

W&L

THE WASHINGTON AND LEE MAGAZINE

RESILIENT

The university and its alumni
pivoted to meet new challenges
during the COVID-19 pandemic

Spring 2020







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Photo by Laws Smith '20

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Photo by Shelby Mack

SPEAK

ALUMNI FEEDBACK

The Fall issue of the W&L Alumni Magazine is outstanding. Congratulations to you and all of your colleagues who contributed to its preparation and publication. WATSON A. BOWES JR. '55

I would like to provide some feedback from an aging veteran. Your Fall issue is very well done and quite interesting as usual, but I believe that the picture on the cover in no way represents the university. A nose ring certainly does not reflect the image I am certain you are trying to communicate.

HASWELL M. FRANKLIN '54

Your recent Fall edition was, clearly, the best ever, not only in content, but graphic design! The evolution of the university during the past half century, through courageous and thoughtful decisions, with appropriate respect for its history and culture, while moving forward with the times to broaden its scope, is testimony to its superb leadership, for which we should all be grateful. CHARLES HELZBERG '58

The Fall issue just arrived — I got the one with Jamal Magoti '23 on the cover — and I was reminded to write you heartfelt thanks.

I was editor-in-chief of the Ring-tum Phi, Tuesday edition. We editorialized in favor of the admissions people reaching out to recruit students of color — the school was not only all male, it was all white. The administration protested that no black candidates ever applied. We went after them with, “Why would they? You’ve done zip to assure them that we want them to come.”

My assistant managing editor found himself shunned at the fraternity house. Hateful letters and columns by students appeared in the Friday edition. I feel so thrilled when I see pictures of how wonderfully things have changed. Thank you for showing the changes off! ROGER PAINE '64

NAMESAKES

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, I entered W&L as a Goldwater Republican and fan of George Wallace. By the time I graduated, I had become an advocate of the civil rights movement and supporter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The changes in my political views and philosophy of life had evolved as a direct result of my humanities education at W&L, where I still continued to idolize Robert E. Lee throughout all four years. My wonderfully gifted professors did not tell me what to think, but taught me how to think for myself, always with a view of human history and relations that emphasized the desirability of civility, fairness, justice and democracy as givens.

Until recently I never spent much time wondering over the seeming irony of all this, but in view of the current reexamination of W&L's history and traditions in light of Charlottesville, the Confederate statues issue and current emphasis on diversity, I have given it a great deal of thought.

There are no simple answers. I encourage the university trustees to continue to keep our name and the images of Washington and Lee on our diplomas, acknowledging both the flaws and the strengths of these men; to continue to study the times in which they lived without attempting to rewrite history or make it unrecognizable; and to continue to promote diversity, tolerance and open-minded thinking. I believe we can successfully do all of these at the same time. RUFUS KINNEY '69

CORRECTIONS

We apologize for misspelling Emily Roché's name (In the Lead, p. 7) in the Fall issue. We clearly got our vowels confused.

The story about CARPE (p. 5) suffered a slight name change. The correct title is Center for Academic Resources and Pedagogical Excellence.

Stay in Touch

Letters selected for publication should refer to material in the magazine. They may be edited for length, content and style. Letters reflect the views of their authors, not those of the magazine's editors or of the university.

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REMEMBERING PROFESSOR SHILLINGTON

I was very pleased to see the article on Doc Shillington in the Fall 2019 Washington and Lee Magazine. He was indeed a fine teacher and a character in his own right. Also, he was a music lover, an historian, a chef, etc. I could go on and on. I will never forget returning from an adventure in Washington, D.C., with Doc Shillington and several of his students. As our car cleared the last hill on Route 11 into Lexington, he exclaimed: “There it is. Lexington. Where the lights burn brightly, both of them.”

Your article forgot to mention one very important aspect. In the '50s and '60s the key to admission to medical school was a good grade in organic chemistry. And Doc was the source of that key for the students whose “lights burned brightly.” What a privilege to have known him.

DR. R. LAWRENCE SMITH '58

W&L

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Columns

NOTEWORTHY NEWS AND IDEAS



There were donkeys, floats, boater hats and – surprise – a contested convention.

After a lively roll call, during which each delegation allocated its votes, no single candidate of the seven received the 1,991 pledged delegates needed to secure the nomination. After a second round of balloting, student leaders announced that Sen. Bernie Sanders would secure the Democratic nomination for president at the national convention in July.

When Sanders dropped out of the race April 8, leaving former vice president Joe Biden the presumptive nominee, Political Chair John Harashinski '20 wrote on the Mock Con website, “[Biden] will cap off a primary contest unlike any that has ever occurred in American electoral history.”

He added, “In the end, a prediction is just that: a prediction. However, for Mock Convention, the prediction is not the only defining factor of what makes [it] a nationally significant event. We are an entirely student-run organization which prides itself on student engagement, civic education and providing young people real-world experience in fundraising and operations, in marketing and development, in research and analysis, and most importantly, in leadership and teamwork.”

For all the details of the Mock Con 2020 weekend, including taped sessions and in-depth political analysis, visit mockconvention.com.



MOCK CON 2020

From lining up speakers to fundraising to prepping security procedures, the Mock Con 2020 team embraced the challenge of simulating the Democratic National Convention down to the last detail. Over 98% of the student body participated, and, as dictated by tradition, focused on predicting the presidential nominee for the party out of power.

After a festive parade, the student body convened in the Duchossois Tennis Center, which had been transformed into a convention hall. Over the next day and a half, they listened to speakers, including Donna Brazile, former interim chair of the DNC; Cameron Kasky, co-founder of March for Our Lives; and Trevor Noah, host of Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show,” before getting down to business.

2

SCHOLARSHIP ABOUNDS

W&L is among 20 institutions in the country to be named a top producer for both the Fulbright U.S. Student and Scholar programs. Eight students and three faculty received Fulbright awards for 2019-2020. Read the story at go.wlu.edu/fulbrights2019-20.

3. WELCOME

John Robinson '94, who graduated with a B.A. in economics, was sworn in as a trustee on Feb. 14. He is president and CEO of Aaron's Inc., a publicly traded, omnichannel provider of lease-purchase solutions.

4 TED TALKS

Members of the faculty sat down for eight one-on-one interviews with Ted DeLaney '85, professor of history emeritus, and captured a fascinating oral history of growing up in segregated Lexington and his experiences on campus as a student, employee and professor. Read the transcripts and listen to the audios at go.wlu.edu/ted-talks.

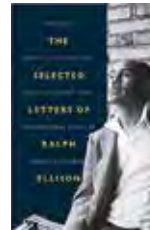
5. TRANSITIONS

Elizabeth Goad Oliver, associate dean of the Williams School of Commerce, Economics, and Politics and Lewis Whitaker Adams Professor of Accounting, has been appointed to a one-year term as interim provost. She succeeds Marc Conner, who has served as provost since 2016 and will become president of Skidmore College July 1.

6 FROM LEX TO CAPITOL HILL

A recent data analysis by the Legislative Branch Capacity Working Group shows that, per capita, W&L alumni are more likely to secure jobs on Capitol Hill than graduates of almost any other small, private school in the country. Read the story at go.wlu.edu/lex-to-capitolhill.

7 FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



Mark Coddington, assistant professor of journalism, published "Aggregating the News: Secondhand Knowledge and the Erosion of Journalistic Authority" (Columbia University Press), which examines how such content is produced, what its values are and how it fits into today's changing journalistic profession.

Marc Conner, provost and Jo M. and James M. Ballengee Professor of English, co-edited "The Selected Letters of Ralph Ellison" (Random House), an intimate account of Ellison's life, including his views on literature, American culture and politics.

Ellen Mayoock, Ernest Williams II Professor of Spanish, co-authored "Indagaciones: Introducción a los estudios culturales hispanos" (Georgetown University Press). The textbook adopts a rather unusual approach, keeping instructors and students moving between and among textbook, internet and the world.

Lesley Wheeler, Henry S. Fox Jr. Professor of English, published "The State She's In" (Tinderbox Editions). Her latest collection of poems explores gradations of despair in the current political climate, focusing on whiteness and sexism.

IN THE NEWS

Rhodes Scholar

At the Intersection of Physics and Global Policy

PHOTO BY SHELBY MACK



Rossella Gabriele '19

ROSSELLA GABRIELE '19, who received a B.S. with a double major in physics and global politics, magna cum laude, is the university's 17th Rhodes Scholar.

Gabriele, who was a Johnson Scholar, is proficient in Italian and will matriculate at Pembroke College, Oxford University, this fall for her master's in politics, philosophy and economics. Her goal is to become a leading force in the development of forward-thinking space and technology laws and policies that maximize diverse and democratic access to opportunities in these fields. Her path, she said, whether through international organizations such as the U.N. Office for Outer Space Affairs' Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, or within governmental agencies, will rely on an ability to expand the intersection of law, data science and real-world empathy building

through public policy.

At W&L, Gabriele was devoted to finding equilibrium at the intersection of physics and global politics. Her junior year, working with her advisor, Irina Mazilu, professor of physics, Gabriele conducted independent research leading

created a database of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)-targeted courthouses, hospitals, churches and schools. Her efforts resulted in the Minority office's formal oversight letter to ICE demanding accountability for illegal and

"I sought opportunities to leverage my scientific background and analytical mind to advance the work of humanist policies and human rights advocacy."

to a proof-of-concept model for predicting U.S. Senate votes using a partisan ranking tool combined with the Ising Model for ferromagnetism from physics.

As a policy intern for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, she

inhumane raids.

After graduating from W&L, Gabriele worked with the U.S. Department of State TechGirls program as a cultural ambassador and STEM mentor for girls interested in science from Middle Eastern, North African and Central Asian nations.

"In each of these experiences," said Gabriele, "I sought opportunities to leverage my scientific background and analytical mind to advance the work of humanist policies and human rights advocacy."

In 2017, Gabriele interned in the office of Sen. Mark Warner. The following summer, she worked as a nuclear astrophysics research intern at the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics, where she modeled and graphed results from experiments using the Trojan Horse Method of extracting two-body collision cross-sections from a three-body reaction.

"What draws Rossella to space and the study of space law are the ethical and humanitarian issues that will inevitably arise with the proliferation of space-related enterprises and the development of new space technologies in the future," said President William C. Dudley. "Ask her what questions drive her, and she'll provide you with a multitude, each more trenchant than the last, that speak to both the sophistication of her thought and the depth of her commitment to the cause of humanity."

Gabriele was the chapter co-founder and president of Amnesty International at W&L, a residential advisor, vice president of the College Democrats, outreach chair of the Alexander Hamilton Society, editor of the Political Review, committee member of the First-Generation and Low-Income Partnership, a peer tutor and the physics chair of Women in Science.

NOW HEAR THIS

“Y’all ever try to breathe quieter while walking up a hill so bystanders don’t hear you fighting for your life?”

@wlulex, on that uphill stretch from Washington Street to the campus.

“Keep Calm
and
Wash Your
Hands.”

Signs posted on campus a few weeks before the university closed.

“I challenge you to flex not only for yourselves, but for our nation and the world. Change will not happen if we are not represented at the leadership table in all these fields. Accept nothing but your best. Your best may not be perfect, but your effort can be.”

Dean Lena Hill, speaker, Black Future Leaders Experience (FLEX) conference, Feb. 8.

“I chose the phrase ‘You are loved’ for its universality. In the words of Mr. Fred Rogers, ‘You don’t ever have to do anything sensational for people to love you.’ I hope that each sticky note I placed on campus will serve as a gentle reminder to the viewer that they matter to someone, and that they are good enough just the way they are.”

Emily Nyikos ’21 posted sticky notes all over campus for National Random Acts of Kindness Day.

“Each and every one of us need to be doing something good. We shouldn’t honor [King] one day of the year. Let our actions honor him every day of the year.”

Ruby Bridges, speaker for W&L’s observance of MLK, Jan. 19.

IN THE LEAD

The Power of Community-Building

James Ricks '21 forged important relationships off campus.



James Ricks '21

MANY STUDENTS KNOW NOT to “violate the community’s trust” — far fewer consider how important it is that we strengthen and sustain it. We forget that we ourselves are community members, and that during our time at W&L, there is an incredible amount of learning and growth to be had leaving the classroom and campus. Such experiences are an indispensable component of my education, as the relationships I’ve forged through the Shepherd Program, Campus Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity and Remote Area Medical define my time here.

The community partners I work with in Rockbridge are incredible examples of service leadership. In my classes, I’ve had the

opportunity to investigate in detail the teachings and writings of influential leaders; it’s in the community that I’ve seen those lessons put into practice. At the Lexington City Office on Youth, I see love and passion in practice every Wednesday afternoon; on Saturday mornings at Habitat for Humanity, I witness dedication and understanding. It’s my hope that introducing students to these examples through volunteering and service learning strengthens and builds their understandings of community leadership, too.

The strength of community, however, extends beyond my time in Rockbridge County. I have had the opportunity, through the hard work and dedication of alumni like

John Christopher '09 and Sarah Helms '15, to work with the Odanaku community in Kalikot, Nepal, doing research and nonprofit work during my time at Washington and Lee, and have witnessed the power of community-building in a health-care setting.

I hope to do similar work in community health care capacity-building in the future, but in the meantime am forever thankful to the communities I’ve come to know and love, as a student, for being such incredible teachers along the way.

SALUTE



Dan Morrall '99



Andy Dewing '84



A CONSUMMATE GENERAL: ANDY DEWING '84

I met Andrew “Andy” Dewing '84 about five years ago when my family and I moved to Virginia Beach. Catching up at local Tidewater Chapter events (often over a cold beverage), I learned a good bit about Andy. Married to his grade school sweetheart, Mary, for over three decades, Andy is a proud father of three: Hunter (U.Va.), Hannah '19 and Kate '23. Having graduated from W&L with a B.S. in engineering-physics and mathematics, Andy is currently an expert in cybersecurity.

I joined the Tidewater Chapter as an officer four years back and two years ago took over as president. Knowing Andy and his

passion for W&L, I invited him to join as an officer soon after. Andy cares deeply for our local community and W&L. He’s a proud alum and W&L father, attending practically all chapter events. He visits campus often, has held leadership positions at Chi Psi (locally and nationally) and stays in touch with many W&L friends, professors and family members.

Andy is an impassioned advocate for the university to anyone who will listen, so he was more than happy to join our local chapter team. Today, he serves as a vice president, helping coordinate and plan all our local events. Moreover, he also stepped up to chair

the Alumni Admissions Program (AAP), in which he facilitates interview scheduling for local high school students who apply to W&L.

Andy has generously shouldered the task, impeccably executing the logistics for all those involved, while also conducting interviews himself. Yet, this role has to be especially difficult for him because he was recently diagnosed with late-stage cancer. Though we were all devastated to hear the news and implored him to take a break, he valiantly convinced us he would prefer to continue performing the AAP responsibilities, even while

undergoing chemo treatments.

That’s who Andy Dewing is — loyal, responsible, committed, outgoing and compassionate toward others. He is a friend, an inspiration and the consummate W&L General. We are all in awe of Andy’s efforts and dedication. It’s truly an honor to know a person of such integrity. He is a Tidewater Chapter role model, and we hope his story is well received and admired beyond. Fortunately, I’ve heard his health is improving with treatments.

Thank you, Andy, from Team Tidewater. Wishing you and your family continued progress, and we are here for you, Mary and the kids whenever you need us!



DETERMINATION AND EMPATHY

BY WILL DUDLEY, PRESIDENT



SOON AFTER THE CAMPUS CLOSED, I wrote to alumni, parents and friends, sharing my observations about the Washington and Lee community during the extraordinary week leading up to our transition to virtual instruction. I noted that our campus, devoid of the students and faculty who are the lifeblood of W&L, was eerily quiet. It still is. And yet the determination and empathy that characterized those weeks remain in evidence.

There is no question that the daily rhythms of campus life have been interrupted. Our faculty and staff are hard at work teaching our students and providing opportunities for enriching connections at a distance. It has been gratifying to observe the care and creativity with which they have undertaken that work. Faculty reinvented Winter Term courses in just two weeks, altering formats and assignments to suit a virtual environment and taking the specific needs of their students into account. Many of them turned right around to do it again for the Spring Term. And of course, their commitment is not limited to the classroom, as faculty advisors for extracurricular programs reimagine those opportunities as well. Among the many notable examples, students in the Repertory Dance Company choreographed and recorded a joint performance from across four countries, and the Entrepreneurship Program conducted a virtual Business Plan Competition with 10 student teams and 16 alumni judges.

Our Student Affairs staff is hosting virtual book clubs and movie-watching parties, providing career counseling for students

whose summer and postgraduate plans have been affected by the pandemic, and offering guidance for students about how to care for their mental and physical health during this period of disruption.

Alumni reunions and chapter events have been canceled, and our University Advancement staff are working through the logistics of rescheduling some of these long-anticipated milestones and providing virtual alternatives for others. The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, which normally hosts two open houses on campus for admitted students, has taken that work online, offering virtual tours, “Live from Lex” information sessions and financial aid appointments for the Class of 2024.

The economic impact of COVID-19 is profound, and W&L is not immune. As I wrote to you on March 20, we have been guided by four principle commitments:

- ▶ To support our most vulnerable students with housing, meals, health services and funding for emergency expenses.
- ▶ To help our faculty and staff weather this period of uncertainty by guaranteeing employment through at least June 1.
- ▶ To treat W&L families fairly by refunding a prorated share of room and board.
- ▶ To help our faculty convert their courses to virtual instruction and sustain the personal attention to students that is vital to the W&L experience.

Staff in the Treasurer’s Office, led by vice president of finance Steve McAllister, have been working closely with the Finance

Committee of the board of trustees to outline W&L’s financial response. Earlier this month, we announced to employees that we will freeze salaries, adjust some benefits and cut operating and capital budgets in the coming year, but do not anticipate having to lay off any of our dedicated workforce. All of us here in Lexington know that we are fortunate to work at an institution that has the resources to weather this crisis while maintaining our core commitment to educational quality.

At Washington and Lee, education has always been deeply personal, and it remains so now. Each of us on campus is dedicated to our mission — to prepare our graduates for lifelong learning, personal achievement, responsible leadership, service to others and engaged citizenship in a global and diverse society. The importance of that mission has never been so clear. The pages of this magazine are filled with stories of W&L alumni who are leading and serving through this crisis, at home and abroad. These are just a few of the examples of the many alumni making a difference in their communities around the world.

It has been my privilege to lead this university for over three years, but I have never been prouder of our students, faculty, staff and alumni than I am now, as I witness their tenacity, ingenuity, and generosity in uncertain and trying times. You are, quite simply, why we do what we do. I look forward to welcoming you back to Lexington when it is safe for us to gather again. In the meantime, thank you for your commitment to and support for Washington and Lee.

DUBYUHNELL DAY

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

Amid a national shortage of PPE, W&L puts the IQ Center's 3D printers to work.

BY LINDSEY NAIR



Larry Bird helped create these face shields for local health care workers.

STAYING SAFE

One of the greatest concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic is that health care workers are burning through their personal protective equipment (PPE) at an alarming rate, and replacement equipment is slow to materialize. W&L has responded to this need by donating surplus gloves from the Biology Department and by printing protective face shields on 3D printers in the IQ Center.

ANSWERING THE CALL

Academic Technologist Dave Pfaff, who works in the IQ Center, said several alumni contacted the university to inquire about the availability of masks, gloves, protective suits and other PPE. In addition, Carilion Clinic put out a public plea for PPE donations from organizations, corporations and individuals.

Bill Hamilton, head of the Biology Department, donated 4,500 latex gloves to Carilion. Latex gloves are not the first choice in health care, but he said they can be used for cleaning, maintenance and other tasks, allowing the hospital to reserve their nitrile gloves for health care providers.

READY, SET, PRINT

Pfaff had already heard that 3D printers were being used to make PPE. "One particular group at UCLA was putting together real-time analysis of different things that people were printing," he said, "so that was really helpful."

Along with Larry Bird, a part-time employee in the IQ Center, Pfaff decided to test a few designs on the center's 3D printers. After they produced five face shield designs, Bird, who also works at the Lexington hospital, gave them to infection control officials there for inspection. Based on feedback from those officials, Pfaff and Bird printed and donated 10 face shields to the hospital.

MULTIUSE

The shields themselves can be sterilized and reused, and they accommodate a clear plastic cover that can be removed and cleaned or replaced. Pfaff scoured offices across campus and found transparency film and clear report covers to use as shield covers. In addition to the Carilion donations, Pfaff donated 20 shields to local physician Cathryn Harbor and local hospice workers.

"It's nice to be able to do something that can be of help in this time," Pfaff said.



Hometown Heroes

As COVID-19 impacted their communities, alumni applied their expertise to address problems the pandemic created.

'Uncharted Territory'

BY JEFF HANNA

AS CITY MANAGER OF NEW ROCHELLE, New York, for the past 18 years, Chuck Strome '80 had helped steer the city through numerous disasters, including hurricanes, nor'easters and blizzards.

Then came COVID-19, and nothing Strome had faced could have prepared him for what would happen when New Rochelle became ground zero for the initial outbreak of the virus in New York state.

On March 2, one of New Rochelle's 80,000 residents, a man in his 50s, tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19. This was seen as the first case of community spread, which means the source of the virus was unknown. Within a week, more than 50 cases of COVID-19 could be linked to the initial patient. These included family members, neighbors, friends and friends of those friends.

"We know how to respond to challenges like the weather-related disasters because those are fairly well

"We're all trying to put our heads together and do the best we can for our citizens."

defined, and we've done them," said Strome on March 23, three weeks after the first case was discovered there. "In New York state, we don't have a public health function per se as a city. Consequently, we were scrambling to deal with what the state and county health folks were telling us to do.



Chuck Strome '80 (right) was interviewed by CNN's Jake Tapper. He also appeared on Fox News, MSNBC and the BBC.

"Meanwhile, residents were calling and wondering and worrying about their health. Needless to say, it's been uncharted territory."

The state government created a containment zone — a one-mile radius around the address of the index patient. All the schools and businesses (except for restaurant takeout) in that area were closed, large gatherings inside the area were prohibited and satellite testing areas were established.

As of March 23, New Rochelle was officially reporting 225 confirmed cases. Strome admits that number is undoubtedly misleading because of the same lack of testing that has been problematic nationwide. Still,

he said, it's clear the containment zone made a difference as there was a leveling off after three weeks.

Strome has been in city government in New Rochelle for 31 years, first as director of emergency services, then assistant city manager and city manager since 2002. His roles have all been nonpartisan. He is appointed, not elected, but is no stranger to the political battles that often lead to intergovernmental skirmishes.

"I have been gratified by the way the state, the county and the local governments have worked together because that has not always been the case during normal times," Strome said. "We're all trying to put our heads together and do the best we can for our citizens."

Tracking Patterns in the Pandemic

BY BARBARA ELLIOTT



Jennifer Beam Dowd '96 is co-managing a Facebook page, "Dear Pandemic," to provide evidence-based advice about COVID-19 to a general audience.

JENNIFER BEAM DOWD '96 WAS ONLY a few months into her new job as deputy director of the just-launched Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science at the University of Oxford when her international team of epidemiologists, geneticists, demographers, sociologists, economists and data scientists was confronted with the challenge of a lifetime. They are analyzing data from around the world to help understand the spread of COVID-19 and its impact on mortality and health care systems. Their findings are generating significant media coverage and influencing the way the pandemic is being managed.

"As a demography center, population age structure jumped out at us," Dowd said. "Italy has a high proportion of older adults, and there were Italians on my team who knew about intergenerational patterns of social contact there." Younger workers in Milan, where the outbreak was particularly severe, were more likely to live in villages outside the city and co-reside or have frequent meals with older relatives.

That insight made them think about implications for the rest of the world, and how population age structure at regional and national levels can help predict the burden of COVID-19 critical cases and mortality. In a recent publication, they encouraged countries to release key demographic information such as age, sex or comorbidities (the presence of one or more additional conditions), in addition to numbers of cases and deaths. Such disaggregated data will help them to assess risks for more focused prevention and preparedness.

Looking within countries at the population age structure, researchers can get an idea of the potential pressure on health care and predict at a more granular level where the highest rate of hospitalization will be, as they recently did for

England and Wales. "We were quickly contacted by members of Parliament looking for help in planning their local responses and hospital preparedness," Dowd noted. "Academic research typically takes a long time to disseminate or have impact, but the urgency and pace of this pandemic has changed everything."

The team is now generating demographically informed projections to help determine social distancing measures required in each population to reduce the number of critical cases and not overload

"Academic research typically takes a long time to disseminate or have impact, but the urgency and pace of this pandemic has changed everything."

the health care system. They are also researching how a better understanding of social networks and intergenerational contacts can inform strategic social distancing interventions to protect vulnerable groups.

Dowd finds one of the most surprising things about the pandemic is the concentration of mortality in older adults. "With flu, you also get serious pediatric cases as well as among pregnant women," she said, "but the age pattern we are seeing for COVID-19 is quite distinct. The sex differences are something we're also trying to understand. In China, it was hypothesized that more men smoked, but seeing the elevated risk in men in other countries with different smoking rates is a puzzle."



Emily Tunis '05 retooled her factory's production line to manufacture 100,000 face shields per day.

'A Different Battle'

BY BARBARA ELLIOTT

AS PRESIDENT AND COO OF HARDWIRE, Emily Tunis '05 is in the business of protecting people. Her company produces armor and protective gear for the military, first responders and other applications. But in mid-March, as the dire shortage of protective equipment for medical professionals treating patients in the COVID-19 pandemic became evident, the company quickly retooled to address the problem.

Tunis realized how severe the outbreak was in Italy when she reached out to customers and suppliers there to ask if they were OK. "Their response was sobering. They said, 'No, we are not. And you are right behind us!'"

As the crisis intensified, the Hardwire team focused on the most effective way it could help. With a team of hardworking engineers and 130,000 square feet of manufacturing capacity at the ready, they decided to adapt their protective face

shield design for use by medical and other personnel.

Within a week, they acquired materials and made some prototypes. Fortunately, they already had relationships with the suppliers of the materials they needed. Tunis is on the board of the foundation of her local hospital, so she reached out to its CEO to ask if doctors and nurses would test the prototype. They then tweaked the design based on the feedback they received.

"Some of our engineers are big guys. As soon as they tried the shields on some of the short female nurses, they found they reached to their chests. We did two different iterations with local hospitals before we went into production. Soon we were making 10,000 per day," Tunis said.

Their goals were to develop functional, comfortable and affordable shields. "Some companies are charging as much as \$60 per shield, which is not sustainable," Tunis

noted. "Not only is Hardwire charging only \$10 per shield, but ours can easily be cleaned and reused, a significant advantage over single-use ones."

Hardwire is now ramping up production with a goal of manufacturing 100,000 shields per day. Because of its capacity, the company has been able to keep up with both online orders and larger requests from the military and state and federal governments. "We have been hiring new employees and setting up a manufacturing facility within one of our buildings. We are also setting up a new facility in New York. We are putting a lot of resources into it because there is such a need," Tunis said.

"Our company's mission statement is improving the survivability of humans. For a long time, our focus was on soldiers, but we are now on the front lines of a different battle."

Diary of a Doctor

Stephanie Sterling '97 is an infectious disease doctor in Manhattan. She started posting her thoughts about the COVID-19 pandemic on her Facebook page in mid-March. Here are some excerpts.



March 19

Seeing doubling of numbers of admitted, confirmed cases. One thing is clear: While there is a classic presentation, there is a massive spectrum, and we are seeing differences compared with the reports from China. Meetings currently focusing on how we stretch out our PPE stores to keep our workforce healthy and care for an expected influx.

March 20

NYC: 3,615. Hospitals are opening up multiple floors dedicated to COVID-19 patients. There is great anxiety among those of use managing these sick patients because there just is a massive paucity of good data to help us decide if treatment can/should be offered. The anxiety and the ingrained/indoctrinated credence of “I must not fail” can leave us grasping at straws.

March 21

NYC: 7,102. Despite three months passing from Wuhan being shut down, the frontline providers are now putting their lives at risk in really dangerous situations because our nation is unable to protect us. We have to reuse plastic gowns. We have to reuse masks because there aren't any. We have to clean disposable plastic visors between patients because there aren't any more.

March 22

NYC: 10,356. A large group of COVID-19 cases end up needing to be intubated. And then it's a massive amount of work to get them extubated. There is a very real concern that we will surpass the ICU bed and ventilator capacities of the city.

March 23

NYC: 13,199. I've had to do some prep for returning to work. First, purchase scrubs. Second, shoes I know I can work in comfortably but also destroy/clean with bleach products. Third, planning my route. The subway is an hour door-to-door commute, but involves 45 minutes or longer underground. Fourth, double-checked the documents I need to be considered essential enough to be allowed on the streets to commute. Fifth, PPE: plastic safety goggles. These haven't arrived yet, but I have a pair a friend gave me. Purell sanitizer I ordered a month ago hasn't arrived.

March 24

NYC: 15,597. Our hospital seems like an empty shell. Halls are empty. Usually there are visitors, people in and out of the clinics and providers speed-walking through the halls. There are no visitors. There is no chatter in the rooms.

March 25

NYC: 20,000. The New England Journal of Medicine put out an article today with suggestions on how I decide whom to offer a life-saving breathing machine.

March 26

NYC: 23,100. One thing I have to get used to is not communicating through smiles. No one can see you smile behind a mask.

March 27

I don't have the heart or stomach to think about the numbers today. OR nurses have become a highly trained proning team to turn patients onto their stomachs to help protect lungs and help improve oxygenation during severe acute respiratory distress syndrome. It is not easy. Many patients are paralyzed, they have multiple IV lines and tubes running every which way, and they have a tube going into their mouth that is attached to the breathing machine. It is hard. It is complicated. It has a high risk of contamination. But it's essential for specific patients. I saw the nurses in action today, and it was a beautifully choreographed piece of art that gave me goosebumps.

March 28

Numbers continue to climb. I can't watch the news these days. It is full of non-medical people full of important-sounding words and posturing over their actions. It almost feels like a compounding traumatizing event. I want action.

March 29

Lots of modeling continues to debate when the peak will occur. It's a little unnerving to think we have to keep going because we haven't even crested the hill.

March 30

My husband's hospital has been ahead of mine in the pandemic. Today he saw two refrigerated trailers parked outside due to the morgue being filled.

March 31

NYC: 38,936. I have absolutely no question that I am participating in a meaningful way to fight this pandemic and hopefully keep my family, your family, our family safe. Today's post is a plea to please hang in there everyone. Every single one of you at home, you are the cure. Please continue to stay home.

April 1

NYC: 45,700. Every day is basically the same. There are only patient visits for fever, cough, shortness of breath. Dx: COVID-19. Someone fell without any other complaints? Dx: syncope due to COVID-19. Multiple strokes? Dx: COVID-19. Basically every. single. person coming into the ED has COVID-19. The end result is a really mean-spirited version of "Groundhog Day."

April 2

Within the hospital, I heard code after code called. For nonmedical people, code = arrest. Meaning someone is losing their heart rhythm or the ability to breathe. And codes on COVID-19 patients typically do not go well. Doctors and the entire health care team are not used to this. Deaths happen, yes. But not at this rate. It's tough. It's ugly. It's really demoralizing.

The majority of loved ones will have their last moments with these patients as they are being carried away by an ambulance crew or ferried into an emergency triage room.

This is a marathon. You can't go out too hard because you need to make it across that finish line. In NYC, we have hit the end of that adrenaline rush and are now coming to the realization that we need to settle into this pace for a while.

The key is to be a team and draft off the lead and switch out the lead on a regular basis to benefit from fresh legs (and smiles and attitudes). This is key for health care workers, as well as everyone staying at home. And those of you not in NYC, this massive endurance test is coming to you. Assemble your COVID-19 armies!



Good Neighbors

Alumni leapt into action to help their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While homebound in Lisbon, Portugal, Teresa **Aires Rodrigues '19** developed *The Mission Book* to reach out to and entertain children from all over the world. Her interactive story invites children to participate in building a book chapter by chapter. Sign your child up at themissionbook.wordpress.com.

Amanda Basham Atkinson '04 created a GoFundMe campaign to buy meals from local restaurants to distribute to hospital staff in the Fort Worth, Texas, area. "I think people find comfort in feeding others," she said. "It seemed like something that would benefit various sectors that needed community support — specifically health care workers who are on the front lines in this fight against COVID-19 and restaurant staff who are getting laid off."

Shelley Adams Gentle '99 is a member of the Leadership Vestavia Hills' Hunger Awareness Project in Birmingham, Alabama. When the local schools closed, she started a GoFundMe campaign to raise money to buy lunches from local restaurants for children who normally receive free or reduced-price meals from the school system. She said, "We got a lot of little gifts from a lot of people. It just goes to show that a small gift can go a long way."

Will Massie '85, president of McKinnon and Harris, said, "We are grateful to have a backlog of work. Everyone who can work remotely is doing so, and we have been able to split our folks up into two shifts. In addition to our cushions, our sewing department is busy producing masks for our employees and their families, for charitable organizations and to supply our local hospital. Such a terrible time but we remain focused on all of the positive things."

When W&L canceled its Accepted Students Day, **Jamila Seaton '09**, a member of the Alumni Ambassador Program, stepped in to chat with those students on the phone. Her message was straightforward: "I want you to feel supported, and I am here if you have any questions or need anything. So is W&L."

David Thornhill '02, president and owner of Integrated Textile Solutions, is producing 50,000+ surgical-style masks per week, plus thousands of isolation gowns. He spends most Sundays delivering donations of his company's products to local organizations, including the Salem Fire Department, Carilion Clinic and Richfield Living, a nonprofit senior living facility.

Conversation Starter

Dillon Myers '14 and Alan Gibson '70 are helping older adults overcome social isolation with a \$2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

BY JEFF SEYMOUR

“You know, we can help ease the pain of being isolated. The platform is just easy. And people need easy right now.”

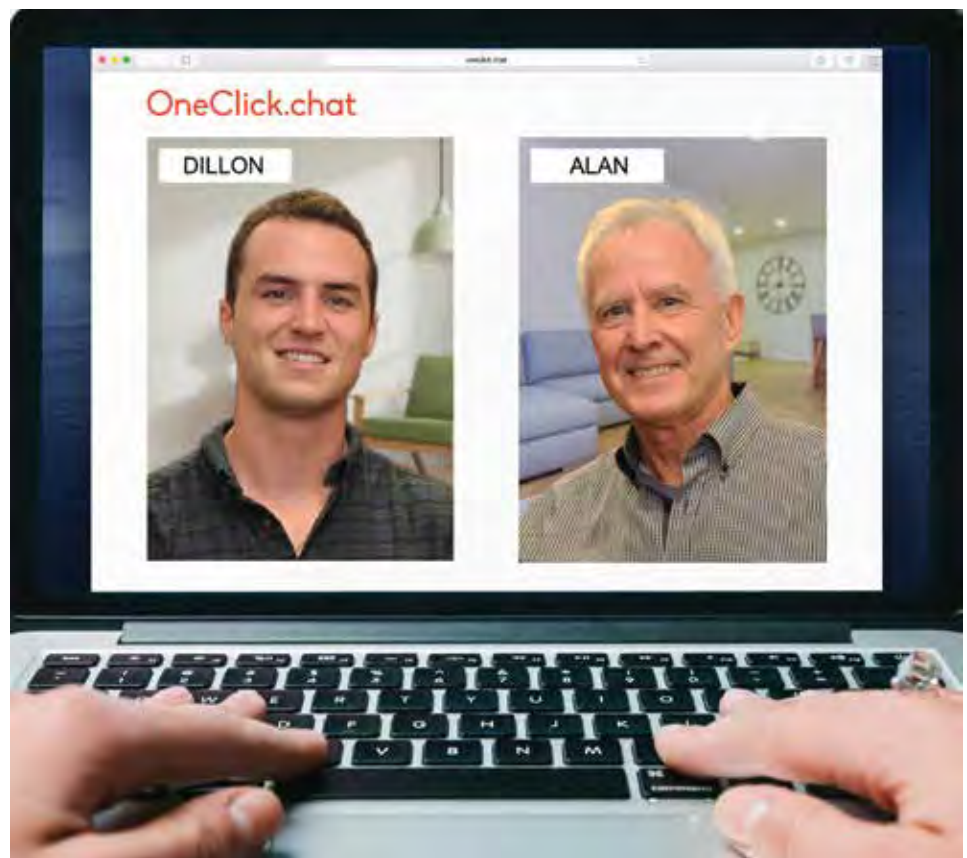
—Alan Gibson '70

AS COVID-19 SPREAD ACROSS THE U.S. AND states issued shelter-in-place orders, Dillon Myers '14 and Alan Gibson '70 found themselves in a unique position to respond.

Their video chat platform, OneClick.chat, was developed through a Small Business Innovation and Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), specifically

to facilitate social interactions among older adults.

The original product focused on “a group of people who tend to be homebound or live alone or can't go out and meet people in person regularly,” Myers said. “And then as the coronavirus was going on, we started to see that this is happening to everyone.”



Their partnership began at Gibson's 45th reunion in 2016, when a conversation with a new acquaintance led to an introduction to Myers.

At the time, Myers was working for a tech startup in Columbus, Ohio. Gibson told him about a business idea he'd had for years: getting people together for dinner over video chat. Myers thought it had merit, and by the end of the evening, they and Jim Mathews '73, an old friend of Gibson's who is now OneClick's chief financial officer, were talking seriously about founding a company.

"There was an epidemic of loneliness," explained Gibson, who worked as an art director in advertising for decades. "The New York Times was writing about it, The Wall Street Journal was writing about it. More and more adults were living alone, and I thought, well, all these people are at home by themselves at night. Wouldn't it be fun to connect them over dinner?"

They called their first product PotLuck. As they tested the concept, they discovered older participants liked the idea but were turned off by the complexity of chat platforms like Skype and Zoom. "The three of us took a step back and realized there was an opportunity to build a platform using the latest technology, designed to be easy to use for older adults," Myers said.

Shortly thereafter, Myers contacted Wendy Rogers, a professor working on the University of Illinois' Collaborations in Health, Aging, Research, & Technology initiative. They partnered to apply for an SBIR grant from the NIH, aiming to design a platform accessible to older adults, even people in the early stages of dementia or Alzheimer's.

They received their \$150,000 phase one funding on the first try, which is rare.

Over the next two years, they worked with older adults to refine OneClick.chat and make it as user-friendly as possible. "They're not shy,"

Gibson said. "They say things like, 'I don't understand what that word means.'" Figuring out how to mute a microphone could seriously impact their ability to use the system.

"We really design based on the user's actions," explained Myers, whose background is in product design. "We don't make a lot of assumptions about how people will use things. The NIH research grant allowed us to have focus groups and really involve our target users in the design process."

They hit upon a few key innovations. OneClick is entirely browser-based, meaning users don't have to download apps and add-ons. It also employs a concept called "rooms." Each subscriber gets a short, unique link — e.g., *OneClick.chat/JohnDoe* — to send to people they want to chat with. Anyone who clicks the link can join in, no registration or account creation required.

NIH recently approved OneClick for phase two of its SBIR grant, worth \$2 million. They will use the funds to study whether using OneClick improves health outcomes the same way interacting face to face does.

"In the last several years, a lot of research has shown the negative health effects associated with loneliness and social isolation," Myers said. "It may have the same negative outcomes as smoking 15 cigarettes a day or twice the impact of being obese. So, I think focusing on that and creating a very easy-to-use, accessible way to socially engage caught the eye of NIH."

These days, OneClick is getting more traffic than ever, especially after it extended its free trial period. "We've offered it to lots of individuals and organizations," Gibson said, including caregivers conducting programming for older adults, such as knitting circles and book clubs.

"You know, we can help ease the pain of being isolated," Gibson added. "The platform is just easy. And people need easy right now?"

"In the last several years, a lot of research has shown the negative health effects associated with loneliness and social isolation."

—Dillon Myers '14

SPRING FORWARD

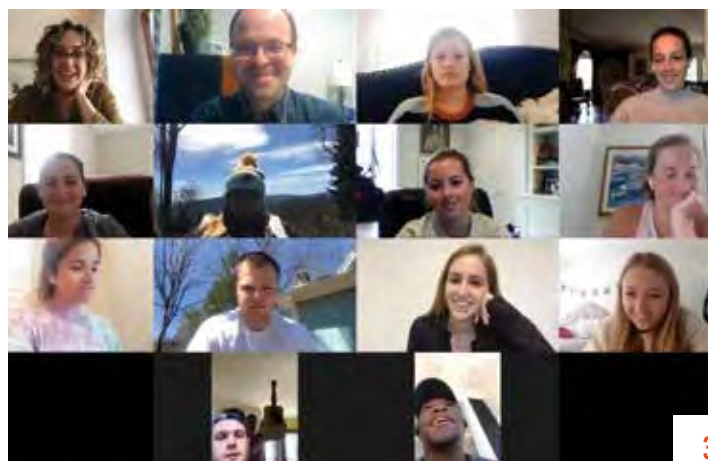
March set growth records across OneClick's statistics, with usage 5.3 times higher than in February and 19.5 times what it was in March 2019. The platform has been used in over 39 countries.

ROOM 275

Myers and Gibson lived in the same room in Graham-Lees (aka Old Dorm in Gibson's time), 44 years apart.

OF ENTREPRENEURS AND HONOR

Myers credits Professor Jeff Shay and the W&L Entrepreneurship Program with helping him find his career and supporting OneClick through its early stages. Both men said the Honor System immediately created the trust so essential between business partners in a startup.



A Class Act

It was all hands on deck to make the transition to virtual learning.

BY JEFF SEYMOUR

A FEW DAYS BEFORE WASHINGTON AND Lee University announced it was closing campus because of COVID-19 and moving online for the rest of Winter Term, Julie Knudson, director of academic technologies, was already making contingency plans with her team.

Paul Hanstedt, director of W&L's Center for Academic Resources and Pedagogical Excellence (CARPE), was impressed by the speed of her response. "I had just finished dinner when I found out we were moving to online instruction — that was Friday, 7 p.m. Right away, Julie and [Associate Provost] Paul Youngman '87 and I are on email, and Julie was in the office Saturday morning."

By Monday, David Saacke, chief information officer, had expanded the university's suite of Zoom licenses to 500, and that was just the beginning.

"We looked at Canvas, we looked at Box, and WordPress, and blogging and the lecture-capture system," Knudson said. "And we asked, 'All right, what's the best way we can get people prepared?'"

Academic Technologies had been offering technological teaching tools and conducting workshops on them for years. Since W&L was suspending instruction for two weeks, they settled on gathering a series of those workshops into a boot camp on online instruction.

"A lot of people stepped up," Knudson said. "People in Academic Technologies, Classroom

Technologies, Client Services. All over, people said, 'What can I help with? What classes can I do?' We had a number of faculty assist: Jeff Rahl, Sydney Bufkin, the librarians. It was this wonderful collaboration of people rising to the occasion."

Williams School professor Stephen Lind, who has 10 years' experience teaching online, conducted a workshop on best practices and creative concepts. "I was so encouraged by the ideas my colleagues were already exploring," he said. "We can provide a fantastic online learning experience for our students."

Hanstedt, who has been sending daily support emails as well as holding video conference office hours for faculty, echoed the sentiment. "Our faculty are so smart. They're thinking about what they're doing, and they're very deliberate. In many ways they make it easy."

As CARPE's director, Hanstedt helps faculty understand what works in teaching, why it works and how to leverage their strengths. When it comes to moving online, he said, "Their strongest tool is the relationships they already have with students. It's still about them caring deeply and their students learning and being aware of that and being able to communicate back." Maintaining that kind of personal touch, he feels, is essential to delivering the instruction that distinguishes a W&L education.

"Step one is reconnect," Hanstedt said. "Don't forget who you are. Use your humor or your

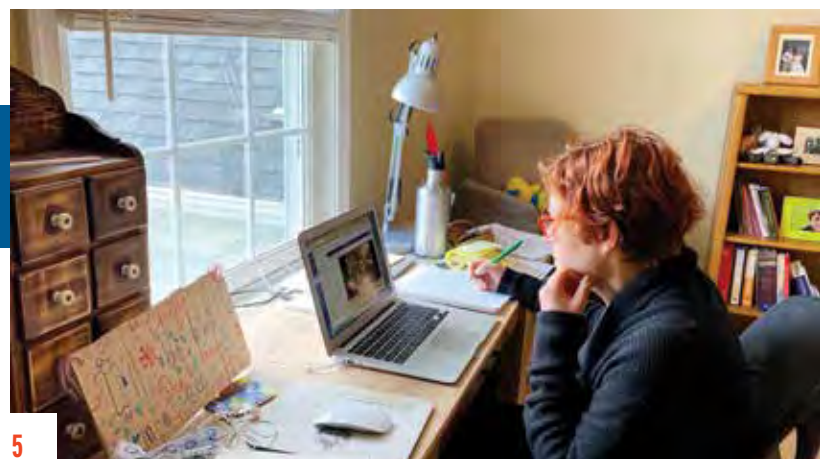


"Our faculty are so smart. They're thinking about what they're doing, and they're very deliberate."

**—Paul Hanstedt,
Director of CARPE**



4



5

1. Janet Ikeda, associate professor of Japanese, invited her JAPN 112 students to dress up for their Zoom session. She donned her pink Yayoi Kusama wig.
2. Niels-Hugo Blunch, professor of economics, works at home, accompanied by an Easter chick and his treasured Bob Dylan's "The Lyrics." Photo by his son, Kai-John Blunch '23.

3. Mark Coddington (top row, second from left), assistant professor of journalism, holds class with his JOUR 220 students.
4. Sarah Horwitz (top row, center), associate professor of history, Zooms with her modern French history class.

5. Jemma Alix Levy, assistant professor of theater, checks in with a student from her home office.

sternness, whatever works for you in class." Mathematics professor Greg Dresden, who peppers his lectures with anecdotes about the goofiness of his children, is having his kids add sound effects and digital effects to his videos.

The collaborative problem-solving it takes to pivot online, Hanstedt emphasized, also provides an incredible learning opportunity. "Faculty can pull students into a partnership," he said, "remind them that life is complicated and that this loss of familiar, comfortable structure is sort of normal, and we can learn from this process and be better as a consequence of it."

The presence of CARPE and Academic Technologies made the online transition much easier for W&L than it could have been. "Several of the technologies and techniques I'll be using over the next month Academic Technologies introduced me to a year or two ago," said journalism professor Mark Coddington, who participated in Academic Technologies' Active Learning Fellowship Initiative in 2018. "I'm thankful that they've been eager to help faculty incorporate new technologies long before it became a necessity."

Faculty have praised Hanstedt's daily emails as well. "We're in the early days of the rollout of CARPE's functions," Lind said, "and it's already playing a vital role in supporting faculty as we make the transition online. These are true education experts, and they are an invaluable resource in a time like this."

Hanstedt and Knudson are each preparing to offer ongoing support. Hanstedt will continue his office hours and bring faculty together online to share stories of success and frustration, helping maintain the camaraderie and informal peer mentoring that ties W&L together.

In the future, Hanstedt and Knudson look forward to closer collaborations once life on campus goes back to normal. The strategic plan calls for CARPE to receive its own purpose-built space in Leyburn Library, which Academic Technologies will share.

"Paul and I work very closely together," Knudson said. "We're both very much concerned about pedagogy and making sure that students have optimal learning experiences and that professors have the information they need."

"We're all looking forward to bumping into each other in the hall multiple times a day," Hanstedt added. "The passing conversations we have a few times a week can happen more often, and those always lead to better ideas. I can't emphasize enough how lucky I am to work with Julie and her department. I've been to a lot of campuses where Academic Technologies can only talk about the tools and can't talk about why they're meaningful or why a person would want to use them. Julie and her team always have an eye on the students and how this tech can make the classroom a better place."

ONLINE ACTIVITY

ZOOM STATS FROM MARCH 14 TO APRIL 13

1,172 Active Users
1,775 Newly Registered
2,228 In Total

5,821 Meetings
1.7 Million Meeting Minutes
44,199 Participants

OFFICE HOURS



Zoila Ponce de Leon

The assistant professor of politics studies the interactions between political parties and policymaking to find out why politics can feel so messed up.

BY JEFF SEYMOUR • PHOTO BY SHELBY MACK

WHY STUDY LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS?

I'm Peruvian, and in Peru, the political system is very chaotic. When I was a teenager, we went from an authoritarian regime to a democratic one. A lot of people had high hopes, but we kept so many things the same. Making sense of all that was very hard for me. Political science seemed like a way to understand.

WHAT IS A PROGRAMMATIC PARTY?

Programmatic parties appeal to the population based on policy issues. So, I tell you, "This is the policy I want for immigration, education, health care, abortion, reproductive rights, and if you share these policy positions you should support me."

Nonprogrammatic parties may have some policy positions, but they appeal to voters based on other things, like charisma and personality. They may also use clientelistic appeals — buying votes, coercing people into voting, offering jobs in exchange for votes. This is the core of Latin American politics.

Where programmatic parties are uncommon, things still get done, but the policies rarely come from the parties. Instead, they come from outside actors, such as USAID in the case of Peru and think tanks funded by private companies in the case of Mexico. The parties are not engaged, and that shows up at the end in poor implementation.

WHAT IS PARTY-VOTER CONGRUENCE?

If you're a supporter of my party, and I'm a leader of the party, we should agree on policy issues. Generally, programmatic parties will be congruent and clientelistic parties shouldn't be congruent. But I found out that clientelistic parties can be congruent when it comes to policy positions that will guarantee benefits for supporters.

My research also looks into how factors beyond ideology and budget affect policy quality, things like the level of commitment that party members have, whether they design a clear policy that can be implemented and whether it has guaranteed funding long term. Something I

don't study, but think is quite fascinating, is that some scholars have found that when there is no commitment from the opposition party, then at the state level implementation is hindered, which really affects the expansion of social benefits. Exactly what you've seen here in the United States.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT TEACHING?

It gives me an opportunity to discuss research that I find interesting with very smart people. Academics work mostly alone — it's just you, maybe a co-author — but teaching gives you the opportunity to discuss. The students bring up things I've never considered, and I really enjoy that.

I also love seeing students' perspectives change. At first, whenever you want to study anything, they'll say, "Well, how does it affect the United States?" And I tell them, "It doesn't matter. We're talking about Venezuela."

Students here will put in all the effort in the world to learn about something. The second you take them

away from their usual perspective, they want to know more, and they always have questions. For me it's rewarding when they want to learn about what's going on in South Africa or in Bolivia. That makes for a lively class, and when I ask them to write papers, they can produce really, really interesting pieces of work.

FAVORITE CLASSES?

I love to teach Latin American politics. It's a lot of fun, and the students can get very engaged, especially as you connect it with current events in the region. Global politics, which is an intro level class, forces me to learn about many countries that I know nothing about. And I really like teaching statistics. It's very rewarding when a student comes in saying, "I'm not a stats person, I'm not a math person." And then they end up having fun, and they see that this is actually very approachable.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

MAIN JOY

I love traveling, especially trying out foods and talking to people. My job allows me to travel a lot, which I really value.

CRICKETS OR WORMS?

I've eaten crickets in Mexico because my Mexican friends kept eating them, and they were horrible. I'll never do that again. But in the jungle in Peru, people eat worms, and they're delicious. They taste like coconuts because they're coconut worms.

RED, WHITE & GREEN

In Mexico, there was a political party in power for 71 years, the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI). In rural areas in Mexico, when people couldn't afford to finish their floors, the PRI would do it for them. You walk into these houses and the floor has a massive PRI sign with the colors red, white and green. It's horrible! But those people have a finished floor.

LIVES OF CONSEQUENCE



PHOTO COURTESY OF CVSC

Waging the Hog Wars

Farmer and conservationist Bill Holliday '65 spent his career fighting to preserve and protect South Carolina's environment.

BY BARBARA ELLIOTT

Although he majored in English at W&L, Bill Holliday '65 did take one business course, a popular economics class taught by John Gunn '45. His takeaway was Gunn's assertion that if "right to" is included in the name of legislation, you can bet it's about giving rich people control and money.

As a farmer, conservationist, animal rights advocate and appointed member of the Agriculture Commission of South Carolina, Holliday immediately saw a red flag when he learned in the spring of 1995 that the state legislature was quietly considering a "right to farm" bill. He was horrified that the bill would open the door to large corporate hog operations like those that had proliferated in eastern North Carolina. Furthermore, it would limit the right of local governments to pass ordinances regulating hog farm operations and the rights of citizens to sue for damages from contamination.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Holliday, whose family has been farming in the Galivants Ferry area of Horry County in the northeastern corner of South Carolina for

generations, immediately called Jane Lareau, co-founder of the Coastal Conservation League. The league mobilized a massive lobbying campaign not only to kill the existing bill, which had already progressed to the senate, but to draft an alternative bill that would place controls on confined animal feeding operations.

"It was the first time the league ventured out of Charleston and became a statewide organization," Holliday recalled. "They were most effective lobbyists." Holliday himself was in a delicate position. All but one of his fellow agriculture commissioners, the elected state agriculture commissioner and the governor were pressing for passage of the legislation. He did eventually come out publicly against the bill, which did not endear him to his colleagues.

DEFENDING THE COMMUNITY

In the meantime, nature intervened in June 1995 when a ruptured dike holding back a waste pit on a farm in eastern North Carolina caused mass dumping of hog waste into the New River, dramatically demonstrating the potential environmental impact of unregulated

corporate hog operations.

The lobbying efforts and subsequent intense statewide media scrutiny helped the bill's opponents negotiate to postpone a vote on the bill for a year. They used that time to lobby for a replacement bill that included strict limitations on corporate hog farming. It was an uphill battle against intense counter-lobbying by industry interests. The long struggle was dubbed "the hog wars."

The new bill and associated regulations that passed in June 1996 established the toughest rules in the nation for factory farm animals. Among other things, it prohibited discharges into waterways that supplied drinking water, required secure liners for waste lagoons and set strict setbacks from neighboring property and waterways. The struggle did not end there, as there were later efforts to overturn or weaken the legislation, but Holliday and other conservation activists were able to stave them off.

ACCOLADES

For his efforts in fighting the hog wars, Holliday received the Lifetime Conservation Achievement

Award from the Conservation Voters of South Carolina last year. Acknowledging his critical role, former Coastal Conservation League staffer Nancy Vinson proclaimed that he "changed the course of ecological history in South Carolina."

Although he considers his work in defeating the "right to farm" legislation his most important contribution as an agriculture commissioner, Holliday also has been recognized for his efforts to protect his family's land under conservation easements in the Galivants Ferry area of Horry County and in neighboring Marion County across the Little Pee Dee Swamp.

Holliday summed up his commitment to the environment by amending the ending of an old Woody Guthrie song. "There is a refrain that goes, 'This land belongs to you and me,' and I changed it to 'This land belongs to all that lives.' I changed it because we can't forget that land isn't just for people. We have to remember that land is for all species and we need to protect it."

MORE ABOUT BILL

STUMPING FOR VOTES

Holliday's family organizes the Galivants Ferry Stump, a biennial event where Democratic office seekers mingle with voters to campaign and eat a South Carolina specialty called chicken bog. The tradition began in 1876, and Holliday's family took over hosting in 1912. Traditionally a forum for South Carolina office seekers, the event welcomed presidential candidates for the first time last fall.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

He earned a doctorate in religious studies from The Union Graduate School in 1999, focusing on ecology, depth psychology and the new cosmology, with an emphasis on interspecies relationships.

FAV W&L MEMORY

"New York's annual Fancy Dress Ball in the old Union League Club downtown, where we did the Long Island two-step to the Lester Lanin Band's rollicking version of the W&L Swing. Go Generals!"



Just Say Hello

Hollis Owens '97's nonprofit offers people with disabilities opportunities to present to, and educate, schoolchildren about their lives.

BY JEFF SEYMOUR

It was children's questions and assumptions that made Hollis Owens '97 realize Dallas needed a new nonprofit. "Do blind people just see black?" they asked when she facilitated disability workshops in schools. "This must be awful!" they said as they simulated disabilities. She realized that people living with disabilities needed to be the ones leading.

Owens didn't fit that profile herself. But after 19 years as a physical therapist, she knew who did: people like her patients, who had disabilities and often lacked a platform to speak about them. A closet entrepreneur, she began asking questions and tapping her network.

"I never said no to a meeting," she said. "I learned something from everyone." Today, her nonprofit To Be Like Me has 20 leaders or volunteers with disabilities. In less than six months of programming, they have run more than 900 kids through interactive scenarios to enhance disability awareness.

HELPING PEOPLE

At W&L, Owens intended to enter medical school. But as she prepared to take the MCATs, her advisor,

psychology professor Jeanine Stewart, opened her eyes to possibilities beyond an M.D.

"I'll never forget it," Owens said. "I said, 'I just really want to help people, and I think medical school is the answer.' And she said, 'I see you in health care for sure, I'm just wondering if you've looked at other opportunities.'"

Owens had loved coursework in kinesiology and neuroscience, and after graduation she went into physical therapy, which brought her to Dallas for her master's degree. There she married Brian Owens '96 and tapped into a W&L network that would later be essential in getting her nonprofit off the ground.

For the first two decades of her career, Owens put family ahead of her desire to create. "I've come up with probably a dozen physical therapy products," she said, "and then life gets in the way." Her four daughters would need her time, "and then I'd see my product on the market and think, 'Oh, well, I guess I'm not doing that anymore.'"

But the desire to help never left her, and as she explored how to create opportunities for people with disabilities, doors opened.

A friend from church found a new space looking for disability programming; Owens had worked with its director previously. Two of her sorority sisters from Kappa Kappa Gamma, Margaret (Hawn) Kelley '96 and Carol (Pierce) Goglia '95, helped with getting the word out and fundraising. Owens' husband handled graphic design. Former patients and friends including Taylor Shultz '98 volunteered time and experience. Shultz sustained a traumatic brain injury six years ago and has found purpose in educating participants about the challenges he faces.

Owens put together a team, tested programming and trained leaders. Now To Be Like Me is on target to teach empathy and understanding to thousands of students each year.

CONVERSATIONS

"It's part of who I am," participants repeated when Owens asked about their disabilities. During focus groups, she tested language, messaging and workshop content. Responses centered on intent and equal opportunity, as well as problems caused by making assumptions.

If someone wants to

help a person with disabilities, Owens said, "The best thing to do is to have a conversation with that person, whether it's an employer talking to their employee or a teacher having a meeting with parents and a kid, just opening up dialogue and saying, 'What can we do to help you feel comfortable?'"

Simple adaptive equipment like noise-canceling headphones or alternative seating can help. "We have so much more in common than we think," Owens said. "I have some difficulty processing lots of sensory input, and I can't have too many things going on around me or I can't concentrate; I love wearing noise-canceling headphones. We all have our strengths and our areas where we need a little more help." The key, she said, is finding the right tools to help people learn and live in their own unique way.

Owens' advice for other alumni looking to give back is simple: Remember who you are, and follow where you're being led. "I learned a lot at W&L about being friendly and open to meeting new people — just saying hello and being kind. Really, I would not be here if I didn't listen and follow. One person has led me to the next."

MORE ABOUT HOLLIS

W&L CONNECTIONS

"My dad (Hollis Drake Leddy '71) just happened to have an alumni meeting at Washington and Lee during our college tour. In the car afterward I said, 'That's where I want to go, and I want to apply early.' Thankfully, I was accepted, and I loved every minute of my time there."

THE SPEAKING TRADITION

"Sometimes kids don't know what to say to somebody who looks or acts a little bit different. A lot of our leaders tell the participants, 'Instead of staring, just say hello.' I think that's an important point, and I definitely learned that at W&L."

LET IT GO

"I'm going to totally out myself as a nerd, but I did my thesis on the effects of aluminum, cadmium and zinc on the olfactory system in goldfish. In the Psychology Department, we had a cryotherapy lab. That lab was my favorite calming and peaceful place on campus."

During the COVID-19 epidemic, To Be Like Me is sharing a biweekly video series and curriculum instead of conducting in-person workshops. Visit tobelikeme.org/news.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TO BE LIKE ME

Alumni

CLASS UPDATES AND SUCCESS STORIES

CHAPTER CORNER

ALUMNI CHAPTERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY HOSTED ALL KINDS OF GET-TOGETHERS. HERE'S A BRIEF LOOK.



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1. The New York Alumni Chapter gathered for a holiday party.
2. During Fall 2019 Reading Days, members of the 2020 Mock Con team visited Austin, Texas.
3. It was game, set, match at the Baltimore Chapter paddle tennis mixer.
4. The Bluegrass Chapter celebrated Presidents' Day and received the Division IV Chapter of the Year

- Award. The group gathered at the home of John '89 and Maria P. Roach P'16, '19 in Lexington, Kentucky.
5. The Charlotte Alumni Chapter.
6. The Atlanta Chapter celebrated Presidents' Day with special guest Lynn Rainville, director of institutional history.



EVENTS

YOUNG ALUMNI WEEKEND
OCT. 30-31, 2020

Join your classmates, make new acquaintances and enjoy the fall splendor of our beautiful campus. We will celebrate the 5th and 10th reunions for the classes of 2015 and 2010. All Generals who graduated from 2010 to 2020 are invited. We can't wait to see you back in Lex Vegas!

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Jennifer Quail '00 with Alex Trebek.

JENNIFER QUAIL '00

No Pressure

BY JEFF SEYMOUR

“OH, MY GOD, THIS IS IT,” REALIZED Jennifer Quail '00. Moments before, her name had been drawn from a box. She'd been rushed backstage, her makeup touched up, her microphone put on. She scribbled her signature for her podium, hoping it would be legible on TV. The lights came down. The music came up. The announcer gave the introduction she'd heard hundreds of times.

It was time to play “Jeopardy!”

For Quail, that moment and the eight-game win streak after — ninth most in “Jeopardy!” history at the time — capped years of effort. Four times she took the online test. Four times she reached the in-person audition: more tests, conversations with producers and a mock game.

“I've been watching ‘Jeopardy!’ for most of my life,” she explains. “That was always the thing. Go home. Do your homework. Have dinner. And then ‘Jeopardy!’” Four chances to audition for the show wasn't a heartbreaker. “You spend the night in a nice hotel and have a nice dinner. It's like going away for the weekend.”

When the call to California did come, it was a surprise. “Two weeks after my last audition, I was on vacation in Canada. I got off the cruise ship and checked my messages, and I had email and voicemail asking me to call the ‘Jeopardy!’ producers.” They wanted her for taping just a few weeks later.

She got time off from her job as a sales consultant at a Michigan winery, but had little chance to prepare. “I watched the show more attentively, tried to read up, but mostly it was just ‘Alright, I've got three weeks. Not going to be anything I can do.’”

That coolheaded approach, she thinks, may have been her greatest asset. “I'm not

too bad at shaking off a wrong answer, or if I don't buzz in right away, which can really get to you. You have to be able to plow right on and keep playing.” She didn't realize how well she was doing until Alex Trebek noted she had run away with the game, leading by nearly \$30,000.

As her win streak grew, she developed some nerves, but compared to horseback riding as a kid and at W&L, the risks seemed low, and performing at museums and in a SonoKlect concert had made her comfortable under the lights.

W&L, she says, provided a solid foundation for “Jeopardy!” “It's the mentality, the broad base. Just because it's not related to your job doesn't mean you shouldn't be learning about it.” The community helped her feel comfortable too. “One of my best friends from W&L is an engineer who works for NASA. Another is a professor of medicine. At ‘Jeopardy!’ it's the same thing. You're in a room full of really intelligent people, all of whom went through a tough selection process to get here.”

An archaeology major who got a master's degree in museum studies and writes speculative fiction in her spare time, Quail is now preparing for a likely turn on “Jeopardy! Tournament of Champions.” She advises recent grads to follow the opportunities in front of them. “The one thing you should have gotten out of W&L is the ability to be flexible and broad in your experiences. So, take that and run with it. You should have the tools to go anywhere — including, if you want to, ‘Jeopardy!’.”

Quail can be reached most easily through her website, authorjenniferquail.com, where she posts updates on her fiction and “Jeopardy!” experience.

60s

1967

Garry Apgar published “Quotes for Conservatives” (Center Street), which includes quotations from George Washington, Edmund Burke, Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, Rush Limbaugh and Tom Wolfe '51. He is an art historian and former cartoonist and journalist. He lives in Connecticut.

1969

Sherwin J. Jacobs ('72L) retired at the end of 2019 after a successful career in business and real estate (1973 to 1995), followed by a second career practicing law in litigation (1991 to 2019). He and his wife, Carla, reside in Linville, Virginia.

70s

1971

Stephen D. Rosenthal ('76L) was recognized by

the Virginia Bar Association with the VBA Health Law Section's Alan Goldberg Award. He is a partner at Troutman Sanders LLP's Richmond office.

1971

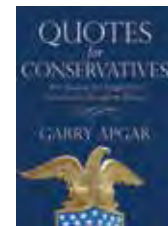
Peter Cavalier self-published “Bank Street.” He started the novel three years ago upon his retirement from Citibank after a 40-year career in banking. The coming-of-age story follows a young college graduate starting out in the banking industry. Cavalier says it is “somewhat autobiographical in nature, and

the characters represent a composite of peers and supervisors I've worked for.”

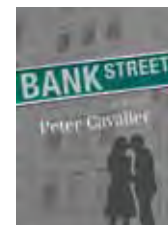
80s

1984

Powell Leitch III ('87L) was voted into the American Board of Trial Advocates, a national association of trial lawyers and judges dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the civil jury trial right. He is a partner at Gentry Locke in Roanoke.



Garry Apgar '67
QUOTES FOR CONSERVATIVES



Peter Cavalier
BANK STREET



Stephanie Wolfe '99 celebrated her admittance to W&L.

REFLECTING FORWARD

Giving Back

BY STEPHANIE WOLFE '99
PRESIDENT, ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOT EVERYONE IS THE DAUGHTER OF A HISTORIAN, especially one who concentrated her career on the social and intellectual history of the South. But my mother, who, after my graduation in 1999, assumed the post of visiting faculty member in W&L's History Department in 2006 and fully understood the significance of our university and its namesakes, used a little bit of reverse psychology in persuading me to visit Washington and Lee. She said, "You probably won't be interested, but let's visit it anyway."

She read me like a book. On my first visit to the campus, I fell in love instantly. I couldn't wait to be a Summer Scholar in 1994. After that month-long experience, during which I met professors Ted DeLaney, Bob Strong, Holt Merchant and so many others, I was fully prepared to skip my senior year in high school and jump right in.

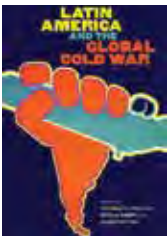
Did I know how demanding my first year or the years following would be? No way. It didn't matter. In any event, I followed the normal process and applied for every bit of merit-based financial aid I could find, and, for reasons still unknown, received a full-tuition, merit-based scholarship. I marvel to this day that I was so fortunate, but now, having served in various alumni leadership roles, understand that it is because of you — our dedicated alumni — that these possibilities exist.

The day I opened the letter from W&L telling me I received a scholarship felt like a dream, and that is why I continue to give time and effort to this wonderful institution.

Please give back. Please give your time and your resources to continue to bring students to campus who have a sincere desire to learn and excel. There is no better way to be mindful of the future. Thank you.



Katherine W. Hanley '91
HOW TO BE A BETTER PERSON



Thomas C. Field Jr. '01
LATIN AMERICA AND THE GLOBAL COLD WAR

Michael S. Wyatt was inducted into the Hall of Fame for the University of Dallas' Satish and Yasmin Gupta School of Business. He lives in Dallas.

90s

1991

Anne Lamkin Durward was elected to serve a two-year term as president-elect of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Foundation. She also serves on the board of governors of the International Academy of Family Lawyers. Durward

and her husband, John, enjoy traveling and their involvement with both academies. They live in Birmingham, Alabama.

Katherine W. Hanley launched a new podcast, "How to Be a Better Person," based on her book of the same name (Adams Media, 2018). Its short, daily, lighthearted format makes it easy to live your best life. She lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

1992

Blaire A. Postman ('95L) serves as an advertising and sponsorships account manager for NBC in Washington, D.C.

1994

Daniel G. Katzenbach was listed in the 2020 Legal Elite of Business North Carolina. He is a partner with Cranfil Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh, North Carolina.

00s

2000

Emily Belcher Reynolds ('03L) joined Alexander Ricks PLLC as partner. She lives and works in Charlotte, North Carolina.

2001

Thomas C. Field Jr. co-edited "Latin America and the Global Cold War" (University of North Carolina Press), which analyzes more than a dozen of Latin America's forgotten encounters with Africa, Asia and the Communist world.

2002

Sarah Spisich Crotts joined the health care industry team at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP's Charlotte, North Carolina, office. She practices both transactional and regulatory health care law,



TED ARCHER '06

See More, Do More

BY JEFF SEYMOUR

TED ARCHER '06 TAKES A MISSION-BASED approach to his career. As executive director and global head of small business within corporate responsibility at JPMorgan Chase & Co., he invests in people and organizations helping underserved communities access the tools of small business success. His signature projects include the \$52 million Entrepreneurs of Color Fund, which connects banks and nonprofit lenders to underserved small businesses across the U.S., and a \$50 million effort to support vulnerable communities impacted by COVID-19.

A public policy major at the Williams School, Archer worked in economic development at Washington, D.C.'s, small business development agency after W&L's Washington Term introduced him to the city. Interactions with White House staffers and World Bank officials helped him develop a global understanding of small business.

"West Africa, Latin America, Asia — the dynamics are largely the same," he says. "You need access to markets. You need customers. In order to scale your company, you need investors. You need business knowledge or management skills. And you need a network of mentors you can lean on when you don't know how to solve a problem."

Underserved communities, including

women, people of color and veterans, often lack equal access to those resources. "That's the thing that holds people back. It holds back communities and neighborhoods, cities and countries. We're losing a lot of economic output because we're not having full participation."

His job is to identify interventions that can help. "We're pulling together mayors, governors and business leaders who can change the dynamics," he says. Ultimately, successful interventions help people navigate the economic system on their own.

A child of Haitian immigrants, Archer credits his parents with pushing him to challenge himself. "They took a big risk leaving home. So, I've always had that approach of taking on challenges in life."

He sees companies considering their social impacts more and more often and believes that portends a better future.

"There is a growing consciousness — especially among young people — that we can't have status quo solutions for challenges around our economy, health and climate. The good news is we have the tools we need to drive change: technology and talented, thoughtful young leaders connecting business and community impact."

You can find out more about Ted Archer and his work at [JPMorganchase.com/smallbusiness-forward](https://www.jpmorganchase.com/smallbusiness-forward).

with a focus on health care fraud and abuse, HIPAA and provider mergers and acquisitions. Crotts works primarily remotely from her home in Clemmons, North Carolina, where she lives with her husband, Jim, and 5-year-old twins, Anna and William.

Dr. Hillary E. Lockemer was named director of pediatric endocrinology and medical director of pediatric subspecialties at WakeMed Health & Hospitals in Raleigh, North Carolina. She continues to love working with patients, but is excited to take this next step in her career.

Lauren Paxton Roberts ('05L), an attorney at Stites & Harbison PLLC, was named to the Rising Stars list in the 2019 edition of Mid-South Super Lawyers. She lives in Franklin, Tennessee.

2005

Matthew D. Treco joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Atlanta as an associate in the litigation department.

2006

G. Calvin Awkward III ('09L) was promoted to counsel with Franklin & Prokopik PC in Baltimore. Awkward focuses on civil litigation and construction litigation.

Jon M. Philipson was promoted to partner at Thomas & LoCicero PL in its Tampa, Florida, office.

2008

William B. Larson ('11L) garnered the highest number of votes for the Government Affairs Top Lawyer category in Delaware Today Magazine.

He is an associate with MG+M in Wilmington, Delaware.

Rebecca LeMoine published "Plato's Caves: The Liberating Sting of Cultural Diversity" (Oxford University Press). She is an assistant professor of political science at Florida Atlantic University. Her book defends the bold thesis that Plato was a friend of cultural diversity, contrary to many contemporary perceptions, and in the process shows why cultural diversity is an essential good.

10s

2012

Zachary A. Wilkes ('15L) joined CenturyLink as senior attorney in

litigation. He lives in Shreveport, Louisiana.

2014

Jordan T. Kearns made the 2020 Forbes' 30 Under 30 – Energy list for his work at the company he founded, Medley Thermal. The firm dynamically electrifies industrial and commercial steam systems to reduce facility energy costs and emissions. Medley Thermal is currently installing a megawatt-scale demonstration with Wells College in New York. The project is expected to reduce the school's thermal energy costs and emissions by about 25% each.

2016

John W. Anderson graduated from the Georgia Institute of



Rebecca LeMoine '08
PLATO'S CAVES: THE
LIBERATING STING OF
CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Technology, summa cum laude, attaining an M.S. in cybersecurity in December 2019. He resigned from FTI Consulting Inc. in December, where he worked alongside several fellow Generals in the firm's energy and natural resources practice since graduating from W&L. He is pursuing a new career opportunity with Phillips 66, where he will be working across the company's offices in Oklahoma and Texas. Anderson also joined the board of the Critical Language Scholarship Alumni Society, a 501(c)3 nonprofit that represents the 7,000 alumni of the U.S. Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship Program. He is the board's new partnerships coordinator. If your business or organization is interested in hiring speakers of languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Japanese, Farsi and Hindi, feel free to reach out via Colonnade Connections.

2017

Shaun M. Soman is the assistant news director at WORT in Madison, Wisconsin, where they have produced the WORT local news since October and are a contributor to the Wednesday evening LGBTQ+ show "Queery."

ALUMNI NEWS



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1. Frank Barron Jr. '52 (right) and Bob Swinarton '50, Delta Tau Delta fraternity brothers, got together in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, in October 2019. Barron visited another fraternity brother, Robert Latimer '53, in December 2019.

2. For several years members of the KA fraternity of the Classes of '64 and '65 have gotten together for an annual reunion. The latest gathering was in Williamsburg, Virginia, Oct. 7-9, 2019. From l. to r.: Wilmot Kidd '64, Bill David '65, Hobby Morrison '64, Peter Winfield '65, Jim Tyler '67, Lanier Woodrum '65, Duke Terrell '65, Allan Hubbard '65, Herb Smith '64, Peter Candler '64, Mike Brumby '64 and Ashley Allen '65.

3. Pat Schaefer '88 hosted an SAE pledge class of '88 reunion at Pickwick Lake. Front row l. to r.: George Early, Kramer Litvak, Ed Henson (also claimed by '87), Mike Henry and Steve Szczecinski. Second row, l. to r.: Mike McGarry '87, Peter Faser and Chip Brooks. Third row, l. to r.: Mike Suttle, Chason Harrison, Pat Schaefer and Matt Diemer. Fourth row, l. to r.: Garth Schulz, Todd Barton, Jordan Josey and Walker Hays. Fifth row, l. to r.: Henry Sackett, Phil Sherrill (technically class of '90, but spiritually one of us), J.P. Baehr and Hobey Bauhan.

4. The brothers of Zeta Beta Tau gathered in the shadow of Jump Mountain on Sept. 7, 2019. Front, l. to r.: Keith Silverman '74, Mike Kennedy '82, Tim McCune '85, Dave Connor '85, Rick Lovegrove '77, Terry Shadrack '78, Patrick Reynolds '83, Gordon Lewis '81 and Richard Latture '81. Back row, l. to r.: Thom Randolph '87, David Smith '83, Michael Harvey '79, Will Bernart '79, Andy St. John '86, Jim Brockelman '82, Gardner Umbarger '79, Sean Reynolds '90, Christopher Bouquet '83 and Stephen Warren '83.

BIRTHS



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5. Rusty Johnson '86, Samantha Johnson '22, Paul Davey '86 and Patrick Davey '38 (maybe) posed for this photo in July 2019 on Man-O-War Cay, prior to Hurricane Dorian.

6. Jack Jennings '65 was back on campus in August 2019 with his daughter, Carrie Jennings Holloway '90, to celebrate the marriage of his granddaughter, Caroline Holloway Cohen '18 to David Cohen '17.

7. After reconnecting at their 25th reunion, Sean Collins '94 and Henry Van Os '94 joined a group for a hiking and fishing trip to the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. One day they flew in a float plane over a glacier, landed and fished at Crescent Lake in Lake Clark National Park. It was amazing!

8. Classmates, Kappa Alpha brothers and lifelong friends Paul Davey, David deHoll, Michael Guerriero, Rusty Johnson, Townes Pressler and Jim Strader – all Class of 1986 – spent Labor Day weekend in Tennessee on a Why Wait for a Reunion – eating, drinking, telling stories and mostly enjoying each other's company, the outdoors and the hospitality of David and his wife, Tara. To be continued next year.

9. Jon Kelafant '83, senior vice president of Advanced Resources, shared a holiday photo of alumni who work at the company. From l. to r.: Burke Plater '18, Matt Wallace '06, Jon Kelafant '83, Kyle Turpin '17, Brett Murray '13 and Phil Kong '15.

10. In February 2019, Steve H. Abraham '80, '83L (right), founder and president of Wilderness Leadership and Learning Inc., hired Miles Bent '17 as its program and communications manager.

George D. King III '98 and his wife, Lauren, a daughter, Daphne Allison King, on Sept. 22, 2019. In November, they moved to Palm Beach County, Florida, where George is vice president, corporate development, for Carrier. Being new to south Florida, they welcome the opportunity to meet fellow alumni.

Edward V. Arnold '03, '08L and his wife, Maia, a son, Alexander Michael, on Dec. 7, 2019. He joins sister Emmy, 2. The family live in Baltimore.

Katelyn Huffman Carroll '08, and her husband, Caleb, a daughter, Acadia Rio, on Oct. 5, 2018. She joins sister Allegheny Sol. They reside in Midland, Texas, where Caleb is a welder and Katie a geologist, both at Chevron. Their daughters are named after two of the mountain-building events (Alleghenian and Acadian orogenies) that created the Appalachian Mountains.

George Morgan '10 and **Kelsey Wright Morgan '10**, a son, George Emmett V, on May 23, 2019. After graduating with their MBAs from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, the family moved to Dallas, where Kelsey works for American Airlines, and George works for Trinity Hunt Partners.

Lynn Bazzel Wilmoth '10 and **Sam Wilmoth '09**, a son, Weston Bazzel, on Oct. 8, 2019. He joins brother Sammy. The family live in Atlanta.

Therese Hayden Frenchik '11 and her husband, Ryan, a son, Everett Donald, on Nov. 3, 2019. He joins sister Findley, 2. The family live in Anchorage, Alaska.

WEDDINGS



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(not pictured)
Danielle Bowman '11 to Kory Bachman on Oct. 12, 2019, in Rochester, Michigan. Cara Regan '11, '14L, Emily Starks '12 and Ryan Starks '14L were in attendance. The couple currently reside in Troy, Michigan.

1. Ralph Ownby III '80 to Carolyn Birbick on June 8, 2019, in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. In attendance were Andy Lassiter '80, Bruce Wilmot '80, Keith Sanford '80, Rick Hope '80, Rob Earle '80, Peter Taylor '81, Scott Michaels '81, Will Deeley '79, Will Clemens '78, Bruce Cauthen '78, Tim Baird '82, Hank Artz '82, Tom Hunter '82, Brian Holdaway '83 and Bill Birbick '76.

2. Scott W. Morris '99 to Lee Taylor on Oct. 26, 2019, in Rome, Georgia. Generals in the wedding party (and fellow pledge brothers in Sigma Nu) were Todd Poole '99, Matt Ritter '99, and Andy Scott '99. The couple reside in Atlanta. From l. to r.: Laura Hahn, Jason Hahn '99, Dan Hendricks '99, Krista Hendricks, Emily Burns, Roy Burns '99, Andy Scott '99, Scott Morris '99, Lee Morris, Darrick Alford '99, Suzy Alford '00, Darren Pohlmann '99, Jon Hughes '99, Erica Ritter, Matt Ritter '99, Todd Poole '99 and Angela Poole.

3. Elizabeth "Grier" Gardner '09 to Henry "David" de Laureal on May 4, 2019, in Savannah, Georgia. The wedding party included Elizabeth Koteles '09,

Weston White '09, Tori Marks '09, Sara Anne Lester '09, Jeanne de Laureal '03 and Martin de Laureal '02, with many other alumni in attendance.

4. Jocelyn Cassada '12 to **Brad Harder '12** on July 13, 2019, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Back row, l. to r.: Robert Grattan '12, Tyler Tokarczyk '12, Jack Apgar '13, Taylor Vaughn '12, Jonathan Giesen '10, Sam Cotterall '12, Charlie King '85 and Davis Weaver '18. Front row, l. to r.: Tom Colicchio '11, Courtney Apgar '13, Katie Salvati '12, Ryan Giesen '10, Brielle Weinstein '12, Grace Clemow '12, MacKenzie Shivar '12, Sarah Offutt '12, Brittany Ross '13, David Cassada '90, Agnes King '20 and Baxter Lewallen '12.

5. Emily Harlan '12 to **Ryan Starks '14L** on Aug. 17, 2019, in Lexington. The wedding party included Danielle Bowman Bachman '11, Elizabeth King Dent '12, Kelli Jarrell '12, SoRelle Peat '12, Bryce Fitzgerald '14L and Chris McDonald '14L. The couple reside in Richmond.

6. Elizabeth Bucklee '13 to **Nicholas Peacher '15** on May 18, 2019, in Haverford, Pennsylvania. Alumni in the wedding party included Caki Buckthal Watkins '13, Ann McCampbell Boyajian '13, Lacey Flanigan '13, Will McLendon '15, Emery Ellinger '15 and ushers Hayden White '13 and Noah Henderson '17. The couple reside in Atlanta, where Elizabeth is an external wholesaler for BlackRock & iShares, and Nick works in commercial real estate with Stream Realty Partners.



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7. Margaret Womble '13 to Dr. John Wells '12 on Nov. 10, 2018, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Alumni in the wedding party included Bob Womble '79L (father of the bride), Robert Womble '10 (brother of the bride), Dr. Jack Wells '82 (father of the groom), Julia Barry '13, Kendall Fritchie Burrus '13, Ann Marie Haynie '13, Rose Pettiette '13, Megan Shaw '13, Austin Branstetter '12, Morey Hill '12, Ben Oddo '12 and Henri Hammond-Paul '12. Other family members attending were Jamie Vardell '77 (uncle of the groom) and Dr. Brooks Vardell '10 (cousin of the groom). The couple live in Baltimore.

8. Freddy Tovo '13 to Annie Buttarazzi '14 on Sept. 28, 2019, in New York City. It was a true W&L affair, with many alumni on both sides of the aisle. Generals from 12 different class years were in attendance, including '81, '83, '84, '85, '87, '88, '07, '09, '13 and '14. The couple live in Charlottesville.

9. Eleanor Jones '15 to William Speidel on May 18, 2019, in Charlottesville. The wedding party included Rachel Christensen '15, Alessandra Catizone '15 and Haley Ward '15. Attendees included Allen Morgan '15, John Cheretis '15, Chris Levy '15, Joe Ciborowski '15, Cory Smith '15, Marc Wonders '15, Cory Church '15, Brian Lawler '15 and Mercer Peek '21. The couple live in Burke, Virginia, where Will is a physical therapist, and Eleanor is working toward her doctorate in clinical psychology at George Mason University.

10. Dillon A. Stanfield '15 to Jessica Bier on Jan. 4. From l. to r.: Austin Eisenhofer '15, Scott Abell (former W&L head football coach), James Moynahan '16, the bride, the groom and Randy Karlson '16.

11. Anna Paden Carson '16 to Paul Lagarde '16 on Oct. 12, 2019, in Lee Chapel. Over 40 alumni were in attendance, with classes from 1980 to 2018 represented. The wedding party included the Hon. David Carson '88L, Paul Lagarde Sr. '91, Ford Carson '18, Patrick Wright '16 and Thomas Dunbar '16. Also in attendance was Professor Bill Connelly, who taught the politics class where Anna and Paul met their senior year. The couple reside in Nashville, Tennessee, where Anna Paden is a 10th grade English teacher at Valor College Prep, and Paul works in health care private equity with Council Capital.

12. Nathan J. Richendollar '19 to Bethany L. Avilla on May 25, 2019, in Rockbridge County. The happy couple reside near fields, trees and springs in the Midwest, where the newlyweds both work. Nathan is employed by the FDIC.

OBITS

1940s

The Hon. Elliott S. Schewel '45, of Lynchburg, Virginia, died on Dec. 15, 2019. He served in the Army during World War II and worked in the family business, Schewel Furniture Co., for more than 50 years. He served in the Senate of Virginia from 1975 to 1995. He was cousin to Howard Rosenbloom '61, Marc Schewel '69 and Jack Schewel '80. He belonged to Phi Epsilon Pi.

Dr. John J. Kelly III '46, of Richmond, died on Nov. 13, 2019. He served in the Navy and was the medical director of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Virginia. He belonged to Beta Theta Pi.

Robert S. Curl '47, of Amarillo, Texas, died on Sept. 17, 2019. He served in the Navy and belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

1950s

William R. Howard Jr. '50, of Towson, Maryland, died on Jan. 22. He served in the Army during World War II. He had a banking career that lasted over three decades. He belonged to Phi Kappa Psi.

John W. Kay '51, of Naples, Florida, died on Dec. 19, 2019. He served in the Army. He retired as CEO of The Kay Co. He belonged to Sigma Chi.

Milburn K. Noell Jr. '51, '54L, of Memphis, Tennessee, died on Oct. 27, 2019. He served in the

Army and was associate director of development at W&L until retiring in 1989. He belonged to Kappa Sigma.

Joel B. Cooper '52, of Chevy Chase, Maryland, died on Nov. 3, 2019. His solo law practice in Norfolk, Virginia, grew into Cooper, Kalfus and Nachman. He belonged to Zeta Beta Tau.

Charles H. McCain Jr. '52, of Chillicothe, Ohio, died on Dec. 9, 2019. He was a retired commander in the Naval Reserve and retired from Xerox in 1985. He was founder of the Norman Howard School in Rochester, New York, for those with learning disabilities. He was brother to David McCain '55 and cousin to Art McCain Jr. '56. He

belonged to Beta Theta Pi.

Rev. Chancellor B. Waites '52, of Columbia, South Carolina, died on Nov. 17, 2019. He was father-in-law to Jay Hennig '86 and grandfather to Julian Hennig '19. He belonged to Phi Kappa Psi.

Owen B. Fuqua Jr. '53 died on Sept. 3, 2019.

Clark P. Garrecht '53, of Atlanta, died on Sept. 18, 2019. He served in the Navy and was a pilot for Eastern Air Lines. He belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

John A. Isaacs III '53, of St. Louis, Missouri, died on Jan. 27, 2019. He was executive vice president of Brod Dugan Paint and Wallcovering, retiring in 1998. He was brother to

Warner Isaacs '57 and belonged to Zeta Beta Tau.

Tyson L. Janney '53, of Charlottesville, Virginia, died on Oct. 13, 2019. He served in the Marine Corps and spent 35 years in the advertising and marketing business. He organized a documentary of the history of mock presidential conventions at W&L. He was grandfather to Tyson Janney '13 and belonged to Phi Delta Theta.

John B. Kinkead '53, of Saint Paul, Minnesota, died on Oct. 1, 2019. He started two companies, Kinco and Turfco, while working at the family company National Mower. He was father to George Kinkead '85 and Scott Kinkead '91. He belonged to Pi Kappa Phi.



W&L TRAVELLER

The Whales of Magdalena Bay Jan. 14–19, 2021

In this compact natural history expedition, we'll enjoy six extraordinary days in the company of majestic gray whales. This is not an ordinary whale-watching experience. We literally anchor among the whales in Bahía Magdalena, where mothers and calves relax after the longest mammal migration on earth.

We'll see and hear them around the ship and venture out in expedition landing craft for exhilarating up-close encounters. Magdalena's 70-mile-long bay will offer us ample opportunities for interactions. While whales are likely to be the highlight of our voyage, the Baja Peninsula is home to so much more. We'll paddle through intricate mangroves aboard sea kayaks in the narrow channels of the Hull Canal or pedal fat-tire bikes along the remote beaches of Boca de Soledad.

We'll beachcomb endless crescents of sand, studded with thousands of sand dollars on Isla Magdalena. Here, also, we can view the many species of birds, including magnificent frigate birds and diving pelicans, in this world-renowned birding region. Throughout the voyage, we'll choose from our favorite locations to hike in small groups and kayak peaceful shorelines, engaging with the region in the most immersive, educational and enjoyable way possible.

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George W. Fellows '54, '56L, of Naples, Florida, died on Oct. 30, 2019. He served in the Army. He worked for Drexel Burnham Lambert, Smith Barney and Morgan Stanley. He belonged to Phi Kappa Sigma.

Dirken T. Voelker '54, '56L, of Columbus, Ohio, died on Sept. 22, 2019. He served in the Army. He was a real estate and title attorney in central Ohio. He belonged to Phi Kappa Sigma and was father to Dow Voelker '84.

Rev. Frank G. Gibson Jr. '55, of Fort Collins, Colorado, died on Nov. 1, 2019. He was brother to Bill Gibson '60.

Tim H. Jenkins '55, of Willoughby, Ohio, died on Sept. 19, 2019. He served in the Army and worked in insurance and finance. He belonged to Delta Upsilon.

Stuart W. Atkinson '56, of Newport News, Virginia, died on Sept. 14, 2019. He served in the Army and practiced law in Newport News in several small firms and as a solo practitioner. He was father to Dave Atkinson '88 and belonged to Phi Kappa Psi.

Charles J. Mahoney '57, of Southport, North Carolina, died on Sept. 17, 2019. He served in the Navy. He and his wife owned and operated Northrop Mall Antiques and Gifts. He belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

William J. Russell Jr. '57, of Lexington, died on Sept. 25, 2019. He served in the Army. He co-founded an investment management firm. He was great-uncle to Ellie Gorman '17 and belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

Dr. Watson G. Watring '58, of Portland, Oregon, died on Jan. 8, 2019. He

belonged to Sigma Chi.

W. Leigh Ansell '59, '62L, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died on Nov. 8, 2018. He practiced law in Norfolk and Virginia Beach. He belonged to Pi Kappa Alpha.

Joseph L. Craycroft Jr. '59, of High Point, North Carolina, died on Jan. 7, 2019. He belonged to Phi Kappa Psi.

Junius M. Lemmon Jr. '59, '61L, of Sandy Springs, Georgia, died on Dec. 15, 2019. He retired from a career in the life insurance business. He belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

1960s

Roy C. Flannagan Jr. '60, of Florence, South Carolina, died on Jan. 11. He was a professor and John Milton scholar at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He was stepfather to Melissa Sawyer '97. He belonged to Beta Theta Pi.

Malcolm Lassman '60, '63L, of Washington, D.C., died on Oct. 10, 2019. He was a senior partner at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. He belonged to Phi Epsilon Pi.

Carl G. K. Weaver '60, of Bridgewater, Virginia, died on Oct. 7, 2019. He belonged to Kappa Alpha.

Robert J. Berghel '61L, of Clarksville, Georgia, died Nov. 14, 2019. He was father to Robb Berghel '80 and Bill Berghel '83. He belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

Ayer C. Whitley '61 died on Nov. 7, 2019. He served in the Virginia Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve. He was co-owner of Chancellor Investment Center. He belonged to Phi Kappa Sigma.

L. David Callaway III '62, of New York City, died on Jan. 8. He served in the Army and retired as vice president of Citicorp Venture Capital. He belonged to Phi Delta Theta.

Rev. Michael J. Shank '63, of Sidney, New York, died on Jan. 5. He was priest of St. Mary's in Downsville and St. Margaret's Church in Margaretville. He belonged to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Charles C. Flippen II '64, of Columbia, Maryland, died on May 4, 2016. He was father to Carli Flippen III '92 and father-in-law to Anne Walsh '91.

Harry P. Henshaw III '64, of Charleston, West Virginia, died on Nov. 4, 2019. He was an attorney with Bowles Rice. He belonged to Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Charles G. Johnson '64, '66L, of Bridgeport, West Virginia, died on Nov. 5, 2019. He served in the Army Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant colonel from the Judge Advocate General Corps. He practiced law at Jackson Kelly PLLC. He belonged to Phi Kappa Sigma.

John Y. Pearson Jr. '64, of Norfolk, Virginia, died on Sept. 12, 2019. He served in the Navy and was a partner in Willcox Savage. He was father to Ebie Pearson Stover '92 and belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

Joe H. Little Jr. '65, of Mobile, Alabama, died on Jan. 26. He was an attorney and belonged to Delta Tau Delta.

Arthur B. Sher '65, of Weston, Florida, died on Sept. 9, 2019. He was a radiologist for over 40 years. He belonged to Zeta Beta Tau.

Robert J. Bailey '66, of Chester, Virginia, died on Dec. 27, 2019. He spent the last 31 years of his academic career as an English teacher at Colonial Heights High School, 27 of those as department chair.

Robert C. Hayslette '66, of Lexington, died on Dec. 24, 2019. He served in the Army and was director of central accounting for Rockbridge County from 1977 to 2000.

Samuel B. Preston '68, of Parsippany, New Jersey, died on Dec. 6, 2019. He served in the Army and worked in international banking. He belonged to Delta Upsilon.

1970s

Reed B. Byrum '70, of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, died on Oct. 14, 2019. He belonged to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Robert L. Entzminger '70, of Memphis, Tennessee, died on Sept. 22, 2019. He belonged to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

R. Thomas Jackson II '70, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, died on Dec. 14, 2017. He was stepfather to Kyle Parsons '11. He belonged to Lambda Chi Alpha.

Curt B. Jamison '70, of Atlanta, died on Sept. 23, 2019. He served in the military and worked for the family business, Atlanta Sand & Supply Co., where he was an active member of the board of directors. He belonged to Kappa Alpha and was father to Liza Jamison Davidson '99. ☺

H. Robert Johnson '70, of Sarasota, Florida, died on Oct. 27, 2019. He served in the Army. For over 30 years, he worked as director of budget and

finance for Arlington Public Schools.

Ralph C. Boineau '71, of Columbia, South Carolina, died on Aug. 16, 2019.

Paul J. Morrow Jr. '71, of Nashville, Tennessee, died on Nov. 11, 2019. He belonged to Sigma Nu.

Thomas J. Salb '71, of Lexington, died on Dec. 30, 2019. He retired in 2018 from TaylorWalker PC. He belonged to Phi Kappa Alpha.

Marshall P. Washburn '73, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, died on Sept. 14, 2019. He was brother to Bill Washburn Jr. '66 and uncle to Tom Washburn '99 and Will Washburn III '95. He belonged to Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Ridgely H. Duvall '74, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, died on Oct. 26, 2019. He was brother to Sev Duvall III '78.

H. Clay Clark III '75, '78L, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, died on Nov. 21, 2019. He owned numerous restaurants and was proud of helping to preserve the historic Wine Brothers building.

Jonathan H. Harman '77, of Bluefield, West Virginia, died on Oct. 30, 2019. He belonged to Zeta Beta Tau.

Peter T. Moore '77, of Valdosta, Georgia, died on Jan. 3. He was a former teacher. He was brother to Dave Moore Jr. '74 and belonged to Phi Gamma Delta.

Paul B. Rodgers III '78L, of Columbia, South Carolina, died on Aug. 28, 2019. He served in the National Guard and was a civil defense attorney. He was father to Miriam Rodgers McClure '04. ☺

EDGAR WINSTON SPENCER '53, RUTH PARMLY PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGY EMERITUS

Edgar Winston Spencer '53, Ruth Parmly Professor of Geology Emeritus, died on Jan. 8. He was 88.

Spencer graduated from W&L in 1953 with a B.S. in physics. He then attended Columbia University, earning his Ph.D. in 1957 in structural geology. That fall he returned to W&L for an intended two-year stint in the Geology Department and ended up making Lexington and W&L his permanent home.

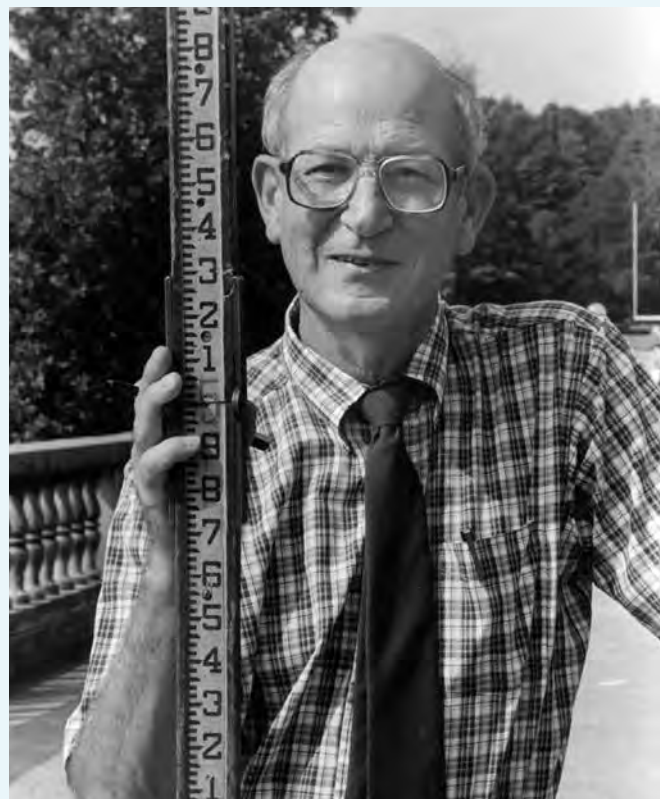
He spent his life unraveling the mysteries of the Earth's interior and the structure of mountain systems, most especially his beloved Appalachians. Spencer taught at W&L for 42 years, chairing the Geology Department for many of them. He retired in 1999.

"Professor Spencer represented the very best of Washington and Lee University and will be remembered as a gifted teacher, scholar and generous mentor," said President Will Dudley. "Over the course of his career, he worked tirelessly to strengthen the Geology Department, building a truly outstanding program. We are grateful for Professor Spencer's service, and I know his many friends and colleagues join us in expressing our sympathies to his family."

Spencer taught courses on oceanography, meteorology, structural geology and geophysics, as well as seminars on Greek natural philosophy and the geology of the Pyrenees. His research, in the Beartooth Mountains of Montana and in the Appalachians, was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the American Geological Institute, the American Chemical Society and the Mellon Foundation. In 1990, he received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Virginia Council of Higher Education.

The highlight of every academic year for him was his Spring Term geology field course. Spencer regularly traveled around the country with students and other faculty to explore regional geology in locations that included the West Coast from California to Washington, New England, the Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee and the Southwest. In 2018, Quinn T. Kiley '95 created the Edgar W. Spencer '53 Geology Field Research Fund to provide support for student field research under the supervision of W&L geology professors.

Spencer also focused on research, conducting fieldwork and leading countless field trips in the Blue Ridge Mountains and other parts of the world. He published geologic quadrangle maps of the Appalachian region and a map interpretation book and was the author of several textbooks on structural and introductory geology. He was the recipient of the Virginia Geological Field Conference's 2013 Anna Jonah Award for Outstanding Contribution to Virginia



Geology. His most recent book, "Guide to the Geology and Natural History of the Blue Ridge Mountains" (University of Virginia Press, 2017), was named an Outstanding Title for 2018 by the American Library Association and was also named Best Guidebook of 2019 by the Geoscience Information Society.

Spencer cherished his relationships with students and alumni, often hosting events with his wife, Betty, at their home and entertaining visiting alumni who wanted to catch up. Spencer was a well-known fixture within the W&L Alumni Traveller and College programs between 1989 and 2013, teaching seminars on campus and leading trips to the Grand Canyon, Switzerland, New Zealand, Patagonia, Nepal and the Arctic, among others. While on an Alumni College trip to New Zealand he earned the affectionate nickname "Doc Rock."

Fred Schwab, professor of geology emeritus, said, "Ed treasured the friendships he established with students, which lasted long after they graduated. He had a gift for opening up his heart and his home on Poorhouse Mountain to everyone, and I am so fortunate to have been in the position of having had a wonderful working and personal relationship with him."

In 1998, he was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, and in 2013, Spencer received W&L's Distinguished Alumnus Award for "a lifetime of achievements in academic, teaching and community contributions, and his support and impact on Washington and Lee."

Read the full obituary at go.wlu.edu/spencer-obit.

1980s

Bruce W. Whipple '80, of New York City and Kent, Connecticut, died on Sept. 24, 2019. He was a director of real estate capital markets for Avison Young US in New York City. He belonged to Sigma Nu.

Richard L. Burger '82L, of Glen Allen, Virginia, died on Sept. 14, 2019. He worked for Fox, Wooten and Hart in Roanoke and Sands Anderson in Richmond.

William L. Higgs '83L, of Mountain Top, Pennsylvania, died on Jan. 26.

Israel K. Redd III '83, of Sherman, Mississippi, died on Aug. 25, 2019. He worked in sales at Tri-State Lumber in Fulton, Mississippi. He belonged to Pi Kappa Phi.

S. Michael Conner '87, of Lexington, died on Oct. 7, 2019. He retired from Rockbridge Area Recreation Organization.

1990s

Thomas M. Spurgeon '91, of Columbus, Ohio, died on Nov. 13, 2019. He created the website "The Comics Reporter." He belonged to Phi Gamma Delta.

2000s

Peer A. Segelke '01, of Blacksburg, Virginia, died on Nov. 18, 2019. He practiced law and was CEO of Lawrence Companies. He belonged to Kappa Alpha.

Jonathan E. Porter '05L, of Branchland, West Virginia, died on Jan. 25. He was a public defender for Lincoln County.

Other Deaths

Gene Corrigan, former NCAA president and ACC Commissioner, died Jan. 25. He was 91. Corrigan was a soccer and lacrosse coach at W&L in the 1950s and later returned as the director of athletics in the late 1960s.

This issue contains notices about deaths that we received before our deadline, which is about three months before an issue lands in your mailbox.

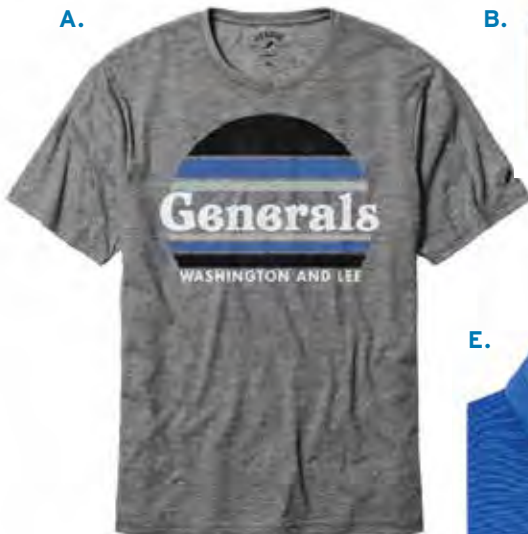
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Alumni Events

W&L initiated new honorary members into ODK, hosted students from nearby colleges at its Black FLEX conference, celebrated its 10th Women's Leadership Summit and presented the Institute for Honor Symposium.



1. W&L's first Black Future Leaders Experience (FLEX) conference brought alumni and staff together to mentor nearly 80 students from across central Virginia on how to thrive in white spaces, navigate politics and serve as leaders.

Nine alumni returned for the daylong event to discuss their experiences as undergraduates and professionals, as well as what it means to be black on campus and in the workforce. Read the story at go.wlu.edu/black-flex.

2. This year's honorary ODK initiates are (l. to r.): Tamara Futrell, dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Student Engagement at W&L; Leo Decanini '95, construction supervisor and volunteer coordinator for

Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity; Jessica Willett '95, chief communications officer at W&L; John X. Miller Jr. '77, '80L, veteran journalist, newsroom leader and not-for-profit executive; and Jennifer Jean Agiesta '00, director of polling and election analytics at CNN. Read their bios at go.wlu.edu/odk2020.

3. Kelley Melvin '08, Career Development's director of communications (green sweater), led students in an exercise during the Women's Leadership Summit at Hotel Roanoke.

4. Margaret McClintock '15, associate director of Intramurals and Adventure Programs (far right), talks to students at

the Women's Leadership Summit at Hotel Roanoke.

5. From l. to r.: John Gunn '45, Lewis Whitaker Adams Professor Emeritus of Economics, catches up with Tom Greenwood '77 and his wife, Bettye, during the Institute for Honor Symposium. This year's subject was Presidential Leadership in Times of War, featuring historian Michael Beschloss.

6. Charlie Miller '58 (left) and Jordan Dorchuk '80L and his son J.M. stood in line to have their book signed by historian Michael Beschloss after his talk at the Institute for Honor Symposium.





PHOTO BY KEVIN REMINGTON

Campus Interrupted

BY LOUISE UFFELMAN

W

When President Will Dudley wrote to the W&L community on March 15 sharing the decision to close the campus and move classes online in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Leland Clemons '72 responded with his support for that action.

"I think you are making a wise decision," he said. "And one not without precedent. In mid-December of 1968, my freshman year, the [Hong Kong] flu was spreading rapidly along the Northeast coast, and campuses were seeing alarming levels of absenteeism in the classrooms right before first-semester finals. [President Bob] Huntley '50, '57L posted the announcement on the Colonnade — that was the most effective means of communication — in the dorms and called each

fraternity house. The campus was virtually empty by that evening as everyone scattered to figure out impromptu means of getting home. It was the right thing to do then, and the right thing to do now."

The Dec. 13, 1968 edition of the Ring-tum Phi ran a story on its front page, "Flu Strikes Va. Schools; Some Close." It reported that Southern Seminary (now SVU), Hollins, Lynchburg and Randolph Macon had ended classes. At W&L, Nurse Agnor reported, "There are a few more than usual in the infirmary, but they are mostly colds, viruses, and so forth. We have no Hong Kong flu."

A few days later, The Staunton News Leader ran a story noting that Rockbridge and Bath counties were listed by the state health department as epidemic areas.

So, what did W&L actually do? Tom Camden '76, head of W&L's Special Collections, searched the archives for answers.

"Huntley's memo does not show up (but those files are extensive, and it may, indeed, be buried). My hunch is that he simply took the opportunity to extend the holiday break by encouraging students to leave campus. His action may have been totally off the cuff, without authorization of the board or administration."

He added, "So far, I have found no real parallels in W&L's history to the unprecedented closure generated by the COVID-19 pandemic, either officially or unofficially. Certainly, the length of closure is unparalleled. But the 1968 closure is possibly one of those pieces of institutional history that has simply not been well-documented."

Unprecedented Times

WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROUS commitment to Washington and Lee. During these challenging and unprecedented times, your support of W&L's students, faculty, staff and programs is more important than ever.

As President Will Dudley conveyed in his March 20 letter, all gifts made to the Annual Fund through June 30 will directly benefit four initiatives through which W&L is taking care of its community:

- ▶ We are supporting our most vulnerable students — some of whom remain on campus due to circumstances that make returning home impossible — with housing, meals, health services and funding for emergency expenses.

- ▶ We are helping our faculty and staff weather this period of uncertainty — and minimizing economic disruption in Rockbridge County, where W&L is the largest employer — by guaranteeing employment through at least June 1.
- ▶ We are helping our faculty sustain the personal attention vital to the W&L experience as they convert their courses to virtual instruction. Our Information Technology Department and our teaching and learning center, CARPE, are providing tools, training and expert guidance.
- ▶ We are treating W&L families fairly by refunding a prorated share of room and board.

These are significant investments, but actions in keeping with our traditions of honor and community that we are proud to make at this moment. W&L is in a position of strength to weather this storm because of the past support of donors like you.



Your gift to the Annual Fund will go to work immediately. Please consider giving at support.wlu.edu/give-online. You may call the Office of Annual Giving at 540-458-8420.

SCENE OFF CAMPUS



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2



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6

1. Drew Lambert '10, an attorney for the FAA, teleworking with his unlicensed paralegal.

2. "When I was young and in my prime, I used to go out all the time," sings Burr Datz '75 about COVID-19. Watch the YouTube video at go.wlu.edu/datzblues.

3. Maria Shaw '22 at home in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, and her study buddy, Goon.

4. Markheavens Tshuma '10 is spending his time mixing quarantine cocktails, ranking the best cakes and making sure everyone knows his favorite spices. #WholsTheMark

5. County auditor David Thomas '15 on a video conference call reminding constituents of Ashtabula County, Ohio, how to request an absentee ballot.

6. Ferrell Carter '16, manager at Bottega Cafe in Birmingham, Alabama, is baking bread for neighbors, friends and people in need during the coronavirus pandemic.