


CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

# VOYAGES

SUMMER 2017







Spring graduates attend the senior class toast at Three Oaks, the home of President and Mrs. Triple.

Front cover: Senior class candlelight

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

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# VOYAGES

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY  
SUMMER 2017

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# Commence





# ment 2017







Dr. Mitchell B. Reiss addresses the Class of 2017.



More than 1,200 Captains received diplomas during Christopher Newport's 91st commencement exercises. Although the ceremony was held inside The Freeman Center Field House due to inclement weather, gray skies didn't dampen the celebratory spirit of our newest Captains for Life.

Dr. Mitchell B. Reiss, President and CEO of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, gave the commencement address and also received an honorary degree. A model for living a life of significance, Reiss has enjoyed diverse professional experiences – from serving as president of Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, to being special envoy for the Northern Ireland peace process for the State Department, with the rank of ambassador. Additional honorary degrees were presented to H. Dieter and Mary Elizabeth Hoinkes and Climis and Carol Lascaris.



During the annual ROTC commissioning, graduates take their oath to defend and serve our country as commissioned officers in the armed services.





The Klich Award for graduates with the highest overall GPA went to (from left) Emily Egress, Benjamin Miller and Brook Byrd. All three also received the Rosemary Tribble Prize for Leadership and Service, along with Henry Fox, Rayna Rossini and Abigail Yoder.

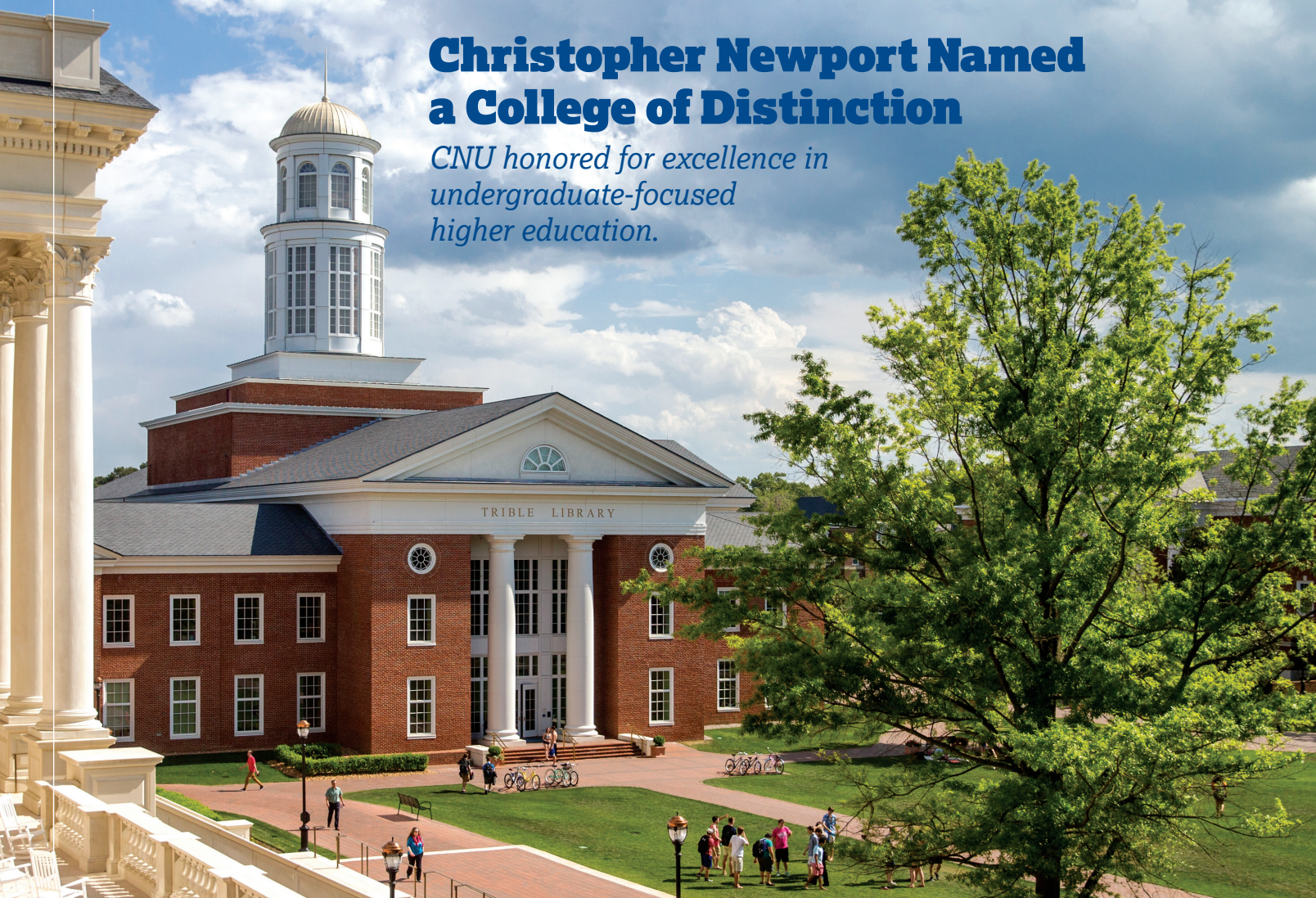




# CAMPUS NEWS

## Christopher Newport Named a College of Distinction

*CNU honored for excellence in undergraduate-focused higher education.*



**A** NATIONAL GUIDE to colleges highlighting innovative learning opportunities at top schools has named Christopher Newport a College of Distinction.

Over 40,000 guidance counselors and thousands of parents and high school students use the Colleges of Distinction guide nationwide. Christopher Newport was named a College of Distinction based on the University's variety and quality of high-impact student success initiatives.

"We are so happy to award Christopher Newport for developing skills relevant to graduates' lives," says Tyson Schritter, Executive Editor for Colleges of Distinction. "High student engagement in college is one of the keys to a successful undergraduate education. With an increasing emphasis on hands-on learning techniques, we applaud Christopher Newport for practicing methodologies that prepare students for their futures."

"I am so pleased Colleges of Distinction chose us for this honor," President Paul Tribble says. "Engagement drives

student success at Christopher Newport University. This is not a place for spectators. We expect our students to be fully engaged in the life of the University and to take full advantage of opportunities to learn and grow."

To be named a College of Distinction, schools must demonstrate results across the Four Distinctions: Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Community and Successful Outcomes. High school counselors and educators make nominations, and each school is evaluated on key indicators, including student engagement, student empowerment and curricular innovation. Colleges excelling in each of the Four Distinctions and demonstrating dedication to enriching student outcomes through innovative learning opportunities are then invited to join Colleges of Distinction.

The annual process to select the nation's Colleges of Distinction also includes a review of each school's freshman experience – as well as the institution's general education program, strategic plan and alumni success measures.



## Third Annual CNU Day Raises Nearly \$700K



**ON MARCH 14** we celebrated CNU Day, surpassing all previous marks for gifts received. This year's theme, Transformation Tuesday, took a look back at Christopher Newport history and shared the many, many stories of how Christopher Newport has transformed the lives of students, alumni, faculty, staff and the extended CNU community.

Over 1,800 donors – including 978 alumni – contributed \$688,593 for scholarships, athletics and the newly opened Gregory P. Klich Alumni House. On social media, posts about CNU Day were seen over a million times, and the #CNUday17 hashtag was trending on Twitter, meaning the campaign was one of the hottest topics being discussed across the platform.

Our featured initiative – Leave Your Mark – added a special way for donors to create a permanent legacy on campus by purchasing a brick at the Alumni House (see page 14).

The remarkable success of this year's CNU Day is an important part of Defining Significance, Christopher Newport's first comprehensive campaign, and demonstrates our commitment to providing scholarships and making a positive difference in the world.

We are grateful to all who participated in the fun and excitement of this annual tradition. Special thanks to Carol and Joseph Lehning, parents of Joey '18 and Gabrielle '20; Ed and Kathy Desmond, parents of Alyssa '18, Emily '19 and Mike '21; Mary Jean Sotack '85, parent of Nick '19; and Bruce and Kathy Margopoulos, parents of Matthew '17, for their generous matching-gift contributions.

## CNU DAY BY THE NUMBERS

**\$688,593**  
TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED

**1,818**  
TOTAL DONORS

**978**  
ALUMNI DONORS

SCHOLARSHIPS  
**\$336,237**

ATHLETICS  
**\$61,891**

ALUMNI HOUSE  
**\$51,084**

**32,900**  
VIDEO VIEWS

**6,906**  
VIDEO VIEWS

**764**  
POSTS

**377**  
POSTS





George Mason Provost S. David Wu (sitting, left) and CNU Provost David Doughty sign the 3+3 program agreement. Behind them are Scalia Law School Dean Henry Butler and CNU Vice Provost Robert Colvin.

## Key Partnership Formed With George Mason

**CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT** and the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University have announced a new dual-degree program to help students expedite their law-school education.

Those students participating in the new “3+3 program” will complete three years of undergraduate study at CNU before transferring to the Antonin Scalia Law School – ranked in the top 50 by *U.S. News & World Report* – for the final three years needed to complete both a bachelor’s degree at Christopher Newport and a law degree from George Mason.

This enhanced track reduces by one year the time to graduate with a baccalaureate degree and law degree. “One of our missions is to serve Virginia students as best we can,” says George Mason Provost S. David Wu. “Since we have a top-rated law school, we feel that this program is a very direct and effective way of doing that.”

To be eligible, students must be able to complete all of the requirements of their major and Christopher Newport’s general education curriculum by the end of the spring semester of their junior year of undergraduate study, maintain a 3.25 grade-point average, and earn a competitive score on the Law School Admission Test. They must be approved for the program during their freshman or sophomore year, enabling them to apply for formal admission to the law school during their third year.

“We are pleased to be working with Christopher Newport to offer highly motivated students an excellent education at an exceptional value. The entire Scalia Law community looks forward to welcoming more outstanding Christopher Newport students to the law school,” says Henry N. Butler, Dean and Professor of Law at Scalia Law School.

“We are excited to partner with George Mason University,” says Christopher Newport Provost David Doughty. “This agreement enables our pre-law students to accelerate their time to a law degree and affords them the opportunity to study with the outstanding faculty of the Antonin Scalia Law School.”

Adds Robert Colvin, CNU’s Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, “Christopher Newport University is a highly selective institution with a rigorous core curriculum. Students who participate in this new program will be prepared to be exceptional legal scholars at the Antonin Scalia Law School. If I was 18, I would do this program.”



## Pre-Med and Pre-Health Adviser Named

**ANTOINISHA ENGLISH** is the new adviser for Christopher Newport’s Pre-Med and Pre-Health Programs. She graduated from George Mason University with a degree in biology and is a nursing care partner at Sentara Leigh Hospital in Norfolk. Previously she was a peer mentor for the Honors College at George Mason University where she gained extensive experience building relationships with students and advising them regarding career goals.

As adviser, English is determined to give students the best resources and guidance. “The community truly needs passionate health-care professionals,” she says. “I tell students, ‘This is where you are, and this is where you need to be to graduate and to go on to the professional field you want to get into.’ I’m honored that I get to help students pursue their dreams – they’re the future of health care.”

“Ms. English has the perfect personality for advising, upbeat but also up-front,” says Dr. Gwynne Brown, Director of Pre-Med and Pre-Health Programs. “She really enjoys helping students, and it shows. The enthusiasm she brings to the job is evident from the first time you meet her and is reflected in the positive feedback I have heard from students. I am incredibly glad to have her here.”

Christopher Newport’s Pre-Med and Pre-Health Programs offer scholarships, intensive advising and mentoring, informative seminars and workshops, and rich clinical and service-learning opportunities. Successful students are guaranteed admission to Eastern Virginia Medical School, the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine or both after they graduate from CNU, as long as they meet the requirements of the program(s).

**Learn more at [premed.cnu.edu](http://premed.cnu.edu).**





## Two Captains Win Fulbright Awards

**TWO CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT** students, Brook Byrd '17 and Nathan Sieminski '17, were named Fulbright Scholarship winners, making this the first year CNU has had multiple winners.

"I am thrilled that two of our distinguished seniors have been named Fulbright fellows," says Provost David Doughty. "These multiple awardees showcase the strength of our degree programs and Christopher Newport's commitment to undergraduate research."

A physics major, Byrd will pursue a research Fulbright fellowship. She will attend the University of Liverpool in England to work with the Institute of Translational Medicine to earn a master of philosophy in radiotherapy. Byrd says, "My life goal has always been to help people through research. Therefore, I am very excited to have this opportunity to perform research with direct clinical applications."

An English and political science double-major, Sieminski will teach English in a South Korean high school next year. He will also continue his research in Korean foreign policy studying the ongoing conflict between the Koreas. Sieminski says, "The Fulbright program's main mission is to enable cross-cultural connection that can deepen ties between the United States and countries around the world. I look forward to taking part in that mission."

Siemenski and Byrd join over 1,900 U.S. citizens who will teach, conduct research and provide expertise abroad during the academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Award recipients are selected based on academic and professional achievement as well as a record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.





## Research LENS Launched

**CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT** has launched Research LENS to enhance undergraduate research literacy. This will allow the University to combine a number of initiatives across campus to highlight CNU's uniqueness as an institution focused on undergraduate research.

The development of Research LENS involved a three-year, campus-wide effort that required examining internal assessment data and gathering input from students, faculty and staff. Grounded in best practices for both information literacy and undergraduate research, the program will build on Christopher Newport's strengths in undergraduate education.

"This is an opportunity to enhance student learning and cement undergraduate research as one of our signature programs at Christopher Newport University," says President Paul Tribble. "It is also a critical component in our efforts for reaffirmation

of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges."

CNU's Quality Enhancement Plan – key to the University's reaffirmation of accreditation – improves students' basic literacy skills, translating them into discipline-specific research skills.

Christopher Newport defines undergraduate research literacy as "a skillset that emerges as students learn to recognize, locate, evaluate and synthesize information necessary to conduct a discipline-specific academic inquiry and produce work notable for its originality, rigor and creativity."

Research LENS includes several programs and funding opportunities: from the Summer Scholars Program and Paideia undergraduate research conference to academic conference travel and the formation of an Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities.



**RESEARCH LENS**  
LEARN • EXPLORE • NAVIGATE • SHARE

### LEARN

Obtain a basic mastery of information literacy

### EXPLORE

Transition into research literacy in close mentorship with faculty

### NAVIGATE

Embark on discipline-specific undergraduate research projects

### SHARE

Present findings at conferences both on and off campus



## Theatre Named for David and Mary Peebles

**THE MUSIC & THEATRE HALL** in the Ferguson Center for the Arts has been renamed the David and Mary Peebles Theatre.

A former president of Ferguson Enterprises, David Peebles served eight years on Christopher Newport's Board of Visitors, including four as rector. At Ferguson he created a billion-dollar company with a corporate culture of honor, civility and service.

As a community leader Peebles has helped guide and shape the economic, social and cultural landscape locally while contributing to the success of the Peninsula Economic Development Council, the Chamber of Commerce, United Way and the Boy Scouts.

Thousands of patrons will take their seats in the Peebles Theatre to enjoy the best in performing arts. Peebles and his wife, Mary, share a passion for the arts and have provided leadership and strong support for the Chrysler Museum, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center, the Virginia Symphony and the Virginia Opera. The Ferguson Center at Christopher Newport

was created in large measure due to the leadership of both Peebles and his successor at Ferguson, Charlie Banks.

"Our primary purpose is to form good citizens and leaders who will choose to live lives of meaning, consequence and purpose. We call that a life of significance," said President Paul Tribble at the Theatre's dedication ceremony. "Our dear friends David and Mary have lived lives of significance, and tonight we gather to say thank you for their immense contributions to our community, our Commonwealth, and to this young and vibrant university."



Mary and David Peebles (second and third from right) celebrate the Theatre's naming with family.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING OF SONGS AND SURPRISES AS  
THE DEFINING SIGNIFICANCE CAMPAIGN DRAWS TO A CLOSE

# Symphony Under the Stars



VIRGINIA SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

Light classics and pop favorites

BENJAMIN ROUS, CONDUCTOR

SEPTEMBER 17 • THE GREAT LAWN • CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY





## Alumni House Opens

**T**he 12,000-square-foot Gregory P. Klich Alumni House opened this past February. The building features a reception hall, conference room, two sitting rooms and offices for Alumni Relations. Memorabilia reflecting the school's rich history adorns the facility.

**To leave an enduring mark at the Alumni House by purchasing a personalized brick paver, visit [giving.cnu.edu/leaveyourmark](http://giving.cnu.edu/leaveyourmark).**







# A Mutually Beneficial Relationship

*Christopher Newport finds the perfect partner in Riverside Health System.*

*by MATT SCHNEPP*

*Lindsey Purcell '15  
and CJ Cahill '16*





*through several key partnerships, Riverside Health System (RHS) plays a pivotal role in the life and success of Christopher Newport as one of the University's leading contributors.*

## RMG Scholars

As our undergraduates make a significant commitment to pursue vocations in health and medicine, they have a powerful partner in Riverside. "We're investing not only in Christopher Newport and the community but also in the young men and women who want to go into health careers," says Bill Downey, CEO and President of RHS.

The Riverside Medical Group (RMG) scholarships have provided a springboard for academic and professional success since 2008. Each fall two highly qualified Christopher Newport freshmen interested in pursuing a medical degree receive a \$2,500 scholarship. RMG Scholars shadow Riverside physicians several times a year and complete a paid internship at Riverside Medical Center following their second year.

"The RMG program helps attract talented students to Christopher Newport who are interested in medical careers," says Downey, who hopes many will return to the local community to set up practice.

Christopher Newport's relationship with Riverside Medical Group has a profound impact on students interested in health-related professions. According to Dr. Nicole Guajardo, Dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, "Students engage in a variety of professional activities that enable them to understand the wide range of opportunities in the medical field, as well as figure out whether a health-related career is for them." Thanks to Riverside's commitment, Guajardo notes, CNU students enjoy experiences few undergraduates have.

One such scholar, Kelly Willett '14 launched her studies at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) in 2014. She graduates from EVMS next year and is currently applying to pediatric residency programs nationwide.

"Not only did the RMG scholarship enhance my medical school application, it also provided me with an early understanding of what I enjoyed in medicine," says Willett, who spent much of her RHS internship in the neonatal intensive care unit. "I distinctly remember the neonatologists taking their time to teach me, a 19-year-old college sophomore, the basics of infant care. When I was on my nursery rotation this past July, I recalled this information when caring for my newborn patients. To this day, neonatology is still high on my list of future careers."

Riverside also provides acute-care shadowing opportunities in pre-physical therapy and pre-occupational therapy, among other practical experiences. "We have students participating in internships in such areas as pathology, conducting research with physicians and a large number volunteering at Riverside," says Dr. Gwynne Brown, CNU's Director of Pre-Med and Pre-Health Programs. "In the latter category, I like to think we are helping them as much as our students are gaining valuable experiences."



## Captains Athletics

Teaming with CNU Athletics, Riverside Health System stands committed to seeing student-athletes excel at the highest level. In addition to preventative care, RHS offers medical treatment following sports-related injuries. "CNU is a valued partner for Riverside," notes Doug Culbert, Orthopedic Service Line Administrator for RHS, which specializes in preventative sports medicine for active adults and student-athletes. "We try to identify what is causing an issue and therefore preventing student-athletes from accomplishing what they need to do."

Dr. J.R. Barley from Riverside serves as the team's physician, offering primary care and other services during scheduled on-campus hours as well as on-call availability. Additional benefits include access to an RHS athletic trainer, surgical and nonsurgical orthopedics, and ancillary support – including imaging and diagnostics, which are critical in the world of athletics.

While Riverside helps student-athletes resume playing as quickly as possible following an injury, returning them to the classroom remains the No. 1 priority. Kyle McMullin, CNU Director of Athletics, stresses the need for a support structure that promotes achievement in all areas. "Our athletes are students first, and we have their best interests at heart," he says. "We're lucky that Riverside is a committed partner of ours in meeting the health-care demands of the student-athlete population."

By investing in Christopher Newport's success, RHS also sees benefits. "It raises awareness of the services we offer by partnering with an institution very similar in culture and direction," Culbert says.





## Performing Arts

While people generally associate preventative care with athletics, they often don't equate it with the performing arts. Riverside rehab aide Ann Fitzgerald notes, "When you talk about the arts, people don't see that connection, but you need to have proper care in order to perform."

Bridging the worlds of science and performance, Riverside Performing Arts Medicine actively engages with students enrolled in music, theater and dance. As a result, Christopher Newport's undergraduates not only develop skills to become exceptional performers but also learn how to nurture their talents through healthy behaviors. This represents a unique partnership for a university like Christopher Newport. Typically such relationships exist at schools that have medical centers or at conservatories.

"The health and wellness of performing artists are at the vanguard of arts education, providing aspiring performers with the knowledge and skills to protect their bodies and prolong their careers," says Dr. Mark Reimer, CNU's Torggler Professor of Music and Director of Music Programs.

Riverside employs several health professionals with performance backgrounds who serve as guest lecturers throughout the academic year – as well as during CNU's Torggler Summer Vocal Institute (TSVI). Topics explored include vocal health, proper keyboard posture, tendonitis issues for string players,

techniques to manage performance anxiety, vocal production for actors and more.

Last year Dr. Raouf Gharbo and Brittany Reed, a senior physical therapy assistant, taught the University's Wind Ensemble how to establish a routine of heart-rate variability and mindfulness to help relax the mind and focus on the music being played. Participants even applied the techniques to exam preparation, which lessened their test-taking anxiety. In addition, Riverside's physical therapists work closely with CNU's dancers while speech therapists help student performers protect their vocal instrument through examinations.

Riverside has also sponsored several dance performances as well as TSVI guest vocalists. "We've been able to use events to reach out to the local dance community, letting them know what programs are available," notes Rebekah Lulow, Outpatient Therapy Manager.

"How fortunate we are to have these incredible resources just steps from our classrooms and concert halls," Reimer adds. "As artists, we use both our mind and our body to interpret and express meaning and emotion. Riverside Performing Arts Medicine gives us the knowledge and skills to connect with our breathing, to manage our thoughts and to control our movement, allowing us to embody and convey to our audience the essence of what the composer, playwright or choreographer intended."



## Health and Wellness

As Riverside engages with campus athletes and performers, it also provides health-care for all students through University Health and Wellness. Thanks to this partnership, registered nurses, nurse practitioners and Riverside Family Medicine physicians offer various services: physicals, lab work, vaccinations, blood-pressure monitoring, illness and injury care, and more. Students can visit the clinic in The Freeman Center Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

“Basically, we’re like a family practice or urgent care service for students,” says Missy Baines, RHS Practice Manager for Business Health Services. She notes how Riverside’s team enjoys working with students who are living away from home for the first time – and how families, in turn, appreciate the care provided. “A lot of parents call and thank us, and they often want to know how they can help Riverside,” Baines says.

Kevin Hughes, CNU’s Vice President of Student Affairs, commends Riverside’s efforts toward incorporating health services into an existing campus culture. “Our students just think it’s Christopher Newport,” he says. Adds Baines, “CNU has done a good job making us part of their family.”

## LifeLong Learning

Beyond the student population, Riverside partners with Christopher Newport’s LifeLong Learning Society (LLS), which offers educational and social programs for retirement-age people.

Operated by RHS, Warwick Forest is the Peninsula’s premier retirement community – and a generous LifeLong Learning sponsor the past three years. Warwick Forest has partnered with LLS in numerous ways: streaming lectures to the retirement community, providing refreshments for LifeLong Learning’s open house, sponsoring annual parties at both a Captains home football and basketball game, and hosting LLS members at CNU each fall for a campus tour and breakfast.

Warwick Forest promotes an active lifestyle on a 10-acre Newport News campus. According to Andrea Staskiel, the group’s Director of Marketing and Sales, the LLS learning experience can benefit adults of all ages. “It was probably the most robust curriculum we had seen anywhere,” she says. “Older adults are very well served to continue learning.” As a result, many Warwick Forest residents have enrolled in LLS and enjoy membership discounts and other benefits.

As part of LifeLong Learning’s curriculum, Riverside health professionals offer instruction on health-related topics during 10-week LLS programs. “The evaluations have been very positive,” notes Liz Williams, Vice President of Marketing for RHS, who stresses the positive effects of LifeLong Learning’s mission. “The engagement level of those who participate is amazing and invigorating to see.”

LifeLong Learners have also attended classes and events at Warwick Forest where they learn about the services and amenities offered. “Riverside and Warwick Forest employ a very proactive approach to healthy aging, and LLS is part of that,” Staskiel says.

“It’s been a boon for us,” notes LLS Director Jane Sulzberger. For one, Warwick Forest’s sponsorship enabled LifeLong Learning to purchase new audio-visual equipment for the Yoder Barn, where most classes take place. Plus, she says, “We have been able to keep our dues as they are without raising them.” In fact, LLS membership has increased dramatically over the past six years, growing from 500 to more than 750. Much of this has occurred since Warwick Forest began partnering with LifeLong Learning, which helped boost LLS’ outreach.

To learn more about Riverside Health System and the group’s various services, visit [riversideonline.org](http://riversideonline.org).









# start me up

Alumni discuss the innovative businesses they have launched – some while they were still students – reflecting what has become **a burgeoning entrepreneurship scene at Christopher Newport.**



# Taylor Quinn '13

*An idea and vision inspire this graduate's success.*

“Don’t make life choices out of fear. Instead, **let love dictate your choices.**”

TAYLOR QUINN

For more information, visit [filmspirevideo.com](http://filmspirevideo.com).



**H**AVING THE PERSEVERANCE to overcome a major life obstacle is not something everyone is able to do. But for Taylor Quinn '13, picking himself up after losing a job led to a whole new life, both professionally and personally. While his success didn't happen overnight, Quinn's determination is serving him well as his business grows.

"I began with a loose idea and vision for what I wanted to create," says Quinn. "My love of film and video really inspired me to create a video production and marketing business." The result, Filmspire, promises "films that inspire action." "The only way you can truly tell if you have inspired someone is by seeing them take action in their life," says Quinn, who earned a BA in communication and minored in philosophy and religious studies. "That could be anything from buying items, donating to a nonprofit, supporting a cause,

following someone on social media or any other call to action."

After Quinn lost his previous job, he chose to learn from the experience and take action rather than see it as a roadblock. "I felt at peace when I lost my job. I knew I was at a pivotal point in my life and that what I decided to do next would be one of the biggest decisions I would ever make," he says. "Something amazing can come out of a fearful situation."

Filmspire offers a full array of video production services. In addition, the company helps clients with digital and social media marketing. "I have a lot of hopes and dreams for my company. I want to be able to bring more people on board with Filmspire. That way I can focus on growing my business and act more as a creative director," Quinn says.

While he still describes the business as being in the startup phase,

Quinn has begun to see some growth. "Two things have really helped me increase my brand awareness, constantly networking with people and using the power of social media," he says. "I also surround myself with mentors who can guide and assist me along the way." One such mentor was CNU President Paul Tribble, for whom Quinn worked after graduation. "Being under his leadership put a burning desire in my heart to have a grand vision of my life and to turn that vision into a reality," says Quinn.

Resilience has gotten Quinn this far, and he's counting on it taking him even further. He knows life after college can be intimidating, but that can actually be a source of strength, as it has been for him. "Being afraid is normal, but the key is to not let fear dictate or control your life. Don't make life choices out of fear. Instead, let love dictate your choices," Quinn notes. — Cassidy Mechalske '19



# Nassir Criss and Mujtaba Elgoodah '17

*This winning duo began chasing dreams in college.*

**EVERYONE HAS A DREAM.** Yet many are often at a loss when it comes to starting the work to fulfill it. Not so for Nassir Criss and Mujtaba Elgoodah '17 (pictured right and left). They started Transcend Agencies, a consulting and brand enhancement business while full-time students.

Discovering that they shared an entrepreneurial spirit, Criss, a junior communication major, and Elgoodah, a biochemistry and business administration double major, partnered to find their niche and focus. After determining that consulting was where their strengths lie, they wrote a business plan, formed a team of trusted advisers and launched their company.

Criss and Elgoodah both lead very social lives, and that has proven an advantage. They pride themselves on being able to figure out what people want and need within their business. "Let's say you are business A, and you come to us and say, 'I see that business B is really doing well in this market. I want to enter that market as well, or I want to expand, but I don't know how to do that.' We're going to come in and scan everything you have going on," says Criss. Then, they tailor

a unique business plan incorporating marketing, design, promotion and development ideas. "Now you're above business B because everyone's noticing you, and you're getting to do what you love," he adds.

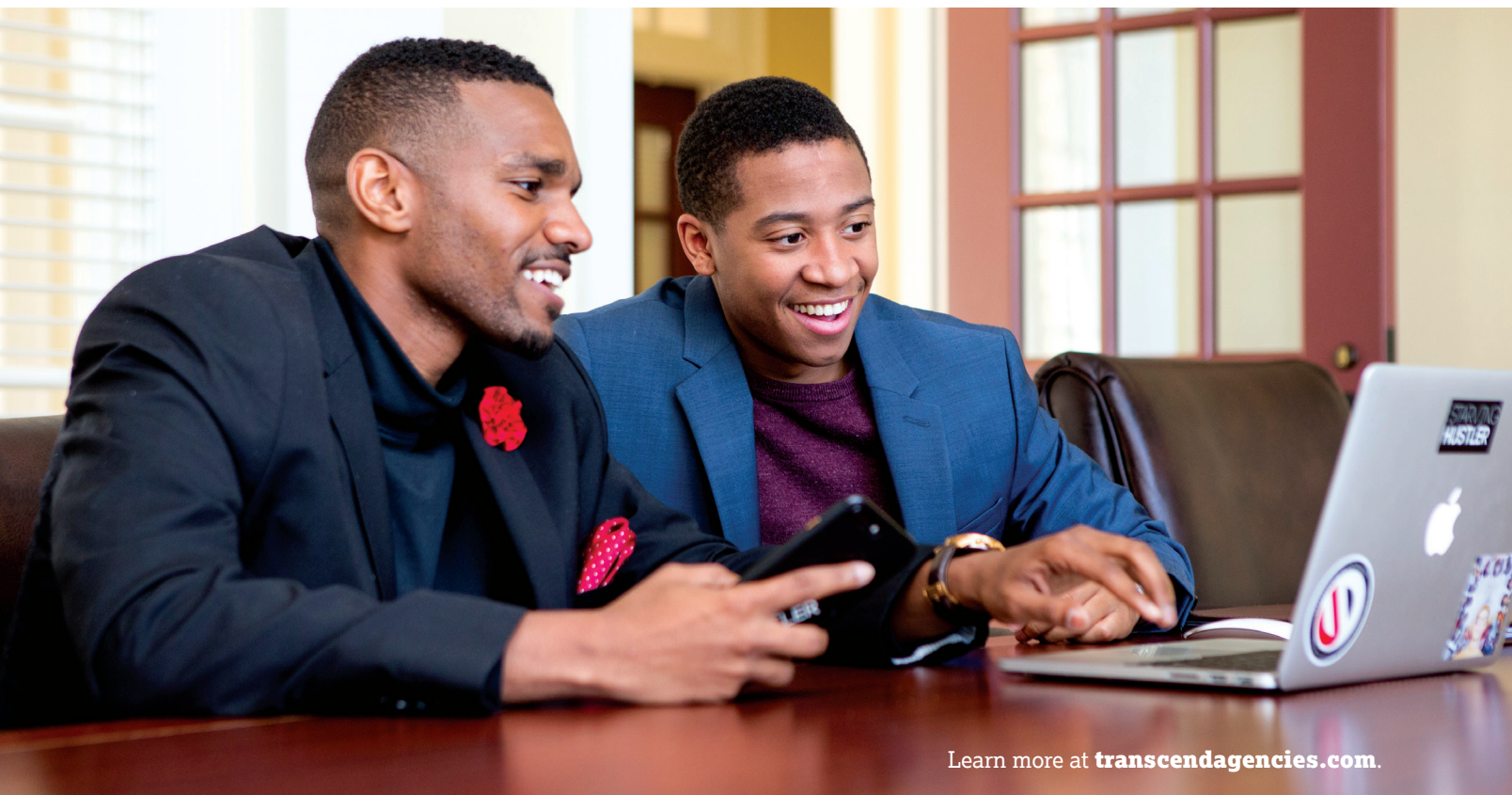
Their true passion is to transcend the limits of their clients' imaginations. "We aim to elevate others and whatever their entrepreneurial or business ventures may be. We really take you to the next level," says Criss.

Balancing academics and chasing a dream can get tough, although their schoolwork at CNU was a definite factor in their success. "Our courses helped to expand our minds and our thought process," says Elgoodah. "We've been around people that, when you look into their stories, it inspires you and gives you a really good path and sense of direction."

As for the challenges of starting a business before they finished college, Criss and Elgoodah are quick to encourage others not to place boundaries on their dreams. As Elgoodah says, "When you have a dream, you jump on it. You don't wait." — *Cassidy Mechalske '19*

**"When you have a dream, you jump on it. You don't wait."**

MUJTABA ELGOODAH



Learn more at [transcendagencies.com](http://transcendagencies.com).





# Aaron McLellan '09

*Alumnus builds a thriving store and workshop.*



**W**HILE A BUSINESS DEGREE is the right path for many, Aaron McLellan '09 is proof that it's not the only one, as he has shown through the creation and success of North End Bag Company.

In just a few years, McLellan, a history major, went from selling his products at online marketplaces and farmers markets to running his own store and workshop in Virginia Beach.

There he crafts bags, accessories and aprons out of leather and canvas. He has an affinity for working with his hands, having learned how to sew from his mother, a seamstress. And people are noticing – his work has been featured in *Virginia Living* magazine, *Coastal Living* magazine and *Distinction*.

The business thrives today thanks to the foundation and support he received from the Christopher Newport

University community. McLellan recalls some encouragement Dr. Eric Duskin, one of his history professors, gave him. "He said, 'You don't need a business degree to succeed. Tons of presidents and CEOs, some of really big companies, all have social science degrees, like history degrees.'"

While many companies have their products made overseas with lower-quality materials, McLellan's goal is to purchase fabric and hardware made in the U.S. "I'm pretty passionate about it because I don't feel a lot of people are doing it the correct way anymore," he says. "They're just changing the designs and sending it to a factory in China. I feel like we're doing it the right way, the way people used to do it. Everyone is always looking to cut costs, and they do it at any cost, if that makes sense. They're trying to make the biggest profit they can, and they sacrifice their quality."

North End Bag Company's shop is both a workshop and storefront. As McLellan says, "We wanted to have a place where people not only come in and buy our products but also see us making them. We wanted to have a transparency with our customers so they know that everything is actually made in our shop from start to finish." — Jessica Scruggs '17

Learn more at [northendbagcompany.com](http://northendbagcompany.com).



# Derek Shaw '08

*Fine craftsmanship establishes a quality brand.*

**I**N 2009 DEREK SHAW '08 found himself looking for a quality wallet with character. Not satisfied with anything he found, he decided to make one himself. Two years later he started Waskerd, featuring “minimalist wallets, maximum quality.”

The name is a play on Shaw's name spelled backward. Today, the wallet line has expanded to 13 styles, and he also makes leather bags, belts and does custom work. Waskerd products have been recognized in magazines such as *Martha Stewart American Made* and *Esquire*, among others.

Shaw says that what makes Waskerd different from other leather products is his focus on craftsmanship. As an artisan, Shaw focuses on quality rather than quantity, and his wallets are hand-stitched to focus attention on detail. He dedicates much time and energy to the creation of his wallets, but there's more to running a business than making each product. “I'll spend half the day fulfilling orders and making leather goods and the other half doing marketing or administrative work – photography, web design, copywriting, submitting press releases, videography, bookkeeping [and] customer service,” Shaw says.

While his expertise was in creating the products themselves, the business side of running Waskerd

has been enhanced by the finance degree he earned at Christopher Newport. Shaw credits his time at CNU for strengthening his confidence. “College is where you build the foundation. But you can't learn everything you need to know about running a business – or any other career – no matter how many years you spend in school; you just have to get out there and do it,” he says.

Shaw started off with a piece of leather and some knowledge of how to make a wallet. That was enough to get him started, and confidence took him further. As he says, “The main things CNU gave me that helped my business are the confidence and the contacts.” It was his teammates on the soccer team that helped him expand his customer base; whether his former teammates bought Waskerd wallets for themselves or as gifts for others, word spread.

Shaw's focus is on marketing his current products, but he is always trying to come up with new ideas. “I love innovating and working on new products, but continuing to invest in the core business is key,” he says. He is creating a quality brand and making his mark as an artisan in a time when craftsmanship is re-emerging from the idea that quantity is better than quality. — *Jessica Scruggs '17*



Visit **waskerd.com** for more on Shaw's products.



# Our Global Community

*Students from around the world make their mark on campus.*

by MATT SCHNEPF

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## AS HE PURSUED GRADUATE STUDIES, CHENRUI HU ADAPTED TO AMERICAN LIFE.

**C**HENRUI HU '17 HAD NEVER VISITED Christopher Newport before arriving on campus in fall 2015. Confident in his decision to enroll here, he knew studying abroad would provide a life-changing opportunity to experience a new culture firsthand. “Some of my classmates went to Europe, including Germany, and some went to Australia,” Hu says. “The way you discover new things will help you a lot. I’m glad I had the chance to be here.”

Hailing from Chengdu, China – capital of the country’s southwestern Sichuan province – Hu launched his collegiate studies at the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC). Located in Chengdu, the school is known as the “cradle of the national electronic industry.” Hu spent three years at UESTC before coming to CNU to complete senior-level coursework and begin his graduate studies. He now holds a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from UESTC and this spring earned a master’s degree in applied physics and computer science at Christopher Newport. He took part in the 3+2 Program, part of a collaborative education agreement between CNU and UESTC.

Both of his degree fields attract a large number of students in his home country. “We have a huge electronics school in China, so many of my classmates studied electrical engineering, computer science or computer engineering,” he says. Hu studied computer science in high school before switching to electrical engineering in college. Eventually he came to realize he preferred computers to engineering,

which influenced his decision to pursue computer science at the graduate level.

Hu transitioned quickly into the University’s academic environment, pursuing coursework in software system design, programming and computer networking, among others. And while he adjusted fairly easily to American life, he did face challenges, most notably learning a new language.

“Especially when I tried to write a professional paper or do my homework, I felt lacking in my words,” says Hu, who received support from CNU’s faculty as he further developed his English speaking and writing skills. “All of the courses I took my professors really helped me,” he adds. “My first time being here I was kind of lost and not talking in class. They supported me a lot, and I got better.”

Separated from friends and family, Hu also missed the close bonds formed at home. “We are pretty close in China. Our residence halls are like one room for four people. We have really close relationships,” he notes. “Sometimes you miss people because you can’t see them or spend time doing the same things, but I’m back home every year or six months.” Plus, CNU’s welcoming family gave him the support he needed.

Hu kept in touch with loved ones using FaceTime and other tools, something that should continue to serve him well post-college. While still a Christopher Newport student, Hu received an offer to join Amazon as a social engineer. This opportunity will take him to Seattle, Washington, as he sets his sights on another great American adventure. ♦



## ANNA CHEKALKINA EMBRACED THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY IN THE U.S.

**A**TTENDING COLLEGE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY provides many benefits. Simply ask Anna Chekalkina '17, who hails from Moscow, Russia, and recently graduated from Christopher Newport. "First of all, you learn a second language, so you can become bilingual," she says. "You also get to experience another culture." For Chekalkina, studying in the U.S. also allowed her to play Division III tennis and pursue her passion for management.

Prior to enrolling here, she had only visited the states once to attend tennis camp in California. Having played the sport for 15 years, she wanted to continue competing in college – preferably at a Division III school so she could devote significant time to academics.

Chekalkina played tennis for the Captains during her freshman year and quickly embraced American higher learning. "Many people at home said, 'I assure you when you go there it's going to be really hard,' but I've always liked challenges. That's why I came here. I knew I wanted to study management," she says.

Due to her interest in that major, she was encouraged to study outside of Russia. "We're stronger in other fields, like physics and math, and have a good theater school, but if you want to be a manager and marketer, you should go to the states," says Chekalkina, who believed her leadership skills would serve her well in managing large groups of people. She also completed a second major in marketing and a minor in theater – and she enhanced her education through two campus internships: one with the Ferguson Center for the Arts and another in Scheduling, Events and Conferences.

While Chekalkina adapted well to living and studying in a foreign country, she found learning a new language to be challenging at first. "I couldn't speak English really well," she recalls. "I was slow and didn't always comprehend people." In addition, she had to adapt to cultural differences. "Everybody smiles all the time here, and I had to smile as well. In Russia we usually don't do that with strangers. It was awkward, but I was here once when I was 16, and I really liked that everyone smiled. It makes your day better if someone smiles at you," Chekalkina says.

One of two children, she returned home during winter and summer breaks and kept in touch with family through various forms of communication, such as the WhatsApp application. Due to the eight-hour time difference, however, she often recorded her messages so her parents could retrieve them at a later time. And as she settled into campus life and enthusiastically explored her new surroundings, being so far from home didn't bother her at first. "Freshman year I was so excited I didn't care, she says. However, she admits it can still be difficult dealing with the occasional stresses of college without family support readily available.

Still, Chekalkina embraced her time here and doesn't regret attending college overseas. She even has her sights set on moving out West. "I'm trying to stay in the United States because I want to work in the movie industry," she says. "My dream job is working at Warner Brothers as I really like production and would like to work as an assistant to a director." ♦

*"I really liked that everyone smiled. It makes your day better if someone smiles at you."*









T H O M A S  
**CANNELLA**  
FOR  
POQUOSON CITY COUNCIL

PAID FOR BY CANNELLA FOR COUNCIL



# Committed to Public Service

*The Poquoson City Council welcomes a new member –  
CNU sophomore Thomas Cannella.*

by MATT SCHNEPF

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**D**ESPITE A VAST KNOWLEDGE of the issues, sophomore Thomas Cannella believed youth might hurt his candidacy for the Poquoson City Council. Ultimately, that wasn't the case. "At most homes I visited, people were thrilled a younger person was running," says Cannella, who at age 19 received 67 percent of the vote last fall – the widest margin ever in Poquoson.

Majoring in political science with a minor in history, Cannella served as class president all four years of high school. Active beyond campus, he coaches JV football, in addition to his public service – something that runs in the family. Binks Hol-loway, Cannella's grandfather, served 16 years on the Poquoson City Council, including a tenure as vice mayor.

"I knew one day I'd run," says Cannella, who pursued an open seat in the election. And as he reflects on a successful campaign, he believes his victory underscores a desire for fresh leadership nationally.

"I think with our generation you're going to see a big transition in both parties, and I feel it will be sooner than most people think," he says. "The earlier we get involved and start influencing policy, the better we'll be. I encourage any young person to get involved in some capacity, whether in one's city or county."

Many of Cannella's peers stay active by following current events, canvassing neighborhoods for candidates and attending rallies. "It's important for us to be involved now because the decisions being made today will affect us down the road," he says. "There's a common idea that you want to leave your country better for the next generation. That's great – everybody wants to do that, but whether or not it gets done is a whole other issue."

While politics runs in the family, so does Christopher Newport. Muriel Millar '88, Cannella's cousin, attended here, as did her husband, Scott '85, the current rector of CNU's Board of Visitors. Several of his Cannella aunts and uncles also studied here: Rich '88 and Natalie '89, Tim '92 and Shauna '99, and John '96 and Jennifer.

President Paul Tribble, who he met through the Millars and later consulted regarding the city council campaign, also influenced his college choice. "With the line of work I want to go into, President Tribble was a big reason I wanted to attend CNU," Cannella says.

Like most college students, Cannella balances numerous demands on his time, but his schedule has been anything but typical. During fall semester he found himself attending class, leaving campus, knocking on doors until football, going through practice or a game, and then possibly visiting additional homes afterward. He accomplished all of this while staying on top of his coursework.

Now, with a bright future ahead, his strong organizational skills will serve him well. Cannella hopes to one day pursue a master's degree in public policy and eventually attend law school. He's also open to running for the General Assembly or Congress down the road.

Since the election, people ask him what office he will run for next, but Cannella remains focused on his current duties and four-year commitment. "I've got a job for four years," he says. "That's a pretty long time, and right now and until the last day of my term – whatever I decide to do – I've got a job, and I'm not worried about what's next," he says. "I want to focus on what I'm doing now."

Still, when asked whether or not he'd like to be president one day, he says, "Yes, of Christopher Newport University." ♦

*"The earlier we get involved and start influencing policy, the better we'll be."*

Like most college students, Cannella balances numerous demands on his time, but his schedule has been anything but typical. During fall semester he found himself attending class, leaving campus, knocking on doors until football, going through practice or a game, and then



# FACULTY NEWS



## SHUCK-HALL HONORED

CNU history professor **DR. SHERI SHUCK-HALL** was one of just two educators honored by the National Society Daughters of Colonial Wars (NSDCW) with the group's Outstanding American History Teacher of the Year awards. Selected by the Virginia Chapter to represent the Commonwealth among entries from 40 states,

Shuck-Hall placed second nationally behind a professor from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

The honor, which included a plaque and monetary prize, recognizes "outstanding service by the exemplification and

encouragement of patriotism and interest in American history and in our American heritage."

Several accomplishments led to her award. They include a 17-year career teaching American history at Christopher Newport and the University of Alabama in Huntsville, as well as her service as director of CNU's Public History Center – in addition to creating and supervising several service-learning projects and internships for CNU students at local museums and public history agencies.

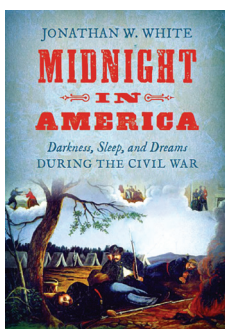
According to Shuck-Hall, working with the local community and CNU students "creates a true partnership that helps make a lasting, positive impact on how the public understands our country's beginnings and legacy, and I am honored to be a part of that."

## LAMBERT HONORED AS OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE LEADER



**DR. LYNN LAMBERT**, Associate Professor of Computer Science, is one of 21 higher education instructors recognized by Red Hat for their continuing efforts to incorporate open-source philosophies,

methods and tools into their academic work. Red Hat is the world's leading open-source software company – software for which the source code is made available for others to use or modify from the original design.



## WHITE RELEASES NEW BOOK

**DR. JONATHAN W. WHITE**, Associate Professor of American Studies, has published *Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep, and Dreams During the Civil War*. This unique

history explores what nighttime was like for soldiers, slaves and civilians during the Civil War. It also includes a chapter on Abraham Lincoln's prophetic dreams of assassination.

White specializes in Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. More information about his work is available at [jonathanwhite.org](http://jonathanwhite.org), or, follow him on Twitter at @CivilWarJon.



## CLASSICAL MYTH IN FOUR FILMS OF ALFRED HITCHCOCK

MARK W. PADILLA

## PADILLA EXPLORES HITCHCOCK

**DR. MARK PADILLA**, Distinguished Professor of Classics, has published *Classical Myth in Four Films of Alfred Hitchcock*. The book considers the effects of Hitchcock's classics-informed upbringing on some of his films. It traces how four of Hitchcock's films, each from a different decade, convey mythical themes, patterns and symbols.

"The decisive value of this study is that it illuminates a neglected source of Hitchcock's storytelling ideas and inspiration," Padilla says.



## WARD-GRIFFIN AWARDED VIRGIL THOMSON FELLOWSHIP

**DR. DANIELLE WARD-GRIFFIN**, Assistant Professor of Music, has been awarded the Virgil Thomson Fellowship from the Society for American Music for "Exporting Menotti: Maria Golovín at the Brussels World Fair." The project explores the premiere of a little-known opera by American composer Gian Carlo Menotti by the NBC Opera Company at the Brussels World Fair in 1958.

"This project will reveal the role of broadcasting in promoting American opera abroad. This was particularly important during the Cold War, when overseas musical performances were part of American cultural diplomacy in Europe," says Ward-Griffin.

## THE VIRGIL THOMSON FELLOWSHIP

is awarded competitively to scholars whose research interest is focused on the history, creation and analysis of American music on stage and screen, including opera.





# 2016 ALUMNI SOCIETY AWARD

*for Excellence in  
Teaching and Mentoring*

BY LAUREN REED '17

## *Dr. Jonathan White shares his enthusiasm for higher education and Christopher Newport students.*

**F**OR DR. JONATHAN WHITE, learning that intersects academic areas makes education all the more rewarding. “Being able to use ideas from other fields gives me more opportunities to make teaching exciting for my students,” says White, an associate professor of American studies who arrived at Christopher Newport in 2009.

“I love teaching American studies because it is a field that draws from many other disciplines – history, literature, political science, art, film,” White says. His passion hasn’t gone unnoticed. Last year White received the Alumni Society Award for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring. The \$2,500 honor recognizes a CNU faculty member exceptionally committed to teaching, learning excellence and university citizenship. As part of his award, White also was invited to give the keynote

address at the 2017 honors convocation. “I value all that our alumni do for the University, so it was really an honor to be selected by them for this distinction,” he says.

White was particularly drawn to teach at Christopher Newport by the Center for American Studies (CAS), for which he serves as a senior fellow. The interdisciplinary Center – which sponsors annual conferences featuring high-profile speakers – promotes teaching and scholarship on America’s founding principles and history, economic foundations, and national security.

A noted author, White has written or edited several books since coming to Christopher Newport and often works through ideas in the classroom. For example, he developed the American studies course *Treason in America* while writing *Abraham Lincoln and Treason in the Civil War: The Trials*

*of John Merryman*. And underscoring CNU’s commitment to faculty-student collaboration, White engages students in his scholarly research with several assisting on his most recent book, *Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep, and Dreams During the Civil War*.

In addition to classroom instruction and publishing endeavors, White served as the University’s pre-law adviser for four years. In this role, he helped undergraduates prepare for law school admission by hosting informational events and counseling students one-on-one through the application process. “Over the years I saw my students gain admission to some of the most prestigious law schools in the country, including Harvard, the University of Chicago and the University of Virginia, among many others,” White notes. And as he watches his students succeed, it makes his work at Christopher Newport all the more gratifying. ♦

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*For more on White’s latest book, please see page 32.*

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# ***ATHLETICS ROUNDUP***

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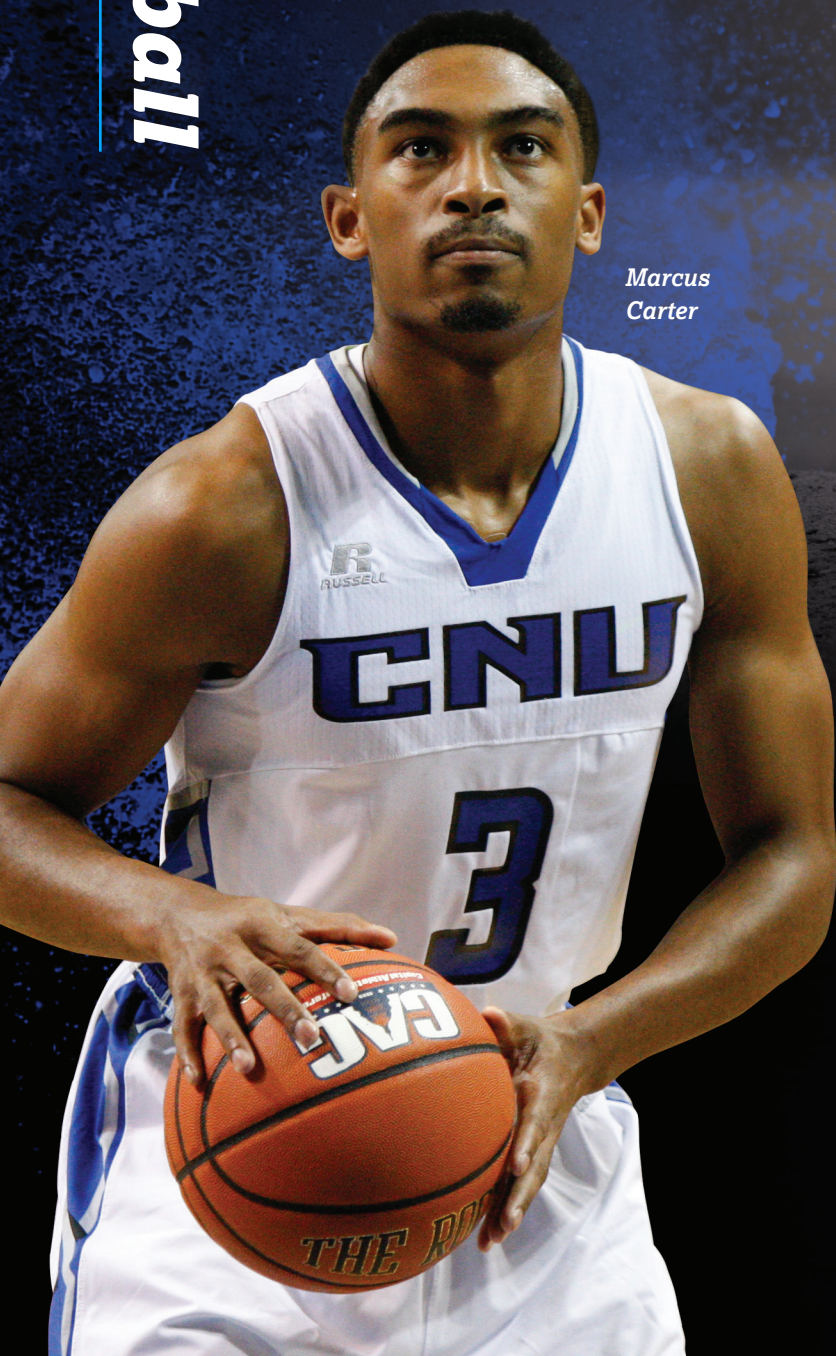
**CNUSPORTS.COM**



# Men's Basketball

One year after reaching the NCAA Final Four for the first time in program history, the expectations for CNU men's basketball were high in 2016-17. The Captains were ranked No. 2 in the nation to start the year and put together another sensational season, finishing 27-3 overall. Led by CAC and NABC District Player of the Year Tim Daly, who earned first team All-American honors, the Captains won back-to-back regular season and league tournament championships before advancing to the NCAA Sweet 16. Daly and junior Marcus Carter were named all-state and all-region after both players eclipsed the 1,000-point mark for their careers during the season. Head Coach John Krikorian also collected District Coach of the Year and All-State Coach of the Year honors after guiding the team back to the NCAA tournament for the 21st time. The 2016-17 season was the 50th in team history, and the Captains are closing in on 900 wins all-time with an overall record of 894-441.

*Marcus  
Carter*



*Mike  
Thomas*

## Baseball

Under the direction of Head Coach John Harvell in his 17th season, Christopher Newport finished the year with a 25-15 overall record while earning a big win over No. 1 Cortland State, and also added a 15-3 record in conference play. Along the way, senior Keith Roberts reached base in 37 straight games, marking the second-longest streak since 2010. Senior Mike Thomas (7-3, 1.58 ERA) anchored a strong pitching staff, and senior A.J. Nicely (.364, 5 HR, 29 RBI, 28 R) led the way for a powerful offensive lineup. Junior Craig Johnson earned academic all-district honors after carrying a 3.83 cumulative GPA while ranking second on the team in hitting with a .363 average.







# Women's Basketball

Sam  
Porter

The Captains finished the year with a second appearance in the NCAA Final Four, a 29-3 overall record and a No. 4 national ranking. The Captains secured the program's first-ever Capital Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships and returned to the NCAA tournament for the fourth time in five seasons under Head Coach Bill Broderick, who was named Region Coach of the Year, Bill Finney Co-Coach of the Year and State Coach of the Year. The Captains were led by junior all-region forward Sam Porter. She was named all-state and all-conference after leading CNU with 116 steals, ranking third in the nation. She also led the team in scoring, rebounding and free-throw shooting. Defensively, CNU finished second in the country and second in program history with 496 steals. Devon Byrd and Makenzie Fancher joined Porter on the all-conference team.



A full-page photograph of a cheerleader, Chey Spartano, captured in mid-air during a performance. She is wearing a black and white long-sleeved top with blue accents and a large blue and white bow in her hair. She is smiling and looking upwards. The background is dark and textured, with another cheerleader visible in the lower left corner.

*Chey  
Spartano*

## ***Cheerleading***

For the second time in the last four years, the Christopher Newport competition cheerleading squad earned a national championship. This was the 10th straight year the Captains have competed at College Open Nationals, finishing in the top three in all 10 appearances.



# CNU Storm

The CNU Storm Dance team traveled to Florida for the 2017 NCA/NDA Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championships and came away with a program-best sixth-place finish. The effort matched last year's sixth-place finish after an exceptional performance in the preliminary round powered the Storm into the finals on the world-famous Band Shell stage in Daytona Beach. Led by first-year Head Coach and CNU Storm alumna Taylor Macina '14, MAT '15, the Captains put together one of the finest showings in program history.

*Rebecca  
Rash*





# Men's Golf

The nationally ranked men's golf team captured its fourth straight CAC championship and returned to the NCAA Division III national championship. CNU blew away the competition at the CAC championship, winning the event by a record-shattering 54 strokes. Sophomore David Rabil won the individual title and was named CAC Player of the Year, headlining a group that included all five starters on the all-conference teams. Rabil was also named a Division III Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year Award semifinalist and helped lead the team at the national championship event in Florida. He was joined on the first team all-conference squad by sophomore Joey Corlett and senior Harry Nodwell, who collected his third-consecutive all-conference recognition.



Harry  
Nodwell





# Men's Lacrosse

Four members of men's lacrosse collected all-conference honors, led by first-team selections Tony Cruz, Randy Foster and Matt Hayden. Guided by the four all-CAC performers, the Captains finished the 2017 campaign with an 11-6 overall record, advancing to the CAC semifinals for the second straight year. Senior Will Geise, a second team all-conference selection, pieced together one of the most historic campaigns in school history during the spring, establishing new single-season records with 77 points and 56 goals, while his 21 assists tied for third in program history.

Will  
Geise

Catie  
Chess

# Women's Lacrosse

Capped off by a historic senior season, four-time first team all-conference midfielder Meaghan Galvin finished her tenure as one of only two players in program history to score 100 goals and chip in 100 assists. She also holds the program record with 326 career draw controls, including four of the top-five single-season marks. She was one of four players to earn all-conference honors for the Captains in 2017, joined by first-team pick Catie Chess and second-team honors for Sarah Culver and Mariah Ginebra. The Captains finished 11-8 overall and reached the CAC semifinals.



# Sailing

Garnering one of the most distinctive honors in the history of Christopher Newport sailing, senior skipper Austin Powers received the 2017 LT Robert Purrington Award. The Captains leader became just the fourth sailor from a Division III school to earn the honor, and the first since 2001. It recognizes a graduating senior from the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association conference who has made outstanding contributions to college sailing, not only by competing, but also in the promotion of the sport. Powers wrapped up his career with a fifth-place finish at the Carl van Dyne, the singlehanded conference championship, and helped CNU finish 13th at the America Trophy, the co-ed dinghy conference championship. The Captains also qualified for the Women's Atlantic Coast Championship in the fall.

*Amanda  
Attardi*

*Lauren  
Levinson*





# Softball

CNU's softball team, ranked in the top 25 for most of the season, captured the program's third conference championship and returned to the NCAA tournament for the 11th straight season. Ten different Captains earned all-conference honors, headlined by CAC Rookie of the Year Liz Andrews, who was among five first team all-CAC selections. CNU won 17 of its last 18 games to build momentum heading into the postseason, led by rookie pitcher Aubrey Bates (12-3, 1.80 ERA) and junior shortstop Rachael Payne (.428, 34 RBI, 50 R). Payne went on to collect second team All-American honors from the NFCA, and was also a first team All-Region selection. Four more Captains earned All-Region accolades: junior outfielder Leah Andrews, senior outfielder Rachael Shiflett, rookie second baseman Grace Wild and Bates.

*Aubrey  
Bates*





# Men's Tennis

For the first time since joining the CAC and just the second time in program history, the Captains captured the conference tournament championship and earned an automatic berth into the NCAA championship. CNU's ended a 17-year reign atop the CAC by Mary Washington, becoming the first team since the 1990s to win the title other than the Eagles. The Captains earned a 5-0 win over Franciscan in the opening round before falling to nationally ranked Johns Hopkins in the second round, finishing the season 15-10. Individually, juniors Justin Cerny and David Reed qualified for the NCAA Division III Doubles Championship, the first CNU tandem to participate since 2008. CNU climbed to No. 28 nationally in the final rankings, while Cerny and Reed were 14th in the final doubles rankings. Eric Christiansen was named CAC Coach of the Year, and eight Captains earned all-conference honors.



*Justin  
Cerny*



*Kate  
Huck*

# Women's Tennis

The women's tennis program put the finishing touches on one of the team's finest seasons, wrapping up the year ranked in the nation's top 25 for the first time. Led by CAC Rookie of the Year Johanna Ranta-aho, the Captains finished the year with a 14-7 overall record, reaching the CAC championship match for the third consecutive season. Ranta-aho became the highest-ranked Captain in program history when she slotted in at No. 36 after the fall season, and went on to put together a 21-6 record in singles action this year. The 21 wins rank tied for the third most in a single season in program history. She also excelled in doubles, leading the team with 17 wins in tandem play during her first year. She was joined by juniors McKinney Harwood, Kate Huck and Alexandra Drye on the 2017 all-conference team.





Ryan  
Scott

## Track & Field

*Indoor:* Junior Ryan Scott was named CAC Indoor Track and Field Athlete of the Year, while 26 of his teammates collected all-league honors. CNU swept the men's and women's conference championships, while five individuals and the men's distance medley relay team qualified for the NCAA Indoor National Championships. Led by South/Southeast Region Coach of the Year Tyler Wingard, the Captains were well-represented on the all-region teams, with 27 members totaling 31 awards. At the indoor championships, junior Grayson Reid captured All-American accolades in the 5000 with a school-record time of 14:31.37, good for seventh. Scott added a pair of All-American awards in the 60-hurdles and 200 to cap off a solid performance in the championships.

*Outdoor:* Ryan Scott became the second runner in CAC history to earn both indoor and outdoor Athlete of the Year awards in the same season. CNU swept the outdoor league championships, taking the men's and women's titles after 31 different Captains secured all-conference honors. For the women, senior Logan Harrington headlined the all-conference honorees after earning first-team accolades in three events. CNU sent a program-record 10 men to the Outdoor Track and Field Championships, with three turning in All-American performances. Wesley Shrieves finished fourth in the high jump, while Jeff Dover and Zach Campbell finished sixth and eighth, respectively, in the 1500 meters. Campbell won the CAC's Scholar-Athlete of the Year honor, given to a league competitor who best exemplifies the ideals of a student-athlete while combining superior academic and athletic achievements over the course of his career. Head Coach Tyler Wingard collected Coach of the Year laurels for both the men and women. In the 2016-17 Al Carius Program of the Year rankings, Christopher Newport men's cross country and track and field teams finished the year ranked 10th nationally.





**C***hanges are coming* to Captains athletics as Christopher Newport welcomes Art Link as the new head football coach. Link, who spent the last three years as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, succeeds Matt Kelchner, becoming just the second head football coach in CNU history.

Captains football began play in 2001 with Kelchner leading the program from the beginning. He continues at Christopher Newport as associate athletic director after guiding the Captains to a 109-60 record and 10 trips to the NCAA tournament in 16 seasons.

"The CNU football program is in very good hands with Coach Link," Kelchner says. "He will be a great leader and knows what it takes to continue our history of success. I am certain that our

student-athletes, as well as our recruits, will be very impressed with his abilities to coach and lead the program."

In addition to Lafayette, Link's coaching experience includes the University of New Hampshire, Campbell University and Catholic University – as well as a stint with his alma mater, the University of Florida. He was a member of Florida's 1996 national championship and SEC championship team before serving as a graduate assistant, working primarily with the linebacking corps.

Link and his wife, Megan, have two young children, son Ryan and daughter Ava. "This is an outstanding opportunity for me and my family," he says. "I view Christopher Newport as one of the top Division III programs in the country, both academically and athletically. I'm excited to build on the success Coach Kelchner has established."

MEET OUR  
NEW HEAD  
FOOTBALL COACH

**ART  
LINK**





### **What led to your career in coaching?**

Growing up in a college football town in Gainesville, Florida, you live for Saturdays. After making the team as a walk-on at the University of Florida, I was captivated by the “chess match” quality of it. I had a really good relationship with my position coaches and was inspired to do what they did. These guys were role models, extremely driven and competitive people, and they enjoyed the game.

### **What do you enjoy most about coaching?**

I still enjoy the X and O strategy side of it but have really enjoyed player development. The most rewarding part of being a coach is when you get a player from years ago thanking you for what you did for him on and off the field.

### **How would you describe your personal coaching style?**

My style is high energy, incredibly demanding, innovative and a “players coach.”

### **What do you look forward to about joining the Christopher Newport family?**

Getting to put my style of coaching into all three phases of the game on the field and letting the CNU family see our up-tempo style of play. In addition, I look forward to the mental side of developing our players.

### **Looking toward the upcoming season, what challenges and opportunities lie ahead for the Captains?**

I think looking at the team and listening to existing staff, we will need to develop our guys on the offensive line and defensive line in order to excel in a tough NJAC league.

### **What do you hope your players gain from the college athletics experience?**

I hope they look back on their experience as a player and really enjoy their time with each other, their relationships with their coaches, and they graduate with a great degree so they can provide for their family. I want them to bring their family back on Homecoming and say, “See, there was Dad with his championship team.”



# Captains Spotlight: BRIANA SUTTON

BY BEN LEISTENSNIDER '17

*Great things come in pairs for this standout double-major dual-athlete.*

**F**OR SOME PEOPLE, one just isn't enough. Simply ask dual-athlete Briana Sutton '17. Regardless of the season, Sutton could be seen competing for the Captains, bringing pride to Christopher Newport in both volleyball and track and field.

She first made a name for herself at CNU as a standout on the volleyball team, which placed in the top five nationally during her freshman season. Despite being a rookie, Sutton played an instrumental role in the Captains' success, helping to propel them to a first-ever Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) championship. In addition to leading the team in kills, she was named CAC and Virginia Sports Information Directors Rookie of the Year, plus conference Player of the Year – the first freshman to receive this honor since 1996.

A significant rookie campaign led to an even more incredible sophomore season when Sutton helped CNU reach the Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament and earned a third-team All-American title. Making her second year even more memorable, she began her journey into track and field.

"I decided I had way too much free time in the spring, and I wasn't being productive with it," says Sutton. After doing research, she decided her sports of choice could work in tandem, helping her keep in shape for volleyball. She discussed the possibility with volleyball Head Coach Lindsay Birch '02, who was instrumental in recruiting Sutton to Christopher Newport and supported her interest in becoming a dual-athlete.

Although Sutton had participated in track and

field briefly during high school – competing in the shot put when her team needed additional points – she never competed in the multi-events until attending CNU. Sutton credits track and field Head Coach Tyler Wingard for her decision to participate in the pentathlon and heptathlon instead of just the throws event. "Coach Wingard was the first one who had me envision my potential," she recalls.

Now a two-sport athlete, she gave both endeavors her full commitment. "It was really a matter of deciding neither sport was a priority – both were equal," she says. Despite having never taken part in the pentathlon before, Sutton managed to qualify for the NCAA national championship meet where she placed 15th in the country. By the end of her junior year, she became just the third first-team All-American in CNU volleyball history and placed 10th nationally in the pentathlon.

Keeping duality in mind, Sutton managed to juggle two sports with a double major in Spanish and sociology, in addition to a criminology concentration. Through academic research and internships she further explored her passion for fighting human trafficking.

Whether on or off the field of play, Sutton's "never quit" work ethic set her apart from many, enabling her to find success in whatever she pursued. "I believe in the off-season being the training portion of your career. You perform in-season, but you're not in-season for 75 percent of the year," she says. "I spend that 75 percent training and then perform the remaining 25 percent." ♦





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# REGIONAL ALUMNI CHAPTER NEWS

## ATLANTA

**f** ATLCAPTAINFORLIFE    **✉** ATLALUMNI@CNU.EDU

With more than 250 alumni residing in the Atlanta metro area, the Atlanta Alumni Chapter received an official charter in 2014. Members have since hosted various social engagements, holiday celebrations and admission recruitment events. In September members of University Advancement and Alumni Relations traveled to Georgia for a Leadership Dinner, connecting with many on the Chapter's leadership team. In support of the record-breaking day of giving, a "Captains and Cocktails" event was held on CNU Day at Fado in Buckhead. Additionally, the Chapter is planning an amazing Captains celebration in October, so stay tuned as no one in Atlanta will want to miss it.

The Atlanta Chapter encourages Georgia high school students to call Christopher Newport home. Members give significant focus to promoting the University by talking with prospective students and making it possible for guidance counselors to visit campus.



Annual Holiday Party at the Belle Haven Country Club hosted by the Brusnahan family – Casey '15, Megan '18 and parents Roger and Mari

## METRO D.C.

**f** DCNOVACAPTAINFORLIFE  
**✉** NOVADCALUMNI@CNU.EDU

More than 4,000 alumni strong, the Metro D.C. region remains the second-largest concentration of Christopher Newport alumni. In September the Chapter held a happy hour social at Whitlow's on Wilson in Arlington. In partnership with the TheaterCNU affinity alumni chapter, more than 100 alumni gathered to celebrate in the spirit of Christopher Newport. In November approximately 15 leaders in the local region met with Alumni Relations staff for a Leadership Dinner at Rustico to plan the active year to come. The team developed a plan of action for building chapter leadership, hosting engaging events and holding officer elections.

In December the Chapter was joined by President Paul Tribble and over 80 fellow Captains for the Annual Holiday Party at the Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria, hosted by the Brusnahan family – Casey '15, Megan '18 and parents Roger and Mari.

On CNU Day nearly 100 Captains braved a winter snowstorm to celebrate CNU's "Transformation Tuesday" at the Liberty Tavern. The "Captains and Cocktails" event allowed Captains to reminisce about their CNU memories and support the University. The Chapter raised funds to support student scholarships, the alumni chapter, and a variety of important initiatives impacting the Christopher Newport community. For June 2017 members planned a "Welcome Home" event for members of the Class of 2017 who plan to reside in the region.

**ALUMNI.CNU.EDU**





Sixth Annual Captains Choice Classic Golf Tournament at James River Country Club

## PENINSULA

**f** PENINSULACAPTAINFORLIFE **✉** PENINSULAALUMNI@CNU.EDU

The Peninsula Alumni Chapter enjoyed an exciting year, which kicked off with the selection of several new alumni joining the Chapter's board of 21 active members. Newly elected officers and board members were announced at the Annual Alumni Reunion at Paradise Ocean Club in June 2016 attended by over 100 alumni and friends from across the Peninsula. The Chapter represents more than 9,000 alumni living in and around Newport News, Gloucester, Hampton, Smithfield and Williamsburg. All are invited to engage in chapter programs, events and initiatives.

In October members hosted their Sixth Annual Captains Choice Classic Golf Tournament at James River Country Club on the Friday of Homecoming weekend. This event raises funds and awareness for student scholarships, alumni initiatives and programs, the Alumni House, and the global nonprofit Fear 2 Freedom. The 2016 tournament raised more than \$16,000 and included a first-ever presenting sponsor, Follett Corporation. Muriel Millar '88 and Eric Kean '98 served as co-chairs for the event, which continues to grow in golfers, sponsors, funds raised, and alumni, community and student volunteers. Overall, the Chapter has raised more than \$25,000 for the Peninsula Chapter Scholarship, \$10,000 for Fear 2 Freedom and \$7,500 for the Alumni House.

Members hosted several other events throughout the year, including a Peninsula Holiday Party at the home of Lee '07 and Elshia '10 Lockwood, a Peninsula #Captains2Heroes service event with community partner Fear 2 Freedom, and a "Captains and Cocktails" celebration at Tradition Brewing Company on CNU Day 2017. With special support from board members Shannon Edwards '04 and Dayton Wiese '03, the Chapter brought Peninsula Movie Night to the Alumni House Lawn in May 2017 for a family friendly event for local Captains.



To celebrate the closing of 2016, Captains gathered at the Mermaid Winery in the Ghent area of Norfolk for the annual Holiday Reception. On CNU Day the Chapter hosted a "Captains and Cocktails" event at 80/20 Burger Bar in Norfolk. Over 40 Captains and friends attended, and the Chapter successfully raised hundreds of dollars supporting the group's initiatives and the Gregory P. Klich Alumni House. Members are also excited to announce the formation of a board of directors.



## RICHMOND

**f** RICHMONDCAPTAINFORLIFE  
**✉** RICHMONDALUMNI@CNU.EDU

With more than 3,000 Christopher Newport alumni living and working in and around the Richmond region, this active chapter hosted several successful events over the course of the past year.

In 2016 the Richmond Alumni Chapter led off with a sold-out "Paint Nite" at Roma's Ristorante Italiano in Mechanicsville. In June the Chapter hosted more than 50 alumni and friends at the annual "CNU Night at the Diamond" for a Richmond Flying Squirrels baseball game. In September members participated in their annual charity fundraising event by collecting can goods at the Alumni Charity Challenge, which has become a large annual event held on the outdoor grounds of Hardywood Park Craft Brewery. For this, Richmond-area alumni from schools across the nation came together to collect more than 12,000 pounds of canned goods for the Central Virginia Food Bank. The Chapter then celebrated the season and the spirit of being a Captain at the Annual Holiday Party at the grand Jefferson Hotel.

To kick off 2017, Richmond alumni marked CNU Day in March with a gathering at Kitchen 64. A full house enjoyed great food and fun.

Members bring together fellow Captains for networking and social events, community building and volunteer opportunities, and to keep the Richmond alumni community connected, engaged and up-to-date on all the excitement happening on campus and in the broader community of Captains.

## SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS

**f** SHRCAPTAINFORLIFE **✉** SOUTHHAMPTONROADSALUMNI@CNU.EDU

The Captains of South Hampton Roads experienced another incredible year of chapter growth. In October members held a social gathering at Chicks Oyster Bar in Virginia Beach. In November South Hampton Roads leaders met for a Leadership Dinner at Twist in Virginia Beach Town Center to plan the upcoming year. Since then, South Hampton Roads alumni have hosted board meetings, set up board application portals and implemented engaging events for alumni.



# AFFINITY CHAPTER NEWS

## CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) Alumni Chapter supports current CCM students through a back-to-school barbeque and Homecoming tailgates. The Chapter also fosters community and networking opportunities for CCM alumni while supporting the present ministry.

Each year members seek new ways to grow and strengthen their efforts, namely through a consistent and active presence to the on-campus ministry and a yearly alumni newsletter. Contact Michael Mullin '04 at [ccmalumni@cnu.edu](mailto:ccmalumni@cnu.edu) to get involved.

## CHEER

As the Christopher Newport competition cheerleading squad captured a second national trophy, cheer alumni nationwide celebrated their time at CNU. Prior to the squad's departure to claim the title, Head Cheerleading Coach Erica Flanigan hosted a send-off party where several alumni gathered to show their support.

The Cheer Chapter engages all alumni who participated in or supported cheerleading at the University. Additionally, members assist current team members across the areas of collegiate recruitment, academic and athletic success, and major cheer competitions, including the College Open Nationals.

To be involved, follow the "CNU Cheer Alumni Chapter" on Facebook or email Chapter President Melissa Farmer '09 at [melissafarmer88@gmail.com](mailto:melissafarmer88@gmail.com).

## CNU FOOTBALL

The CNU Football Alumni Chapter kicked off the year at a Homecoming tailgate with prime location outside POMOCO Stadium. Here members, friends and football alumni cheered on the Captains as they battled Salisbury State.

In May the annual Football Alumni Golf Tournament took place at Cypress Creek Golfers Club in Smithfield. The event welcomed alumni, current coaches and students spanning the program's 15-year history while raising hundreds of dollars for both the Chapter and football program.

In addition, the group both thanks and congratulates coaches Matt Kelchner and Dan Antolik for their service to the football program. The football alumni appreciate the impact both men had on the athletic, student and professional lives of CNU's players and alumni during their tenures with Captains football.

The Football Chapter has a large following at Homecoming and invites everyone to join members on Saturday, November 4, at the Homecoming game. For updates, follow "CNU Football Alumni"

on Facebook and contact chapter leaders Nick Leonard '10, Kenneth Hall '10 and Ryan Rusbuldt '12 at [cnufootballalumni@cnu.edu](mailto:cnufootballalumni@cnu.edu).

## ICE HOCKEY

The Ice Hockey Alumni Chapter serves as an avenue to support the current CNU club ice hockey team, reconnect with teammates, meet fellow Captains, and host ice hockey tournaments and alumni games throughout the year. In October the Chapter hosted the Third Annual Ice Hockey Alumni Game at Hampton Roads Iceplex during Homecoming weekend. Nearly 20 alumni spanning all class years of CNU ice hockey participated. Afterward members and families gathered in Alumni Alley for the Homecoming tailgate. The Ice Hockey Chapter also played in the Frozen Biscuit at the Chilled Ponds Ice Rink in Chesapeake in June 2017.

Ice hockey alumni and friends are invited to attend social events, participate in or watch tournament play, and support the active team. Contact Kyle Stutzman '09, Tate Deitrich '11 or Tyler Bemis '13 at [icehockeyalumni@cnu.edu](mailto:icehockeyalumni@cnu.edu) for details.

## MULTICULTURAL

The newest affinity group, the Multicultural Alumni Chapter held an official chartering ceremony in October. Over 40 alumni, along with student leaders from various diversity groups, shared in the celebration. The Chapter welcomes alumni sharing prior engagement with the Multicultural Student Association and various multicultural clubs and organizations associated with Christopher Newport, as well as those seeking to engage and support issues facing campus and alumni communities. The Chapter also partners with several diversity groups on campus to support and engage current students.

In December members were represented at multiple regional party locations, including South Hampton Roads, Peninsula, Richmond and Metro D.C. In March the Chapter helped raise funds through social media engagement on CNU Day 2017.

Visit "Christopher Newport Multicultural Alumni Chapter" on Facebook. Also contact chapter leaders Jeanice Stewart '04, Alencia Johnson '09, Xavier Higgins '08 and Monique Bates '05 at [multiculturalalumni@cnu.edu](mailto:multiculturalalumni@cnu.edu).

## PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The President's Leadership Program (PLP) Alumni Chapter kicked off 2017 with a strong showing on CNU Day, raising over \$1,200 for operations and initiatives.

In March a PLP alumni panel – Jenni Caven '12, Nate Fender '07 and Cristin Toutsis Grigos '03 – returned to campus for the first President's Leadership Program Speaker Series.

The Chapter hosted a recognition ceremony on campus prior to commencement weekend. The event celebrated a successful year of programs and fundraising and outlined future objectives. The 15-member board of directors continues to work through committees to create a sustainable support network for the undergraduate program.

Chapter members include more than 1,000 alumni who have completed the President's Leadership Program, along with leadership faculty and friends of PLP. The Chapter provides opportunities to strengthen the bonds between alumni and the University and promote the welfare of PLP and the greater campus community.

To engage with the Chapter, contact Chapter President Chris Inzirillo '09 at [christopher.inzirillo@cnu.edu](mailto:christopher.inzirillo@cnu.edu). Also follow the "CNU President's Leadership Program Alumni Chapter" on Facebook for chapter news.

## THEATERCNU

The TheaterCNU Alumni Chapter boasts hundreds of creative and talented graduates. Through networking, professional development and fundraising activities, the Chapter strengthens an expanding alumni network and supports current theater students.

Members held a joint event with the Metro D.C. Alumni Chapter at Whitlows on Wilson in Arlington. The Chapter celebrated the season of Homecoming from afar with a New York City gathering at the Jolly Monk in Midtown. In April TheaterCNUalumni hosted the inaugural Shoebox Follies Weekend on campus, with a full day of alumni-led theater workshops for current students. The event was sponsored by the generous support of the Chris and Paul Miles family. That afternoon, during a Seniors and Alumni Mixer at the Gregory P. Klich Alumni House, current seniors, faculty, staff and alumni toured the new facility.

To conclude the day, the theater community held a reception honoring Professor George Hillow's 25-year career at Christopher Newport, as well as a Shoebox Follies performance in his honor. Thanks to the Theatre Guild for the generous support of student sponsorship at the reception. The event raised funds for both the Chapter and the George Hillow Annual Theatre Guild Scholarship.

Follow the "Theater CNU Alumni Chapter" on Facebook or email Chapter President Allen Brooks '04 at [allenbrooks@gmail.com](mailto:allenbrooks@gmail.com).

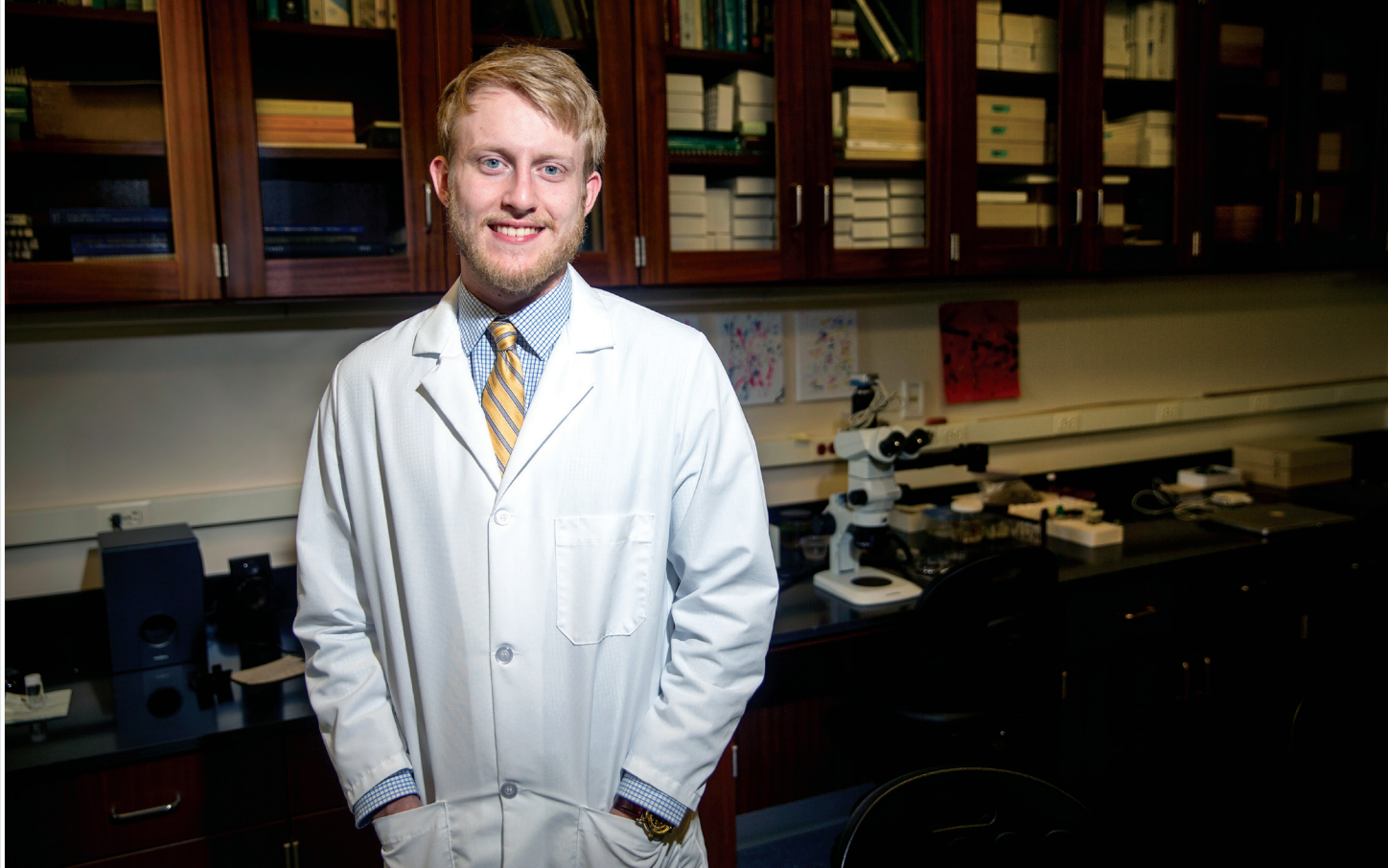




# *Congratulations,* **CLASS OF 2017**







## Heart of a Healer

*Plans for a career in medicine led Justin Hansford '16 to veterinary school at Virginia Tech.*

*by* FREDERICK MOULTON '17

**V**ETERINARY CARE PROVIDES unique challenges, given the ways an animal's body responds differently to ailments compared to humans. Yet these are challenges Justin Hansford '16 feels equipped to conquer at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech.

"I enjoy the puzzle medicine offers, especially veterinary medicine since the patients cannot tell me their problems," he says. "I enjoy being able to help animals and give them a good quality of life because that also helps the people caring for them."

Successful applicants to Virginia Tech's vet medicine program typically have a minimum grade-point average of 3.5, at least 100 hours working alongside a professional veterinarian and experience in a biomedical research setting. In addition to academic accomplishments and hands-on experience, Hansford also plans to bring a bit of Christopher Newport culture to his new academic home.

"Virginia Tech is an amazing program for veterinary medicine," he says. "They tend to pioneer the

field with new curriculums that change other schools' programs. I want to be a part of that changing program and bring my 'Captains' perspective to the school."

Christopher Newport left an indelible impression on the organismal biology major. Notes Hansford, who also minored in leadership studies, "Being a Captain for Life reminds me that community is not just a proximity thing. Instead, it is about shared experience with those before and after me who attend CNU. I am forever linked to these people by the common thread of a shared experience."

Hansford is joined in the veterinary program by fellow Christopher Newport graduates Brooke Watson '16, who earned her degree in organismal biology, and Chelsea Pollak '16, who graduated in cellular, molecular and physiological biology.

And while joining the competitive program represents a formidable accomplishment, Hansford continues to set high goals. "I would like to go into a specialty field," he says. "I'm leaning toward being a surgeon, and I would eventually like to start my own clinic." ♦



## Alumnus Wins National Fraternity Award

**THE NORTH-AMERICAN** Interfraternity Conference (NIC) has honored Ryan D'Ercole '16, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Christopher Newport. He received a 2016 NIC Undergraduate Award of Distinction, which recognizes fraternity men who have found in their experience an outlet for developing as both a leader and a better man. Recipients embody the values of their fraternity and expect the same from those with whom they associate.

One of just five national winners, D'Ercole majored in political science with minors in leadership studies and U.S. national security studies. He was active in the President's Leadership Program, Honors Program, club tennis and new-student orientation.



(Left to right): Associate Dean of Students Brian Larson, Riley Little '13, Ryan D'Ercole '16, Assistant Director of Greek Life Spencer Hudec, Peter Mallet '16 and Vice President of Student Affairs Kevin Hughes

D'Ercole currently serves Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity as a regional director – a role that taps into his undergraduate experience. “At CNU I had people invest in me to make me a better man, and now it is my job to do that for other men at other colleges and universities,” he says. “In Greek life I was able to find people who impacted my life dramatically for the better, becoming my role models and closest friends.”



The 1961 Club recently hosted Cecy Cunningham, wife of the late H. Westcott (“Scotty”) Cunningham, Christopher Newport’s first president. Here she visits with CNU junior Kenneth Kidd.

## ‘1961 Club’ Promotes Historical Preservation

**THE CNU ALUMNI SOCIETY** has authorized the creation of the 1961 Historical Preservation Club – “The 1961 Club” for short – to help preserve, commemorate and celebrate Christopher Newport’s rich history. The group’s name reflects the year in which Christopher Newport opened.

Any member of the campus community can join, from students, faculty and staff to alumni and friends of the University. Current projects include setting up Christopher Newport history-themed exhibits at the Gregory P. Klich Alumni House, organizing the papers of former university presidents and establishing a database of CNU military veterans. Future projects may include placing historical markers on campus as well as providing tours.

The group’s board includes Dr. Sean Heuvel, Assistant Professor of Leadership and American Studies (president); Jesse Hutcheson '10 (vice president); Katie Monteith '10, Senior Alumni Relations Officer (secretary); Jan Clarke '68; Amy Boykin '90, Instruction Librarian; and Ron Lowder, First Decader.

**To learn more, contact Sean Heuvel at [sheuvel@cnu.edu](mailto:sheuvel@cnu.edu).**

SAVE THE DATE  
AUGUST 25-26, 2017

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT

ALUMNI  
REUNION  
WEEKEND

CELEBRATING CLASSES

'77 '87 '97 '07







*As of our publication date, members of the Class of 2017 raised over \$100,000 and gifted leadership funds to a full-ride scholarship, the Alumni House, the Faculty Development Fund, and additions and improvements to the James River Courts.*

Mackenzie Abbate	Scott Bledsoe	Joseph Carter	Ryan Densley	Isabella Fortunato	Evelyn Harper
Deborah Acheampong	Ashleigh Blish	Tiffany Cash	Ellis Denson	Randall Foster	Logan Harrington
Griffin Adams	Samuel Blosser	Anna Casserino	Virginia Desantis	Andrew Fournier	Alana Harris
Madelyn Adams	Steven Bock	Maximilian Castelli	Daniel Desjardins	Elizabeth Fox	Jenna Harris
Scott Adams	Vincent Bolden	Kacie Celli	Daniel Deskins	Henry Fox	Michelle Harris
Blake Allen	Peyton Bolling	Adrian Chadwell	Patrick Devens	Taylor Fox	Katelynn Harrison
Lindsey Allen	Callie Boone	Audrey Charlwood	Shelby Dillingham	Jonathan Francis	Stephen Haselton
Gabriel Alvarez	Steven Boslet	Anna Chekalkina	Kelly DiMaria	Kelsey Freeman	Alexie Hazen
Lisa Amato	Ashley Bowles	Ashley Cherry	Michael Dodd	Nicolas Friedl	Nina Heatfield
Jessica Andariese	Erin Boyer	Amber Childress	Alissa Doebler	Christopher Fronczak	Blake Heflin
Ian Anderson	Taylor Boyer	Tyler Chisholm	Allison Dominice	Ashley Frost	Holden Hegmann
Luke Argleben	Daniel Bradbury	Derek Clark	Leah Donlavage	Brent Frost	Matthew Heins
Elizabeth Ashley	Anne Bradley	Heather Clark	Paul Dougherty	Meaghan Galvin	Macie Henderson
Jessica Ashworth	Laura Brady	Jordan Clark	Emily Downer	Michael Gamble	James Herbst
Robert Aveson	Cartha Branham	Lauren Coates	Alexia Dracos	Melissa Garlem	Caroline Herodet
Rebecca Ayala	Megan Bridgewater	Cara Coffin	Grayson Drake	Sarah Garrett	Stonewall Hickman
Madison Bacon	Kathryn Briggs	Joshua Cohen	Marlon Dubuisson	Kathryn Gaskin	Amanda Hicks
Hunter Bailey	Ashley Brooks	Susannah Coleman	Kelly Duggan	Austin Gibbons	Talia Hicks
James Bailey	Abigail Brown	Caroline Collier	Michael Dunn	Mariah Ginebra	Connor Higgins
Chantz Ballard	Breann Brown	Courtney Colon	Michaela Dunow	Katherine Gittman	Alexis Hiles

## CLASS OF 2017 SENIOR GIFT DONORS

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Ryan Bennett	Hollyanne Callahan	Darcy Davidson	Michaela Felter	Lauren Guridy	Charlene Jackson
Hannah Bensen	Katelin Campbell	Emma Davis	Ashley Ferguson	Kara Haberbosch	Kimberly Jackson
Oleva Berard	Zachary Campbell	Darby Deanhofer	Laura Ferullo	Savannah Hager	Matthew Jackson
Erin Bertero	Christian Cannedy	Kelly Deasy	Laura Fielden	Heather Hale	Kami Jacobsen
Jason Baylor	David Capossela	George Decatur	Sara Finley	Lisa Hale	Conal Jaeger
Allison Bildzok	Kathryn Carlson	Keegan Dees	Durrell Fisher	Casey Hall	David Jarman
Brooks Billings	Michelle Carman-McClanahan	Michael Deets	Arttu Fiva	Cole Hall	Abigail Jenkins
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Seth Bishop	Elizabeth Carroll	Adam Demharter	Emily Forbes	Kaitlin Hamer	Molly Johnson
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Christopher Keenan	Matthew Marroquin	Jordan Neri	Casey Purcell	Sarah Shirley	Maggie Turner
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Kaylee Kenna	Josiah Martin	Danielle Norfleet	Jordan Rafferty	Dominique Sidrak	Alexa Vance
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Claudia Kerrigan	Sidney Martin	Quiera Nubie	Amber Reese	Paige Simpson	Christian Wickland
Jacob Kerry	Zachary Martin	Taylor O'Brien	Tiffany Reese	John Sims	Connor Vincent
Kirston Kesler	Taylor Masinsin	Brian O'Connor	Victoria Rehder	Atul Singh	Christian Von Wald
Courtney Kilbourne	Courtney Maskell	Lindsay Odil	Claire Reilly	Crystal Singleton	Megan Walden
Laura Kilgore	Rachel Massey	Marisa Ohngemach	Nicholas Respass	Fiona Nicole Sityar	Shelby Walker
Christopher Kim	Samantha Massey	Julie Olafsson	Nicholas Restrepo	Ashley Skurpski	Morgan Wall
Rachel King	Francesca Mathers	Abigail Olson	Krystalee Revanna	Jonathan Slack	Hannah Wallen
Nicholas Kirschke	Tabia Matthews	Grant Olson	Kassandra Reyes	Brianna Smith	Kayla Walling
Victoria Kirzl	Yeting Mattos	Hannah Olman	Timothy Richard	Noelle Smith	Matthew Walseman
Kathryn Klaus	Margaret Maver	Grayson O'Reilly	Gabrielle Richardson	Shona Smith	Colin Walsh
Rebecca Klopp	Cara Mayberry	Meghan O'Reilly	Devin Rieley	Maegana Snell	Heather Ward
Malia Krahn	John McAndrew	Malik Outram	Ashley Rizzo	Karina Soles	Adeeba Waris
Kylie Krohmaly	Margaret McBrady	Daniel Overbeek	Douglas Robb	Jennifer Sperry	Kristen Washington
Amy Kube	Robert McCartney	Whitney Pace	Elizabeth Robertson	Robyn Spitzer	Deanna Watford
Timothy Laboy-Coparropa	Savannah McDonough	Dagney Palmer	Mary Robertson	Kelly Springer	Mary Watt
Chanda Lackie	John McGuinness	Matthew Panzica	Gil Robinson	Kirstyn St. Pierre	Jessica Webb
John Lagos	Ian McKellips	Cassie Parkins	Robert Rodgers	Kelly Stallard	Kennedy Weis
Katherine Lamarsh	Brian McKelvey	Kortnie Parks	Spencer Rodgers	Chloe Starnes	Jordan Weisberg
Samantha Lambert	Samantha McLaughlin	Christopher Patrick	Julia Rodriguez	Julia Stelter	Kaitlin Welker
Jackson Lane	Daniel McMahon	Joshua Patterson	Shamatee Rookwood	Leslie Stephen	Rebecca Westin
Kelsey Langford	Joshua McMillion	Brian Paulus	Corey Rosenberg	Briana Stewart	Katie Wewerka
Paul LaPointe	Cassidy McNeely	Casey Paxton	Steven Rosendahl	Katherine Stine	Haley White
Olivia Lassiter	Sarah McPherson	Allison Payne	Kaitlin Ross	Theodora Stinson	Matthew White
Paul Latimer	Allie McWilliams	Shannon Payne	Michyanna Ross	Jordan Stuart	Jillian Whitehurst
Jordan Latorre	William Mea	Rose Paz	Robert Ross	Karlin Stuckey	Leah Widdifield
Stephanie Layton-Slone	John Mealia	Shelby Peacock	Rayna Rossini	Lauren Sturman	Daniel Wiese
Caclinh Le	Rachel Meggers	Erin Peake	Anthony Rouleau	Alexandra Sullivan	Elizabeth Wilder
Ana Leahy	Eva Melendez	Charles Peavley	Corbin Rowell	Sheridan Suminski	David Will
Stephanie Lee	Bailey Mellott	Nathan Pede	Nathaniel Rucker	Katie Survello	Alexa Williams
Morgan Legatie	Miranda Menk	William D. Pell	Jolsuan Ruiz	Briana Sutton	Bryan Williams
Stephanie Lehman	Kara Michaelian	William H. Pell	Molly Russo	Elias Swadener	Jill Williams
Sydney Lehrman	Lindsay Mikel	Clarissa Perkins	Jenna Ryan	Stephanie Swift	Rachel Willinger
Benjamin Leistensnider	Mary Elizabeth Miles	Emilee Perkins	Jeanette Rybarczyk	Swetha Talluri	Kirsten Wimberg
Heather Lemaster	Abigail Miller	Kierra Perry	Trent Saffin	Lindsey Tate	Zachary Winne
Mary Lemoynes	Benjamin Miller	Victoria Perry	Anna Saldanha	Samuel Tate	Ian Wise
Mary Leonard	Michaela Miller	Stephen Person	Elizabeth Samios	Victoria Taylor	Kendra Wisinski
Justin Lewis	Sarah Miller	Sean Peters	Alexandra Sandborn	Emily Teller	Evan Withrow
Krista Lewis	Peyton Mills	Nicholas Peterson	Maddisen Sarnecki	Joseph Theis	Hollie Woodcock
Myka Lewis	Sarah Mims	Lauren Picard	Mitchell Saunders	Alyssa Thibodeau	Carol Woods
Nicole Lichty	Christina Mirda	Kristen Pierce	Jacob Savinsky	Abigail Thomas	Christopher Woods
Jeffery Lilliston	Addie Mister	Jacquelyn Pileckas	Maria Saptura	Alexandra Thomas	Abigail Wright
Kathryn Lilly	Katherine Mock	Brian Pisarcik	Laura Schmitt	Jonathan Thomas	Kristy Wright
Caroline Linane	Madison Mograbi	Elizabeth Piwowarski	Alexandria Schweiger	Lauren Thomas	Cecily Wynne
Emily Lindblad	Laura Monahan	Brendan Player	Mackenzie Scott	Sydney Intolubbe Thomas	Marina Xander
Shelby Locke	Duncan Monroe	Tori Poarch	Samantha Scott	Benjamin Thompson	Megan Yardis
Henrique Ludwig	Evan Monroe	Bethany Porter	Samuel Scott	Eric Thompson	Colleen Yates
Alicia Lurie	Anderson Moore	Christine Porter	Jessica Scruggs	James Thomson	George Yeargin
YoCherng Lyang	Sarah Moore	Austin Powers	Kaitlyn Seay	Samuel Thomson	Abigail Yoder
Erin Mabry	Selena Moore	Trevor Prag	McKenna Seeley	Sarah Thorne	Heather Ziegler
Kalle Mace	Abrille Morales	Hayley Premo	Marshall Segars	Michael Thorpe	Erin Zirpoli
Megan MacLane	Alison Morgan	Madeleine Price	Madison Setness	Asa Townsend	
Maelyn Mahoney	Margaret Morrill	Casey Priestley	Emily Shareff	Thao Tran	
Mitchell Mahoney	Samantha Morrison	Jessica Prillaman	Bradley Shaw	Peter Trant	

*Includes undergraduate  
candidates from  
May 2017*



# class

## Career Announcements

### 1970s



**Melissa Kinard '75** earned a master's degree and PhD in science education after graduating from Christopher Newport. She taught high school science for 26 years and is an adjunct instructor at Georgia Gwinnett College in Lawrenceville.

**Myra Smith '76** was named regional director for Family Preservation Services of Virginia/Pathway and is based in Hampton. She oversees operational aspects of mental health services in seven jurisdictions within Hampton Roads.

### 1990s

**Donna Phillips '92** was recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Pinnacle Professional in the field of government human resources development. She was the talent development officer for NASA Langley Research Center from 2006 to 2016.

**Jennifer Dunn '95** was promoted to vice president of communications at Newport News Shipbuilding.

**Rebecca (Duckwall) Ramey '96** was named 2017 Teacher of the Year at Rummel Creek Elementary in Houston, Texas. A second-grade teacher, she is in her third year at the school.

### 2002



Master Detective **Russ Crandol '02** of the Prince William Police Department in Manassas was promoted to sergeant in December 2016. As a detective in the Property Crimes Unit, he spent more than five years investigating auto theft before becoming the department's pawn coordinator.

**Kathryn Gerard, CF APMP, '02**, passed the Association of Proposal Management Professionals (APMP) Foundation Level Exam in December 2016 and earned her APMP Foundation certification. She is a proposal manager at Ishpi Information Technologies Inc. in Suffolk and lives in Hampton.

### 2004

As a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual, **Jacqueline L. Condict '04** assists individuals, families and business owners across the country through financial planning and risk management.

Music Makes You Happy Entertainment, the company of **Chris Rice '04**, was named by the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce as the Small Business of the Year for the city of Suffolk.

### 2005



**Robert May Jr. '05** joined Amazon in 2015 as an operations manager. In January 2017 he changed roles to a fulfillment center launch manager. May is responsible for launching new Amazon facilities throughout North America. He also recently got engaged to his fiancé, Mary Jared. They are planning a January 2018 wedding in Nashville, Tennessee.

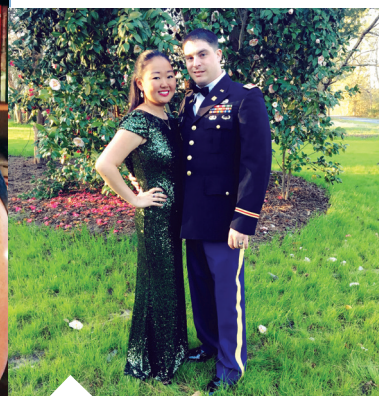
**Dan McCleese '05** was named a captain for Prince William County Fire and Rescue. With this promotion he serves as station commander for the Coles District Station outside Manassas.



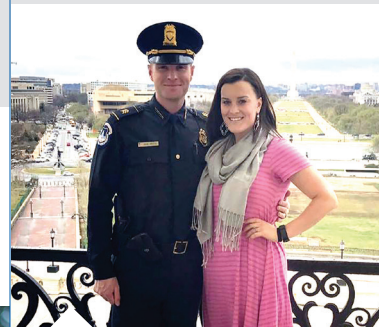
### 2006

**Michael Pierce '06** completed a judicial clerkship with the Newport News Circuit Court in January 2017. He is now an associate attorney with Vandeventer Black LLP in the firm's Norfolk office.

### 2007



**Kevin A. Dean '07** was promoted to major in the U.S. Army. He was selected for Resident ILE and will be moving to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with his wife, **Natalie (Robinson) Dean '08**, who currently teaches third grade in Hampton, and his son, Logan.



**Gene Petty '07** was promoted to sergeant with the United States Capitol Police in Washington, D.C. He serves as a supervisory special agent with the group's Dignitary Protective Service. Petty lives in Broad Run with his wife, **Kelly (Chohany '07)**, and their two sons, Luke and Parker.



## 2009

**Paul Clegg '09** and **Cindy (Waterson) Clegg '09** are enjoying life in Yorktown raising their son, Colton. In 2016 Paul opened his own Farmers Insurance agency in Yorktown; among all new agents during his first six months he finished No. 1 in the East Coast region for life insurance policies. He serves his alma mater as an executive mentor for the Luter School of Business.

**Kristen LaRiviere '09** was accepted to the higher education PhD program at the University of Maryland, College Park. She will study the impact of rankings on resource allocations at professional schools while continuing to work at the Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland.

## 2010

**Amanda Veinott '10** launched a military talent consulting firm, Miligistix LLC, in 2016 and has started a new division of the company called Squared Away VA. Veinott employs military spouses across the U.S. who work as consultants in a virtual administrator capacity. She helps companies recruit, hire, retain and engage veterans, military spouses and members of the National Guard and Reserves.

## 2011

**Catherine Borgeson '11** joined Eye-Specialists of Mid-Florida, P.A. at the Winter Haven location. After CNU she attended Salus University and Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

**Natalie Browning '11** earned her master's of library science in 2014 from the University of North Texas online.

She is a research services librarian at Longwood University in Farmville. Browning teaches information literacy skills, in addition to being the library liaison to several departments.

## 2012

**Hilary Kolodziej '12** is a burn trauma ICU nurse at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. Previously she was an ICU nurse at Maryview Medical Center.



Photo credit:  
Bennett Scarborough

**Dr. Lindsey Turner '12** earned her doctor of pharmacy and master's of science in clinical research from Campbell University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She resides in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she is a pharmacist for Walgreens.

## 2013

**Mike Bliley '13** graduated from George Mason Law School, was admitted to the Virginia Bar and now works as an associate attorney for a workers compensation firm in Fairfax.



Shortly after graduation, **Ashley Payne '13** found herself in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. In 2016 she launched a small business with her partner called the French BrewDog Bakery, which makes all-natural dog treats using healthy, nutritious ingredients and spent grain from local breweries. Payne now sells her products at shops throughout the area.

**Taylor Quinn '13** has been running his own business, Filmspire, for over a year. A video production and video marketing company in Richmond, Filmspire works with small businesses, nonprofits and faith-based organizations to create films that inspire action. Quinn has created videos for such organizations as the Tim Tebow Foundation and the YWCA, plus businesses like Buskey Cider and Engine and Frame.

After many years working in marketing at a Newport News nonprofit, **Serena D'Angelo '13** is now an account manager for 501 Auctions in Richmond. She helps nonprofit organizations create websites for their auctions while also attending their events and serving as event manager.

**Kevin Garcia '13** has written his first book, *The Bridges We Burn: Modern Christianity, the LGBTQ Community, and How We Move Forward Together*. He hopes to publish it in 2018.





**Elena Robertson '13** is the development coordinator of individual giving at NPR headquarters in Washington, D.C. She began serving in this role last September.

## 2014

**Vivian Agcanas '14** will attend medical school at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines, as a member of the Class of 2021.

**Elena Colón-Marrero '14** is the digital processing archivist at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California, and resides in San Mateo.

**Grace Currier '14** was selected in 2015 to participate in the Walt Disney World College Program and spent a year working at the most magical place on Earth in entertainment costuming, working on parades and shows at the Magic Kingdom. She now teaches English and coaches a thriving theater program at a high school in Marion County, Florida, and enjoys being involved in Ocala's community theater. Currier most recently directed "The Tempest" for Florida's District 12 one-act competition.

**Jessica Eichlin '14** has accepted a position as photographs manager at the West Virginia and Regional History Center, part of the West Virginia University Library system. She moved to Morgantown in 2016.

**Arielle Iley '14** is returning to Hampton Roads after obtaining a master's in physician assistant studies from MCPHS University in New England. Iley looks forward to practicing with Sentara Medical Group in Norfolk starting this year.



**Emily Schulz '14** lives in Los Angeles, California, and was recently promoted at Independent Studio Services. She creates props for many feature films and TV shows. Due to her promotion she now exclusively makes props for Marvel films, such as "The Avengers," "Guardians of the Galaxy," "Spider-Man" and "Black Panther." Additionally, Schulz works part time on the TV show "The Fosters."



As of January 2017, **Nicholas Sherwood '14** is in the first master's program cohort in human rights and peace studies at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Under the tutelage of a former CNU professor (Dr. Tina Kempin Reuter), Sherwood helps run the Institute for Human Rights at UAB as a graduate researcher.

## 2015

**Mary Lukasiewicz '15** graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and is now a police officer in Portland, Maine.



## 2016

**Sarah Wagner '16** will receive a master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in December. She is studying technology, innovation and education and looks forward to a career in educational technology.





## Wedding Announcements

On August 2, 2017, **Ignacio Novo '83** and his wife, Dee Noe Novo, celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. They continue to reside in Cartersville, Georgia, with their three children.

**Heather (Jones) Shaeffer '06** and Michael Shaeffer were married in Reston at St. John Neumann Catholic Church on December 10, 2016. The reception took place at Belmont Country Club in Ashburn, and they reside in Reston. Heather works for a government contractor as a senior intelligence recruiter; Michael works in the political field in Fairfax.

**Chris Inzirillo '09** and Bridget Resetco were married in October 2016 in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. They reside and work in central Connecticut where they continue to support the Captains from afar with occasional visits to campus as Chris serves on the Alumni Society Board of Directors.

Photo credit: Jill Nobles



**Caroline (Morris) Rossiello '08** married David Rossiello at Washington and Lee University in Lexington on August 6, 2016. They live in Severna Park, Maryland.



**Jillian (Viar) Engle '10** married Austin Engle on October 8, 2016, in Lynchburg at the Craddock Terry Hotel and Event Center. They met and currently reside in Phoenix, Arizona. Austin works for GoDaddy while Jillian is house manager of the music theater in the Musical Instrument Museum.

**Erin (Rist) Corder '11** and Ryan Corder were married June 7, 2015, at Alhambra Hall in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. The entrepreneurs own various small businesses, including an eco-friendly cleaning company, a financial forecast modeling company and additional side projects. They reside in Mt. Pleasant with their two dogs.

**Mandy (Faber) Bradley '09** married Taylor Bradley on September 4, 2015, at the Salamander Resort in Middleburg. They reside in Centreville with their two dogs.



**Jessica (Gaffney) Saadut '09** married Wahed Saadut on April 25, 2015. She is the catering manager at the Farmington Country Club in Charlottesville, where the couple resides.



Photo credit: Suzanne Pfeiffer of Carl Street Photography and Design



**Spencer (Hare) Wagy '09** and Joshua Wagy were married at Cedar Point Farm in Petersburg on November 5, 2016. Spencer works in the human resource department at Smithfield Foods; Joshua works for Dupont Chemicals. They reside in Dinwiddie.

**Sarah Doble '11, MAT '12** and Andrew Palanzi were married August 6, 2016, at the Winery at Bull Run in Centreville. She teaches first grade in Prince William County, and he is an attorney throughout Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. The couple lives in Centreville with their greyhound, Minnie.





**Victoria Spencer '13, MAT '14** and Connor MacEntee were married July 15, 2016, at Doraldo's in Williamsburg. She is employed as a high school teacher with Newport News Public Schools. Connor is currently employed by Verizon Wireless. They reside in Yorktown.



**Katelin R. Shafer '11** married childhood sweetheart John P. Ruggie on October 29, 2016, at the Williamsburg Inn. Both originally from St. Charles, Illinois, they now reside in Williamsburg. Katelin is employed by Ferguson Enterprises.



**Maria Cascio '16** and Andrew Fournier were married July 17, 2016, at Faithbrooke Barn & Vineyards in Luray. The couple has settled in Newport News.



**Deanna Trail '11** married Jacob Salm on April 1, 2017, at the Daniel Memorial Chapel in Greenville, South Carolina. Fellow Captains Tori Trail '14, Erica Dean '08 and Sarah Klenk '12 were members of the bridal party. The couple resides in Mauldin, South Carolina.

**Ashley Steptoe '13** married Josh Senior on October 7, 2016, at Pinstripes Georgetown in Washington, D.C. Bridesmaids included Alyssa Steptoe '15, Codi Carter '12 and Emily Ellison '11. The bride and groom are both teachers and reside in Washington, D.C.

**Danielle Dwight '14** married Quinn Adams on May 28, 2016, at Saint John's Church in Warrenton, followed by a reception at the Middleburg Community Center. They currently live in Richmond. Danielle is a project manager at Capital One; Quinn is a lawyer at Hunton and Williams.

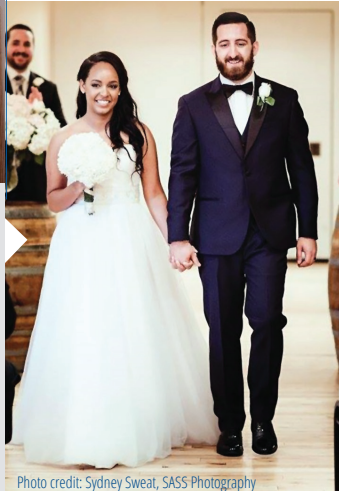


Photo credit: Sydney Sweat, SASS Photography

**Jaime Harris '16** and Christopher Parrish were married October 15, 2016, at Harley's Haven in Windsor. Jaime is the media and program coordinator for the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce. Christopher works at the Newport News Shipyard. The couple resides in Carrollton.



Photo credit: Emily Borsari Photography



## Captains Marrying Captains

**Kevin Lyles '85 and Lisa (Reece) Lyles '85** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Kevin is a member of the Christopher Newport Alumni Society Board of Directors.

**Caitlyn Jansen '11** married **Sean Moriarty '13** on July 30, 2016, at the Chapel of the Centurion in Fort Monroe.



Photo credit: Laura Lou Photography



**Christy Myren '08 and Jason Scheel '07** were married July 23, 2016, at Raspberry Plain in Leesburg. Their wedding party included several CNU grads and current students: Allison (Scheel) Van Every '08, Jeff Myren '10, Kyle Myren '17 and Matt Coleman '07. The photographer was the bride's freshman-year roommate, Laura (Hemleben) Gooch '08 and her husband, Jeremy. The couple lives in Arlington where Christy teaches seventh-grade history for Fairfax County and Jason works for Deloitte in Arlington.

**Brandon Clark '09 and Lauren (Rowley) Clark '11** are celebrating their third wedding anniversary. They were married at the Pope Chapel in May 2014. They celebrated son Liam's first birthday in March. Brandon works for the Department of Justice, and Lauren is an elementary school teacher for Fairfax County Public Schools. They reside in Woodbridge.



Photo credit: Alessandra Photography

**Stephanie (Araujo) Kline '11, MAT '12 and Edward Kline III '11** were married June 25, 2016, in their hometown of Williamsburg.



Photo credit: Studio J Photography



On June 13, 2013, **Erin (MacDonald) Reidelbach '11** married **Justin Reidelbach '12** in Norfolk at the Half Moone Celebration Center. She is an oncology nurse at the Virginia Cancer Institute; he is an intelligence analyst at Leidos. They live in Richmond with two "fur babies," a pitbull named Kaja and a morkie named Callie.



Photo credit: Michael Dragon

**Marcus Rondeau '12** and **Samantha (Godsey) Rondeau '12** were married this past June at Cousiac Manor in Lanexa, surrounded by several members of their CNU family. The couple has settled into a new home in Purcellville.



**Erica (Herbst) Clatterbuck '12** married **William (Bill) Clatterbuck '13** on October 11, 2016, in St. Thomas during a wedding cruise through the Caribbean. They reside in Yorktown. Bill works at Ferguson while Erica is employed by Enterprise Holdings.

**Emily (Cole) Howard '12** and **Grant Howard '09** were married October 15, 2016, at Airlie in Warrenton. She is a production editor for George Mason University Publishing, and he is a senior business analyst for Cubic. They live in Vienna.



Photo credit: Sedward Wheeler Photography

**Paige Koch '13** and **Joe Hamm '10** were married October 1, 2016, at Norfolk Botanical Gardens surrounded by family and friends, along with CNU alumni in the wedding party. They live in the Ghent neighborhood of Norfolk with their dog, Luna. Joe is the program and media manager for Soundscapes, a nonprofit dedicated to teaching music to at-risk youth; Paige alternates between teaching yoga around Hampton Roads and serving as a recruiter with a staffing agency.

Photo credit: Kate Winston with Once Like a Spark Photography



**Emily Lafountain '13** and **Bryan Moyer '13** were married October 22, 2016, at Keswick Vineyards in Charlottesville. She is a social worker with Newport News Public Schools; he is the assistant registrar at Christopher Newport.

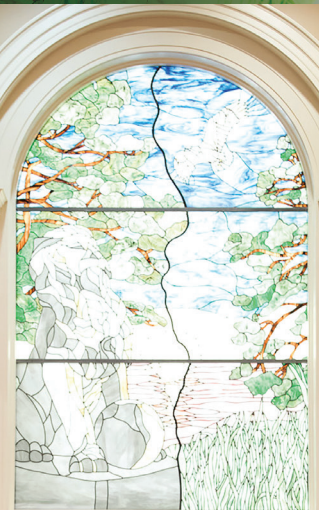


Photo credit: Justin Hamkins Photography

**Amanda (Hupp) Welch '11** and **Derek Welch '08** were married October 8, 2016, at the Pope Chapel. They reside in Newport News. He works for Huntington Ingalls (shipyard), and she was recently promoted to catering sales manager with the Newport News Marriott at City Center.





**Ashley Loera '13** and **Jordan Cardenas '13** were married in Middleburg at St. Stephen's Catholic Church on November 12, 2016. The couple recently moved to Washington state. Ashley is an occupational therapist at Handworks Northwest, PLLC; Jordan is a medical laboratory scientist at Tri-Cities Laboratory.

Photo credit: Sam Stroud



**Amy (Bartgis) Ryan '14** and **Christopher Ryan '14** were married May 21, 2016, at the Pope Chapel and The Mariners' Museum. Amy is assistant director of alumni and parent giving at CNU, and Christopher is a network analyst at the Newport News Shipyard and a first lieutenant in the Virginia National Guard.



**Jonathan Logothety '13** and **Melissa Logothety '14** were married May 7, 2016, in Virginia Beach at the Hilton Oceanfront Hotel. They live in Hampton where she works at the NASA-Langley Child Care Center; he is a general manager at Domino's in Newport News.

After meeting as CNU sophomores and sharing five happy years together, **Alexander Hurd '14** and **Mónica Bonilla '14** were married June 26, 2016, at Stevenson Ridge in Spotsylvania. Residents of Alexandria, he is a senior consultant with Booz Allan Hamilton, and she works for the Prince William County Public Library System while pursuing a master's degree in library and information science.

Photo credit: Sara Robertson with Wolfcrest Photography



**Ward Strickland '14** and **Samantha Webber '14, MAT '15** were married at the Pope Chapel on July 9, 2016. A reception was held in the DSU Ballroom. They reside in Portsmouth.



Photo credit: Marie Violet Photography

On August 6, 2016, **Marissa Welch '13** married **Samuel O'Neil '15** at St. Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg. The wedding party included maid of honor Kalee Hammerton '13, Jessie Sprouse '13, MAT '14, Brittany Heller '13 and C.J. Adcock '15. The couple resides in Norfolk where Sam is a housing specialist for Commonwealth Catholic Charities and Marissa is the director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Old Dominion University.



Photo credit: Debbie Dean '13 Photography

**Matthew Kerr '15** and **Allie (Hackbarth) Kerr '15** got married at Wyndridge Farms on June 11, 2016. She is director of Stick Power Field Hockey while he works for the National Sales Center at Ferguson Enterprises. They are the parents of a 3-year-old coonhound named Leo.



Photo credit: Adam Mason Photography



## Future Captains



**Eric Gambardella '05, Beth Gambardella '05** and big brother Julian welcomed Faith Leigh to the world on September 2, 2016. The couple serves as the InterVarsity staff at CNU, and Eric also owns and operates Surf & Sound Events, LLC, which he founded in 2014. They live near campus in Newport News.



**Bridget (Heller) Prince '07** and **Philip Prince '05** announce the birth of son Andrew James on December 7, 2016, in Richmond. He joins big sister Alexandra.

**SaraLynn Glessner '08** and Daniel Goergen welcomed their second son, James Thomas, on September 30, 2016. They reside in Newport News. SaraLynn serves as coordinator of educational support services at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton.



**Catherine (Bowersox) Posey '08** and **John Posey '07** announce the birth of son Tristan Daniel on July 21, 2016. He joins big sister Genevieve Maren, age 4.



**Kristin (Brickley) Hilleary '06** and **Mike Hilleary '06** welcomed son Noah in June 2016. He joined big brother Sam.

**Ashley (Kristiansen) Pierce '06** and her husband, Darren Pierce, welcomed their second child, June Carter, on December 23, 2016. The family lives in Cary, North Carolina.



Campbell Kay Rogers was born February 1, 2017, to parents **Chandler (Long) Rogers '09, MAT '10** and Matthew Rogers. Chandler teaches at Lee-Jackson Elementary School, and Matthew works for Anheuser-Busch.

**Jennifer Grigsby '10** and her husband, Brandon, welcomed a baby girl, Evelyn, on September 9, 2016, in Fishersville.





Photo credit: Capturing Life Photography

**Christina (Hermansderfer) Cashen '11** and Chris Cashen announce the birth of their daughter Evelyn Marie on February 22, 2017. She was welcomed by big sister Elaina (age 2) and big brother Nate (4). The Cashens reside in California.

**Kayleigh (Llewellyn) Deihl '11** and her husband, Bryan Deihl, welcomed a baby boy on September 11, 2016. Charlie is a healthy and happy little Captain in the making.

**Sabina (Pedini) Furbiee '11** and **Brent Furbiee '11** are proud to announce the birth of their son, Emerson Lee. He arrived August 26, 2016. The family resides in Johnson City, Tennessee.



Photo credit: Simply Newborn Studio



**Travis Williams '11** and **Anna Williams '11** of Manassas welcomed their son, Owen Scott, on May 25, 2016.



**Daniel Gordon '12** and **Diana (Cox) Gordon '12** announce the birth of their first child, Kylie Marie Gordon, born November 18, 2016, in Newport News.



Richard and **Jennifer Wheeler '11** welcomed their first child, James Wesley Wheeler, on August 28, 2016. They reside in Henrico where Richard works as an auditor and Jennifer is an attorney.



Finn Thomas McNutt was born to **Taryn Langley '13** and Bruce McNutt on January 21, 2017, at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. Langley is a doctor of physical therapy and currently practices in Jacksonville.



# In Memoriam

## ALUMNI

**Ethel Lee Daniel Gouger '74**

**Robert W. Lawrence '77**

**Ronald Meade Watkins '77**

**Chester S. McCreary '78**

**Ford Collins Swan Sr. '78**

**Nancy Christina Morris '79**

**James Key Rindfleisch '80**

**Thomas Bradley '81**

**Lori Ann Life Velardi '84**

**Carolyn M. Wiggins '88**

**Lucy T. Arnold '89**

**Craig Stuart Bryant '90**

**Susan Buckingham Towler '97**

## FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**Rev. Douglas Burgoyne** died on February 5, 2017. He served as priest in numerous Episcopalian churches over a period of 56 years, including the St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Newport News from 1975-91. In 1987 the Burgoyne family established an endowed scholarship in their daughter's memory: Marion J. Burgoyne Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Rev. Burgoyne's son, William B. Burgoyne of Richmond '89, is a graduate of Christopher Newport.

**Coach William Dee** died on February 23, 2017. He dedicated 30 years of his life to the youth of Hampton Roads. After serving two seasons as an assistant coach for the Christopher Newport football team, he went on to serve at other area colleges and high schools before retiring in 2016.

**Mark Jeffery Hancock**, a Newport News native, died on March 8, 2017. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Lucy Ann, and was employed first with Basic Construction Company and later W.M. Jordan Company. In 2004 the couple established the Mark J. and Lucy Ann W. Hancock Endowed Scholarship through their estate plans.

**Norman Hardee** of Mclean died on June 18, 2016. He is survived by Linda Mahanes Hardee, his wife of 50 years, and a daughter and two sons. He started working at Fass Brothers Seafood in 1965 and later started Fass Brothers Seafood House restaurants, expanding this into a chain with locations in Virginia and North Carolina. He started the Chesapeake Bay Seafood House Restaurants in 1974 and opened over 100 restaurants throughout his career. Chesapeake Bay Associates also owns and operates Chesapeake Bay Packing, a seafood processing plant in Newport News. The Hardees supported Christopher Newport through generous gifts to the Paul and Rosemary Tribble Endowed Scholarship and the Alan and Beverly Diamonstein Endowed Scholarship.

**Jeffrey M. Masterson** died on January 7, 2017. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy with a BS in mathematics and served in the United States Navy Submarine Force for 30 years. Masterson is survived by his wife of 30 years, LuAnn Barr Rardin Masterson, and daughters Samantha Masterson Kuenzer and MacKenzie

Masterson '15. Currently, MacKenzie is part of the Christopher Newport family working with the LifeLong Learning Society. Masterson left his legacy through establishing a charitable foundation in the name of Henry L. and Grace Doherty Foundation Biology Fund, which provides Christopher Newport biology students with hands-on field study to further their learning and interest in marine biology in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

### **Virginia State Senator John**

**Miller**, a lifelong public servant and advocate for children and education, died on April 4, 2016. When Christopher Newport President Paul Tribble was in the U.S. Senate, Miller served as a top aide. He was also a former vice president for University Advancement at Christopher Newport. In 2007 Miller was elected to the Virginia State Senate and worked tirelessly to ensure every child in Virginia receives the best education possible. He was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

**Hobart Speegle Jr.** died on January 23, 2017. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather

and the cherished patriarch of the Speegle clan who served as a role model for faith, family and wisdom. In 1999 he established an endowed scholarship in honor of his wife, Jane B. Speegle '74. Speegle was also a member of "The Greatest Generation."

**Anne Doug Spencer** died on September 18, 2016. She is survived by her husband of almost 56 years, Charles R. Spencer Jr., and two sons. She graduated from Salem Academy in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and from Stratford College in Danville. She and Charles have been faithful supporters of the arts, scholarships and CNU's Wason Center for Public Policy.

**Robert (Bob) Tilden Taylor Sr.** died on November 27, 2016. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Margaret (Margo) D. Taylor, and two sons. In 1999 the couple established the Taylor Foundation Endowed Scholarship, and they have been ardent supporters of Christopher Newport through various efforts, such as the Pope Chapel and Ferguson Center for the Arts. Margo served on the Christopher Newport University Board of Visitors from 2010 to 2014.

## EMERITUS FACULTY

**Professor Emeritus of Accounting Don Riley** died on January 25, 2017. He was the first full-time business faculty member at Christopher Newport College. Riley attended Newport News High School and was a graduate of William & Mary. Above all,

he loved animals, especially his dogs, Leo and Princess.

### **Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Religious Studies**

**Dr. Richard Beauchamp** died on December 23, 2016. His education was extensive with a BA from Randolph

Macon College, an MDiv from Yale University School of Theology and a PhD in ethics from Duke University. Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, Beauchamp won numerous scholarships and awards and produced many publications. With a number of talents, he proved himself

able in several careers, which were crowned by 22 years at Christopher Newport where he became a tenured professor of philosophy. He was a longtime favorite instructor for CNU's Lifelong Learning Society and served the University in many other capacities.



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