longwood. She received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 2004 and the Distinguished Alumni Service Award in 1973.

Warriner-Burke, who has a master’s degree from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National Autonomous University of Mexico) and a Ph.D. from the Ohio State University, started her career as a high-school Spanish teacher in



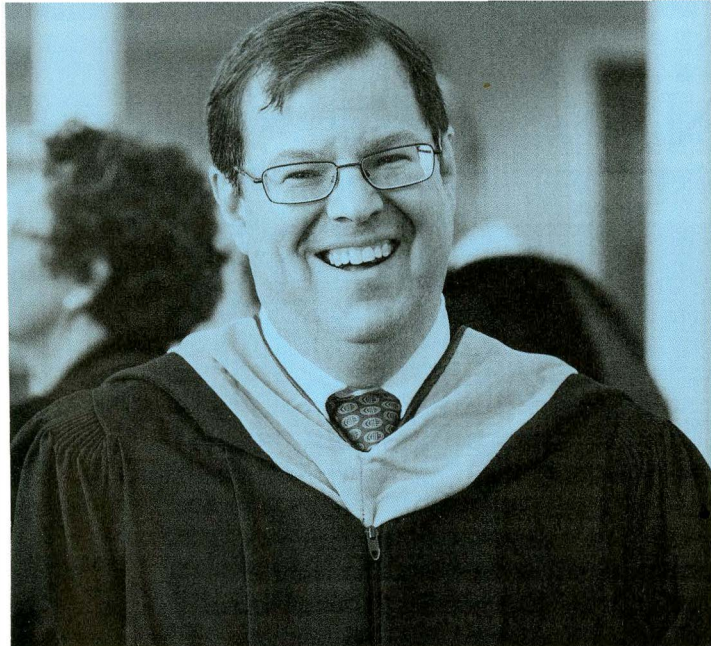
## Dr. Helen Warriner-Burke '56

Page Cook Axson McGaughy  
Lifetime Loyalty Award

Richmond and Newport News. She also taught at the college level, as an adjunct, in addition to her nearly 30-year career with the Virginia Department of Education. She was one of 24 Virginians, including author Tom Wolfe, who in 1977 received the first Cultural Laureate Awards from the Virginia Cultural Laureate Center.

She and Pat have lived since 1994 in the Amelia County house where she was born, marking the third generation of her family to begin their lives there. The land has been in her family since 1855.





## Larry Robertson '90

Nancy B. Shelton Spirited Contributor Award



**Larry Robertson** had planned to be a high-school history teacher until his junior year at Longwood, when he realized the classroom wasn't for him.

"I liked being an RA in Curry, and some of the student affairs people, including Phyllis Mable, MaryKaye Benton Cochran, Joe McGill and Dr. Sue Saunders, suggested that I look into higher education student affairs," he said.

After picking up a master's degree from James Madison University, working as a residence education coordinator in Curry for three years and spending nine years in residence life at Virginia Tech, Robertson returned to Longwood in 2004 as director of residential and commuter life. He became dean of students in 2012.

"Twenty-five years of students have made this job worthwhile. Working with students keeps me young, keeps me motivated," he said. "Now I have former students who bring their kids here as students, which is fun and exciting."

Robertson is touched to receive an award named for longtime friend Nancy Shelton '68. As a Longwood student, he was a member of Geist [now Mortar Board], for which Shelton, retired associate vice president for alumni relations, was the adviser.

"To even have my name uttered in the same breath as Nancy is a sincere honor," he said, adding that Shelton, who always put students first, was a role model for him.

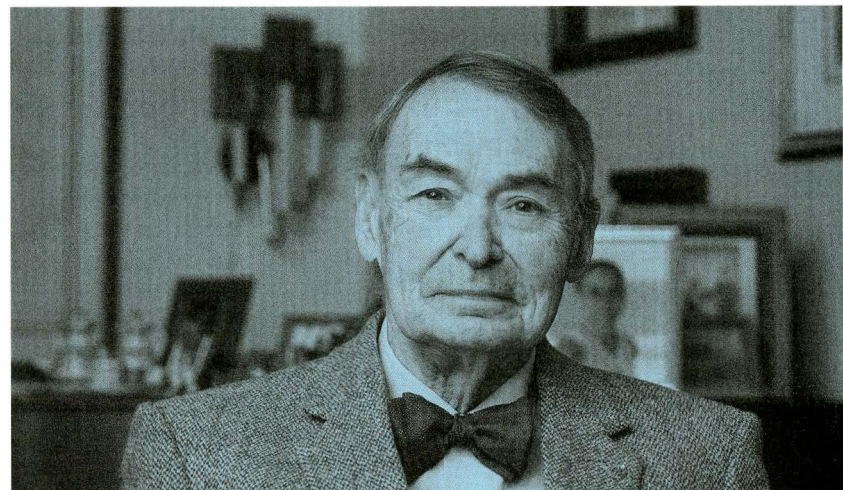
Robertson himself is the namesake of another award. Upon leaving Virginia Tech, his former supervisors established the Larry Robertson Emerging Professional Award, given annually to a graduate student or staff member who "best exemplifies professionalism, excellence and dedication to the student affairs profession."



When **Dr. Anthony "Tony" Muñoz** arrived in Farmville in 1961, he planned to stay less than a year. More than a half-century later, he is still there—thanks to Longwood.

"I have had a lot of love for, and ties to, Longwood since the day I came to town," said the retired thoracic surgeon, a native of Valencia, Spain, who has lived in the United States since 1954. "I intended to stay here only about nine months, but nine months became 55 years. Longwood and Hampden-Sydney College are the reasons I'm still here."

One of those Longwood ties is his late wife, Mary Ellen Lane Muñoz '83, M.S. '88. Mrs. Muñoz participated in the first Longwood Archaeology Field School, in 1980, and was in the first class of students to graduate with an anthropology degree.



## Dr. Anthony Muñoz

Horace Mann Honorary Alumni Award

Three of the couple's four children also are alums: Mark '79, Sara '83 and Laura '91, who, like her mother, participated in the first Archaeology Field School.

Muñoz served on the Longwood Foundation Board from 1974-1993 and was awarded director emeritus status upon stepping down. One additional Longwood connection is the late Marie Eason Reveley '40, grandmother of Longwood President W. Taylor Reveley IV, who was one of Muñoz's patients.

In addition to his private practice, Muñoz was the first medical director of the Heart of Virginia Free Clinic, serving in that position for three years. In his early days in Farmville, he demonstrated a commitment to social justice when two members of the medical staff from Southside Community Hospital visited him at home.

"They suggested I should have separate waiting rooms [for whites and African-Americans], but I told them, 'No way am I going to do that. You wanted me here, so it will have to be on my terms. Otherwise, I will leave.'"



# LONGWOOD CALENDAR

## MARCH

20

**Blackwell Talk:** Jodie Brinkmann and Patti Hastings, "Building Elementary Pre-Service Teachers' Self-Efficacy Using Data to Inform Mathematics Instruction." Noon, Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2496.

21

**Concert:** Jazz Ensemble. 7:30 p.m., Jarman Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

22

**Art After Dark:** "Adventures in Noh with Matt Dubroff." 6 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcvainfo@longwood.edu.

23–26

**Theatre:** *Zero to Sixty*: 10-minute play festival. 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; Fitzhugh Samuel Lab Theatre, Center for Communication Studies and Theatre. General admission: \$5. Information: 434-395-2474 or longwoodtickets.com.

25

**Lacrosse:** vs. George Mason. 2 p.m., Elizabeth Burger Jackson Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

27

**Guest Recital:** Kevin Wetzel, baritone. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

27

**Blackwell Talk:** Walter Witschey, "Models of WOE: Finding Indian Sites on the Chesapeake Bay." Noon, Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2496.

30

**Dos Passos Prize for Literature Ceremony:** Author Danzy Senna. 8 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: magillde@longwood.edu.

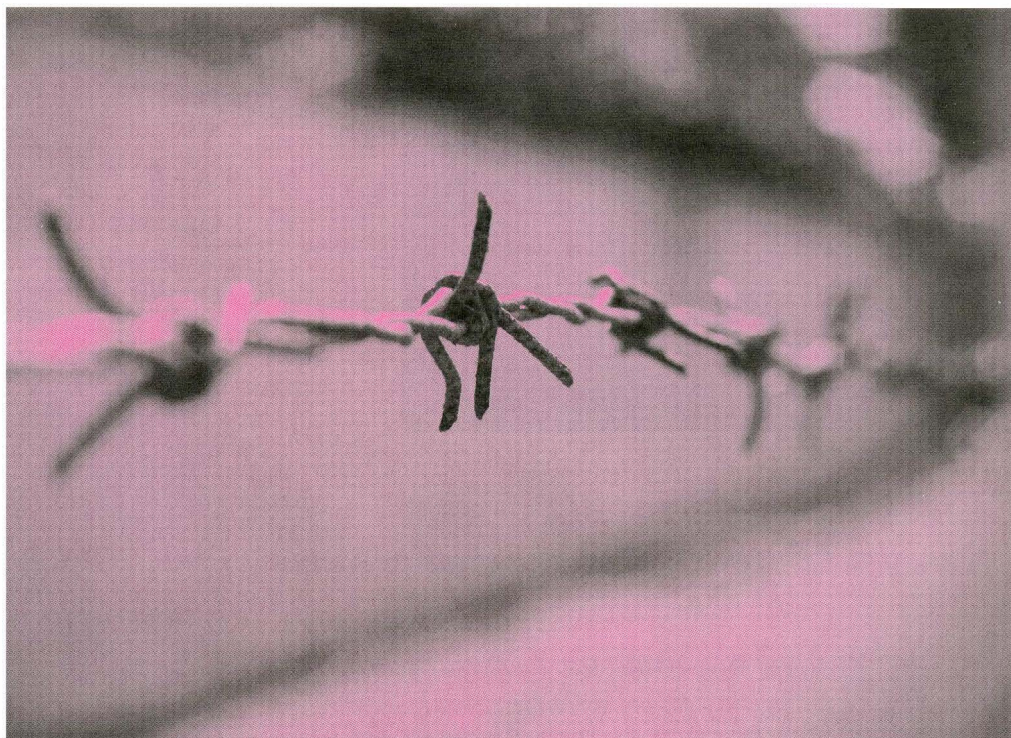
## APRIL

1

**Family LancerFest:** Activities for the whole family, including picnic, sports clinics and alumni sports competitions. Noon–6 p.m., Virginia Beach Sportsplex, 2044 Landstown Centre Way. Adults, \$20; kids, free. Registration and information: longwood.edu/alumni.

1–2

**Men's Golf:** Longwood/Manor Intercollegiate. 8 a.m. start, The Manor Golf Club. Information: longwoodlancers.com.



## REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST APRIL 10–13

3

**Blackwell Talk:** Deborah Westin, "English Language Bridge Students as Experts at Longwood University." Noon, Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2496.

4

**Children's Theatre:** *Miss Electricity*: Illyria Theatre Company. 9:30 a.m., Jarman Auditorium. Children, \$2; adults, free. Tickets available at the door only. Information: 434-395-2474 or boxoffice@longwood.edu.

5

**Lacrosse:** vs. Liberty. 4 p.m., Elizabeth Burger Jackson Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

6

**Concert:** Amernet String Quartet. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

7

**Faculty Recital:** Christopher Swanson, tenor, and Lisa Kinzer, piano. 7:30 p.m., Jarman Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

8

**Senior Recital:** Cody Leonard, alto saxophone. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Hall. Information: 434-395-2504.

9

**Exhibition:** *Point of Departure*. Opening reception: April 8, 5 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcvainfo@longwood.edu.

8–9

**Softball:** vs. Gardner-Webb. 1 p.m., Lancer Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

10–13

### Remembering the Holocaust Exhibition:

Holocaust survivor portraits by photographer Dean Whitbeck. Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: maddenr@longwood.edu.

## LONGWOOD HOSTS THE BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP MAY 10 – 13





## 12-16

**Theatre:** *Table Manners*. 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; Mainstage Theatre, Center for Communication Studies and Theatre. General admission, \$10; senior citizens, Longwood faculty/staff and students from other colleges/schools, \$8; Longwood students with ID, \$6. Information: 434-395-2474 or longwoodtickets.com.

## 12

**Art After Dark:** "Local Earth: Finding and Using Native Clays with Mackenzie Lenhart." 6 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: 434-395-2206 or lcvainfo@longwood.edu.

## 12

**Faculty Recital:** Parlor Tricks, solo guitar, selections by Dynes, Chopin, Tarrega and Villa-Lobos. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2405.

## 13-15

**Baseball:** vs. Presbyterian. 6 p.m. April 13, 6 p.m. April 14, 2 p.m. April 15; Buddy Bolding Stadium. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 13

**Remembering the Holocaust Lectures:** Photographer Dean Whitbeck, 9:30 a.m.; Dr. Melissa Kravetz, assistant professor of history, "The Holocaust: A Brief History," 4 p.m.; Holocaust survivor Dr. Roger Loria, 5:30 p.m. Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: maddenrr@longwood.edu.

## 13

**Senior Recital:** Tyler Gage, trumpet. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 14-15

**Softball:** vs. Presbyterian. 5 p.m. April 14, noon April 15; Lancer Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 15

**Lacrosse:** vs. Winthrop. 2 p.m., Elizabeth Burger Jackson Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 17

**Faculty Recital:** Fran Coleman, voice, and Teri Kidd, piano. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 17

**Mathematics and Computer Science Colloquium.** 4 p.m., Ruffner 356. Information: 434-395-2193.



## MEGA REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2-4

## 18

**Concert:** Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 21

**Senior Recital:** Jordan Russnow, voice. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 21-23

**Baseball:** vs. Winthrop. 6 p.m. April 21, 4 p.m. April 22, 2 p.m. April 23; Buddy Bolding Stadium. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 22-23

**Softball:** vs. Charleston Southern. 1 p.m. April 22 (doubleheader), 1 p.m. April 23; Lancer Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 22

**Senior Recital:** Michael Velez, tenor trombone. 4 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 24

**Concert:** Men's and Women's Choirs. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 27

**Concert:** Camerata Singers and Chamber Singers. 7:30 p.m., Farmville United Methodist Church. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 28

**Senior Recital:** Cory Anderson, trumpet. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

## 28-30

**Baseball:** vs. Liberty. 6 p.m. April 28, 4 p.m. April 29, 2 p.m. April 30; Buddy Bolding Stadium. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 29

**Beaux-Arts Bash:** Benefiting the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. 8 p.m.-midnight. Tickets and information: robertsbm@longwood.edu or 434-395-2551.

## MAY

## 10-13

**Big South Conference Softball Championship.** TBD. Lancer Field. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

## 19

**Graduate Commencement.** 5:30 p.m., Jarman Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2001.

## 20

**Undergraduate Commencement.** 9:30 a.m., Wheeler Mall. Information: 434-395-2001.

## JUNE

## 2-4

**Mega Reunion Weekend.** Registration: go.longwood.edu/megareunion. Information: 434-395-2671 or reunion@longwood.edu.

## 3-JULY 16

**Exhibition.** *Enduring Legacy*, new selections from the Permanent Collection. Opening reception, 5:30-8 p.m. June 2. Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcvainfo@longwood.edu.

## 24

**Alumni Event:** Richmond Flying Squirrels game and pregame family picnic. Picnic, 4:30 p.m.; game, 6:05 p.m. The Diamond (3001 North Boulevard). Costs and information: longwood.edu/alumni.

## JULY

## 8

**Alumni Event:** Washington Nationals game and pregame party. Pregame party, time TBA; D.C. Fairgrounds. Game, 4:05 p.m.; Nationals Park, 1500 South Capitol St. Costs and information: longwood.edu/alumni.

## 20-21

**14th Annual Summer Literacy Institute.** Registration required. Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2682.

## 24-28

**Global Village Summer Camp:** For children in grades 2-7. Costs, registration, schedule and information: longwood.edu/internationalaffairs/global-village-summer-camp/.

*All events are free and open to the public unless costs, tickets, registration, etc., are noted. All events are subject to cancellation and change. Please visit [www.longwood.edu](http://www.longwood.edu) for updated information. Persons with disabilities who wish to arrange accommodations or material in an alternative format may call 434-395-2391 (voice) or 711 (TT).*





## Bitterroot: Echoes of Beauty & Loss

by Dr. Steven Faulkner,  
associate professor of English

The book, awarded a starred review from Kirkus Reviews, is based on a six-week journey Faulkner took with his youngest son retracing the steps of 19th-century explorer Pierre De Smet, a Belgian-born missionary priest. The book, said Faulkner, “weaves together three threads of history: De Smet, explorers Lewis and Clark and what happened to the Nez Perce Indians.” Much of the book focuses on the Faulkner-and-son 2010 adventure of hiking, mountain biking and canoeing on the Lewis and Clark Trail. The Faulkners also traveled on the Oregon Trail, which follows De Smet’s explorations of the 1840s.

*Published by Beaufort Books, hardcover, 377 pages.*

## Forging the Star: The Official Modern History of the United States Marshals Service

by David Turk '87

Turk is historian of the U.S. Marshals Service. Founded in 1789, it is the oldest federal law enforcement organization in the country. The book focuses on the Marshals Service since the 1940s, an era largely overlooked in previous books. “People are surprised by how frank the book is,” said Turk, who works at the agency’s headquarters in the Crystal City section of Arlington and has written five other historical books.

He joined the Marshals Service in 1990 and became its second historian in 2001.

*Published by the University of North Texas Press, hardcover, 540 pages.*

## Wounds and Wound Repair in Medieval Culture

edited by Dr. Larissa “Kat” Tracy,  
associate professor of medieval  
literature, and Kelly DeVries

This is the latest of several books Tracy has published on torture, brutality and violence in the Middle Ages. The 23 contributors include archaeologists; historians from various disciplines, including art and literature; linguists; and medical experts. (Tracy, cofounder and codirector of Longwood’s Undergraduate Medieval Conference, wrote one chapter, in addition to being co-editor.) The book is the first installment in the series “Explorations in Medieval Culture,” edited by Tracy.

*Published by Brill, hardcover, 645 pages.*

## The Last Road North: A Guide to the Gettysburg Campaign, 1863

by Rob Orrison '98 and Dan Welch

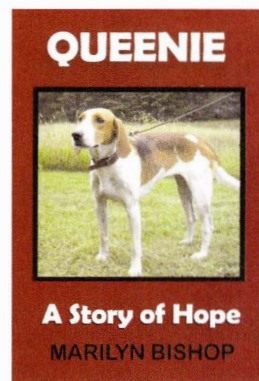
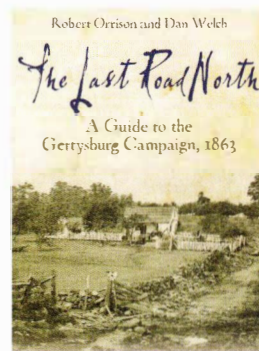
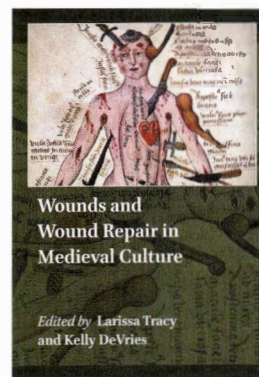
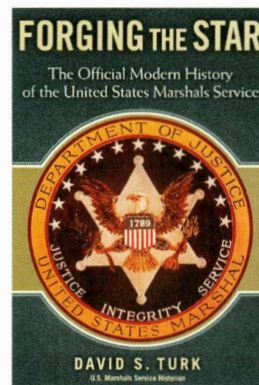
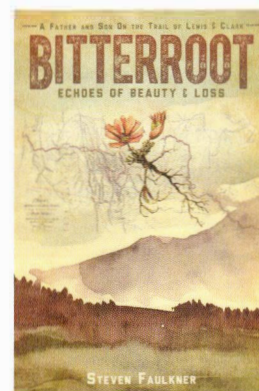
Part of the Emerging Civil War Series, this tour guide-like book “offers the ultimate Civil War road trip” and covers all sites related to the pivotal campaign, including dozens of lesser-known sites, says the publisher. The book is based on the Civil War Trails program of interpretative markers. For the Gettysburg campaign, the markers begin in Fredericksburg and Culpeper. Orrison is historic site operations supervisor for Prince William County and serves on the board of the Virginia Association of Museums.

*Published by Savas Beatie, softcover, 192 pages.*

## Queenie: A Story of Hope

by Marilyn Hosea Bishop '76

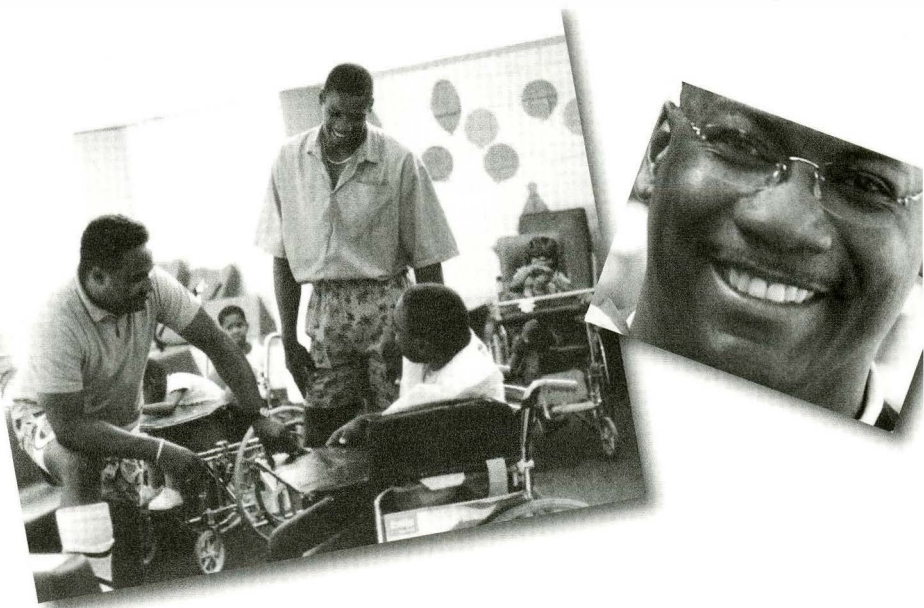
Bishop called this children’s book, based on a true story, “an inspirational story for any age about a lost dog and the importance of never giving up hope.” Bishop, who along with her husband has raised foxhounds for 12 years, also is the author of *Sampson and the Gang from Hound Holler*. She is a currency technology analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. *Published by Mirror Publishing, softcover, 63 pages.*







(left) Kevin '82 and Rhonda Brandon accepted Jerome Kersey's posthumous William Henry Ruffner Alumni Award in 2015. (center) Brandon and Kersey at the Hospital for Sick Children in Washington, D.C., in the mid-1980s. (right) Kersey at his 2006 graduation from Longwood.



## Always Remembered

**Longtime friend and teammate establishes scholarship in Jerome Kersey's memory**



Jerome Kersey '84 was many things to many people. To NBA fans, he was a high-flying rim rocker whose relentlessness on the court earned him the nickname "No Mercy Kersey."

To those in the Portland community, he was a philanthropist—a contributor to many charities and initiatives who was selfless with his time and money both during his playing days and after retirement.

To Longwood fans, he was one of the greatest athletes to ever walk the campus, a small-town-star-turned-NBA-sensation that all Lancers, past and present, can still proudly recognize and say, "He went to my school."

To longtime friend and fellow Lancer Kevin Brandon '82, Kersey was all those things and more. Brandon spent decades at Kersey's side during a lifelong friendship that began at Longwood and blossomed throughout their different yet intertwined careers.

Now, approximately two years after Kersey unexpectedly died at age 52, Brandon is furthering the legacy of his friend through the establishment of the Jerome Kersey Men's Basketball Scholarship.

"Jerome deserves this because he helped people, and he helped me," said Brandon, who returned to campus this past December when Longwood's home basketball court was named in Kersey's honor. "He has done incredible things for my wife and me, and for other people that I don't even know of. Everything lined up perfectly to make setting up

this scholarship in his name so right. I want to keep Jerome's legacy alive."

Brandon and his wife, Rhonda, established the scholarship with a \$25,000 donation. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a men's basketball player who embodies Kersey's drive and dedication on the hardwood and in the classroom.

**'I wanted it to be for a student like Jerome who worked hard to play ball and worked hard to stay in school.'**

— KEVIN BRANDON '82

"I wanted it to be for a student like Jerome who worked hard to play ball and worked hard to stay in school," Brandon said.

The bond between Brandon and Kersey began forming in the early 1980s, when they were two of the few men on Longwood's newly integrated coed campus. Brandon, two years ahead of Kersey, graduated in 1982 as a therapeutic recreation major, but their friendship continued well after their Longwood days. Kersey went on to get drafted by the Portland Trail Blazers in 1984, and he brought Brandon along for the ride.

"We talked every day," Brandon said. "I was in Portland two or three times a year. Jerome would call me on the spur of the moment and say, 'I want you to meet me here,' and I'd go see him. I'd go out there for his birthday parties; I'd go out there for basketball games. Or I'd meet him somewhere on the road. Even

when they were playing Washington, Jerome would come to my house the night before the game and sleep on the floor because I didn't have a bed long enough for him."

Brandon enjoyed the face time with NBA Hall of Famers and the prime seats at Veteran Memorial Coliseum, but he said the moments that truly defined his friendship with Kersey

happened away from the crowds and the stadium lights.

"He was so down to earth, which is because of how he was raised," Brandon said. "When I left Longwood, I worked at a rehab hospital in Washington, D.C., the Hospital for Sick Children, and I dealt with a lot of disabled children. Jerome was in the NBA, but every year they played Washington, he would go and do a tour of the hospital. He would visit the kids and the staff. He would be there just to hug them."

Kersey donated his time and money to the hospital, even funding a playground for the children. That generosity is just one of many examples of Kersey's one-of-a-kind spirit, which still causes Brandon to tear up when remembering his friend.

"He just had a heart of gold," Brandon said.  
—Chris Cook



## 2017 holds promise for lacrosse team

Following a record-breaking offensive season that led Longwood women's lacrosse to its fourth straight season of a .500 or better record in the Big South, the Lancers are looking for more of the same heading into 2017.

Led by Preseason All-Big South midfielder Madison Stair '18, a communication studies major from Frederick, Maryland, the Lancers enter head coach Elaine Jones' fifth season coming off five consecutive top-five finishes in the Big South. Last year, Stair and then-seniors Sarah Butler '16 and Katie McHugh '16 formed the backbone of the Lancers' attack, which was among the three best in the Big South.



Madison Stair '18 leads the Lancers as Preseason All-Big South midfielder.

This year, Stair is taking the lead after a 41-goal sophomore campaign that she parlayed into becoming Longwood's first Preseason All-Big South selection since the program joined the conference in 2013.

But the 2017 Lancers are about more than just scoring goals, as returning starting goalkeeper Imani West '18, a liberal studies major from Maplewood, New Jersey, steps back into goal after posting a 12.21 goals against average and a .406 save percentage a year ago.

Anchoring the defense in front of her will be senior Maddie Rollins '17, a kinesiology major from Dummerston, Vermont. Rollins is a three-year starter who ranked among the Big South's top five in ground balls last season.



Kate Spradlin '19

## A Lesson in Determination

**Scholarship or no scholarship, nothing less than Division I would satisfy this unlikely star athlete**



Don't bother telling Kate Spradlin she isn't supposed to start for the Longwood women's basketball team.

As the team's lone walk-on, Spradlin '19, a business major from Blue Ridge, wasn't supposed to become one of Longwood's top-five scoring options this year. After missing nearly all of last season with a shoulder injury, she wasn't supposed to bounce back to become the

on the court so she can get an early start on the hundreds of shots she takes each day. Those marathon solo training sessions paid off in Spradlin's sophomore season. After playing in just five games as a freshman, she blossomed into Longwood's fourth-leading scorer in 2016-17, averaging 7.0 points per game, and was the Lancers' top 3-point threat, shooting at a .349 clip.

**'Kate Spradlin is, in a nice way, an animal. She puts in a ridiculous amount of time on her own in an effort to improve.'**

— BILL REINSON, HEAD WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

team's top 3-point shooter. After not receiving a single Division I scholarship offer out of high school, she wasn't supposed to win a starting job on a Division I basketball team. But here she is, in her sophomore season, all of those things.

Spradlin's journey from walk-on to major contributor in less than a year is no accident. She didn't luck into her success, and she had many opportunities along the way to settle for less. Settling for less, however, isn't in her vocabulary.

"Kate Spradlin is, in a nice way, an animal," said Longwood's head coach Bill Reinson, now in his seventh year. "She puts in a ridiculous amount of time on her own in an effort to improve. You can walk through the gym any time, any day, and it would not be surprising to see Kate getting some shots up."

Spradlin's drive to better herself might border on obsessive, but it also is inspiring to those who witness it. She has a reputation for being the first at the door of Willett Hall in the mornings, waiting for a Longwood staff member—or anybody with a key—to let her

Her emergence defied the odds. She finished her high-school career without a single Division I scholarship offer, despite excelling in several sports at Lord Botetourt High School in Blue Ridge. Determined to challenge herself at the Division I level, she turned down several Division II scholarships.

Then she contacted Longwood to ask for a chance to realize her dream.

"From the first time we watched her play, it was apparent how hard she worked and the type of passion that she has for the game," Reinson said. "We need those type of players. Once we had the opportunity to meet her, it was a no-brainer."

Spradlin became one of the most valuable players on Longwood's roster, ranking second in minutes per game with 31.8 per contest. The bounce back in her athletics career came with an equally impressive academic performance. Spradlin has been named to the President's List—a distinction given to those who earn a 4.0 grade-point average—in each of her three semesters at Longwood.

—Todd Lindenmuth





So many members of the Longwood community volunteered to help with the Lancer Invitational in Iler Gym that organizers couldn't accommodate them all.

## Heavy Lifting

### Longwood community embraces opportunity to host Special Olympics competition

The Longwood community came together in February to host the first Lancer Invitational, a powerlifting meet for Virginia Special Olympics athletes.

Competing in the back squat, bench press and deadlift events held in Iler Gym were Thomas Baker, Aaron Ealey, Daron Ealey, Roman Johnson, James Mullins, Matt Shomper, Chris Smallwood and Brian Williams. Medalists were honored at halftime of the Longwood women's basketball game against Winthrop later that day.

"It was a great opportunity to provide the athletes a chance to compete early in the season, and to get on campus and do something different for a change," said assistant sports performance coach C.J. Roth '16, who organized the event in addition to his normal duties in training Longwood's student-athletes.

Roth, who was a four-year member of Longwood's baseball team and team captain as a senior, shouldered the bulk of responsibility for putting on the event, coordinating everything from setting up the facility to organizing volunteers and working with the Virginia Special Olympics organization. The added responsibility was nothing new for Roth, who demonstrated his proficiency as a citizen leader during his stint as president of Long-

wood's Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

Longwood agreed to host the meet after being contacted by the father of one of the Special Olympics athletes, who also is a coordinator for Nottoway County's local Special Olympics groups.

"The planning started back in November, when we had our first meeting about it, and from then on it was a nonstop process of getting everything logistically figured out," said Roth.

Student-athletes from Longwood's women's tennis and cheerleading programs volunteered in various capacities, as did several members of Longwood's faculty and staff. Volunteers helped with everything from announcing events to running the lifts.

Volunteer turnout was so overwhelming that Roth had to turn down dozens of students and staff members, including coaches of several Longwood teams, who wanted to help. Undaunted, they showed up anyway, creating an impromptu cheering section for the meet.

"All in all, we got really good feedback, and I know a lot of people really enjoyed it," Roth said. "We definitely plan on continuing it next year. It was more than an athletics event; it was a campuswide event."

—Derrick Bennington

## 2016's momentum carries baseball team into new season

The 2016 season was historic for Longwood baseball, and the Lancers look to carry that momentum into 2017, head coach Ryan Mau's third season.

One year after winning 32 games, the most since Longwood became a full-fledged Division I institution 10 years ago, and earning a second-place finish in the Big South standings, the Lancers head into 2017 with an even deeper squad.

Last season, Longwood flashed grit and tenacity from opening weekend through the Big South Championship Tournament.



Sluggers Michael Osinski '18 and Alex Lewis '17 will anchor Longwood at the plate this season.

That never-quit mentality saw Longwood emerge as the best Friday night team in the Big South last spring, as the Lancers, led by senior ace Travis Burnette '16 stormed to a 12-2 record in series openers, including a series-opening win over eventual College World Series Champion Coastal Carolina.

Burnette finished 8-2 with a 2.35 ERA en route to All-Big South first team honors but leaves the Lancers with a sizable hole at the front of the starting rotation. However, Longwood is primed to make up for his absence with a stout offensive lineup and a deep pitching staff made up of several arms ready to make a Burnette-like jump on the mound.

Anchoring the lineup will be the hard-hitting duo of Alex Lewis '17, a senior business major from Burke, and Michael Osinski '18, a sociology major from Vestal, New York, two middle-of-the-order bats who both hit over .300 and combined to drive in 80 runs in 2016. Lewis returns as one of the best pure hitters in the conference, earning All-Big South first team honors after raking a .369 batting average with five homers, 22 doubles and a team-leading 45 RBI during his breakout junior campaign. Osinski, meanwhile, turned a torrid second half into a final batting line of .305 with 18 extra-base hits and 35 runs driven in.



(left) Former Longwood women's basketball coach Shirley Duncan (on left) was joined by former players and Longwood athletics staff for her jersey retirement in Willett Hall this year. (right) The Burger and Jackson families came together at the Longwood Athletics Complex for the dedication of Dr. Elizabeth Burger Jackson Field.



## Ahead of the Game

**Athletics trailblazers honored for many decades of dedication to Longwood**



Longwood honored two pioneers of its athletics programs this year, naming its field hockey turf in honor of Dr. Elizabeth Burger Jackson and retiring an honorary jersey for Hall of Fame women's basketball coach Shirley Duncan.

The two served Longwood in careers spanning several decades, each molding generations of students. Now the names of the Longwood Athletics Hall-of-Famers will be further coupled with their respective athletics programs following the Oct. 29, 2016, naming of "Elizabeth Burger Jackson Field" and Duncan's Jan. 28, 2017, jersey retirement in Willett Hall.

"Longwood athletics would not be where it is today without the contributions of many, many people, but Coach Duncan and Dr. Jackson are certainly at the top of that list," said Longwood Director of Athletics Troy Austin. "They helped lay the foundation not only for Longwood's women's sports but also

for our athletics department as a whole. Each was phenomenal in her chosen profession, but more importantly, they are both true examples of teachers who use their platforms to develop young people in all areas of life."

Jackson starred on the Longwood field hockey team from 1930-32, graduated from William & Mary in 1934 and went on to play for the United States Field Hockey Team from 1947-50 and 1954-55. Her impact on Longwood extended well beyond the playing field, however, as she served the university for nearly 40 years as a professor of natural sciences until her retirement in 1976.

A 1979 recipient of the university's Distinguished Alumni Service Award and a posthumous inductee into the inaugural Longwood Athletics Hall of Fame Class in 2005, Jackson will continue to inspire future generations of Lancers through gifts in her name. The Burger and Jackson families have donated more than \$500,000, establishing scholarships for field

hockey players, nursing majors and academically outstanding students while also providing support and funding for the field hockey program.

Duncan, meanwhile, made her mark on the hardwood during a 23-year coaching career that included four NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and 16 winning seasons. She took the Lancers to the NCAA postseason for three consecutive seasons from 1995-97 and again in 2003 before retiring as the program's all-time winningest coach with 356 career victories.

Elected to the Longwood Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016, Coach Duncan remains a familiar face in Willett Hall. She regularly attends Longwood women's basketball home games and, for several years, served as an analyst on the Big South Network. Dozens of former players made the return trip to campus to celebrate their former coach when Duncan's jersey was retired. — *Chris Cook*

## Women's tennis and golf: what's ahead this spring

With a successful senior trio and a new head coach, the Longwood women's tennis team entered its season this spring with high hopes. Seniors Paloma Alatorre, a communication studies major from Guadalajara, Mexico, Anna Pelak, a liberal studies major from McLean, and Mason Thomas, history major from Buchanan Dam, Texas, have been bedrocks of the program since their freshman year, amassing a combined 79 singles wins as four-year starters. They enter their final season as the winningest class in the program's Division I era.

The team's new head coach is former ITA Assistant Coach of the Year Maria Lopez.

Lopez took over the program this season after helping Barry University to two NCAA Championships during her six-year stint as the program's top assistant coach from 2011-16. She inherits a Lancer program coming off back-to-back double-digit wins for the first time in the program's 10-year Division I era.

Longwood women's golf heads into the spring with plenty of momentum following a fall in which a number of records fell.

Third-year head coach Shannon Briggs' squad saw all three returning members of last year's starting five post career-low scores. In addition, Longwood posted its first sub-200 round since the 2012-13 season with a 297 in

the final round of the CSU Invitational.

Senior Courtney Tolton '17, a business major from Mitchell, Ontario, headlined the group with her second career victory in come-from-behind fashion at the Towson Tignanelli Invitational. Tolton joined Amanda Steinhagen '14 for second place on Longwood's charts in career wins in the Division I era. Crystina Kertsos '17, a business major from Pickering, Ontario, posted her first career top-five at the Towson Tignanelli Invitational, posting rounds of 76 and 75. That tournament was part of a fall season in which Kertsos placed among the top 30 in three of her four events.





Sydney Gay '19 (left) and Elizabeth 'Biz' McCarthy '17

## 1-2-3

### Softball eyes third straight Big South title

Longwood enters the 2017 season as the Big South preseason favorite for the third straight year, coming off back-to-back Big South regular season and tournament championships and the program's third title in a four-year span.

Led by head coach Kathy Riley, now in her 20th season at Longwood and winner of more than 700 career games, the Lancers have quickly become the dynasty of Big South softball with Big South titles and ensuing NCAA Regional berths in 2013, 2015 and 2016. This year, the Big South Championship runs through Farmville, as the Lancers host the conference tournament for the first time on their home field, May 10-13.

Longwood's quest for its third consecutive title will be led by a group of six returning starters from last year's squad, which won 40 games and advanced to the program's first-ever NCAA Regional championship game against national power James Madison.

Anchoring the Lancers will be the 1-2 punch of pitchers Elizabeth "Biz" McCarthy '17, a kinesiology major from Dunnsville, and Sydney Gay '19, of Carrollton, who return in 2017 as one of the most formidable pitching duos in mid-major softball. McCarthy, a two-time Big South Pitcher of the Year, has been the ful-

crum of Longwood's dominant three-year run since 2013, amassing a 61-31 record with a 2.61 ERA over nearly 600 innings on the mound. Gay, meanwhile, became an immediate complement to McCarthy last season, earning Big South Tournament MVP honors as part of a freshman season in which she went 20-8 with a 1.93 ERA.

At the plate, Longwood returns three Big South All-Conference representatives from last season's squad: Karleigh Donovan '19, a sociology major from Dinwiddie; Glenn Walters '18, a kinesiology major from Glen Allen; and Krista Kelly '18, a business major from Rockville, Maryland. In addition, Kelsey Sweeney '18, a biology major from Newport News, and Justina Augustine '17, a liberal studies major from Warrenton, earned all-conference accolades after the 2015 season, giving the Lancers five players in their batting order who have earned all-conference accolades at some point in their careers.

Riley will once again challenge her squad with a daunting 2017 schedule that features matchups against five Power Five teams and a nonconference contingent of teams that combined for a .579 winning percentage last season. — *Chris Cook*

### Men's tennis and golf head into spring with enthusiasm

Last season, the Longwood men's tennis team went through a major culture change under then-first-year head coach Pierre Tafelski and ended the year with seven wins. This year, Tafelski's squad looks to cash in on their hard work and take the next step.

Tafelski, the former ITA Division II Assistant Coach of the Year, has four players returning from last year's squad, headlined by team captain Florian Uffer '17, a business major from Savognin, Switzerland, who won 10 singles matches as the primary No. 2 seed, and Julian Farthing '19, a business major from London, England, who went 19-8 in singles play as a freshman.

Tafelski has also added a strong crop of freshmen to the second edition of his Lancers, including Amadeo Hervas '20, a business major from Valencia, Spain, who has already ascended to the team's No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles spots.

The culture change under Tafelski showed itself early in the season, as the Lancers opened the spring 4-1 for the first time in the program's 10-year Division I era.

In men's golf, after a fall season in which the Lancers posted three top-five finishes in five events, Kevin Fillman's squad looks to take the next step heading into the spring. With a roster that includes two freshmen, two sophomores and a junior among its starting five, the squad is one of the youngest teams in the Big South.

That young core carried the team last season — Jordan Boulton '19, a business major from Mansfield, England, Adam Szwed '19, a business major from Woodbridge, and Nick Contini '18, a business major from Granville, Ohio — led the team in stroke average. Now those three will lead the Lancers into the spring after a fall in which Contini notched three straight top-15 finishes and Boulton carded a top-five finish at the EKU Intercollegiate.

Lancers fans can get a firsthand look at Fillman's 2016-17 squad in April when Longwood hosts the Longwood/Manor Intercollegiate on April 1-2 at The Manor Golf Club in Farmville.

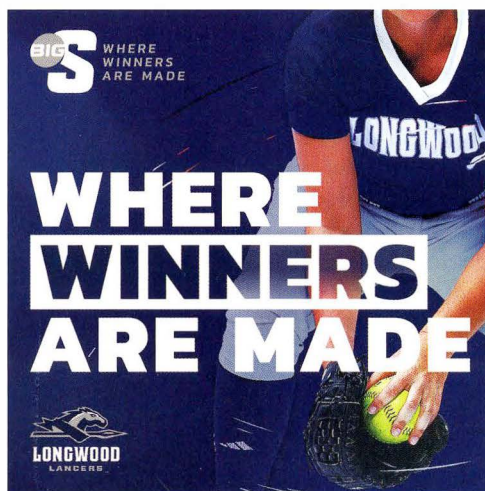


# Lancer Roundup



## Big South Conference unveils new league identity

The Big South Conference recently introduced its new brand identity, highlighting the league's commitment to its student-athletes and re-establishing the conference's vitality, personality and longstanding success in NCAA Division I athletics under a new mantra: "Where Winners Are Made."



The unveiling in January featured a leaguewide effort that showcased Big South student-athletes from all 10 member institutions on social media, videos and regional advertising materials. Representing Longwood were Darrion Allen '17, men's basketball, a criminal justice major from Pompano Beach, Florida; Rosen Ilchev '17, men's tennis, a kinesiology major from Sliven, Bulgaria; and Elizabeth McCarthy '17, softball, a kinesiology major from Dunnsville. Also as part of the campaign, Longwood athletics is now featured on multiple billboards in Richmond and the Farmville area.

## Point guard breaks basketball assists record for women

Women's basketball point guard Micaela Ellis '18, a kinesiology major from Oak Park, Michigan, broke Longwood's single-game assists record this season, dishing 15 dimes as part of a double-double effort in an 83-78 win



Micaela Ellis '18

over Winthrop on Feb. 11. The 15-assist performance snapped a 30-year-old record previously held by Caren Forbes, whose 13 assists had topped Longwood's list since the 1986-87 season.

The double-digit assist performance was the second of the season for Ellis, a team captain who leads the Big South in assists and minutes per game.



Darrion Allen '17

## Men's basketball senior joins 1,000-point club

Men's basketball guard Darrion Allen '17, a criminal justice major from Pompano Beach, Florida, joined a prestigious club this season when he scored the 1,000th point of his four-year career as a Lancer. Allen, who was part of head coach Jayson Gee's first recruiting class at Longwood, became the fifth Lancer of Longwood's 10-year Division I era to join the 1,000-point club and the 21st in school history.

That milestone punctuated a standout career for the 6-2, 176-pound shooting guard, who leads the Big South in minutes per and ranks among the conference's top 10 in scoring, free throw percentage, made 3-pointers per game and blocks. One of the top free throw shooters in school history, he ranks among Longwood's all-time top five in career free throw percentage.

## SAAC officers elected

Longwood's Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) elected its new officers in

November. The organization is made up of student-athletes who provide insight into the student-athlete experience as well as input on the rules, regulations and policies that affect student-athletes' lives on NCAA member institution campuses.

**New officers are —**

**President: Jenna Tomayko '18**, women's soccer, a sociology major from Fredericksburg

**Vice President: Rosen Ilchev '17**, men's tennis, a kinesiology major from Sliven, Bulgaria

**Treasurer: Patrick Gobran '18**, men's golf, a business major from Edmonton, Alberta

**Secretary: Jon Peterson '19**, baseball, a finance major from Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**At-large Representatives: Marten Pajunurm '18**, men's soccer, an economics major from Rapla, Estonia; and **Halle Parker '18**, women's soccer, a communication studies major from Spotsylvania

**SGA Representative: Crystina Kertsos '18**, women's golf, a business major from Pickering, Ontario



## Longwood and Shentel Cable strike broadcast partnership

Longwood athletics has partnered with regional telecommunications company Shentel to air all home basketball games on a dedicated Shentel channel, expanding the Lancers' broadcast footprint to the company's coverage areas in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Shentel subscribers can watch Longwood men's and women's basketball Big South Network broadcasts on Channel 81. The games will be simulcasts of the Big South Network productions, which provide live, high-definition coverage of more than 50 Longwood athletics contests each year. Longwood plans to extend the coverage to its baseball and softball programs this spring, and the field hockey, lacrosse and men's and women's soccer programs next season.

The partnership with Shentel, formally Shenandoah Telecommunications Company, is in addition to Longwood's existing broadcast options on the Big South Network and Farmville radio station WVHL 92.9 Kickin' Country FM. Founded in 1902, Shentel is a publicly traded telecommunications company based in Edinburg that provides cable, telephone and Internet services throughout the mid-Atlantic region.



## Better than Fiction

### Day After Graduation podcast shares candid stories from life after commencement



Life after graduation can take some interesting twists and turns.

You might find yourself at a dump in Yellowstone National Park after work, observing—from the safety of your car—the nightly show of bears, wolves and other wildlife that come to dine at what they consider the park's finest eatery. Or you might be shaking your head over how you ended up performing for President Bill Clinton at the White House when it seems like just yesterday you were playing for tips in Farmville.

These are the kinds of stories listeners can expect from a new weekly podcast series launched last month by the Office of Alumni and Career Services. Dubbed the “Day after Graduation” podcast, the series features “unique, compelling stories from the real world as alumni transition from college to career,” said Ryan Catherwood, assistant vice president for alumni and career services. The series focuses on, but is not limited to, experiences from one to three years after graduation.

“It will be candid and brutally honest,” said Paige Rollins ’15, assistant director of live digital events, who co-hosts the podcasts with Catherwood and Brian Rose ’11. “I hope listening to this will trigger a memory. We want people to listen to this and say, ‘Oh, that reminds me of something that happened to me.’”

Catherwood said the podcast series provides “an opportunity for alumni to share their experiences and aspirations—stories of adventure, misfortune or success—in the years immediately following graduation. Some of the stories are professional, and some are more entertainment. It’s not biographies—just interesting stories.”

The podcast, which is free, can be accessed from the alumni website ([www.longwood.edu/](http://www.longwood.edu/)

alumni) or career website ([www.longwood.edu/career](http://www.longwood.edu/career)). When you subscribe, it can be automatically downloaded via the Podcasts or iTunes app on Apple devices and through the Stitcher app on an Android.

Episodes typically are 20-30 minutes and feature interviews with two or three people, most of whom are Longwood graduates,

after graduation. Pat McGee, a successful musician who attended Longwood and played for Bill Clinton, is one of several musicians who share what it’s like to be a musician struggling to “make it.”

“We know this is a new medium, but we think our alumni will like this. It’s been challenging but a lot of fun,” said Cather-



**‘This is an opportunity for alumni to share their experiences and aspirations—stories of adventure, misfortune or success—in the years immediately following graduation.’ — RYAN CATHERWOOD,**

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI AND CAREER SERVICES

though students and friends of the university also are featured.

Other interviewees in the first season, which features 10 episodes and will end the week after commencement, include an alum who did seasonal work for a zipline company in Alaska catering to cruise ships and one who wrecked three cars in the first four months

wood, whose interviews have taken him to North Carolina, while Rollins’ interviews have taken her to Washington, D.C., and New York.

The second season is expected to begin in fall 2017. If you have a story to share, either about yourself or someone else, email [career@longwood.edu](mailto:career@longwood.edu).





The second annual Alumni Family Game Day drew about 400 alumni and family members.

## Lancers big and small enjoy second annual Alumni Family Game Day

About 400 alumni and family members enjoyed the festivities of the second annual Alumni Family Game Day on Jan. 14.

Inflatables, raffle giveaways, food and games, a cheer camp, kid-oriented science experiments and campus tours were part of the indoor game day party. The day began with "Breakfast with Elwood" and concluded with a men's basketball game in Willett Hall.

"This was a day of fun for all ages and lots of smiles," said Nicole Perkins '05, associate director of campus events in the alumni office. "Parents reconnected and re-engaged with Longwood and created a love of Longwood among their kids—a new generation of little Lancers."

An especially popular feature was the two-person "Mad Science" team, who in hands-on activities explained such concepts as why bubbles pop in your hand but not in your hair or on your clothes. Another new twist was the Toddler Zone, a functional fitness room with gymnastics mats where Natalie Kelly-Kimmel, owner of Motion Gymnastics and Tumbling Center of Farmville, led "our smallest Lancers in crawling around, learning how to roll, and reaching and pulling," said Perkins. More than 50 people climbed the rock wall in the Health and Fitness Center, where most of the activities took place.

"As a student, I knew I belonged to something bigger," said Perkins. "This event captures that feeling for me. It demonstrates how vibrant the Longwood family really is."

Alumni Family Game Day involves partnerships with the Department of Athletics, the Health and Fitness Center, ARAMARK and the offices of Admissions and Institutional Advancement.

## ClassNotes

### 1970s

**Bonnie Davis '71** retired in September 2016 after 23 years as a Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judge in the 12th District, which encompasses Chesterfield County and Colonial Heights. The first woman appointed to a judgeship in Chesterfield County, Davis served previously as an assistant commonwealth's attorney in the county (1983-93) and spent three years in private practice. Before attending the University of Richmond School of Law, from which she graduated in 1980, she taught for six years at Salem Church Middle School in Chesterfield.

**Dr. Molly O'Dell '76** retired from practicing medicine in November 2016 after 35 years. She was the first female Longwood graduate to go straight to medical school, graduating from the Medical College of Virginia in 1980, and the second female graduate to become a doctor. "I would never have gone to med school without the encouragement and excellent instruction I received at Longwood," said O'Dell, who was medical director of the Virginia Department of Health's New River Health District for the last five years of her career.

**Alice Morgan Konchuba '77** has published a children's book, *Just Like Me*, which contains activities for all ages and is to be used as a resource for families to initiate conversations about Alzheimer's disease. The book, which received a Readers' Favorite Five Stars review, was a "Longwood family endeavor," said Konchuba, a retired biomedical researcher who lives in Virginia Beach. One of Konchuba's Longwood suitemates, **Lindy Zwart Brammer '77**, is the mother of the book's illustrator, Kristen Brammer, and another suitemate, **Christy Moody Davis '77**, is the book's editor. Another classmate, **Debra Kennedy '77**, was one of the book's reviewers.

**Susan Delong Smith '79** was selected to attend an astronomy educators institute in June 2016 sponsored by the University of Texas at McDonald Observatory at Fort Davis, Texas. During four days of classroom and telescope observation experiences, 15 teachers from around the United States learned about the Giant Magellan Telescope currently being constructed

in Chile. They also were able to drive the observatory's large telescopes and view Saturn and Jupiter, and their moons, through the smaller telescopes.

### 1980s

**Doreen Shuffler Hartman '80** has been a first-grade teacher at Boyertown Elementary in Boyertown, Pennsylvania, since 1992. She taught from 1980-92 at Thalia Elementary in Virginia Beach, her hometown.

**Steve Wooten '86** was appointed in January to the new position of vice president for information technology for Dominion. He is responsible for IT applications development and support, including IT infrastructure operations, infrastructure construction and cyber security operations. Wooten started his Dominion career in 1987 as a financial analyst and has worked in several IT positions.



### Alumnus takes reins of 56,000-member counseling association

**Dr. Gerard Lawson, M.S. '97**, will assume the presidency of the American Counseling Association, with more than 56,000 members, on July 1. Lawson, associate professor of counselor education at Virginia Tech, has been the organization's vice president since July 2016. He is a former chair of the ACA Taskforce on Crisis Response Planning. He was the national president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision from 2011-12. He was president of the Virginia Counselors Association from 2009-10. A licensed professional counselor, Lawson is the author of 29 peer-reviewed journal articles and 12 book chapters. Awards he has received include the inaugural Martin Ritchie Award for Advocacy from the Virginia Counselors Association in 2015.

**Susan Woodcock Tisdale '89**, president of Web Development Technology Partners, Inc., in Williamsburg, was appointed to Longwood's College of Business and Economics Advisory Board in September 2016. Tisdale's digital media company, founded in 1998, specializes in website development, custom database application development, social media management and corporate branding. She serves on the board of directors for First Night Williamsburg as vice president of marketing and communications.

**Liz Meindl Villa '89** is a special education teacher and department chair at Issaquah Middle School in Issaquah, Washington, where she has lived for 12 years. She and her husband, Christopher, are owners of i9 Sports Puget Sound, a Seattle-area youth sports organization in which 2,400 athletes ages 4-14 participate each season. She formerly taught special education in Hanover and Henrico counties.

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### Choral director elected VP of VEA

**Dr. James Fedderman '98** is the vice president of the Virginia Education Association. Fedderman was elected in April 2016, and his two-year term began in August. He plans to run for re-election, then run for VEA president. He is one of two Virginia representatives on the National Education Association board of directors. He has been president for four years of the Accomack Education Association, in his home county. In February, he was named Teacher of the Year for District II (Eastern Shore, Norfolk and Virginia Beach). Fedderman is the choral director at Arcadia High School, from which he graduated, and Arcadia Middle School. The high school chorus performed at the White House in 2012.





Keeping Longwood in the family: Shawnta Farrar '00 (left), Stacie Whisonant '03, Wartena Crowder Somerville '06, Sonya E. Ragsdale '10, Hattie Farrar '95, Christy Falika Grigg '09, Sierra Hurt '10, Kimberlee Whisonant '06 and Tacarra Marchman '08.

## Power Base

### One woman, raised by sharecroppers, fulfills her parents' dream and starts a far-reaching family tradition of learning at Longwood



When Hattie Farrar '95 was a child, she and her 11 siblings worked for neighbors picking blackberries, raking yards and doing domestic work in order to pay for basic school supplies like notebook paper.

"We had each other but we had absolutely no money," recalled Farrar, who, as the first in her family to graduate from a four-year college, has so far inspired several other female relatives to graduate from Longwood, including her daughter, Shawnta Farrar '00, and niece, Stacie Whisonant '03. (Whisonant is founder and CEO of PYT Funds, an online lending platform that provides micro-loans to help low- to moderate-income college students meet gaps in paying for higher education.)

Raised in a two-room farmhouse with no electricity or running water in Kenbridge, Hattie Farrar was the child of African-American tobacco sharecroppers who grew vegetables and raised chickens and hogs for food. When Farrar graduated from high school in 1972, her guidance counselor never asked her about college. "It was pretty much assumed that you would go work in a factory perhaps

or just get married and stay on the farm."

However, her mother, Sarah Freeman Boswell, an ardent local civil rights activist with a third-grade education, and her father, Clyde Boswell, a hard-working sharecropper with no formal schooling, preached to their children about the transformative power of education. Their words sank in.

Farrar started out working at a textiles factory, but later, as a married mother of two, she worked full time at department stores and as a grocery store department manager to put herself through Southside Virginia Community College and Longwood, where she earned her bachelor's degree in social work.

Farrar is especially happy that her parents, who died in the 2000s, lived long enough to see her graduate from college. Her mother was elated, Farrar said. "She never stopped believing this could happen." Farrar went on to earn her master's in social work from Virginia Commonwealth University and today works as the director of the Mecklenburg County Victim/Witness Assistance Program.

"Aunt Hattie is the pioneer of all of this," said Farrar's niece, Stacie Whisonant, whose business has been featured in *Forbes* magazine.

PYT Funds, she said, was spun out "of this lineage of females who value education so much, and now I've gone on to try to help many more families do what we were able to accomplish."

Whisonant's cousin, Sierra Robertson Hurt '10, said: "We are a close-knit family and Longwood embodies that. You aren't just students there; even the professors make you feel as if you might be one of their own." Hurt attended Longwood concurrently with five other cousins: Stacie Whisonant's sister, Kimberlee Whisonant '06; Wartena Crowder Somerville '06; Tacarra Marchman '08; Christy Falika Grigg '09; and Sonya E. Ragsdale '10.

Today, Farrar continues to encourage the younger generations coming up in her family to attend Longwood "because Longwood has been good to us. It was a place that wasn't created for us but yet it is ours and that's all that matters. We have to build a legacy. We encourage them to go take your place. It's there for you, but nobody's going to hand it to you. My parents created this small path but look at how wide the road is now."

—Richard Foster





Rob Havey '01

## Alumni work together to endow scholarship in memory of 2001 grad

Rob Havey '01 — the embodiment of citizen leadership as a student and as an alumnus — died unexpectedly in March 2016. Through the Rob Havey Leadership Scholarship, created by friends and family, his legacy of leadership and service to others will continue.

As a student, Havey was president of SGA and the College of Business and Economics Dean's Student Advisory Board and a member of Princeps and Mortar Board. Vice president of talent acquisition for UDig, a Richmond-based technology consulting firm, he chaired the business college's Alumni Advisory Board for six of the nine years he served on it.

Spearheading the effort to endow the scholarship are Sarah Mesner '03 and Ellen Masters '97. Once it is fully funded, the scholarship will be awarded to a business student. Criteria include involvement in at least one on- or off-campus organization and demonstrating "leadership, humility, ambition, compassion and a commitment to community."

"Rob was an exceptional leader, a driven student and a steadfast friend," said Mesner. "As an active alumnus, he continued to serve the Longwood community through gifts of time, talent and treasure."

More than \$16,000 had been raised in gifts and pledges as of press time, an impressive figure considering that fundraising began only in August 2016, said Katherine Bulifant '13, M.S. '14, director of campus philanthropy. Endowing a scholarship requires a minimum of \$25,000.

Havey's parents, Bob and Teresa Havey of Glen Allen, and Havey's wife, Sallie, also of Glen Allen, provided input on the scholarship.

To contribute to the scholarship, contact Bulifant at 434-395-2032 or bulifantkm@longwood.edu.

## ClassNotes

Continued from Page 42

### 1990s

**Robin Burroughs Davis '90, M.S. '93**, was appointed vice president for student development and dean of students at Colby-Sawyer College in October 2016. She has worked since 1996 at Colby-Sawyer, a private school in New London, New Hampshire. She worked at Longwood from 1993-96, first as GIVE coordinator and later as a residence education coordinator for Stubbs and ARC. In April 2016, she earned a law degree from Northwestern California University School of Law.

**Christie Champion Fidura '92** became senior developer marketing manager with Salesforce in December 2016. She works out of the London office and "runs events, campaigns and activities across the globe with the developer relations team to connect with the developer community," she said. She had previously spent two years consulting in marketing and community management.

**Erin Thomas-Foley '97** was among 21 honorees recognized in December 2016 in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch's* 2016 Person of the Year program, which spotlights people who have made notable contributions to the Richmond region. Thomas-Foley is senior director of education for the School of the Performing Arts in the Richmond Community (SPARC). She founded and directs SPARC Live Art, an inclusive arts education program that culminates in a cross-pollinated arts concert featuring nationally recognized musicians. She is married to **Tony Foley '98**.

### 2000s

**Audrey Stump Curles '01**, a teacher at Tyrrell Elementary in Columbia, North Carolina, was selected WITN Teacher of the Week in November 2016. WITN is an NBC-affiliate TV station in Greenville, North Carolina. Curles has taught since 2005 at the school, where she is a media and technology instructional support leader in the library. Previously she taught kindergarten for five years, as well as fourth and fifth grades.

**Dr. Kendall Lee '01** has been appointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe to

the Virginia Interagency Coordinating Council to serve an unexpired term beginning Nov. 1 and ending Sept. 30, 2018. The council advises and assists the Infant and Toddler Connection of Virginia, a program that provides support and services to children from birth through age 2 with developmental delays or disabilities, and their families. Lee is system manager of the Infant and Toddler Connection of the Heartland, part of Longwood's Speech, Hearing and Learning Services.

**Justin Cullivan '04** was promoted to area builder manager for the homes division of HHHunt Homes in October 2016. He works out of the Richmond office and has been with the company since 2012. Previously he worked for Royal Dominion Homes and Ryan Homes.

**Natasha Gill '04**, who has worked for Benchmark Community Bank for 14 years, was promoted to branch manager in Victoria in September 2016. Gill started as a summer and Saturday teller while at Longwood, later moving up to positions as customer service representative, internal auditor, branch assistant and relationship banker.

### Hyatt Hotels honors longtime employee

**Dan King '81**, general manager of Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa, was awarded Hyatt Hotels Corporation's 2015 Jay A. Pritzker Award for Leadership. A lifetime achievement award, the award honors people who have consistently demonstrated their ability as leaders, coaches and mentors. The company describes honorees as high achievers leading top-performing hotels who are viewed as role models of Hyatt's purpose and values. "Dan exudes a special energy and spirit that embodies this award," said Senior Vice President for Operations Jordan Meisner. "He has an innate manner in which he is able to provide genuine, authentic hospitality to his customers and hotel guests. Dan is also an exemplary leader in the community and teaches his staff by example, with great humility." King is responsible for overseeing the 500-room property and its 728 associates. A veteran in the hospitality industry, he has worked in 12 Hyatt hotels across the United States during his 35-year tenure with the company.

**Matt Paciocco '04** joined Bank of Lancaster as senior vice president, commercial banking, in January. He is responsible for developing commercial banking relationships in the Richmond region, where he has more than 12 years' experience specializing in retail and commercial banking. Most recently, he was vice president in commercial lending with Park Sterling Bank.

**Megan Langley Funk '05**, and her husband Matt, welcomed their second child, Meredith Claire, on Sept. 26. The couple also has a son, Matthew, who will turn 3 in April.

**Dr. Ashley Pollard '05** joined Southern Dominion Health System's Family Dentistry in Victoria in December 2016. Pollard, a board-certified dentist, attended Howard University's College of Dentistry and did her residency at Lutheran Medical Center in Arizona.

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### Alumnus founds 'Netflix for comics'

**Alex Odom '08, M.A. '10**, is the founder, president and CEO of Plume Snake, a membership-based digital archive of creator-owned comic books and graphic novels. Plume Snake, which launched in June 2016, provides subscribers unlimited access to its library. Comic book creators who distribute their titles through Plume Snake retain the rights to their work, unlike with comic book giants Marvel and DC Comics, and the network of creators gets 60 percent of net profits from membership sales. "We're like Netflix for comics," said Odom. **Austin Eichelberger '07, M.A. '09**, is Plume Snake's vice president, and **Curt Pilgrim '08** is among the company's artists. Odom also is a freelance writer who has published fiction and nonfiction, including a book of poetry, and he has had plays produced internationally.



# Big Plans

## First Mega Reunion Weekend promises to live up to its name



If you want to spend the night on campus, sling red or green paint at your rival class and party with former classmates, you won't want to miss the first Mega Reunion Weekend, June 2-4.

The celebration for alumni from 1967 through 2012 will include decade-specific dinners, parties with live entertainment, alumni color wars, mini reunions for campus organizations and faculty talks. You'll even have an opportunity to spend the night in one of the residence halls.

Friday's activities include open houses (sites include Moton Museum, Greenwood Library, the LCVA and academic halls), campus tours, decade dinners and after party. Among festivities Saturday are an alumni golf tournament hosted by the Lancer Club; faculty talks; mini reunions; a celebration including dinner, live music and fireworks, and a late-night breakfast. A memorial service and brunch are set for Sunday.

On Saturday, campus clubs and organizations will have an opportunity to reserve a tent on Stubbs Lawn, mirroring the Oktoberfest and Spring Weekend booths. The Office of Alumni and Career Services will help each group plan its mini reunion.

The Class of 1967 will celebrate its 50th reunion with a welcome luncheon Friday at Longwood House and a dinner that evening served family-style in the former dining hall (now Blackwell Ballroom). Members of that class will gather Saturday for class photos, a special luncheon and their Gold Society pinning ceremony.

"Call your friends and make plans to be there," said Ryan Catherwood, assistant vice president for alumni and career services, adding that advance registration is strongly encouraged.

The Mega Reunion Weekend is open to all alumni regardless of their graduation year but focuses on those



The first Mega Reunion Weekend will be held at Longwood June 2-4.

celebrating their fifth through 50th reunions, marked at five-year intervals. This year's reunion will be anchored by the classes whose graduation years end in "2" or "7," from 1967 to 2012, as well as the classes of 1971 and 1976, who missed celebrating their 40th and 45th reunions last fall due to the makeover of the reunion format.

Those changes not only led to the Mega Reunion Weekend, Longwood's signature reunion, but also two fall reunions targeting special groups of alumni. The Joan of Arc Celebration (see story at right) is for alums who have already celebrated their 50th reunion. Those who graduated within the last four years will be invited back during Oktoberfest weekend.

To register for the Mega Reunion Weekend and sign up your affinity group for a tent on Stubbs, visit [go.longwood.edu/megareunion](http://go.longwood.edu/megareunion). If you want to help with planning, email [reunion@longwood.edu](mailto:reunion@longwood.edu) or call 434-395-2044.

## New reunions will include Joan of Arc Celebration Sept. 29-30

If you graduated in 1966 or earlier, you're invited to be part of Longwood history this September.

The first Joan of Arc Celebration, an event for alumni who have already celebrated their 50th reunion, is set for Sept. 29-30. The reunion will focus on the classes of 1962, 1957, 1952 and 1947, though all classes from 1966 and before are invited. If you want to be part of the class committees that are forming, call the alumni office at 434-395-2044 or email [reunion@longwood.edu](mailto:reunion@longwood.edu).

The format for the Joan of Arc celebration is related to the recent changes in Longwood reunions, which include the first Mega Reunion Weekend, June 2-4, for classes celebrating their fifth through their 50th reunions.

"The Joan of Arc Celebration will be more nostalgia-based and have more social elements than the Mega Weekend," said Ryan Catherwood, assistant vice president for alumni and career services.

"For example, alumni can meet and greet their classmates at a tea party that Friday, and we'll re-create the family-style dining in the old D-hall and have baked Alaska."

Alumni who graduated 50 years ago will still receive their Gold Society pin, Catherwood added.

Registration will open this summer. Keep an eye on [www.longwood.edu/alumni](http://www.longwood.edu/alumni) for additional details in the coming months.

## Alumni events set for Richmond and D.C. baseball games

Baseball fans in the Richmond and Washington, D.C., areas, mark your calendars.

Get-togethers for local alumni and friends will be held before the Richmond Flying Squirrels game June 24 and the Washington Nationals game July 8. Both games are on Saturday.

A family picnic will take place prior to the Flying Squirrels game, which begins at 6:05 p.m. The picnic will kick off at about 4:30. The Flying Squirrels are the Double-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants and play their home games at The Diamond (3001 North Boulevard).



For the Nationals game, set for 4:05 p.m., a pregame party will be held at the D.C. Fairgrounds, located immediately outside the center field entrance to Nationals Park (1500 South Capitol St.).

For more information, visit [www.longwood.edu/alumni](http://www.longwood.edu/alumni).



## InMemoriam

LISTED IN ORDER OF CLASS YEAR

Marguerite Evelyn Bailey '28 Nov. 30, 2016  
 Dorothy Ranson Proudman '34 Dec. 5, 2016  
 Annie Hunter Tweedy '39 Oct. 13, 2016  
 Frances Moore Rawlings '42 Jan. 26, 2017  
 Anne Brooks Givens '43 Nov. 20, 2016  
 Frances Mallory Miller '43 Oct. 9, 2016  
 Rosemary Elam Pritchard '44 Jan. 14, 2017  
 Gloria Sheppard Beane '45 Dec. 6, 2016  
 Eleanor Corell Orrell '45 Dec. 30, 2016  
 Alice Nichols Proterra '45 Sept. 20, 2016  
 Martha Higgins Walton '45 Oct. 26, 2016  
 Ann Shaw Davis '46 Sept. 29, 2016  
 Anne Summers Lumpkin '46 Jan. 2, 2017  
 Martha Droste Gillum '47 Sept. 30, 2016  
 Dorothy Bennett Sierveld '47 Oct. 1, 2016  
 Lee Carter Wilson '47 Oct. 4, 2016  
 Eleanor Putney Goodman '48 Oct. 8, 2016  
 Adeline Dodd Wilkerson '48 Sept. 14, 2016  
 Doris Lanier Cocke '49 Nov. 15, 2016  
 Anne Galloway Reddish '49 Jan. 2, 2017  
 Frances Hughes Dillon '50 Nov. 14, 2016  
 Helen Casey Plaine '51 Dec. 24, 2016  
 Ann Lamb Hutchinson '52 Sept. 19, 2016  
 Winston Johnson Briggs '53 Oct. 28, 2016  
 Billie Van de Riet Merritt '53 Oct. 25, 2016  
 Barbara Allen Garrett '55 Dec. 8, 2016  
 Lanier Gurley Gresham '55 Nov. 12, 2016  
 George Powell Elliott '56 Oct. 11, 2016  
 Anne Caldwell Cake '57 Jan. 4, 2017  
 Mary Stokes Warren '59 Nov. 15, 2016  
 Barbara Odom Wright '59 Nov. 6, 2016  
 Nancy Virginia Speakman '61 Oct. 26, 2016  
 Carolyn Clopton Ippolito '62 Nov. 17, 2016  
 Anne Yinger McCann '62 Dec. 9, 2016  
 Jane Hanger Saunders '62 Oct. 14, 2016  
 Mildred Swift Robertson '63 Oct. 26, 2016  
 Mary Barnes Bates '65 Oct. 23, 2016  
 Patsy Hundley Barr '66 Jan. 4, 2017  
 Royce Rankin Haralson '66 Nov. 28, 2016  
 Cheryl Rose Bradley '68 Dec. 1, 2016  
 Sarah Jane Dowdy '68 Jan. 17, 2017  
 Susan Gibbs Cumbey '72 Nov. 16, 2016  
 Lorene Spencer Lessing '74 Dec. 20, 2016  
 Nancy Ward Hawkes '75 Nov. 12, 2016  
 Margie Bible Hartman '80 Oct. 12, 2016  
 Melissa Jane Lang '83 Nov. 6, 2016  
 Sharon Barton Mielewski '83 Jan. 6, 2017  
 Jonathan Avery Goddin '89 Dec. 21, 2016  
 Jon William Proffitt '94 Oct. 5, 2016  
 Jerome Milton Reed '01 Jan. 5, 2017  
 Justin Scott Riggsby '02 Dec. 10, 2016  
 Elizabeth Grey Sexton '02 Nov. 14, 2016  
 Jason Scott Jones '03 Dec. 7, 2016  
 Daniel Everard Juraschek '03 Dec. 22, 2016  
 Matthew Elliott Johnson '08 Nov. 17, 2016  
 Amanda Jewel Martyn '16 Oct. 4, 2016

### FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

Robert A. Bracey Sept. 25, 2016  
 Martha Stokes Cleveland Sept. 24, 2016  
 Nellie M. Coles Nov. 24, 2016  
 Amelia Tinkham Deszyck Sept. 16, 2016  
 Roy W. Hill Sept. 23, 2016  
 Inge Ziegler Hrubos Jan. 2, 2017  
 Eugene Salisbury Kokinski Sept. 16, 2016  
 Robert O. Martinelli Oct. 1, 2016  
 John Langdon Moss Jan. 10, 2017  
 Alfred Charles Pezold Oct. 15, 2016  
 Myron Curtis Proefrock Oct. 1, 2016  
 Marie-Louise F. Putney Sept. 16, 2016  
 Lynn Alcott Scoville Oct. 12, 2016  
 David B. Stein Dec. 18, 2016



AMT Photography &amp; Digital Design

Robert Turner '86 and his wife, Carol Turner, have raised \$750,000 to support e3kids, the nonprofit they founded.

## Going All In

### Alumnus and his family start nonprofit organization to aid children in Kenya and Guatemala

It's not often (or probably never) that the sinking of a well sets off a tsunami, but that's exactly what happened to Robert Turner '86 and his family.

#### Person of Interest

Eight years ago, Turner's wife, Carol, was visiting a school in Kenya founded by Christian missionaries she'd met in Fredericksburg, where the Turners live. "Carol called saying the school needed a well," recalled Turner, who happened to have a source of funds from a recent inheritance. "I felt we should do it. But then we had to decide whether to just do a stopgap or to go all in."

The Turners opted to go all in, which led to the founding of e3kids, a nonprofit organization that so far has raised \$750,000 to provide aid to communities in Kenya and Guatemala. Specifically the organization is involved with two schools in Mikidani, which is near Mom-basa, Kenya, and also works with other communities in the area to advance children's health care and education. More recently, e3kids branched out to Guatemala, working with an established organization, Hope of Life, whose mission is to promote family-style living for orphans in institutional care.

"Our motto is equip, empower and educate," said Turner. "Our vision all along has been to help enable communities to give back and pass it on. Many of the Kenyan students have become educated and returned to the

schools as teachers."

Once the school or other project is off the ground with funding from e3kids, volunteers are sent to partner schools to serve in diverse areas—teaching language, music, arts and science; coaching sports; providing advice and expertise—and whatever else is necessary to keep the wheels turning. The diverse and energetic pool of about 30 to 60 volunteers includes the Turners' three daughters (ages 16, 18 and 23), who are heavily involved in both Fredericksburg and Kenya.

As board members, the Turners help map out e3kids' initiatives and fundraising efforts to support them, including selling handicrafts from Kenya and Guatemala, hosting fundraisers and encouraging child sponsorship. They're also involved in the day-to-day running of the organization that started out in the basement of their family home.

"Carol's marketing degree and small business experience have proved instrumental, and my background as a therapist helps," said Turner, who graduated with undergraduate degrees in government and education from Longwood and later earned a master's degree in counseling from VCU. In addition to his work with e3kids, Turner is employed full time as a therapist in private practice.

"This experience has been fulfilling beyond anything we imagined," said Turner. "It's become a big part of our life, and we'll continue to be of service as long as we're able."

—Patrick Folliard



## ClassNotes

Continued from Page 44

**Elena Ashburn '07** became the principal of Broughton High School in Raleigh, North Carolina, in February. She had been principal of East Garner Middle School since 2014, was assistant principal of Fuquay-Varina High School from 2012-14 and began her career as a teacher at Southern Durham High School, all in North Carolina.

**Oscar Gonzalez '07** was promoted to manager of project planning for Karyopharm Therapeutics in January 2017. Gonzalez manages the synchronization and communication of activities and timelines across all departments involved in the company's phase III clinical trial of its anticancer agent Selinexor against multiple myeloma, including data management, sample management, contract, legal, medical writing, product strategy and the project managers. The study includes 364 patients across 25 clinical sites in 20 countries around the world. Karyopharm Therapeutics is based in a Boston suburb.

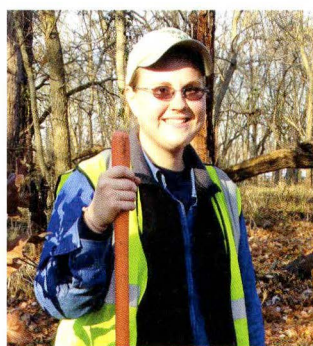
**Melissa Snook Rose '09** joined ABNB Federal Credit Union as marketing manager in September 2016. She directs the development, implementation and maintenance of strategic plans for the Chesapeake-based credit union, which has 18 branch locations. She previously was marketing director of Bayside Harley-Davidson and marketing coordinator for nTelos Wireless' Virginia East Region.

## 2010s

**Brandon Carter '10** is a private acting coach and consultant who is director of Commonwealth Theatre Consulting. He consults for young theater artists and their "terrified parents," college students prepping for the profession and nontheater-affiliated companies and established artists. He also provides specialized services for established theater artists. Carter, a member of the Actors' Equity Association, was a full-time actor living in New York City for four years before moving to Richmond in October 2016. He continues to perform regionally and internationally at venues including The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Apollo Theater, theaters in South Africa and Scotland, and the Richmond Shakespeare Festival.

**Allison Maupin '10** and **Sean Reed '06** were married Oct. 1, 2016, on Bucks Elbow Mountain in Crozet, then honeymooned on Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. Allison became assistant director of annual giving at Washington and Lee University in 2015 after teaching at Varina High School in Henrico County for four years and earning a master's degree from the University of Virginia, where she worked in the Office of the Dean of Students. Sean works in UVA's College of Arts and Sciences as a fiscal technician.

**Jordan Miles '10** became managing editor of Farmville Newsmedia LLC in January. Miles, who served previously in this role before stepping back to senior staff writer,

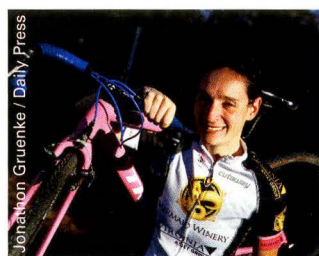


### Kentucky forest gets TLC from South Hill native

**April Harris '13** is the land management supervisor for the largest municipal urban forest in the United States. Harris is responsible for preserving and restoring the 6,500-acre Jefferson Memorial Forest, located 15 miles south of downtown Louisville, Kentucky, and its more than 35 miles of trails. She and her staff—two full-time rangers and three AmeriCorps volunteers—conduct trail maintenance, remove invasive species and restore natural habitats through prescribed burns, tree planting (including 600 trees in October and November) and litter cleanup. "I spend about 90 percent of almost every day outdoors," said Harris, a South Hill native who began her job in September 2016, a few months after receiving a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Harris especially enjoys "getting to run a lot of large equipment," including a mini-excavator and a Ditch Witch. "It's a good day when you spend all day on a piece of equipment," she said.

leads editorial and newsgathering operations for the *Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch*, *The Farmville Herald*, *The Charlotte Gazette*, *Farmville the Magazine* and other print and digital products. Before joining *The Farmville Herald* in 2013, Miles was a news reporter and anchor for WFLO Radio in Farmville.

**Ashley Valk '12** and **Ronnie Coleman** were married on Dec. 17, 2016.



### Rugged cycling skills net national title for 2008 grad

**Avanell Schmitz Scales '08** won a national championship in January in cyclocross, a rugged type of off-road bicycle racing. Scales captured the masters women 30-34 division at the 2017 USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championships in Hartford, Connecticut. She was one of 23 racers in her division. Scales, who lives in Newport News and is manager of Williamsburg BikeBeat, has competed since 2009 in cyclocross, in which riders dismount, carry their bikes while navigating obstacles and remount. This was her third consecutive year competing in the national championships, where she finished third in January 2016 in Asheville, North Carolina. She competes in about 20-25 races during the season, which runs from September to January. Scales began competing at age 12 in mountain bike racing, which in recent years has taken a back seat to her passion for cyclocross. However, she hopes to qualify for this year's mountain bike racing nationals in July in Snowshoe, West Virginia. In another form of racing, Scales won her age group for the Race 13.1 Richmond Half Marathon in May 2016 and competed March 12 in her first marathon, the Newport News One City Marathon. A pianist who teaches private lessons, Scales was a music major at Longwood, where she was a member of the Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble B, the Cycling Club and the field hockey team.

**Patrick Barnes '13** and **Lydia Bertero '13** were married Nov. 5, 2016. Patrick is a high-school history teacher, and Lydia works in risk management for the state.

**Hannah Flaherty '14** graduated in May 2016 with a master's degree in information security policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University. Since June 2016, she has worked as an information security risk analyst for General Motors. Her position, in Atlanta, grew out of an internship at GM during summer 2015. As a Longwood student in 2013, she was selected for a summer research internship in Carnegie Mellon's graduate information technology program, one of the top programs of its kind in the world.

**Martha Scruggs, M.S. '14**, a speech-language pathologist with the Campbell County schools, was named the 2016-17 Teacher of the Year for Altavista Elementary, her home school, in January. Scruggs, a graduate of Longwood's communication sciences and disorders program, is in the third year of her position, in which she serves four schools in the Altavista area (the award is sponsored by the Altavista Chamber of Commerce). She previously was an elementary teacher in Pittsylvania County for 13 years.

**Jordan VanBrackle '14** married Patrick Roche on Aug. 27, 2016, at the Historic Tredegar Ironworks in Richmond. The couple honeymooned in Aruba. VanBrackle works for Dominion Virginia Power.

**Rachel West '14, M.S. '15**, and **Sean Crawford '14** became engaged in December 2016. They met in Wheeler residence hall their freshman year as members of the Cormier Honors College. They plan to marry in 2018.

**Zachary Brittigan '15** and **Evan Jurgensen '16** graduated in December 2016 from the Prince William County Criminal Justice Academy. Brittigan is assigned to work patrol in western Prince William County; Jurgensen to work patrol in eastern Prince William County.

Please continue to send your class notes to [alumni@longwood.edu](mailto:alumni@longwood.edu). Don't forget to give us your full name, the year you graduated and the degree you received.



## Huge Family LancerFest set for Virginia Beach on April 1

The first annual LancerFest, set for Saturday, April 1, at the Virginia Beach Sportsplex, promises to be a day of family fun for alumni, family and friends.

Activities include a picnic and children's activities (noon-2 p.m.), women's soccer game vs. William & Mary (2 p.m.), field hockey and men's and women's soccer alumni games (4-5:30 p.m.), and a post-game party (5:30 p.m.) for Longwood athletics alumni at the Buffalo Wild Wings across the street from the sports complex. Among other activities are soccer and field hockey clinics led by Longwood coaches.

The Sportsplex is located at 2044 Landstown Centre Way.

"This is a huge family fest that will feature a day of fun for you and your entire family," said Parks Smith '08, director of alumni relations.

The \$20 fee for adults (kids are free) provides entry to all Lancer Fest activities, a boxed lunch, a Longwood T-shirt and other prizes. To register, visit [www.longwood.edu/alumni/regional-events/lancerfest/](http://www.longwood.edu/alumni/regional-events/lancerfest/). There also will be walk-up registration and discounted rates at a nearby Hampton Inn.



# The Dividends of International Recruitment

**International students get a great education while American students benefit from diversity and different perspectives**

by Molly McSweeney

**C**ritical thinking skills. Adaptability. Collaboration. Civic engagement. Global awareness. These are just a few of the 21st-century skills that universities work to inculcate in their students. At Longwood, the ever-important work of developing citizen leaders has come to involve—and, in fact, to necessitate—the recruitment of international students.



While international students have studied at Longwood for many years, the initiative to actively recruit them began in 2011, when Longwood implemented its first strategic plan to recruit students from other countries. In the six years since then, the total number of international degree-seeking undergraduate students at Longwood has quadrupled. Today, more than 60 international students are working toward their degrees at the university.

What do they seek at Longwood—and how do other students at Longwood benefit from their presence?

International students' backgrounds are as varied as the individuals that they are and the cultures, families and schools from which they come.

Many international students, like Minh

Nguyen '20 from Vietnam, who plans to start his own business after he graduates, are attracted to Longwood because of our AACSB-accredited College of Business and Economics and Cormier Honors College.

Other students, like Alejandra Gonzalez '20, an art major who started her own jewelry design business as the economy was crashing in Venezuela, seek English language support through Longwood's ESL Bridge Program while earning an undergraduate degree. For Alejandra, our crafts concentration in the art program was a huge draw.

Longwood's NCAA Division I sports teams also attract highly qualified international student-athletes. Caius Covrig '20, from Romania, dreams of becoming a professional basketball player and chose Longwood specifically so he could play for Coach Jayson Gee, who he says has a "stellar reputation in the sport."

Quality, flexibility and opportunity are among the top reasons that the number of international students enrolled in the U.S. nearly doubled in the decade from 2005-06 to 2015-16, according to the Institute of International Education's 2016 Open Doors Report. But these hallmarks of the U.S. education system are not all that they seek.

What type of job will I get when I graduate? Do you offer internship opportunities? Can I get a scholarship? Is it safe there? Where will I live? Are there any other [insert nationality of international student] students at your university?

These are the types of questions that fill the room at international recruitment fairs and high-school visits, where anywhere from a small handful to more than 5,000 interested students, parents, teachers and counselors anxiously come to learn more about the Land of Opportunity.

Responding to this barrage of questions and helping international students navigate the American higher education system and identify the right fit for them becomes key for retention. Naturally, international students come to campus needing a different kind of support than domestic students, who are, in large part, already familiar with the college search and overall American college experience.

In this regard, Longwood's Office of International Affairs also has made tremendous strides since 2011, bringing on board additional staff and developing the Global Leaders Program, which provides mentors for international students and raises cultural awareness.

The benefits of having international students at Longwood are just as important for domestic students, though perhaps less obvious.

By mentoring new international students, helping them learn their way around Longwood, Farmville and life in the U.S., our American students have the opportunity to gain exposure to other parts of the world right here in Farmville.

Faculty tell us that the international students in their classes help their American students consider, in an organic way, new perspectives on everything from history, romantic relationships and government structures to religion, food and family.

International students also can inspire domestic students to step outside their own comfort zones and study abroad. For example, as a result of her active involvement in the Global Leaders Program, Kiana Graves '17, from Richmond, and Elaina Cesares '16 had life-changing study abroad experiences and plan to join the Peace Corps.

Longwood's international recruitment efforts continue to bring diversity, fresh perspectives and an opportunity to learn about the world to campus. And we have plans to engage Longwood alumni living overseas and international alumni living in the U.S. in our efforts. It's a win for everyone involved. 🌍



Molly McSweeney is assistant director of international admissions in the Office of International Affairs.



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**MEET AND GREET** Some of the newest treasures in the Longwood Center for the Visual Art's Permanent Collection will be introduced to art lovers this summer in *Enduring Legacy*, which opens June 3 and continues through July 16. Included in the exhibition will be this work by Eldridge Bagley, "Wash in the Wind," 2003, oil on linen, 18 x 24 inches, gift of Julia J. Norrell. The opening reception is set for 5:30-8 p.m. June 2. For information about other Longwood events, see the calendar on Page 32. Photo by Alex Grabiec '07

