

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY  
2012-13

# CNU *on the Move!*







"OUR PURPOSE IS TO SHAPE MINDS AND HEARTS AND  
PRODUCE GOOD CITIZENS AND LEADERS. FEW, IF ANY  
SCHOOLS IN AMERICA, ARE MOVING FASTER AND  
SOARING HIGHER."

- PRESIDENT PAUL TRIBLE



As the 2012-13 academic year began, we had much to celebrate at Christopher Newport University:

- CNU's largest and academically strongest freshman class — almost 1,400 students, including a record 410 enrolled in the President's Leadership Program
- The largest student body in our history — 5,146, including our greatest number of residential students with more than 3,500 living on campus
- CNU's highest freshman retention rate at 86.5 percent
- The greatest number of full-time faculty in our history — 258
- More than 250 active student clubs and organizations, our most ever
- Our greatest number of athletic teams competing in NCAA post-season play
- CNU's largest number of overall and alumni donors, helping us raise the most money in any given year — more than \$11 million in cash and pledges

These remarkable achievements only scratch the surface. This year's edition of *CNU on the Move!* highlights many noteworthy people and programs making the difference — from stunning new campus facilities to faculty, student and alumni superstars; new academic offerings; athletic successes; and much more.

Working together, there is no limit to what we will accomplish.

Put It All





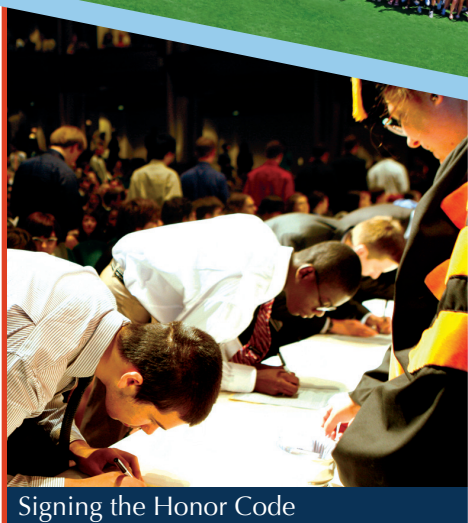
# Class of

## '12 Freshman Snapshot

This past August CNU welcomed the largest freshman class yet — nearly 1,400 students. Their middle 50 percent range of achievement is a 3.4-3.9 GPA and an SAT of 1090-1240 (Critical Reading and Math). Academically, this is the strongest class to enter CNU.

Ninety-seven percent of our first-year students live on campus, 96 percent are Virginians, and students of color constitute 21 percent of the freshman class.

Remarkably, almost 450 of our freshmen — the most ever, and 32 percent of our first-year class — participate in the President's Leadership Program (PLP) and/or Honors Program. Not only have these young women and men thrived in the classroom, but they have also excelled as citizens and leaders. More and more we want the profile of our PLP and Honors students to define our entire freshman class, and we look forward to their engagement in the rigorous and rewarding intellectual life of the University. ■



Signing the Honor Code



Freshman dessert at President Tribble's home



Students and staff move in our freshman class



# U.S. News and Princeton Review Give CNU High Marks

Christopher Newport University continues to garner top recognition. In recent months both *U.S. News & World Report* and The Princeton Review have included CNU in their prestigious rankings.

CNU was recognized by *U.S. News* as the No. 3 up-and-coming regional university in the South. The publication's 2013 "Up-and-Comers" list was

developed from a survey of college administrators identifying which institutions they deemed to "have recently made the most promising and innovative changes in the areas of academics, faculty, student life, campus or facilities." CNU was also ranked No. 8 among top public regional universities in the South, and No. 23 on the overall regional university list for the South.

The Princeton Review included CNU in its publication *The 367 Best Colleges* for the second year running. Selections were based on academics, cost of attendance, facilities, campus culture and financial aid provided to students. According to the publication, schools featured represent the "cream of the crop" colleges and universities — the top 15 percent of schools in the nation. ■■





# Notable Speakers Visit Campus

The President's Leadership Speaker Series features leaders who reflect the qualities CNU students learn and live each day: a commitment to excellence, a willingness to engage and lead, and a passion for making the world a better place. During 2012 these distinguished guests headlined the series:



**The Honorable Antonin Scalia**, Associate U.S. Supreme Court Justice appointed in 1986



**C. Larry Pope**, Chief Executive Officer of Smithfield Foods, a Fortune 500 company



**Dr. William Magee Jr. and Kathleen Magee**, co-founders of Operation Smile, a children's medical charity transforming the lives of children suffering from cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities



CNU welcomed additional speakers throughout 2012, including the following:

- **Adm. Thad Allen** (USCG, ret.), Senior Vice President – homeland security business, Booz Allen Hamilton; former Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard
- **Dr. Mani Bhaumik**, physicist, author, lecturer, entrepreneur, philanthropist and co-inventor of the laser technology that led to Lasik eye surgery
- **William J. Bratton**, Chairman, Kroll Advisory Solutions; Co-Chair, homeland security advisory council, Department of Homeland Security; former Chief of Police, city of New York; former Chief of Police, city of Los Angeles; former Boston Police Commissioner
- **Candy Chang**, acclaimed artist, designer and urban planner
- **Marcel Drimer**, Holocaust survivor
- **Patricia McCormick**, author and finalist for the 2006 National Book Award
- **The Honorable Robert McDonnell**, Governor of Virginia
- **Randall Munroe** ('06), "xkcd" webcomic
- **Dr. Valerie Rouxel-Laxton**, Head of Economic and Financial Affairs, the Delegation of the European Union to the United States
- **Col. Bob Stephan** (USAF, ret.), Executive Vice President, CRA Inc.; former Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Infrastructure Protection
- **Thomas S. Winkowski**, Acting Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection





Left to right: Cory Harris, Alyssa Kidd, Kara Elder, Bailey Jensen, Abby Hogge, Christie Fellows

## Volleyball Seniors Build Lasting Legacy

One year removed from reaching the national championship game, the Captains again made an impressive march through the post-season in 2012. CNU reached the national semifinals after winning a fourth-straight NCAA regional championship. The team set program records for wins in a season with 40, consecutive wins with 32 and fewest losses with three. The win streak is the longest run in any sport in Christopher Newport history. Below are some of the remarkable accomplishments of the volleyball senior class.

- The seniors accomplished a career 152-18 record — an astonishing 89.4 winning percentage
- During their incredible run from 2009-12, the senior class never lost a USA South match, posting a record of 65-0 during the regular season; they also went 12-0 during the conference tournament on the way to four straight league championships
- The six seniors led the Captains to the program's first-ever appearance in the elite eight as freshmen in 2009, before matching that feat during each of the next three campaigns
- They also helped CNU earn its first-ever No. 1 national ranking in the 2012 pre-season after leading the program to its first national championship appearance in 2011; they ended the season ranked third in the nation
- The seniors guided CNU to the final four in 2011 and 2012, becoming the only team in the nation to reach that level during each of the last two seasons
- They earned eight All-American honors, 11 All-Region accolades, 16 All-Conference nods and nine All-Academic selections
- Bailey Jensen became CNU's first-ever first team All-American
- Abby Hogge became the first-ever four-time All-American at CNU

# Our Campus 'Evolution' Continues



Over the past 16 years Christopher Newport has completed nearly \$1 billion in capital construction, adding beautiful buildings and 21st-century technology to CNU's campus. "Our job is to instruct and inspire our students, and nothing does that more powerfully than great art and architecture," says President Paul Tribble. "We want our students to have great dreams for their lives and the life of our country."

Following last year's opening of CNU's integrated science center, **Forbes Hall**, construction of **Science Phase II** is nearing completion. This 46,000-square-foot addition will provide state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories and offices, further enhancing academic programs within the Departments of Molecular Biology and Chemistry, Organismal and Environmental Biology, and Psychology.

Upon completion in 2013, **Luter Hall** (pictured left) will become CNU's largest academic building. The future home of the Joseph W. Luter, III School of Business, Luter Hall will also house the Departments of Economics; Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Leadership and American Studies; Mathematics; and Physics, Computer Science and Engineering. Features will include a trading room; a small tiered lecture hall; 14 traditional and seven computer classrooms; nine teaching labs for physics, computer science and engineering; eight faculty and student research labs; three reading rooms; faculty offices; a boardroom; public interaction spaces; and cutting-edge technology.

This fall the University opened **Warwick River Hall** (pictured right), a new "home away from home" for sophomores featuring four-person suites. Residents live two to a room and share a common area and bathroom. An additional residential building scheduled to open next fall, **Rappahannock River Hall** will house returning upper-class students. The 457-bed facility will provide private bedrooms and baths, full kitchens, and a 250-space parking deck for residents.

The **Pope Chapel** is a 10,000-square-foot building standing at the entrance to the University and will enrich campus life through religious activities, lectures, musical performances, weddings and other special events.



In addition to new facilities, some existing buildings have undergone renovations and expansions. **Hidden-Hussey Commons** now accommodates more residential students through a doubling of seating capacity, additional dining service lines, and an outdoor patio for dining and various activities.

The 16,000-square-foot renovation of **Ratcliffe Hall** added the following features: two visitor locker rooms; expanded weight and training rooms; and additional offices for football, men's and women's soccer, field hockey, and women's lacrosse. Moreover, the building now resembles the Georgian architecture of CNU's campus.

Upcoming projects include the construction of the **Student Success Center**, scheduled to begin next summer. The 80,000-square-foot project will replace the current Administration Building and complete the Great Lawn. While providing some administrative functions, the facility will offer students "one-stop shopping" by housing the following service departments: Admission, Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, the Business Office, Payroll, Student Accounts, the Center for Academic Success, the President's Leadership Program,

Study Abroad, the Honors Program, Alumni Relations and University Events, and the Center for Career Planning.

Construction will also begin next summer on a **bell tower** located between McMurran Hall and Forbes Hall. The tower will feature the bell from the *SS United States* currently on display in Tribble Library. With a clock on each of the bell tower's four sides and a carillon, this addition to campus will allow CNU to build rich traditions around Commencement, athletic victories and other events.

A new **Greek Village** will include seven stand-alone and two duplex buildings. Located between Warwick River Hall and Santoro Hall, it will provide housing for 11 Greek organizations.

The University is also planning the next phase of the **Tribble Library**. An architect has been selected with design work under way. Plans include a mixture of group study rooms and open areas to accommodate more students; a robust wireless environment; a theater for video conferences and assemblies; an expansion of Einstein's Café; and a structural connection between the library and the Student Success Center.

Also being planned is a **new entrance** to the University, which will accommodate pedestrians and vehicles alike through a unique arrangement of pavers bearing CNU logos. ■■





### 'Green' Education Fuels Discovery

After spending summer 2011 conducting research at Harvard, senior biology major Laura Hancock (pictured above working on a Virginia farm) decided to head to Moscow, Idaho, that is. Hancock did a Regional Approaches to Climate Change (REACCH) internship at the University of Idaho where she studied how a changing climate might affect aphids across the inland Pacific Northwest.

The REACCH project is coordinated by Dr. Sanford Eigenbrode, an entomology professor at Idaho. He predicts that since aphids are especially sensitive to shifts in precipitation and

temperature, their distribution across the region will likely change in response to climate factors. Much of Hancock's work involved running computerized statistical models, but she also got her hands dirty in the lab sorting and identifying different species of aphids. "Laura's work was important in that it gave us a first look at the patterns and a baseline for observing changes among years throughout the life of the project," says Eigenbrode. "[She] was an ideal intern because of her hard work and enthusiasm for the entire experience."

Hancock also accumulated a wealth of experience at Harvard, where she

tracked ragweed allergy hot spots and how changes in climate affect the proteins in the plant that cause allergic reactions in people. She credits Dr. Lauren Ruane and Dr. Michael Meyer, biology faculty members at CNU, with helping her prepare for the REACCH internship. "Dr. Meyer showed me a lot of the field sampling methods I used out in Idaho a year before I went," says Hancock.

When she's not busy in class or in the field, Hancock is co-president of the CNU Green Team and a member of the biology honor society, Beta Beta Beta. She worked with Ruane and Dr. Russell Burke as a laboratory teaching



assistant and as a peer tutor in biology at CNU's Center for Academic Success. "The research and teaching experience I've gotten from working with professors exceeds anything I thought I would be able to get involved with as an undergraduate," says Hancock. She's even gotten her name in print, as a co-author with Ruane of a paper published in the *American Journal of Botany* about fungi and flax. "Laura is constantly immersing herself in meaningful and productive activities. Her fascination with the intricacies of biology and her

diligent work ethic have helped her excel as a research student in my lab and in other labs across the country," Ruane says.

Hancock devotes a great deal of energy to the Green Team. "Being a part of the Green Team has given me so many great opportunities and experiences," she says. "We started the Farmers Market on campus, and that provided me a way to get involved with agriculture and the food industry and to feel like I'm making a difference."

Indeed, CNU's Farmers Market has become a campus fixture and received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (see below). The award will be used to fund the market's operations, establish internships to increase the revenue of local farmers and producers, and educate students about farming. "Laura was instrumental in starting the sustainable food movement on our campus, an accomplishment that will positively affect the CNU community for years to come," says Ruane. ■



## Farmers Market Wins Grant

CNU was awarded \$84,756 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to expand the on-campus farmers market and increase the revenue of local farmers and producers. The two-year grant will also fund an advertising campaign and 10 summer internships to educate students about farming practices. An interdisciplinary group of CNU faculty contributed to the proposal, including Dr. Kara Keeling and Dr. Scott Pollard, Professors of English; Lauren Ruane, Assistant Professor of Biology; and Lynn Shollen, Assistant Professor of Leadership Studies.

"This grant will allow us to develop supportive, symbiotic relationships between local farmers, CNU students and faculty, and the Newport News community, enriching everyone with local, sustainable produce and meats while enhancing our understanding of how such food comes to our kitchens and tables," notes Pollard, who serves as director of the farmers market. "What we create could be a model for other similarly sized liberal-arts universities across the country."

USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) awards were granted to 130 initiatives across the U.S. to establish and develop new farmers markets as well as support longstanding ones. CNU was the only Virginia university to receive an FMPP grant in 2012. ■

# Dr. Tarek Abdel-Fattah

2012 Faculty Excellence Award in Research

Associate Professor of Chemistry

Director, CNU Applied Research Center

## Faculty *on the Move*

Dr. Tarek Abdel-Fattah sweats the small stuff. The very small stuff— one nanometer is one-one hundred thousandth the diameter of a human hair. The nanoscale materials he employs in his research are so small they can permeate water molecules to sponge away pollutants. And gold and carbon nanotubes small enough to interact with cancer cells give hope of developing new drugs that may stamp out the disease forever.

The winner of this year's Faculty Excellence Award in Research, Abdel-Fattah also has ongoing projects in green energy and biomedical alloys, which are widely used in dental implants, knee and hip replacements, and coronary stents. "I hope my research will help in the improvement of our environment and medical technologies," says Abdel-Fattah. "I believe the most important thing about research is its ability to be applied and implemented to help improve the standard of our global environment and health."

Abdel-Fattah's career brought him to Christopher Newport in 1999. A native of Egypt, he earned both his BS and MS there before crossing the Atlantic to enroll in PhD studies at Northeastern University in Boston. "During my education, I was involved with top researchers in my field, which provided me with the background and passion necessary to conduct my current projects," he says. "I have always conducted research to not only further academic knowledge, but also to fulfill my academic curiosity. It's an important way to have a positive impact in both CNU's education setting and the broader global academic community."

As a teacher-scholar Abdel-Fattah works closely in the laboratory with CNU students on all of his projects, each of



which is anything but small — they are huge undertakings that require extensive time and resources. "These compelling questions span a number of fields and are not quickly answered," he says. "In order for these projects to be applicable in the market, we need to keep investing in research." He credits his students and the University with helping him maintain momentum. "CNU allows me the ability to grow year after year in my field," he says. "Many talented students share my passion for research and discovery, and I hope the experiences they gain working on these projects will inspire them to make successful contributions in improving our lives and help them grow as professionals in their careers." ■



# Faculty in Print

## *Civic Education and the Future of American Citizenship*



**Dr. Elizabeth Kaufer Busch**

Associate Professor of Leadership  
and American Studies



**Dr. Jonathan W. White**

Assistant Professor of American  
Studies

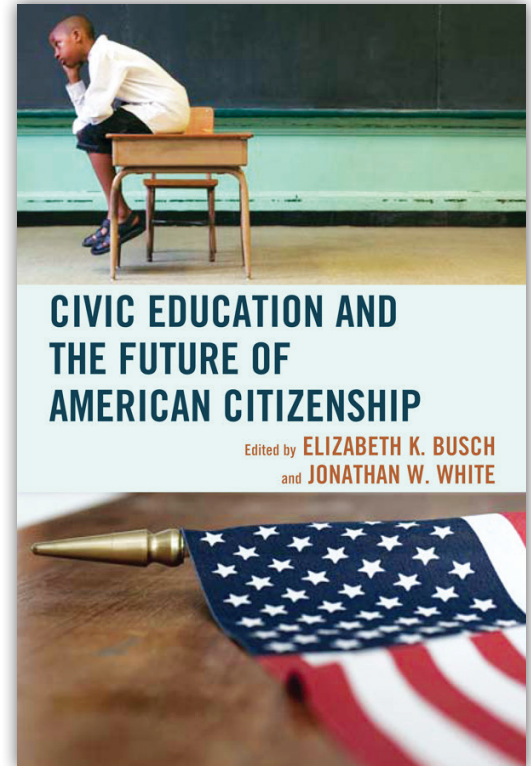
**D**rs. Elizabeth Kaufer Busch and Jonathan White have edited a volume of essays by leading scholars on the importance of liberal education. Titled *Civic Education and the Future of American Citizenship*, the book addresses how civic knowledge and a firm grasp of the U.S. Constitution are essential to both a well-educated citizenry and the nation's well-being.

Among others, contributors include Bruce Cole, former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities; Dana Gioia, former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; bestselling author of *The Dumbest Generation*, Mark Bauerlein; retired University of Virginia professor and *New York Times* bestselling author

E.D. Hirsch; and CNU professors Dr. Jeff Bergner and Dr. Lisa Spiller.

*Civic Education and the Future of American Citizenship* has been well received by several leading thinkers, including David Feith of *The Wall Street Journal* and Josipa Roksa of the University of Virginia, who says, "The depth and breadth of the volume, from founding fathers to Facebook, provides a unique blend of history and recent trends, making it a compelling read for scholars across disciplines and a great resource for courses engaging these crucial issues."

"This book is the outgrowth of the work [we] do through CNU's Center for American Studies (CAS)," says White.



"The Center brings leading scholars and policymakers to CNU's campus for lectures, public debate and three annual conferences. CAS undertakes these tasks in order to promote sensible notions of liberty and a civic responsibility to defend that liberty locally and globally." ■



# Captains Score Big

The fall 2012 athletics season was another one for the record books, as the Captains continued their impressive play across all sports. Teams amassed an overall record of 90-23-2, for a winning percentage of 79.1 percent.

CNU's athletes are also a success story in the classroom, exerting tireless effort to attain some of the best academic performances on campus. Last year more than 250 student-athletes earned a GPA of 3.0 or better, a remarkable achievement.

## Field Hockey

This was the finest year in program history. CNU set the mark for wins in a season with 17 and reached the NCAA tournament for the seventh straight year. After a first-round victory, CNU bowed out to national runner-up Montclair State, 1-0, but finished 17-2 on the year, including a 15-game winning streak. Led by CNU's second First Team All-American in school history, senior Caitlin Cahill, the Captains finished the year ranked in the top 30 in both offense and defense. Overall, the team ranked seventh in the nation.

## Football

Christopher Newport advanced to the NCAA tournament for the ninth time in the 12-year history of the program. The Captains faced the top-ranked team in the nation in the postseason, Mount Union, and fell to the Purple Raiders in the opening round for a final record of 6-5.





# in Fall Athletics

## Men's Soccer

In 2012 the men's soccer team secured a fifth-straight post-season bid, and compiled a 15-4-2 overall mark with one of the most potent offenses in the nation.

## Basketball

The 2012-13 season has so far been one to remember for the Christopher Newport basketball programs. Both teams are ranked nationally — the men's team rising as high as No. 13 in the nation, and the women at No. 23 after posting a remarkable 11-0 record to start the year. Both teams have relied on stifling defense, ranking in the top 10 in multiple categories.

Offensively, CNU features an exciting group of players on both teams. The men are led by junior Tra Benefield, while junior Tia Perry is a standout for the women. Benefield ranks in the top five in the USA South in scoring and rebounding. Perry is in the top five scoring in the league. ■

Cheer on our spring  
sports teams and  
keep up with all the  
action at  
**CNUsports.com.**







# CNU Cross Country: 20 Years of Champions

Christopher Newport's cross country teams have enjoyed tremendous success. The men have won 20 consecutive conference titles, while the women's team has won 15 of the last 17 USA South Conference championships. Both groups were on the move this summer, traveling to Salem, Ore., for the Willamette Invitational, the largest collegiate meet on the West Coast. Head Coach Matthew Barreau chose the destination to offer students not only a rigorous competitive environment but also an unforgettable journey. "I have always believed in the 'experience' of the student-athlete as part of the educational process," says Barreau. "It's like study abroad, in a way."

Oregon is a center of running excellence, with some of the world's best programs and facilities. In addition to competing, the teams got to see the breathtaking landscape of the Pacific Northwest and make a pilgrimage to Nike World Headquarters, where they were able to run on the tracks and trails of the renowned corporate campus. There the team met several professional runners, including Olympians Nick Symmonds and Shalane Flanagan. As Barreau says, this trip "shows we are committed at CNU to a full education,

not just books in classrooms or sports teams on the playing field."

Senior team member Erin Rolaf says of the trip, "Oregon was absolutely amazing, just a once-in-a-lifetime experience I won't ever forget." She goes on to equate her place on the team with her success as a CNU student. "College is a whole life experience, whether it's in the classroom, out on the field, volunteering, working or performing," she says. "I think some of the most lasting lessons and the most valuable lessons are learned outside of the classroom."

Cross country involves running over diverse terrain and elevations, as opposed to the flat, consistent surface of track events. Uphill, downhill, good and bad footing, mud, pavement, grass — racers must adjust to all conditions. Cross country meets combine individual and team performance; each runner is awarded points based on his or her finishing place (first, one point; fifth, five points, etc.). The team score is then tallied by adding the points of the team's top five finishers, and the lowest score wins.





And while Barreau is in just his second year at the helm, he was named USA South Conference Coach of the Year for 2012. He is quick to point to the reasons for the team's performance. "I think the success of the program here is largely a factor of the atmosphere of the entire school and wanting to be the best," he says. "Expecting excellence."



Next year will be the inaugural season for the cross country team (and all CNU teams, except football) in the Capital Athletic Conference. Barreau has high hopes for the Captains. "Our goal is to get better," he says. "Specifically, we want to become a consistent national presence. Just as our vision is to become the pre-eminent liberal arts university in the nation, we would like to match that vision with our cross-country program." ▀







## Student *on the Move*

### Emily Whitby '13

**Major:**  
Psychology

**Minors:**  
Leadership studies and mathematics

**Campus activities:**  
Undergraduate research, cross country (co-captain), track and field, Student Athletic Advisory Council (co-chair), President's Leadership Program (Summer Leadership Adventure Program facilitator), Honors Program, Smithfield Scholar, Psi Chi psychology honor society

**Her exceptional CNU experience:**  
"I have been able to uniquely pursue my passions. Undergraduate research has allowed me to create my own curriculum and explore my personal interests. I conducted research on health and obesity topics and presented it at Paideia, CNU's research conference. Out of my undergraduate work I gained a congressional internship with Representative Jim Moran of Virginia's eighth district. As an intern I had the amazing opportunity to attend congressional briefings on health care, and I was even able to share my research with caseworkers on Capitol Hill.

At CNU no one is anonymous. We have such a tight-knit community that I am able to see my impact on campus. This has taught me a great deal of personal responsibility."

**Her faculty mentor:**  
"Dr. Thomas Berry of the Psychology Department has allowed me to express my creativity and interests through my research. He has taught me that college does not have to fit a 'cookie-cutter' mold; students have the opportunity to uniquely shape their academic experience to fit what they are truly passionate about."

“We have such a tight-knit community that I am able to see my impact on campus.”

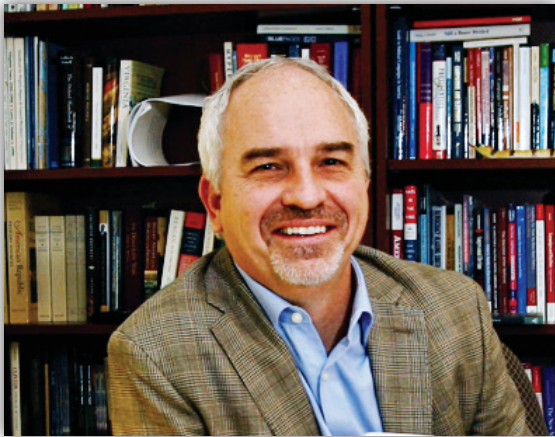
**Future pursuits:**  
"I plan to earn my PhD in behavioral psychology with a concentration in health. After that I would like to work for the Food and Drug Administration on the school lunch program. I would eventually like to return to an academic setting either as a university professor or in administration."

**Words of wisdom for future Captains:**  
"Get involved. College is unlike any other time in your life, so take advantage of it. CNU offers so many exciting clubs and organizations, and if you don't find the perfect fit, create your own group." ■



# Faculty in Print

## *The Rational Southerner: Black Mobilization, Republican Growth, and the Partisan Transformation of the American South*



**Dr. Quentin Kidd**

Associate Professor of  
Political Science

Chair, Department of  
Government

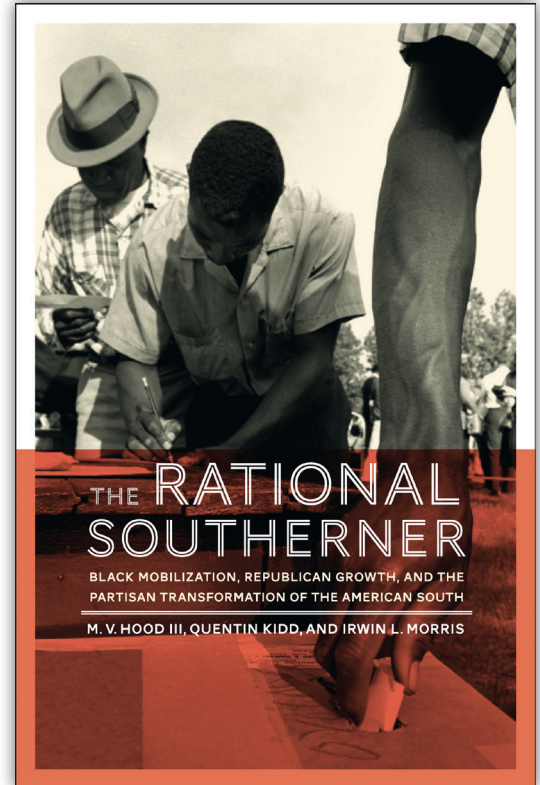
Director, Judy Ford  
Wason Center for  
Public Policy

Dr. Quentin Kidd's fifth book is a study of the transformation of the South over the last 60 years from solidly Democratic to predominantly Republican. A quantitative statistical analysis, *The Rational Southerner* examines how in the 1960s African-Americans in the South began to develop political power and goals in conflict with conservative whites, which led each group to search for new homes in different political parties.

"From 1965 on, African-Americans had political power and so had political goals," says Kidd. "Those goals were government benefits and programs. Southern conservative whites had different political goals, and because of this they couldn't be in the same party together." Kidd explains that each

group moved into the party that would help fulfill its political goals. "Nationally the Republicans were the party of small government and less-intrusive government behavior," he says. "The Democrats were the party of civil rights and a more active and engaged government in improving the lives of people."

Kidd, who co-wrote the book with M.V. Hood III from the University of Georgia and Irwin L. Morris from the University of Maryland, notes, "We've been working on this for about a year and a half, and Oxford University press is probably one of the top two or three presses in political science." He says the authors believe the book, which expands on arguments made by V.O.



Key in his seminal 1949 book, *Southern Politics in State and Nation*, "will be an important piece of scholarship going forward." ■



# Alumni *on the Move*

**Magali Calfee '09**

**Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University**

**M**agali Calfee is playing the waiting game. It's one familiar to students in medical school everywhere: In March, after months of applying and interviewing for resident positions nationwide, she will find out her matches — which hospitals have accepted her for residency — an often grueling stage of graduate medical training she must complete before becoming a licensed physician.

Calfee is in her final year at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University (ECU), the fulfillment of a personal dream: “I always knew I wanted to go to medical school and go into pediatrics,” she says. “ECU has wonderful physicians who enjoy teaching and serves the diverse community of eastern North Carolina, which allows for excellent exposure to a wide variety of medical experiences.”

Calfee points to the transition from undergraduate studies to medical school as an enormous challenge, but one for which she felt prepared. “The amount of studying required increased exponentially,” she says. And medical school is structured differently than college, especially after the first two years, which are spent mostly in the classroom. The third year is clinical and involves core rotations in specializations such as pediatrics, family medicine, surgery, psychiatry, obstetrics/gynecology and internal medicine. In this her fourth year, Calfee spends most of her time in elective pediatric rotations, and then applying and interviewing for residency.

“I always knew I wanted to go to medical school and go into pediatrics.”

At CNU Calfee was a biology major with a minor in leadership studies. She was extensively involved on campus in the President's Leadership Program (PLP), Honors Program and Gamma Phi Beta sorority. She volunteered in the emergency department at Riverside Hospital and shadowed the late Dr. Sarah Forbes in her private obstetrics and gynecology practice. Forbes was a central figure during Calfee's CNU experience, “a pioneering advocate for women in medicine, a strong supporter of CNU and all it stands for, and an amazing woman,” says Calfee.

Calfee, who came to the University from her hometown of Kitty Hawk, N.C., chose CNU for the small class sizes, and for the rich experience offered by PLP and the Honors Program. She has fond memories of working closely with staff and faculty from those programs as well as the sciences.

“They provided excellent guidance and were genuinely enthusiastic about my desire to attend medical school,” Calfee says. “They were also amazingly helpful and spent countless hours with me structuring my course schedules each semester.”

Calfee counsels students to take every opportunity, and to look to others for guidance. “Aside from working hard and doing well in school, seek out someone who has gone down the path you are interested in and ask them for information, advice, and help along the way,” she says — advice that has certainly served her well. *Paging Dr. Calfee ...* ■



# Upward Trend for Pre-Med Scholars

Christopher Newport's Pre-Med Scholars Program (PSP) has seen remarkable growth, with enrollment more than tripling in just over a year, from 29 students in spring 2011 to 99 in fall 2012, including 50 freshmen. The program offers an enhanced undergraduate experience complete with intensive advising and mentoring, informative seminars and workshops, and a rich clinical and service-learning experience.

Students in PSP can apply early for admission to medical school at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) and the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). SAT and GPA standards, as well as a

service requirement and participation in a shadowing program at a hospital or clinic, are considered. CNU students granted early admission to medical school do not have to take the Medical College Admission Test.

Last year alone four CNU students enrolled at EVMS, and four of our current senior class have already been accepted.

Two signature scholarship programs, the Riverside Medical Group Scholars and the Rocovich Scholars, are available. Riverside Scholars are mentored by Riverside Health System physicians, enjoy access to clinical experiences and medical education activities, and have

paid summer internship opportunities with Riverside, the flagship health-care provider in Hampton Roads.

The Rocovich Scholars Program provides scholarships for top-notch incoming freshmen who reside in a rural or medically underserved area, self-identify membership in an underrepresented group, or otherwise demonstrate socioeconomic hardship. Rocovich Scholars participate in the President's Leadership Program and the PSP, and are eligible for early admission to VCOM.

More information about PSP is available online at [premed.cnu.edu](http://premed.cnu.edu). ■



2012 CNU Pre-Med Scholars



# Service Distinction Promotes Volunteerism

A new initiative launched this academic year will strengthen the University's commitment to building relational bridges between the campus and local communities. "Thanks to excellent work by our academic deans, the vice provost and the Center for Community Engagement, led by Dr. Elizabeth Gagnon and Brad Brewer, I am pleased to announce this new program that encourages all of our students to volunteer," says President Paul Tribble.

The Service Distinction Program acknowledges students committed to service while recognizing four aspects of engagement: volunteerism within the community; a commitment to the work and cause of community partners; civic engagement through advocacy, policy development, program planning and implementation; and social entrepreneurship addressing local issues in new and innovative ways.

To be awarded with distinction at Commencement students enrolled in the program must complete either 140 service hours in the local community over at least two years or 120 hours and a service-learning course. They can volunteer in schools, nursing homes, shelters and countless other venues.

CNU has placed special emphasis on tutoring and mentoring students in the Hampton and Newport News school systems. "With our nation crying out for a better-educated citizenry, our students are uniquely positioned to not only tutor



CNU's 2012 Day of Service

students in math, science and English, but also to mentor students in their critical teenage years," Tribble says.

The program also reinforces CNU's rich history of sending out graduates to lead lives of significance in their communities, the nation and the world.

Learn more about the University's Service Distinction emphasis at [engage.cnu.edu](http://engage.cnu.edu). ■

## Food for Thought Sets Record

Christopher Newport collected 46,188 pounds of food during the fifth annual Food for Thought campaign. The food drive mobilized the University to collect food and money to benefit the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula. To support CNU's effort, Smithfield Foods generously donated 10,000 pounds of protein as part of its "Helping Hungry Homes" program.

The campus community weighed, sorted, boxed and loaded all of the collected food directly onto trucks. Improving on last year's impressive numbers, the 2012 initiative increased total giving by 15,160 pounds of food and 12,634 meals. ■





**Dr. Geoffrey Klein**  
2012 Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching  
Associate Professor of Chemistry

## Faculty *on the Move*

Dr. Geoffrey Klein has fond memories of his own days as a student, and brings them along each day he stands in front of the classroom at CNU. Those memories, plus a belief that learning is teamwork, are the pillars of his teaching approach. “I firmly believe education is a collaborative effort between students and the teacher. The most successful educator is one who not only inspires students to engage in the class material, but is also inspired by the students,” says Klein. “It’s through collaborations that the most difficult ideas and concepts can be deciphered and studied.”

His own positive experiences during his education, with faculty who worked to build relationships with students, became a catalyst for him to teach and inspire others. “I recognized early that I wanted to give back,” says Klein. “I strive each day to enrich the lives of my students as I feel my professors enriched mine.”

CNU offers undergraduates ample opportunity to learn from teacher-scholars who are experts in their fields, while CNU’s small class sizes and emphasis on mentorship allow students to work one-on-one with faculty in the classroom and research lab, and to solve real-world problems. “This direct contact provides the best chance for our students to absorb important theories and concepts from leading scholars,” Klein says.

The winner of this year’s Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching, Klein teaches a wide variety of subjects, from rigorous analytical chemistry courses to an interdisciplinary Honors seminar. In that class, Real Science in Science Fiction, Klein uses presentations, creative writing and role-playing to encourage students to investigate primary literature and then bring what they find to class for discussion. The course culminates in the writing of an original science fiction short story — Klein’s favorite aspect. “This assignment

requires students to research an important scientific topic, think critically about its role in society and creatively weave a story around the intricate scientific details,” he says.

Klein’s own research involves analyzing petroleum-derived materials and predicting the behavior of various chemicals during the oil-refining process. His research group has also developed analytical methods for the separation

and removal of various contaminants from the environment. “All this work is performed by undergraduate students; they are the lifeblood of the research group,” Klein says.

His creative and multidisciplinary teaching approach helps make meaningful connections with students, and Klein is well aware that the human element is the ultimate gift great teachers bring to the classroom. “I have found that the simple act of caring about my students’ success has the greatest impact on their college education,” he says. “Students seek a solid support system to encourage their exploration. I want each of my students to successfully navigate the challenging four years and learn how to be knowledgeable, active and honest citizens. It is my job as an educator to help open doorways and inspire students to take the risky step into the unknown.” ■



# Ferguson Delivers Exceptional Entertainment

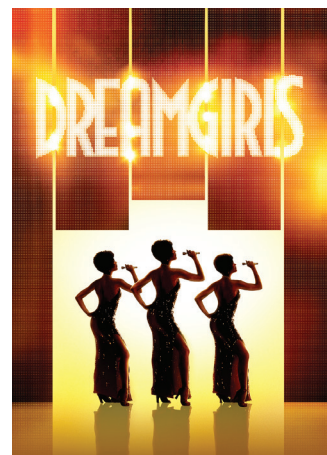
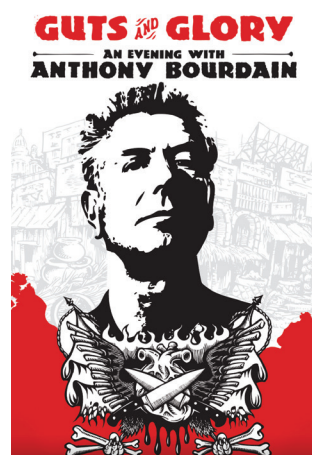
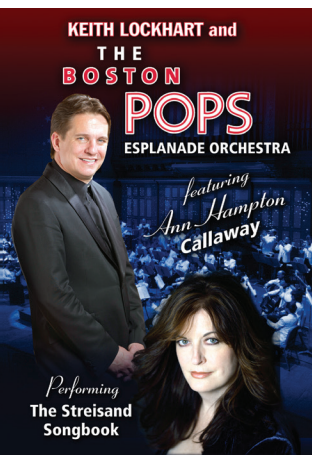
In September Christopher Newport launched the eighth season in the Ferguson Center for the Arts. Through the years, this incredible facility has presented a remarkable variety of performances, and the 2012-13 lineup has proven to be no different.

Country legend Emmylou Harris led this season's program. She was followed by a host of legendary entertainers: Liza Minnelli, Jackson Browne, Wanda Sykes, Travis Tritt and

William Shatner. Such eminent talent as Smokey Robinson, Boz Scaggs, the Boston Pops, Anthony Bourdain and so many more are still upcoming, rounding out an exciting season that promises an entertainment extravaganza for the whole family.

For a complete listing and to purchase tickets, visit the Ferguson Center online at [fergusoncenter.org](http://fergusoncenter.org). ■

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY'S  
**FERGUSON**  
Center for the Arts





# Torggler Summer Vocal Institute Set to Debut

CNU has established the Torggler Summer Vocal Institute (TSVI), a prestigious two-week residency program for emerging young singers who wish to train with world-renowned vocal pedagogues and performers. TSVI is made possible by a generous gift from George and Mary Torggler, retired entrepreneurs and longtime supporters of the arts and education. They also are the parents of CNU senior and vocal performance major Hunter Torggler.

TSVI will expose students to critical theories of performance while developing a wide variety of essential skills during an intensive artistic experience. All voice lessons, coaching and master classes will be taught by leading performers, instructors and scholars. Skill-classes and workshops — including private lessons, vocal health, sight-singing, ensemble singing, diction, dance, acting, and movement and stage combat — will be offered. A maximum of 50 students will be chosen to participate each year.

To date, visiting pedagogues for summer 2013 will include internationally acclaimed lyric-coloratura soprano Costanza Cuccaro; nine-time Grammy Award winner and founding member of the Manhattan Transfer, Janis Siegel; and Tony Award winner Brian Stokes Mitchell. The Manhattan Transfer is confirmed as one of two headline groups for the institute. Additional artists will be announced this spring.

The Torggler Institute encourages qualified rising high school juniors and seniors and college students to apply. Visit [tsvinstitute.org](http://tsvinstitute.org) for details. ■

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

## TORGGLER SUMMER VOCAL INSTITUTE

*at*

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY'S

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*July 7-21, 2013*

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Chancellor's Professor of  
Music, Indiana University*



*Apply now*  
**TSVINstitute.org**



# From CNU to Italy — An International Experiment

When Chris Colvin and Tony Losada boarded a flight to Rome in June, it was the culmination of a nearly yearlong project in particle detection at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (JLab) in Newport News, in conjunction with scientists at the Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN) in Frascati, Italy. Colvin and Losada, both senior applied physics majors, are part of a team building a RICH detector — a ring-imaging Cherenkov detector — that can determine the velocity of charged subatomic particles.

Colvin got involved with the project, which is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation, last year while working at JLab under the direction of Dr. Fatiha Benmokhtar, a former CNU physics professor who is now visiting assistant professor of physics at Duquesne University. Colvin's task was to build gas electron multipliers (GEMs), which are used in conjunction with light detectors, as components of the RICH apparatus. Losada joined later as a software expert, programming the GEMs and light detectors. The findings from the project will ultimately be used in diagnostic work, as Losada says: "These detectors [will be] put on the beam line at JLab and used in other experiments so [researchers] can get better, more accurate results."

Losada explains that when a beam of charged particles passes through a material called aerogel — a gel in which the liquid component has been replaced with a gas — a cone of light is emitted. "Using the GEM to tell where the cone is pointing, and the light detector to detect how big the cone is, we can tell you what type of particle it is," he says.

Approving of Colvin and Losada's preliminary work, Benmokhtar arranged a meeting for them with Dr. Patrizia Rossi, then a senior scientist with INFN. She is now deputy associate director for nuclear physics at JLab. "[Dr. Rossi] decided we were a perfect fit and there was no question that we should be the ones working on the project, to go to Italy and see it through to the end," Losada says.

They packed up the GEMs and set out for a two-week stay at the INFN facility in Frascati, just south of Rome. Other team members included two PhD students from the University of Glasgow, who would rely on Colvin and Losada's data for their dissertations. A Chilean student was also there, who along with around 20 scientists from INFN and JLab rounded out the project team.

Particle accelerators are a rare commodity, and the two faced delays as



Tony Losada (left) and Chris Colvin

other researchers made demands on the INFN resources. After lengthy struggles with the equipment, and the language barrier, Colvin and Losada got their experiment up and running successfully their final four days in Frascati. They captured a large amount of data they will analyze as part of their senior projects.

"Our trip to Italy was a huge opportunity for us, not only for resume building, but just to get that experience," says Colvin. "Without the connections CNU has there's no way that would have happened. It's so rare to send undergraduates on an international experiment."

Both plan to pursue graduate studies and careers in academia and research. ▀



Oxford, England



Shanghai, China



Metropol Parasol in Seville, Spain



## Study Abroad and International Programs

There are many ways students at CNU can expand their horizons and enhance their educational experience through foreign travel and study. Last year more than 400 students journeyed to inspiring locales from the Caribbean to New Zealand — bringing a Christopher Newport presence to six of the world's continents.

Programs vary from two-week faculty-led trips to yearlong study abroad for

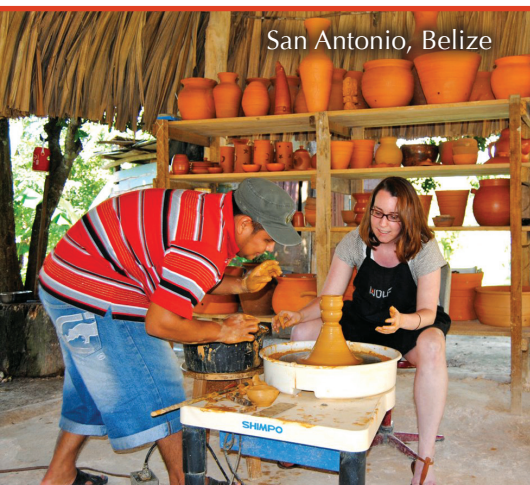
academic credit at partner universities. Many students also take advantage of overseas internships and research to immerse themselves in a foreign culture.

CNU's signature scholarship programs, such as the President's Leadership Program and the Canon Scholars, provide stipends for study abroad while many academic departments also offer foreign study scholarships.

The University recently established an Office of Study Abroad, which assists students in selecting a program and destination. In our increasingly global society, foreign study offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for exploration and personal growth among the world's cultures, customs and people.

For more information visit [studyabroad.cnu.edu](http://studyabroad.cnu.edu) or [facebook.com/CNUStudyAbroad](https://facebook.com/CNUStudyAbroad). ▀

San Antonio, Belize



Berlin, Germany



Masada, Israel

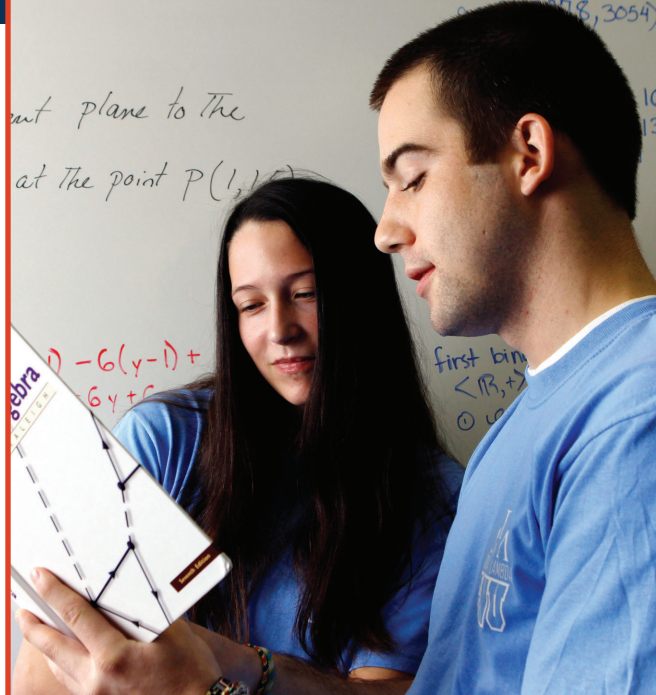




## Mathematics Adds New Major

Christopher Newport's Department of Mathematics now offers an exciting major in computational and applied mathematics (CAM) — the application of mathematics to real-world problems. In addition to receiving a comprehensive math education, CAM students will combine their theoretical learning with an in-depth inquiry into an interdisciplinary area of their choosing. Concentrations include biology and the life sciences, chemistry, economics and finance, physics, and engineering.

The program will prepare students for graduate school and for employment as software engineers, researchers and positions in many other technical and computational areas. When combined with the communication and problem-solving skills students acquire through CNU's liberal learning curriculum, the interdisciplinary aspect of the CAM major will be attractive to employers in industry, national laboratories and government. ■



## Linguistics Minor Launched

Christopher Newport has introduced a minor in linguistics, under the direction of Dr. Rebecca Wheeler (pictured left). An English professor active in CNU's teacher preparation program, she is widely regarded as an expert on teaching standard English in dialectally diverse classrooms.

The scientific study of language, linguistics explores myriad topics. Wheeler focuses on language varieties found within the U.S. and how educators can respond to the needs of minority students. An interdisciplinary program, linguistics incorporates resources from each of CNU's three colleges: Arts and Humanities, Natural and Behavioral Sciences, and Social Sciences.

According to Wheeler, there is widespread misinterpretation of language used by African-

American students. "As a linguist, I know when African-American students speak and write in cadences of the home, they are not making mistakes," she says. "Instead, students are following community language patterns." She therefore works with aspiring educators to help them accurately assess and respond to the needs of urban students.

"At CNU I found a place where I can contribute to the understanding of African-American literacy," she says. "I have a life commitment to fostering excellence in public education. Our teachers need to be able to know how to teach all children."

With elementary educator Rachel Swords ('98), Wheeler has written numerous articles and books, including *Code-Switching: Teaching Standard English in Urban Classrooms*. ■





# Dr. Lori Underwood

2012 Faculty Excellence Award  
in Service

Associate Professor of Philosophy and  
Religious Studies

Director, Canon Leadership  
Scholars Program

Faculty  
*on the  
Move*

## What she enjoys about working here: “

“What I love most is the opportunity to teach in an intimate setting where I am able to work closely with my students on an innovative liberal-arts curriculum. It keeps the classroom fresh and invigorating and allows us to discuss topics of importance for the ages as well as for the present.”

## What makes the CNU experience exceptional:

“CNU is unique in that we proudly stand with one foot firmly planted in the classical traditions of the past and one foot planted in the cutting-edge trends of tomorrow — and we shy away from neither. We talk of classical theories of virtue and how they may relate to modern brain research. In my research I apply 18th-century cosmopolitanism to modern political conflict using 21st-century technological innovation.

We proudly stand  
with one foot  
firmly planted  
in the classical  
traditions of the  
past and one foot  
planted in the  
cutting-edge trends  
of tomorrow. ”

No other institution blends the best of the past, present and future as well as CNU.”

## Her future pursuits:

“I plan to continue my research on cosmopolitanism and the Arab Spring with another book on the women of the Arab Spring. I look forward to recruiting another fine class of Canon Leadership Scholars and can't wait to get back into the classroom each and every day.”

## Words of wisdom for future students:

“It is a marvelous blessing of our culture that we are given four years of our lives as young adults to focus almost exclusively on developing our own intellectual and professional abilities. Be grateful for that gift; embrace it with enthusiasm and make the most of it.” ■



# Paideia Showcases Student Research

Each spring CNU students showcase diverse research talents at Paideia, an annual conference slated this year for April 13. In ancient Greek, Paideia (pi-DAY-uh) referred to “education” or

“instruction.” The event fosters inter-student and inter-faculty collaboration and recognizes outstanding work achieved by students in different academic disciplines.

to achieve a level of excellence transcending what is normally accomplished over the course of a semester,” Mulryan notes.

Research fosters independent learning while complementing coursework in meaningful ways. Opportunities are available in all fields, including the

humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, applied sciences and fine arts. Projects can include essays, reports, experiments, artworks and performances.

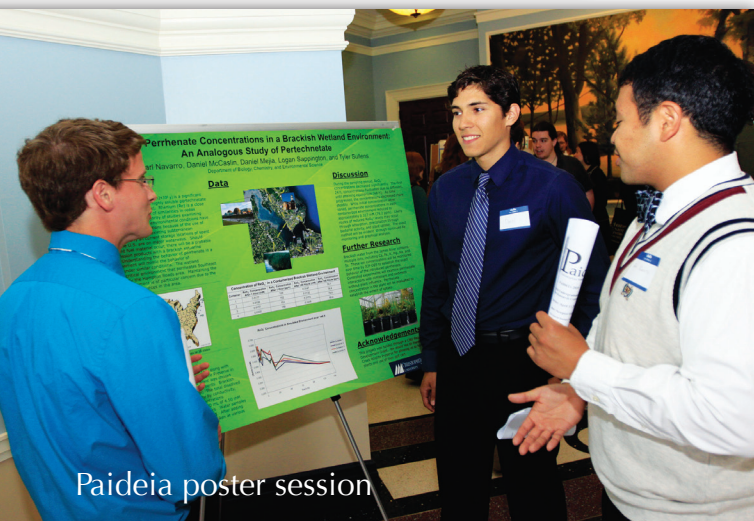
The event fosters inter-student and inter-faculty collaboration.

“Participants share the results of their research with faculty members and fellow students, which helps them appreciate the values inherent to such sharing and collaboration,” says Dr. Michael Mulryan, Assistant Professor of French and one of the event’s organizers. “By participating in a conference, they become familiar with one way in which knowledge is disseminated in an academic field.”

Undergraduate research also promotes CNU’s liberal-learning mission. For example, students master intellectual and practical skills, such as inquiry and analysis, critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy, teamwork, problem-solving, and the application of knowledge via integrative learning.

For more on the 12th annual Paideia conference at CNU, visit [paideia.viscoglab.org](http://paideia.viscoglab.org). ■

Paideia provides the opportunity to take the initial steps toward publishing and presenting research to a larger audience and to receive feedback from outside one’s academic department. “Presenting a paper requires a great deal of preparation and academic rigor, and allows our students



Paideia poster session

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A four-year public university in Newport News, Va., Christopher Newport University enrolls 5,000 students in rigorous academic programs through the College of Arts and Humanities, the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, and the College of Social Sciences, including the Luter School of Business.

CNU offers great teaching and small class sizes, as well as an emphasis on leadership, civic engagement and honor. The University's success at creating an incomparable environment for academic and student life has received top recognition from *U.S. News & World Report*. The magazine named CNU as one of America's schools to watch — those that have made “the most promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, student life, campus or facilities.”

Led by former U.S. Senator Paul Trible, CNU has more than doubled the size of its freshman class, increased the SAT average by more than 200 points, dramatically enhanced the number of faculty and seen applications increase by more than 700 percent.

We have also completed nearly \$1 billion in capital construction over the past 16 years, creating a beautiful campus with dazzling residential facilities, The Freeman Sports and Convocation Center, the \$60 million Ferguson Center for the Arts, Lewis Archer McMurren, Jr. Hall, Mary Brock Forbes Hall and the impressive 116,000-square-foot David Student Union. The intellectual center of campus, the Paul and Rosemary Trible Library features state-of-the-art media, writing and technology centers, and a 14-story windowed tower and gleaming dome in the heart of campus.

For more information about CNU and the University's programs, please visit [www.cnu.edu](http://www.cnu.edu).

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