

W&M

AROUND THE WREN



Sherman Cohen, Tom Brokaw, Sandra Day O'Connor and Linda Lavin '59 gather with students before the Commencement ceremony on May 18.

Brokaw Addresses Class of 2009

Longtime Anchor: Make Bucks but Also Make A Difference ~ ERIN ZAGURSKY, W&M NEWS

The soggy morning weather could not dampen the spirits of the Class of 2009 as they entered William and Mary Hall on May 17 for the College's 2009 Commencement ceremony. Inside, they were greeted by warm words of encouragement from world-renowned journalist Tom Brokaw, this year's Commencement speaker, who told graduates they were all on history's "scorecard" now. ~ "We may not have given you a perfect world, but we have given you dynamic opportunities for leaving a lasting legacy as a generation that was fearless and imaginative, tireless and selfless in pursuit of solutions to these monumental problems, a generation that emerged from this financial tsunami and rebuilt the financial landscape of their lives with an underpinning of sound values and an eye for proportion, knowing in fact that on some occasions, less can be more," said Brokaw.

~ Brokaw received an honorary degree during the ceremony, along with theater and television actress Linda Lavin '59 and philanthropist and real estate developer Sherman Cohen. Brokaw and Cohen received the honorary degree of doctor of humane letters, and Lavin received the honorary degree of doctor of arts. ~ During her brief remarks, Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor encouraged the graduates to always remember their *alma mater*. ~ "You will leave here to start developing the rest of your lives and your futures," she said. "Do it well, but along the way, never forget why you came to William and Mary. It will always be part of your future." ~ Later, the graduates heard from Brokaw, currently a special correspondent for NBC. Brokaw served as anchor and managing editor of *NBC Nightly News* for 21 years, before stepping down in 2004. ~ Brokaw said that in preparation for his speech, he had asked Jon Stewart '84, D.A. '04, a College alumnus and the host of Comedy Central's

The Daily Show, what words he associated with William and Mary. Stewart gave William and Mary's commencement address in 2004.

"He thought for a moment and he said: 'Just four words. Paul's Deli cheese fries,'" said Brokaw, receiving laughter and cheers from the audience.

The highly acclaimed journalist said that in all of his travels, he is always most impressed by "the idealistically young, the courageous and gifted members of your age group who are the foot soldiers in the long march to ease human suffering.

"Those kinds of commitments need not take up every day of your life, but they will enrich it if you make a conscientious effort to dedicate some of your time on this precious planet to helping your fellow men and women who are not as fortunate as you are," he said.

In closing, Brokaw offered a variation on his usual final words for similar occasions. "It's a lot tougher to make a buck these days, but making a real difference has its own rich reward," he said. "So go forth, make some bucks, but most of all make a difference, and you'll find how rewarding this life can be."

Student speaker Justin Schoonmaker '09,

a philosophy major, spoke about how he did not get accepted to William and Mary at first and how he learned through that experience that he could choose how to react to that "rejection."

"I wonder if the difference between those who accomplish great things in life and those who dwell in the shadows of mediocrity is their response to failure," he said. "Because we can choose to be thwarted. Or, we can choose to overcome. William and Mary — one of the finest colleges in the nation — has bred us to overcome."

The College awarded approximately 1,400 undergraduate and 760 graduate degrees during the ceremony. Among the graduates was Dillon Niederhut '09, who earned a perfect 4.0 GPA. Also among the graduates were eight ROTC cadets who were commissioned into the Army, and one student who

was commissioned into the Marine Corps. Also receiving her degree was Emily Johnson '09, the College's first graduate from its Coast Guard Auxiliary detachment, the first of its kind in the nation.

The undergraduate class set a new record with their donations to the class gift, with 76 percent of the class participating. Additionally, 83 percent of the law school's graduating class participated. Together, the Class of 2009 pledged about \$200,000 to William and Mary.

Reveley praised the graduates for their academic excellence, athletic prowess, commitment to serve others and embracement of diversity.

He said: "You are entitled to the pleasure and satisfaction of seeing William and Mary move powerfully into the 21st century: your century."



The eager Class of 2009 assembled in William and Mary Hall's Kaplan Arena to celebrate the conferral of degrees before departing for individual departmental ceremonies. Roughly 1,400 undergraduate and 760 graduate degrees were awarded during Commencement weekend.



PHOTOS: STEPHEN SALPUKAS AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

[AWARDS]

Lord Botetourt Medal

Kelly Hallinger '09, biology major and Phi Beta Kappa member

James Frederic Carr Memorial Cup

Bryan J. Terrill '09, double major in international relations and Russian studies and Phi Beta Kappa member

The Thatcher Prize for Excellence

Cullen Drescher J.D. '09, law

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Awards

Kevin Dua '09, Adeela Tajdar '09 and **Sandra J. Wilms**, executive assistant to the Board of Visitors

Thomas Ashley Graves Jr. Award

Thomas L. Heacox, associate professor of English

Charles Joseph Duke Jr. and Virginia Welton Duke Award

Bernard Bowman, special events supervisor for the Wren Building

College Names Three Top Administrators

William and Mary welcomed two of its own and a newcomer into major administrative roles in the spring of 2009. The official start of their tenures is July 1.

Virginia M. Ambler '88, Ph.D. '06 has been named vice president for student affairs, President W. Taylor Reveley III announced on May 12. Ambler has more than two decades of experience in student services, including serving the past year as William and Mary's interim vice president for student affairs following the June 2008 retirement of longtime Vice President Sam Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71.

Ambler brings a great deal of experience and institutional knowledge to the vice president position. In addition to holding student affairs positions at the Ohio State University and Franklin and Marshall College, she has worked in the College's Division of Student Affairs since 1991, including serving as assistant vice president for student affairs from 2001-08. From 1991 to 2001, Ambler served as assistant to the vice president for student affairs.

She holds two degrees from William and Mary — a bachelor of arts degree in English (minor in religion) and a doctor of philosophy degree in educational policy, planning and leadership. Ambler also received a master's degree in higher education and student affairs from Ohio State. In 2008, Ambler served as an adjunct professor at William and Mary's School of Education.

"What a tremendous honor it is to have been asked to serve my *alma mater* as the next vice president for student affairs," Ambler said. "I am excited about the many opportunities that lie ahead for the College, for the Division of Student Affairs and for our exceptional students. As vice president, I will remain passionate about excellence and about nurturing the sense of community that makes William and Mary a place like none other for those of us fortunate enough to live, learn and work here."

Davison B. Douglas, the Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law, was named the next dean of William and Mary Law School on March 20. Douglas succeeds Taylor Reveley, who served as dean of the Law School for



Ambler '88, Ph.D. '06



Douglas



Halleran

nearly 10 years before moving to the president's office in February 2008. Lynda Butler, Chancellor Professor of Law, has served as interim dean since that time.

Douglas joined the William and Mary law faculty in 1990 and has held a number of leadership positions at the Law School. From 1997 until 2004 he was director of William and Mary's nationally acclaimed Institute of Bill of Rights Law. In 2005, he founded the Law School's Election Law Program which he directed until 2008. Douglas graduated *summa cum laude* from Princeton University, and received from Yale University a law degree, a Ph.D. in history and a master's degree in religion.

"We are privileged to have a distinguished group of faculty who excel both as teachers and scholars, a dedicated staff, and an impressive and energetic group of students. We are also fortunate to have a highly accomplished alumni body with a strong commitment to the ideal of service," Douglas said. "William and Mary Law School has been well served by the recent leadership of President Taylor Reveley and Interim Dean Lynda Butler. I am deeply honored to walk in their shoes and to continue the tradition of excellence at William and Mary."

Michael R. Halleran, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Miami, was named the College of William and Mary's fifth provost, President Reveley announced on March 27.

A distinguished scholar of classical studies and a highly successful administrator and fundraiser at both public and private institutions, Halleran comes to William and Mary after serving the past four years as dean of

the University of Miami's largest academic division.

Halleran came to the University of Miami in 2005 to serve as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to that, he had been at the University of Washington since 1983. Halleran previously taught at Connecticut College and the College of the Holy Cross. He was a teaching fellow at Harvard University.

A native of New York City, Halleran earned his bachelor's degree and graduated *summa cum laude* in 1975 from Kenyon College. He received his master's degree (1978) and Ph.D. (1981) from Harvard University. His primary area of scholarship is ancient Greek drama, and he has published widely on Greek literature and culture.

As provost and chief academic officer of the nation's second oldest institution of higher education, Halleran will be responsible for all academic and research programs, academic budgets, and faculty development. With the vice presidents for finance and administration, he will also be responsible for the College's overall budgetary planning. All William and Mary deans, and the directors of offices such as undergraduate admission, the registrar and the chief information officer, report to the provost.

"The College of William and Mary is one of the nation's great universities, and I am honored to serve as its next provost," Halleran said. "It combines a glorious past with a deep commitment to both student learning and scholarship, leading the country in being a 'liberal arts university.' I am excited at the possibilities for continued excellence and innovation."

—Brian Whitson, *W&M News*

William and Mary Is Searching for a Mascot

The mascot search committee needs your ideas. Submit your mascot suggestion (animal, vegetable or mineral) by June 30 at www.wm.edu/mascot/ideas.

If you prefer to submit your idea by U.S. mail, call 757.221.1585 for a mascot suggestion form.

The mascot committee Web site offers updates, a bit of mascot history, FAQs and details for following the mascot search via a blog, Facebook, and Twitter. Join the fun.

Alumni on the mascot search committee are Ginger Ambler '88 Ph.D. '06, Karen Cottrell '66, M.Ed. '69, Ed.D. '84, Connie Desaulniers '75, Sara Greene '09, Earl Granger '92, M.Ed. '98, Peel Hawthorne '80, Monty Mason '89, Nancy Mathews '76 and Tom Yake '09.



A former mascot? The 1958 *Colonial Echo* included this photograph of the dog called Whiskey on the "Spirit of W and M" pages

[NEWSBRIEFS]

VIMS Dedicates New Marine Research Complex

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science dedicated two new research buildings — Andrews Hall and the Seawater Research Laboratory — in an April 16 ceremony that highlighted the many contributions made to VIMS and the College by the late Sen.



Andrews Hall

Hunter B. Andrews '42 and his wife, Cynthia. Andrews Hall is a state-of-the-art four-story building that includes 39 laboratories and spaces for faculty, technicians, students and visiting scientists. The 45,000-square-foot Seawater Research Laboratory, fed by an intake from the York River, provides 900 gallons per minute of treated seawater to support state-mandated research on finfish and shellfish.

Black Law Students Association Named National Chapter of the Year

The Black Law Students Association (BLSA) at the William and Mary Law School was named National Chapter of the Year on March 21 at the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA) Convention in Irvine, Calif. NBLSA was founded more than

40 years ago "to articulate and promote the needs of black law students" and has more than 200 law school chapters in the U.S. and five other countries. The W&M chapter's endeavors included voter registration and absentee ballot drives, clothing and food collections, outreach to a local high school, a Law Day for undergraduates, and educational panels and conferences.

'Empress' of Gifted Education Retirement Celebration

On March 13, dozens of students, colleagues and friends from around the country gathered at the Alumni House to applaud the far-reaching work of Joyce VanTassel-Baska, the Jody and Layton Smith Professor of Education and executive director of William and Mary's Center for Gifted Education. VanTassel-Baska will retire this summer after 22 years at the College and an immeasurable amount of influence on the field of gifted education.



VanTassel-Baska

Romer Discusses Recession at W&M

Christina Romer '81, chair of President Obama's Council of Economic Advisers,

returned to campus in April to deliver a lecture at the invitation of the Thomas Jefferson Program in Public Policy. She outlined what she perceives as the four central tenets in the administration's recovery plan. These include: (1) direct-fiscal stimulus amounting to the equivalent of 2.5 percent of U.S. GDP; (2) financial stabilization and rescue; (3) the homeowner affordability and stability plan; and (4) the continuing investment initiatives targeting areas such as education and energy.

John Chichester Named 2009 Andrews Fellow

John Chichester D.P.S. '04, longtime Virginia state senator and champion of higher education, was named the 2009 Hunter B. Andrews Fellow in American Politics at the College. The fellowship, now in its ninth year, honors the late Hunter B. Andrews '42, a longtime state senator in Virginia. Chichester represented the 28th district in the state senate from 1978 to 2007, including serving eight years as president pro tempore of the Virginia Senate. In 2004, Chichester served as keynote speaker of the College's annual Charter Day ceremony.



Chichester

Henry C. Wolf '64, J.D. '66 Elected Rector of the College

On April 17, the William and Mary Board of Visitors unanimously elected alumnus Henry C. Wolf '64, J.D. '66, retired chief financial officer of Norfolk Southern, as the College's next rector. Wolf will take the post on July 1, 2009.

Wolf will succeed Michael K. Powell '85, D.P.S. '02, who will step down from the Board of Visitors this summer following his second term on the board, including two terms as rector. John W. Gerdelman '75 was elected Wolf's successor as vice rector and Janet Brashear '82 was elected secretary of the board. Brashear will succeed Suzann W. Matthews '71, who also served two terms as an officer. The rector serves as chair of the College's Board of Visitors.

Wolf, of Norfolk, Va., has a long connection with the College and academics. He received a bachelor's degree in economics in 1964 and in 1966 received his law degree from the William and Mary Law School. Wolf was first appointed to the Board of Visitors in 2003. He was reappointed in 2007 and has served as vice rector since 2006. Wolf is also an emeritus member of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Council and a former member of the Board of Visitors at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Wolf currently serves as chair of the finance committee and vice chair of the executive and administration committees of the College Board of Visitors.

"This is a truly a talented and committed board and I am humbled to be elected as its next rector," Wolf said. "Serving as vice rector has been an inspiring experience and I hope to continue the great work made possible by Michael Powell's leadership and look forward to working even closer with President Reveley. I am truly honored."

"My term on the Board will end in June as will my tenure as rector. It has been a great pleasure to serve my College and work with such exceptional colleagues and friends these past seven years," Powell said. "It is also time for someone else to have an opportunity to lead and I know Hank, John and Janet are the right team to work closely with President Reveley and this college community to take William and Mary to the next level."

Added William and Mary President Taylor Reveley, "Michael Powell has served this College with extraordinary vision and effec-



New College Rector Henry Wolf '64, J.D. '66 and wife Dixie are well-known on the campus of the law school as the namesakes of the Wolf Law Library. From left, at the library dedication in 2008: then-Student Bar Association president Sarah Fulton J.D. '08, Dixie Wolf, Henry Wolf and Jim Heller, Wolf Library director.

tiveness as a Board member and its rector. He is a cherished son of the College who will remain a vital part of William and Mary even after his term on the Board comes to an end. Hank Wolf, John Gerdelman and Janet Brashear are equally dedicated to William and Mary. I look forward very much to working with them in the years ahead. Let me also salute the exceptional service of Bobbie Ukrop '61, who attended her final meeting after two terms on the Board. Her commitment to the College sets the bar."

—Brian Whitson, *W&M News*

[WILLIAM AND MARY] BY THE NUMBERS

13 Members of the first co-enrollment class at William and Mary who graduated on May 17. Since the fall of 2006, the College has matriculated 70 students from Virginia community colleges through co-enrollment. The program, unique to William and Mary, brings students to the College from five different community colleges across the state: Thomas Nelson; Tidewater; J. Sergeant Reynolds; Northern Virginia; and Rappahannock, as well as Richard Bland junior college. Matriculation to William and Mary's bachelor degree programs only occurs if the student meets the academic and program requirements set forth by agreements reached with each community college.

28 The new rank of the William and Mary Law School according to *U.S. News and World Report's* 2010 graduate school

rankings. The School of Education ranked in a tie for 48th and the Mason School of Business achieved a tie for 55th in its category. Also recognized as fourth in its field was William and Mary's graduate program in U.S. colonial history. *U.S. News* ranked the law school 30th in 2008 and 31st in 2007. This year the law school tied with the George Washington University Law School.

242 The number of students, faculty and staff who broke a world record by simultaneously doing Michael Jackson's "Thriller" dance on April 19. Kevin Dua '09 organized the event and received notice on May 15 of the new Guinness World Record. Even better — no one who participated was disqualified after video analysis. Dua plans to donate the certificate to the College.