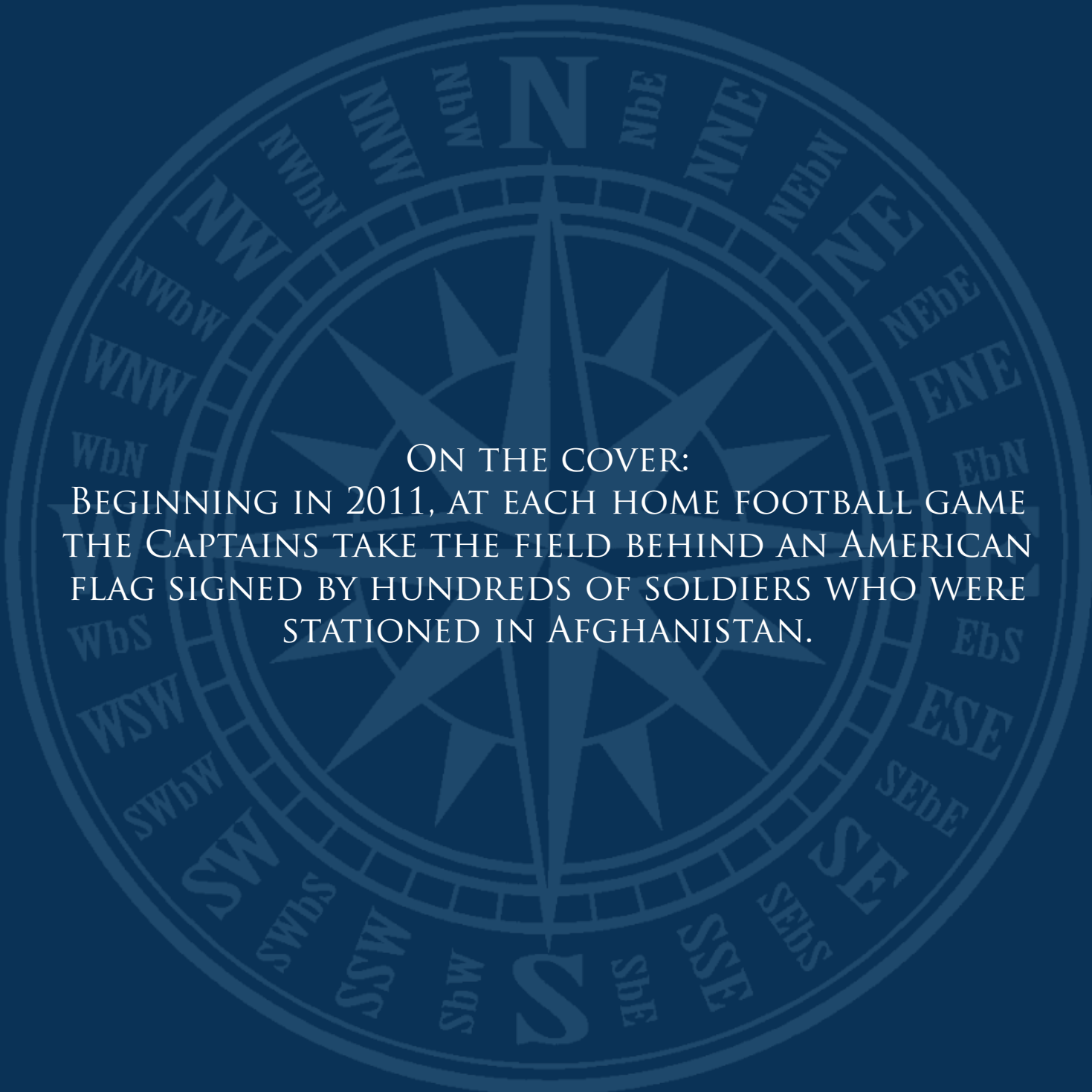


CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY
FALL 2013



CNU
on the Move!



ON THE COVER:
BEGINNING IN 2011, AT EACH HOME FOOTBALL GAME
THE CAPTAINS TAKE THE FIELD BEHIND AN AMERICAN
FLAG SIGNED BY HUNDREDS OF SOLDIERS WHO WERE
STATIONED IN AFGHANISTAN.

As the 2013-14 academic year began, Christopher Newport University had much to celebrate:

- An outstanding freshman class — 1,275 students with fully one quarter having a high school GPA of 3.9 or higher and an SAT (Critical Reading and Math) score above 1230
- Our Luter School of Business students ranking in the top 10 percent in the nation on the Major Field Test, a nationally normed exam taken by thousands of students across the U.S.
- Six months after commencement, more than 80 percent of our recent graduates employed full time or pursuing advanced degrees at Harvard, the University of London, Notre Dame, Georgetown, Clemson, Columbia, the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt and other prestigious schools
- Fourteen of our 2013 pre-health graduates now attending medical school, the most ever in our history
- Our greatest number of full-time faculty — 267 professors who help make possible the rich student-faculty mentorship and small class sizes that set us apart from most public universities
- The University's expanding science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs, plus the recent addition of majors in biochemistry and computational and applied mathematics
- Captains athletes helping CNU once again finish the academic year with the highest winning percentage among all Virginia schools — 76.2 percent
- 15 CNU teams playing in NCAA post-season tournaments

These achievements represent just some of our many successes from the past year. This edition of *CNU on the Move!* proves once again that the best is yet to come for Christopher Newport.

Printable



Class of



'13 Freshman Snapshot

In August we welcomed 1,275 freshmen, another incredibly strong class academically. Their middle 50 percent range of achievement is a 3.4-3.9 high school GPA and an SAT of 1090-1230 (Critical Reading and Math).

Ninety-two percent of CNU's first-year students hail from Virginia while students of color comprise 21 percent of the class.

Remarkably, 409 freshmen — 32 percent of first-year students — participate in the President's Leadership Program (PLP) and/or Honors Program. Not only have these young women and men thrived in their local schools, 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 seeing them engage in CNU's rigorous and rewarding intellectual life. ■



CNU Receives More High Marks

Christopher Newport University continues to gain top rankings from both *U.S. News & World Report* and The Princeton Review.

The 2014 rankings of colleges and universities by *U.S. News* were published in September, and CNU continues to climb as the University's reach and reputation increase.

CNU is now listed 18th among all regional universities in the South and seventh among public regional universities in the South. And once again the University was named one of America's schools to watch for making "the most promising and innovative changes in the areas of academics, faculty, student life, campus or facilities."

Few schools in America, if any, have come so far so quickly — as evidenced by the remarkable progress Christopher Newport is making, as well as our *U.S. News* rankings for the three most recent years.

In addition, The Princeton Review has included CNU in its publication *The 367 Best Colleges* for the third year running. Selections are based on academics, attendance costs, facilities, campus culture and financial aid provided to students. Colleges and universities featured represent the top 15 percent of schools in the nation. ■

U.S. News & World Report **Rankings**

Best Regional Universities (South)

2014: 18th

2013: 23rd

2012: 26th

Top Public Regional Universities (South)

2014: 7th

2013: 8th

2012: 9th



Getting Through the Gate

Robert J. Lange III, *Dean of Admission*

As current freshmen settled into the rhythms of college life, the Office of Admission began reviewing credentials for the next group of aspiring Captains. With application numbers projected to reach 8,000 for a 2014 freshman class of 1,225, it has never been more competitive to gain admission to CNU. In fact, we have become one of the most selective public universities in the commonwealth. This year's average freshman standardized test scores (SAT and ACT) and high school grade-point average ranked fourth and fifth, respectively, out of 15 Virginia public universities. This profile was achieved in a year when more emphasis was placed on characteristics beyond grades and test scores that demonstrate students' commitment to CNU's core values of leadership, service and honor.

Once an application is submitted online, it is reviewed along with transcripts, test scores, recommendations and interview evaluations. Academic performance in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), dual enrollment or other college-level coursework is the most trusted indicator of potential success at CNU. Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Test (ACT) scores may not be as predictive but allow for common-denominator comparisons between applicants who may have had access to widely varying academic environments. A combination of other factors, however, help determine which students are considered the "best fits" for CNU within an increasingly competitive applicant pool.

Paramount in determining a student's interest is application type. Students who apply Early Decision sign binding agreements to enroll at CNU if offered admission by the December 15 notification date. Admission rates decrease for later applicants through Early Action, and again significantly during the final Regular Decision stage. Students who apply earlier have most strongly demonstrated an enthusiasm for Christopher Newport.

While personal interviews are required of President's Leadership Program and Honors Program candidates, they are also strongly recommended for all applicants. Students learn about the unique CNU community from recent graduates, and valuable personal information is gathered to supplement transcripts and test scores. Oftentimes applicants can distinguish themselves from among a large group of similarly qualified competitors vying for limited seats in the next class. Required essays, letters

of recommendation, special talents, diversity of experience and family legacies are just some of the many other factors considered during the holistic review. Applicants who have held leadership roles in clubs, organizations, teams and other activities are many times preferred to those who have had surface-level involvement.

We clearly have our work cut out for us. Yet having to choose between many more highly qualified applicants than we have room to accommodate is an enviable challenge we are blessed to face at Christopher Newport. ■



Faculty Leaders Assume Key Roles

This year Christopher Newport has undergone several transitions in university leadership and academic affairs.

Dr. David Doughty (pictured standing center) is serving as interim provost as the University conducts a national search to fill this key position. He came to CNU in 1984 after finishing his PhD in particle physics at the University of Pennsylvania. While establishing himself as an enthusiastic and engaging teacher, he also developed a flourishing research program at Jefferson Lab and involved many CNU students in his work. Dr. Doughty has authored or co-authored more than 100 papers, given talks around the world, and received National Science Foundation grants exceeding \$1.7 million.

Dr. Geoffrey Klein (pictured seated left) is now interim associate provost. Since joining CNU in 2006 he has demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and service. He earned his PhD at Florida State University, specializing in analytic chemistry, and last year won the first CNU Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching. As a researcher, Dr. Klein has secured more than \$2.7 million in grant funding.

While the College of Social Sciences remains under the guidance of Dean **Dr. Robert Colvin** (pictured standing

right), both the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences and the College of Social Sciences have welcomed new leaders.

Dr. Nicole Guajardo (pictured standing left) is interim dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences. She earned her PhD in lifespan developmental psychology from West Virginia University and since coming to CNU in 2004 has continually engaged in university service. For

the past three years Dr. Guajardo has developed and managed the core advising program, worked collaboratively with faculty and staff to create learning communities for first-year students, and enhanced the Center for Academic Success to promote student achievement.

Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, **Dr. Lori**

Underwood (pictured seated right) is familiar to students, faculty and staff. She has held a faculty appointment in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies for 14 years, previously serving as department chair. Named Professor of the Year by the Student Government in 2008, Dr. Underwood is recognized for her campus involvement, serving as faculty senator, chair of the Budget Advisory Committee and director of the Canon Leadership Scholars Program. ■



A Spectacular Transformation



Over the past 17 years CNU has completed nearly \$1 billion in capital construction, adding beautiful buildings and 21st-century technology to campus. “Our job is to instruct and inspire, and nothing does that more powerfully than great art and architecture,” says President Paul Triple.

Luter Hall

This fall the University celebrated the opening of Joseph W. Luter, III Hall (pictured center right), the largest academic building on campus. This 135,000-square-foot building houses the Luter School of Business, as well as the Departments of Economics; Leadership and American Studies; Physics, Computer Science and Engineering; Mathematics; Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; and Communication.

Luter Hall boasts a boardroom, faculty offices, modern instructional and research spaces, and cutting-edge technology. A state-of-the-art trading room features a stock ticker, Bloomberg software and trading computers.

Pope Chapel

CNU’s new Pope Chapel (pictured bottom right) opened to the community last February. Welcoming people of all faiths, the 10,000-square-foot building stands at the entrance to the University and enriches campus life through religious activities, lectures, musical performances and other special events.

New Campus Entrance

This summer the University completed a new entrance to campus (pictured left). This picturesque addition accommodates pedestrians and vehicles alike through a unique arrangement of pavers displaying CNU logos.

Rappahannock River Hall

Hundreds of upper-class students recently moved into the new Rappahannock River Hall (pictured top right). This 457-bed residential building features private bedrooms and baths, living rooms, kitchens, high-speed Internet, cable TV, washers and dryers in each apartment, and a 250-car parking deck.

Student Success Center

Construction of the Student Success Center has begun. Completing the Great Lawn, this 80,000-square-foot project will replace the former Administration Building. The facility will locate — in one place — all services vital to students' success as they transition from admission through graduation. Important service departments to be housed here include the offices for Admission, Registrar, Financial Aid, Study Abroad, the Center for Academic Success, the President's Leadership Program, Alumni Relations and the Center for Career Planning, among others.

Bell Tower

Construction has begun on CNU's bell tower located between McMurrin Hall and Forbes Hall. The tower will feature the bell from the *SS United States*, a gift from the late Dr. Sarah Forbes, cherished CNU friend and benefactor, as well as a clock on each of the tower's four sides and a carillon. The Bell Tower Plaza will also feature an exedra. An exedra is a Greek term that describes a permanent outdoor bench, semicircular in plan and having a high back. It will provide faculty and students a marvelous seating area for classes and provide a beautiful place to honor faculty and staff who have served CNU so ably through the years.

The bell tower will allow Christopher Newport to build rich traditions around commencement, athletic victories and other important events.

Upcoming Projects

The future Greek Village will include six stand-alone and two duplex buildings. Located between Warwick River Hall and Santoro Hall, it will provide housing for 10 Greek organizations. The University is also planning the next phase of the Tribble Library, which will include 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. ■





Equipping Great Leaders for the 21st Century

CNU President Paul Tribble was recently interviewed by Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society, for the group's magazine, *The Circle*. In the article he shared some of his personal philosophies that shaped the dramatic transformation of Christopher Newport University.

"You're going to give your life to something, but what will it be? Pursuit of fame? Pursuit of power? Pursuit of wealth?

None of those things matter at the end of our lives. Rather choose to lead a life of significance, meaning and consequence. Lead, engage, serve, contribute and make the world a better place," said Tribble.

After three terms as a United States congressman and then serving as a United States senator, Tribble believes America is in desperate need for young leaders who will choose to serve. These challenging times require leadership, courage and sacrifice. "Public service is difficult, demanding and very often a thankless enterprise. But there is nothing more noble or necessary," he said.

New leaders should be prepared to back up their talents and abilities with determination and persistence. "Leadership

requires discipline and hard work, teamwork, and courage. It also requires a commitment to excellence and to leading a good life. It requires being able to dream great dreams and then working hard to achieve them," Tribble stated.

Leadership begins with an idea, a vision and a dream. It requires asking how you will make a positive difference in the world and then attacking your dream step by step. "We

must have a vision that inspires us, a powerful purpose that will get us up in the morning and keep us sprinting through the day. Great dreams have power and consequence. We shouldn't waste our lives on modest dreams. Dream large and make life a great adventure," he noted.

**"We change the world
one person at a time, and
it begins with each of us
here and now."**

— Paul Tribble

In the end, leadership is a choice. As Tribble remarked, "The future of this world is not going to be shaped by great nations or powerful parliaments or mighty armies, as important as they all are. It's going to be shaped by people like you and me who are willing to reach out and change the world, one person at a time. That's what life and leadership are all about." ■

A Service-Minded Campus

Members of the CNU community actively engage in projects and outreach efforts, underscoring the University's commitment to transforming hearts and minds through service.

- Led by CNU's Center for Community Engagement, our students completed more than 61,000 service hours during the 2012-13 academic year. Overall, 167 community partners benefited from this volunteerism. Independent Sector, a leadership network for nonprofits, estimates the dollar value of this volunteer time at nearly \$1.4 million.
- Currently more than 800 students are enrolled in CNU's Service Distinction Program. Upon graduating, these young men and women will earn recognition for fulfilling a minimum 140 hours of service during their four years of study.
- Our student-athletes have committed to mentoring and tutoring area elementary and high school students. This fall, 75 Captains volunteered more than 600 hours to this important work.
- Our Greek organizations support numerous philanthropies, from the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters and Special Olympics to Toys for Tots, PUSH America and many more.
- Each year our students hold a "Food For Thought" food drive benefitting the Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula. A total of 46,188 pounds of food was collected to feed our hungry neighbors. Smithfield Foods also supported the food drive, generously donating 10,000 pounds of protein as part of its "Helping Hungry Homes" program.
- At CNU's most recent volunteer fair, dozens of faculty members and more than 600 students engaged with 43 community partners to identify important volunteer partnerships and opportunities.

These initiatives offer a snapshot of the service efforts led by student organizations and campus groups, reinforcing our emphasis on making a real and lasting difference. Learn more at engage.cnu.edu. ■



Pre-Med Success

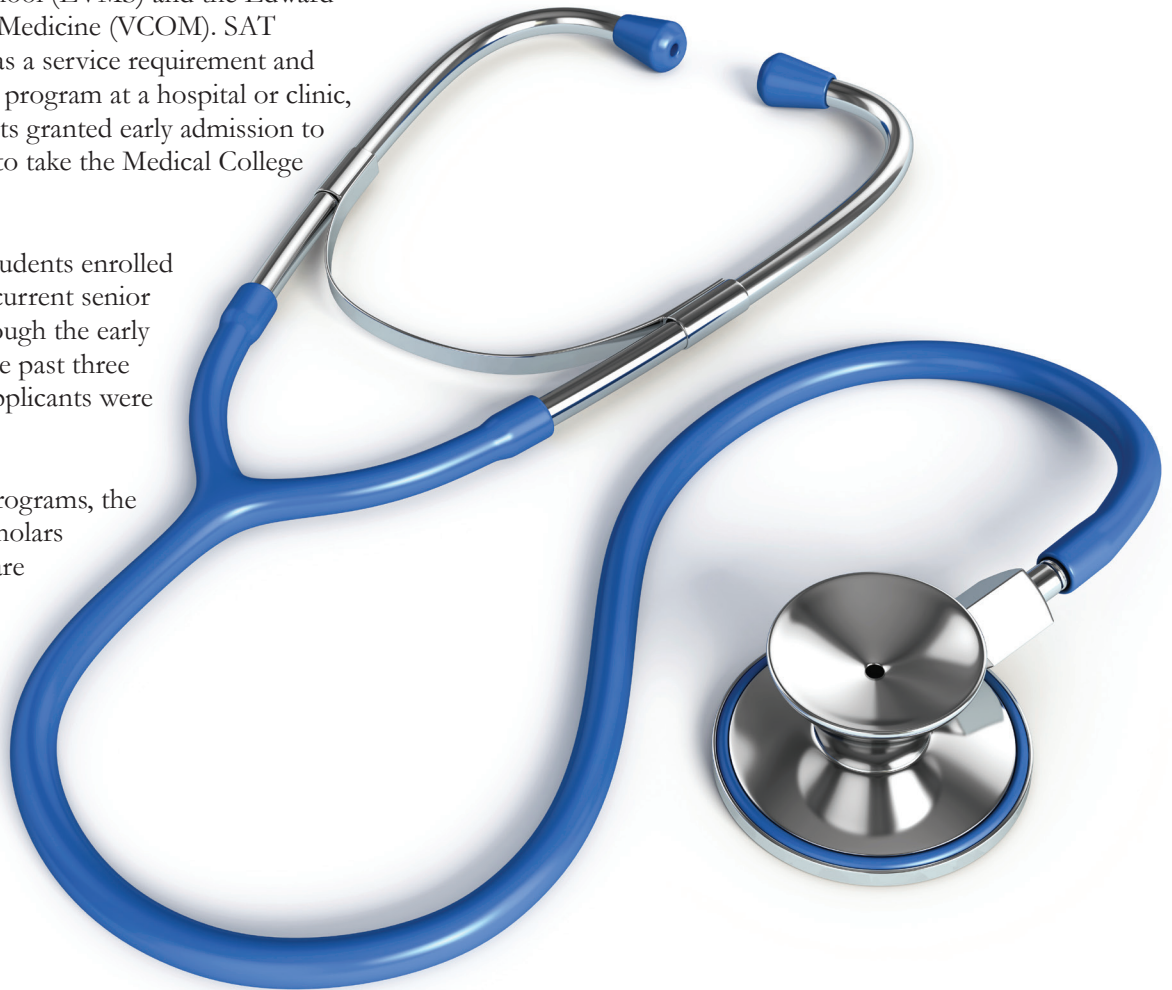
Christopher Newport's Pre-Med Scholars Program (PSP) has seen remarkable growth, with enrollment more than tripling in recent years, from 29 students in spring 2011 to 110 in fall 2013, including 50 freshmen. The program offers an enhanced undergraduate experience complete with intensive advising and mentoring, informative seminars and workshops, and rich clinical and service-learning opportunities.

Select students in PSP can apply early for admission to 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 three of our current senior class were also accepted through the early admission program. Over the past three years, 80 percent of CNU applicants were admitted to medical school.

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 rural or medically underserved areas, 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. ■





Students Pursue Bright Futures in Law

The innovative Pre-Law Program at Christopher Newport prepares students across all majors for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and law school success. Coursework in constitutional law, logic and legal reasoning enhance students' pre-law preparation, as do CNU's constitutional studies concentration and philosophy of law minor.

Under the direction of Dr. Jonathan White (pictured third from right), Assistant Professor of American Studies and Pre-Law Adviser, CNU helps students gain admission to the nation's top law schools. It does so through academic and career advising; workshops, seminars and guest lectures; networking opportunities; the Phi Delta Alpha professional pre-law fraternity; and LSAT preparation — among other essential services and resources.

"I'm so grateful for the way CNU prepared me for the rigors of the law school admission process," says Virginia Blanton ('13) who now attends the University of Virginia School of Law. A history major who minored in leadership and French,

she credits CNU's liberal learning curriculum with helping her develop research, critical-analysis and communication skills crucial for law school.

History major Dominik Taylor ('11) had an equally positive experience, which helped him gain admission to Washington and Lee University School of Law. "It was so easy to get involved in myriad workshops, lectures and networking events centered around law school admission, law careers and legal scholarship," he notes.

Students can get involved in pre-law preparation the moment they arrive on campus, including their participation in a pre-law Learning Community (LC). All CNU freshmen enroll in an LC where they take at least three courses with the same 15-30 students. Based on areas of academic interest, including pre-law, LCs connect like-minded students early in their college careers.

Learn more at prelaw.cnu.edu. ▄

Undergraduate Research

Students at Christopher Newport University have unprecedented access to some of the finest facilities anywhere, where they pursue cutting-edge investigation and discovery alongside CNU's renowned teacher-scholars. This past year CNU faculty members were awarded more than \$1.7 million in external grants, up \$200,000 from the year before. Projects span every field of the liberal arts and sciences, from Old English translation to subatomic particles, election polling to oyster restoration.

Such a vibrant research atmosphere complements coursework and teaches students the skills and methodologies they will need in graduate school and in their professional careers. The opportunities CNU offers undergraduates are often reserved for graduate and post-doctoral students at other institutions, highlighting how far Christopher Newport University has come in leading undergraduate research in Virginia.

Each year, students present their findings at Paideia, an annual conference that celebrates research and the values of CNU's liberal learning curriculum. The Cupola Awards are presented to students for the most outstanding contribution to scholarship at CNU each year, with the top Cupola paper receiving the Gordon Award, which is named for Dr. Douglas K. Gordon, Professor Emeritus of English and former Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The following students are winners of the 2013 Cupola Awards.

Kerry Campbell is a senior government and history double major. Her paper, sponsored by Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter, Associate Professor of Government, discussed Switzerland's neutrality as it relates to the European Union.

Danielle DaCrema ('13) graduated in May with a double major in biology and chemistry and a minor in mathematics. Her microbiology project won this year's Gordon Award. Her faculty sponsor was Dr. Christopher Meighan, Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology and Chemistry. DeCrema is currently pursuing her PhD in biomedical sciences at the University of Virginia.

Katherine Holt ('13) wrote about different oyster species and their impact on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. Her project was sponsored by Dr. Gary Whiting, Professor of Organismal and Environmental Biology. She earned her master of science in environmental science in May and works as operations manager for Technology Commercialization Center, a NASA-affiliated technology transfer organization in Hampton.

Each student won a \$500 prize and publication of her essay in an online journal, available at cnu.edu/research/cupola.

Three CNU history majors won the top prizes at this year's Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society Regional Conference. **Juan Diego Marroquin** ('13) won first prize, and seniors **Elena Colón-Marrero** and **Jonathan MacDonald** shared third-place honors for their outstanding papers. Established in 1921, Phi Alpha Theta is a national honor society for undergraduate and graduate students and professors of history. The society has more than 350,000 members in 860 chapters. ■



Study Abroad Promotes Global Learning

Seniors Alyssa Verastegui
(pictured top) and
Kathleen Walsh at
Stonehenge

Through international study, CNU students take their education around the world. By studying in a foreign country, they enjoy many benefits:

- Experiencing new cultures, customs and people
- Learning new languages
- Building leadership, communication and relational skills
- Increasing awareness of world issues

“Our study abroad program is flourishing,” says President Paul Tribble. During the 2012-13 academic year, 234 undergraduates and 19 graduate students participated in study abroad.

Their travels took them to numerous countries: Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, South Africa, Spain and the United Kingdom. In addition, students

participating in Semester at Sea programs traveled to such locales as Argentina, Brazil, Greece and Turkey, among others.

Academic programs range from two-week faculty-led trips and summer study to semester-long opportunities and yearlong study abroad at partner universities. Many students also take advantage of overseas internships and research.

“The summer after my sophomore year, I spent a month and a half in New Zealand traveling and conducting undergraduate research,” says CNU senior Olivia Hildebrand. “I learned so many unexpected lessons from traveling abroad solo and saw some incredible corners of the earth, but what I gained from the trip academically was the highlight.”

The Office of Study Abroad assists students in selecting a program and destination. For more information, visit studyabroad.cnu.edu. ■

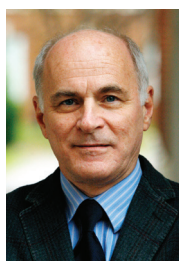
Faculty on the Move

Our eminent and inspiring teacher-scholars play a crucial role in shaping the hearts and minds of their students. They enhance CNU's reputation through their scholarship, publications and presentations. Below is a listing of some of our faculty's publications and accomplishments over the past year.

Publications



Sean Heuvel, of CNU's Department of Leadership and American Studies, co-authored a new book titled *The College of William and Mary in the Civil War*, which chronicles the experiences of students and faculty during the war.



Dr. Kenneth Rose, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, published *Pluralism: The Future of Religion*, a new book exploring doctrinal issues raised by the encounter of once-unrelated religious traditions.



Visiting Assistant Professor of Government **Dr. Huisheng Shou** co-edited *Chinese Environmental Governance: Dynamics, Challenges, and Prospects in a Changing Society*, a collection of essays about contemporary Chinese environmental policy.



Dr. Mary Wilson, Assistant Professor of English, published *The Labors of Modernism: Domesticity, Servants, and Authorship in Modernist Fiction*, a book analyzing the role of

domestic servants in modernist fiction. Dr. Wilson also edited *Rhys Matters: New Critical Perspectives*, a collection of writings about the importance of the works of Jean Rhys.

Awards



Professor and English Department Chair **Dr. Jean Filetti** won the Faculty Excellence Award in Service. She has long been a beloved teacher and mentor at CNU, and this award recognizes her accomplishments in countless service initiatives.



Dr. Quentin Kidd, Professor and Chair of the Department of Government, is co-winner of this year's Faculty Excellence Award in Scholarship. Dr. Kidd is director

of CNU's Judy Ford Wason Center for Public Policy, which conducts extensive polling and unbiased and nonpartisan research, and is the author of five books. An eminent scholar of politics, he appears frequently in newspapers and on radio and television programs.



Dr. Kendra Knight, Assistant Professor of Communication, was awarded the 2013 Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award from the National

Communication Association. The Miller Award is presented to the most outstanding dissertations completed in the field, and a maximum of three awards are given per year.



English Associate Professor **Dr. Sharon Rowley** was awarded a \$250,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to edit a new scholarly edition

of the Old English version of Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica*. She will collaborate with Dr. Gregory Waite, from the University of Otago in New Zealand,

Student Accomplishments

CNU students bring the campus alive with their energy, enthusiasm and intellect. In addition to their academic endeavors, students engage in a myriad of research and service activities that enrich their classroom experience. Below are some highlights of their prestigious accomplishments this year.

on this groundbreaking project. Dr. Rowley is also the co-winner of this year's Faculty Excellence Award in Scholarship.



Dr. **Lisa Spiller**, of the Joseph W. Luter, III School of Business, was awarded the rank of distinguished professor of marketing. Dr. Spiller has served Christopher

Newport for more than two decades and is known for her unique ability to combine academic scholarship with innovative teaching. She becomes one of only two faculty members currently at the University to hold this highest academic rank.



The Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching was awarded to Dr. **Jessica Thompson**, Associate Professor of Biology, for her dedication to delivering an outstanding classroom

learning experience. ■■



Juan Diego Marroquin ('13) was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, an illustrious recognition won by fewer than 2,000 individuals annually in more than 140 countries worldwide. Participants are chosen for their academic excellence and leadership potential and undertake a wide array of international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and primary and secondary school teaching around the globe. Marroquin teaches English and American history and culture in Spain with the Global Classrooms Model UN Project. He joins **Alexandria Ruble ('10)**, who also won a Fulbright award to pursue research in Germany as part of her doctoral studies in history at the University of North Carolina.



Emily LaFountain ('13) was named Bachelor's in Social Work Student of the Year by the Virginia chapter of the National Association of Social Workers for her academic accomplishments and commitment to advancing the field of social work. This is the second straight year a CNU student has won this top award. LaFountain is currently enrolled in graduate studies in social work at Virginia Commonwealth University. ■■

CNU Joins Capital Athletic Conference, Welcomes New Athletic Director

This year Christopher Newport began competing in the Capital Athletic Conference for all sports except football, joining schools similar in size and makeup, and that mirror CNU's academic quality and commitment to athletic excellence.

This year also marked the arrival of R. Todd Brooks (pictured left) as athletic director. Brooks comes to CNU from Berry College in Georgia, where he led the athletic department since 1998. A native of Indiana, Brooks earned his master of arts in education from Tusculum College, where he also began his coaching career and tenure as an administrator.



"I'm excited about the challenges ahead," says Brooks. "My excitement comes from the tremendous quality of the school, the importance of academics here, as well as the athletic piece of the puzzle. We have beautiful facilities and a strong commitment from administration. It's an incredible opportunity for me and my family."

Brooks' dedication to creating a well-rounded experience for student-athletes complements CNU's mission of providing opportunities to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the field of play. ■

Another Incredible Year at the Ferguson Center

Christopher Newport recently launched the ninth season at the Ferguson Center for the Arts. Through the years this magnificent facility has presented a wide variety of star-studded shows, and the 2013-14 lineup has already proven to be no different.

The Ferguson Center remains committed to presenting the finest performers in the world. "Memphis, The Musical," Natalie Merchant, Blue Man Group, Michael Bolton, Celtic Woman, presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Doris Kearns Goodwin, and so many more are still upcoming — rounding out an

exceptional season that promises an entertainment extravaganza for the whole family.

For a complete listing of shows and to purchase tickets, please visit the Ferguson Center online at fergusoncenter.org. ■



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A four-year public university in Newport News, Virginia, Christopher Newport University enrolls 5,000 students in rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts and sciences 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 with 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 the 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 17 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 McMurran, Jr. Hall, Mary Brock Forbes Hall, Joseph W. Luter, III 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 **cnu.edu**.

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