



## CHARTER DAY 2004: SENATOR CHICHESTER OUTLINES HIS PLAN FOR VIRGINIA'S FUTURE

The 311th anniversary of the College's Royal Charter was not merely a celebration of the past three centuries, but a discussion about the future of the College's relationship with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the importance of public service in today's increasingly complex world.

The Honorable John H. Chichester, president pro tempore of the Virginia Senate, was the Charter Day speaker and the recipient of an honorary doctor of public service degree. He recently made headlines throughout Virginia when he proposed raising state taxes \$2.5 billion a year, a \$1.5 billion increase over Gov. Mark Warner's proposal. A Republi-

can from Stafford, Va., Chichester has stood by his tax plan in the face of opposition from his own party.

"The College of William and Mary stands today as a beacon of light that has shown brightly for 311 years, guiding many of the greatest minds and hearts this nation will ever know toward the fulfillment of their destiny," Chichester told the Charter Day audience in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. He went on to emphasize the early relationship the state formed with William and Mary and other schools, citing Thomas Jefferson's work to establish the University of Virginia as a publicly funded institution.

"Admittedly, the Commonwealth has been less than a reliable partner at times — but a partner still," said Chichester. "We plan to remain a partner, and my hope and dream is that we are on the threshold of infusing that partnership with new vitality."

Chichester plans to achieve this new vitality through the Virginia Investment Act — legislation he introduced to the General Assembly designed to lay a long-term foundation by increasing funding for transportation and education programs. The measure is also designed to retain the Commonwealth's Triple A bond rating, the highest possible, which Chichester warned Virginia may lose if the current state budget crisis is not soon corrected.

Before wrapping up his discussion, Chichester told the audience, "Everyone in this room has a voice, and I ask that you use it to make the point that we absolutely must invest in Vir-



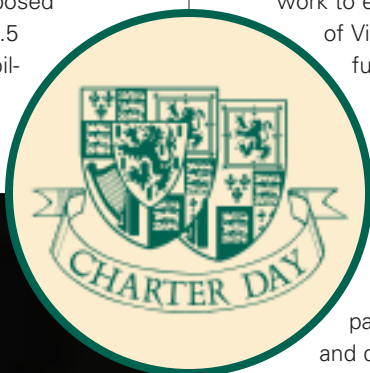
**Honorary degree recipients (l-r) David D. McKiernan '72, George W. Johnson and Ronald E. Carrier stand alongside President Timothy J. Sullivan '66 (far right) for the National Anthem.**

ginia now. We owe it to our forefathers, and we owe it to future generations of Virginians."

In his speech, President Timothy J. Sullivan '66 addressed many of Sen. Chichester's concerns, discussing personal freedoms and obligations to public service. Sullivan referred to Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* as an example of the choices Americans are faced with today. "As Huck struggles to decide whether to remain entangled in civilization or to seek solitary independence on the frontier, he takes the archetypical American journey," explained Sullivan. "Ultimately, Huck turns his back on civilization. He chooses to 'light out for the territory' to exercise his God-given right to unfettered personal freedom."

Sullivan said many Americans now find themselves at the same crossroad, but in the altered context of modern times.

"The quest for personal freedom has today become a dangerous national obsession," said Sullivan. "In choosing to 'light out for the territory' we too often forsake our neighbors,



**The Honorable John H. Chichester**

Photos: Randy Searle

forswear our responsibilities and permit the degradation of our common cultural and educational assets.”

Sullivan did stress that many Americans are acting responsibly, citing William and Mary’s own students, 70 percent of whom are involved in volunteer activities.

### Presentation of the Thomas Jefferson Awards

Three Thomas Jefferson Awards are presented annually during Charter Day. First, the Thomas Jefferson Award recognizes personal and professional character in a recipient who embodies those qualities that Thomas Jefferson would have considered essential to the intellectual, social and political advancement of humanity.

Richard A. Williamson, chancellor professor of law and coordinator of legal affairs for William and Mary, was this year’s recipient. He has served as the dean of admission, as well as vice dean and acting dean of the Law School, at various times during his 34 years at the College. Williamson has been an instrumental part of the major developments, which the Law School has undergone over the past several decades.

Second, the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award is presented to a younger faculty member who has demonstrated the inspiration and stimulation of learning to the betterment of both the individual and society.

*“Everyone in this room has a voice, and I ask that you use it to make the point that we absolutely must invest in Virginia now.”*

THE HONORABLE  
JOHN H. CHICHESTER

Associate Professor of History Kris E. Lane was honored with this award. Since arriving at William and Mary in



**Kris E. Lane**

1997, Lane has developed 14 new courses, published two highly praised books, supervised student research projects in Ecuador and Peru, and established a volunteer internship program for William and Mary students.

A third award, the Thomas Jefferson Prize in Natural Philosophy, is presented to a deserving undergraduate in recognition of excellence in the sciences, honoring the productive relationship that Jefferson enjoyed with Professor William Small, his College tutor in mathematics and the natural sciences.

Biology major Vijay R. Dondetti ’04, who has compiled a perfect 4.0 GPA, was recognized with this award.

Dondetti, whose work has already been published in bioinformatics journals, plans to pursue biomedical research through a combined M.D./Ph.D. program following graduation.

### Conferral of Honorary Degrees

In addition to the degree awarded to Sen. Chichester, two former Virginia college presidents and a commanding general in the U.S. Army received honorary degrees, which were presented by President Sullivan and Rector Susan A. Magill ’72.

Ronald E. Carrier, president of James Madison University from 1971 to 1998, and George W. Johnson, president of George Mason University from 1978 to 1996, each received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

Carrier oversaw the change from Madison College to James Madison University in 1978.



**Vijay R. Dondetti '04**

He increased enrollment nearly fourfold and completed over \$240 million in new facilities during his tenure. Johnson, who transformed a small community college into a major national university, developed George Mason as an interactive university on the strengths of the dynamic Northern Virginia area.

David D. McKiernan ’72 is currently commanding general of the 3rd U.S. Army, the U.S. Army Forces Central Command, and the Coalition Forces Central Command in the Middle East, and led all coalition ground forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was honored during the Charter Day ceremony with an honorary doctor of public service degree.

During his Charter Day speech, Sen. Chichester acknowledged each of the other honorary degree recipients, affirming, “One person with a vision can make a difference.” ●

— John T. Wallace



**President Sullivan (l) and Rector Susan A. Magill '72 (r) presented the Thomas Jefferson Award to Richard A. Williamson.**



Ever since Virginia's Higher Education Bond Referendum passed with resounding support in November 2002, the power of the 18-to-24-year-old constituency and the relevance of the student-voter agenda within the context of state politics has become a newsworthy affair.

Not only did the Students of William and Mary Political Action Committee (SWMPAC) raise over \$20,000 and lobby for the passage of the referendum, but their mission and ideals have also led to the formation of Virginia21, a statewide PAC that works on college campuses and with members of the General Assembly to lobby for the interests of Virginia's younger voters.

Chaired by one of William and Mary's more notable alumni, entrepreneur James E. Ukrop '60, L.H.D. '99, and directed by Jesse Ferguson '03, the organization hopes to harness the voting power of this younger group.

"Our generation is tired of being approached to simply 'get active' and 'register to vote,'" says Ferguson. "It's time people started talking to us about the issues and showing us why our involvement will help protect our schools, fund our faculty, provide financial aid and keep tuition affordable."

Currently, Virginia21 includes the student body presidents of each public college or university in the state, all of whom are members of a steering committee, which meets once a month to discuss goals and grass-roots work on each of their respective campuses. The association also counts several members of the William and Mary community as officers and members. The College's current Student Assembly president and SWMPAC chair, Brian Cannon '04, serves on the steering committee and

## VIRGINIA21 INSPIRES YOUNG VOTERS

as secretary for Virginia21's board of directors. Vice President for Public Affairs Stewart Gammage '72 and H. Van Smith '03 are both members of the advisory council.

In addition to these representatives, Virginia21 boasts a membership of over 12,000 people, many of whom are taking the initiative to ensure that their voices are heard.

"In the last week, we have had almost 7,000 letters sent to members

of the General Assembly from their constituents urging greater support for higher education," reports Ferguson. It is exactly this spirit of activism which the organization promotes: "At its core, Virginia21 is about involving young people in the political process as advocates for their future," says Ferguson. "We are the AARP for tomorrow's generation." ●

— Daniella Grossman '06



**Brian Cannon '04 donated 200,000 pennies to the state treasurer on behalf of students on campuses across Virginia, who collected the pennies as a sign of support for a one-cent sales tax increase dedicated to education.**

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### IT'S OFFICIAL: STUDENT FROM THE 1940s GRADUATES IN 2004

Many college students may think four years is a long time to wait for a diploma — but imagine waiting 60 years.

Robert S. Seeherman '04 completed his degree requirements through the College's pre-professional program in the mid-1940s. During World War II, William and Mary, like many other colleges and universities, participated in a program that allowed students to pursue professional degrees after completing their junior year. The students then completed their final year of undergraduate work simultaneously with their first year of professional study. The accelerated program was designed to meet critical workforce shortages during the war.

Seeherman completed his junior year at William and Mary after transferring from the University of Scranton, and then matriculated to Hahnemann Medical School in Philadelphia, Pa. While Seeherman completed the necessary credits at Hahnemann to finish his undergrad-



**President Timothy J. Sullivan '66 (r) presented Seeherman with his undergraduate diploma on Feb. 6.**

C.J. Gleason / VISCOR

uate degree, he didn't apply for his William and Mary diploma until the summer of 2003.

Seeherman's motivation for seeking his degree so many years later was quite simple. "It's just the accomplishment of having it and saying 'I did it,'" he said. "I just loved it at William and Mary."

Seeherman is a member of the Class of 2004 because the College does not award degrees retroactively. No matter, according to the new graduate, "It's a dream come to fruition." ●

— Suzanne Seurattan



### FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR GRANT SENDS W&M PROFESSOR TO AUSTRIA

Cultural differences translate into personality traits and predict how a consumer will spend his money? That is the question Todd Mooradian, associate professor of marketing at the William and Mary School of Business, seeks to answer.



Courtesy of University Relations

Mooradian was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholar Grant to conduct research entitled "Culture, Personality and Consumer Behavior," as well as teach a course called "International Consumer Behavior," at the University of Innsbruck in Austria.

"Cultures have been described in similar ways," Mooradian said. "The Italians as emotional, Germans as analytical, and so forth. It turns out that these familiar descriptions of people and cultures also emerge as valid, measurable descriptions of more scientific constructs of 'personality' and 'national character.'"

Researching cultural stereotypes will not be his only mission abroad: The Fulbright grant will also build connections between William and Mary M.B.A. students and international businesses and executives.

"Part of my visit will be spent teaching in an M.B.A. program and in an executive M.B.A. program and we are already considering ways to link our students in Williamsburg with students in Austria for video-conference

case discussions and online business simulations," Mooradian said.

He credits the business school's administration, particularly Associate Dean John Boschen, for supporting the faculty research and professional growth that is associated with the prestigious Fulbright honor.

Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and extraordinary leadership potential.

A native of Durham, N.H., Mooradian received his bachelor's degree from the University of New Hampshire, an M.B.A. from Wake Forest University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts. ●

— University Relations

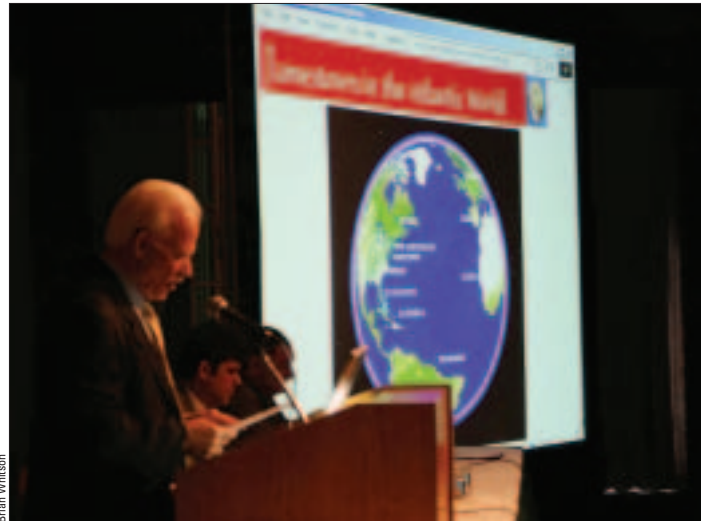
## OMOHUNDRO INSTITUTE HOSTS CONFERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

To mark the 400th year since the founding of the first permanent British settlement in mainland North America, the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture organized and hosted a major international conference. "The Atlantic World and Virginia, 1550-1624," was held in Williamsburg, March 4-7, 2004, representing both the Institute's and the College's contribution to the events planned for the 400th anniversary of Jamestown in 2007. The Omohundro Institute intends to develop a volume of essays from the conference that will be available in time for the celebration.

Judging by the reaction of the scholars who presented papers and the more than 500 people who composed the audience — and participated enthusiastically in the discussions that followed — the conference achieved its goal of situating the founding of Virginia within the context of the geopolitical, socioeconomic

and cultural forces that shaped the Atlantic world prior to and immediately following the arrival of the English on the shores of the James River.

The participation of scholars from universities in Africa, Australia, Europe and the Americas reflected the international scope of the program. Sir John Elliott, Regis Professor Emeritus of the University of Oxford, delivered the keynote address. The roster also included professors Kathleen Bragdon, Kris E. Lane and Richard Price from the College of William and Mary; Thad W. Tate, director emeritus of the Institute; and Cary Carson, Joanne Bowen, Willie Graham, James Horn, Martha McCartney '59 and



Brian Whitson

**William Kelso M.A. '64, of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and the Jamestown Recovery project, spoke on "Recapturing Lost Landscapes of the Emerging Atlantic World"**

Lorena S. Walsh of Colonial Williamsburg. Ron Hoffman hosted the proceedings, which former William and Mary provost Gillian T. Cell (Honorary Alumna) opened. ●



www.[SusieBeck.com](http://SusieBeck.com)

*"Come Home to Williamsburg ..."*

Don and I moved back to Williamsburg almost 11 years ago and since that time, I have been associated with William E. Wood & Associates, listing and selling real estate. This was a natural transition for me, as I co-owned a real estate company on Cape Cod.

William E. Wood & Associates has now formed a partnership with The Alumni Association — The Home Advantage Program. If you are buying or selling a home either here in Williamsburg or anywhere else in the country, I look forward to helping you and having you become eligible for a cash back bonus through our Home Advantage Program.

I welcome the opportunity to assist you whether you are moving "back home" or relocating to another area.

*Come Home to Williamsburg!*

**Susie Beck — Realtor**

Accredited Buyer Representative  
Proud Williamsburg Resident

800.524.0992 — office

757.565.0398 — home

[susie@susiebeck.com](mailto:susie@susiebeck.com) — e-mail



Don Beck '64



**William E. Wood & Associates**  
1326 Jamestown Road  
Williamsburg, VA 23185