

Our beloved colleague and friend Patty Patten has decided the time has come to retire and return home to West Virginia and her family.

No one has contributed more to the dramatic transformation and success of Christopher Newport University. Patty's boundless enthusiasm and energy, her passion for our students and her able leadership have produced remarkable results over the past thirteen years.

Compare where we were when Patty arrived on our campus in the summer of 1997 and where we are today.

	<u>1997</u>	<u>2010</u>
Applications	1397	8364
Enrolled	682	1200 (est)
GPA	2.8	3.7
SAT	974	1204

Few schools in America, if any, have achieved the exploding applications and soaring quality that CNU has experienced during the Patten years.

But we will also miss Patty's special spirit as captured in her letter to Maury O'Connell announcing her retirement.

Dear Maury,

Well, here we are. A long journey behind us and a new one to come.

These years have been the most exciting of my life professionally, and it's been thrilling to be part of the many changes at CNU. I've had a loving and wonderful staff, great friends and colleagues, and, of course, a world class boss.

I will miss you very much. After all, I finally understand your dialect really well. Ours has been a cross cultural synergy!

And of course I will miss the students. Their laughter is my fountain of youth.

But I take with me so many great memories-the events when the President and I "made up great stories of things to come (I think he's bought me more birthday dinners than anyone else in the last 13 years since we were always on the road!);" the laughs with you, Cindi, and I as we pondered our "missions impossible;" the chance to touch lives of students and families; and the results I see every day when I look out my window.

My plan is to make the start of my retirement June 1. My heart will be both heavy and light as I spring into the new world of freedom just around the corner.

I will never forget the life I had at CNU.

With my very best wishes and deepest gratitude,

*Patty Patten
Dean of Admissions*

Patty, please know that we will never forget you and your presence will always be etched in our hearts and in the success of Christopher Newport University.

Sincerely,
Paul Tribble