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VOYAGES

SUMMER 2022

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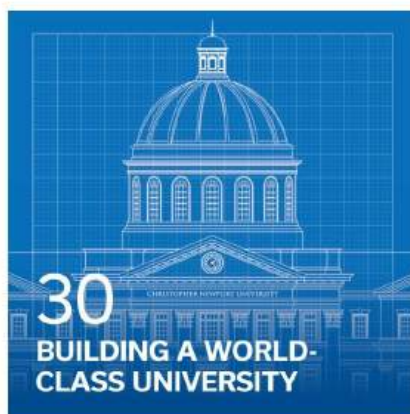
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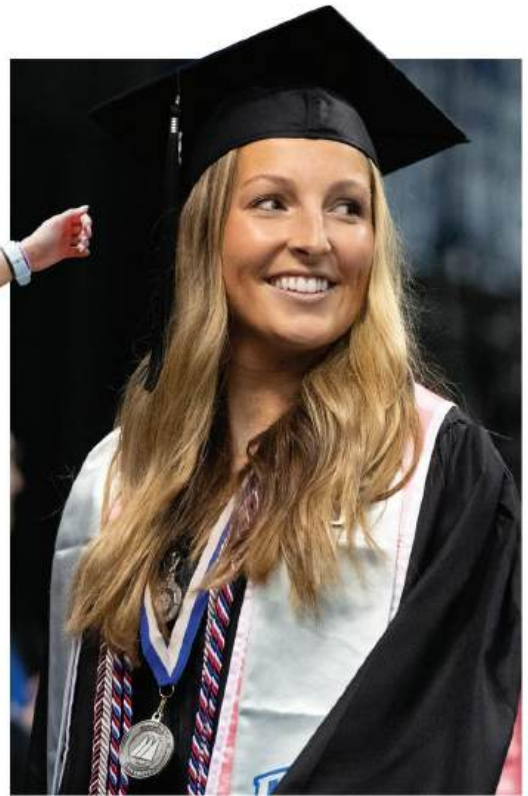


INSIDE



Voyages is published by the Office of Communications and Public Relations
for alumni and friends of Christopher Newport University.

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opinion

OUR VIEWS

Leaving on top

CNU president poised to retire after a remarkable term leading that school

How fitting that Christopher Newport University's softball team won the program's first national title this spring. To happen the same year that President Paul Tribble plans to retire is rather poetic.

Throughout his time at the helm of the Newport News school, Tribble preached excellence. He dreamed big. He wanted CNU to be the best university it could be — something the softball squad embodied throughout its magical season.

As he prepares to leave in August, it's remarkable to look back on a 26-year career that dramatically changed the trajectory of that institution and, as a result, the Peninsula and all of Hampton Roads.

Tribble was a non-traditional choice to lead the school when he was announced as the school's president in 1995. His experience was in elected office — commonwealth's attorney of Essex County, three terms in the U.S. House, one term in the U.S. Senate — not in higher education.

But the school he would lead was rather non-traditional as well. A commuter college that struggled to attract students and propel students to degrees, Christopher Newport looked destined for bankruptcy and perhaps closing its doors for good.

Tribble breathed new life into the school in short order, selling faculty, staff and students on a vision of a university that would borrow great ideas and practices from other storied institutions while carving out its own distinct identity.

"I shared a dream with them that we're going to build a great university for America," Tribble told the Daily Press in a



Del. Mike Mullin, D-Newport News, left, presents a commending resolution for Paul Tribble, Jr., right, president of Christopher Newport University, at the State Capitol in Richmond on Feb. 10.

recent interview. "You know, great dreams have power and consequence."

In a message sent out to the university community last year in commemoration of Tribble's 25th anniversary as president, Bobby Hatten, rector of the Board of Visitors, said that dream was of "a public university that could incorporate the values and intimacy of his alma mater Hampden Sydney, a University that could rival the splendor and inspiration of the University of Virginia and a University that could match the reputation and academic excellence of William & Mary."

Students would live on campus. They would be required to complete a course of study in the liberal arts that included, among other subjects, math, laboratory science, languages, economics and literature — and that emphasized leadership.

He ramped up fundraising and won some battles for state funding in Richmond to transform the campus into an impressive and modern marvel. Enrollment

increased, academic programs proliferated and CNU's endowment means the threat of going under is firmly in the past. CNU has excelled in the arts and intercollegiate athletics, including the now-national champion Captains softball team.

At the same time, Tribble served as a regional leader and advocate, stressing the importance of higher education and urging public investment in Virginia schools. CNU has been an eager partner with local governments and organizations to improve lives across the region and the commonwealth. And Tribble and his wife Rosemary are prolific philanthropists who have given generously back to the school and to causes important to them both.

But Tribble's focus has always been the betterment of his school and preparing students for lives of achievement after they've turned their tassels and collected their diplomas. He is right to look back with pride and he has more than earned a slower pace in retirement.

When Tribble formally leaves his position in August, it will be another substantial change in higher education leadership in our region. Hampton University President William Harvey is also leaving his school after 43 years at the helm.

As CNU looks for Tribble's replacement, the school and the region can only hope to select a candidate capable of turning big dreams into reality, as he did, and continuing the university's prominent role in our community.

Tribble set out to build a world-class institution of learning and Hampton Roads is a better place for his tireless efforts to see that to fruition.



President Tribble Receives State, Local and National Honors for Decades of Inspiring Leadership

THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY recognized President Paul Tribble for his nearly 50 years of public service with a joint resolution presented at the Capitol in Richmond. Tribble was commended for serving “the citizens of Virginia with integrity and excellence as an assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, commonwealth’s attorney of Essex County, United States congressman, United States senator and president of Christopher Newport University.”

The center-aisle presentation of House Joint Resolution 179 was made during the February 10 session. Standing with Tribble in the House of Delegates were Christopher Newport alumnus Delegate Mike Mullin '04 and Delegate Emily Brewer. Senate Resolution 90 was patroned by all the members of the Virginia Senate and was presented by Senator Monty Mason, the majority leader, Senator Dick Saslaw, the Republican leader, Senator Tommy Norment, and Senator Mamie Locke.

“Today we honor the legacy and career of the president of my alma mater, Christopher Newport University,” said Mullin.

“Statistics can’t tell a full story of achievement, but they give us an idea of the extent of his accomplishments. During his tenure, applications have increased 700 percent, the average GPA of entering students has soared to 3.8 and Christopher Newport has one of the highest four-year graduation rates among all public colleges and universities in the United States. President Tribble and his wife Rosemary are truly extraordinary lights for all of us on the Virginia Peninsula. His is a life of meaning, of service and of significance.”

Tribble accepted these honors surrounded by family and many civic leaders and members of the Christopher Newport community. “I am deeply grateful to receive these honors from the House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate. I have been extraordinarily blessed with marvelous opportunities to lead and serve, and hope that I have made a difference in the life of our commonwealth and country. My 26 years at Christopher Newport have been the most important and rewarding years of my life, and with the help of a lot of wonderful people, we have together built another great university for America,” said Tribble.



‘Your Leadership Has Enriched Lives’

THE YORK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS honored Tribble for a career of public service that has spanned five decades and created positive change that extends well beyond the gates of Christopher Newport.

At a ceremony in Christopher Newport Hall, Chairman Chad Green presented a proclamation from the board outlining Tribble’s vast contributions to the Peninsula. It recognized his early days as a young federal prosecutor, his three terms of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, his U.S. Senate term and his current role leading a nationally recognized, academically selective public university.

Green thanked President Tribble for his tireless work for the community at large, crediting his steady vision and passion for service with “improving the lives of every citizen in the county and beyond.”

“President Tribble is a visionary leader who spent the last quarter of a century transforming Christopher Newport into a university that is a top choice for high-ability students from across the country,” Green said.

The board credited Tribble’s relationship-building skills in accomplishing projects like the Ferguson Center for the Arts, which benefits not only the university but also the greater community. Tribble was able to bring key partners together, Green noted, and turn “what was an ‘audacious dream’ into a world-class performing arts center that not only showcases top talent but is also a tax revenue generator.”

Tribble was also praised for his political savvy, a skill that helped secure the funding necessary to physically transform Christopher Newport’s campus. “President Tribble, you took the reins and convinced the legislators in Richmond – which is no easy task – that Christopher Newport deserved better funding,” Green noted. “During your tenure the campus has transformed into a world-class liberal arts and sciences university.”

“It’s been a marvelous journey,” Tribble reflected at the ceremony. “I just want to say thanks to my colleagues for all that they’ve accomplished. I also want to express my appreciation to you, Mr. Chairman, for your leadership, and thank your colleagues on the York County Board of Supervisors for this wonderful affirmation of all we’ve accomplished together. It has been my profound joy to serve the citizens of York County and the citizens of this Peninsula for nearly 50 years. Rosemary and I are very grateful for this recognition.”

Omicron Delta Kappa Bestows Its Highest Honor

The Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Society and Educational Foundation Board of Trustees awarded Tribble the 2021 Laurel Crowned Circle Award, the highest honor bestowed by the national leadership honor society.

ODK president Tara Singer and past board chair Sally Albrecht made the presentation in the Mary M. Torggler Fine Arts Center. Singer said, “You, Paul S. Tribble Jr., truly embody the tenets of exemplary character, responsible leadership, service and a deep-rooted commitment to democratic ideals. You represent the best of Omicron Delta Kappa, and we hold you up as an example of collaborative servant leadership.”

Albrecht added: “Paul S. Tribble Jr., on behalf of the board of trustees of the Omicron Delta Kappa Society and Educational Foundation, I happily present you with the 2021 Laurel Crowned Circle Award, given in recognition of an outstanding American who exemplifies the society’s ideals of collaboration, inclusivity, integrity, scholarship and service. Congratulations!”

After a standing ovation, Tribble said, “This really has touched me and I thank you. It’s an extraordinary moment — my heartfelt thanks for this honor.”





Clockwise from top left: Provost Dave Doughty, Chief of Staff Adelia Thompson, Dr. Anthony Santoro and Dr. Theodore Reiff

A Tribute to Academic Legacy and Friendship

Dr. Theodore R. Reiff establishes professorship to advance Holocaust research and study.

TWO LONGTIME FRIENDS and academics ensured their life's work, researching and teaching about National Socialist Germany and the Holocaust, will continue at the highest level. Surrounded by family, friends and co-workers, Theodore Reiff and Anthony Santoro, signed documents that established the Reiff-Santoro Professorship in History.

Reiff's million dollar investment is the largest, single-donor endowed professorship at Christopher Newport, and will be used to carry on the important work Reiff and Santoro have conducted over many decades.

Reiff is an internationally known Holocaust researcher, esteemed physician and highly regarded medical educator. He earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry with honors from Michigan State University and went on to earn his doctor of medicine from New York University College of Medicine.

Reiff has served on the faculty at a number of medical schools, including the University of Southern California Medical School, the University of Nebraska School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, the North Dakota School of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine and Eastern Virginia School of Medicine. His expertise is in gerontology and geriatric medicine, a field of study focusing on the health and needs of the elderly. Throughout his impressive career and after his retirement, Reiff involved himself in advocacy activities for the disabled and handicapped. Beyond his interest in medicine, Reiff was a deputy sheriff in Grand Forks County, North Dakota, and a professor of religious studies at the University of North Dakota.

Now retired from medicine, Reiff is regarded globally for his extensive research on war crimes committed by Nazi physicians during the Hitler period. He is a sought-after lecturer on genocide studies, medical malpractice and the

consequences of human rights violations. He is the founding president of the Genocide Education Project.

Reiff has served as a scholar-in-residence at Christopher Newport. His previous commitments to the university include founding the Reiff Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution, established in 2012. Reiff's visionary investments have allowed Christopher Newport to make transformative hires that engage and impact students.

"I had many friends and acquaintances who were survivors of the Holocaust," said Reiff. "When I went to medical school, I became aware of the harm done by certain doctors and highly trained medical people. Many of the German doctors were honorable people, but a lot of them were influenced by the false theories of the time, and participated in horrendous experiments on military prisoners, concentration camp prisoners as well as death camp prisoners. A doctor's job is to preserve life and alleviate suffering. This professorship is critically important because, to paraphrase, we must learn from the past so it is never repeated. The professorship will carry on the critically important work of educating generations of students to come about the atrocities that were committed, including those by Nazi physicians during Hitler's regime." Endowed professorships have a lasting impact on the university and its students by providing unique educational and scholarly opportunities.

Reiff also founded the professorship to honor Santoro, his longtime friend and colleague. Santoro is distinguished

professor of history and Christopher Newport president emeritus. He has devoted much of his teaching career and research to the study of National Socialist Germany and the Holocaust.

"Dr. Reiff and I were both born before World War II. We both had firsthand contact as children with relatives and friends who served in the war and who perished in the war. We know what the war was about and how the scourge of Nazi Germany had to be defeated," said Santoro. "I think we would both subscribe to an old adage that goes something like this: 'the man may fall, but the flag never does.'"

Santoro will continue to lead the History Department's program of study on the Holocaust and the Nuremberg trials. When he retires, a nationwide search will be conducted for

another established, respected senior scholar for the full professorship with tenure. The new Reiff-Santoro Professor will work in collaboration with the Reiff Center, as well as another endowed chair: the Betram and Gladys Aaron Professorship in Jewish Studies, currently held by Richard Freund.

"We're two old men now, two very good friends, and we want our work to be carried on," Santoro added. "Graciously, Theodore has donated the money for this professorship. I have to add, I did not want my name on it, but my good friend insisted that my name be honored. We've done so much work together, and we know that the time will come when we won't be here anymore. This will make things permanent. Thus, after we are gone, our life's work will be carried on by the occupants of this very distinguished professorship."

CNU2 DAY2 | TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED
\$1,500,000

1,700 ALUMNI DONORS

3,500 TOTAL DONORS



\$17,606
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Luter Professor Retires After 31 Years of Service

Distinguished professor and author Lisa Spiller begins new chapter.

DR. LISA SPILLER has distinguished herself in countless ways over the course of her remarkable career at Christopher Newport. As an energetic and popular professor in the Luter School of Business. An avid supporter and mentor to countless students. A nationally recognized thought leader in direct and digital marketing. The author of multiple books, including a widely acclaimed textbook used at colleges and universities across 34 states and in 6 countries. Recipient of dozens of highly coveted awards in her field, including being named the Robert B. Clark Outstanding Direct Marketing Educator, the preeminent award in her field. The inaugural recipient of the Alumni Society Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring. And, in 2013, Spiller was promoted to the rank of distinguished professor, which she described as the “greatest honor I could ever achieve in my academic career.”

In the final weeks leading up to retirement from her beloved university, Spiller reflected on some highlights of her remarkable career, and shared the plans she's made for her ambitious next act.

Christopher Newport was a very different place when you first arrived on campus in 1991. What kind of potential did you see that made you want to stay and build your career here?

When I first arrived, Christopher Newport had just become a university but its name had not been changed yet. Our campus and buildings were not nearly as beautiful and spectacular as they are now. However, I saw a dynamic educational institution full of promise and potential. I was inspired by the entrepreneurial fabric of this young university, and I was excited to become one of the faculty members who could contribute to help shape its future direction. I really liked the size — large enough to have four colleges, but small enough to know and work with my colleagues across campus.

Most importantly, I loved that our university had a “teaching first” focus, where our students’ learning and success came first and foremost, with everything else second. From my first days on campus to today, I’ve always truly felt that

Christopher Newport is like a private institution in the way that we prioritize our students, build relationships with them, involve them in our research and scholarly activities, and really mentor and serve them both inside and outside of the classroom. While the campus has grown and changed, that core student priority has remained ingrained at the university. I possess a deep and passionate conviction that what we do at CNU is so very special.

Your work shows a deep commitment to helping your students reach their goals, either in the classroom or competing in regional and national competitions. What have you enjoyed most about this?

Year after year, engaging one-on-one with my students, building lifelong relationships with them, watching them learn, grow, experience and achieve both personal and professional success has been such an incredible honor for me. I’ve sincerely enjoyed all of it, and each activity has been great fun! Of course, some of those experiences have been

more challenging than others, such as the rigorous collegiate competitions. However, I truly bonded with those student teams throughout these competitions and activities, many of whom spent hours sitting around my kitchen or dining room table while working on marketing challenges. Advising the student teams was truly a blast, but traveling with the four student teams who won first-place in national collegiate challenges and to attend their respective black-tie awards gala was a pinnacle experience that I will never forget, especially knowing how hard they worked and that they beat teams from many well-known large or Ivy League schools.

Will you continue to teach and write after leaving Christopher Newport, or pursue other interests?

I have plans to write some books in the future, beginning by coauthoring (with Sylvia Weinstein Craft) a series of self-help books, the first of which is tentatively titled *Platinum Rules: Being polished and prepared for life*. I also have plans to write a couple of different novels,

potentially historical fiction and maybe even a drama/thriller. As for future teaching, I truly enjoy public speaking and I know I'll miss being in the classroom in front of a group of students, so I hope to have the opportunity to conduct some seminars, workshops and corporate training in the future. I also plan to participate in as many Christopher Newport alumni events as possible. I definitely plan to devote more time to a few of my other interests and passions in retirement as well, such as golfing, biking, hiking, traveling and spending more time with my husband and family (especially our adorable grandchildren, with one more due this summer).

What will you miss most about Christopher Newport?

I will miss the day-to-day engagement with my CNU family. I have formed so many treasured friendships, and I feel so very blessed to have enjoyed 31 years of being able to spend time interacting with so many wonderful people. My entire academic career has always been about serving others — students and colleagues (both faculty and administrative staff), helping them to achieve whatever goals or objectives they set for themselves. This has always resonated perfectly with my beliefs, values and passion. I will surely miss walking into Luter Hall 142 on a daily basis, greeting smiling students, challenging them to learn and empowering their future success. And, I'll miss watching my students graduate and go on after college to accomplish their goals and professional dreams. At the end of the day (or, academic career in my case,) what really matters is the relationships and friendships that I've made during my 31 years at CNU. While I'll miss the day-to-day interactions, those will definitely not end when I retire.

Speaking of Luter Hall 142, Spiller received one extraordinary final honor as she was wrapping up her final class at Christopher Newport. As she exited the room, she was greeted by dozens of colleagues and friends, along with a new sign hanging over her classroom: Spiller Lecture Hall.

Luter School Again Ranked Among Nation's Best Business Schools

The business education news outlet Poets&Quants for Undergrads gave high marks to the Joseph W. Luter, III School of Business, ranking it 65th overall in the country and third among public universities in Virginia.

The Luter School received particularly high marks from alumni who were surveyed, finishing 31st nationally — No. 13 among publics — in that category.

The rankings, considered the most comprehensive national assessment of undergraduate business schools, are based on employment and admissions data, as well as an extensive survey of alumni. The data-driven rankings place Luter firmly among nationally esteemed public and private business programs of all sizes in the United States. The Luter School places an emphasis on leadership, community service and hands-on learning, along with fostering analytical, critical thinking and communication skills.

"We are delighted to be included in this list of impressive schools recognized in the Poets&Quants survey. This is an external validation of what we know to be true. The Luter School of Business is a great place to live and learn from an engaged expert faculty," said Alan Witt, dean. "Our goal is to prepare our students intellectually, professionally and personally for meaningful careers."

"Ultimately our alumni's success is a reflection of our success. So it is gratifying to see their overwhelmingly positive response," said Witt.



Doughty Retires

Provost ends Christopher Newport career that spanned five decades.



AFTER DECADES of devoted service and extraordinary leadership, Provost Dave Doughty announced his retirement.

Doughty distinguished himself in a multitude of roles during his 38 years at Christopher Newport. As a young professor, he was instrumental in developing the applied physics major before moving on to chair the Physics, Computer Science and Engineering Department. As dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, he transformed Christopher Newport's science programs into a STEM powerhouse. He converted the business department into a stand-alone school that is now one of the top ranked undergraduate business programs in the country. He was also a creator of the Service Distinction awards and the Community Captains program.

"Every initiative we have asked him to lead, both inside and outside the classroom, has been successful beyond anything we could have imagined," said President Paul Tribble.

In 2014, Doughty moved into the role of provost, leading Christopher Newport with steady guidance and an innovative spirit.

"Everything Dave does, he does with great energy, enthusiasm and effectiveness. I am profoundly grateful for Dave's extraordinary leadership and long years of devoted service.

I am sad, however, that Dave's energy, intellect, humor, vision and determination, which is so woven into the success of Christopher Newport, will no longer be part of the daily life and next chapter of this university," said Tribble. "No one, simply no one, has contributed more to the success of this place, the richness of our academic programs and empowerment our students. Thank you, Dave Doughty! No finer example of a life of significance ever graced this campus. Thank you for caring so passionately about this remarkable place for almost 40 years."

"Spending these last 38 years at Christopher Newport has been one of the joys of my life, and I am so thankful for the opportunities I have been afforded. I'm proud of what CNU has become and proud of all we have accomplished together. I'm proud of the new faculty we've hired, the new degree programs, majors and minors we've developed, and the new centers we've created. I am especially thankful for President Tribble and his leadership and his mentorship of me," said Doughty.

Following Doughty's announcement, Tribble announced Dr. Quentin Kidd, dean of the College of Social Sciences, will serve as provost. Kidd is a professor of political science and founder of the Wason Center for Civic Leadership, where he serves as academic director.



Left to right: Vanessa Lin, Mariam Hammad and Amy Doody

Destination: Medical School

A record number of graduates are planning careers as doctors. Thirty-six alumni matriculated in medical schools around the country in 2021. One of them, Vanessa Lin, is finishing her first year at Virginia Commonwealth School of Medicine. She says she was motivated to pursue a career in medicine by her service as a volunteer at Christopher Newport.

She also credits her professors: "They really encouraged my curiosity and fueled our excitement for learning." And, she's grateful for the support she received outside the classroom: "One of the many things Christopher Newport did to help me prepare for medical school was to connect me with great mentors and advisers."

VCU is just one of many prestigious institutions on the list of destinations for Captains: Yale, Duke, University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, University of Illinois, Marshall University and Rutgers are some of the others, and the list continues to grow.

3+3 Law Degree Program Expands

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT GRADUATES are making headlines in the legal profession because the university's pre-law program is a pathway to success.

Students who want to practice law now have a new option, and a new way to help pay for it. Regent University School of Law and Christopher Newport announced an accelerated, dual-degree ("3+3") program. The new enhanced track reduces the time to graduate with a bachelor's degree and law degree from seven to six years, and provides scholarships for all participants — as much as 75% for high-achieving students.

After completing three years at Christopher Newport and gaining admission to the law school, a participant becomes a full-time, first-year law student, a "1L" at the School of Law on Regent's Virginia Beach campus. Participants then follow the usual law school course of study.

Upon successful completion of the first year of law study, the credits earned in law school will be counted toward the juris doctorate degree and as elective credits sufficient to complete requirements for a bachelor's degree at Christopher Newport.

Christopher Newport also has a 3+3 agreement with the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University.

New Kinesiology Major

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT has added a new major due to growing student interest: kinesiology. The study of body movement, kinesiology will give students valuable insight into how human bodies work, which will help prepare them for when they are later working with patients.

Director of Pre-Health Programs Gwynne Brown says the major is not only a great fit for students interested in physical therapy and occupational therapy, but also those interested in sports medicine, athletic training and other related fields. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, physical therapy jobs will grow 21 percent and occupational therapy jobs are predicted to grow 17 percent between 2020 and 2030, making kinesiology a timely addition to Christopher Newport's areas of study.

"We already have a strong program and track record of preparing students for health-related programs. The kinesiology major adds additional opportunities to gain insight and practical experience, which will produce even more solid applicants for grad school and the job market," Brown said.

The major provides students with a strong foundation in the biological sciences as well as in applying that science to human systems, with courses and labs in anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology and biomechanics.

Undergraduates will be able to conduct extensive research alongside faculty in expansive new lab space that is part of a new planned integrated science facility connected to Luter Hall.



Future Teachers Are All Offered Jobs

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT'S teacher preparation program is launching students on careers in the classroom and they're ready for the challenges that await them.

Two recent developments underscore the continuing excellence of the program:

- Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) offered teaching contracts and signing bonuses to 44 graduating master of arts in teaching (MAT) students.
- The National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) rated Christopher Newport one of nine standout universities in Virginia and published test results that indicate MAT students are among the best prepared future teachers in the state.

The NNPS teaching contract offers were a surprise. Students were invited to attend an academic workshop, with no knowledge that NNPS would be offering them employment contracts. Once there, they were greeted by top NNPS human resource officials who met with them in small groups to describe the opportunities.

While the MAT program prepares students for all grade levels, the NCTQ ratings focus on elementary education. One data point especially underlines the effectiveness of the MAT program: the pass rate for students taking the elementary licensure exam for the first time. That rate is an indication of whether new teachers are prepared to meet Virginia's expectations. With 76% of its students passing on their first attempt, Christopher Newport had the best results of any Virginia public university.

NCTQ also published exam results categorized by the color and socio-economic status of the test takers. Because Christopher Newport's students of color performed exceptionally well, the university was rated one of nine "Standout Institutions" in Virginia. The 78% first-attempt pass rate for test takers of color at Christopher Newport was substantially higher than the state average of 57%.

Students Win Global Leadership Competition for Third Time

A TEAM of Christopher Newport students defeated competitors from U.S. and international universities to once again win the International Leadership Association Case Competition.

The competition showcases undergraduate and graduate students as they demonstrate knowledge about leadership. Each team identifies a contemporary socio-political-economic problem on the global or national level and proposes a leadership-based solution at the conference.

Teams from Christopher Newport have dominated the annual competition lately, winning the top trophy in 2018, 2020 and 2021. A CNU team finished in second place in 2019.

Led by Sydney King '22, the Christopher Newport team included Adrianna DeSantis '22, Phyu Chaw '23 and Bianca Londres '23. Their research project was



Left to right: Bianca Londres, Adrianna DeSantis, Phyu Chaw, Sydney King

titled "The HIV Epidemic Amongst Burmese Jade Miners."

The Captains defeated teams from Arizona State University and Washburn University in the U.S. and international squads, including Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands.

"While the case study teams receive advice and guidance from the faculty

when necessary, the fact is that our students are responsible for the vast majority of work on their projects themselves," said leadership professor Dr. Brent Cusher, the team's primary adviser. "The foundation in knowledge and research skills that they have received from the leadership studies curriculum has led to this sustained track record of success."

New research project unites students and local teens



A RESEARCH PROJECT unfolding simultaneously on campus and at An Achievable Dream (AAD) Academy in Newport News is the brainchild of biology professors Rob Atkinson and Janet Steven and Linda Manning, communication professor and director of the Center for Sustainability in Education.

Christopher Newport and AAD students are growing Atlantic white cedar seedlings, trees that typically grow in peaty swamps that are increasingly threatened by climate change. Each seedling is housed in a small pail with a handle, so they can easily be observed and moved. The students are measuring the seedlings' responses to a variety of stresses, including salt water inundation, to learn how they will respond to a changing climate. The research will provide natural resource managers with science to support restoration and management of public lands.

"By performing this authentic research publicly on our campuses we're providing agency and stirring hope that society can successfully address these monumental challenges," Atkinson said.

Jill Chambers '80 Helping Vets With PTSD



WHEN RETIRED COLONEL Jill Chambers joined ROTC as a Christopher Newport freshman, she never imagined it would be the start of a 30-year career that would lead to her selection as "Woman of the Year" by the Department of Defense. Or that she would be inducted into the U.S. Army Women's Hall of Fame.

However, September 11, 2001 changed everything.

She was working inside the Pentagon that fateful morning hijackers crashed a jetliner into the west side of the complex, punching a gaping wound into the structure. With thick smoke and fiery embers floating in the mist, Chambers and her colleagues repeatedly re-entered the smoldering building, assisting with evacuations late into the night. "It was surreal. You could reach out and touch the smoke," Chambers recalled.

Then in 2007, while serving under Admiral Michael Mullens, Chambers was asked to lead a study on the challenges faced by wounded warriors. She toured bases across the country, and discovered there was an astounding number of active duty personnel, along with veterans and family members, who were silently suffering from post-traumatic stress. She went to work, assembling a group of researchers that included world-renowned psychologist Martin Seligman and former U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona. The team laid the groundwork for the military's first holistic approach to wellness for service members. It resulted in the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program, designed to address the escalating cases of post-traumatic stress disorder from soldiers serving in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I had the opportunity to learn from some amazing civilian experts in the field of resilience and how to apply that to PTSD," Chambers said. "I was able to bring that knowledge to the senior leadership of the military. Happily, this resulted in all military branches getting a better understanding of post-traumatic stress disorder, removing the stigma and adopting programs that build resilience in our service members."

Long before Chambers was a U.S. Army colonel, she was a Captain and remembers her days as a public administration major at Christopher Newport fondly. She believes being part of the ROTC program on campus solidified her decision to make the Army a 30-year career. She also has great memories of playing basketball. "I absolutely loved my college years at Christopher Newport. I believe participating in sports there really made a difference for me and created long-time friendships that still continue to this day, even 45 years later. How amazing is that?"

Alum Instrumental in Richmond Time Capsule Opening

The eyes of the nation were fixed on history alumna Chelsea Blake '13, as she deployed an array of tools to carefully open a 19th-century time capsule discovered during the removal of a Robert E. Lee statue in Richmond. With then-Governor Ralph Northam at her side, and TV cameras and livestreams rolling, Blake carefully opened the lead box and examined the contents.

No pressure, right?

Blake, a conservation project manager, and her colleagues at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, were under a tight deadline to carefully open the box and show the contents to a live audience. "We are used to working alone in a quiet lab with a less compressed deadline, so having to make decisions and open the capsule on schedule for the governor's arrival is anything but another day at the office."

The objects inside included books, a Victorian-era coin and an envelope that contained a photo from a studio on Broad Street in Richmond. One book in particular really piqued Blake's interest, a tool catalog from 1888. "It's a part of history that is rarely preserved," she said. "These types of guides really help us identify tools from archeological contexts, as these tools may have changed form over time and no longer resemble our modern tools or exist at all."





International Public Health Leadership

SYDNEY KING '22, a philosophy major with minors in leadership studies and political science, was captain of an American student research team during an internship at United Planet, a nonprofit organization that addresses global issues in health care and environmental sustainability. King was selected because of her experience with cross-cultural communication — she was a volunteer with the Hampton Roads Refugee Relief program in Newport News since 2018, tutoring refugee children and adults.

King's team included undergraduates from across the country. They worked with a group of Iraqi students to research ways to overcome COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among pregnant women. "We needed to determine how to share health care information in a clear, easily understandable way," King said. "Is the vaccine safe for pregnant women? If it isn't, why not? Having discrepancies in our messaging would risk derailing public health education, along with the trust agencies must build with the populations they serve."

At the end of the internship, the teams reported their recommendations to the U.S. embassy in Baghdad. A nongovernmental medical association in Iraq will use the information to increase the efficacy of upcoming informational campaigns about the COVID vaccine. The director of the United Planet program, Donna Lubrano, praised King's leadership, along with the work her team accomplished. "Sydney's team and the Iraqi students worked well together and were able to understand the cultural, sociological and political elements connected to vaccine hesitancy. The overall project was a success, and brought two cultures together to work toward the common goal of understanding the global impact of this virus."

King says the collaboration with Iraqi students showed her that even though they are physically and culturally a world apart, they are more alike than different. "They face their challenges, just as we Americans face our own challenges, but at the end of the day, we're all young adults trying our best to learn, and preparing to make a difference in our communities."

"They face their challenges, just as we Americans face our own challenges, but at the end of the day, we're all young adults trying our best to learn, and preparing to make a difference in our communities."

SYDNEY KING





His Lasting Legacy

The three features that defined President Tribble's success.

BY CINDI PERRY

With a bang of the gavel, a special meeting of the Board of Visitors in December 1995 concluded and Christopher Newport University had a new president. The appointment of Paul Tribble was a shocking surprise to most, and met with a generous sprinkling of skepticism by some. Without a doubt, it sparked an energy and a newfound optimism throughout campus.



HE DID NOT HAVE A PHD and was not from academia, both of which were presumed prerequisites at that time for college presidents. But, as an undergraduate and then law student at two small private colleges in Virginia, his education was grounded in the liberal arts and steeped in tradition and Southern civility. With this background and his experience as a prosecutor, and then U.S. congressman and senator, he was a determined, ambitious and thick-skinned leader who had instant credibility, strong political and community connections, and the gravitas to take the reins of a small commuter college and gallop toward the future. What we would soon learn is that his lack of professional experience in higher education was not an obstacle, but instead freed him to question, explore and re-imagine a university.

Much has been written and shared about those first years of Paul Tribble's presidency and his myriad accomplishments, which happened in fairly rapid succession and created quite a buzz across the public system of higher education in Virginia. But, behind all of these visible and well-touted successes, it has been Paul Tribble's lifelong relationships, calculated actions and his

words that have shaped and defined the university that we see today.

Lifelong Relationships

It is difficult to convey the enormity of what transpired post-1995 to those who were not on campus before then. We were a young university, still searching for an identity, fighting for survival. Christopher Newport was an island in the middle of Newport News. Its small but dedicated faculty focused on an ever-dwindling number of commuter students who were place-bound due to family and job commitments. The first residence hall had been built but was only half-full, and recruitment efforts were not targeted at traditional college-age students. Although Christopher Newport was established to support the Peninsula, there was little interaction with city and community leaders, and the university had a distant and cool relationship with state leaders.

David Peebles, an astute businessman and community leader, was rector of Christopher Newport's Board of Visitors. He and the board had seen the wisdom of selecting Paul Tribble as president. With the appointment came a swift

paradigm shift. Only in office for a week prior to the start of the 1996 General Assembly session, the newly minted president trekked to Richmond, and the results were immediate. Doors were opened and political relationships and friendships he had established long ago were re-ignited. Intent on integrating the university into the community, he pitched the idea of locating a performing arts center on campus that would serve the university, Newport News and by extension, Hampton Roads.

Newport News Delegate Alan Diamonstein, chairman of the Higher Education Subcommittee in the House, and member of the all-powerful Budget Conference Committee, embraced the initiative. The session concluded with a \$5 million appropriation for construction. As the *Daily Press* noted, it was "a defining moment" for both the university and the city. Strong and trusted relationships with leaders in the House and Senate, especially with House Appropriations Committee Chairmen Phil Hamilton and Chris Jones, continued to yield significant resources through the years and funded the construction of the academic buildings on campus.

Thus began the journey to engage local community leaders in the life of the university. Joe Frank, mayor of Newport News, and members of the city council became strong supporters and were the first of many city leaders to pledge support for the promise of the arts center. As that promise became reality, the city continued to support other university initiatives that contributed to the economic development and growth of the city, including the re-routing of Shoe Lane, the construction of East Campus and a campus buffer of green space with the widening of Warwick Boulevard.

Bobby Freeman, Peeble's successor as rector, became a valued partner in the campaign to build the arts center. His entrepreneurial spirit matched well with the initiatives that were underway and he and his family generously contributed the first million-dollar private gift ever received by the university. The friendship and support of Peebles and Freeman reflected a newfound confidence in the direction of the university and laid the foundation for the steadfast support of future board members. Unfettered by discord, initiatives moved forward smartly and members of the board generously contributed their time, energy and resources to support a university that most had not attended. Other community leaders stepped forward to create the Christopher Newport University Real Estate Foundation, which actively expanded the physical boundaries and development of the residential campus while contributing to the economic development of the city.

These early champions were complemented by leaders on campus who were instrumental in redefining and building the university. However, unlike the others, these were not long-standing relationships but new alliances that were quickly established in the early months of 1996 and the years that followed. The senior team, drawn largely from within, set about accomplishing the impossible. Dr. Robert Doane, and later Dr. Richard Summerville, in his second stint as provost, provided the academic compass to strengthen the liberal arts curriculum and expand the number of faculty. William Brauer, executive vice president, accepted the challenge of executing a master plan that would ultimately yield a breathtaking campus rivaled by few. Maury O'Connell, dean of students, recruited a student-centered team focused on student success that remains in place today. Shunning bureaucracy and the slow pace imposed by standing committees, the president opted instead for face-to-face discussions with faculty leaders with short calls to action on important decisions. Despite the unconventional governance structure, the faculty endured and then embraced change in a positive way that few, if any, other faculties have chosen to do.



	1996	Now
Full-time students	3,379	4,486
Freshman high school GPA	2.8	3.79
Retention rate (FR to SO)	70%	85.1%
4-year graduation rate	12.6%	65.9%
6-year graduation rate	36.8%	75%
Full-time faculty	166	283
% Classes of 19 students or fewer	44%	62%
Library volumes	340,000	1.3+m
Operating budget	\$34.8m	\$178m
Endowment	\$300,000	\$60m



Calculated Actions

While relationships secured the foundation to move forward, Tribble's early actions changed the perception of the university for those within and beyond its boundaries. One of the first — returning reserved parking spaces back to the students — is a story that has been recited many times but it certainly served as a marker that life on campus was changing. Lest anyone forget, students would be the priority.

Within the first few months of his presidency, he gathered the faculty and staff into a dark, 350-seat theatre and clearly articulated a bold vision that was based on core values and priorities that reflected the strengths and aspirations of the university. Although some left the theatre unconvinced, a shared sense of purpose began to emerge and a new energy reverberated across campus. That vision and those values and priorities remain unchanged today, while the measures of success tick ever upward.

Seizing an opportunity to stabilize enrollment and expand the geographic demographics of the student body, the president joined the admission team in their recruiting efforts, not only on campus, but also on the road. His message and rapport with potential students and their families kindled new interest in Christopher Newport. Seeking students who aspired to lead and serve, the introduction of the President's Leadership Program became a key element in recruitment efforts and the signature program on campus.

As the student body became increasingly full-time and residential, traditions were established where few existed before. The freshman honor convocation, sophomore signing day, the sunset toast, freshman desserts, the candlelight ceremony, the day of service, tossing pennies into



the fountain, the fight song, opening doors for one another, the senior picnic, the speaking tradition. Some were fun, others more solemn, but all were intended to instill respect, honor, camaraderie and a sense of place and purpose.

There is probably no better example of actions that changed the perception of the university than the physical transformation of the campus. It began with the powerful gesture to the region to secure funding for the construction of the performing arts center. During interviews of architectural firms vying for the project, a community leader serving on the committee exclaimed: "Is that the Louvre?" And indeed, the firm that designed the Louvre Pyramid won the project. That stunning moment signaled the impact that the project would have on campus and throughout the region.

The projects that followed echoed the grandeur and excellence of the performing arts center. Newly constructed residence halls ranked among the best in the nation, athletics facilities became the envy of competitors, and students enjoyed the amenities and grandness of the student union and expanded library. When the facilities supporting a residential student body were largely in place, construction of the academic buildings began. Bordering the Great Lawn, they are architecturally magnificent, with interior spaces designed just as meticulously and beautifully as the exteriors. Columns, domes, arches and glass add artistic interest to the massive brick structures. The balanced symmetry of the courtyards, lawns and pathways provide a calm and serene setting to live, study and work.

There is no doubt when one walks the campus that there is a permanence and a beauty that will inspire generations of students and stand the test of time. And isn't that the point?



His Words

Anyone who has heard a Paul Tribble speech once, twice or a thousand times, has experienced the magic of words from a gifted and passionate speaker. Many, if not most, can quote many of his lines — “students first”; “instruct minds and inspire hearts”; “great dreams have great power”; “if you ask the best of people they will astound you with their success”; “great teaching, small classes, a professor who knows you by name”; “lead lives of meaning, consequence and purpose”; “a life of significance.”

But think about those words and the fact that we can repeat them. Each of us has an obligation to lead, honor and serve, and if we do it well, anything is possible. He believes those words with every fiber of his being. And he makes us believers with the power of his voice and his unyielding conviction. His words are one of his greatest gifts, for they changed the mindset of a university. No longer would it struggle to survive; it was a university destined to soar, and soar it has.



And the lasting legacy is a university ethos that celebrates leadership, honor, service, excellence – choosing to live a life of significance.

There were certainly challenges, public relations crises and setbacks. Administrative and academic reorganizations were not always welcomed. The re-routing of Shoe Lane, now invisible, challenged community relationships for quite some time. Snowstorms and hurricanes – those that came and those that didn't – played havoc with people's lives and the academic calendar. The fire and destruction of Madison Hall taxed the strength and fortitude of the staff and students. And most recently, there was the shocking reality that a pandemic could and would within a few short weeks change every facet of the college experience.

There were glaring moments of hard truth. Financial survival during the

2002 and 2008 state budget cuts required gut-wrenching decisions and austere actions that angered many faculty, students and community members.

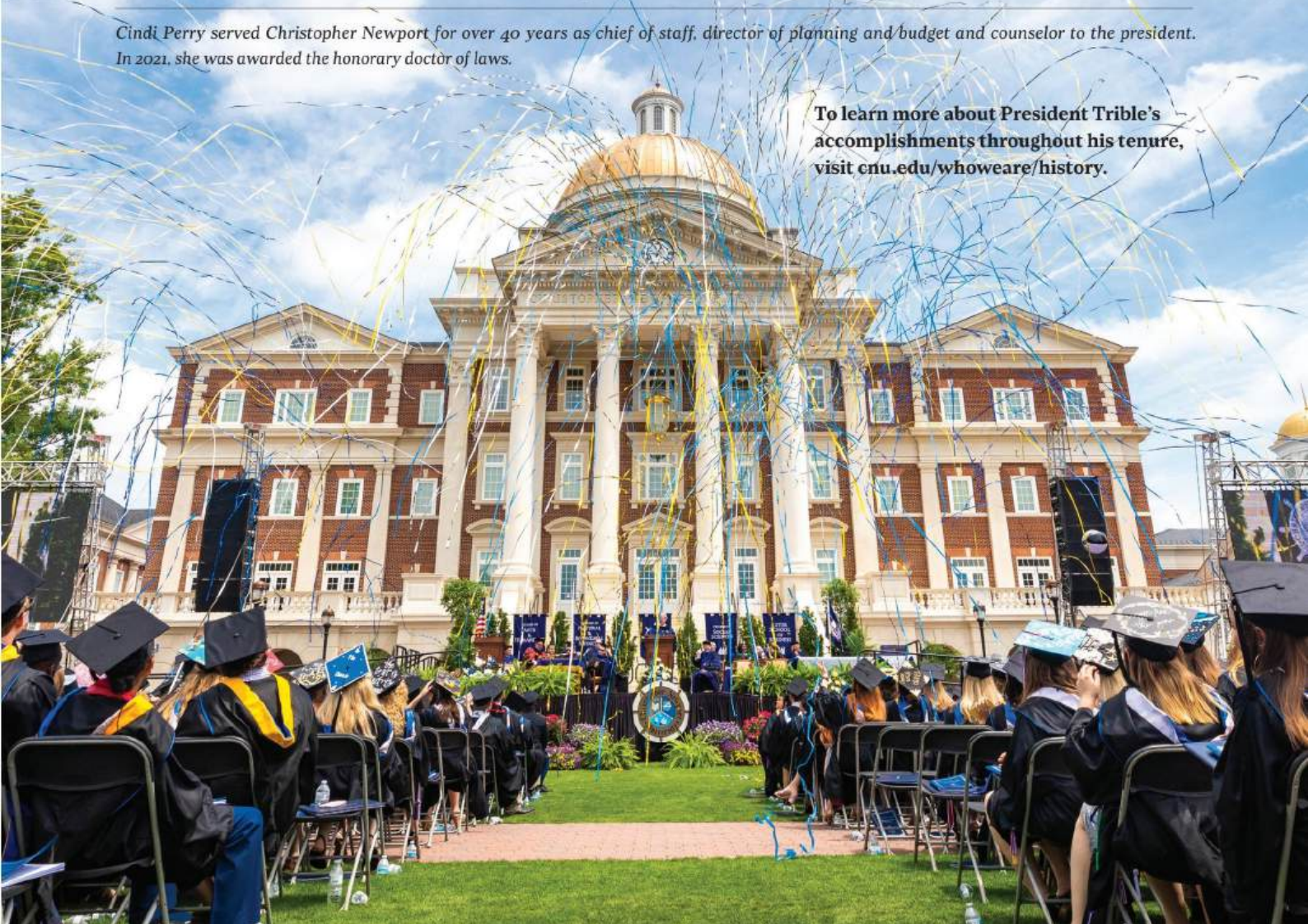
There were "goosebump" moments through the years – watching students celebrate Midnight Madness with the opening of the Freeman Center, the angelic voices of the women's chorus in the Tribble Library rotunda, Andrea Bocelli singing a cappella in the Diamonstein Concert Hall, the orange glow of the sky at the sunset toast on the James River, the 500th basketball victory on Woollum Court for a legendary coach in his final season, 10,000 chairs perfectly aligned on the morning of commencement, faculty processions, snow falling on the

Great Lawn, hearing "Jingle Bells" echo from the Bell Tower, an emotional speech by a grateful student at a scholarship luncheon. The moments vary for each of us, but that mosaic of memories and feelings reminds us that we are part of something quite precious.

And so we find ourselves 26 years after the bang of that gavel, marveling at all that has been accomplished. The journey began with a vision painted by words, actions and relationships. It was fueled by a strong sense of purpose, a commitment to excellence and an unwavering trust in one another. And the lasting legacy is a university ethos that celebrates leadership, honor, service, excellence – choosing to live a life of significance.

Cindi Perry served Christopher Newport for over 40 years as chief of staff, director of planning and budget and counselor to the president. In 2021, she was awarded the honorary doctor of laws.

To learn more about President Tribble's accomplishments throughout his tenure, visit cnu.edu/whoweare/history.





Leading With Purpose, Kindness & Joy

BY KELLEY MCGEE

If

Paul Tribble
is the
visionary
behind
Christopher
Newport, then
Rosemary is
the soul.

HER WARM PRESENCE and ebullient spirit have been a complementary force in the dynamic partnership that's guided the university through a quarter-century of remarkable growth.

Rosemary Tribble's boundless energy and enduring grace leaves a lasting impression on those who cross her path. She has a knack for making people feel welcome, and is quick to offer an outstretched hand to those who hang back. From the beginning of her husband's presidency, she has enthusiastically opened her life to the Christopher Newport community.

She welcomes each new class of freshmen into their home for dessert, and then, four years later sends them off with a hug as they cross the stage at graduation. She's shared her faith with students through a long-running Bible study group. She has visited hospitals in the middle of the night to assist victims of sexual assault. A survivor herself, Rosemary has been a deep well of compassion and strength for those in their darkest hour. She is a fierce advocate for victims on the path to recovery, and a guiding light for those trying to reclaim security and joy.

She is quick to offer a radiant smile, even in the presence of chronic, debilitating pain brought on by a progressive autoimmune disease. She lights up when she talks about her husband and her two children, Paul and Mary Katherine. And don't get her started on her four grandchildren, Lochlan, Truitt, Camden and Carrington.

She also brags about Christopher Newport students as if they were part of her brood. As far as she's concerned, they are.

Rosemary Tribble is an accomplished journalist, television personality, author, interior designer and founder of Fear to Freedom, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting survivors of sexual assault and to spreading awareness.

But now she's ready to step into a bright new season of life.

Sitting in the president's residence, overlooking the scenic James River, she reflected on her and her husband's 50 years in public service, and her hope for the future of Christopher Newport.

Students come first at Christopher Newport — a guiding principle you and President Tribble hold close. Why has this been so important to both of you?

Paul and I decided, as soon as we arrived at Christopher Newport, that we wanted to create this culture of students always coming first. We wanted to let them know we are accessible, and truly wanted to get to know them. I love young people, genuinely, and I've been thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in so many things in their lives.

I've been invited to fraternities to be a judge in contests, I've spoken to young women at sororities about the issue of sexual assault. We invite every single freshman to our house for dessert. Paul greets them at the door, and they're dressed to the nines in suits and dresses. Some are shy, others come right in. Everyone always wants to pet the dog because they miss their own dogs. It's always a great night. We all have these fabulous desserts that university catering provides. We want to make sure they feel welcome, a part of our extended family.

You played a significant role in the physical transformation of the campus. The buildings are not only beautiful but also cohesive in design. Why was this important to you?

When Paul and I arrived, the structural aspect of the university was, well, lacking. I knew I could put my background as an interior designer to use. I worked for an international interior design firm in D.C. for several years. I had experience forming

relationships with architects, and I knew the campus needed a cohesive blend of design and beauty. Students and faculty are going to live and work here, and what you're surrounded by really makes a difference. I have loved being a part of the design over the years. Paul jokes that I'm the hardest working, unpaid woman he's ever known. But I did it for the love of Christopher Newport.

Every building has been a challenge, trying to bring a little bit more traditional sophistication to the look, while at the same time having the modern features you see in some of the buildings like the new Torggler Fine Arts Center. What's really important to point out is the students have taken care of these buildings. They don't put their feet up on tables, they pick up trash everywhere they go, like Paul does. They hold open doors. Respect, character and honor are all important to our students. I hope the next president here will understand how important that is here, the honor code, and carry on those traditions.

You were honored by the Virginia General Assembly with a commendation for the impact you've made assisting countless survivors of assault, from the beginning of their journey of trauma to the goal of forgiveness and freedom. What was your reaction to this honor?

I was so deeply touched. For the General Assembly to recognize the issue of sexual assault and to be willing to talk openly about it is so important. I look back at the pictures and video and remember how overwhelmed I felt at being given

that sort of honor by the commonwealth of Virginia. I truly feel I was called to be a voice for the voiceless.

When my assault happened in 1975, no one was talking about sexual violence. Even when we started Fear to Freedom just 10 years ago, it was still a subject many avoided. And yet, it's one of the most horrible crimes because it's the victim who carries the shame and guilt, when that should be on the perpetrator. It's what makes it very difficult to move on in your life, whether someone is a victim of assault, child abuse, domestic assault or sex trafficking. It's a long road to recovery. One in five women, and one in 17 young men, will experience some kind of sexual violence during their college years. I think that statistic surprises people. My assault was the worst night of my life. But I've tried to turn evil into good. My purpose in life, what I exist for, is to radiate joy and help those wounded find their joy again.

Could you give us a glimpse of what the public doesn't know about your husband and how he approaches his job?

He does his best thinking in the shower! [laughs] One day he came out of the shower and said 'I think we need a performing arts center for the university and for the community.' Then he went to work and we received \$5 million from the General Assembly to start. People thought we were crazy. They said, 'there's no way our town is going to support or fund something like that.' But enthusiasm grew, and now we have the spectacular Ferguson Center for the Arts.

The same thing happened with bringing a football team to campus.



**“Paul and I have had so many years of public service.
It’s the right season to make this change.”**

Paul is a visionary, yes, but he’s also a very good delegator. It’s important that a leader doesn’t try to do everything himself. He hires good people. He appreciates what people say, and he really listens. He wants input. From the academics to the administrators to the gardeners, we know everyone’s names, and they know us. I hope what we’ve done is create a family. Something else that people might not know about Paul is that every day he spends time walking around campus, going to different buildings and talking to students or faculty. He always wants that kind of relationship, to connect and really hear what’s going on.

How are you feeling these days?

Better and stronger. I’m still on the road to healing and feeling OK. But I have

been richly blessed through this. I think one of the greatest blessings is the kindness people have shown. I’ve tried to keep my joy in the midst of pain. The students are so helpful. They come over and take my arm walking up steps. They get it, they really do. I’m so grateful.

What are your hopes for the future of Christopher Newport as it transitions to new leadership? Do you have any advice for the university’s next leader and their family?

We want to be sensitive to the new president, and give them space and time. But I’m glad Paul will be here for the next year as chancellor. He can advise, fundraise, work with the General Assembly, whatever the university needs him to do.

Paul and I have had so many years of public service. It’s the right season to make this change. The average tenure for a college president is five years. Paul has been here 26. When the new person comes in, I have high expectations that everyone is going to love them and they will be wonderful. I hope they will continue to open this wonderful house to the community to entertain and get to know people. But I’m very much looking forward to spending more time with Paul and our grandchildren! We live on the Chesapeake Bay, on the water. We both adore being on the water. And Zoey [family dog] loves being there, too. She will catch sticks that Paul throws all day. It’s Paul’s family home, so we’re looking forward to spending much more time there, all together, enjoying everything the future brings.



Building a World-Class University

BY WILLIAM L. BRAUER '77





Leadership is essential for an organization to move forward.

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP weighs risks versus rewards, which are both integral to any decision-making process. Leadership requires a vision without limitations and a vision requires leadership. A vision must be clearly articulated and easily understood. It must be fully embraced by those who are tasked with getting it done, because a vision that cannot be implemented is nothing more than just a collection of good thoughts. It requires people who are willing to make a commitment to the organization and its leadership, and who are committed to improvement and excellence. Everyone must be organizationally aligned, and speak with one voice. A culture of respect and success must be created and nurtured, and — to be truly effective — operate freely outside the lines drawn on an organizational chart.

This is the formula for success. This is the formula that propelled Christopher Newport's remarkable transformation over the last two-and-a-half decades. Paul Tribble provided the leadership and the vision, he surrounded himself with experienced people who knew how to get things done and he never wavered from his vision or his message. He demanded excellence and expected miracles.

It was a remarkable journey that resulted in an incredibly satisfying career for me. As a member of the last graduating class of Christopher Newport College before independence in 1977, I am forever grateful to President Tony Santoro, who hired me to become a member of his administration in 1992. When President Tribble took office in 1996, I became part of what was to become a unique team of exceptionally talented and passionate colleagues. The founding principles of Christopher Newport were the same when I was an undergraduate as they are today: a safe campus with small classes, taught by gifted professors who know their students by name. Building on that, the university was poised for a dramatic change.

It was an exciting period in the life of Christopher Newport — master site planning, buying property, demolishing

buildings, designing and constructing new buildings, transforming a five-day-a-week commuter college into a vibrant 24/7 residential university, attracting high-ability students, hiring people for spirit, working with a group of extremely dedicated faculty and staff, creating new departments, formulating new policies, and doing things that had never been done before.

Every day was an adventure, and almost every decision required a leap of faith. It was a period of unimaginable growth and constant attention to detail to improve the beauty of the campus and enhance the quality of services — eliminating lines, opening doors (figuratively and literally), and ensuring the financial integrity and stability of the university throughout this period of rapid change.

I have many fond memories of the original buildings that gave way to make room for the new campus. For example, the old Student Center that once stood where McMurrin Hall now sits. That is where I met my wife, Michelle, Class of '78. We met in "The Pub," which was adjacent to the old cafeteria, and we were married seven months later. Yes, Christopher Newport was once a "wet" campus. Then there was Gosnold Hall, where I took two semesters of cost accounting. I wasn't too disappointed when it came down. The original Einstein's in the library was one-of-a-kind. Whoever heard of allowing food and drink in a library at that time? Certainly not the university librarian. The cantilevered stairs that greeted you in the lobby are still there but hidden in an area of the Tribble Library that is not open to the public. The first of many residence halls, Santoro Hall, was a bold step toward making Christopher Newport a residential campus. It was also my first construction project. It was so empty in its first two years that we had to move several academic departments into the building to help pay the debt service.

The first McMurrin Hall is where the computer center was located. It was where users ran programs using IBM punched cards. Good luck if one card was out of sequence. In Wingfield Hall, Dr. Sam Bauer's office looked like something out of a "Harry Potter" movie. In the "new" Science Building, the fresh air intake for the building was dependent on how many times you

opened and closed the doors that led to the Holiday Inn-esque outdoor walkways. Smith Hall had a hidden gem: the Peace Pole Garden. It is also where the entire campus had to go to pick up mail. Every building was important in the evolution of the university, but they were designed for another time.

The creative process to design the new campus was intense and enriching, from working in the Neo-Georgian style of architecture — which is firmly rooted in Virginia tradition — to figuring out the best way to finance a billion dollars' worth of new construction. It was also a pleasure to work with some incredibly talented people: architects, most notably, Randy Holmes and his colleagues; engineers; and First Lady Rosemary Tribble, who always instinctively knew what worked and what didn't. It was a continuous learning process.

In order to attract high-ability, residential students, a tremendous amount of infrastructure had to be built. Housing, dining and recreation facilities were required resulting in an explosion of construction projects between 2001-09: six new residence halls, the David Student Union, phase 1 of the Tribble Library, the Freeman Center, football and baseball facilities, and practice fields, all needed to be built yesterday. It wasn't until 2010, 14 years after the transformation began, that the first new academic building, McMurran Hall, opened. From that point forward, all resources were dedicated to the academic expansion of the campus. These initial construction projects, and the sequence in which they were built, were crucial to jump-start the new Christopher Newport University, putting it on the path to what it is today.

The development of the campus followed a traditional collegiate model that is not often seen anymore because many campuses are developed over a long period of time, spanning different administrations and architects, resulting in conflicting architectural styles and incongruent buildings. At Christopher Newport, there is a consistent and intentional architectural style because the same people were involved in the design over a relatively short period of time. The master site plan, which started as a blank sheet of paper, was frequently revised — on many occasions, before the ink had a chance to dry.

The development of the academic core began with the construction of the Tribble Library and the David Student Union

and moved clockwise with McMurran Hall, Forbes Hall and Luter Hall, culminating with Christopher Newport Hall. The development of this design put students within easy reach of a variety of services as well as their classrooms and professors. The design and features of each of the buildings informed the next. By the time we got to the renovation and expansion of the Tribble Library, it was near perfection.

The library expansion added another dimension to the impressive face of the campus along Warwick Boulevard, and increased the capacity for individual and group study that was so desperately needed for a library that operated 24/7. It also included the expansion of Einstein's, which provided the necessary caffeine encouragement for studying late into the evening. The Rosemary Tribble Reading Room on the second floor is probably my favorite indoor space because of its sheer magnificence and grandeur. There are so many elegant features in this space that are too numerous to take in all at once and require exploration to fully appreciate. It is unlike anything else on campus or at other universities.

As breathtakingly beautiful as the campus is, what makes Christopher Newport so special and, in many ways, unique, is its faculty and staff. I learned from and grew with every one of them. I worked with people whom I genuinely enjoyed. We spent so much time together and, at times, under very challenging circumstances. There are too many valued colleagues who fall into this category to mention here.

However, one person in particular is former Chief of Staff Cindi Perry. She was my very close working companion from the time I was hired (she was on the search committee that recommended my hire) until we retired on the same day. She had been at Christopher Newport from the early days of its existence and knew how to get things done. She also knew where all the money was buried. It is rumored that she had been at Christopher Newport so long that she personally knew Captain Christopher Newport. I don't doubt it! We thrived on the challenges and our collaboration. As a result, with the help of a lot of exceptional people, Christopher Newport has grown to exemplify the ideals of leadership, service, honor, excellence as it has taken its place among the best universities in the country.

Go Captains!

William L. Brauer served as executive vice president and chief financial officer from 1992-2021. He graduated from Christopher Newport with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1977. In 2021, he was awarded the honorary doctor of laws.





My Favorite Building on Campus

I'm often asked, "What is your favorite building?" My response: "all of them." Assisting in the design and construction of each building was an incredibly immersive, personal, intimate and exhausting process.

EACH BUILDING DEVELOPED its own unique personality thanks to the talented architects and the faculty, staff and students who brought them to life. I often enjoyed standing off to the side to watch the interaction of people, because each building, each space, is unique.

If I had to choose, however, I would put two buildings at the top of the list. The first is the Bell Tower because of the different architectural styles represented by each of the three tiers. The base is in the Tuscan order, with its alternating pre-cast blocks (quoining) that accentuate the corners. The middle section is based on the Doric order, simple, yet elegant, with dentils adorning the cap. The upper tier is in the Ionic order with its ornate spiral, scroll-like ornaments that adorn the capitals and its decorative frieze below the dome. I also like the use of keystones. Keystones are the wedge-shaped blocks at the apex of each of the precast arches. The extensive use of keystones can also be found throughout other buildings on campus. They are a symbol of strength, support and permanence. A keystone is usually the final piece to be installed in an arch, distributing the weight of the structure as it pushes down on the arch. The carillon beautifully marks the passage of time with the Westminster Quarters, which can be heard across campus. The bells also play the fight song at noon, the alma mater at

5 p.m. and music to mark festive occasions or special events. A lot of creativity went into the Bell Tower design, and it was one of the most complex construction projects.

The second building at the top of my list is Christopher Newport Hall, where the Harrol A. and Elizabeth H. Brauer Room is located, an elegant meeting room that honors my parents, who were avid supporters of the university and, specifically, my father, who became the first rector following Christopher Newport's independence from the College of William & Mary in 1977. It is also where my office was located, and the recently dedicated William L. Brauer Courtyard is located in the heart of the building. This building makes a dramatic statement with its expansive and awe-inspiring presence, anchoring the east end of the Great Lawn and serving as the backdrop for commencement. Its architecture is the most honorific order of them all, the Corinthian order. With its elegant capitals and columns, its use of pilasters, quoining, keystones, and its impressive, monumental staircase, it is a building that has earned its place of prominence, both on and off campus. The design of the building was recognized with the 2016 Palladio Award for national excellence in neoclassical design that "serves as the cornerstone of the university's two-decades-long transformation into a world-class campus." — Bill Brauer

Vision

BY ALAN WITT '76



According to the author Simon Sinek, “great leaders must have two things: a vision of the world that does not yet exist and the ability to communicate that vision clearly.” If any words frame Paul Tribble’s impact on Christopher Newport University, those do.

PAUL TRIBBLE HAS BEEN MASTERFUL at implementing vision. His successful approach started with extraordinary articulation, often accompanied with visuals, followed by support, and ending with budgeting and finance. I recall, early on in the planning for the Ferguson Center for the Arts, a meeting where he summoned Walter Segaloff and me to campus to present his plans for the magnificent facility.

Paul concluded the meeting by asking whether we thought \$18 million could be raised to fund this project. No doubt, Walter and I were skeptical of such a large amount, but at the end of the meeting we agreed to help. We said it would be hard, but \$18 million could be raised. Sixty-three million dollars later, the doors of the beautiful Ferguson Center for the Arts opened. Our community has a world-class asset because Paul Tribble could see a world that did not yet exist, and then had the ability to communicate that vision clearly. Time and time again we have witnessed this dramatic transformation completed at the highest level of excellence.

I have had the opportunity to witness many extraordinary leaders throughout my career and one trait I find common among most is repetition of message. Many who work with those leaders joke that the same message is repeated again and again — and again. At the heart of creating culture and articulating vision is repetition. Great leaders find opportunities to repeat their most important messages often. Paul Tribble, to his credit, and ultimately to his success, has turned this into an art form. He has said his job as a leader is to wear his vision and values like clothes on his back, to communicate them with passion and energy and enthusiasm, and with confidence and precision.

I remember an occasion when we were traveling from event to event raising funds for the Ferguson Center. We were at the home of Charlie and Mari Ann Banks, scale model in hand, with Paul eloquently articulating his vision of this I.M. Pei-designed facility. Halfway through his speech he suddenly stopped, gestured expectantly in my direction, and from memory I delivered the next three sentences of his comments. I was not the only person who memorized the vision, and it was because of this effective style that a \$63 million performing arts center became a reality.

I arrived at Christopher Newport in August 1972 as a freshman. What I found was a young institution established on the model of an urban college, with open admissions, accepting students of all ages with a large number of part-time students.

I graduated in 1976 and attended most of my accounting courses in Wingfield Hall. Today on my bookshelf sits a brick from that razed building, as well as my Intermediate Accounting text. I am fond of saying they’re the only two remaining items of my accounting education.

When Paul Tribble became president in 1996, he found a young college that had just recently attained university status; had just acquired Ferguson High School, which expanded the size of campus by 50 percent; and had just recently opened its first residence hall. The university was young and had an amazing faculty, but lacked any differentiating attributes. Buildings were functional but nondescript, and the mission was difficult to articulate. It was said that Christopher Newport was unknown, underappreciated and underfunded.

This is where Paul Tribble first clearly communicated his vision. He set out to build another great university for America. His purpose was for Christopher Newport to become one of America’s pre-eminent public liberal arts universities and to do it quickly. Paul was absolutely clear that he rejected the notion of incremental progress. He made it known that the university was in the business of dramatic transformation and that everything would be done at the highest level of excellence.

This vision underlies every strategy employed since 1996. Christopher Newport has been transformed from a small commuter college where the vast majority of its students come from Hampton Roads, to a higher education institution of choice, where a majority of students are drawn from Richmond and north to the D.C. suburbs. The transformation has seen Christopher Newport go from a commuter campus to the school with the highest percentage of students living on-campus among four-year public universities in Virginia.

Paul Tribble has transformed Christopher Newport, not just by focusing on creating a pre-eminent public liberal arts university with inspiring buildings of civic proportions, but also by envisioning a culture that differentiates CNU from other universities. Understanding that bigger is not better, that 5,000 students is the optimum size, that we care about minds and hearts, and that our purpose is to form good citizens and leaders who choose to lead lives of significance. We have embraced that mission. It has become our culture and what makes us special.

Alan Witt is dean of the Luter School of Business and the Silas O. and Myrtle S. Jennings Professor of Business. He is the founder of PBMares, one of the nation’s top 100 accounting and business consulting firms, and a former member and rector of the Board of Visitors.

The President's Leadership Program

BY ROBERT E. COLVIN, PHD





Paul Tribble taught leadership at Harvard University following his service in the United States Senate.

HAVING SERVED AS an elected prosecutor, congressman and senator, he understood firsthand the need to prepare young adults for responsible and engaged leadership in pursuit of civic virtue and the greater good. He knew leadership development was central to preparing graduates who were willing and able to lead others for positive change in their communities and nation. This strong interest in leadership and civic virtue ultimately gave rise to a distinctive, value-added program for the re-envisioned Christopher Newport University that he would lead.

Soon after becoming president of Christopher Newport in 1996, Paul Tribble introduced the idea of a focused four-year program of leadership learning and development for outstanding students. President Tribble assembled a committee, chaired by Philosophy Professor Ken Rose, to craft a proposal for creating the President's Leadership Program (PLP). The program, which combines personal development with a minor in leadership studies, launched with an inaugural cohort of 20 students in fall 1998.

“Leaders have the courage to take risks, bring forth new ideas and the passion to chase bold dreams.”

The Academic Study of Leadership

I joined Christopher Newport in 1998, having served as a top-level executive in Virginia government. My first year on campus included the excitement of meeting with Paul Tribble to discuss leadership ideas. I honestly was stunned when he mentioned that he had read my dissertation on executive leadership, and cited some points in it from memory! Moreover, I was thrilled that he wanted to enhance the quality and opportunity for the academic study of leadership.

President Tribble and I agreed that one way to build understanding and support for his vision was to bring highly respected academic experts in the field to campus to engage faculty in an open discussion. The late Dr. James MacGregor Burns, author of the groundbreaking 1978 book, *Leadership*, was one of the country's foremost scholars on leadership. Burns had graciously invested some time mentoring me as I began to study the field. At my request, he reviewed Christopher Newport's emerging curriculum of leadership studies. The curriculum focused on the areas Burns saw as core to leadership study: leading intended change, values or moral leadership, leadership theory, motivational theory, and followership. He wrote a letter in strong support of the program's design and content.

In the 2002-03 academic year, the faculty senate and the administration approved the creation of a faculty council to oversee the leadership studies program. President Tribble had recruited Dr. Anne Perkins, interim dean of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond, as associate provost and director of the PLP. She became chair of the council and led its efforts with great success.

The council proposed a redesign of

the leadership studies minor, which is required of all PLP students, to emphasize civic responsibility, ethical process and cross-cultural awareness. A formal faculty review was successful and the new minor was implemented. Since that day, the minor in leadership studies has been open to all Christopher Newport students, congruent with the idea that students from all fields would be empowered to enact their liberal education through a better understanding of the process of leadership.

The President's Leadership Program

President Tribble understood that a focus on leadership would be a powerful tool for recruiting and retaining high-quality students who wanted to make a difference — to lead lives of significance. The PLP has enjoyed strong interest by prospective students, resulting in rapid growth over the years. The initial class of 20 students in 1998 led the way for incoming classes of 60, 85 and 100 students. By the fall of 2015, the incoming class comprised around 400 high-achieving students.

Every summer hundreds of first-year PLP students arrive on campus for the Summer Leadership Adventure: several days of ice-breaking, skill-building and team-development activities. The students create friendships and relationships that stay with them throughout their years on campus and beyond.

Today, more than one-fifth of the student body at Christopher Newport University is enrolled in PLP. They contribute about 50,000 service hours per year to all types of nonprofit and government organizations as a means of helping others and giving back. They also travel the globe with faculty for study abroad programs, and meet and engage with the most prominent scholars in their field.



PLP's success is shown in part by the number of enrollees and activities. But, success can also be measured by external awards and recognition. The minor in leadership studies won the 2019 Outstanding Program Award from the Association of Leadership Educators. Our students won the Undergraduate Case Study Competition at the 2021 meeting of the International Leadership Association (ILA), held in Geneva. ILA is the premier scholarly organization for the study of leadership and has 4,000 members from 40 countries. Christopher Newport also won this competition in 2018 and 2020, and placed second in 2019. The foundation in knowledge and research skills the students have gained from the leadership studies curriculum has led to this sustained track record of success.

Throughout the 24-year history of PLP, President and Rosemary Tribble have been very active in supporting and advancing the program. They both have leveraged their extensive networks to bring many dozens of luminaries to campus as speakers. They both have mentored many students and they have raised funds for scholarships.

Mrs. Tribble has involved our students with her in service work to support victims of sexual assault.

President Tribble has presented his thoughts on the importance of developing leadership competencies hundreds of times to thousands of potential students and their parents during open house events. He also served as a PLP speaker himself from time to time. The major themes in his message have remained consistent. I know that to be the case because I took notes at a variety of these events over the years!

President Tribble stresses that leaders work hard, and have determination, persistence and respect for others. Leaders have the courage to take risks, bring forth new ideas and the passion to chase bold dreams. They inspire themselves and others to live lives that matter, lives of significance. They expect and ask much from themselves and others. Good leaders are good citizens, and they value honor and service to others and a higher purpose. They will take a stand for what is right, even if it is not popular. In saying that he wanted to create another great university for America, President Tribble not

only meant geographically, but also directly for the future benefit of America and our world. He cites Alexis de Tocqueville's observation that America must be [morally] good for it to be great.

Leadership development is central to preparing graduates who are willing and able to lead others for positive change. He stresses that the best leaders realize they do not succeed as a team of one. Instead, they rely on others who are committed to the same higher purpose to give their best efforts and seek excellence. President Tribble has said in public venues a thousand times that Christopher Newport's success stems from remarkable contributions by a large number of dedicated colleagues and friends of the university.

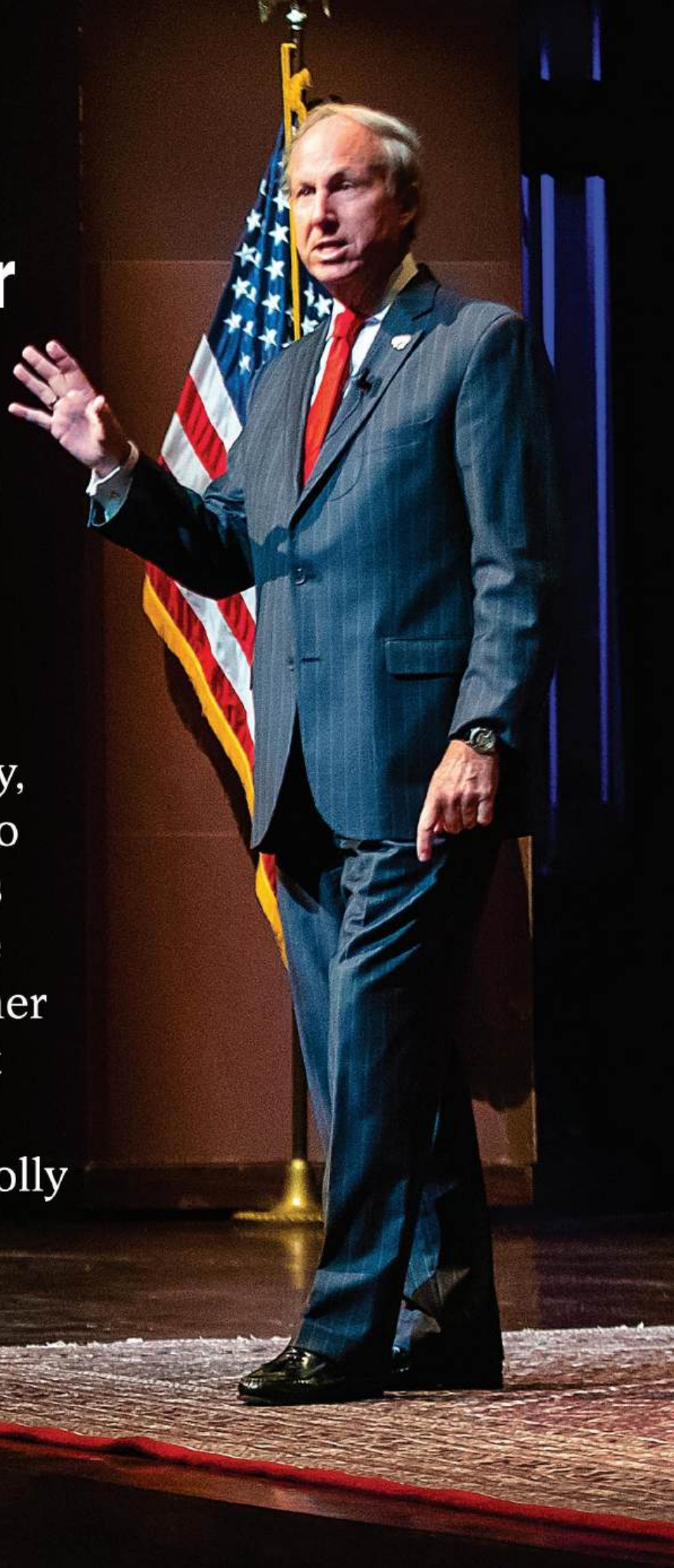
President Tribble's focus on leadership and leadership studies has helped build the remarkable Christopher Newport University that we know today. I applaud his vision and determination, his leadership by example. It has been a career high point for me to have walked alongside Paul and Rosemary the last 24 years in this amazing PLP and leadership adventure.

Robert E. Colvin is vice provost of undergraduate education. He is former dean of the College of Social Sciences and of the Luter School of Business, and is the founding chair of the Department of Leadership and American Studies. In 2005 he was named Professor of the Year.

A Contributor to the Great Conversation

BY LORI UNDERWOOD, PHD

The buildings, the enrollments, the landscape, the energy, are often spoken of to measure the changes President Paul Tribble brought to Christopher Newport. But all that change was part and parcel of a vision wholly shaped around the academic core.



RENOWNED AMERICAN EDUCATOR Robert Maynard Hutchins, who served as president and chancellor of the University of Chicago for over two decades, described his approach to education in his celebrated treatise, *The Great Conversation*. Referencing the canons of intellectual thought that form the foundations of liberal arts education, Hutchins wrote, "We want them to be heard again not because we want to go back to antiquity, or the Middle Ages, or the Renaissance, or the Eighteenth Century. We are quite aware that we do not live in any time but the present, and, distressing as the present is, we would not care to live in any other time if we could. We want the voices of the Great Conversation to be heard again because we think they may help us to learn to live better now." At a time when voices across the landscape of education were chasing trends and technology, implementing the newest fads, Paul saw that adhering to core intellectual values and demanding academic rigor would forever be the path to valuing students first.

The heart of a liberal arts and sciences education is about learning from the past to transform the future, and most importantly, it is about people not process. It is an education for every individual as a whole person and as a contributing member of his or her community. As Paul so eloquently describes it, "we educate both hearts and minds so our students leave us to live lives of significance."

I believe in liberal arts education with all of my heart. I see it as a tool to transform lives and communities for the better, and I hold this conviction so strongly that I call myself an evangelical academic. I knew from my earliest days at Christopher Newport that I had found in Paul Tribble a kindred spirit. In my work with the Faculty Senate and at student events, Paul and I had the opportunity to speak on a number of occasions. He asked about my experiences in the classroom. What struck me most about these conversations was that they were not polite chatter. We would have in-depth discussion, and sometimes debates about our philosophical and practical views on liberal education. I thought to myself, "my president, who is not an academic, has a more nuanced philosophy of education than some of the professors I know. Christopher Newport is going to do amazing things." Two decades later, it is clear that my hopeful assertion about our path was, indeed, an understatement.

Out of those conversations came some wonderful opportunities. When he assembled a task force that developed the Liberal Learning Core Curriculum that supports all of our other programs, Paul told me, "this project must be about the students, they are what matters." When he found out about a mentoring program that Quentin Kidd and I were developing to help our students apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships, he said, "I love what you're doing, helping our students dream bigger and reach farther. I'm going to find you some scholarship

"Students first' is not just a catchy phrase for Paul, it is a solemn commitment."

funding and work out a way for these students to study at Oxford in the summer. Let's do it right!" Thus, the Presidential Scholars Program was born. "Students first" is not just a catchy phrase for Paul, it is a solemn commitment.

The students-first commitment is something Paul has integrated into every aspect of university life. It is a part of the DNA of Christopher Newport that shapes everything we do and how we do it. If a student needs a course to graduate, no one considers whether we will find a spot for her. Our first thought is how will we find the spot? When we develop new programs, our first question is, how does this serve student need? Our graduation rate has moved from a shocking 9% to an impressive 75%. We are proud of that progress of course, but to a person, if you ask faculty and staff what our goal is for graduation and retention, we will say 100%. We want every student to succeed. That is the culture here. This culture is only possible because of the intellectual and material support faculty and students have received from our president over the past 26 years.

In his tenure here, Paul has nearly doubled the size of the faculty. He has maintained a commitment to raising faculty salaries, adding tenure-track positions, and providing research opportunities and facilities. He has tirelessly demanded small class sizes, faculty involvement in advising and maintained a traditional commitment to faculty governance regardless of political headwinds. We have an award-winning curriculum that was developed and is nurtured by faculty who share Paul's passion for liberal arts and sciences education.

During my career I have spoken at dozens of universities, and I am often asked how Christopher Newport evolved from a commuter school to a highly selective public liberal arts university over the course of less than 20 years. I tell them that having a visionary leader is vitally important, but having a leader who has confidence in his faculty and staff to realize his vision is where the magic really happens. Paul Tribble is that person.

Semester after semester, year after year, we hear stories from those who hire our students. Our students are ethical leaders, they can adapt to any task, they are not only competent, but also caring. We know that leadership always comes from the top. Our faculty are excellent, our programs are state-of-the-art, and our students are outstanding. Why? Because our president sees Christopher Newport, its students, its faculty, its staff as part of the Great Conversation, and the vision and strong foundation he has given us ensure that our place in it will endure.

Lori Underwood is dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, professor of philosophy of religion, and director of the presidential scholars program.





"Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

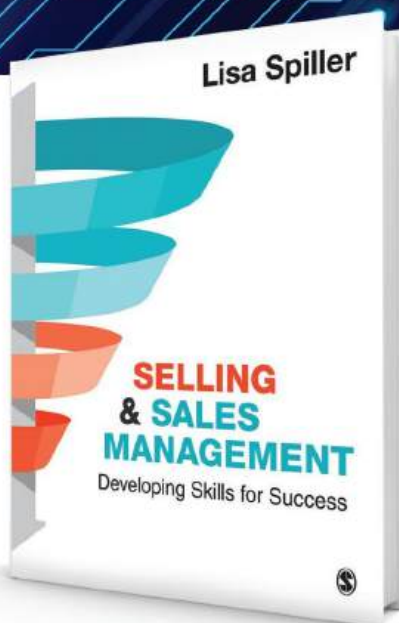
— GEORGE BERNARD SHAW



FACULTY NEWS

**CHRISTOPHER KREIDER, MICHAEL LAPKE
AND NAZLI SIASI // PHYSICS, COMPUTER
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

Kreider, Lapke and Siasi were awarded a grant from Virginia's Commonwealth Cyber Initiative to overhaul the Hunter Creech Lab in Luter Hall. The planned enhancements will enable Christopher Newport students to pursue the latest developments in artificial intelligence and machine learning in preparation for careers in the fast-growing field of cybersecurity. The new resources will be available for use in fall 2022.



DR. LISA SPILLER //
LUTER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Spiller is the author of the new textbook, *Selling and Sales Management: Developing Skills for Success*, a how-to guide to empower students for selling success in any situation. The expertise and successes of 17 Luter School alumni who work in sales feature prominently in cases and other content throughout the book. The book emphasizes storytelling for effective communication and emotional connections, and features modern topics and concepts, such as sales automation, neuro-linguistic programming, customer relationship management, onboarding and servant leadership.

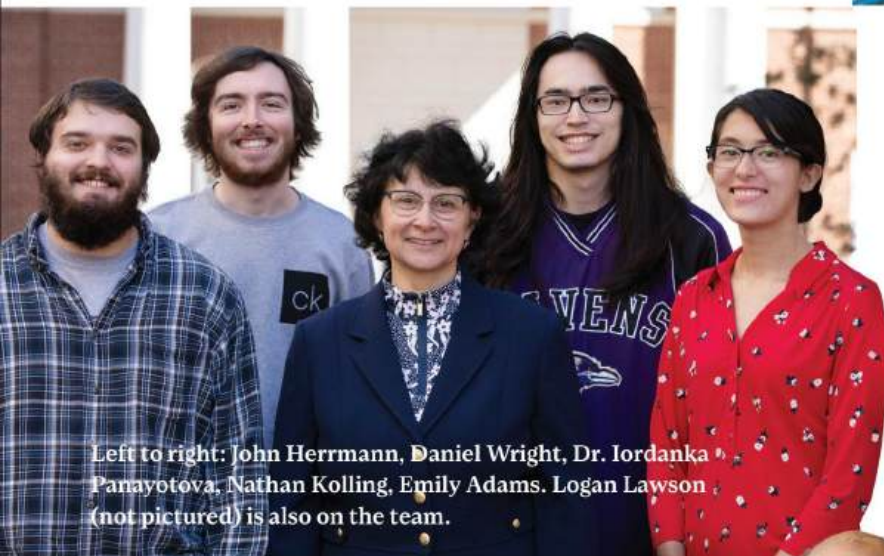
DR. ELIZABETH KAUFER BUSCH //
LEADERSHIP AND AMERICAN STUDIES

Busch, the Laura and Pete Walker Professor in American Studies and co-director of the Center for American Studies, has been appointed to serve on the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, also known as America250. The nonpartisan commission was created by Congress to prepare for a nationwide commemoration culminating on July 4, 2026 — the nation's 250th anniversary. Busch will serve on the Civics and Civic Engagement Task Force.



DR. JESSICA BURKET //
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY

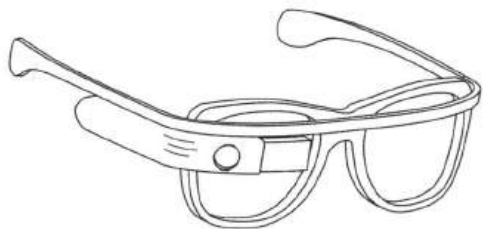
Burket is a part of a collaborative team of scientists awarded a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to study the interaction between HIV, drug abuse and the development of neuropsychiatric disorders. Her research team, which includes Christopher Newport students and researchers from Eastern Virginia Medical School, will assess the emergence of neuropsychiatric behaviors in an HIV model to gain a better understanding of the specific neurobiological mechanisms involved.



Left to right: John Herrmann, Daniel Wright, Dr. Iordanka Panayotova, Nathan Kolling, Emily Adams. Logan Lawson (not pictured) is also on the team.

DR. IORDANKA PANAYOTOVA //
MATHEMATICS

Panayotova, in collaboration with Dr. Maila Brucal-Hallare of Norfolk State University, has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant to support undergraduate research in applied mathematics. Five Christopher Newport and four NSU students are studying the math behind wireless power transmission systems used in medical devices, cancer-killing oncolytic viruses and multi-species fish interactions in the Chesapeake Bay. The grant also provides stipends to the students and funds their attendance at an academic conference at the end of their research experience.



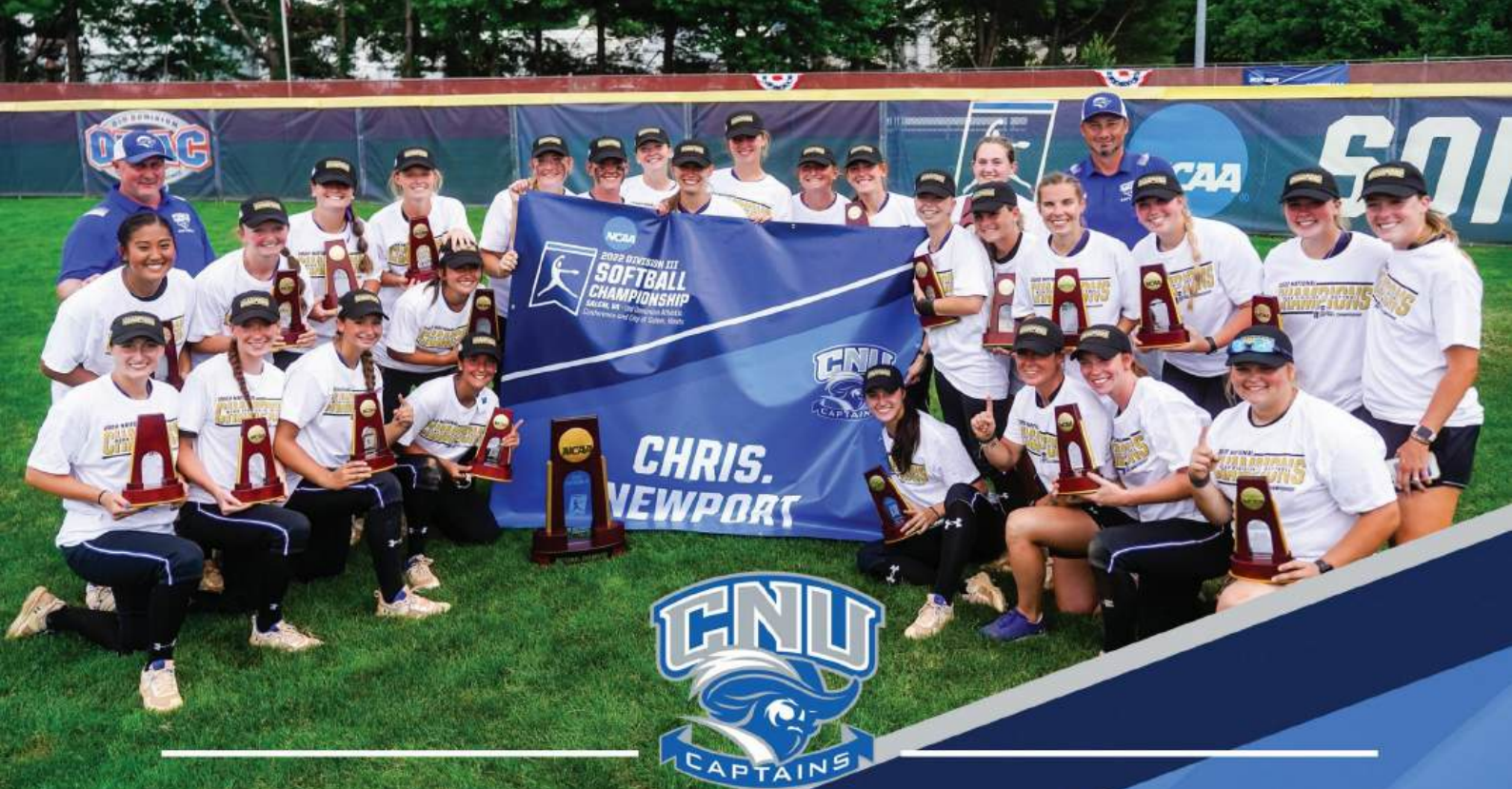
KEITH PERKINS // **PHYSICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

Perkins and a team of inventors patented an optical head-mounted display for laser safety eyewear as part of a NASA research project. It is currently prototyped as an android application that runs on augmented reality headsets such as Google Glass. The patent was granted after a three-year process that involved key assistance from two students, Steven Rosenthal '16 and Mathew Bartgis '20. The device has several potential uses in academia, industry, defense, government laboratories and test facilities.



DR. JONATHAN W. WHITE // **LEADERSHIP AND AMERICAN STUDIES**

White, one of the nation's foremost experts on the life of Abraham Lincoln, has written several new books, two of them with the assistance of Christopher Newport students. Maggie Byers '20 and Michael Sparks '23 worked with White on *To Address You as My Friend*. Lydia Davis '20 assisted White on *My Work Among the Freedmen: The Civil War and Reconstruction Letter of Harriet M. Buss*. White's third book is *A House Built By Slaves: African American Visitors to the Lincoln White House*.



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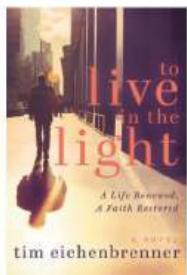
CLASS NOTES



Katherine Winkey '15 and James Winkey are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Jaime Winkey, on March 1, 2021. The family lives in Stafford.

Career Announcements

1970s



Tim Eichenbrenner '74 will release his debut novel *To Live in the Light* in fall 2022. The book, published by Morgan James Fiction, explores the complexity of past and present relationships, personal loss, and doubts about faith, revealing how everything can change – just when it seems all is lost.

1990s



Allison Pitt Davidson '99 published her book *No Excuses: Celebrate You!*. The book is intended to encourage and inspire women to discover that it is not where you are or the cards that you are dealt in life, but where you want to go. In 2021 she gave a reading at Klich Alumni House.

2000s

Michael Pierce '05 was appointed as an associate, in the labor and employment practice at O'Hagan Meyer in Richmond.



Lynanne Jamison '06 earned her doctor of education in leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University in May 2021. She was also promoted to associate dean for families and family programs at VCU.

Matt Johnson '07 was appointed as assistant director of economic development for York County.

2010s

Kara Lusk '10 was promoted to external relations for country music at William Morris Endeavor Entertainment in Nashville, Tennessee.

Jessica Dame '10 was featured in the Greensboro, North Carolina weekly news release for her work in mixed media art. Her projects seek to blend fine art and design with elements of mixed media art. In 2021, her work was on exhibition at the Latela Curatorial in Washington, D.C.

Ian Sonia '13 was promoted to director of admissions, recruitment and marketing at Emmanuel College in Boston.

Michelle Swezey '13 was promoted to manager of digital marketing and analytics at Massimo Zanetti Beverage USA in Suffolk.

Cory Steiger '17 illustrated *Back in My Arms*, which was published in January 2022. The book tells the story of a young girl struggling with her purpose in life.

Ben Wahls '18 is pursuing a PhD in mechanical engineering at North Carolina State University. He plans to complete his studies in the summer of 2022.

2020s

Emily Knode '20 received the Clinical Achievement Award and was a member of the Student Nurses Association while completing her associate degree in nursing. She is a registered nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond.



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Captains Marrying Captains



Naomi Lischak 1



Caleb Thompson 2



Arianna Belle Photography 3

1. Tom Fredericks '05 married **Dorie Penafiel '05** on September 26, 2021 in Lake Tahoe. Tom is a real estate broker and Dorie is a territory manager. The couple lives in Springfield.

2. Peter Skinker '12 married **Katelyn Anders '12** on October 31, 2021 in Mechanicsville. The couple lives in Reston.

3. Brittany Drumright '14 married **Haley Bergh '14** on October 9, 2021 in Moseley. Brittany is a physical therapy assistant and Haley is a pharmacist. The couple lives in Richmond.

4. Joseph Durling '16 married **Samantha Mangum '16** on September 25, 2021 in Gloucester, Massachusetts. The couple lives in Quincy, Massachusetts.

5. Jonathan Toms '16 married **Kaitie McCormick '16** on March 13, 2021 at Alturia Farm in Manquin. Jonathan is a community development manager and Kaitie is a first grade teacher. The couple lives in Newport News.

6. Corey Rosenberg '17 married **Lauren Sturman '17** on September 25, 2021 in Charlottesville. The couple lives in Reston.

7. Robert Boland '18 married **Kathy LaMarsh '18** on October 9, 2021 at the James River Country Club in Newport News. The couple lives in Yorktown.



Spagnolo Photography 4



Hunter and Sarah Photography 5



Paige Ryan Photography 6



Susan Fowler 7

Wedding Announcement



Stephanie Wacek '08 married Leland Privott on January 22, 2022 in Durham, North Carolina. The couple lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, where Stephanie is a fifth grade teacher.

Future Captains



Briana Spratley '13 and Tyquan Spratley are happy to announce the birth of their son, Zayden Avery, on October 31, 2021. The family lives in Suffolk.

Camilla Farrand '09 and **Stuart Farrand '09** announce the birth of their daughter, Zenora Farrand, on June 16, 2021. The family lives in Williamsburg.

Amanda Davis '12 and **Robbie Davis '12** are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Kendall Davis, on February 7, 2022. The family lives in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mary Bryant '14 and **Graham Bryant** are happy to announce the birth

of their son, Rowan Bryant, on October 16, 2021. The family lives in Mechanicsville.

Lauren Brent '16 is happy to announce the birth of her daughter, Leighton Davis, on November 10, 2021. The family lives in Lancaster.

Katrina Fitchett '17 and **Ian Fitchett** are happy to announce the birth of their twins, Raelyn and Micah. The family lives in Herndon.

In Memoriam

FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

Flora Crittenden (former Board of Visitors member)
Cary Epes (friend of Christopher Newport)
Dr. James Z. Gao (faculty, history)
Andrew Hughes (staff)
Dr. Ron Mollick (emeritus faculty, biology)

ALUMNI

Patrick Hester '68
Jane Tweeddale Adams '82
Estial Reynolds II '83
Robert Parlett '84
Thomas Irwin '85

Richard Mars '85
Leslie Van Deren '85
Randolph Scott '91
Catherine Diane Bittner '96
Deborah Herrmann '96

Robert Sherman '98
Dean Little '02
Barbara Kerner '05
Anthony Sambuchi '05

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