



THE **RECORD** OF  
HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE

FALL 2024: It's time, good men. | Welcome Home to Whitehouse | Press and Politics | Brinkley Scholars Program



CHESAPEAKE  
COFFEE



FALL 2024

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



To the Hampden-Sydney College Community,

As our campus community wishes you all the blessings of a New Year, we look forward to a spring semester as exciting and eventful as the fall. Among the fall semester's many highlights was Jeffrey Rosen's Founders Day message. Mr. Rosen is president and chief executive officer of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia and author of *The Pursuit of Happiness: How Classical Writers on Virtue Inspired the Lives of the Founders and Defined America*. His book underscores the Founding Fathers' belief that the pursuit of virtue is the pursuit of happiness and the basis for successful government of the self, which is essential to the successful self-government of a republic. Few people have articulated the purpose of our College as well as Mr. Rosen. A video of his talk is available on the College's

250th Anniversary web page.

On the Thursday before Homecoming, we dedicated the newly renovated Venable Hall. This issue of the *Record* includes highlights from the messages shared that day by Student Body President **Drew Blankenship '25** and **Tommy Shomo '69**. Their inspiring messages offer eloquent testimony to the continuing relevance of the College's mission "to form good men and good citizens," and its continued commitment to character development, rhetoric, freedom of expression, and civility.

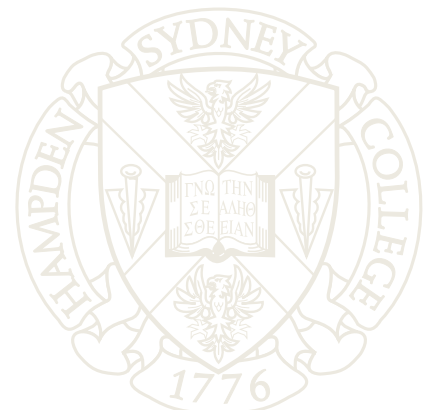
During Homecoming weekend, we kicked off the public phase of our comprehensive campaign, an effort that—through the generosity of many devoted alumni and friends—has already raised over \$180 million in cash gifts. Our goal is to raise \$250 million before commencement weekend in May 2026, when we will formally conclude the College's celebration of its 250th anniversary.

It was gratifying to see so many alumni, parents, and friends return to campus for home football games. We had some of the biggest crowds I've seen at our Family Weekend, Homecoming, and the 129th edition of The Game, which also saw the largest open house for prospective students and their families in recent memory. While you were on campus, many of you commented positively on the momentum we've put behind the College over these last several years. Our progress has been a team effort with important contributions from our devoted and talented faculty and staff members, students, senior leadership team, and Board of Trustees.

And, our progress has been made possible by the financial investments we've received from alumni, trustees, and other benefactors, who are helping to make the ambitious future we envision for the College a reality. While our campaign has been bolstered by many major, transformative gifts, there's no such thing as a minor gift; we want *all* of our constituents to invest in the College's momentum and success.

We are blessed to have inherited an important mission and worthy values, and we praise and celebrate those who have gone before us and given us this legacy. We can honor them and secure this legacy for future generations by rededicating ourselves to Hampden-Sydney's mission and remembering that the College's most important work is the work we do today and will do in the future.

Dr. Larry Stimpert  
President, Hampden-Sydney College



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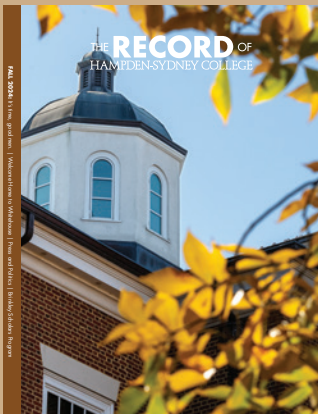
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respect to its admissions and recruitment activities,  
does not discriminate on the basis of race, color,  
sex, religion, age, national origin, handicap, sexual  
orientation, or veteran status in the operation of its  
education programs and with respect to employment.

For information on this non-discrimination policy,  
contact the Office of Human Resources, Box 127,  
Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, VA  
23943, (434) 223-6220.



ON THE COVER:

Cupola on Pannill Commons  
Photo by Zachary Bettis

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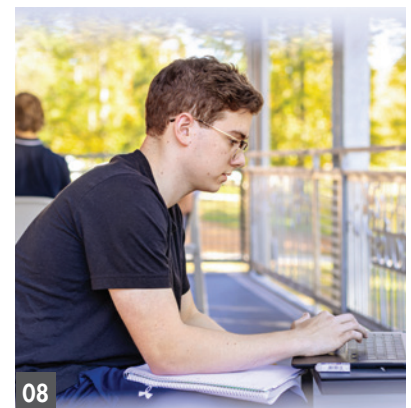
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# How Firm a Foundation

Though students had been residing once again in its hallowed halls since August 2024, Venable Hall was officially rededicated on October 24, 2024. The grand reopening of Venable was a triumphant bookend to the four-year renovation process that brought Venable back to its original 19th-century grandeur while incorporating all the modern amenities our 21st-century students require.

At the event, Student Body President **Drew Blankenship '25** accepted the building on the student body's behalf, saying, "Projects like Venable have further energized the spirit of this College by ensuring that we, the students, have an extraordinary environment in which we can thrive, energizing our own stewardship of this place so that we can leave behind an even more remarkable Hampden-Sydney for the next generations to experience."

"In the last decade, Hampden-Sydney has been wise to distinguish between old buildings that had outlived their purpose and historic buildings which embody the spirit of the College," said H-SC 250th Anniversary Committee Chair and former Director of Publications **Tommy Shomo '69**, who delivered the evening's keynote address titled *What's Worth Keeping?* "The restoration of Venable has not produced an historical curiosity to be gawked at, where a rope blocks the door to a room, and you can only peek in and try to imagine what life was like a hundred years ago. Venable is a living entity as it always has been. Here men live and experience the excitement, and sometimes sorrow, of being young and filled with the energy and promise and challenges of youth."

The historic renovation of Venable Hall was made possible thanks to generous benefactors such as Endeavour Legacy Foundation, led by **Katharine P. and Eugene W. Hickok '72**; **Salvatore Giannetti III '86**; and **Wilson W. Schoellkopf '93**. Katharine Hickok is the daughter of late Hampden-Sydney trustee, benefactor, and Pauley Science Center namesake **Stanley F. Pauley**. Gene Hickok, Giannetti, and Schoellkopf are current members of the Hampden-Sydney Board of Trustees.



*Thank you to the generous donors who made the remarkable renovation of Venable possible.*

- Mrs. Katharine P. and Dr. Eugene W. Hickok '72,**  
Endeavour Legacy Foundation
- Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore Giannetti III '86**
- Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Whitlow Schoellkopf '93**
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas N. Allen '60**
- Mr. J. P. McGuire Boyd '64**
- Mr. Charles W. Crist, Jr. '66**
- Mr. & Mrs. George Steele Dewey IV '94**
- Dr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Hillier '60**
- Mr. & Mrs. Gary M. Lane, Sr. '70**
- Mrs. Ann Louise Martin**
- Mr. & Mrs. Gordon E. Parker, Jr. '89**
- The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation**
- Mr. William M. Passano, Jr. '53**
- Mr. Matthew Noel Perry '08**
- Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Carson Pitts '15**
- Roller-Bottimore Foundation**
- Mr. C. Timothy Williford '88**
- Mr. William Taylor Ziglar, Jr. '17**

*\*List of donors as of October 21, 2024.*



*250 years ago, our founders realized  
that our fledgling nation needed good men.*

*Good men to lead by example:  
with courage, intelligence, grace, strength.  
They didn't wait for another institution  
to form these good men. They built it.  
And the good men came.  
Because it was time.*

*It is once again time to invest  
in the future of our nation.  
It is time to invest in timeless values:  
Civil discourse. Critical thinking.  
Curiosity. Compassionate leadership.  
It's time to invest in the next generation  
of Good Men and Good Citizens.  
Men like you.  
It's time.*

*The future needs good men.  
Good men need Hampden-Sydney.  
For today.  
For tomorrow.  
For another 250 years.*

*It's time, good men.*

# Its time, good men.

The rededication of Venable Hall was a fitting opening to the weekend's festivities, as the College launched the public phase of the comprehensive campaign at a gala attended by trustees, faculty members, staff, students, and community members on October 25, 2024. The campaign, titled "It's time, good men," emphasizes two of the College's top priorities: growing the endowment to fund access to and advance Hampden-Sydney's educational programs and aligning the quality of our physical facilities with the quality of the educational experience that the College offers young men, as represented in the renovation of Venable Hall.

Attendees heard from inspiring current students, grateful and generous alumni, and devoted community members what the College means to them and future generations of Hampden-Sydney students.

The crowd audibly gasped when President **Larry Stimpert** announced a \$30 million investment from Endeavour Legacy Foundation, led by Mrs. **Katharine P.** and Dr. **Eugene W. Hickok '72**, a gift that beautifully supports both campaign priorities. This visionary gift will endow multiple faculty and staff positions to grow and enhance the College's curricular offerings in business, foreign affairs, and national security. This builds on their previous investments in Hampden-Sydney, including the recent \$20 million commitment to the renovation of Gilmer Hall, which will house these newly endowed positions and \$15 million for the Venable Hall renovation. The Hickoks' extraordinary generosity, combined with the \$30 million investment by the Pauley Family Foundation that made possible the Pauley Science Center, now totals an astonishing \$112.5 million from the Pauley and Hickok families.

As someone who knows intrinsically what it means to invest in Hampden-Sydney, Dr. Hickok's remarks were especially poignant. "Think about how much our home—this college—invested in us," said Dr.

Hickok at Friday's event. "It seems to me that the most important thing we can do as good men, good citizens—residents of this home—is to take the time to...think about how can we invest in [the College] ourselves."

At the event, President Stimpert also announced a \$5 million investment from Trustee **Rudy Diaz '02** to fund interior improvements to Kirby Field House.

As psychology major and member of The President's Men **Markevus Graves-Franklin '26** stated in his remarks at the gala, "All the wonderful things about Hampden-Sydney lie within the people." The breathtaking investments, the mouthwatering dinner, and the sumptuous décor were simply icing on the cake that was the coming together of a cadre of the Hampden-Sydney community who are devoted to the College and her sons.

## Campaign Tracker



To learn more about the comprehensive campaign, campaign priorities, and ways to give, visit [go.hsc.edu/itstime](https://go.hsc.edu/itstime).

# Updates from Estcourt

BY VICE PRESIDENT FOR COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT HUGH HASKINS '01



Since I returned to Hampden-Sydney in the Office of College Advancement five years ago, I've noticed a swell of engagement and commitment to the College. As that engagement continues to grow, we are constantly looking for ways to fortify opportunities for meaningful engagement that speak to our alumni's unique Hampden-Sydney experience. To continue that important work, we're thrilled to welcome **Liz Crowder** (page 29) as director of alumni and parent engagement.

As I step into the role of vice president for college advancement, I'm excited to chase some incredible goals in not only funding and donor engagement but also national recognition and rankings. The first step on the road to building that legacy is the comprehensive campaign. Since the launch of the public phase of the comprehensive campaign, what we've seen is an outpouring of alumni asking, "How can I help?" That response is emblematic of the type of man that Hampden-Sydney produces: a man who seeks out opportunities to help and give back. They want to support the College. They're proud of their experiences here and want to provide access to the same opportunities for the next generation of young men interested in the distinctive Hampden-Sydney experience. The campaign's two-pronged goal is to raise the quality of our physical facilities to the same gold standard that we hold our educational offerings to and to enrich the endowment to ensure that family financial circumstances are never a barrier to qualified young men who are seeking a best-in-class residential college experience. Alumni and community members are coming alongside us to back these goals in record fashion.

If these goals resonate with you, we invite you to meet the members of our team who can help you to engage in supporting the corner of the College that speaks to you. Two of our newest team members are well-poised to support two of our biggest communities: the Tidewater Virginia area and athletics boosters. Meet them below.



**Lauren Kiger** joins the team as a regional development officer with 14 years of experience in the development sector and over 20 years of total professional experience. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to fostering sustainable growth and building strategic partnerships within communities. **Territories:** Tidewater region and Richmond

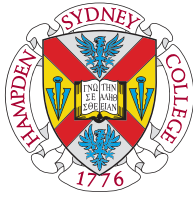


**Paul Amos '92** took on the role of regional development officer of athletics in August of 2024. Paul also served the College in an assistant coaching role for several years. Paul's passion and drive for assisting others, paired with his deep knowledge of Hampden-Sydney's athletic programs and community, make him uniquely qualified to successfully support donors as they seek to meet the needs of Hampden-Sydney athletics. **Territories:** Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Distance Track

**Meet the rest of the team at [GO.HSC.EDU/ITSTIME](https://go.hsc.edu/itstime).**



# Board of Trustees Inductees



Hampden-Sydney College's Board of Trustees recently welcomed five new members to its ranks. Trustees are charged with the significant task of making decisions to safeguard the stability and future of Hampden-Sydney. The selfless volunteer service of our trustees is why Hampden-Sydney has thrived for 250 years and why we are walking into the bright future of our next 250. [GO.HSC.EDU/TRUSTEES](http://GO.HSC.EDU/TRUSTEES)



**Thomas L. Ransom '00**  
Virginia Regional President,  
Truist Financial Corporation  
Glen Allen, Virginia



**Steven Ho '95**  
Founder and President,  
Welsh Advisors, Inc.  
Huntington Beach, California



**Stephen B. Wilkins '92**  
Managing Director,  
Oxford Financial Group, Ltd.  
Atlanta, Georgia



**Wilson W. Schoellkopf '93**  
Pilot  
Dallas, Texas



**Rodolfo "Rudy" Diaz '02**  
Founder and CEO  
Hight Logistics Inc. and Hight Electric  
Long Beach, California

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# James Madison Society Inductees



The James Madison Society recognizes the dedicated men and women and their spouses who have completed at least one full term on the Hampden-Sydney College Board of Trustees. This Society serves to preserve the invaluable relationships that have been forged during active service to the College. Thank you to the four inductees below for their dedication to and faithful stewardship of Hampden-Sydney College.

[GO.HSC.EDU/JMS](http://GO.HSC.EDU/JMS)



**David Arias '84**



**George Dewey '94**



**John Mansfield '78**



**Linda Whitley-Taylor**

# Welcome Home to Whitehouse





The White House wasn't the only residence to get new residents this year. Freshmen moving into Whitehouse Quadrangle this fall were welcomed into a fresh, updated residence hall that takes advantage of its idyllic setting overlooking Lake Chalgrove and offers exceptional gathering spaces where new students will forge lifelong friendships.

In the latest renovation completed in Hampden-Sydney's plan to upgrade all campus facilities, Whitehouse got a full interior facelift with exterior changes adding ambiance, functionality, safety, and comfort. The \$13 million renovation, with an estimated \$2 million of tax credits, began in May 2023 and was completed in August 2024, in time to welcome members of the class of 2028 to their new home on the Hill. The project was designed and managed by MCWB Architects out of Albany, New York, and executed by English Construction of Lynchburg, Virginia.

Whitehouse Quadrangle was built in 1968 by Nexsen & Owen Architects and named for the parents of Trustee **Francis R. Whitehouse '34**, a major contributor to the original project. Whitehouse consists of four three-story pavilions connected by a one-story dormitory arcade.



The parking circle in front of Whitehouse was replaced with a wide pedestrian walkway that doubles as a fire lane and access for move-in and move-out. Parking provisions on campus are sufficient until the College meets maximum occupancy, at which time there are several pre-planned parking upgrade options for college administration to choose from.



The lake side of the south pavilion was regraded to offer rear access to lower-level rooms, and the addition of a spacious deck improved access to Lake Chalgrove. The south pavilion now also boasts a large lounge and programming spaces on the first floor.



Interior improvements throughout all of Whitehouse included new flooring, walls, ceilings, and architectural trim. Sinks previously located in bedrooms were relocated to bathrooms enlarged by renovation of the arcades that link the pavilions, giving students more bedroom space and improved living quality.





### **Tuck Shumack '95:**

There has been a confluence of events that has caused less voter reliance on mainstream media as to where they get their news on politics. First, you had the 24-hour news channels dividing themselves up into shirts and skins. Each side claims that you're not getting the full story by the other, which breeds distrust of mainstream media. As many grow to distrust conventional news sources, you have the proliferation of social media as a source for news where anyone can become a reporter in real time only with no editorial board to ensure journalistic integrity and accuracy. The net result is that extremes and untruths often become what many voters are primarily hearing about politics as they turn off the nightly news or refuse to read mainstream media sources. Unfortunately, their voting patterns follow suit.

### **Matthew Philips '01:**

I've been a journalist for 20 years, and the industry has undergone a huge change in the way that we fund the basic work of journalism, which has manifested itself in ways that are both good and bad. We've had to really ask ourselves, "What are people willing to pay for?" and then find new and innovative ways to deliver. In Washington, over the past decade plus, there has been a disaggregation of political coverage writ large where outlets now provide content through platforms for targeted audiences that have a willingness to pay, so that has been great for startups.

### **Jonathan Martin '99:**

It has gotten more contentious, and it has also become both closer and further apart. Politicians, like all of us, carry a phone everywhere they go, so it can be easy to call, text, or email with them around the clock, same as it is for anyone in our lives. However, because those same phones also include social media apps, politicians also have their own platforms and can go around us if they please.

## **How would you characterize the status of the relationship between press and politics/policy makers at the moment?**

**TS:** You still have sensible policy makers trying their best to convey their messaging through mainstream media. However, the distrust of media and the decentralization

of official political party fundraising organization has caused more extreme, bombastic policy makers to view media more as a means to raise campaign dollars. All they need to do is to get themselves quoted in the press making an outrageous statement that they then copy into a fundraising appeal going out to their political base.

**JM:** Heated. Democrats in the Trump era believe the press has normalized an aberrant figure and movement to conform to the between-the-40-yard-lines politics of yesteryear. Yet Republicans believe that covering Trump for what he is, and for what he says, is inherently unfair and that we effectively must grade him on a curve to avoid being seen as biased. As you can see, it's a challenging moment.

**CP:** All relationships are built upon trust. Unfortunately the "gotcha" aspect of reporting has grown and proliferated more with social media platforms. When the press is viewed as an enemy or the one attacking a candidate, then the candidate will naturally retreat and only share what is basic and that sourcing typically lacks any substance, complexity, or meaningful thought.

**MP:** It is adversarial, frankly by design. The core function of the press is to report on the facts and get the truth out, to focus on public officials and to make sure that they are being held to account. So I would say that aspect is alive and well and a healthy component of the current relationship. However, there's a real issue at state and local levels of news in terms of ability to bring news to Congressional constituents about what Congress members are doing and how that relates back to the people they serve. The basic business model of a regional newspaper has fallen apart through classified ads, and people are getting their news elsewhere. When that degrades, what's left? That's an area where the relationship between the press and politicians is not very good, because the press isn't in the room, so to speak, as much as they used to be or should be.

**CS:** We're in a very unhealthy place due to failings on both sides. The problem, other than the obvious degradations of the discourse and the pressures against harmonious disagreement, effective disagreement, which

is what our system is based on, is that while the short-term interests of candidates and the media align, the long-term interests diverge. For example, the recent story of the allegations of Haitian migrants eating or ritually sacrificing pets was a very salacious story that generated a lot of clicks and a lot of interest, but it's not the best story for Republicans to be talking about. Going back to 2020 on the Democratic side, there was a lot of media interest in the idea of defunding the police. That wasn't something that mainstream Democrats were talking about, but it was certainly something that was good for extreme candidates

in the party. So again, a weakened party system in which the party bosses cease to be bosses and the establishment ceases to be an establishment, arrived for some of the same reasons, but certainly arrived at about the same time as an atomized media and the perverse incentives against comity, against effective governance, and against sound policy, and it really popped us right in the nose.



**How do you think social media companies fare when trying to balance curbing the spread of misinformation without stepping on the principles of free speech? Is there an obligation for them to take this on in the first place?**

**TS:** The issue with social media is that they use algorithms that tend to place things in your feed that interest you. I can't blame them for that. If I go to X to get college football information, I want them to use algorithms that produce information on that topic. So I think social media users need to understand and take responsibility that social media may not be the best platform as a source of news, broadly speaking, because it tends to either feed you what you want to hear or what makes you angry. Further, there's no check on good and bad information.

**JM:** The algorithms give people what they want and push consumers deeper into siloes. But I fear any reform or regulation will come after some new advancement has created new challenges. The reforms likely can't keep pace with the technology.



**CP:** While the concept of free speech is rooted in Ancient Greece, where it was regarded as essential for democratic governance, philosophers like Socrates emphasized the importance of dialogue and debate. In England, the Magna Carta and later the Bill of Rights laid some foundational principles for the protection of individual rights, though full legal protection of free speech took centuries to develop. The Enlightenment further popularized the notion, with thinkers like John Locke, Voltaire, and John Stuart Mill championing freedom of thought and expression. Regarding physical spaces, the famous Speakers' Corner is where these principles of free speech have been exercised and defended for over a century. Now it's TikTok.

**MP:** Free speech is obviously a core tenet of this country and certainly underpins the press, but the spread of disinformation, in no small part across social media platforms, has had a huge impact on our political system, and there are consequences of that. So, no, I don't think social media companies have done a good job of balancing speech with facts. They have leaned entirely on the case of speech, consequences be damned. Factual information is not always readily present, and sometimes you'll see disclaimers, but I'm not sure how truly effective they are. It's had a real impact on lowercase d democracy. Just a month out from this most recent election, we were still seeing a rampant amount of disinformation about what happened in the last election. I think the responsibility of these platforms is greater than it is currently being practiced. My outlet is also a platform, but we have to play by the rules. If we propagate stories and reporting that is factually inaccurate, we have to issue corrections. We're also subject to the legal system and claims of defamation and the like.

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### **What advice would you give to citizens to ensure the news information they're ingesting is accurate, well-informed, and unbiased?**

**CP:** No one really has time to fact-check everything, so the next best thing to do is consume as much from as many diverging sources as possible: CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, Politico, ABC, NBC, CBS, etc. It also helps to have a well-constructed political worldview or philosophy of government to which you can interpret the news you consume. Thomas Jefferson is alleged to have written, "An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people."

**CS:** The news you consume ought to make you uncomfortable every now and then. You should be hearing, seeing, reading things that make you think about the world from other perspectives. If you're a progressive, you should be reading *The Wall Street Journal* editorial page and *The Dispatch* opinion pieces. If you're a conservative, you should be looking at *The Atlantic*. Considering other points of view can potentially make you a better partner in self-government. The point of the news business is to make money for the people who own it. The point of the constitutional protections for the news business is that if

we do not have an idea of ourselves, we will not be effective partners in self-government. Every American is a partner to every other American in self-government. If we do not have any honest idea about who these other Americans are, we will not be able to meet them in a space where we can disagree effectively. Secondly, if you are not paying for your news, you are not the audience, you are the product. Free news isn't necessarily bad, but you have to remember that when you are consuming a free product you are providing eyeballs and attention to a business that wants to keep your attention. So ask yourself, "Why are they showing me this?" If you're paying for your news, you have a greater likelihood that you might get the real thing.

**JM:** The digital era has placed new burdens on the shoulders of news consumers. The post-WWII political, media, and cultural consensus is over, and we've returned to a more fragmented era of the sort that would have looked familiar for much of America's history. Be careful in what you click on and even more careful in what you believe. Read widely but wisely. Seek out contrary opinions. And trust familiar bylines. Most of all, don't share information that you want to believe because it appeals to your priors but that may not be true. You're only making a difficult information environment worse.

**TS:** If you cannot guarantee the source of any piece of news you come across with 100% certainty, ignore it. Rely on traditional media. If you must choose a source that leans one way or the other, choose the source that leans opposite of the way that you typically lean. I've found

that when doing this, I recognize biases and can filter them out. When I read sources with whom I typically agree more, it's nothing more than an echo chamber, and I have more difficulty seeing and filtering any bias in the reporting.

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### **How can colleges like Hampden-Sydney contribute to the ability of the next generations to think critically and evenly about important issues?**

**CS:** Hampden-Sydney was founded on the premise that the College would be equipping people to be good citizens. The idea of America is that if we can govern ourselves, then we can be free. The root causes of our problems today are people who are not equipped to be good citizens because they have not been told the hard and uncomfortable truth, which is, human nature is immutable. It will never change. There is no future without the problem of people. People are the best, and people are also the worst. Mastery of ourselves and understanding of the world in which we live is what is demanded of every American citizen, and institutions like Hampden-Sydney exist to equip and train elites, as unpopular as that word may be today, who are equipped to understand these things and go out into the world and be a force for good.

**MP:** I think Hampden-Sydney is doing it just right in terms of fostering analytical skills, really drilling down on being able to analyze and synthesize complicated topics that are in the public domain and really having an education rooted in writing and analyzing text. That foundation has served me very well in my career as a journalist. If anything, more young people who come into this profession could benefit from that kind of rigorous yet classic liberal arts education that I got at Hampden-Sydney.

**TS:** Impress upon students that there may be multiple ways to view any issue. Rather than question the motives of someone who may attack an issue from a different standpoint than you or dismiss that person as wrong, try to understand why the person sees the issue differently than

you. Voting is a perfect example. When conservatives think of voting, they typically think of it in terms of a duty while progressives typically think of it as a right. The result is for conservatives to be more concerned over the integrity of the system over ease of access and vice versa for progressives. So, if one stops and thinks about the different ways to view voting, they may just conclude that both sides are right: voting is both a duty and a right. Who can argue with that? Once you understand where the other viewpoint is coming from, opposing sides can then talk reasonably with one another and find a balance between their two positions.

**JM:** By encouraging students to read, read, read. And read widely and wisely. You'll know what good writing sounds like and begin to unconsciously imitate it, and you'll become a better news consumer.

**CP:** Hampden-Sydney supports the next generation by exemplifying its mission to form good men and good citizens. From a tactical perspective, a strong liberal arts education with diverse course offerings and opportunities to promote pluralism through civil debate and discourse will sustain any environment for learning and respect to flourish.

## Meet the Commentators



**Christopher Peace '98** currently serves as president of the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia. Immediately prior to becoming the Council's president, Peace was engaged in the active practice of law and also represented clients as a lobbyist before local and state governments. From 2006 to 2020, Peace served as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, where he chaired the House General Laws Committee. His extensive legislative work includes sitting on the prominent House Appropriations Committee, including one term as a state budget conferee, being a member of the Joint Commission on Health Care, and several terms serving as chair of the Virginia Commission on Youth. By his retirement, Peace had accumulated an impressive record as a thoughtful, collaborative, and bi-partisan legislative leader and was commended by passage of House Resolution 125 in 2022.



**Matthew Philips '01** is an assistant managing editor for CNN, where he leads enterprise reporting from the Washington bureau. Prior to joining CNN, Philips was politics and policy editor at *Bloomberg Businessweek*, where he led the magazine's coverage of the Trump administration. Before joining *Bloomberg* in 2012, Philips was an editor for *Freakonomics* and a Knight-Bagehot fellow at the Columbia Business School. He spent four years as a reporter at *Newsweek*, where he covered the 2008 Presidential campaign and the financial crisis. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in history from Hampden-Sydney College and a master's degree from the Columbia School of Journalism.



**Chris Stirewalt '97** is a contributing editor and weekly columnist for *The Dispatch*, and the host of *The Hill Sunday with Chris Stirewalt* on *NewsNation*. Stirewalt is also a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), where he focuses on American politics, voting trends, public opinion, and the media. From 2010 to 2021, he was political editor of Fox News Channel, where he helped coordinate political coverage and specialized in on-air analysis of polls and voting trends.

Before joining Fox News Channel, Stirewalt served as political editor of the *Washington Examiner*. Stirewalt is the author of *Broken News: Why the Media Rage Machine Divides America and How to Fight Back*. Stirewalt earned his Bachelor of Arts in history from Hampden-Sydney.



**Jonathan Martin '99** is the politics bureau chief and senior political columnist at POLITICO, where he writes a reported column on the inside conversation and big-picture trends shaping politics. Prior to starting his column in 2022, Martin was the national political correspondent for *The New York Times*, serving as the publication's top political reporter for nearly a decade. He is the co-author of *The New York Times* bestseller *This Will Not Pass: Trump, Biden, and the Battle for America's Future*, which gave readers in-the-room access to the extraordinary events of the 2020 election and its aftermath. Martin regularly provides on-air political analysis for ABC, NBC and CBS. Martin and his wife, Betsy, live in Washington and New Orleans.



**Tuck Shumack '95** is a principal at OGR. With more than 25 years of experience in the public and private sectors, Shumack is a lobbyist and consultant with a successful track record of advising corporations, trade associations, and coalitions on government relations, tax policy, and trade. Shumack holds a Master of Laws in taxation from the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University, a law degree from the University of Richmond, a Bachelor of Arts from Hampden-Sydney College and is a member of the Virginia Bar Association. Tuck is also on the board of advisors to the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest at Hampden-Sydney College.

\*The opinions presented in this article are of each respondent and do not necessarily represent the views of either Hampden-Sydney College or each respondent's employer.

# By the Students, for the Students

## America's Most Active Student Government



2024 Student Court

Hampden-Sydney student government is more than a pedagogical or mock exercise. It is a sophisticated system that ensures Hampden-Sydney students have a seat at decision-making tables in the place they spend four of the most transformative years of their lives. It is because this system, which has been honed over 139 years, is taken so seriously by students and administration alike that The Princeton Review has ranked Hampden-Sydney as the number one most active student government for three years running, up from the number five spot in 2021 and 2020.

It makes sense that an institution founded at the birth of a nation would also place special emphasis on the practice of representative government within its confines. To this end, rather than taking the view that our student leaders are future leaders who are currently practicing leadership, Hampden-Sydney recognizes that our student government representatives are current leaders exercising their rights to create the College they and their peers want and need.

This proving ground does more than provide a place for students to voice their concerns or express their wants: it goes to the heart of the College's mission to form good men and good citizens by allowing, even expecting, students to become involved and informed community members who have a duty to civilly express their own opinions, actively listen to their brothers' perspectives, and responsibly forecast how their actions and decisions may affect their greater community.

A brief history of the inception of student government at Hampden-Sydney as told by **John Brinkley '59** in *On This Hill*:

"...Dr. McIlwaine, having studied what was being done at Amherst and Harvard {among others}, reported in 1885 that some of "our better colleges [had] gone to introducing an element from among the students into the governing body ... to address patent difficulties in student discipline"; he urged that Hampden-Sydney consider following suit. It seems that the "patent difficulties" primarily involved the identification of culprits, a problem compounded by the growth of fraternities and other bonded brotherhoods with a code of silence. Indeed, six months later, in the middle of December exams, that situation was underscored in a momentous crisis, the burning of the main College privy. Following standard procedure, Dr. McIlwaine called roll at morning chapel, asking each boy in turn if he was guilty; there being no confessions, the Faculty (loath to pursue a full investigation in "a time of serious work") assessed the \$50 re-construction cost pro rata. Clearly, the old system was faltering. In June 1886 Dr. McIlwaine proposed (with unanimous Faculty backing) a new one, devised in consultation with the president of Amherst: a Collegiate Senate, comprising four Seniors, three Juniors, two Sophomores, and one Freshman, all elected by their classes, with Dr. McIlwaine as chairman, having veto power. The students were chary. The *Magazine*, particularly attracted to the University of Georgia's plan, which provided more a means of communication than a scheme of order, opined that such was not really necessary in a small college; nevertheless, it was worth consideration, since it "would prevent a lot of censuring both ways." After the Board approved a one-year trial, the Senate plan was put to a vote (October 1886), with the *Magazine's* endorsement; the editorialist pushed the point that "college boys can make allowances for the follies of youth." An opponent objected that even the Faculty warned that the system presented a danger to the code of honor, which he thought would fall to a regime of "monitors" and "espionage," with the Senators free to "act on grudges"; after all, "Hampden-Sydney men have always taken care of things in their own way."

## Forming Good Citizens

Introduced under the College's 11th president, Dr. **Richard McIlwaine**, student government continues to be an integral part of the Hampden-Sydney experience today, touching all parts of student life on the Hill and impacting and empowering all Hampden-Sydney students.



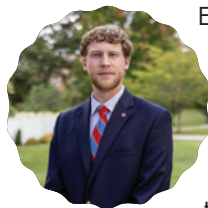
*"The student body cares about the College,"* says Student Body President **Drew Blankenship '25**. *"Hampden-Sydney's culture fosters an atmosphere of autonomy and self-governance, which leads to a truly invested student body who carries the weight of getting things done."*

Drew, a mathematical economics major, began his foray into student government as a senator during his freshman and sophomore years. As a junior, he made the jump to chair of the Student Senate. He credits these experiences with preparing him to take the reins as student body president, having gained knowledge and practice in delegation, time management, organization, and active listening.

*"The College provides us with a holistic education,"* Drew continues. *"What we learn during our time here is not just in the classroom; we also learn how to conduct ourselves around campus, hone our character and perspectives through conversations with people who don't think as we do, and develop leadership traits by taking on responsibilities in clubs and organizations. Student government is a great outlet for developing all of those important components of our personalities. When we leave college and join the workforce and society, we will have experience composing ourselves in formal settings, managing teams of people, and addressing the needs and expectations of our peers and constituents."*

From the moment that a student joins the Hampden-Sydney brotherhood, he is expected to conduct himself in accordance with two codes: the Honor Code and the Code of Student Conduct. Ensuring adherence to these codes is the overarching scope of student government at Hampden-Sydney, so it is in all students' best interest to be active participants in that government system.

These lofty expectations that Hampden-Sydney students have for themselves and each other are an important driving factor in the collaborative, accountable, and collegial culture that exists on the Hill.



Echoing Drew's sentiments, Student Court Chairman **Sam Detrick '24** attributes the culture to the fact that community members are always willing to have conversations with one another. Sam, a government major, has deep experience upholding both the Honor Code and the Code of Student Conduct as he served as a senator before becoming Student Court chairman this year.

*"We may be known as a small, conservative school, but not all students here are conservative,"* Sam explains. *"We all walk across the stage after four years with the same core beliefs of being a good man and a good citizen. Those principles are universal across campus. People are willing to have conversations and disagree with each other but remain civil about it. The opposing views don't take precedence over being each other's keeper or upholding the Honor Code."*

As the Key says, "The Honor Code should not be viewed as a set of rules. It espouses a set of ethical principles which make it possible for all to live in a community of mutual trust and respect. These principles constantly practiced as a student will be internalized and become the core of one's lifelong ethical standards." This mutual trust and respect is the foundation upon which the culture of the College stands.

## Enhancing Life on the Hill

As an elected and student-appointed governing body, Hampden-Sydney's student government plays a key role in setting the tone and culture on campus in both serious settings such as dealings with the Honor Code, and relaxed settings, such as when students are in fellowship together. From the concerts put on by the College Activities Council (CAC) to the Tiger Transit safe-ride program instituted last school year, student government provides an outlet for student voices to be heard and changes to be made.



*"The things that the students do really matter at Hampden-Sydney,"* says **Brandon Finch '26**, secretary-treasurer. *"At bigger universities, the students may have the power to say things, but I don't know about their power to actually enact change. At Hampden-Sydney, if something is not to a student's standards, and they speak up about it, their voice will be heard and change will follow."*

Brandon's role as secretary-treasurer is vital to ensuring that student interests are well-represented across campus. In his role as secretary-treasurer, Brandon also serves as the chair of the Student Finance Board, which is in charge of allocating funds to student-run clubs and organizations. This year, the board doled out \$175,000 of club funding in a three-day allocations process that saw student leaders from across campus coming in front of the nine-man board to make their case for their requested allotment.

*"We had 50 to 60 clubs coming for allocations, and every single one of them was just a little bit different," Brandon says. "Some clubs like the Outsiders Club have 50 or more students on their roster, but other groups like the Chess and Strategy Game Club may have 10 members, but they're really devoted to the club. The idea that we have these clubs that are very niche and very specific is huge because those friendships are going to last for forever, and that keeps students at Hampden-Sydney. Coming into this position, I wanted to focus on supporting some of those smaller clubs that have these more kind of niche interests to make sure that those students have a place to go to make friends and build relationships that last."*

Brandon began his student government career as an appointee to the Student Finance Board as a freshman. His sophomore year, Brandon served as CAC treasurer, gaining even more insight into the event planning and budgeting process that allows him to now serve insightfully as secretary-treasurer and Student Finance Board chair.

*"Being a part of the Hampden-Sydney brotherhood is such a unique experience unto itself," Brandon says. "The fact that our student body has such diverse interests that we have space for more than 60 clubs at a school of our size is huge. Our diversity only serves to strengthen that brotherhood."*

The Student Finance Board also wraps the CAC under its purview. CAC serves as the social branch of student government, and its inclusion as part of student government as opposed to an independent club goes to show how important the role of fellowship and gathering as a community is to maintaining and enhancing the fraternal culture at Hampden-Sydney.



*"CAC drives involvement on campus across all walks of student life," says CAC Chairman **Connor Kitson '24**. "Our group does this with events such as our Homecoming concert, which featured Dogs in a Pile as the headlining act, and every week with tournaments, tailgates, and social events in the Tiger Inn. We aim to make these events lifelong memories for students when they reflect on their time on the Hill."*



2024 Student Senate



2024 CAC

Because CAC is a function of the student government, the interests and opinions of the broader student body are taken into account in the planning of College-wide events such as Homecoming concerts, weekend activities, and tournaments, thus ensuring that funds are more equitably and representationally used. Equitable representation is high on the priority list of student government officials, and it is a task they take great pride in as they strive to serve and represent their fellow students to College officials with integrity and compassion.

## Advocacy and Representation

Though equal representation in extracurricular activities is undoubtedly important, Hampden-Sydney's student government operates in more than open mic nights and weekend concerts. Students also have a say in the day-to-day operations of the College that affect them directly such as food service providers, campus visitor policies, and updates to the Student Code of Conduct. This important student body business is conducted by the Student Senate, which has legislative jurisdiction over various aspects of campus life.



*"Whenever I talk to friends in student government at other colleges, I'm always a bit taken aback at how much more power and influence we have as student government representatives at Hampden-Sydney,"* says Student Senate Chairman **Devan Modak '26**. *"They don't have the budgets that we get.*

*They don't have the level of open-door access to college officials that we enjoy. They're not having dinner with their college president or interacting with their college's trustees."*

The power that the Student Senate holds is entrusted to it by the Hampden-Sydney faculty and board of trustees, meaning that two-way communication between the invested parties is integral to a functional relationship between all stakeholders. As the board of trustees makes decisions that affect the student body, the input from the student body via the channel that Student Senate maintains is of utmost importance. Therefore, the Student Senate's awareness and consideration of student body opinion and successful communication of that opinion to decision makers is important for the smooth operation of the College at all levels.

*"Senators see a certain vision for the College that they think is a viable option, and they want to make sure that that viable option is available to the whole student body,"* Devan continues. *"We have a level of access and autonomy that is hard to find at other institutions."*

Hampden-Sydney student government representatives take this level of responsibility and power very seriously. They recognize that it affects not only the current student body but also the future of the College. An engaged and involved student body is far more likely to reenroll the following year, leading to higher retention rates. Additionally, robust student activity offerings have reach beyond the campus, communicating to prospective students that there is a place for them at Hampden-Sydney, which increases student recruitment and enrollment.

*"When I was a prospective student, hearing about the New Mexico fly fishing trip was a big draw for me,"* Brandon confirms. *"As the student population grows, the amount of club funding will also continue to grow, and we'll be able to put on more events and bigger events and be able to have more outreach to recruit other students. Knowing that the club funding I'm able to help with directly contributes to bringing other interested students to Hampden-Sydney is really cool for me."*

## The Value of Experiences

The impact of participation in student government at Hampden-Sydney is lasting and profound. Every student government representative interviewed articulated that they received as much from their experience on student government as they feel they have given back during their tenures. Students will build on and call upon these transformative experiences throughout their lives as they join and develop new communities after they leave Hampden-Sydney.

*"I don't think I've had my most impactful moment as a member of student government yet,"* Sam says. *"I think that moment will come when my classmates and I get our diplomas on graduation day. That moment will be the culmination of all our hard work and involvement. Our degrees will hold more value because we held each other and ourselves accountable for maintaining a high level of integrity."*

There are many ways that the value of a college degree is measured such as starting salary or lifetime earning potential. But what about the intangible opportunities that a young man experiences in those four precious years that allow him to integrate what he is learning in the classroom with practical experience? These experiences are developing and strengthening students' communication, collaboration, and leadership skills, which are fundamental to successful relationships in not only business and politics but also interpersonal relationships such as those between spouses, fathers and children, friends, and neighbors. Developing skills like these makes a Hampden-Sydney degree priceless and a Hampden-Sydney man an invaluable part of any community.

# The Man, The Myth, The Legacy: How the Enduring Influence of John Brinkley '59 is Shaping the Next Generation of Hampden-Sydney Scholars

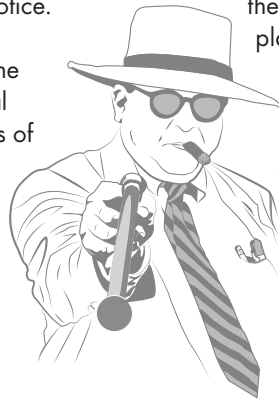
Walking into John Brinkley's home, Ropp House—named for Dr. **Phillip H. Ropp**, professor of English from 1935 to 1968—one was confronted with teetering piles of annotated, dog-eared books that threatened to topple over at a moment's notice. The scene portrayed the temperament of the resident scholar: a man who loved letters and learning. No one was more dedicated to preserving the classical liberal arts education at Hampden-Sydney as the best means of forming good men and good citizens than Professor Brinkley, the College's first Rhodes Scholar and long-time Classics teacher.

For a group of those young men, the atmosphere of Brinkley's home brought to mind the quote "My library was dukedom large enough" uttered by Prospero in the first act of the *Tempest*. The line represents the character's belief in the power of the ideas and words contained in his treasured tomes, a belief that Professor Brinkley shared and worked to nurture in his students and all the young men he impacted across his 37-year career on the Hill. When the founding group of the Prospero Society of Hampden-Sydney College came together in the wake of Professor Brinkley's passing in 2012, they felt compelled to honor this larger-than-life legend by formally chartering the Prospero Society as a nonprofit organization with the mission of supporting the College's classical education and enriching the student undergraduate experience in ways that would deepen relationships among students, faculty, and the College for a lifetime.

In 2023, with the 250th anniversary of Hampden-Sydney's founding rapidly approaching, the 38-member Prospero Society saw an opportunity to honor their shared mentor by formalizing their group's existence as a 503c nonprofit with plans to invest in the next generation of strong student-faculty relationships at Hampden-Sydney. "We got the collective notion of making a more serious endeavor in terms of trying to preserve the values that we all learned from John Brinkley," says **Billy Winburn '79**.

The College's upcoming anniversary holds significant meaning for many of the Society's members as they reminisce on the 200th anniversary, which occurred when several of the members were students. During the bicentennial, Brinkley's teacher, mentor, colleague, and close friend **Ned Crawley '41**, Hampden-Sydney professor of English, recruited four English students to assist with the research, writing, and editing of the *Four Makers of the American Mind: Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman, and Melville. A Bicentennial Tribute. New Essays by Robert*

*E. Spiller, J. Lyndon Shanley, Floyd Stovall, and Leon Howard.* Crawley's approach, akin to Brinkley's, was to recruit students who showed promise and interest but who were not necessarily the top of their class, showing them that there was a place in serious research for anyone willing to work hard. Understanding that this heritage of pedagogical mentorship is at the heart of the Hampden-Sydney College academic experience, Prospero members **John Feldmann '68** and **Charles Guthridge '68** gave birth to the idea of the Brinkley Scholars Program, which was launched in 2024.



"A large part of the impetus for doing this Brinkley Scholars Program is to foster the kind of student-faculty relationships that give students a direct and serious taste of what academic research is all about while forging relationships with the faculty that will perpetuate well beyond graduation day," says **Greg Feldmann '79**. "The Brinkley Scholars program directly aligns Prospero Society's mission to enrich the undergraduate experience and to foster lifelong bonds between students, faculty and the school. The Prospero Society motto, *sapere aude*, translates, as 'dare to know' or 'have the courage to use one's reason'. Through Immanuel Kant's adopted usage of *sapere aude*, the expression became associated with the Age of Enlightenment in the 17th and 18th centuries, which was the intellectual milieu which gave rise to Hampden-Sydney's original curriculum."

Hampden-Sydney's low student-to-faculty ratio and small class sizes are cornerstones of the College's culture and mission to educate young men in the distinctive way that has produced scholars, presidents, visionaries, leaders, good men, and good citizens for two and a half centuries. The relationships that are made possible by this environment and individualized attention, like the relationships between Professor Crawley and Professor Brinkley and between Professor Brinkley and these dozens of Prospero Society members, are transformative and enduring, as is the knowledge cultivated between teacher and student. Relationships like these are a hallmark of the Hampden-Sydney experience.

"Brinkley had a profound impact on all of us, and our goal is to perpetuate the impact that he had on us through the great work that Hampden-Sydney professors are still doing today with their students," says John Feldmann. "There are many John Brinkleys at Hampden-Sydney."



## Prospero Society

### Founding Members

- » Thomas N. "Tom" Allen '60
- » C. Porter Banister Jr. '93
- » Clark M. Barousse '87 †
- » Frank C. Bedinger III '76
- » Orran L. Brown Sr. '78
- » F. Scott Campbell III '68
- » Mark P. Falls '90
- » Gregory W. "Greg" Feldmann '79\*
- » John D. Feldmann '68
- » Mark E. Feldmann Sr. '70
- » Mark E. Feldmann Jr. '98
- » Charles T. "Charlie" Fonville '97
- » P. Mahood Fonville Jr. '92
- » William R. "Bill" Gardner Jr. '57
- » Roderick M. "Rod" Gardner '88
- » R. Warden "Ward" Good '81
- » Charles M. "Charlie" Guthridge '68\*
- » David S. "Dave" Holland '88
- » Roger H. W. Kirby '88
- » David E. "Dee" Laird Jr. '62
- » J. Christopher "Chris" Lemons '94
- » J. Bolling Lewis III '81
- » Robert C. "Bobby" Long Jr. '72
- » Christopher S. "Chris" Long '80
- » Tyler A. Lux '04
- » John G. Macfarlane III '76\*
- » J. Frederick "Fred" McNeer '69
- » C. Cammack "Camm" Morton '73
- » Tayloe N. Negus '88
- » G. Michael "Mike" Pace Jr. '79 †
- » Ray M. Paul Jr. '79
- » Kerr C. Ramsay III '03
- » Henry C. Spalding Jr. '60\* †
- » Thomas J. "Tom" Swartzwelder '87
- » Charles F. "Charlie" Sydnor '64
- » William H. "Bill" Tavenner '86
- » Brian S. Thomas '83
- » William A. "Billy" Winburn IV '79

\* founding member

† deceased

An initiative funded by the Prospero Society and administered by Hampden-Sydney faculty members, the Brinkley Scholars Program completed its inaugural year this past summer with three students conducting original research on topics related to the founding of Hampden-Sydney. Special thanks to Patterson Professor of Biology **Alex Werth** who served as faculty liaison to the Prospero Society.

#### Jeb Tucker '26, Philosophy and Government major



**Project Title:** "Patriots, Statesmen, and Christians: An Intellectual History of Hampden-Sydney's Founding and Core Values"

**Advisor:** Thompson Professor of Philosophy **Marc Hight**

*I wrote an intellectual history of Hampden-Sydney in which I identified and argued for three core values that the founders held at the founding and through the early years of the school. I argue for patriotism, statesmanship, and Christianity. The founders' view of patriotism was particularly participatory with an angle of civil service. The idea of statesmanship influenced the model of education they used to form the kind of man that was needed in the new country. Finally, Christianity was extremely important to the founders. The big takeaway of my research is that the founders' stated goal was to create men to lead the burgeoning United States, and it was a direct enough mission that there are ideological currents from the founding that can still be seen in how the school operates and educates today.*

#### Jonathan Coleman '26, History and Religion major

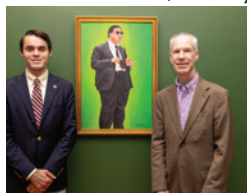


**Project Title:** "Tracking Trends in Religiosity at Hampden-Sydney College: The First Sixty Years"

**Advisor:** Ewing Professor of Religion **Mike Utzinger**

*I conducted a statistical study of how many Hampden-Sydney students in the first six decades were going on to become Christian ministers and pastors at any given time. Given the strong Presbyterian ties from the founding of the College, it was surprising just how few students were actually recorded as going into ministry those first couple of decades. It was interesting to see how important religion was to so many of the founders and early leaders of the College (the first four presidents were Presbyterian ministers), yet there was a push and pull to balancing that belief system with creating a college that could serve anyone in this new republic where separation of church and state was integral.*

#### Owen Kahn '27, History major and German minor



**Project Title:** "Towards a Comprehensive Historical Understanding of the Naming of Hampden-Sydney College"

**Advisor:** Patterson Professor of Biology **Alex Werth**

*My project began as an exploration of primary sources surrounding the naming of the College to analyzing the ethos and legacies of John Hampden and Algernon Sidney. My research revealed limited primary sources, so I came to rely on the political, intellectual, religious, and philosophical contexts of the time that highlighted Hampden's and Sidney's bridging of enlightenment liberalism and Calvinist theology, which founders like John Witherspoon and Samuel Stanhope Smith looked to emulate as they formed this College. Through this project, I was able to situate lesser-known figures like Hampden and Sidney not just in the context of the founding of Hampden-Sydney College but also in the wider context of the intellectual ideals that drove the American Revolution. Seeing how the ideals that influenced the founding of the College also influenced the founding of the nation gave greater context to the place the College holds in American history.*



## FOOTBALL

Hampden-Sydney Football completed the 2024 season with a final record of 5-5 overall, including 3-4 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC), tying for fifth among the eight teams. The Tigers started fast with three wins in their first four games under the direction of first-year head coach **Vince Luvara**, before dropping four of their final six games, including three on the road—two by a total of just seven points.

*"I'm really proud of the growth of the team this past season," says Luvara. "While we fought some adversity this year, they battled and competed for 60 minutes no matter the score. We cannot thank the Hampden-Sydney community enough for their support this past fall."*

Arguably, the biggest win came in week three as H-SC rallied in the second half for a 38-34 come-from-behind victory past non-conference opponent Centre College (KY) on September 21. Quarterback and team captain **Carter Sido '26** passed for 264 yards and a career-high five touchdowns, four of them to wide receiver **Ethan Dowdy '27**, who had nine receptions for 101 receiving yards and the four touchdowns that tied the school record—also a career-high for Dowdy. Running back **Fain Barton '28** added a career-high 103 yards rushing while making his first collegiate start against the visiting Colonels, who finished the season with a record of 8-3 and earned an NCAA Playoff appearance, while cornerback **James Townsend '26** had a career-high 10 tackles and a late game-sealing interception—earning Coach Luvara his first home win with the Tigers.

H-SC scored the first points of the contest when placekicker **Elijah Swett '25** connected on a 37-yard field goal in the first quarter, and the Tigers made it 10-0 early in the second quarter when Sido found Dowdy in the end zone for the first of their four scoring connections from 15 yards out and Swett added the first of his five PAT kicks. Centre responded with consecutive touchdown passes for a 14-10 advantage. The Garnet & Grey appeared to take a halftime lead when Sido found wide receiver **Manning Lasso '28** in the back of the end zone for a 21-yard touchdown pass with just 41-seconds left in the half—Manning's first collegiate touchdown reception—for a 17-14 lead. The Colonels, however, answered back with another touchdown pass with just six-seconds on the clock, but missed the PAT kick to lead 20-17 at halftime. H-SC began the third quarter fast with Sido finding Dowdy over the middle for two more scoring touchdowns—the first a 28-yard connection at 13:23, and the second a 16-yard connection at 9:18—for a 31-20 advantage. Centre added a touchdown late in the quarter, and the Colonels attempted a two-point conversion pass that was incomplete, leaving the score at 31-26. The visitors added another touchdown in the fourth quarter to take a 34-31 lead, this time completing the two-point conversion attempt. The Tigers, though, were not to be denied and took their next possession and drove 75 yards on seven plays as Sido once-again connected with Dowdy over the middle for a 15-yard touchdown pass with 7:32 left to play. Key to the game-winning drive was a 13-yard connection between Sido and Dowdy on a third-down play, along with a 17-yard run by Barton. Centre managed to drive to the H-SC 13-yard line on its next possession, but cornerback **Parks Cromwell '28** ended things with his first collegiate interception. The Garnet & Grey then attempted to run out the clock, but were forced to punt, allowing the visitors one more opportunity with the ball and only 22-seconds remaining, but Townsend made his clinching interception on the first play. Cromwell and safety **Joseph Pierre '25** each added seven tackles, a career-high for Cromwell.

H-SC placed eight Tigers on the All-ODAC Football Team, including Ethan Dowdy on the First Team, **Robert Clarke '26** and Manning Lasso on the Second Team, along with **Austin Fernandez '25**, **Terry**



Sutton Lasso '25



Carter Sido '26



Ethan Dowdy '27

**Hicks '27, Sutton Lasso '25**, Carter Sido and **Brendan Wallace '25** on the Third Team. Dowdy led the team with 54 receptions for 723 receiving yards and nine touchdowns. Clarke was second on the team with 64 total tackles, including 28 solo, 4.5 tackles for loss, and one sack. Manning Lasso was second on the team with 40 receptions for 517 receiving yards and seven touchdowns. Fernandez was fourth on the team with 19 receptions for 255 receiving yards and three touchdowns. Hicks led the team with 855 rushing yards and nine touchdowns, adding 18 receptions for 162 receiving yards. Sutton Lasso was third on the team with 30 receptions for 418 receiving yards and five touchdowns. Sido led the team with 1,842 passing yards and 22 touchdowns with only four interceptions thrown, adding 200 rushing yards and two touchdowns. Wallace led the team with 74 total tackles, including 35 solo, 11.5 tackles for loss, and five sacks.



Brendan Wallace '25

Off the field, Robert Clarke and punter **Camden Richardson '27** were each named a member of the 2024 Academic All-District® Football Team as selected by College Sports Communicators for NCAA Division III. The team recognizes the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field and in the classroom, each meeting the minimum cumulative GPA requirement of 3.50.

H-SC will open the 2025 campaign with a non-conference road game at Delaware Valley University on Saturday, September 6, at 1 p.m. in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. The Tigers will play their first home game against non-conference opponent Washington & Jefferson College (PA) on Saturday, September 13, at 1 p.m. at Everett Stadium—a reunion of sorts as Coach Luvara coached at W&J for eight years prior to arriving on the Hill.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Hampden-Sydney Cross Country enjoyed one of its finest seasons in program history during 2024, finishing sixth among 11 at the ODAC Championship on November 2 at Green Hill Park in Salem, before placing 17th among 22 at the NCAA South Regional on November 16 at Choctaw Park in Clinton, Mississippi. The Tigers posted their best finish since the conference expanded beyond 10 teams in 2012, equaling their highest placing at the conference championship since 2008 (sixth of 10), while posting their best-ever team finish at the postseason regional.

*"Our men represented Hampden-Sydney with class and sportsmanship while setting school and individual records,"* said seventh-year head coach **Matt Griswold**. *"More importantly these good men and good citizens are good students and excellent teammates. Their hard work and positive attitudes are the foundation of our growth as a program. Carter Burcham '25 and Kade Minton '25 have led by example and set the standard for our underclassmen, and their contributions go way beyond the school records they now hold. We are grateful and thankful for the support of our alumni, families, and the College that provided us the opportunity for amazing experiences this season."*

H-SC was led by **Jackson Herndon '27** who posted three Top 50 8K times in program history, including a collegiate-best 27:04.0 at the Roanoke Invitational on October 19, the program's eighth-best effort all-time. He led the Tigers in three of the six races. **Jordan Chorbaji '28** added two Top 50 times, including a collegiate-best 27:16.0 at the Roanoke Invitational, the program's 11th-best effort all-time. He led the team in one race. Team captain Carter Burcham had two Top 50 times, including a season-best 27:27.1 at the Roanoke Invitational, the program's 20th-best effort all-time.

Other team members included team captains **Kade Minton** and **Winston Ransone '26**, **Zach Eason '26**, **James Consenza '27**, **Jefferson Duffey '27**, **Dylan Evans '27**, **Kam Maldonado '27**, **Davis Mills '27**, **Haden VonCanon '27**, **William Cole '28**, **Isaiah Leonard '28** and **Tristan Merritt '28**. Ransone led the Garnet & Grey on two races. Overall, H-SC earned two Top Five team finishes among five Top 10 efforts in six competitions. H-SC could return as many as 13 lettermen in 2025.



Jackson Herndon '27



Winston Ransone '26



Jordan Chorbaji '28

## SOCCER

Hampden-Sydney Soccer completed the 2024 season, under the direction of eighth-year head coach **Tommy DiNuzzo**, finishing with a final record of 9-6-3 overall, including 6-2-2 in the ODAC.

*"This season was certainly a positive step forward for the program, and we were proud to host a playoff game and be in contention for first place until the last day of the regular season," says DiNuzzo. "With such a young team, we expect to have the best offseason in recent years and set ourselves up to improve on what we did this year and win an ODAC championship in the fall."*

The Tigers opened the season well, starting 2-0 with a 5-0 win at home against Greensboro College (NC) and a 3-1 road win over Marymount University but sputtered over the rest of September, going 0-3-2.

October was a fresh start for H-SC, and it got hot immediately, starting with a 4-1 home win over Shenandoah University. The Tigers followed up with a 2-0 win over Roanoke College at Hellmuth-Gibson Field, before hitting the road for a 2-0 victory over Ferrum College and a 1-0 win over Bridgewater College.

H-SC clinched a top-four seed in the ODAC Men's Soccer Tournament with a 3-0 win over Averett University, with a chance to secure the top seed on the final game day. In the regular season finale, the Tigers fell 2-0 on senior night to Virginia Wesleyan University, securing the four seed and a home quarterfinal rematch against Roanoke.

The quarterfinal got off to an ideal start for the Garnet and Grey with **Walker Stebbings '26** scoring a goal within five minutes off a pass from **Victor Ovalle-Mares '26**. The Maroons added intrigue with a second-half goal to tie the game at one apiece. As the clock ticked down under a minute, overtime was on everyone's mind until **Mo Wumpini '27** beat a defender and made a run down the right side of the box, making a pass into the center of the box to find the run of **Pierce Boerner '26** who tapped it home with 33 seconds left on the clock to send the Tigers to the semifinals.

The semifinal matchup was a rematch with the University of Lynchburg, and a rematch of the 2022 and 2023 quarterfinal matchups in which the Tigers pulled the upset over the top seed in '22, but were beaten by the second seed in '23. H-SC looked to pull another upset win over the top-seeded Hornets and avenge a 2-0 loss two weeks prior. The Tigers fell behind early, giving up two goals within the first seven minutes of the game. The Hornets then added another before halftime to make it 3-0 at the break. The second half continued to go the way of the Hornets, as they scored two more goals to knock the Tigers out of the conference tournament with a 5-0 loss.

Following the end of the ODAC Men's Soccer Tournament, H-SC had four of its players earn postseason conference honors, along with one individual award. **Justin Varela '25** earned Second Team All-ODAC honors, along with **Charlie Letson '26**, and **Jaques Lavielle '26** were named to the Second Team. Stebbings was named to Third Team All-ODAC. Varela was the key piece of the Tigers' backline, helping secure six shutouts while scoring two goals over 1592 minutes. Letson had a team-high 14 points, scoring six goals and adding two assists. Lavielle anchored the midfield, scoring one goal and adding three assists over 16 games. Stebbings scored six goals and added one assist over 16 games. Letson, Lavielle, and Stebbings earned All-ODAC honors for the first time in their careers. Varela was a Third Team All-ODAC honoree in 2023.



Justin Varela '25



Mo Wumpini '27



Pierce Boerner '26



R-L: Nash Nance '15, Bill Moore '78, Dickie Cralle '65, Marty Favret, Holton Walker '15

## HALL OF FAME

Hampden-Sydney College inducted the 37th class of honorees to its Athletic Hall of Fame in a ceremony on September 20 in Snyder Hall at the Kirk Athletic Center.

**Nash Nance '15** was a 2013 D3football.com Fourth Team All-American, First Team All-Region and South Region Offensive Player of the Year at quarterback for the Tigers. He was a three-time All-ODAC selection, including First Team in 2012 and 2013, and Second Team in 2014. Nance holds the school record for single-game completions (45), ranks second in career passing yards (9,123) and career touchdown passes (80), third in career completions (699), fourth in single-season passing yards (3,504), tied for fourth in single-season touchdowns (29) and fifth in single-season completions (276). He led the ODAC in passing yards (3,504), passing touchdowns (27), rushing touchdowns (17) and total offense (4,049) as a junior in 2013, and won the Willie Lanier Award from the Touchdown Club of Richmond as a senior in 2014. Nance helped the program to a three-year record of 22-12 as a starter (2012-14), including 15-6 in the ODAC, winning two ODAC Championships (2013, 2014) and making two NCAA Playoff appearances—advancing to the second round in 2013.

**Holton Walker '15** was a 2013 and 2014 D3football.com Second Team All-American, First Team All-Region and State Small College Receiver/End of the Year from the Touchdown Club of Richmond at wide

receiver for the Tigers. He was a three-time First Team All-ODAC selection (2012-14), while Second Team All-Region in 2012. Walker holds school records for career receiving touchdowns (39), single-season receptions (111), single-season receiving yards (1,723) and single-game receiving yards (275), and is tied for first in single-season receiving touchdowns (16), while ranking second in career receiving yards (4,207) and single-game receptions (16), and third in career receptions (250). He led the ODAC in receptions (111), receiving yards (1,723) and receiving touchdowns (16) as a junior in 2013, and in receiving yards (1,183) as a senior in 2014. Walker helped the program to a four-year record of 30-15 (2011-14) as a three-year starter (2012-14), including 20-7 in the ODAC, winning three ODAC Championships (2011, 2013, 2014) and making three NCAA Playoff appearances.

**Marty Favret** is the all-time winningest football head coach in school history, compiling an overall record of 151-90 during his 24-year career at the helm of the Tigers (2000-23). He led the program to 16 winning seasons with five ODAC Championships (2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014) and six NCAA Division III Football Championship appearances (2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014). Favret was 99-54 in ODAC contests, and coached his final season (2023) as the longest-tenured collegiate football head coach in Virginia. Marty was honored by the Touchdown Club of Richmond with the 2023 Ray Tate Memorial Award for commitment and

dedication to the sport of football, and was a two-time recipient of the Willard Bailey State Coach of the Year Award (2009, 2013).

**Dickie Cralle '65** was a four-year member of the football team at flanker for the Tigers. He had 12 receptions for 124 yards and three touchdowns over his final three seasons. Cralle has been a devoted and passionate supporter of the College and the football program in particular. His generous philanthropic efforts have made possible the Cralle Touchdown Club and the Chuck the Tiger statue on the Tiger Walk among many program enhancements, and most recently he has led efforts toward the current football locker room renovation project. Dickie previously served on the College's Board of Trustees.

**Bill Moore '78** was a three-year member of the football team at fullback for the Tigers. He rushed for 604 yards and two touchdowns over his final two seasons, earning Second Team All-ODAC in 1977. Moore was the lead blocker for All-American Jimmy Ferguson '79 (3,601 career rushing yards, second all-time), and has been an ardent supporter of the College and the football program in particular. He served as the Gridiron Club President for 15 years, while leading engagement and fundraising efforts in support of the program. Bill was a supporter of the Cralle Touchdown Club, as well, and is also supporting the current football locker room renovation project.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 21–22**

Minority Student Union  
Alumni Mentorship (MAM) Weekend

**MAY 10**

Class of 2025 Commencement

**MAY 9-10**

Class of 1975 50th Reunion

*\*The all alumni reunion will take place during Homecoming 2025*

## PHOTO GALLERIES 2024



Homecoming



Family Weekend



THE  
**ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

Time is running out to participate in Hampden-Sydney's Oral History Project! The College is partnering with Publishing Concepts (PCI) to compile and publish an oral history in commemoration of the College's 250th anniversary. To cement your cherished memories for future generations of Tigers, reach out by February 21, 2025, to the Hampden-Sydney College Update Line at 888-373-1214 or email [customerservice@publishingconcepts.com](mailto:customerservice@publishingconcepts.com) to share your story. PCI will send you a personalized link for you to share your written story and photo. Visit [hsc.edu/oral-history-project](http://hsc.edu/oral-history-project) to learn more.

## 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events

**FEBRUARY 17**

### The Charles McRae Lecture

Dr. Lisa Bowens, Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary

**MARCH 31**

### The Maurice Allan Lecture

The Gods of Prophetstown: The Battle of Tippecanoe and the Holy War for the American Frontier

**APRIL 4–6**

### March to Williamsburg

In commemoration of the Original Hampden-Sydney Boys Militia March

To learn more about these and other opportunities, visit [go.hsc.edu/250th](http://go.hsc.edu/250th).



## H-SC Welcomes Liz Crowder as Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement

Alumni saw a new face around campus this fall as **Liz Crowder** made the rounds at events like the comprehensive campaign launch and The Game before officially beginning her tenure as director of alumni and parent engagement on December 1. Crowder is not new to the Hampden-Sydney community though. A Farmville local, Crowder has experienced firsthand the energy and vibrance of the number three alumni network in the country, a feeling she said was largely responsible for her interest in the position after nine years as senior associate director of alumni programs at the University of Virginia (UVA) Alumni Association.

Over the course of her tenure at UVA, Crowder cultivated deep expertise in event planning and management, volunteer coordination, affinity group programming, and strategic alumni engagement. Her work included enhancing UVA's signature alumni events and launching innovative initiatives to strengthen connections among and between alumni and the university. This experience will be invaluable as Hampden-Sydney celebrates its 250th anniversary and the public phase of its comprehensive campaign.

"Alumni engagement is not a one-size-fits-all approach," Crowder says. "The Hampden-Sydney alumni base is incredibly diverse. It's made up of alumni spanning different life stages, career paths, and unique experiences during their time on the Hill. My priority is to take the time to listen and learn from alumni, understanding not only what their Hampden-Sydney experience meant to them but also their wants, needs, and desires for engagement as alumni. By doing so, I can help co-create opportunities that are meaningful and impactful for them."

Crowder adds, "I love thinking creatively about how to meet alumni where they are and partnering with them to build opportunities for connection, whether that connection is to the College, to fellow alumni, or to current students."

Originally from Staunton, Virginia, Crowder has called Farmville home for the past seven years. During this time, she has observed the Hampden-Sydney community up close, fueling her enthusiasm for the possibilities within alumni and parent engagement. "I've had the privilege of experiencing the heartbeat behind Hampden-Sydney," Crowder says. "The passion, investment, and genuine camaraderie of this community is truly inspiring. It's energizing to see how much momentum has been built in recent years, and I'm excited to dive in and build on that foundation."

Crowder holds a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from UVA and a Business Certificate from the McIntire Business Institute at UVA. Crowder's husband, Michael, serves as Longwood University assistant men's basketball coach alongside head coach **Griff Aldrich '96**. The couple have two sons, Jack and Henry.

**1960s**

**HAM BRYSON '63** was recently elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, an association of historians that was chartered in London in 1751.

Dr. **EDGAR N. WEAVER JR. '69**



has published a book titled *Mindset of Spirit*, which "delves into the foundational concept of the sanctity of every human being—in a way that is distinctive from the physiologic processes of life

itself—and explores how aligning our actions with this ideal can lead to a more compassionate and just society," according to a June 7, 2024, EIN Presswire release. Dr. Weaver is a retired neurosurgeon who was raised in the Episcopal Church and has always been interested in the intersection of science and spirituality.

**1980s**

**JOHN G. MCJUNKIN '84** was recognized as a Client Service All-Star by BTI Consulting Group, the leading provider of strategic research to the legal community per a June 4, 2024, press release on Baker Donelson.

**TODD FLEMMING '85** ran into **David Arias '84** in Munich.



**FLEMMING '85 AND ARIAS '84**

Former Trustee **MAURICE A. JONES '86**



has been appointed CEO for The Center for First-Generation Student Success according to an April 23, 2024, organization press release.

**1990s**

**JAMES LEE BRIGHT '93** has been named to the "Best Lawyers 2024" edition of *D Magazine*.

**CLAY ROBINSON '93** is celebrating his



30th anniversary in the financial industry. Clay is president, CFO, and LPL financial advisor at Garrett & Robinson in Carrollton, Georgia.

**PATRICK ELB '95** and son Samuel on the London Eye in June 2024.



**PATRICK ELB '95 FAMILY**



Theta Chi brothers gathered for a summer reception in Virginia Beach, Virginia, hosted by **RICHARD DOUMMAR '81** at Zoe's Steak House on June 25, 2024. Included L to R are: **Chris Caton '81**, **Chris Simms '81**, Richard Doummar, **Taylor Wootton '81**, **Joe Taylor '81**, **Bob Johnson '78**, **George Norrington '81**, and **David (Dabo) Noftsinger '81**.





On April 19, 2024, Hampden-Sydney alumni attended the investiture of former State Senator **LYNWOOD LEWIS '84** as a Circuit Court Judge for the 2nd Judicial Circuit. Pictured left to right are **Kevin Martingayle '88**, **Charles McPhillips '82**, **Ed Tankard '85**, **T.A. Hickman '85**, **Dr. David Jones '84**. Missing from the photo: **Dr. Lloyd Kellam '77** and Judge **Joe Canada '62**.

## 2000s

Dr. **PAUL HAUN '01** has joined Newnan Dermatology in Georgia as a board-certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist according to an August 1, 2024, article on *The City Menu*.



**PAUL HAUN '01**

**SHAWN PATTISON '01** has been named COO of The Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association per an August 5, 2024, organization article.



**ROBERT LUTHER III '03** has been appointed distinguished professor of law at the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University, where he will teach constitutional law, legislation, and a federal law clerk prep course as a full-time faculty member. He also recently founded the Virginia law firm Constitutional Solutions PLLC to help judges, aspiring judges, and public figures navigate the legal and political economy.



R. **CHRISTOPHER LINDSAY '06** and his son, Robbie Jackson Lindsay.



**R. CHRISTOPHER LINDSAY '06**

# CLASS NOTES

## 2010s

**MIKE LITTLE '10** has joined SageView Advisory Group as a business analytics specialist.

**RONNIE FULTZ '12** was announced as one of *Home Furnishings Business* Forty Under 40 in a July 24, 2024, article. Ronnie is director of sales operations and training at Hooker Furnishings in Martinsville, Virginia.

**WILLIAM W. ESTES '16** joined Taylor Day Law in Jacksonville, Florida, and will focus his practice on auto insurance defense reported a June 3, 2024, firm news release.

**JASON RICHARD HALMO '17** married **CHARLOTTE WILSON BALL** on April 20, 2024 in Folly Beach, South Carolina. Charlotte is a graduate of College of Charleston and University of Virginia and is a senior client success associate for M1 Finance. Jason is a technical service project manager for Bakelite Synthetics. They reside in Greenville, South Carolina, with their poodle, Hampden. Pictured left to right is **Jonathan Halmo '14**, **Peter Clarke '15**, McGavacks Associate Professor of Biology **Michael Wolyniak**, **David Campbell '15**, Jason Halmo, **Trevor Hartwell '17**, **Houghton Flanagan '15**, **Joshua Chamberlin '17**.

**JORDAN BECK '18** married **ALI POSTELL** on June 8, 2024, at Darlington School. Ali is a graduate of The University of Alabama and is from Columbus, Georgia. Jordan and Ali live in Rome, Georgia, where Jordan runs his family's mattress manufacturing company, Heritage Sleep Concepts, and Ali works for CraneTech in Inside Sales. Pictured left to right is **Zach Criswell '18**, **Knox Sirmans '25**, **Walker Sirmans '27**, **Neal Reynolds '18**, **Jordan Chalkley '17**, **Nash Nance '15**, Jordan Beck, **Harrison Cobb '20**, Jamie Beck, **Jake Edmonds '18**.

**MICHAEL GOOD '19** joined S. L. Nusbaum Realty Co. as a senior associate in Norfolk, Virginia, per a May 2024 company press release.

## 2020s

**TRIP GILMORE '20** married **CAROLINE WRAY (R-MC '20)** on April 6, 2024, at the Country Club of Virginia. Trip is a business intelligence and reporting analyst at TDCSU. Pictured left to right is **Daniel Newberry '20**, **Zac Richman '22**, **Jake Vail '20**, **Jackson Stubbs '20**, Trip Gilmore, **Jesse Zombro '20**, **Jacob Mitchell '19**, **William Milburn '18**, **Colin Corini '20**, **Michael Burgdorf '22**.

**KALEB SMITH '22** is now commercial relationship manager with Primis Bank.



HALMO-BALL WEDDING



BECK-POSTELL WEDDING



GILMORE-WRAY WEDDING



**IAN LICHACZ '22**, special assistant to Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares, welcomed two rising seniors as interns in the Office of the Attorney General this summer. Pictured above with Miyares, **Alex Cofield '25** (top) and **Charles Adams '25** (bottom) landed highly competitive positions as executive management interns. Alex worked in the communications department, effectively serving as a press secretary. Charles joined the scheduling and logistics team, where he created briefs and conducted personal research for the Attorney General. "As a recent Hampden-Sydney grad myself, I was incredibly proud of their hard work this summer," Lichacz says. "Their performance was so impressive that they were among only four interns to receive a challenge coin from the attorney general at the end of the program."



## CAMPUS STORE

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE



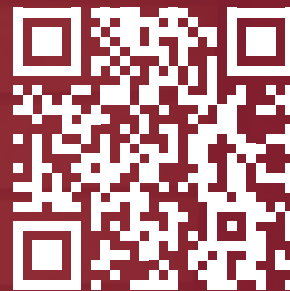
Merchandise



Text Books



Supplies



[GO.HSC.EDU/CAMPUS\\_STORE](https://go.hsc.edu/campus_store)

Hampden-Sydney College Bookstore  
116 Graham Circle  
Hampden Sydney, Virginia 23943

(434) 223-6117

## OBITUARIES

### 1940s

#### CANNON HOBSON GODDIN '45



died on July 17, 2024. A member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and ODK, he graduated from Hampden-Sydney College in 1947 and from Washington and Lee School of Law in

1950. He practiced law for 50 years in Richmond with the firms of Wicker, Baker & Shuford and Goddin, Major, Schubert & Hyman. An amateur historian and very knowledgeable of Virginia and Civil War history, Cannon served as president of the Sons of the Revolution, governor of the Society of Colonial Wars, chairman of the Henricus Foundation, president of the Civil War Roundtable, and board member of Preservation Virginia. Devoted to his family, community, and church, he served on the vestry of St. James's Episcopal Church, as president of the Christian Children's Fund, and as chairman of the Selective Service Board. He was a member of the Country Club of Virginia and the Westmoreland Club and a former member of Farmington Country Club. During World War II, he served three years as a control tower operator in the Army Air Force at airfields in New Guinea and the Philippines, where he was in the invasion of Leyte in October 1944. He is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. His father is the late **Alfred P. Goddin**, H-SC class of 1910.

**JOHN MAYO BROWN '46** died on June 7, 2024. While at Hampden-Sydney College, WWII broke out and Mayo enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Mayo was assigned to the destroyer escort, the USS George, which was part of the Pacific Third Fleet whose mission was to fight Japanese warships and protect the Third Fleet's battleships and flattops. Mayo spent the next two and a half years working out of the Solomon Islands, New Guinea, and Indonesia escorting aircraft carriers and battleships. At the conclusion of the war with Japan, he was transferred to his final assignment at the Pearl Harbor Naval Base in Honolulu, where he completed his final year of duty and ended his naval career at the age of 23. Mayo's lifelong love of travel and sailing in the Pacific can be attributed to his early years in the Navy. Mayo returned to Virginia and attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute, studying agronomy, animal science, and the principals

of farm management. The knowledge and skills that he obtained from these studies provided the foundation for a lifelong career in farm management. Mayo believed in giving back to his community, and his volunteer work on the Trinity Episcopal Church Cemetery was one of his proudest accomplishments. Consecrated in 1995 after many years of fundraising and construction, the West Cemetery Pavilion is dedicated to Mayo for his lasting efforts in making the cemetery what it is today. The town of Unison's village green is named in his honor for his contribution to the creation of the Unison Preservation Society and Village Green, and in 2019 Mayo was added to the Upperville Colt and Horse Show Wall of Honor. Mayo made an indelible impression on those he crossed paths with; some of whom were persons well-known to history and most were his appreciative peers. Mayo is survived by four children and four grandchildren.

#### Dr. PETER WEAVER SQUIRE '48



died on August 7, 2024.

Peter joined the Navy V-12 Officer Training Program, attending Hampden-Sydney College and Columbia University's Midshipman School. Peter's athleticism

as a wide receiver and defensive back, and his role as a captain of the football team at Hampden-Sydney, began a lasting family tradition and legacy at the College. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II. After the war, Peter continued his education at Hampden-Sydney, earning his undergraduate degree in 1948 before earning his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in 1952. In 1953, Peter established the Prince-Squire Clinic in Emporia, Virginia, marking the beginning of a distinguished 60-year career in medicine. Renowned for his compassion and dedication to the people of Southern Virginia, Peter was instrumental in starting Greensville Memorial Hospital in Emporia, serving as the first chief of staff and leading many fundraising efforts for the hospital. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine and an active member of the Medical Society of Virginia, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Medical Association. Beyond his medical career, Peter developed a passion for farming. On the farm, Peter could seamlessly transition from the lively tasks of cattle management to the peaceful pursuit of searching for arrowheads with his grandchildren. Outside of the farm, Peter enjoyed sharing meals with his beloved

neighbors, dutifully tending to his rose garden, and cherishing moments with his family. Peter is survived by his beloved wife of 71 years, Nancy; four sons **Harry E. Squire '76** and **Peter Weaver Squire '79**; 11 grandchildren **Harry W. Squire '14**, **Peter Weaver Squire III '10**, and **Jonathan Malcolm Squire '10**; and 12 great-grandchildren.

#### CARL NICHOLAS CIMINO, SR. '49

died on June 15, 2024. Carl graduated from Hampden-Sydney College and later obtained his master's degree from what is now Virginia Commonwealth University. Carl, a dedicated public servant, for both Chesterfield County and the Commonwealth of Virginia became the first Juvenile Court Service unit director in Chesterfield County. He later switched professions to fire safety and prevention and finished his career as the director of Virginia Department of Fire Programs. He spent uncountable hours as a volunteer fire fighter at both Manchester Volunteer Fire Department and in Goochland County. Carl was known for his extensive garden, supplying family and friends with vegetables and tomatoes all summer long. In the fall, he woke up at the crack of dawn, fired up his stew pot, and began stirring his well-known pot of Brunswick stew. Carl spent many hours fishing, boating, and patiently attempting to get countless numbers of teenagers and young adults up on water skis. Above all else, Carl was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, family beach trips, early morning fishing, beach walks, and building sandcastles. Carl is survived by two children; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

## 1950s

### MARK B. "BUDDY" GLASSCOCK, JR. '51



died on July 14, 2024. At Hampden-Sydney College, Buddy lettered in football and baseball and graduated with a Bachelor of Science. After one year of teaching and playing

semi-pro baseball in Boydton, Virginia, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and assigned to the military police at Fort Gordon, Georgia, where he taught at leadership school performing the duties of operations chief. Once he left the military, Buddy taught school in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, before returning to Marshall, Virginia, where he taught and coached sports for 18 years. Highlights of his coaching career were three District 9 Championships for Marshall basketball and the first district championship for Fauquier basketball. Buddy coached golf for Fauquier High School for 20 years. He had a love for Fauquier Springs Country Club, where he was a member for 40 years and won 11 club golf championships and 11 runner-up championships. Buddy is survived by his wife, Paula; three children; three stepchildren; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren.

### WILLIAM MICHAUX BUCHANAN '52



died on July 27, 2024. Michaux lived a good, long life that was based on four pillars: church, country, family, and friends. Honorably discharged from the Marine Corps after three

years, he attended Hampden-Sydney College until he was recalled by the Marines at the start of the Korean War. After his second term of service, he began his long career in the tobacco business, retiring from Philip Morris after 40 years. He then dedicated his time to family, friends, golf, and his beloved dog, Freckles. He was a proud member of the Sons of the Revolution, The Richmond German, The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia, and The Country Club of Virginia, where he exercised regularly until his final illness. Michaux was a lifelong Episcopalian who was very active at St. James's Church while growing up in the Fan and spent most of his adult life worshipping at St. Stephen's Church. Michaux and his wife, Judy, were enthusiastic cruisers, and he loved to say that he had cruised to the top of the world (the

Svalbard Islands and Alaska), the bottom (Antarctica), and many places in between, including through the Panama Canal. He had just celebrated his 96th birthday in the Arctic Circle off the coast of Norway. He is survived by his wife of almost 49 years, Judith; three children; and six grandchildren.

### J. SAMUEL GLASSCOCK '52



died on June 24, 2024. After graduation from Hampden-Sydney, he attended the University of Virginia Law School, graduating in 1955. Sam enlisted in the U.S. Army J.A.G. Corp, returning to

UVA for additional education. Sam practiced law with Mills Godwin and became a partner in the firm Godwin and Glasscock. Sam often said Monday was his favorite day of the week; the day he got to go back to work, joining his close-knit group of co-workers. Always interested in politics, he threw his hat into the ring for a Virginia General Assembly House of Delegates seat in 1969. Winning that election, he went on to serve through 1991, often championing less than popular causes. He supported treating AIDS as a health care issue, improvements in automobile safety including seat belt use, fairness in divorce and accountability for deadbeat dads, and the abolishment of the death penalty. His interest in improving the healthcare system led to his election to the Louise Obici Memorial Hospital Board of Directors in 1966, where he served as board chair for 25 years. He also served on numerous local and regional boards, relentlessly working for a better community. Among his many accolades, Sam was selected the 1994 1st Citizen of Suffolk by the Cosmopolitan Club. Sam studied world religions and read extensively. Reading and sharing his love of books was one of his greatest joys. Sam is survived by his three children and two grandchildren.

### LEIGH CARRINGTON WHALEY, JR. '52

died on June 11, 2024. After high school, Leigh served in the Navy from 1946 to 1948 and in the Merchant Marines immediately afterward. After his service, Leigh attended Hampden-Sydney College and received a degree in business at the University of Richmond. He completed graduate work at the Stonier School of Banking at Rutgers University. Leigh was a commercial banker, working first as a bank examiner for the Federal Reserve and then serving banks in executive roles in Front Royal, Bedford, Martinsville, Blacksburg, and Radford, Virginia. Leigh also served as the chairman of the board of directors for the Montgomery County Water Authority and as an elder at First Presbyterian Church and Northside Presbyterian Church in Blacksburg, Virginia. Leigh loved his family and worked most of his life to provide for them. He is survived by his three children and six grandchildren.

### JOHN T. DUCKER '53



died on August 16, 2024. John graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampden-Sydney College, where he was a Kappa Alpha brother and member of the cross country team, before being drafted into

the U.S. Army for two years and then obtaining a L.L.B. degree from West Virginia University in 1958. He practiced law in Charleston, West Virginia, for nine years, then in Dayton, Ohio, for 42 more years before retiring to play tennis, travel, ski, ride his bicycle, and just enjoy his wife and grand kids. John is survived by his wife, Eugenia; two sons; one step-son; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

### ROBERT S. TUCKER, JR. '53



died on May 9, 2024. Bob was a four-year starter and lifelong fan of his Hampden-Sydney Tigers and loved attending football games and keeping up with teammates. Bob was a

member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and nurtured those friendships from his days at Hampden-Sydney. He began his career at Albemarle Paper Company before founding RS Tucker Paper and Plastics, specializing in polyethylene bags, sheeting, and tubing. Bob's passion for his work extended to his customers, some of whom became lifelong friends. Bob was a member of the Christadelphian Chapel and a devoted student of the Bible. He actively

# CLASS NOTES

participated in Bible classes and attended various summer Bible schools across the country. Bob was an enthusiastic sports fan, particularly enjoying high school, college, and professional football. He loved watching his children's and grandchildren's little league, high school, and college games. Bob is survived by his two children, six grandchildren—**Andrew Walker '11**—and seven great-grandchildren.

## **WILLIAM BENNETT TAYLOR '54**

died on June 6, 2024. At Hampden-Sydney, William was a *Tiger* and *Kaleidoscope* photographer and a brother of Theta Chi.

## **CHARLES C. "CHUCK" MOTTLEY '56**

died on April 30, 2024. Chuck was a former trustee of the College, vice president of his senior class, a Pi Kappa Alpha brother, and a member of the Tiger Basketball team.

## **JOHN Y. NICHOLSON III '56**

died on July 3, 2024. John earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Hampden-Sydney and was a member of Chi Beta Phi honor fraternity.

## **CALVIN N. WARFIELD, JR. '56**



died on June 19, 2024. Calvin attended Hampden-Sydney, graduating in 1956. He was a member of Chi Phi fraternity and established and maintained long term friendships with his fraternity brothers. After serving in the United States Army, where he was awarded a medal for Military Merit, Calvin started a career as a sales representative for Reynold Metals before retiring in 1992. Calvin is survived by two children and six grandchildren.

## **JAMES LINWOOD "JIMMY" HATCHER,**



**JR. '57** died on June 26, 2024. At Hampden-Sydney College, Jimmy was president of Kappa Sigma fraternity. After college, he served in the U.S. Army, then joined his family's Richmond heating oil business, Wingfield Hatcher. From a young age, he was enamored with horses and, in 1951, was champion of the first Loudoun Junior Horse Show in Middleburg, Virginia, on Candlewick. Several years later, he qualified to ride in the Maclay Finals at Madison Square Garden in New York, a prestigious equestrian event. Jimmy moved to the Middleburg area in 1966 and soon was deeply immersed in the

town's horse culture and social life. Jimmy wrote a popular column called *Carry Me Back*, for the Middleburg-area magazine *Country ZEST & Style*, in which he recounted all manner of colorful stories about his myriad experiences as a long-time fox hunter, talented horse show competitor and judge, a college student, and a real estate agent. He continued to compete in and later judge horse shows and was named to the Virginia Horse Show Association Hall of Fame in 2004 and the Upperville Horse & Colt Show's Wall of Honor in 2007. He was a devoted supporter of the National Sporting Library & Museum in Middleburg. Aside from his work in real estate, he was a talented artist and became a devoted practitioner of yoga and Pilates in his 60s. He was an avid walker and loved to dance. Jimmy is survived by a niece and nephew and five grandnieces.

## **THOMAS CRAWFORD LOONEY '57**



died on May 10, 2024. Tom attended Hampden-Sydney College for one year and graduated in 1958 from United States Military Academy. After a brief career in the Army, he graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with his MBA. He enjoyed a long career in finance with Wheat & Co., later known as Wells Fargo. Known for his stalwart Christian faith, integrity, and whimsy, he trusted and followed the Lord throughout his life and had a strong allegiance to his country. He contributed greatly to the Christian and civic life of his community. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Peggy; three daughters; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**JAMES MACKEY TRAMMELL '58** died on July 9, 2024. After graduating from Hampden-Sydney College, where he was a Pi Kappa Alpha brother, James served in the U.S. Marine Corps and retired as vice president of government affairs at the Sun Oil Company. He was a member of The Union League of Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Society, The Patrick Henry Society, Venice Yacht Club of Florida, Rock Hall Boat Club of Maryland, and the Hershey Italian Lodge. James is survived by two children and four grandchildren—**Chance Trammell '25**.

## **1960s**

### **RODNEY ERNEST WILLIAMS '63**



died on May 13, 2024. While at Hampden-Sydney, Rodney was a member of Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society, nominated as a Rhodes Scholarship candidate, and a

member of Theta Chi fraternity. Rodney went on to graduate summa cum laude in 1963 as class valedictorian before attending the University of Virginia School of Law, graduating in 1966. After law school, he served for the Virginia Army National Guard and began a legal career which spanned 50 years, during which he practiced law with unwavering professionalism and integrity. In his retirement years, he owned and managed Ma & Pa's Diner, a beloved local establishment in Sandston. He was a member of New Bridge Baptist Church, the Highland Springs Business and Professional Association, the Patrick Henry Society, and the Virginia State Bar. Rodney is survived by his cherished wife of 58 years, Lillian; three children; and six grandchildren.

### **HOLMES CONRAD HARRISON III '63**



died on July 12, 2024. Holmes was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampden-Sydney College in 1963 and earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Richmond in

1966. He was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Delta Phi, and the McNeill Law Society. Holmes was admitted to the Virginia Bar in 1966 and was a law clerk for the Honorable Ted Dalton, judge of the Federal District Court of the Western District of Virginia. From 1966 to 1972, Holmes was a U.S. Army captain in the Judge Advocate General Corps, serving two years in Germany and two years in South Korea. In 1972 he started his civilian law practice in Harrisonburg, Virginia, with partners Clark, Bradshaw, Jolly, and Smith. In 1984 he helped form the law office of Harrison & Thumma, P.C. and continued in the general practice of the law until he retired in 2000. He served as president of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association from 1979 to 1980 and Harrisonburg-Rockingham County and other local jurisdictions as a General District Court substitute judge. Professionally he was known as a true counselor at law. His colleagues universally respected his knowledge, advice, and, above all, his character. Holmes

had a tremendous love of nature and was an avid outdoorsman throughout his life. Whether it be law or fishing, he was an excellent teacher who enjoyed sharing his knowledge with others. Holmes is survived by his wife, Linda; two sons; and six grandchildren.

#### **HERBERT TIMOTHY LITTLE '63**



died on April 24, 2024. Tim earned his B.S. from Hampden-Sydney College before beginning a career as analyst for the Department of Defense at Fort Meade. Tim later worked for the

City of Portsmouth in data processing management and eventually, as the deputy city manager. Upon his retirement, Tim went to work with Tri-City Developers in Suffolk, Virginia. Tim had many loves in his life including reading crime novels the minute they were released, watching college football and rooting for Virginia Tech, Churchland Rotary, fishing and hunting, the Cleveland Indians, the Washington Redskins, and spending time with his kids. He was an avid collector of fishing lures and passed that on to his son. He loved good food and good drinks and never let anyone ever pick up the check. He believed in giving back to the community and donated throughout his life to causes he believed in. Tim is survived by his two children.

#### **HUNT BRADFORD WAGSTAFF '64**



died on December 17, 2023. Hunt was a proud Vietnam veteran, having served as a medic in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army. He attended Hampden-Sydney College and then earned

a Bachelor of Arts from Nathaniel Hawthorne College and a Master of Arts in education from Bradley University. He was an elementary school teacher in Peoria, Illinois, and later owned his own contracting business Endlico Construction Co. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati in Virginia, a Red Cross volunteer, and an active member of the Unity Church of Peoria. Hunt was an accomplished woodworker and enjoyed dancing, travel, and lifelong learning. He was devoted to his widespread family and will be especially remembered for his empathy, kindness, public service, and sense of humor. He is survived by six siblings, three step-siblings, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

#### **NATHANIEL A. JOBE, JR. '64**

died on June 26, 2024. Nathaniel was vice president of Pi Kappa Alpha and faculty editor of the *Kaleidoscope*. He is survived by his wife, Wistie.

#### **MICHAEL DAVID CAVER '64**

died on May 25, 2024. In 1964 Mike graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Hampden-Sydney College with a Bachelor of Science in modern European history. He began his career as an ad man at Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. Soon after he began, he moved into human resources. He was transferred to Toronto from 1972 to 1976. In 1979 Mike began working as an executive search consultant at Heidrick & Struggles. In 1980 Mike agreed to assist the president-elect's transition team with recruiting senior officials for the secretaries of Defense and State and the White House Press Secretary. In 1981 he was appointed to the National Commission for Employment Policy. After returning from D.C., Mike started and led Heidrick & Struggles' national healthcare services practice. He retired from Heidrick & Struggles as a partner in 1998 and published a history of the firm a year later. Mike was a voracious reader of history, politics, biographies, and the occasional spy thriller. He spoke on an endless variety of topics but was also an inquisitive listener, eager to learn, and open to considering different perspectives. Mike was an avid traveler, and in retirement, he kept young by returning to his childhood love of fishing. While still in Illinois, Mike devoted his time recording audio books for Learning Ally. Mike always greeted people with a smile and did his best to bring smiles to those around him. As an Episcopalian, his spiritual convictions were manifest in his bottomless well of optimism, resilience, and consideration of others. He asked little and offered everything he could muster. Mike is survived by his loving wife, Ann; three sons; and seven grandchildren.

#### **FREDERICK WARREN BECK III '65**



died on July 19, 2024. He was a 1965 graduate of Hampden-Sydney College and received his law degree from the University of Virginia. Upon graduation, he worked for a year as law clerk for The Honorable Albert S. Harrison. After that, he became a trial lawyer and partner. After retiring from the legal profession in 1991, he renovated a 20-year-old Airstream travel trailer and toured the east coast from Nova Scotia to Key West, Florida. He lived in

the Airstream for two years while building a log home on the James River. He took up whitewater kayaking and was soon paddling whitewater all over the world including North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Colorado, the Grand Canyon, the Alps, Costa Rica, Ecuador, New Zealand, and the Adirondacks. He lived a full life with no regrets. His 81 years were filled with travel, adventure, family, and friends. He is survived by two children and three grandchildren.

#### **Dr. EUGENE BLACKFORD "BLACKIE"**



**NOLAND, JR. '67** died on May 14, 2024.

Blackford received his undergraduate degree from Hampden-Sydney College, where he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and served as student body president his senior year. He went on to attend the Medical College of Virginia, graduating in 1971. For three years, following his medical internship and before his residency, he served in the Navy Reserves onboard the ship USS Yosemite as a medical officer in Jacksonville, Florida. In 1977, he began his practice as a physician of internal medicine at Lewis-Gale Hospital in Roanoke, Virginia. During this time, he completed a fellowship in the American College of Physicians and became a diplomate of the American Board of Bariatric Medicine. He was a member of the Roanoke Valley Academy of Medicine during these years and served as their president in 1991. He was honored to serve on The Good Samaritan Hospice Board. He truly valued the doctor-patient relationship. A little extra time spent in conversation as to what was going on in the lives of his patients was always an important part of the visit. Following his retirement in 2012, he worked at Disability Determination Services for 10 years. Over the years, Blackford enjoyed golfing with friends, jogging, swimming, and acting in community theater. One of his favorite performances was as Reuben in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, where he enjoyed singing in the choir for 30 years. His grandchildren always loved to hear him sing and play the piano as it made them laugh. He especially found joy traveling and spending time on the Rappahannock River with friends and family. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Carolyn; four children; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

# CLASS NOTES

## WILLIAM EUGENE "BILL" NUCKOLLS, SR. '67



died on August 8, 2024. Bill was a Sigma Chi brother at Hampden-Sydney. Bill is survived by his wife, Janet; one son; and one grandson.

## 1970s

### WILLIAM B. "BUCK" WILTSHIRE '71



died on May 19, 2024. While at Hampden-Sydney, he was a member of the school's tennis team and co-captain of the 1971 team, which reached the finals of the Mason-Dixon

Conference championship. Reconnecting with his Hampden-Sydney College tennis teammates and sharing memories brought Buck a great deal of joy over the past few years. After college, Buck began his career at the Home Beneficial Life Insurance Company in Richmond, Virginia, rising to the position of vice president. After 25 years at Home Beneficial, Buck retired and became an active volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. He was also an avid woodworker, taking joy in building countless pieces of furniture for his children, nieces and nephews, friends, and completing projects at Second Baptist Church and in the Jacobs Gym at Collegiate School in honor of his parents. He was also a faithful member of Second Baptist Church, where he enthusiastically served coffee to the members of the Lewis Booker Sunday School class each Sunday morning. Buck traveled twice to Mississippi in the wake of Hurricane Katrina with a group from Second Baptist, working with community members helping to rebuild the homes and lives of those affected by the storm, an experience that profoundly impacted his life. Buck was loyal, finding his greatest happiness when surrounded by his family. Whether Christmas Eve or Easter gatherings in Byrd Park, or with siblings, children and grandchildren in Bath County or Virginia Beach, Virginia, Buck found joy gathered in the loud, sometimes irreverent and competitive, group that was his family. Buck was also a gentle soul and a compassionate and calming presence in the lives of those of us who loved him most. He was a treasured and trusted friend to all who knew him. He is survived by his beloved wife, Weezie; two children; four grandchildren; and his brother **Rick Wiltshire '68**.

## WILLIAM RICHARD "BILL" COGBILL '74



died on July 8, 2024. He was a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in history. He was a history teacher and football coach at York

High School and Lynchburg High School in Virginia. After leaving his career in education, he became a swimming pool designer and builder. He also worked at and owned swimming pool companies in Richardson and Sherman, Texas. He worked for Hobert Pools in Richardson for many years. Most recently he was at JLS Pools in Sherman. In both his personal and professional life, he was a man of his word. Bill's hobbies included body building, archery, hunting, and anything outdoors. Bill enjoyed mentoring youth and coached archery for St. Mary's Catholic School in Sherman. He was a lover of history and enjoyed visiting the battlegrounds of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Bill is survived by his wife, Kim; two children; and two grandchildren.

## CHARLES A. BLANTON III '75



died on May 18, 2024. After high school, Charlie joined the Navy and spent four years as a Navy air crewman, working on the flight deck of the USS Essex. In the Navy, he became an

avid runner, beginning a regimen of physical fitness that he diligently maintained until the last month of his life. Upon his return from the Navy, Charlie attended Hampden-Sydney College, where he developed his love of learning, becoming a member of Phi Beta Kappa. After Hampden-Sydney, Charlie earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Richmond School of Law, briefly practicing family law before beginning his career at the Virginia Electric and Power Company, now Dominion Energy. Charlie spent most of his 37-year career working in the nuclear fuel procurement department. In this role, he traveled to Germany, Austria, France, England, Spain, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Russia, Australia, Canada, and across the United States, cultivating valued professional relationships at home and abroad. He is survived by his faithful and caring wife of 50 years, Christianna; three children; two grandchildren; and his brother, **Andy Blanton '84**.

## 1980s

### DEWEY WAYNE CLAYBROOK '80



died on June 28, 2024. He was a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College and the College of William & Mary. Wayne was an avid hunter and loved spending time with his

family and the many years he worked at Progress Printing Company. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher, deacon, elder, and started the AWANA program. Wayne is survived by his wife of 41 years, Donna; two sons; and five grandchildren.

## 1990s

### BRIAN ARTHUR ROLLISON '93



died on June 11, 2024. At Hampden-Sydney, Brian was a member of the Tiger Football team. After graduating, Brian began his career at Loveland Distributing company and remained

for 30 years. He was a man with great presence. Full of love, humility, and kindness, his larger-than-life stature and personality allowed for anyone in his presence to feel appreciated, accepted, and understood. Brian was gracious and compassionate and knew no stranger. He wanted the best for everyone around him, always willing to sacrifice the most. Brian was an example of love to all who had the privilege to know him and bask in the warmth and sunshine of his face and the glow of his personality. He was indeed one of God's children and will always live in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. He was a true gift to the world. Brian is survived by the love of his life, Jantz; and four children.



**RICHARD H. "CHIP" COOKE, JR. '94**

died on July 28, 2024. At Hampden-Sydney, Chip played lacrosse before transferring to and finishing his undergraduate studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Chip earned his Master's of Business Administration from Wake Forest University through the executive program while working at the family firm, Tax Management Associates (TMA). After a successful tenure with a consulting firm, Chip returned to the TMA family and spent the majority of his professional career working for, leading, and eventually owning the business. An avid outdoorsman, Chip's love for hunting and fishing was only out shadowed by his love of family, faith, country, and friends. Chip is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and two sons.

**WILLIAM DOUGLAS SELDEN VI '98**

died on June 1, 2024. Will attended Hampden-Sydney College, where he received a bachelor's degree in economics. He began working for Scott & Stringfellow (later BB&T and Truist) in 1999 and

was a vice president at the time of his death. He was a member of Westwood Racquet Club, where he loved playing tennis and was a former board member. Will enjoyed playing golf and tennis, and he loved all types of music. He had also recently taken up vegetable gardening. Will and his mother spent many wonderful hours at Shell Island, which was their favorite spot. Will is remembered for his kind and sweet disposition, his humility, and his great sense of humor. He will be remembered always for his warm and gentlemanly charm, his devotion to the many people whom he loved and respected, and his belief in the innate goodness of people. Will is survived by his mother, Jane T. Selden; his father, **William Douglas Selden V '70**; and his beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins.

**BENJAMIN GIBSON "JAMIN" BARBOUR '99**

died on August 4, 2024. A passionate supporter of Hampden-Sydney, Jamin served as a volunteer with the College's offices of advancement and alumni

and parent engagement, interim director of the Atkinson Museum, and chairman of the Museum Advisory Board. During his days at Hecht's, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Coplon's, Jamin's flawless eye and attention to clients' lifestyles and tastes built a cadre of loyal customers and led to record-setting sales. In his transition to development work, he oversaw donor research first at the Better Business Bureau and most recently at St Joseph's Villa. He is remembered by his many friends and fellow alumni as a superb raconteur, ambassador of Southern gentility, philanthropist, and champion of seersucker suits and bowties. Others recall his unwavering style and sharp-witted tongue, his gift for impersonating familiar voices, his infectious smile, the sparkling silver at his tailgates, his piquant pimiento cheese and Bloody Marys, and his reverent admiration for his cousin the Queen. Jamin was generous in his support of students, facilitating the English honor society's annual trip to the opera in Richmond, Virginia, and connecting recent graduates with the best alumni network in the country. A nearly fictional character, his bright spirit will be greatly missed by the entire Hampden-Sydney family and the broader community. Jamin is survived by his mother, sister, niece, and nephews.

**2000s****KEVIN J. MILEY '07**

died on June 5, 2024. He played lacrosse at Hampden-Sydney College and took trips to various mountains in the Northeast, Vancouver, and Japan to snowboard with his brother and friends. From a young

age, Kevin was drawn to learning and understanding science and the nature of things. With this and his compassion for others, it's no wonder he found a devotion to fire science and was proud to serve as a member of the Warwick Fire Department. Kevin was highly intelligent, and if ever there was a clever mind, Kevin had one. With an expansive vocabulary and an ability to find patterns in the intangible, Kevin could swiftly decode and unscramble things to find the solution. He was a master at chess, Words with Friends, Yahtzee, and found

a special calling in playing poker. We will always remember Kevin's special way of helping others. Kevin is survived by his parents and siblings.

**FRIENDS**

Former College Trustee **GEORGE ELLIS**

**"PETER" SUMMERS**

died on May 10, 2024. Immediately after graduation from Washington and Lee University in 1964, Peter enrolled at Officer Candidate School in

Newport, Rhode Island, and received a commission as ensign in the United States Navy. He served in the Navy for four years, and was promoted to lieutenant (J.G.), assistant disaster chief, to manage emergency responses to fire, flood, nuclear, and biological weapon disasters on the USS Hancock off the coast of Vietnam. After resigning his commission, he made his way to East Africa and found a role with Ker & Downey safari guides. A man of many interests, Peter's career trajectory led him to work in financial services, real estate development, and the cattle industry. He began his corporate career with E.F. Hutton and Co. in 1971 and retired from Alex Brown in 1999. He also worked in real estate development in Florida and as a commercial cattleman in Virginia and Florida. A passionate supporter of many organizations, Mr. Summers served as board president of the Everglades Club in Palm Beach from 2014 to 2024 and as a board member of Hospice by the Sea and Palm Beach County, Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, Nolan Ryan Beef, and Hampden-Sydney College, where he established the George Ellis Summers Scholarship in 1998 to honor his son, **Ellis Summers '97**. A lifelong animal lover, outdoorsman, award-winning marksman, and true gentleman, he lived life with gratitude and grace. He preferred open country, particularly the landscapes of East Africa, the mountains of North Carolina and Virginia, the lowlands of South Carolina, and the interior of Florida. In addition to the Everglades Club, he was a member of the Bath and Tennis Club, Sailfish Club, Pine Creek Sporting Club, Chattooga Club, Mountain Top Club, The Crocs, and formerly of Wade Hampton Club, Yeaman's Hall Club, Gulfstream Club, Piping Rock Club, Beaver Dam, Rolling Rock Club, and the Coconuts. He is survived by his wife, Ann; two children; four stepchildren; grandchildren; and 10 step-grandchildren.

# WHY RHETORIC

*Matters More Than Ever* PATTERSON PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY ALEXANDER WERTH



James Madison, Founding Father of both Hampden-Sydney and the United States, stated in his 1809 inaugural address that the best nourishment for true liberty is “the advancement of science and diffusion of information.” As a biology professor who teaches Rhetoric 101 each year, I find this quotation especially relevant.

There are good reasons why all Hampden-Sydney students (since 1978), regardless of major, must pass the Rhetoric Proficiency Examination, just as they must fulfill science requirements. Both obligations help students become clear thinkers and communicators. Perhaps less obviously, both requirements foster key democratic ideals by ensuring proper judgment and dissemination of ideas.

Rhetoric classes teach students how to fix sentence fragments and subject-verb disagreements. But what is the connection between grammar and citizenship? How does our celebrated “write of passage” help Hampden-Sydney men become not only educated, thoughtful graduates but also responsible, productive citizens, no matter what career they pursue?

Cicero, Caesar, and Cincinnatus were eloquent orators of ancient Rome, but their gifts of communication seem to have vanished in today’s political landscape. Indeed, modern civic discourse seems to be a race to the bottom via mudslinging and personal attacks. The dire connotations that rhetoric carries these days—of slick bombast, empty promises, and insincere spin—seem largely deserved. However, classical rhetoric remains a hallowed, not hollow, pursuit. Its standing in our curriculum is as essential as its place in modern civic discourse. As a comingling of minds, genuine rhetoric offers the purest form of human expression. It brings us together. It creates community. It unites rather than divides us.

Intensive study of the English language reflects our modern political discourse, and I remain grateful that since the College’s inception, as plainly stated in its initial advertisement in 1775, “more particular Attention shall be paid to the Cultivation of the English Language than is usually done in Places of public Education.”

Clear thinking is surely the most crucial communication skill. Only when a fully formed idea is crisp and uncluttered in one’s head can it be communicated to others, and only when that idea is unambiguously transferred to the minds of others can we have a productive dialogue on the same footing. Truly, this is why we rhetoric professors harp on Oxford commas, apostrophes, and non-parallel construction. When we succeed in getting our own thoughts straight, we can effectively convey our ideas and persuade our fellow

citizens. From there we can build a fruitful exchange of knowledge for the betterment of our communities. This is as true in science as it is in commerce, law, health care, and every industrious pursuit, whether advancing one’s business or our nation’s foreign policy.

My students learned as young pupils that the final step in the scientific method involves communicating one’s findings clearly and effectively. Later, often in college science classes, they realize that this practice applies equally to all worthy pursuits. As a collective, cumulative process, science depends on collaborative partnerships. Scarcely a week passes when I am not communicating with research colleagues around the globe. It is imperative that I convey my thoughts as explicitly and economically as possible. Our shared words create a fertile community, where shared thoughts promote an exchange of ideas that bring us closer to understanding our world’s reluctantly revealed truths.

It all begins, and ends, with effective exchange of clear ideas. Is it any surprise that rhetoric remains Hampden-Sydney’s most popular minor? To be sure, few freshmen seem thrilled to begin their sequence of rhetoric courses, but nearly all graduates speak about distinct ways that these courses improved their communication, careers, and lives.

I hear myriad testimonials attesting to ways that rhetoric courses helped alumni secure and advance in jobs. Nonetheless, making a life is just as crucial as making a living. I have swapped countless ideas, reading suggestions, and books with former students whose lives have been profoundly enriched by invaluable rhetorical skills.

Even if our Rhetoric Program has been in place for slightly less than one-fifth of Hampden-Sydney’s 250-year-old history, our emphasis on clarity of thought and communication have been front and center since the beginning. John Witherspoon, the Princeton president and mentor of Hampden-Sydney’s first president, **Samuel Stanhope Smith**, argued that a well-informed, articulate citizenry facilitates stable government and economic prosperity by promoting a culture of critical judgment, entrepreneurship, and innovation. In Witherspoon’s words, “Freedom of speech is a cornerstone of democracy, but it also comes with the responsibility to speak truthfully and responsibly.” Like science, society needs clearly articulated ideas.

Whether spoken or written, words change the world. Far from solely conveying ideas, language inspires and encourages, just as it deflates and discourages. Language creates and sustains community—but only if we find and express words clearly, effectively, and honestly. I sincerely expect that all Hampden-Sydney graduates will remain key players in fostering communities at every level and in promoting democratic ideals in the coming decades, and—we can hope—for the next 250 years.

# TIGER FOR LIFE

## HAL ABSHER '71



“We hope our gifts will provide opportunities for the next generation of Hampden-Sydney students both on the court and in the classroom.”

— Hal Absher '71

*If you are interested in leaving a legacy gift to Hampden-Sydney or if you have already included the College in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can thank you and honor you for your generosity.*

THE **RECORD** OF  
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*Patrick Henry Society*  
**REUNION WEEKEND**

HONORING THE CLASS OF 1975 ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR  
50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION AND THEIR INDUCTION INTO THE SOCIETY



**MAY 8–10, 2025**

In celebration of the College's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we are excited to announce that this year's 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion will take place during Commencement Weekend.

See the full schedule of events and register at [alumni.hsc.edu](http://alumni.hsc.edu).

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Homecoming & Reunion Weekend  
October 24 – 26, 2025**

We can't wait to see you back on the Hill for Homecoming!  
We will also celebrate reunions for the  
Class of 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020!  
More information will be available in Spring 2025.

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