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Alumni Survey

Please take two minutes to complete [our survey](#). It helps us better understand what you want from CNU.



Homecoming '08



CNU invites all alumni to this year's Homecoming festivities, November 7 and 8. Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with fellow CNU grads, visit old stomping grounds, and tour new state-of-the-art facilities like the Tribble Library. And don't forget Saturday's football game when the Captains face off against the Averett Cougars. For details on the weekend's activities, check out our [schedule of events and registration information](#).

[Support CNU!](#)

From Your Alumni President

Welcome to the first edition of *e-Voyages*, our new online alumni newsletter that will come to you six times a year. This publication will keep everyone connected as we share news and announcements of interest to all CNU alumni.

The academic year is off to a great start, and there are many ways CNU alumni can get involved in the life of their university. Join us at "Alumni Alley" for tailgating, volunteer to mentor a student, charter a regional chapter, help plan the Homecoming reunion, or raise funds to support alumni scholarships; there are countless ways to get involved!

New this year - all alumni are part of the Alumni Society simply by being a CNU graduate; no dues are required. We encourage you to stay engaged with CNU through various campus and alumni events, as well as our new regional alumni chapters now in development.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *e-Voyages*, and I look forward to seeing you on campus for Homecoming weekend, November 7 and 8.

N. Scott Millar ('85)
 Alumni Society President

Alumni on Campus: Lacey Howard

Although her parents made her visit Christopher Newport University when she was college hunting, Lacey Howard ('08) has never regretted touring the campus. "As soon as we left, I went home and filled out the application online," she says. "I saw so many opportunities to be involved in so many different ways."



Howard is one of countless graduates who have returned to CNU as employees. After graduating last spring, she attended the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership and then assumed her role as administrative assistant to Elizabeth Taraski, vice president for advancement. In this



Chapter Corner



The Metro Richmond alumni chapter held its inaugural event, *A Night at the Diamond*, on July 26. Twenty-four attendees watched the Richmond Braves battle the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs. They enjoyed the game from box seats, had a catered dinner brought to their section, and received a welcome message on the ballpark scoreboard.

"Members of the Richmond alumni founding committee attended and supported the event, the first in a series of events for the academic year," says Diane Hagemann, director of alumni relations. The Richmond chapter was organized last April.

Northern Virginia/Metro D.C.

Would you like to become a founding member of the Northern Virginia/Metro D.C. alumni chapter? The involvement of our alumni is integral to CNU's continued success. Join President Paul Tribble and fellow alumni for lunch on October 16 at noon. We will meet at the Wachovia Regional Headquarters Building (third floor of the South Tower), 1753 Pinnacle Drive in McLean.

Please RSVP by October 10 to Diane Hagemann, director of alumni relations, at (757) 594-7712 or diane.hagemann@cnu.edu.

Retrospective Set for Release

position, she wears many hats as she supports the advancement team's initiatives. Howard also serves as a class agent for the Fund for Academic Excellence campaign.

"I came to campus as one person and graduated as someone I never thought I would be," she notes. During her four years as an undergraduate, Howard took advantage of countless programs and enjoyed attending lectures by distinguished guest speakers - many who had a profound impact on her. She also shared her time and talents through the President's Leadership Program, Alpha Phi sorority and student government, for which she served as vice president.

Today Howard finds it bittersweet to be a staff member as she encounters friends who are still CNU students. "I loved being a student at CNU and seeing the vision and passion that people have for this university," she says. Now in a professional role here, she promotes that vision through her commitment to the University and its future. "I have the opportunity to change someone's life the way others did for me."

CNU Notes

U.S. News Recognizes CNU

Christopher Newport University's efforts to create an incomparable environment for academic and student life have been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report*. The magazine's annual review of the nation's top schools of higher learning ranks CNU seventh among the nation's "Up-and-Coming" liberal arts institutions.



Schools awarded this distinction have "recently made striking improvements or innovations, demonstrating their focused effort on improving their performance and looking into the future."

This affirms CNU's commitment to seeking the highest quality in programs, facilities and faculty for its students. "In recent years our applications have exploded by 500 percent, SAT scores have soared by 220 points, and we have added hundreds of Ph.D.s from the best schools to our faculty," says CNU President Paul Tribble. "We have also completed half a billion dollars in capital construction, and those facilities are world-class."

These achievements represent only the beginning. "Three new 21st-century academic buildings are now being designed and built," Tribble notes. "We'll continue to raise the bar by recruiting the best faculty, seeking the best students, and creating an exceptional college experience."

Dedicated to the memory of H. Westcott Cunningham, Memories of Christopher Newport College: The First Decade, 1961-1971 is scheduled for release in December.



Cunningham served as the college's first president, and the book was written collectively by early faculty, staff and students who shared with him the grand adventure of building a public college in a community where there was none. The publication contains approximately 50 essays and 100 pictures capturing the tone and culture of the times. All profits will be donated to the H. Westcott Cunningham Endowed English Scholarship.

Food Drive Sets Record

The campus-wide "Food For Thought" initiative on September 8 set a single-day record for total pounds of food collected for the FoodBank of the Virginia Peninsula. Donations totaled 59,195 pounds, while monetary contributions totaled \$4,749. Combined, this translates to 78,195 pounds of food, or 96,180 individual meals.



"Food for Thought" involved all faculty, staff and students. The event was part of CNU's Days of Service initiative, designed to unite the campus and local community in projects benefiting the broader Peninsula area.

"Our students should confront hunger, poverty, misfortune, human suffering and loss, and through these experiences come to understand the harsh realities of this world," CNU President Paul Tribble notes. "They must also know how their unique abilities can turn hardship into triumph to instill in them a lifelong sense of responsibility for making the world a better place."

Stellar Class Enrolls

This year's freshmen have raised the bar of academic excellence.

- The class of 1,140 students has an average high-school GPA of 3.6 - up from 3.5 last year.
- The average SAT score (critical reading and math) rose 12 points this year to 1182.



The class also represents a wide geographical area with 86 out-of-state students, the highest number in CNU's history.

Share Your News

Do you have recent news to share with us - a promotion, marriage or new birth, perhaps? If so, please e-mail your recent milestones and achievements to alumni@cnu.edu. We regularly seek class notes to include in our alumni magazine. By sharing your news, you help to keep CNU and our alumni connected.

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