

# W&M

ALUMNI MAGAZINE • FALL 2014

<< **KATHERINE POTTER '04**  
**EXPANDS HORIZONS**  
**IN RWANDA**

LGBTQ AND  
WILLIAM & MARY

OUTSTANDING YOUNG  
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COVER PHOTO: ELIZABETH CECIL

**HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?** Please share your thoughts by posting on our online comment section found at the end of every magazine story. Go to [www.wmalumnimagazine.com](http://www.wmalumnimagazine.com)

PHOTO: MICHAEL D. BARTOLOTTA





### **W&M 360**

Look, up in the sky! No, it's not Superman – it's a DJI Phantom 2 unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). Outfitted with a camera, the UAV provides a 360-degree view of campus. See page 50 for more.



ALUMNI FOCUS

# A New Model

BY DAVID N. KELLEY '81

*President, William & Mary Alumni Association*

**A**S ONE OF THE OLDEST ALUMNI ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRY, THE William & Mary Alumni Association has served its constituency as an independent voice, strengthening the connections between alumni and the university since 1842. To better serve our constituents and to ensure that the College continues as one of the finest universities, the Association and the College

have joined forces to create a more efficient organization focused on one overarching goal: enhancing alumni engagement with W&M.

The Board of the William & Mary Alumni Association unanimously voted to join the current Alumni Association staff with development and other university staff to form a new University Advancement organization.

The University Advancement model allows for enhanced coordination across university departments, which strengthens the College's ability to be more tactical, thoughtful and effective in its interactions with

alumni and friends. The new model will enhance the potential for more alumni involvement in W&M admission, job placement and mentoring, and it will expand career services and engagement opportunities for alumni.

The new organization will strengthen William & Mary's ability to make meaningful connections with each and every alumnus and alumna. The College will do that by expanding reunions, by bolstering regional chapters, by leveraging special alumni affiliations and affinity groups, Greek societies, service organizations, athletic teams and more, and by developing new

ways to connect alumni with each other and with students.

The College's network of more than 94,000 alumni spread around the country and throughout the world is of vital importance, and William & Mary plans to invest even greater institutional resources in overall advancement efforts in the next few years.

As a unified organization, we now will be able to more fully ensure William & Mary's growing alumni network will be connected around the globe and we will have a sharper focus on connecting graduates with William & Mary for a lifetime.



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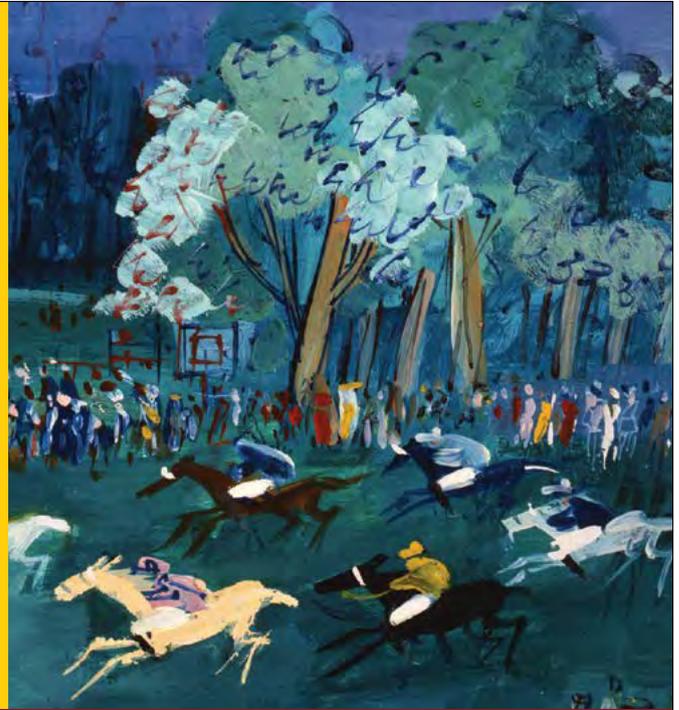
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FROM THE BRAFFERTON

# For Generations to Come

BY W. TAYLOR REVELEY III

*President, College of William & Mary*

**H**IGHER EDUCATION DOES DOUBLE DUTY: IT IS BOTH A PRIVATE GOOD and a public good. It has been a prime source of social and economic mobility in our country for centuries. Students who graduate with powerful educations from strong colleges and universities leave with unusual opportunities for lives rich with leadership and accomplishment, as well as personal satisfaction and happiness. Communities, states and nations blessed with such people have strong economies and civic lives. Thus, it is very much in the national interest that high school seniors of serious ability and ambition be able to go to college even if they lack the means to pay.

It is especially important that such students be able to go to universities like William & Mary where they will benefit from close engagement with their professors and where they can learn to think rigorously and communicate effectively, as well to solve problems creatively, often collaboratively, and to have an interdisciplinary and international outlook, while becoming open to views other than their own and comfortable with people from many backgrounds and cultures.

In short, we need to enable smart, highly motivated young men and women to attend the most compelling undergraduate programs, so they can realize their full potential; we need to make this possible even if the students lack the financial resources. We cannot afford to waste human capital that society

badly needs by forcing gifted students to choose less demanding alternatives. It's that simple.

It is also complicated. In order to grow while on campus, students need access to information, laboratories, state-of-the-art technology, performing arts halls, classrooms and transportation. Students also need all sorts of other support — sustenance, shelter, security, equipment, exercise facilities, medical services; the list goes on and on. Meeting those needs is expensive, made more expensive by a growing profusion of state and federal requirements.

William & Mary's ability to continue to assemble all the marvelous students available to us, not simply students from well-to-do families, depends directly on our ability to provide need-based scholarships to students who would otherwise not be able to attend. The intellectual caliber, curiosity, creativity and energy of our students are central to making William & Mary William & Mary. Scholarships bring together students from all parts of the population and create an intellectually and culturally richer education for the entire campus. They allow us to benefit from a greater variety of perspectives and life experiences than would be true otherwise, and our students to become better prepared for the world in which they must find their way in the 21st century. The great promise of American society is the expansive possibility earned through a rigorous education. W&M has helped to fulfill this promise for over 300 years. Scholarships ensure we can continue to give outstanding students, regardless of background or means, their opportunity.

Through the generosity of donors, we have been able to create significant endowments to support need-based scholarships. We also provide a limited number of scholarships for students with particular talents. The 1693 Scholars Program is our most selective merit-based scholarship. Recipients represent the most accomplished and promising high school seniors in the country. James Monroe Scholars are also very distinguished academically. While all incoming undergraduates are considered for the honor, fewer than 10 percent receive it. Athletics scholarships enable students with exceptional talent to pursue excellence at William & Mary. Often those receiving merit-based scholarships also have financial need.

While William & Mary is well known as an institution of excellence for undergraduate liberal arts education, its reputation also depends on outstanding graduate and professional programs. Competition for the best students in these programs is also intense. We need to expand funding for graduate and professional fellowships to encourage the most qualified students to continue their scholarly work here.

William & Mary continues to deliver extraordinary results despite national trends that make success increasingly hard. In my judgment, our ability to keep excelling will depend in good part on our ability to quickly grow our capacity to provide financial assistance — to build scholarship endowments. This must be our highest philanthropic priority.



# HOMECOMING

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This is your final boarding call. Pack your bags (don't forget your green and gold) and head to William & Mary for Homecoming this Oct. 16-19. With a parade, block party and football game, there's something for everyone.



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# BY & LARGE

RESEARCH IN ACTION

## Something's Brewing

BY JOSEPH McCLAIN

**T**HE HISTORIC CAMPUS HAS SEEN A LOT SINCE the College's 1693 founding and much of it — revolution, fires, a Civil War battle — was destructive. Accordingly, a great deal of the paper records of William & Mary's early years have been lost. To fill in the numerous blanks in the paper record, Louise Kale HON '09 has looked under the ground.

Kale, who served as director of William & Mary's Historic Campus from 1995 until her retirement this summer, also served as a kind of executive director of a dozen archaeological digs during her tenure. In August, Kale sat in her office in the Wren Building and talked about what nearly 20 years of archaeology have contributed to our understanding of the growth of the nation's *alma mater*.

Kale was particularly enthusiastic about work in progress on 18th-century foundations just south of

PHOTO: MELISSA GOLDEN



**TOP:** *Two digs: A sawpit-turned-midden (foreground) and the foundations of the 18th-century brewhouse (rear).*

**BOTTOM:** *To confirm the site's use as a brew-house, soil samples will be analyzed for the presence of hops.*

the Wren Building, a dig that had been on her list for three years.

“We can easily say that this is the most significant archaeological discovery on William & Mary’s campus since the discovery of the Thomas Jefferson foundations out back,” she said during early stages of work. Weeks later, when excavation and analysis revealed that it almost certainly was the College’s brewhouse that once sat atop those foundations, she didn’t take back a word of it.

Archaeologists with the William & Mary Center for Archaeological Research (WMCAR) had discovered segments of an intriguing brick foundation in 2011 underneath a brick walkway that was slated for expansion. Directed by archaeologist Joe Jones, WMCAR specializes in working under tight deadlines at sites slated for construction, making sure that the work won’t destroy some significant archaeological component of the College’s (and the nation’s) heritage.

“If you’re working on a deadline, Joe and his team can always bring it home,” Kale said. “They do excellent archaeology and they do excellent documentation.”



WMCAR’s discovery was significant enough that the walkway work was postponed. The foundations were backfilled, to rest until this summer, when a team of archaeologists from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation began a full excavation.

Jones and other archaeologists didn’t have much to go on to identify the use of the building in the 2011 WMCAR discovery dig. The tentative, preliminary ideas were that the building might have been a workspace, a kitchen or perhaps a laundry. Kale

PHOTOS: MELISSA GOLDEN

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“Having a brewhouse in the 18th century was not a big deal. Finding the foundations of one in the 21st century is a big deal. And it’s ever so much cooler than a schoolhouse.”

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was hoping that it was the schoolhouse mentioned in documents that predate the Wren Building, originally known as simply the “main building.”

As work progressed this summer, more and more evidence pointed toward a brewhouse. Edward Chappell ’72, the Shirley and Richard Roberts Director of Architectural and Archaeological Research at Colonial Williamsburg, said that drains around the inner edges of the walls point to a beer-making facility, as does a circular feature that likely once held a vat.

Kale and Chappell both note that early records matter-of-factly record that a brewhouse was indeed part of the College’s physical plant. William & Mary is a great place for connections among historical documents, existing buildings and archaeological discoveries. Such connections helped identify the Jefferson foundations found in 1940 between the Wren Building and the Sunken Garden.

Thomas Jefferson’s planned expansion would have extended the Great Hall and the Chapel wings and connected them with a western block that would form a Cambridge/Oxford-style enclosed quadrangle. Work was barely started before the Revolutionary War intervened.

What we call the Historic Campus was the College’s entire campus for much of its history. There is a lot of history still underneath the ground: “Honestly, it’s pretty hard to stick a spade in the College Yard without finding something,” Kale said, “although you may have to go way down.”

Going way down, when you’re doing archaeology, isn’t a matter of power equipment or even vigorous shoveling. After the sod is off, you kneel out there with a trowel and scrape, a fraction of an inch at a time. Kale still speaks sympathetically about some of the students in a three-summer field school looking to uncover evidence of early Wren Yard gardens.

“The first year — bless their hearts — those students did nothing but dig clay over by the President’s House,” she said. “The first year was just a complete bust, because there was so much clay overburden. And when they got to the bottom of the clay, there was just no time left.”



Persistence paid off, though, as the third year of the field school confirmed that the Wren Yard was once indeed graced by formal gardens, as depicted on the 18th-century Bodleian Plate. Archaeology has also shown that the Wren had another side, literally and figuratively.

“We think of the Wren Building today as a 360-degree building—beautiful from all angles. But in the 18th century, it was a building with a front and a back. The front, with its formal gardens, was the main

attraction. What we would consider the backyard, where you tossed out all the garbage after dinner, was on the north side behind the fence,” Kale said.

Private donors have supported much of the archaeology in the Historic Campus, but other digs have been prompted by preparation for physical-plant needs.

Kale has kept WMCAR (and other archaeologists) busy in recent years, when a mammoth underground utility project and other campus improvements required a lot of digging. Sometimes, the utility digs turn out to be just as interesting as the commissioned work.

In 2012, for example, WMCAR excavated the remains of a time in which the campus was a Civil War battlefield. They found evidence of defensive works and a well dug by occupying Union soldiers, some of whom burned what we now know as the Wren Building. The Yankees were right to be prepared: an 1863 raid by Confederate cavalry brought the war right into the Wren Yard.

All of the digs were helpful to understanding the development of William & Mary and even the nation’s history, but Kale calls the brewhouse dig the capstone of her time here. She is aware of the special significance that news of a three-century-old beer establishment holds for a campus community, but points out a brewhouse doesn’t mean there was an Animal House.

“Beer was safer to drink than water. It was probably served with every meal. Having a brewhouse in the 18th century was not a big deal. Finding the foundations of one in the 21st century is a big deal,” she said. “And it’s ever so much cooler than a schoolhouse.”

BY  LARGE

**W&M AWARDED  
\$1.5 MILLION  
FROM HHMI  
FOR STEM  
EDUCATION**

The College has received a five-year, \$1.5 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) to fundamentally change the university’s approach to undergraduate STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. The William & Mary award is part of HHMI’s 2014 Sustaining Excellence competition, which funds new, evidence-based strategies that promise to improve STEM education and, in particular, to encourage students to remain in science and math programs throughout their undergraduate careers.

—UNIVERSITY  
RELATIONS STAFF

**YALI FELLOWS  
WELCOMED  
TO VIRGINIA**

In June, 25 members of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) completed a six-week leadership, academic and mentoring program that took them to six of the commonwealth's most prestigious locations, including William & Mary.

Participants wrapped up the program with a meeting in Washington, D.C., with President Barack Obama and other government officials.

Fifty thousand women and men, ages 25 to 35, applied for the prestigious fellowship. The fellows come from 18 countries across Africa, and include teachers, journalists, human rights activists and other professionals.

—JIM DUCIBELLA AND  
JANE A. KELLY

ANNOUNCING

**CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe announced three new appointees to the William & Mary Board of Visitors in June: William H. Payne II '01, Christopher M. Little and Lisa E. Roday. They joined Sue H. Gerdelman '76, who was first appointed to the board by McAuliffe in 2013 to fill an unexpired term. Their term began July 1, 2014. • Payne, communications director for the Virginia Sheriffs' Institute and Virginia Sheriffs' Association; Little, a retired publishing and media executive who served as president of Newsweek; and Roday, a consultant who specializes in time management, fundraising and legal issues, replace Charles A. Banks III HON '05, Edward L. Flippen M.B.A. '67, J.D. '74 and L. Clifford Schroeder Sr. HON '08. Gerdelman has held a number of leadership roles at W&M, including serving as chair of the William & Mary Foundation, and now has a significant role in the university's philanthropic efforts.

—BRIAN WHITSON

NEW CURRICULUM

**A GRANT GESTURE**

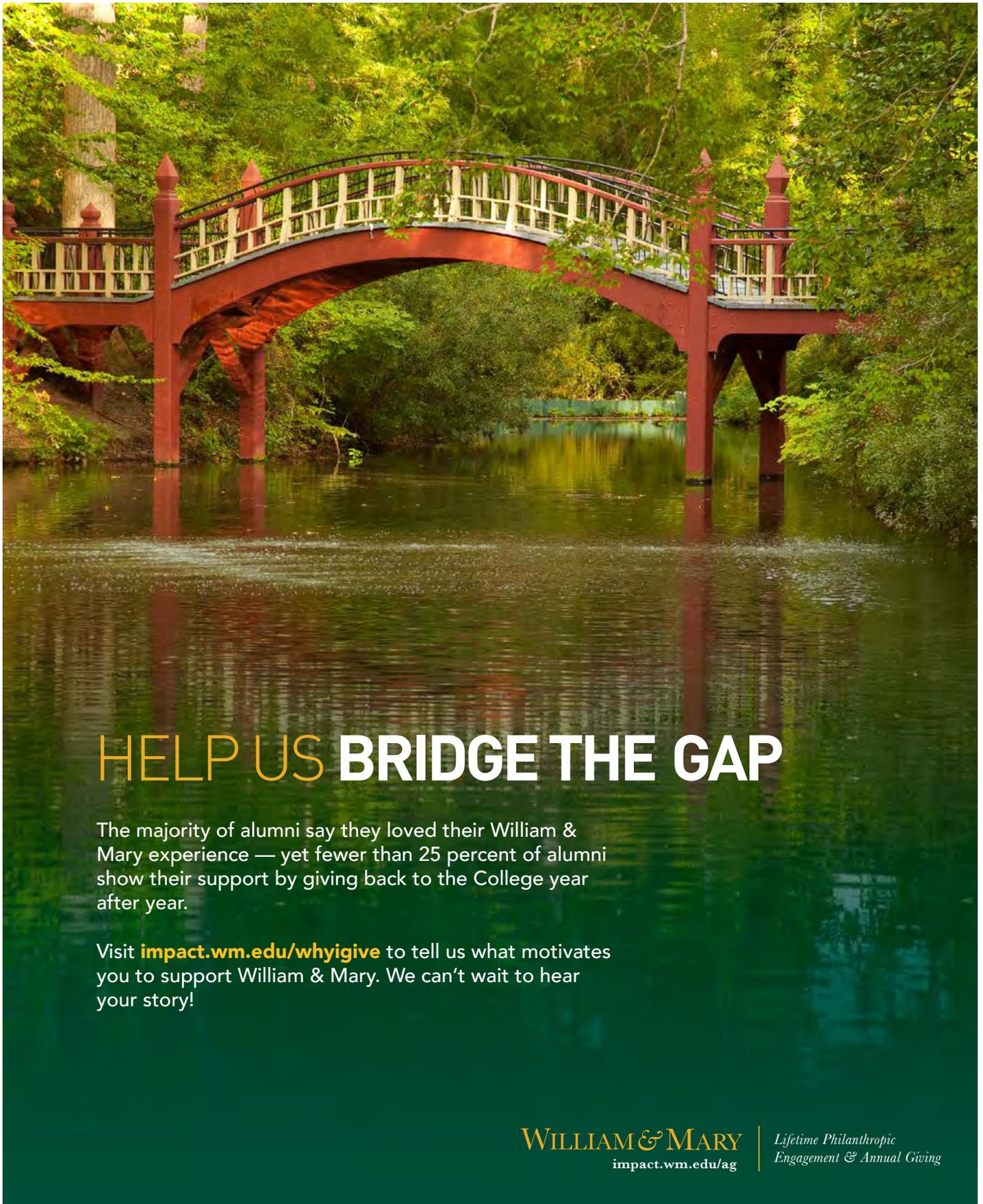
*\$900,000 grant to support implementation  
of new general education curriculum*

BY BRIAN WHITSON

**T**HE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION HAS awarded William & Mary a \$900,000 grant to support implementation of the university's new College (COLL) curriculum, the set of general education courses required of all undergraduate students. The grant will be distributed over four years beginning July 1, 2014, and will help to fund startup costs for the new curriculum. The COLL curriculum launches officially with the undergraduate class entering in fall 2015. Faculty already are preparing new courses to be piloted in 2014-15, and more than 100 faculty participated in collaborative May workshops focused on the design of new COLL courses.

"We are gratified that the Mellon Foundation shares our enthusiasm for the new curriculum, and very grateful for its willingness to support its implementation in such a substantial way," said Provost Michael R. Halleran. "This funding will allow us to maintain the momentum generated by our faculty's hard work over the past three years."

The COLL curriculum intentionally extends throughout the four undergraduate years, beginning with two specially designed small classes in the freshman year and ending with a capstone experience in the major. It builds on and adds coherence to the signature strengths of a W&M undergraduate education: emphasis on inquiry-based learning, with close interaction



## HELP US BRIDGE THE GAP

The majority of alumni say they loved their William & Mary experience — yet fewer than 25 percent of alumni show their support by giving back to the College year after year.

Visit [impact.wm.edu/whyigive](http://impact.wm.edu/whyigive) to tell us what motivates you to support William & Mary. We can't wait to hear your story!

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## BY&LARGE



### HENRY BROADDUS NAMED W&M VICE PRES- IDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Henry Broaddus, long-time dean of admission at William & Mary and the current associate provost for enrollment, has been named the university's vice president for strategic initiatives.

Broaddus succeeds Jim Golden, who has served as vice president since 2008. Golden had considered retirement for some time. He felt the timing was right to make the transition this year, but he agreed to stay at the College in a volunteer role as senior counselor to the president. The appointments took effect Aug. 1.

—BRIAN WHITSON

between students and faculty; broad understanding of the range of our academic disciplines; and deep learning in a chosen major. All COLL courses emphasize skills in communication and collaborative work. In addition, the overall framework places new emphasis on students' understanding of international contexts, where and how the academic disciplines intersect and diverge, and how the broader liberal arts can inform and enhance a given major.

W&M's strategic planning process, initiated in 2008-09, identified the need for a faculty review of the general education curriculum, last revised in 1993. In December 2013, the faculty completed their review and adopted the new College curriculum, which elaborates overall goals, specifies requirements and the intentions of COLL courses and defines broad knowledge domains.

The Mellon grant will help to bridge the transition as current students complete the previous curriculum and the 2015 entering freshmen begin their studies under the new curriculum. The two curricula will run side by side for three years, resulting in a short-term

increased cost. Extending the senior-level capstone experience to all majors will also involve additional teaching positions.

The grant will support faculty as they develop and introduce new COLL courses at all four levels of the curriculum, provide crucial early funding to the work of the new Center for the Liberal Arts, and seed the planning and rollout of enhancements to the faculty-based student advising system and a new suite of academic resources to support student learning.

Kate Conley, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, will serve as principal investigator for the Mellon grant. "Part of the purpose of a curriculum review is to engage the faculty in a sustained discussion of the purposes of the liberal arts and how best to contribute our individual expertise into an integrated whole for the students," Conley said. "I'm delighted with the many ways our faculty have embraced this opportunity. This substantial support from the Mellon Foundation matches our own high level of energy and engagement."

## REFRESH

# SOMETHING IS DIFFERENT ...

Ten years ago your magazine staff reinvented the *William & Mary Alumni Magazine* so we could continue to provide our readers with a quality publication. For this fall issue, we've raised the bar again. This past summer we asked you to participate in a readership survey so we could tailor our new redesigned magazine to meet your expectations. (A summary of the results can be found at <http://wmalumni.com/2014-readership-survey>.) We reviewed your comments and suggestions, and with this issue, we believe we've produced a publication that embraces our entire Tribe community, is truly worthy of the William & Mary name and is on par with publications by our peer institutions. • The new magazine is structured into clearer sections, making it easier to navigate. Our front section has brief stories of goings on around campus. In our features section, take the time to look at our higher-quality photography and illustrations, while learning about how knowledge gained at the College helps alumni on a global scale. Our Tribe section in the back will bring you back inside the W&M culture with alumni profiles and chapter information. Your Class Notes section is there, too, in a more visually interesting format. • We hope you enjoy your new *William & Mary Alumni Magazine*! Please send your comments about the redesign and magazine to [alumni.magazine@wm.edu](mailto:alumni.magazine@wm.edu). Also remember that you can comment directly on all articles at [wmalumnimagazine.com](http://wmalumnimagazine.com).

—W&M ALUMNI MAGAZINE STAFF

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BY & LARGE

## INTO THE MAJORS

Three Tribe baseball players, Nick Thompson '15, Michael Katz '15 and Ryan Lindemuth '14, were drafted by major league teams in June.

Thompson, a first-team All-CAA selection, went in the eighth round to the St. Louis Cardinals. Katz, CAA Player of the Year, went to the New York Mets one round later. Lindemuth was selected by the New York Yankees in the 37th round. He was previously drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2013, but opted to return to college.

—TRIBE ATHLETICS



SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

# SET THE RECORD, STRAIT

BY TRIBE ATHLETICS

**T**HIS SPRING, ANDREW STRAIT '14 WAS VOTED the Colonial Athletic Association's (CAA) male scholar-athlete of the year, adding to an already historic list of accomplishments. The male and female scholar-athletes are voted by the league's schools from among the winners in each sport throughout the year (10 men, 12 women).

Strait is the sixth Tribe man to win the award in its 12-year history, and the third in the last four years.

After last season, Strait became the first-ever W&M winner of the men's swimmer of the year award, and was named the men's swimming and diving scholar-athlete of the year for an unprece-

dent third straight time. He's the first to earn three scholar-athlete of the year awards for either men's or women's swimming and diving in conference history.

Only six athletes in the CAA have ever won three consecutive scholar-athlete awards in their sport. W&M now has 54 total scholar-athletes of the year, 21 more than any other school, and six year-end scholar-athletes of the year, twice as many as the next-closest school.

Strait wrapped up his stellar Tribe career with a brilliant week at the CAA Championships in February, taking home six gold medals and leading W&M to second place in the closest-ever meet in con-

PHOTO: TRIBE ATHLETICS

ference history. He won all three of his individual events, the 200 IM, 100 breast and 200 breast, for the second year in a row, and also claimed gold on the 800 free relay, 200 medley relay and 400 medley relay while taking silver in the 200 free relay.

Strait's times in the 200 IM (1:46.59) and as part of the 800 free relay (6:31.77) set CAA records. All told, his six gold medals marked just the ninth time in CAA history that one man has won six or more events, and the first since 2006.

Strait finished his career with six individual conference championships, four relay championships and 10 total gold medals, all school records. In 2013-14, he led the Tribe with 22 victories and ranked second with 377.5 points, and was named the

CAA Swimmer of the Championships for the second year in a row.

Strait graduated holding W&M's records in the 100 breast, 200 IM, 400 IM, 200 free relay, 800 free relay, 200 medley relay and 400 medley relay. He totaled 1,300.5 points in his four years, second-most ever, and his 77 career victories ranked third all-time. Strait swam at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials in three events.

Strait was named to the CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-District first team in 2013 and 2014, and to the CSCAA honorable mention all-academic list. At W&M's athletics award banquet in 2013, he won the Bruce Davidson Memorial Award, given to the top rising senior men's athlete in the entire department.

BY  LARGE



**ELLIS NAMED  
U.S. WOMEN'S  
SOCCER  
HEAD COACH**

Former William & Mary women's soccer standout Jill Ellis '88 was named the head coach of the U.S. Women's National Team in May.

Ellis served as an assistant coach during the 2008 and 2012 Olympics, winning gold in both. She has been the interim head coach of the team on two different occasions, posting a 6-0-3 record during that time.

Originally from Portsmouth, England, Ellis played forward for the Tribe. She finished her career ranked ninth in career points with 83. She helped the Tribe reach the NCAA tournament all four seasons, while earning a trip to the Elite Eight in 1987.

—TRIBE ATHLETICS



RECORD BREAKERS

**RUN TRIBE RUN**

William & Mary's Elaina Balouris '14 ran the race of her life at the NCAA Championships, finishing a best-ever fifth at 10,000m to finish her career as a first-team All-American. • Teammate Emily Stites '16 finished in 10th place, earning a spot on the All-America second team. • Balouris' fifth-place finish came in a lifetime-best performance of 32:46.57, as she broke the 33-minute barrier for the first time. She earned her sixth career All-American honor, the most ever for a Tribe women's runner and making her just the fifth W&M athlete ever to earn All-America honors in all three seasons of a single academic year. • For her part, Stites ran 33:12.74, the third-fastest time in school history. This was the second year in a row that Stites finished 10th in her race at the outdoor NCAA meet, after she was also 10th in the 5,000m as a freshman. She finished the year with two more All-America accolades and now has four in her career after just two years. • W&M's four points scored in the team standings makes this the seventh year in school history that the Tribe has earned a spot in the national outdoor standings. The Tribe previously placed in 1981, 1982, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 2008. The finish also gave W&M an appearance in the final national standings in all three seasons (cross country, indoor track and field, outdoor track and field) for the first time.

—TRIBE ATHLETICS

PHOTO: TRIBE ATHLETICS

# Fertile Ground

*Men's gymnastics coach Cliff Gauthier HON '14 grows a legacy*

BY MEREDITH RANDLE '16

**T**HE WILLIAM AND MARY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S 2014 Coach of the Year, Cliff Gauthier, began his athletic career as a swimmer with a bad sense of direction. In a tryout race, Gauthier reached a pool wall and thought he had the lead. When he looked up, he saw the other swimmers in the distance and realized he had taken a turn into the wrong wall.

Gauthier eventually found his niche as a collegiate gymnast and later as a coach. Now entering his 42nd season of coaching gymnastics at the College, Gauthier has amassed over 800 wins and 15 regional and national coach of the year awards.

Gauthier discovered his affinity for coaching very young — by age 12, he was already helping to coach swimming on the weekends at a nearby pool. “Teaching kids to swim enabled me to see the excitement of learning as well as the excitement of teaching, and it became the catalyst for my career in the field of education,” Gauthier said. He went on

to compete in college gymnastics at the University of Denver, where he was a top eight NCAA Division I finalist in various events during each of his final three years of collegiate competition. Gauthier received the university's outstanding scholar-athlete award during his senior year.

Gauthier began his post-college career as a math teacher, but became more interested in pursuing coaching. He liked the idea of being able to develop an entire person physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually. His journey to coach in Williamsburg started near Denver. “I drove across the country along with my wife, Linda, a 4-year-old daughter, Julie, a 2-year-old daughter, Jeri, and an Irish setter named Bitsy in a 1965 Ford station wagon with a canoe and kayak on top, pulling a fully loaded U-Haul trailer with all of our possessions.”

The move was worth it. In his 41 seasons, Gauthier's gymnasts have combined to earn 197

USA Gymnastics Collegiate All-America awards, more than any other university since the inception of the awards in 1990. Additionally, W&M claimed the College Gymnastics Association's National Academic Team Title five times and placed second on six occasions.

The 2014 season was one of the most successful of Gauthier's career, as the team won the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference title and qualified as a team for the NCAA Championships, finishing the season ranked No. 12 nationally. Individually, senior Landon Funicello became a three-time NCAA All-American on rings and was honored as the USA Gymnastics Senior Gymnast of the Year and the ECAC Senior Gymnast of the Year.

Gauthier said that his success is due to the fact that his values and those of William & Mary match up well. Not only does Gauthier teach the philosophy of a balanced life, he lives it himself. He is very much a family man, enjoying the beauty of nature and having fun fishing with his family.

“As a coach, my perspective on athletics has matured beyond being competitive and winning,” Gauthier said. “True coaching is much more than wins and losses.”

“Cliff genuinely cares about all of his gymnasts,” said Michael Deitz '15. “Not just as students or just as athletes, but as well-rounded people. He is passionate about having every athlete he encounters — whether on our team or a different one — succeed in every aspect of life.”

“He's one of the best coaches I've ever had,” said Peter Ten Eyck '15. “He's happy to sit down and shoot the breeze with athletes about anything, while casually giving life advice along the way. Cliff is, in a word, comprehensive. He understands that there is a life beyond gymnastics and encourages us to develop in all areas while using gymnastics as a vehicle to teach us some of the qualities and lessons that will help us throughout life.”

“I shall forever be in debt to my gymnasts at William & Mary and the College itself,” said Gauthier. “They have provided such a fertile ground for me in the development of my philosophy of sport, coaching and education in general.”

“My perspective on athletics has matured beyond being competitive and winning. True coaching is much more than wins and losses.”

**COACH FOR LIFE:**  
*Cliff Gauthier teaches his gymnasts enduring lessons.*

PHOTO: SKIP ROWLAND '83



**FOUR PROJECTS  
RECEIVE  
CREATIVE  
ADAPTATION  
FUNDING**

Four faculty projects designed to improve the quality, scope and efficiency of programs at William & Mary were made possible last semester with support from the provost's Creative Adaptation Fund.

Established in 2011, the fund was designed "to engage and unleash the creative energy in the academic areas to develop creative adaptations that improve the quality of our educational programs either directly or indirectly, by reducing costs or generating new revenues and thereby providing funds that can be reinvested in people and programs," according to a campus message from Provost Michael R. Halleran. Since 2012, the fund has provided \$200,000 annually to support faculty-designed projects.

—ERIN ZAGURSKY



*The late Harriet Pittard  
Beales '34 with her sons  
Walter '66 and Randolph '82*

PAYING IT FORWARD

# Personal Philanthropy

*The Beales Scholarship benefits Southern Virginia students*

BY BONNIE WINSTON

**I**T WAS 1984 AND HARRIETT PITTARD BEALES' 50th Class Reunion. She was being inducted into the William & Mary Alumni Association's Olde Guard and her sons wanted to do something special.

As William & Mary grads themselves, Walter R. Beales III '66 and Randolph A. Beales '82 established a scholarship to honor their mother — a very special woman and member of the Class of 1934. She was a home economics major who chaired the Honor Council, served as vice president of the Women's Student Government and was crowned May Queen as a senior. Like her sons, she loved William & Mary and had long had an interest in helping and mentoring young people.

Now 30 years after its creation, the Harriett Pittard Beales Scholarship has opened a world of opportunity for a total of about 20 students from Southern Virginia.

As one of many privately endowed scholarships at the College, the Beales Scholarship demonstrates the impact personal philanthropy can have on an individual, a family, a community and the university.

"We wanted to honor Mother and, knowing her desire to help young people, we wanted her to meet the recipients of her scholarship and to be able to know as many of them as possible," said Walter Beales.

Beales is an attorney in Boydton, Va. His brother, Randolph, is a judge on the Virginia Court of Appeals and a former Virginia attorney general. The family has a deep and rich heritage in the South Central region of the state.

"We wanted more Southern Virginia students to consider going to William & Mary," Beales said. "The scholarship is a way to help make that vision a reality for outstanding students."

PHOTO: ROBERT HARRIS PHOTOGRAPHY INC.

Beales Scholars are selected based on academic performance, extracurricular community activities and service, outstanding character and other personal achievements. Students from the city of Emporia and 12 counties in Southern Virginia are considered for the award once they have been admitted to William & Mary.

Potential recipients are identified by the Office of Admission. Finalists are interviewed by alumni from the region. The Beales family usually meets the scholar upon selection or during their first year at William & Mary. It's a tradition Mrs. Beales' sons have continued, even after her death in August 2013, shortly after her 100th birthday.

"We have an interest in their success and how their lives are evolving," Beales said of the student recipients of the scholarship. "In many cases, this has led to a relationship that has continued long after graduation. We treasure the relationships that have developed."

When the family conceived the idea of establishing a scholarship, Randolph was still a student in law school and Walter was practicing law in another state. "Most of the scholarships we heard about at William & Mary were large gifts from wealthy people. We didn't have that kind of money," Beales said. "But when we contacted the College, they said they were interested and we set it up."

The brothers' initial funding occurred in steps, and initially didn't generate enough to award a scholarship in the first several years. But with continued yearly donations from them and steady growth of the endowment, merit-based scholarships to an entering freshman soon took place.

The family keeps up with many of the Beales Scholars, who have contributed significantly to their communities as they establish lives and families of their own.

"The first scholar, who was also the first from her family to attend college, went on to earn a doctorate. She and her husband live in Northern Virginia, and she remains in touch with us," Beales said. "Another works in the office of a U.S. senator on Capitol Hill. Another is in law school at William & Mary. His goal is to practice law in his South Central Virginia hometown."

The scholarship has had as much of an impact on the Beales family as it has on the young scholars who have received it.

"It makes you feel like you're doing something meaningful to enable such bright, intelligent students like these to go to college," Beales said.

The family hopes that what they've established will have a ripple effect.

"Maybe other alumni and friends who don't have vast resources, but who want to give back to William & Mary for succeeding generations, can use this model," Beales said. "Scholarships attract excellent students, and make coming to William & Mary not only attractive, but attainable for some students who might not otherwise consider attending."



## MEET THE NEW BEALES SCHOLAR

**J**ACOB MILLER, 18, OF FARMVILLE, VA., WAS OVERJOYED upon learning he'd been selected to receive the Harriett Pittard Beales Scholarship at William & Mary for 2014–15.

The energetic, hard-working graduate of Fuqua School achieved a 3.8 GPA his senior year while working as an on-air announcer at WFLO, his hometown radio station, and participating in a myriad of school clubs and activities. Because of the \$4,000 merit-based award, Miller has become the first in his immediate family to attend a four-year college.

"This covers the rest of my tuition for my freshman year," explained Miller. "It is definitely a very big help and an honor."

The scholarship honors Harriett Pittard Beales '34. Her son, Walter R. Beales III '66, said she'd be pleased with Miller's selection.

"Jacob's impressive background and character reflect a deep commitment to the values, especially serving others, that Mother embodied her entire life," Beales said.

Miller's impressive academic record is matched by a remarkable record of leadership and service. He served as student body vice president his senior year and as class president his freshman year. He also participated in Virginia Boys State, the American Legion's nationwide civic leadership action program.

Miller co-organized South Central Virginia's first Model United Nations conference; served as editor-in-chief of Fuqua School's student newspaper; and was captain of Fuqua's Battle of the Brains team that competed in televised, academic quiz shows. He also directed and acted in several school plays, served as announcer for home basketball games and frequently was invited to sing the national anthem at Fuqua School sporting events.

Since sophomore year, Miller had been an on-air personality at WFLO, which aired a documentary that he created about the 50th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's assassination in November 2013. "JFK: His Presidency and a Day that Changed the World" won Best Documentary or Public Affairs Program for small radio markets at the Virginia Association of Broadcasters' 77th Annual Awards program on June 20 in Virginia Beach.

In addition to getting involved in student government at William & Mary, Miller plans to continue pursuing his interest in radio and announcing, journalism and singing, as time allows. An experienced Civil War re-enactor, he also hopes to get involved with Colonial Williamsburg.

His ultimate goal is to run for public office. "I believe voting is our highest responsibility as a citizen, but I want to take that a step further."

— JENNY M. ABEL

# THE NEW KIDS

*Class of 2018 Stats (as of July 2014)*

## ISC PART III

Site preparation is underway for the construction of the third phase of William & Mary's Integrated Science Center (ISC).

The four-story ISC 3 will complete the Integrated Science Center, adding 113,000 square feet to a complex that includes ISC 2 (the complete renovation of the old Rogers Hall) and ISC 1, new construction that opened in 2008. ISC 3, funded with some \$74.2 million from the commonwealth, is scheduled for completion in spring 2016.

The new building will be arranged around a core, known as the Machine for Science, a four-story concentration of major labs and major-instrument facilities. A 300-seat lecture hall will become the university's largest instruction room. The project also will include a new greenhouse, to be constructed on the roof of ISC 2.

—JOSEPH MCCLAIN

### DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

- 9% OF FRESHMEN ARE LEGACIES\*
- 8% OF FRESHMEN ARE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS
- 30% OF FRESHMEN ARE STUDENTS OF COLOR

### ATHLETES

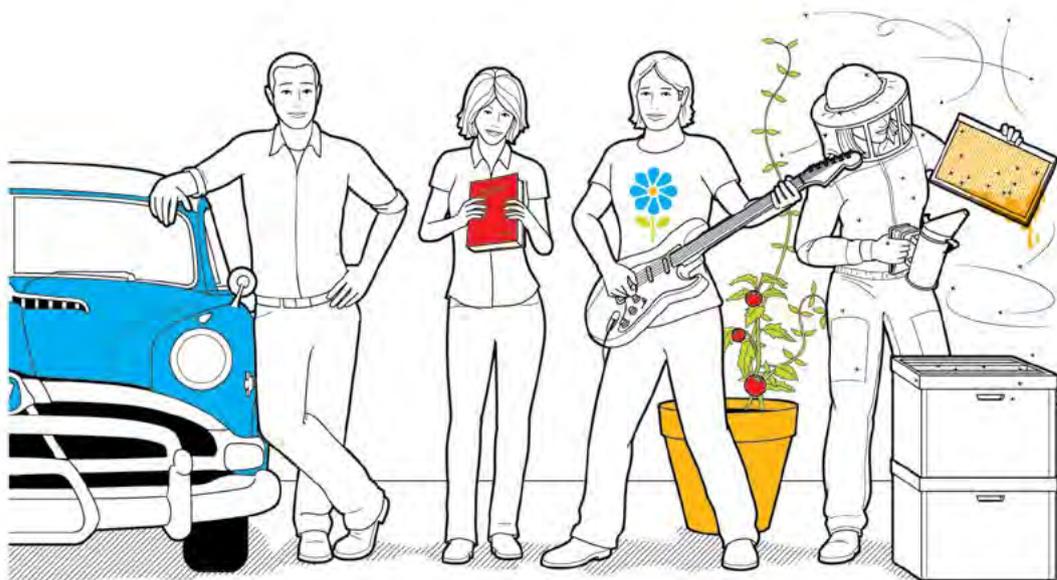
9% intend to play a competitive sport for the College



### ACADEMIC STATS

- AVERAGE GPA: **4.16**
- MID 50% SAT RANGE: **1270-1470** (CRITICAL READING AND MATH)
- MID 50% ACT RANGE: **29-33** (COMPOSITE SCORE)
- APPLICANT POOL: RECORD-BREAKING **14,552**

### THE CLASS OF 2018 INCLUDES:



↑ A student who restored a '53 Hudson Hornet

↑ A published novelist

↑ An organic gardener and member of a rock band

↑ A beekeeper

### BACKGROUNDS

Eight percent of freshmen are international students. **The freshman class comes from 33 different countries.** Students in the class speak 47 different languages. **22 freshmen enrolled in the St Andrews W&M Joint Degree program.** Additionally, 167 new undergraduate students transferred to W&M this semester.

\*A LEGACY IS A STUDENT WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO HAS ATTENDED THE COLLEGE

ILLUSTRATION: CHRIS PHILPOT

# Life in Williamsburg ... *return to it*

*It's* about connecting with fellow alumni and cheering on the Tribe. At Williamsburg Landing, just minutes away from William & Mary, you have the time to relive old memories and make new ones.

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## SPORTS

# Gravity-defying

The 2014 men's gymnastics team claimed the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference title and qualified as a team for the NCAA Championships, finishing the season ranked No. 12 nationally.

# CRIMINAL MINDS

*Mary Miley Theobald '74, M.A. '80 brings the Roaring Twenties to life.*

MEREDITH RANDLE '16

**W**HEN MARY MILEY THEOBALD '74, M.A. '80 came to Williamsburg as a child and saw the women wearing long, colonial dresses, she wanted to wear one, too. "I remember seeing the College down the street and thinking to myself, if I go to school here, I can wear one of those dresses," Theobald said. And she did. While earning an undergraduate and graduate degree in history at William & Mary, Theobald worked as a costumed tour guide for Colonial Williamsburg.

Theobald later became an adjunct instructor at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va. She taught history there for 13 years while researching Colonial America ... and writing. Theobald has written 10 nonfiction books and almost 200 magazine articles, many for Colonial Williamsburg. After leaving VCU, Theobald found another way to write about history: penning historical mysteries. She has written three books for a Roaring Twenties mystery series about a vaudeville performer named Jessie who gets mixed up in the debauchery of 1920s organized crime — bootlegging, robbery and murder.

The first installment of the series, *The Impersonator*, was released in 2013 and received the Best First Crime Novel Award from the Mystery Writers of America. The second, *Silent Murders*, was released in September and finds Jessie working in the silent film industry. When a powerful director is murdered and Jessie's friend is killed for what she saw, Jessie takes the lead in an investigation tainted by corrupt cops. The third book in the series, *Resting Silence*, will be released next fall.

"After 35 years of writing about Colonial America, I think it's nice to break out into another era," Theobald said. "The Roaring Twenties really appealed to me. I'd say it is the most intriguing era in American history. Prohibition *defines* the era. And the hypocrisy of it is mindboggling."

Her research on prohibition and organized crime has even influenced how Theobald views some current political issues. "There are so many parallels to today. Learning about the whole prohibition debacle has changed my views on legalized marijuana, something I opposed initially and now favor. Regulated alcohol is much safer than unregulated alcohol, and I think the same would be true for marijuana."

To help with revisions on her own work and to help other aspiring authors, Theobald founded a local chapter of a national organization called Sisters in Crime,

which offers support to mystery authors. She has also reached out to many William & Mary alumni to fact-check, calling on one retired pharmacist to determine how long the poison her killer used would take to work.

When asked why she writes, Theobald said, "I like to make history fun. It disturbs me when people say they don't like history, because I know that it just means that they didn't have good history teachers like I did."

SEE MORE BOOK NOTES ONLINE at [wmalumnimagazine.com](http://wmalumnimagazine.com)

## ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

### JOINING FORCES

William & Mary has merged important functions at the university to create a streamlined team focused on enhancing alumni engagement. The staff at the Alumni Association joined forces with development and other College staff to create a new University Advancement organization. • Under the new structure, the Alumni Association will remain an independent organization separate from the university, similar to the College of William & Mary Foundation. The Association Board of Directors will continue to be an elected body representing all alumni. • Matthew T. Lambert '99 will serve as vice president for university advancement. Marilyn Ward Midyette '75 has been named executive director of the Alumni Association and associate vice president for alumni engagement. Midyette succeeded Karen R. Cottrell '66, M.Ed. '69, Ed.D. '84, who retired from her position at the Alumni Association in July. Cottrell will continue serving the university in a new part-time role, designed to provide programming and assistance to alumni families with children going through the admission process. — BRIAN WHITSON

BY&LARGE

# It's Not Goodbye

*Cottrell retires but stays  
at university in part-time role*

BY SUZANNE SEURATTAN

**K**AREN COTTRELL '66, M.ED. '69, ED.D. '84 HAS retired as executive vice president of the William & Mary Alumni Association and has assumed a new, part-time role providing programming and assistance to alumni families with children going through the admission process.

"During Karen's term, the bonds between our alumni and the university have been strengthened like never before," said President Taylor Reveley. "With the assistance of a superior staff that she has recruited and led, Karen has built a strong foundation of alumni support that will be crucial to the university's continued progress."

Cottrell, whose tenure at the Alumni Association began in 2005, is no stranger to the admission process. She served as dean of admission from 1980 to 1985 and vice provost for enrollment from 1997 to 2005. Cottrell also spent 12 years at the University of Virginia as associate dean of admission.

"In my nearly decade-long tenure at the Alumni Association, I've seen the University move from good to great in appreciating the importance of alumni engagement and how it values the voice of alumni," Cottrell said. "I leave this position confident in the direction that has been set for the association — a vital asset for the William & Mary community."

## ANNUAL GIVING

### SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT



William & Mary has reached a record-breaking milestone: 15,134 undergraduate alumni contributed to the university during the fiscal year that ended June 30. • That number represents a 5.3 percent increase over last year's record and marks the first time that more than 15,000 undergraduate alumni donors have contributed to the university during a single fiscal year — from July 1 to June 30. • "It's wonderful and inspiring to see so many undergraduate alumni investing in an institution that is so near and dear to our hearts," said John D. Windt '89 of Vienna, Va., chair of the William & Mary Annual Giving Board of Directors. "Annual giving has become the lifeblood of the College, and increasing the number of donors year over year will ensure that William & Mary will continue to flourish." • While the commonwealth provided more than 42 percent of William & Mary's annual operating budget in 1980, state support has dipped as low as 12 percent in recent years. —BONNIE WINSTON

W&M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
**ALUMNI** 2015

# JOURNEYS

## Alaskan Frontiers and Glaciers

August 3-13, 2015

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[www.wmalumni.com/travel](http://www.wmalumni.com/travel)







# PRIDE *and* PREJUDICE

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The College's history  
with lesbian, gay, bisexual and  
transgender individuals  
hasn't always been bright,  
but the arc bends  
toward hope and triumph.

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BY PAUL BROCKWELL JR. '07



# WRITING A QUEER HISTORY OF WILLIAM & MARY IS AN exercise in reading between the lines. For years, many people deliberately hid their stories — and a large part of themselves — out of fear of exclusion or punishment.

Historical estimates of the queer population in the U.S. have ranged anywhere from 2 to 10 percent. It's unlikely, statistically speaking, that there weren't some same-sex relationships among the College's early, unmarried masters and the students who lived away from home in their care. While no accounts are known, the concept of romantic friendship between same-sex individuals is not new. It wouldn't have been called homosexuality per se, but the letters that do exist show deep and loving relationships.

Particularly when it came to women, these relationships sometimes proved a source of anxiety. A *Scribner's Monthly* article from the 1870s, for example, hinted at the moral vicissitudes that would ensue if large numbers of women had unlimited access to education and each other. The College thankfully ignored such warnings when it admitted women in 1918. But support and acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals on campus would take most of the 20th century. To be frank, it's still a work in progress. And it has been driven by a small and passionate band of alumni, faculty, students and staff. Represented here are a few of their stories. Many more have yet to be told, and many more need to be.



**A LONG HISTORY:**  
*Greek cup circa 480 BC depicting a male couple kissing.*

Full disclosure: I'm gay. I can still remember how painful it felt when my friend Patti forced me to utter those words out loud on the steps of the Wren Building the night I finally got the courage to come out to her. Patti refused to let me skulk back into the art of Southern obfuscation and use pronouns to mask what I feared most at that time — the pain and rejection I'd been conditioned to believe came with being gay. She helped me name the fear, rather than give it power. Years later I'd appreciate her insistence and what it meant for my own development,

but at the time I could easily have mistaken her insistence for a mild form of torture.

BY AND LARGE, WILLIAMSBURG OPERATED VERY much like a small Southern town when it came to sexual minorities. Most folks could guess who was gay, but there was little to no public acknowledgment of such realities. Everybody knew, and nobody talked about it.

"It wasn't a place where people had to pretend. You could be yourself, but you didn't necessarily call attention to yourself," said Wayne Curtis '82. "But if your behavior got to the point where people started talking about it, then you were a problem. And usually that meant no good was going to come one way or the other."

Curtis remembers Stephen Snell '66, founder of William & Mary Gay and Lesbian Alumni Inc., telling him how scared many students were because simply being gay was an offense that could get you expelled. Back then, deans were much stricter and residence halls more regimented and policed.

Anecdotes abound of students called in for questioning, kicked out or worse. After arriving at the College on a chemistry scholarship in 1961, Bill Boushka was removed around Thanksgiving after admitting his latent homosexuality to Dean J. Wilfred Lambert '27, L.H.D. '81. Tom Baker '66 spent some time in the College's infirmary for being gay. (Seven years after he graduated, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from the list of mental disorders in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.)

In general, support and acknowledgment of gay life on campus didn't exist. "There was no real social place in town," Curtis said. "We heard rumors there

PAINTING: BRISEIS PAINTER



**'70S ACTIVISM:**  
Gay rights demonstration,  
New York City, 1976.

had been a club underneath the Green Leafe that was known to be friendly, but the city had closed it down by the mid-'70s, so it was just legend by the time I arrived in '78."

Most of the time if gay students wanted to socialize or dance they had to drive to Norfolk, Richmond or Washington, D.C. Former William & Mary Rector Jeff Trammell '73 has told the *Washington Blade* about his own nerve-wracking experience as a student traveling up to D.C. on a secret mission to visit a gay bar.

Activism in the '80s and a new wave of faculty and student groups in the '90s helped change the landscape dramatically at William & Mary. Campus Pride, a national organization that rates colleges and universities, gave William & Mary five stars for its support and institutional commitment to LGBTQ students.

"I'm proud of the fact that we've made progress," says Sam Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71, former vice president for student affairs. "I get sad sometimes when I think about how long it took."

I had come to William & Mary from rural southern Virginia. It was a place still very much like Williamsburg in earlier years. People didn't talk

about being gay — and the term was used as a catch-all negative. We played "smear the queer" at recess and were exposed to very few openly gay people. I can remember sheepishly having to ask my mom how men could possibly have sex with men after seeing a "60 Minutes" report on the spread of AIDS.

IN 1983, THINGS BEGAN TO GET BETTER. GEORGE Greenia, professor of Hispanic Studies, started a support group for gay students that met during the semester in the catacombs of Saint Bede's (now the Catholic Campus Ministries Chapel) just off campus. It disbanded in 2006, when the wide range of campus resources decreased the need for an anonymous support group.

Greenia's group existed at the complicated intersection of faith and sexuality.

"In ministry, gay sexuality is the one issue that inevitably brings guilt by association," Greenia said. "But St. Bede's never threw us out, even when there was a bomb scare."

The group provided a space for students who didn't feel safe being out and who were still coming to terms with their own identities. Each Monday evening, wary and nervous attendees showed up for

discussions about everything from how to come out to their parents to AIDS education and prevention and student suicide prevention.

“Our public stance was to equate the gay student support group with Weight Watchers,” Greenia said. “We [the church] hosted the group, but there was no official connection to the church.”

Greenia also collaborated with campus ministers and the Counseling Center to help address emotional crises. While none of the ministers could change a denominational stance, they all felt comfortable referring students to Greenia who needed to explore their sexual identities and religion in a safe space. The general catchphrase was, “Let George do it.”

For faculty, the challenges were a little more nuanced. Some of the closeted faculty gained notoriety by exhibiting desperation through self-destructive behavior on campus and in the community.

“By and large the College preferred discretion and disassociation with what gay faculty might have done,” Greenia said. “They were pretty merciful in allowing people to exit with their dignity intact and without vindictive public shaming.”

He found the faculty supportive and welcoming, but people still advised him not to come out until he had tenure. It was advice he ignored. And while he heard murmurs of terrible things said about him during the process, he ultimately got tenure. And today he chairs the committee that oversees tenure, retention and promotion of faculty.

Greenia was one of the growing number of faculty and staff members who came out and worked to improve the campus climate.

“Faculty were far more likely to be out to their colleagues than to their students,” said Sue Peterson, who arrived in 1994 to teach government and international relations. “For a lot of faculty, it was hard to be out in the classroom.”

At one of her first meetings with a freshman advisee, Peterson was asked for help finding classes that were not taught by “liberals or homosexuals.”

That’s drastically changed, Peterson said. Students are far more accepting these days. The questions she gets when visiting a class to speak about queer issues are no longer about her right to bring a child into the world, but thoughtful inquiries about the bias faced by LGBTQ faculty today.

Peterson said it’s also important to note the big differences between interpersonal relationships on campus, which she’s known as warm and welcoming, and the hostility of the state’s institutions — which don’t recognize family relationships and deny benefits to loved ones.

History professor Leisa Meyer agrees. She came to the College on the heels of a 1993 Virginia court decision *Bottoms v. Bottoms*, in which a grandmother sued her daughter and won custody of her grandson primarily because his mother was a lesbian. The Virginia Supreme Court upheld the custodial ruling.

“That didn’t bode well,” Meyer said. She and Peterson helped found the gay and lesbian staff group (now Equality W&M) and with their colleagues like Greenia and others, they continue to seek the benefits and recognition afforded to heterosexual couples. In 1998, Peterson also worked with Residence Life to initiate the Safe Zone program, which provides training for allies and advocates of LGBTQ students.

STRUGGLING AGAINST VIRGINIA’S ANTIGAY LAWS and the AIDS crisis brought faculty and alumni together in powerful ways. In 1986, Snell founded William & Mary Gay and Lesbian Alumni Inc. (GALA). Within a few years, the organization was one of the largest gay and lesbian alumni groups in the country and became a driving force in some notable fights. In 1990, GALA advocated successfully for the addition of sexual orientation to the College’s nondiscrimination clause. The next year, the group was party to a lawsuit against the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board over state laws that made it illegal to serve alcohol to homosexuals. Though largely unenforced for a decade, federal courts ruled the laws were unconstitutional as part of the settlement.

GALA also ran several safer sex campaigns on campus, including one in which they mailed green and gold condoms to President Paul Verkuil ’61 and others during National Condom Week. Under the leadership of Snell, the group was tireless in their efforts, whether supporting AIDS education outside of campus or student organizations on campus.

The group formed at the height of the AIDS crisis. Many alumni had died from the disease, and it hit closer to Williamsburg than anyone thought.

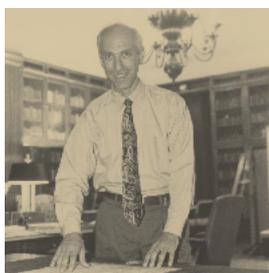
“We were reading about what AIDS was doing in cities like New York and San Francisco,” said Curtis. “But at that point it was just unthought-of that it would be in eastern Virginia.”

When diagnosed, one student, Joe Marfy ’86, recorded a video used in health education for students at the College. There were vigils and educational events, but the full and devastating effect of the disease wasn’t felt directly on campus.

“It’s an invisible disease,” said Greenia. “You get sick and die elsewhere.”

GALA’S SUCCESS BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH the College started at Swem Library. “Why these things always start in libraries, I’ll never know,” said former GALA president Curtis. But the connections were powerful for the group of alumni who often struggled when exploring their identities as students.

“When someone was searching or questioning, one of the first places you went was the library,” said Curtis. “You could browse for facts, read things



*“Our public stance was to equate the gay student support group with Weight Watchers.”*

—GEORGE GREENIA,  
professor of  
Hispanic Studies



about yourself and understand who you were and the history of the gay movement.”

Many of the books in the library were old and tattered and often vandalized or destroyed by homophobic passersby. As a tercentennial gift to the College in 1993, GALA raised funds to establish an endowment to support the acquisition of gay and lesbian resources for Swem. The fund — named for Richard Cornish, a merchant ship captain executed in 1625 for having a homosexual relationship — has grown to more than \$150,000.

The desire to promote scholarship on gay and lesbian issues also drove GALA to approach the history department about establishing the Boswell Memorial Lecture Series in 1997. Leisa Meyer was assigned to work with the group to plan the annual lecture series memorializing John Boswell '69, a Yale professor and medieval historian of sexuality who died of AIDS in 1994.

Celebrating the contributions of LGBTQ alumni has been a tradition of GALA, whether hosting a screening of “Pariah” with producer Nekisa Cooper '99 or readings by author and NYU professor Christopher Bram '74. Bram’s novel *Father of Frankenstein* was adapted into the Oscar Award-winning screenplay for the 1998 film “Gods and Monsters.”

GALA also helped start an oral history collection — the Stephens Project — to document the lives and experiences of LGBTQ students, faculty, staff and alumni while associated with the College. The project, housed in the University Archives, is an ongoing effort to create a legacy that ties the past with the present in order to transform the future.

At William & Mary, I remember being scared back into the closet my freshman year by some of the



**CHANGING TIMES:** Clockwise from top left: Sue Peterson arrived at the College in 1994 to teach government and international relations. She is now the director of the International Relations Program; John Boswell '69 in an undated photograph; GALA board meeting in Boston, 1992.



**PROUD ALUMNI:**  
*GALA participants in New York City's 1988 Pride March: foreground (l-r) Wayne Curtis '82 and Michael Rogan '81; background (l-r) Arthur Rawding '82, Stephen Snell '66 and Steven Murden '74 (holding British colonial flag).*

College's more flamboyant friends of Dorothy. I'm incredibly fortunate to have attended during a time when the campus was full of understanding people. Sometimes, the barriers we construct are the hardest to break down. That's what Patti knew when she insisted on my saying the words out loud. It wasn't because she enjoyed watching me squirm. Rather, she wanted to help me along in the process of coming out to advisors, friends and, ultimately, family.

AROUND THE TIME THAT GAY AND LESBIAN STUDENTS started to find community around campus, transgendered students continued to struggle in silence, often without the terminology to discuss their personal identity.

Deborah (Dave) Fabian '71 entered William & Mary in 1967 and was a member of the 1971 undefeated men's soccer team. After graduating, she went on to become an orthopedic surgeon. But throughout all of her personal successes, she continued a quiet and painful struggle on the inside.

"It's hard to explain," said Fabian, who went by Dave until transitioning in 2011. "I was part of a fraternity. I was part of the soccer team. I studied hard. It wasn't eating away at me all the time, but this desire to wear women's clothes, it just kept coming back."

There was no support for someone in Fabian's shoes. At the time, she didn't know of anyone on campus who was gay or lesbian. No one talked about sexual minorities, and in her case, non-demeaning terminology was just beginning to emerge.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF WAYNE CURTIS



PHOTO: COURTESY EARL GREGG SWEM LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

“I was closeted to myself,” Fabian said. “There were no words, just this desire that never went away.”

Things didn’t get better in medical school, where she’d read medical literature about the “severe pathology” of her desires. In the late ’70s, after being arrested for cross-dressing, she was strip-searched and absolutely humiliated. Fabian said it was the first time she considered committing suicide. There would be other dark hours, but Fabian slowly began the process of self-acceptance.

“I kept thinking, you’re getting to be a real son-of-a-bitch and began to ask whether I wanted to live the rest of my life miserable, unhappy and drinking too much. I realized I just didn’t want to keep living that way.”

Fabian saw a therapist specializing in gender identity issues who encouraged her to attend a transgender

event in Provincetown, Mass., where she met her current wife, Leslie. She was in drag when they first met.

“Just having someone who loves me and says I’m OK — that was a big part of it for a lot of years,” Fabian says. “Up until meeting her, I didn’t feel OK.”

A few years ago, at age 61, she officially began living as Deborah. The journey hasn’t been easy, but together she and her wife have shared it. Her wife has written a book (*My Husband’s a Woman Now*), and the two frequently talk about the lessons learned throughout the change in their lives.

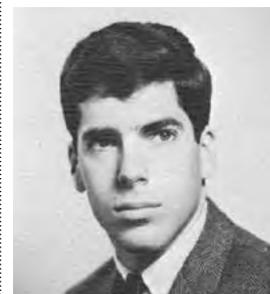
Given her experience as a student, Fabian was hesitant to come back to campus, but when she visited for the first time in 20 years, she was amazed to see how much the climate had changed and the support that now exists for students. It was gratifying for her to see how many students are self-accepting. And she was amazed by her former fraternity brother Al Albert ’69, who coaches with the soccer team and could not have been more welcoming. They attended a game together where she met some of the current players. It felt like old times, she said.

As I think about the William & Mary I’ve heard about, experienced and now see today, I’m left with a sense of hope. Students are no longer forced to cruise in CW or campus bathrooms or to take a road trip to find a community of peers — they’re mostly self-confident and open. Since then the College has had its first gay rector and we have a president who has no qualms about taking the stage with drag queens at the campus pride festival. And let’s not forget our students elected a gender-queer Homecoming Queen in addition to founding a plethora of LGBTQ groups — from Wilma and Mary to William and Larry. As a community, we’ve come a long way. Earlier this year, the GALA board voted to become part of the College’s Alumni Association. After nearly three decades as an independent organization, the group who has served the needs of LGBTQ alumni is being welcomed into the fold as one family. In the spring, the W&M Foundation Board, similarly to the Women’s Philanthropy initiative, decided to work more closely to engage LGBTQ alumni. Recently the College added gender expression and identity to its nondiscrimination clause.

Don’t get me wrong. There is a lot work left to be done. But undeniably it’s gotten better at William & Mary and it excites me that together, as one Tribe and one family, we can all work to continue that forward movement. ☺

*Paul Brockwell Jr. ’07 is a writer and editor in Richmond, Va. He’s a former chair of the Young Guard Council and currently serves on the board of the College’s LGBTQ alumni council.*

*If you would like to provide financial support to GALA, the Cornish Fund or the Boswell Lecture, please contact Gerald Bullock at 757.221.1023 or igbull@wm.edu..*



**FOUNDING FATHER:**  
*Stephen Snell ’66, founder of William & Mary Gay and Lesbian Alumni (GALA). The GALA board recently voted to become part of the Alumni Association.*

Every year, the Alumni Association honors a select group of outstanding young faculty members. We hope you'll agree that these associate professors reflect William & Mary at its very best. **Introducing: Our 2014 Alumni Fellowship Award Recipients**

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PROFILES BY LAUREL OVERBY AND MEREDITH RANDLE '16 || PHOTOGRAPHED BY MARK MITCHELL

**CLASSROOM PET PEEVE:**

Technology

**INSPIRATION:**

*“My colleagues inspire me the most. It’s encouraging to know that most things I struggle with as a professor are the same things my colleagues struggle with as well, so it’s nice to have that support.”*

## Melanie Dawson M.A. '90

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

If you were to ask English professor Melanie Dawson what she thought she'd be when she grew up, she'd tell you either a ballerina or a firefighter. After receiving her master's from William & Mary, Dawson began working in a writing center, which helped her accept the idea of teaching as a career path. "Working in the writing center allowed me to look at enough student writing for me to feel confident enough to think I could

probably handle it." Today, Dawson more than handles teaching — she thrives at it.

"Literature isn't just about what we like to imagine it's about. Sometimes we need real knowledge from the time period," Dawson said. She likes to involve her students in the social world of an era — reading a piece of literature on environmental issues or allowing students to make acorn bread for class to see if it's really edible. "I like to give students

material so they can draw from themselves and not rely on me for all of the facts. I want to make them independent thinkers, as well as careful and grounded analysts. At William & Mary, professors want students to do well in the classroom, but also in life. So that means allowing them to have a certain amount of independence at every step."

# Cheryl Dickter

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF PSYCHOLOGY

Cheryl Dickter first witnessed racial prejudice in her Long Island middle school. "There were situations involving bullying and violence that were based on the color of people's skin. I saw friends get physically and psychologically hurt as a function of their race." Growing up surrounded by that kind of hate made her want to investigate the psychological factors underlying perceived racial differences.

Though her research focus has expanded to include addiction and autism, Dickter is best known for investigating how the brain processes social groups, including races, genders and sexual orientations. Her groundbreaking social psychology research has been published in 27 articles and one book.

Dickter's childhood ambition to become an elementary school teacher shifted in her senior year at Randolph-Macon College. She talked to her advisor, who thought she might be a good candidate for graduate school, a choice that Dickter had never considered. As a graduate student, she discovered her passion for combining research and teaching.

"With research, if you're also teaching, you're constantly updating your materials as more research comes out. It's exciting for me to share with the students in my class every year."

Her goal as an educator is to create an upbeat environment in the classroom where students can become captivated by psychology; her students' interest, in turn, fuels her own enthusiasm. "The best comments I get on my evaluations are that this class was very challenging and that it made me want to become a psychology major."



**SCHOLAR-ATHLETE:**

Dickter played varsity soccer for Randolph-Macon.

**NEW ADDITION:**

Over the summer, her family got an Alaskan Klee Kai.

## Jim Kaste

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF GEOLOGY

The son of an earth science teacher who was always looking for ways to get his kids outside, Jim Kaste spent family vacations exploring caves, fossil sites, meteor craters and volcanoes.

During college, Kaste explored earth sciences and never felt more at home with a subject. Now an associate professor of geology at William & Mary, Kaste says he finds it just as fascinating as he did when he was first getting involved in the field. "Geology is all around us. We're talking about really exciting processes – earthquakes, volcanoes, how life evolves. And it's very applicable; it impacts us on a daily basis – we just don't think about it that much."

Kaste focuses on his students, challenging them in the classroom and getting to know them on geology department field trips. "We're cooking together, hanging out at the campfire together, and when students feel comfortable around you, that's when the teaching will be the most effective."

Having done studies up and down the East Coast, in Southern California, and as far away as Sweden and Norway, Jim Kaste can attest to how much people affect the earth, and he aims to spread awareness about our environmental footprint. "With all of the different human activities, we're going to have some impact on the environment; it's just how do we limit it? The research I do has direct relevance. The more people know, the better informed they are and the better decisions that they make. That's why I'm in the business."

AFA  
2014

### FAMILY AFFAIR:

As a kid, Kaste hosted study sessions at his house, and his parents were very helpful while Jim and his friends were studying for tests – especially those in math and science.

### GEO 101:

*"A common teaching evaluation statement is 'This class is not rocks for jocks.' I think it's good to have high expectations of students."*





## Gjergji Cici

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF BUSINESS

Growing up in Albania, Gjergji Cici recalls many times trying to understand the mysteries of his native country. "I was trying to figure out why things were the way they were in our communist 'paradise,'" Cici said. "Religion was banned, and I remember asking my parents a lot of questions about Saint George and why my aunt kept his icon hidden in her closet."

For Cici, coming to teach in America was a little intimidating. "I was afraid that my accent would make it hard for my students to follow what I was lecturing on." Now Cici has over 14 years of teaching experience, with more than 30 articles published in widely read outlets, including the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, and opportunities to present his research findings to regulators at the Securities and Exchange Commission and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Cici's research focuses on the asset management industry, particularly the behavior of mutual funds and hedge funds. Growing up in the Eastern Bloc, he credits a scholarship he received for his undergraduate studies at the American University of Bulgaria for sparking his interest in the subject.

Cici calls William & Mary a special place where students go through a significant transformation, due to the academic rigor and personal attention every student receives. "I hope every student who takes my class takes away the lesson that with hard work, perseverance and openness to other people's ideas, everything is possible."

### POP QUIZ:

"With each new group of students that I teach, I sometimes ask them to tell me where Albania is. I find the fact that most of them do not know where it is or the guesses that they make very entertaining."

### BEST ADVICE:

*"The key to your success is within you—you just have to find the key and only you can do so."*

**OLD SCHOOL:**  
Prefers using a chalkboard in the classroom; she finds it slows her down and allows her to explain each point in depth.

**FAVORITE CAMPUS SPOT:**  
*The Sunken Garden. "I love to take the kids there and kick a soccer ball around."*

## Melissa McInerney

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Though economics professor Melissa McInerney's topic of interest is relevant to current-day political debates, her teaching methods have been passed down for generations. Her grandmother, mother, aunt and cousin were all teachers who paved the way for McInerney's career teaching economic theory. "I think they gave me an appreciation for how much preparation it takes to teach during an 80- or 90-minute lecture," she said. "Preparing for class, you have to know the material you assigned to the students, where the material fits in the broader literature, and also try to find a way to break those materials down for someone who is being introduced to them for the first time."

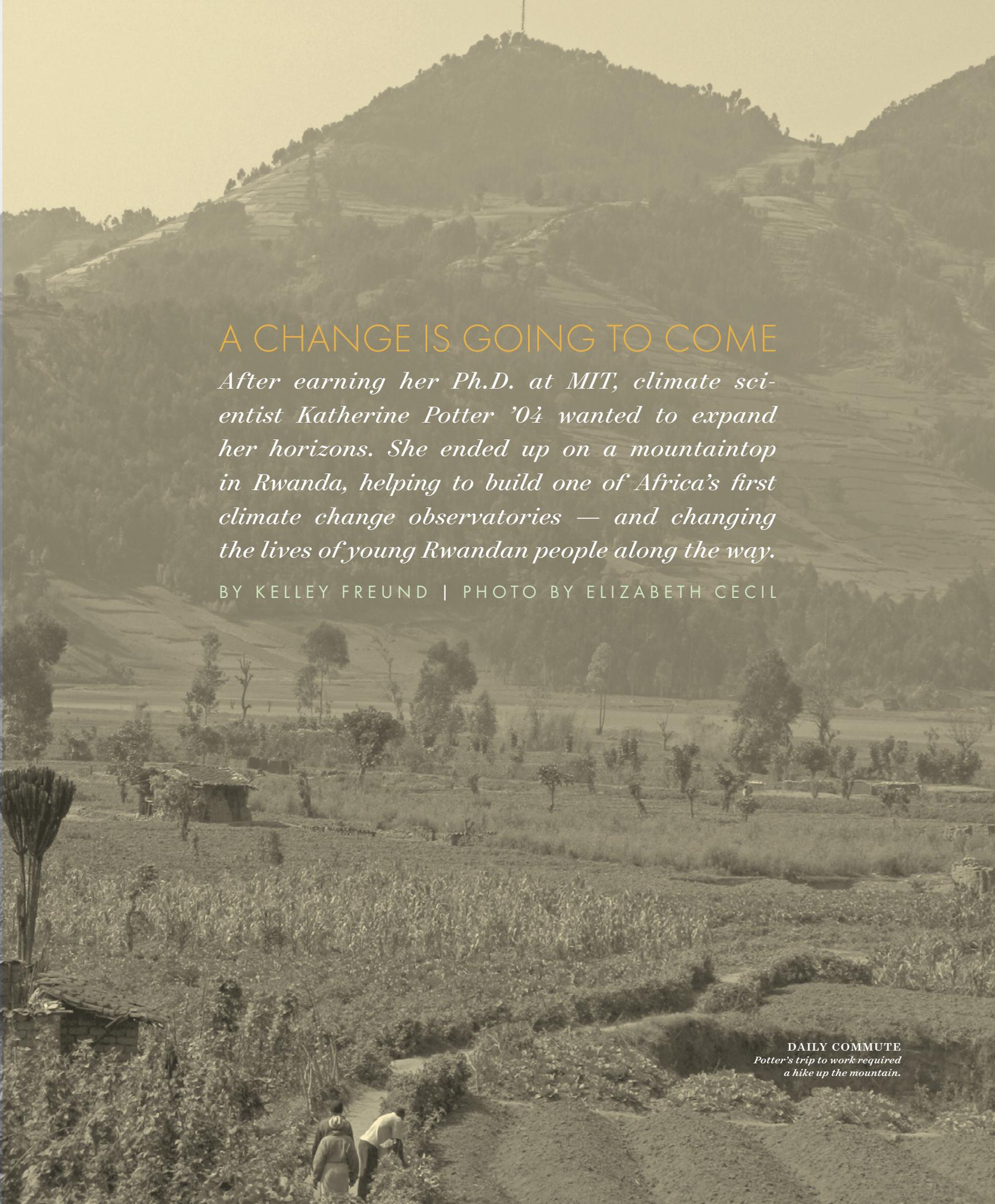
In 2012, McInerney was one of five recipients of the prestigious Steven H. Sandell Grant. McInerney's work ethic is among the many reasons she was awarded the grant. Having

written countless publications, and currently in the process of writing six more, McInerney takes pride in helping others become better consumers in post-recession America.

McInerney's true passion is examining social policies that address inequality in the workplace. She has conducted research on how race, gender and disabilities affect how a person is treated on the job. McInerney is also interested in how economics can affect human behavior. With recent publications like "Recession Depression: Mental Health Effects of the 2008 Stock Market Crash," she explores more than just a cost-benefit analysis and studies the lives of people. It's clear that economics is more than numbers and graphs to McInerney. "I am interested in policy questions, and seek the best tools to analyze them. The policy questions are what motivate me."







## A CHANGE IS GOING TO COME

*After earning her Ph.D. at MIT, climate scientist Katherine Potter '04 wanted to expand her horizons. She ended up on a mountaintop in Rwanda, helping to build one of Africa's first climate change observatories — and changing the lives of young Rwandan people along the way.*

BY KELLEY FREUND | PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CECIL

**DAILY COMMUTE**  
*Potter's trip to work required  
a hike up the mountain.*

IF YOU'RE A KID GROWING UP IN RWANDA, THERE USUALLY IS NO ASKING WHAT YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP. AFTER ALL, 90 PERCENT OF THE WORKING POPULATION IN THE COUNTRY FARMS. SO THAT'S WHAT YOU GROW UP TO DO.

One day, while working on your farm near Mount Mugogo, you look up to see a group of Rwandan men and women carrying furniture, mechanical equipment and computers up the hillside. A woman in red pants is with them, taking photographs and helping carry the equipment. She has light-brown hair and a slight, athletic build, like a dancer. You wonder: who is this strange woman and why is she here?

The woman is Katherine Potter '04, an American. She does in fact dance, using a freestyle dance space for barefoot "dance jam" and occasionally taking samba and modern classes. And while she had a childhood ambition to become a photographer for *National Geographic*, she is now a scientist.

Potter is currently serving as the temporary principal investigator for the Rwanda Climate Observatory, a partnership between the Rwandan Ministry of Education and MIT. The observatory aims to measure climate data in Africa. In a country where most people grow tea and coffee, or leave to go to college in another country and don't come back, Potter is helping the growing number of young adults in Rwanda who are interested in science make a difference in their own backyard.

So how did Potter end up on this mountain? You might say it started with a free lunch.

**AFTER GRADUATING** from William & Mary with a double major in chemistry and environmental science, Potter knew she wanted to go back to school,

but wasn't sure for what. "I loved chemistry and I cared about environmental issues, but I didn't really see how those would go together for me," Potter said.

In 2004, Potter began working with an AmeriCorps organization in Boston doing an environmental education program in inner city schools. Living off a limited salary and food stamps (the organization felt participants should be living at the income level of the people they were serving), Potter and her AmeriCorps colleagues would scour the city for free food.

In February of that year, Potter attended an event at the Museum of Science in Boston geared towards teaching area educators about climate change — and it included a free lunch. Three MIT professors talked about the science of climate change, engineering solutions to climate change, and the political and environmental connections of the issue.

"When one professor talked about the science and the atmospheric chemistry of climate change, it was just like BOOM," Potter said. "I had never been exposed to the fact that this could be a potential field of research. I knew about climate change but hadn't thought about it as so connected to chemistry. I was frantically taking notes the whole time."

A writer of thank-you notes, Potter sent the professor, Ronald Prinn, an email. He responded, inviting her to meet up to talk more climate change. In the professor's head, Potter was probably a 40-year-old teacher in Boston, so when a 20-something showed

**MOUNTAIN TREK:**  
*Lab workers lug heavy equipment up Mount Mugogo.*

PHOTOS: (OPPOSITE PAGE AND PREVIOUS PAGE) COURTESY OF KATHERINE POTTER





**WORKING GROUP**

*Potter, second from the left, with Rwandan colleagues Gratién, Theobald, Jimmy, Yves and Shyaka.*

up, he was surprised. He asked her if she was interested in grad school, more specifically the program at MIT. Since it was already mid-March and applications were past due, Potter assumed she would have to wait until the next year.

Prinn had other ideas. He told her to go down to the ninth floor and ask a woman named Carol for the admissions application to the program. “Carol told me it was a good sign if Ron sent me,” said Potter. “But I hadn’t gotten any of my stuff together. It was this frantic period of contacting professors for letters of recommendation, compiling resumes, writing a personal statement, studying for and taking my GREs — all within a week.”

It seemed like a dream come true, but when Potter got her acceptance letter, she hesitated. “A few months ago researching climate change was not even within my realm of possibilities, and here I am going into a Ph.D. program at MIT,” Potter said. “I hadn’t looked into other climate change programs out there. So I went back to the three W&M professors who’d written my recommendations. All of them said, ‘Why would you turn down an acceptance to MIT?’ It was fate.”

Potter earned her Ph.D. in 2011 and began looking for other opportunities. “It was specifically my intention not to stay at MIT,” she said. “I wanted to see something else.”

That something else was Rwanda.

**IN 1994, RWANDA’S** population of 7 million was composed of three ethnic groups: Hutu, Tutsi and Twa. Hutu extremists within Rwanda’s political elite blamed the entire Tutsi minority population for the country’s social, economic and political pressures. Tutsi civilians were also accused of supporting a rebel group, the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). Through the use of propaganda and constant political maneuvering, Rwanda President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, and his group increased divisions between Hutu and Tutsi. The Hutu remembered past years of oppressive Tutsi rule, and many of them not only resented but also feared the minority.

On April 6, 1994, a plane carrying President Habyarimana was shot down. Violence began almost immediately. Under the cover of war, Hutu extremists launched their plans to destroy the entire Tutsi civilian population. Political leaders who might have

**AIR SAMPLE**  
*An air inlet cup is mounted on the observatory's tower.*

been able to take charge of the situation and other high-profile opponents of the Hutu extremist plans were killed immediately. Tutsi and people suspected of being Tutsi were killed in their homes and as they tried to flee. In the weeks after April 6, 800,000 people perished in the Rwandan genocide, perhaps as many as three-quarters of the Tutsi population. At the same time, thousands of Hutu were murdered because they opposed the killing campaign and the forces directing it. The civil war and genocide ended when the Tutsi-dominated rebel group, the RPF, defeated the Hutu perpetrator regime. Paul Kagame became an influential leader at this time, serving as vice president and minister of defense from 1994 until 2000, when he became president.

Since becoming president, Kagame has prioritized national development in Rwanda. In 2008, he visited MIT, looking for collaborations in order to build up his nation's universities. Young Rwandans were going to school elsewhere and not coming back. "He wanted to get into science and research to keep people in the country," Potter said. "He wanted to figure out what projects could be done in Rwanda by Rwandans."

The president met with Potter's supervisor, Professor Prinn, who told him climate change was important, especially because the African economy still relies heavily on local agriculture.

There is currently a network of stations around the world that measure compounds in the atmosphere and capture climate data. This network is known as the Advanced Global Atmospheric Gases Experiment (AGAGE) and is funded in part by NASA and NOAA. The organization was started in the 1970s in response to the depletion of the ozone layer. "You don't really think about it, but these networks are where climate information comes from," said Potter. There are stations in places like Ireland, Australia and Switzerland.

According to Potter, there is very limited climate information coming out of Africa. While there have been a couple of locations trying to collect data, there has been little to no success with collecting data for a longer period of time. There is a station in South Africa, but it is more focused on short-lived air pollution compounds rather than the greenhouse and ozone-depleting gases.

While Africa accounts for a fifth of the world's landmass, the continent has no long-term continuous record of air pollution or greenhouse gas emissions. "When you're trying to figure out what's going on in the world, you want these stations spread out,"



*"When you're trying to figure out what's going on in the world, you want these stations spread out," Potter said. "And we know so little about what's going on in this huge part of the world."*

Potter said. "And we know so little about what's going on in this huge part of the world."

Prinn proposed to Kagame that a station be set up in Rwanda to join the collaborative AGAGE-network. After working in the bubble of academia, Potter jumped at the opportunity to work with the people in Rwanda. "I needed to interact with people," she said. "MIT is not reality. Put me in the real world! That was the appeal of Rwanda. It was doing science, but it was so people-based."

**AS TEMPORARY PRINCIPAL** investigator for the Rwanda Climate Observatory, working under Prinn, Potter's role has been to build the observatory from the ground up and to train local staff in the



science and long-term maintenance of the station. The observatory is currently situated at an interim location on Mount Mugogo. The chosen final location is Mount Karisimbi, a 4,500-meter volcano in northwestern Rwanda. “Mount Mugogo is more accessible and we can more easily train people and work out the instrument and equipment bugs in a less harsh location,” Potter said.

According to Potter, Rwanda is a good place for an AGAGE station because of its mountains. “You want these stations to be in a remote place,” she said. “If you put a station in Boston in the middle of the city, you just measure all the pollution in Boston. But if you have a remote location, like a mountain, you’re getting a broader picture.”

The project has not been without its difficulties. Potter said there have been a lot of logistical problems with getting things like supplies. “In science, when you’re doing precise measurements, there are very specific things you need,” said Potter. “Like a vacuum pump, for example. Our community knows from experience, it’s this brand; this is the specific vacuum pump that we need. We know it’s tried and tested.”

But the buying process is structured differently in Rwanda in order to prevent corruption. Every purchase has to go through a bidding process, where the object needed is advertised in the newspaper. Since the observatory project is largely funded by the government of Rwanda — salaries, personnel, infrastructure — the organization must go through the process.

“Each one of these purchases has been a huge struggle and it slows things down a lot,” Potter said. “With all of these stations, we need to make them as identical as possible so you can compare data. If something is functioning slightly differently, how do you compare that? There are a lot of safeguards set up in the Rwandan government that I’m sure are very effective for other purposes, but for doing this it makes it difficult.

“We’re in the Ministry of Education, but then we’ve been dealing with Ministry of Infrastructure because of electricity and roads. We’re dealing with all of these different ministries and everything we do requires letters, approvals, meetings. It’s hard to get science done.”

**IN SPITE OF THE OBSTACLES**, the good things far outweigh the difficulties, Potter said. She credits the people of Rwanda for her making her job so enjoyable. “There are people I’ve met that are

really amazing,” she said. “We hired four technicians who take care of the day-to-day maintenance of the station, checking that all the pumps are working, checking on the data, changing instrument filters. We would normally have just one, but we decided to hire more to build up knowledge in Rwanda as much as we can right now.

*“Somebody comes from a foreign country, sets up a weather station, and maybe trains one person, but then they’re gone and it just sits there and dies and gets rusty. I think that happens a lot.”*

“The idea is that eventually it will be run completely by Rwandans. Seeing their confidence build has been really nice.”

Potter said the project is important in multiple ways. Because there has been so little climate change information coming out of Africa, it’s helping to fill an international data gap. The data also will specifically help Africans by enhancing regional computer modeling to predict rainfall and drought. The observatory partnership between the Rwandan government and MIT has also led to the development of a master’s program at the University of Rwanda.

Though still officially principal investigator, Potter is transitioning out of her role to begin letting the people in Rwanda have more control over the project. There are times when she feels it’s the right decision, and other times where she wants to stick around because she understands what this means to Rwanda.

“They’re so excited about starting this master’s degree program at the university, about recruiting these Rwandan technicians and teaching them about it,” Potter said. It’s the enthusiasm of the Rwandans involved, Potter believes, that ensures the future of the observatory.

“Somebody comes from a foreign country, sets up a weather station, and maybe trains one person, but then they’re gone and it just sits there and dies and gets rusty. I think that happens a lot. What’s so great about this observatory being in the AGAGE network is that’s not going to happen. There are so many people behind it now in Rwanda who are invested in it, and with the support from colleagues in the AGAGE network, I am confident this will survive.” ☺

**FULLY WIRED**  
*An ozone inlet and  
pyranometer mount  
are set up.*





# TRIBE

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## RITE OF PASSAGE

*At the Aug. 27 Opening Convocation ceremony, members of the College community lined up to welcome the incoming Class of 2018 with cheers and high-fives. "They really mean 'One Tribe One Family,' It was such a reception," said freshman Ian Williams. The ceremony featured keynote speaker Ted Dintersmith '74, a former venture capitalist now focused on global education and entrepreneurship.*

PHOTO: DJI PHANTOM 2



*Mary Ramsey '08 serves as the head of casting and creative for the Aqualillies.*

“BASICALLY, ANYTIME SOMEONE NEEDS GIRLS IN THE WATER  
IN HOLLYWOOD, WE’RE THE CALL.”

# Synchronicity

MARY RAMSEY '08 DIVES INTO HER WORK

**ALUMNI PROFILE** You’re sitting poolside at a party in Beverly Hills. The people are beautiful, the cocktails strong, and you’re pretty sure that blonde in the sunglasses a few tables over is Kate Hudson.

Abruptly, the music changes, and a crew of glamorous-looking women stride in, wearing matching swimsuits and bathing caps and carrying parasols. The crowd lets out a small gasp as the women jump in the water, swimming in choreographed formation to the music.

This is precisely the effect that Mary Ramsey '08 and the Aqualillies work to achieve with all of their performances, calling themselves “the world’s most glamorous synchronized swimming entertainment company.” This claim is backed by write-ups in *Vogue*, *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times Magazine* and *Marie Claire*.

“Basically, anytime someone needs girls in the water in Hollywood, we’re the call,” said Ramsey, who according to *Vogue*, “resembles Jean Harlow if she’d had beachy waves.”

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Ramsey has been involved with synchronized swimming since the age of 6. She met William & Mary synchronized swimming coach Barbara McNamee at a competition while in high school, and transferred to the College after a year at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

“I absolutely loved it,” said Ramsey of W&M. “There was a one-on-one experience that I wasn’t really getting before.”

Majoring in art history, Ramsey spent all three years on the William & Mary Mermettes Gold Team, serving as the club team’s president and swimming in national competitions.

“She was delightful to work with,” said McNamee. “She worked hard, she was very conscientious and she swam very well. I’m really proud of her.”

After graduating, Ramsey returned to L.A. and pursued a law degree at the University of Southern California. Halfway through law school, she learned about the Aqualillies, and was immediately enamored.

“Someone finally understood that this was something that could be really glamorous, not something sporty and gimmicky,” she said. “I’ve never seen such a combination of synchronized swimming and dance like that before. It’s kind of like Busby Berkeley.”

Since she first got involved with the Aqualillies in 2009, she has become the company’s head of casting and creative in addition to practicing law part time. Casting the swimmers, teaching them the material, picking the music, helping choose costumes and working with the dance choreographer are all part of her job — in addition to performing.

And those performances have included some high-profile gigs. The Aqualillies have appeared in an episode of “Glee,” the music video for Justin Bieber’s “Beauty and a Beat,” concert footage for John Legend, and a surprise party for a certain pop superstar: “We did Justin Timberlake’s 30th birthday party,” she said. “It was just this weird, surreal experience.”

The Aqualillies have also founded branches in New York, Miami, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Canada, and it’s Ramsey’s job to cast and train them.

“If I hadn’t done synchronized swimming a couple of extra years in college, I wouldn’t be as good as I am now,” Ramsey said. “Barbara McNamee was great, and really pushed me to be better. Being a leader among my peers was a really important and interesting growth experience, and it has really applied to the Aqualillies.”

As Ramsey traverses the continent spreading the synchronized gospel, she’s convinced she’s got the best job in the world.

“I love the freedom I feel in the water,” Ramsey said. “The water allows me to do things I can’t do on my own. I feel like a superhero. My heart is definitely in the water.”

—RICH GRISET

FROM BOTTOM LEFT: FELICITY MURPHY, KATHIE OKUNSKY (2)





“WE DON’T PREACH OR TEACH A POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS IDEOLOGY.  
OUR ONLY AGENDA IS LAUGHTER.”



# *No Smile Left Behind*

CLOWNING AROUND WITH TIM CUNNINGHAM '00

**MAKE 'EM LAUGH:**  
*Tim Cunningham '00*  
*(second from left) and*  
*fellow clowns.*

**ALUMNI PROFILE** Tim Cunningham '00 is a registered nurse, a marathon runner, a former actor, and, most importantly, a clown. More specifically, he directs the United States chapter of Clowns Without Borders (CWB). CWB, a not-for-profit organization, was founded with a mission to change people's lives by bringing joy to crisis-stricken areas of the world, including Haiti, Mexico, South Africa, Sudan, Palestine and Colombia, as well as many locations domestically. Cunningham hardly calls it work, as he enjoys traveling across the globe to spread happiness through performance.

Cunningham has been working with Clowns without Borders since 2003, starting off as a volunteer for a few years, then joining the board. He has served as executive director for the past two years.

Originally from Waynesboro, Va., Cunningham has lived and worked in Northern California, Charlottesville, Va., and New York City. In addition to his work with CWB, he is also an avid runner, not just for his own physical health, but also for the emotional well-being of children around the world. Cunningham feels that kids are often forgotten in the wake of a crisis, and this fuels his desire to help

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CLOWNS WITHOUT BORDERS

people everywhere. He runs ultramarathons, barefoot, to raise money for kids in crisis situations both in the United States and abroad. Cunningham has run over 400 miles barefoot for the purpose of raising money for the CWB initiative, Miles of Smiles.

“Even in the toughest circumstances, people never really lose the ability to laugh,” said Cunningham. “The work we do is very much community- and family-oriented, bringing people together. There are crises, wars, disasters, genocide; these horrible things that happen to human beings, whether by other human beings or by nature. These are acts that separate human beings. And what we do, in a gentle way, is bring people together.”

Slapstick humor is a way in which CWB shows its audience how to be resilient. A clown might fall down in dramatic fashion, but hop quickly back up to continue the show. An important meaning resides in the clown’s eagerness to rise. It suggests that we can choose to get back up in the face of adversity, even when we know that there could be more, or worse, stuff coming. The clowning shows kids in crises how to



**KAZOO PARADE:**  
*Clown Kolleen Kintz entertains children in Indonesia.*

get back up again and again, rather than allowing them to think that there is no way to get out of hard times.

Laughter and smiling are a part of the universal language of humor. Cunningham hopes to spread happiness to the places he travels and to as many people as he can. “We don’t preach or teach a political or religious ideology,” he said. “Our only agenda is laughter.”

—MEREDITH RANDLE '16

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AND CHRIS MADE THAT HAPPEN.”



## *Shoot the Moon*

TWO ALUMS COLLABORATE IN FOLLOWING THEIR DREAM

**ALUMNI PROFILE** FOR CHRIS MANITIUS '09 AND Caroline (Carrie) Litten '11, becoming a photographer and clothing boutique owner wasn't originally in the cards. Manitius, a chemistry major, initially moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in acting, and picked up photography merely as a hobby. Litten, a philosophy major, planned a career in the media industry once in L.A., and while looking for jobs in the field, began working for a clothing boutique part time. But what started out as a hobby and part-time work soon turned into new career paths.

Litten went on to open her own boutique, Shoot the Moon, and Manitius began a career as a pro-

fessional photographer. With Manitius wanting to diversify his portfolio, and Litten needing a photographer to shoot her merchandise, the two were soon introduced through Litten's boyfriend, Matt Sullivan '10. One day after meeting over a cup of coffee, the pair both agreed that the collaboration to take place was a no-brainer for them both.

“I gave Chris my idea of the vision for my store which was simple, chic and a little bit urban, and he definitely worked to realize my vision,” said Litten. “My favorite thing about working with Chris is definitely his creativity. He listens to what I would like to do, then he'll make suggestions and put his own twist

**IT TAKES TWO:**  
*Carrie Litten '11 and  
Chris Manitius '09  
hold a pose.*

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CHRIS MANITIUS '09

on it. Then we have our final product, which is my original vision, but better because of his creative eye.”

“Carrie is the easiest client I’ve ever had,” said Manitius. “She has such an easygoing approach to her that really allows me to be more relaxed while shooting.”

When they first began their collaboration, Manitius had no previous experience in shooting this type of work, but credits their similar background as to why Litten trusted him with the job. “Carrie had faith in me and took the chance to let me shoot her merchandise. She knows I have a good head on my shoulders because of my William & Mary background.”

“There was always an initial trust solely because of our connection to William & Mary,” agreed Litten.

Working together has helped to further both of their careers. For Manitius, the collaboration allowed him to try new things with studio lighting and expand his capabilities, as well as broaden his business.

Litten also attributes a huge portion of her business to Manitius’ partnership. “If I didn’t have Chris, I wouldn’t have a website. I think I could have started out without a professional photographer and studio, and put it together on my own, but that wasn’t the



**IN HER BEST LIGHT:** *Manitius’ photographs highlight Litten’s chic merchandise.*

impression I wanted to give. I wanted a professional, clean, well-executed product, and Chris made that happen.”

Both Manitius and Litten agreed that they found it beneficial to collaborate with fellow alumni.

“If I had met with someone who I didn’t share that William & Mary connection with, I think I would have been more skeptical about the process,” said Litten. “But with Chris, I had a feeling that he would do what he said he would do, and be good at it as well.”

“I love working with people who make me feel great about where I came from,” said Manitius. “It’s great to see fellow alumni feeling inspired and following their dream. And if I can help contribute to that, it makes it that much more worthwhile.”

—LAUREL OVERBY

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*New Alumni Association  
Executive Director Marilyn  
Ward Midyette '75 sporting  
a Griffin necklace.*

## *We Are Family*

MARILYN WARD MIDYETTE '75 STARTS HER DREAM JOB

**ALUMNI PROFILE** When she was 5 years old, Marilyn Ward Midyette '75 opened the W volume of her family's new set of encyclopedias and found a picture of William & Mary's campus. As she sat down with her mother to read the entry, Midyette turned to look at her and said, "That's where I'm going to college."

Now back at William & Mary as the executive director of the Alumni Association and associate

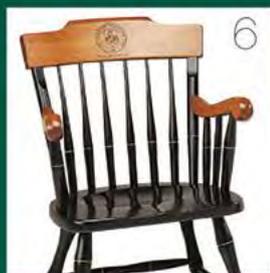
vice president for alumni engagement in the College's new Office of University Advancement, Midyette has more than fulfilled her childhood prophecy.

As she grew up, Midyette learned more about the College and its reputation. Her desire to attend became less about a pretty picture of campus and more about the sense of history and the quality of the education. "I took a tour of the campus and the

PHOTO: MELISSA GOLDEN



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COMMUNITY WE  
KNOW THE  
POWER OF UNITY,  
THE POWER OF  
COLLABORATION,  
AND THAT  
THE ONLY PATH  
FORWARD IS  
TOGETHER.”

students were really friendly,” Midyette said. “It was a bit intimidating to have read all that history, but then to have the experience of coming onto campus and meeting some of the students, I realized they were just like me.”

During her time at the College, Midyette participated in the choir, was a freshman cheerleader, an RA and a member of Delta Delta Delta. While she found the academic courses demanding, Midyette felt the education she received at William & Mary was a differentiator in her life.

“The first time I pulled an all-nighter was studying for Dr. Coursen’s bio exam,” she said. “I can remember several of us sitting out in the hall of DuPont 2nd East after we’d been up all night, quizzing each other at 6 o’clock in the morning before we had an 8 o’clock exam. That was really a defining moment because I think it was in his class that I really learned critical thinking skills and what discovery is all about. When you begin to view life through those experiences, learn how to apply yourself and understand what excellence really looks like, you realize the quality of education you received. It’s really a gift.”

But her time at William & Mary wasn’t all work. Midyette’s best friends in life are those that she met at the College, including her husband, Payne Midyette ’75.

“A friend in one of my classes introduced us,” Marilyn said. “I think our first date was a bike ride on the Colonial Parkway and then we went for ice cream. He asked me to Homecoming the following weekend and we’ve been together ever since. We celebrated our 38th anniversary in August.”

The couple has two boys. Payne IV, a graduate of Vanderbilt, is starting a master’s program at Georgia Tech. Reade is a senior at the Air Force Academy and wants to fly helicopters for special operations.

After graduating from William & Mary, Midyette went into banking and finance, followed by a career in technology and telecommunications. Before coming to the Alumni Association, Midyette served as CEO of the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta. Throughout her busy career, Midyette has not forgotten her commitment to the College, serving on the boards of the Alumni Association and Annual Giving. In 2011, she was awarded the Alumni Medallion.

This past summer the board of the William & Mary Alumni Association voted to join the current Alumni Association staff with development staff to form a new University Advancement organization. When Karen Cottrell ’66, M.Ed. ’69, Ed.D. ’84 announced her retirement, Midyette was a natural choice to lead the association and alumni engagement. “When the Alumni Association board and senior administration

began discussing who a replacement might be, apparently there were several people who suggested me,” Midyette said. “I remember distinctly when I told my husband I had gotten a call, he said, ‘Marilyn, you know this has your name written all over it. This is your dream job.’”

The goal of the merger is to maximize resources and to improve the ways in which the College engages and serves William & Mary’s alumni. The University Advancement model allows for enhanced coordination across university departments, which strengthens the College’s ability to be more strategic, thoughtful and effective in its interactions with alumni and friends. The new model will enhance the potential for alumni involvement in W&M admission, job placement and mentoring, and it will expand career services and engagement opportunities for alumni.

“As a community we know the power of unity, the power of collaboration, and that the only path forward is together. In order for William & Mary to sustain itself and continue to deliver that quality experience, it requires all of us. That’s what alumni engagement is all about,” Midyette said.

In her previous position with the Girl Scouts, Midyette helped lead the organization through a rebranding initiative. This effort is analogous to her new role at the College.

“At the Girl Scouts we were focused on identifying what girls want and need in order to develop leadership skills in the 21st century and to deliver effective programming,” Midyette said. “Our new advancement model at the College is about creating world-class alumni engagement, identifying what alumni perceive is value-added programming and delivering it in ways that they want.”

Midyette knows that William & Mary’s ability to advance as a topnotch institution is dependent on its ability to foster lifelong relationships among constituents. “It’s important that all of those constituents know that they matter,” Midyette said. “We have to continue to engage our alumni through their time and talent as volunteers, advisors and mentors, as well as through their treasure as donors.”

In her new position, Midyette is excited to reconnect with alumni and pursue the world of possibilities in creating world-class engagement. And the best part is that she’s doing it at William & Mary, a place that has meant so much to her since she was 5. “It doesn’t get much better than that,” Midyette said. “It’s an important time in the life of the College. As we look at the ability of the College to continue to thrive, to continue to be a world-class institution, we need all of us. We are a family.”

— KELLEY FREUND

# The William & Mary ALUMNI HOUSE

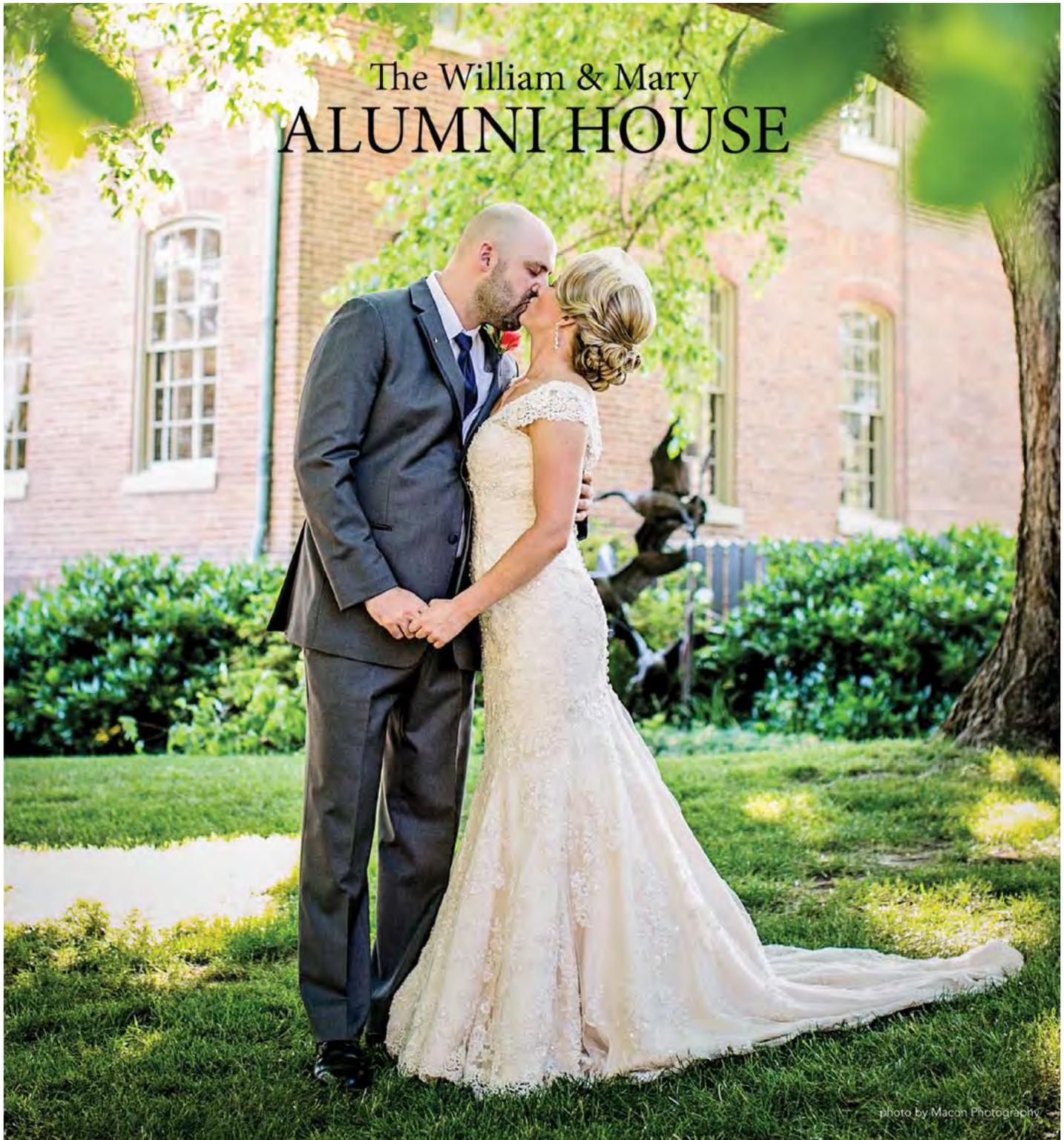


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# The United Tribe

## ALUMNI CHAPTER ACTIVITY

**1. ATLANTA** The W&M Atlanta Alumni Chapter held their first organizational meeting in August and the new board is planning a Homecoming Game Watch and looking ahead to Yule Log.

**2. BOSTON** Over 75 alumni, incoming and current students, and parents came together in August to welcome new members into the Boston W&M family at a Red Sox game.

**3. BOTETOURT VA** The chapter's annual cookout and picnic was held in September at Beaverdam Park, where alumni and their families could canoe, kayak, hike, fish and play together as a Tribe.

**4. CHARLESTON SC** Young Alumni Third Thursdays continued in Charleston in August at Sauer Grapes, a wine bar owned by alumna Marie Sauer M.A. '90, M.B.A. '95. The event featured Steve Fetcher '10 on guitar and vocals. In September, the chapter attended the Drayton Hall Distinguished Speaker

Series featuring Dr. Ronald Hurst, vice president at Colonial Williamsburg.

**5. CHICAGO** Chicago alumni gathered in July for Tribe Thursday, and in August welcomed incoming students and their parents into the W&M family at an event hosted by Michael and Trisha Nelson P '16.

**6. COLORADO** The W&M Colorado Alumni Chapter was thrilled to sponsor a regional alumni event in September with the College featuring President Reveley and hosted by David Marshall '94.

**7. LOWER PENINSULA VA** This summer, the Lower Peninsula chapter partnered with the Williamsburg chapter to welcome incoming students and parents, and to cheer on the Tribe against Virginia Tech. They look forward to continuing this partnership at the chapter's annual Oyster Roast in early October.

**8. NEW YORK CITY** The NYC chapter wel-

comed the W&M Class of 2014 by treating them to a Mets game with fellow alumni. The chapter also continued their quarterly Tribe Thursdays in September.

**9. NORTHERN NEW JERSEY** In July, Alice Davidson P '16 and Howard Tomb hosted a reception in their home and welcomed incoming students, parents, alumni, and guest Kathleen Powell, assistant vice president of student affairs/executive director of career development.

**10. PHILADELPHIA** The Philly chapter went "down the shore" in July for a Tribe Thursday in Southern New Jersey. Later that month, incoming students and their families from the Philly and Wilmington, Del., areas were welcomed into the William & Mary family at a reception held at the home of Peter '83, P '17 and Janet Atwater '84, P '17.

**11. PITTSBURGH** Alumni in Pittsburgh continue to gather monthly for Tribe Thursday Happy Hours.

**12. RICHMOND VA** The W&M Richmond Alumni Chapter continued its commitment to service by working with the Richmond Inclusive Autism Lego Club, Operation Paintbrush and Habitat for Humanity Restore this summer. At the chapter's annual reception in July, guest speaker Kate Conley, dean of the faculty of arts & sciences, discussed William & Mary's new curriculum, and met and mingled with area alumni. In August, alumni and their families once again enjoyed the Richmond Children's Museum and Flying Squirrels game with special guests from

the Tribe men's baseball team and the Griffin.

**13. ROANOKE VA** In August, the chapter hosted a packed reception at The Patrick Henry for incoming students and their parents. They ended the month welcoming William & Mary fans to nearby Blacksburg, Va., for the Tech game. GO TRIBE!

**14. SAN FRANCISCO** The chapter welcomed the W&M Class of 2014 to the San Francisco Bay Area with two events: a picnic in Ohlone Park in Berkeley in August and a San Francisco Symphony concert in September.

**15. SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS VA** Deans





ILLUSTRATION: PETER ARKLE

Luann Homza and John Griffin, guest speakers at the chapter's annual meeting in July, discussed the College's new curriculum. The chapter then welcomed over 40 incoming students and their parents into the Tribe at a reception in August that featured a panel of current students, moderated by Lauren Garrett '02, director of First Year Experience.

**16. WASHINGTON, DC** In July, the chapter held social events at the National Sculpture Gardens and the National Zoo. The International Relations

Club hosted a networking event with guest Ambassador Charles Ford '72, and the W&M DC office sponsored a discussion with author Steve Vogel '82. In August, the chapter welcomed W&M Class of 2014 with a Nationals baseball game outing and welcomed Elon University to the CAA with an All-CAA Alumni Happy Hour. The chapter also hosted a Tribe vs. Tech game watch, and a service event with the Capital Area Food Bank. The Washington Area Alumni Business Alliance (WAABA)

also offered career and networking programming for alumni throughout the summer.

**17. WILLIAMSBURG** In July, the chapter partnered with the local University of Virginia chapter for their monthly Tribe Thursday, and featured Karen Cottrell '66, M.Ed. '69, Ed.D. '84 as she transitioned into her new role with the College. Later that month, the chapter partnered with the W&M Lower Peninsula Alumni Chapter to welcome area incoming students and their parents into

the Tribe, and continued their partnership with a Tribe vs. Tech game watch in August. In September, the chapter started their quarterly wine tasting series at the Muscarelle and enjoyed lawn bowling at the Williamsburg Inn.

**ACTIVE REGIONS**

**18. AUSTIN** In August, Robert and Hollis Gaston P '15 hosted an Incoming Students Reception at the Headliners Club, and provided an opportunity for W&M alumni to connect with new students and their parents.

**19. BALTIMORE/ANNAPOLIS** We are starting to gather alumni in Baltimore/Annapolis areas to revive the local chapter. Our first Tribe Thursday was held in July at Pussers Caribbean Grill, with many thanks to its owner Clyde Culp '65 for hosting.

**20. DALLAS/FT. WORTH** W&M Texas events in August continued with Peter and Meg Carlsen P '17 holding a

reception at their Dallas home for alumni to welcome incoming students and parents.

**21. MINNESOTA** Incoming students, parents and alumni in Minnesota were treated to an ice cream social hosted by Martin and Cindy Siegel P '15 at their home.

**22. NASHVILLE** Alumni, incoming and current students, and parents put green and gold in the stands at a Nashville Sounds game in July.

**23. NEW ORLEANS** NOLA alumni continue to meet up, and in July, Christopher Caplinger '94 held a summer gathering at his home.

**24. SEATTLE** W&M alumni in Seattle took part in the annual All Virginia Schools Happy Hour in September. Alumni are also gathering to restart the Seattle chapter. More details soon!

**AFFINITY GROUPS:**

**25. W&M GAY AND LESBIAN ALUMNI (GALA)** In July, the Alumni Association's newest affinity group, GALA, along with WAABA and the W&M DC office hosted an LGBT networking reception and panel discussion featuring Jeffrey Trammell '73, former rector, moderated by GALA president Scott Binnings '05.

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**VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE**





**“When I started thinking about my charitable plans, I had several goals in mind. With this plan, I accomplished them all.”**

*— Laura Weaver Sullivan '83*

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ith an active career that she enjoys, Laura Sullivan doesn't have plans to retire any time soon. But like many at this stage in life, Laura was interested in a charitable plan that would save taxes now while she is working, then provide income later when she has retired. And she wanted to combine these benefits with a future gift to William & Mary.

Working with the Gift Planning Office, Laura found the perfect charitable plan: a deferred payment gift annuity. In exchange for her gift to William & Mary, Laura received a charitable deduction which saved income taxes. The annuity payments are deferred until she retires and then will continue for her life, backed by the full faith and credit of the College of William & Mary Foundation. The future proceeds from her deferred gift annuity will support Intercollegiate Athletics and the Modern Languages and Literatures Department.

*For assistance with your charitable plans, please contact:*

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