

# RANDOLPH-MACON **Today**

THE MAGAZINE ■ SPRING 2021



## A YEAR OF **Resilience**



INSIDE

#UNSHAKABLEFRIENDSHIP | DUKE HALL | NEW COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUITY & OPPORTUNITY

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

As I look out on the Brown Fountain Plaza from my office, the beauty and (momentary) tranquility of our campus is just wonderful during this time of year. I am reminded that springtime is indeed a time for new beginnings—a rebirth, of sorts. In new beginnings we find hope, encouragement, and optimism. And that is exactly where we are right now at R-MC.

Our successful perseverance through the pandemic this year was due in large part to a faculty and staff who continued to be remarkable in their devotion to this place and their mission of teaching and mentoring, and students who were willing and able to take seriously the responsibility to protect their own health and that of their classmates. We are primed to emerge this fall a stronger institution and even better equipped to prepare our students for a world that continues to evolve rapidly.

**Having weathered what we hope will be the worst of COVID-19, we have great expectations heading toward the start of the 2021-22 academic year.**

Understanding how important face-to-face class discussions and time with professors and other students are to the learning process, we are developing plans for classes to meet in-person this fall. Aware that students crave and need more social interaction, we anticipate the return of most students to on-campus living and are excited to allow in-person dining in a renovated and expanded Estes Dining Hall, student group activities that support teamwork and citizenship, a full athletic schedule, and extracurricular and social gatherings that create long-lasting relationships.

As students, faculty and staff return to campus, we have also made the important decision that all must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Medical and religious exemptions will be recognized, as they are currently at R-MC with other required vaccinations.

Our leadership team weighed this decision carefully. We are convinced this approach is the most effective way for us to

return completely to the activities that define the traditional R-MC experience—and to do so as quickly as possible.

We are also continuing to plan for the future. I am especially pleased that we are launching our first-ever graduate program in 2023—in Physician Assistant Studies. (Read details on page 3.) This new degree addresses an important need in the health field and complements strategically our Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I am also thrilled about Duke Hall, a new facility we are planning next to Day Field, which will house our PA program plus three general use classrooms, and provide excellent space for our athletics program. (Read more about Duke Hall on page 7.)

**I am so very appreciative of the continued support our alumni, parents and friends have provided throughout this pandemic; your support has been more meaningful than ever.**

Your support of the Refer a Yellow Jacket program was, once again, essential to our recruiting efforts. And prospective students who unable to visit the campus in person relied on vivid descriptions of campus and academic life provided by our alumni and friends in making their college decisions. Graduates in our two most recent classes have shared with me how helpful alumni have been connecting them to potential jobs and post-graduate experiences. And, finally, importantly, our alumni's the generous financial support from our alumni, parents and friends has allowed us to be more flexible, innovative, and responsive in meeting our students' critical needs during an uncertain time.

At their in-person commencements celebrated on May 22 and 23, I told our newest alumni, members of the classes of 2020 and 2021, to mark their calendars! **R-MC's Homecoming this fall is scheduled to be in-person on October 8-9, 2021.** So, I encourage you to do the same, as we look forward to welcoming everyone—alumni, parents, and friends alike—back to campus this fall!

I cannot wait.

Best regards,

Bob Lindgren

# RANDOLPH-MACON Today



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### A Year of Resilience

With most COVID-19 protocols now behind us, a look back at a year that tested us all. Read how R-MC's community rose to the challenges to *Protect the Hive*.

THE MISSION OF THE R-MC MAGAZINE IS TO ENGAGE AND CONNECT *alumni, parents and friends to Randolph-Macon College by sharing information about the college and alumni activities and providing opportunities for involvement and support.*

Editor:  
Beth Campbell

Copy Editors:  
Rick Golembeski '96, Ellen Stack,  
Claire Stevens, LaChelle Lewis '18,  
Leslie Bax

Contributing Writers:  
BJ Camano '21, Dr. Tameshia  
V. Grimes '96, Diane Lowder,  
Dr. Nazneen Khan, Tammy  
McCausland, Anne Marie Lauranzon

Class Notes:  
Diane Munsey, Ellen Stack

Sports Editors:  
Phil Stanton, Nicole Ball

Photographers:  
Joe Mahoney, Nick Ruxton,  
Johanna Schetelig

Art Direction and Graphic Design:  
Leshia Berkel

To contact editor:  
bethcampbell@rmc.edu

R-MC Alumni Office: 804-752-7222 or  
Toll Free: 866-694-4574

[www.rmc.edu](http://www.rmc.edu)

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R-MC editor reserves the right to edit content.

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### #unshakablefriendship

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### In Pursuit of the Podium

Michael Murphy '08 was a standout athlete who was paralyzed in an accident during a junior year. Now, he's aiming to compete in the Paralympics.



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# What's New @ R-MC



## Students Create Virtual R-MC Campus in Minecraft



**A VIDEO IS  
WORTH  
1,000 WORDS!**

Tour Minecraft Macon  
by scanning this QR  
code with your phone  
or visit Randolph-  
Macon's YouTube page.

During their January STAYCATION on campus, a group of students worked with faculty and staff to create a virtual R-MC campus in the popular video game Minecraft. The survival game allows adventurers to compete in a virtual world, but also create their own realms in a simple digital sandbox.

The virtual Randolph-Macon world features campus landmarks like the fountain, Brock Commons, Mary Branch Hall, Peele Hall, Duncan Memorial Church, and many outdoor features such as the sand volleyball courts, the Ashland train tracks, and the bricked patio in front of Blackwell Auditorium. Created under the leadership of Chaplain Kendra Grimes, the world continues to grow!

## R-MC TO OFFER GRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCE DEGREE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Upon successful accreditation, the PA Program at Randolph-Macon College will offer the College's first graduate degree—a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. This exciting step into graduate health science education represents the College's endeavor to address gaps in health care delivery through a PA training model that targets current and evolving health system, provider, and patient needs.

The program, which is the first of its kind in the greater Richmond region, will welcome its first cohort in January 2023. The 24-month curriculum will include both

from the Wake Forest School of Medicine. He has been a nationally certified PA since 2004 and has practice experience in the areas of HIV/AIDS and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

“The PA profession continues to grow in response to the needs of our population and health systems. With a forecast for career growth of over 30% by 2029, we are confident that our graduates will enter a robust job market, with the knowledge and skills to effect meaningful change in their practice environments,” Grant said.

“We are confident that our graduates will enter a robust job market, with the knowledge and skills to effect meaningful change in their practice environments.”

an immersive preclinical phase and diverse options for clinical training experiences. It is currently in the development stage for accreditation via the Accreditation Review Commission (ARC-PA) provisional accreditation pathway.

“Our PA program marks an important step in the College's development, offering an outstanding educational opportunity that builds on R-MC's strong tradition of educating health professionals who serve their communities and addresses a nationwide shortage of physician assistants,” commented Provost Dr. Alisa Rosenthal.

### **Erich Grant to Serve as Founding Program Director**

Erich J. Grant, MMS, PA-C, has been appointed as the founding Department Chair and Program Director for the Department of Physician Assistant Studies.

Grant formerly served as Assistant Professor and Vice Chair for Education and Curricular Innovation in Wake Forest School of Medicine's Department of PA Studies in Winston-Salem, NC. He holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree in Medical Science



Erich Grant

Grant is joined on staff by medical director Jeremy Sauer '97 and program administrator Olivia Patterson '14.

“Our team shares a deep commitment to addressing health equity gaps. We hope to use this passion, our experiences, and the support of the R-MC community to develop PAs who are ready for the evolving challenges of today and tomorrow,” Grant added. “Our goals focus on producing a diverse population of PAs with the awareness and tools needed to bring health care access to each of those who need it.”

## APPLIED MATHEMATICS: A MAJOR NEW PATHWAY

Randolph-Macon's faculty recently approved a new Applied Mathematics major, which builds upon the college's existing Mathematics major and presents a wealth of opportunities for students, both while at R-MC and after graduation.

Applied Mathematics sits at the intersection of mathematics, science and engineering, complementing the college's rigorous liberal arts ethos. A degree in Mathematics already opens doors to a host of fields, including finance, law and education. Now with a degree in Applied Mathematics, graduates will be able to embark on an even wider range of careers, from biostatistician to cryptanalyst, data analyst to mechanical engineer.

“Put simply, Applied Mathematics is the study of the application of mathematical methods to practical problems in all areas of society, including transportation, climate change and epidemiology,” says Dr. Adrian Rice, chair of the R-MC Mathematics department and the Dorothy and Muscoe Garnett Professor of Mathematics. “It's an exciting time to be a mathematician!”

The College is very grateful to Dr. Roland L. Bowles '58 and his wife, Ina, for their generous gift to establish the Roland and Ina Jeanne Bowles Endowed Fund for Applied Mathematics to support and enhance the new Applied Mathematics program.

# R-MC 1 2 3

3 QUESTIONS WITH BETH CAMPBELL,  
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF  
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



**Beth Campbell joins the college as a member of the President's cabinet to collaborate with senior leadership in elevating the college's profile and stewarding its reputation among audiences of future students, parents, and alumni, and the broader community. She earned her B.S. and M.S. in Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.**

**Q1** *What are you looking forward to in your new role?*

As a former journalist, I'm innately the kind of marketer who is drawn to storytelling, and the community of R-MC is full of stories. Everywhere I turn, there are remarkable students, faculty, alumni, and tales of how they've been changed for the better by their interactions with this community. That's a treasure trove for me; I'm so excited to tell those stories.

**Q2** *What do you think makes communicating to Gen Z unique?*

The generation coming to college today doesn't even remember a world without lightning-fast technology. In my previous role leading content marketing and communications for student travel firm WorldStrides, I saw clearly that the way they consume information is different than even just one generation before. It pushes those of us who are communicators to be more nimble, more visual, and innovative.

**Q3** *What are you doing when you're not on campus?*

I have two little boys, 4 and 6, so I spend most of my time trying to keep our collective heads on straight! This time of year, we spend a lot of time at Little League and we're looking forward to summer at the pool.



## Estes Renovation

Construction began this Spring on an update to Estes Dining Hall, which will be ready for hungry students when the new fall semester begins.

"This new design will add some much-needed additional seating, as well as more light and ambiance," explained Vice President of Administration and Finance Paul Davies. "The space will mirror the improvements made to Brock Commons in past years."

This is phase two of a three-part improvement plan. The area where food is served will be updated during the summer.

## DID YOU KNOW

R-MC alumni and friends referred 345 students to R-MC for the class of 2024. The results? 288 of those students were admitted to R-MC!

**To refer a Yellow Jacket for next year's class, visit [www.rmc.edu/connect](http://www.rmc.edu/connect)**





## A Virtual Tour of R-MC

R-MC developed a new virtual tour last year to invite students to explore our beautiful campus through 360-degree photos, videos and narrated descriptions of all that our campus has to offer.

Though originally designed from necessity, this app will be a permanent part of the campus tour options and an additional way to reach prospective students at home! You can download the new virtual tour and explore for yourself from both Google Play and Apple's App store or check it out online at [www.rmc.edu/virtualtour](http://www.rmc.edu/virtualtour).



## R-MC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Randolph-Macon College President Robert Lindgren and Board of Trustees Chair Sue Schick '84 are pleased to announce the appointments of two distinguished alumnae to the College's Board of Trustees.

### Cindy Crabill Szadokierski '81

Cindy Szadokierski '81 is a Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa graduate of Randolph-Macon College from which she earned a B.A. in French and Education. She was the first 1,000-point scorer in Yellow Jackets women's basketball history.

After earning a master's degree at James Madison University, Ms. Szadokierski served as a high school French teacher for five years, before joining United Airlines. During her 30-year career with United Airlines, Cindy's many executive roles included VP of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport and ultimately, responsibility for all International Operations in the 64 countries where United served. She then returned to Ashland to lead R-MC's EDGE program as its Executive Director from 2015 to 2017. After a unique opportunity to live and work in India, Cindy is now retired and turning her full attention to travel and humanitarian work in Cambodia, where she and her husband Mark are building a school. Their commitment to the country is a central part of their life today; they directly sponsor two children from Cambodia and enrich the lives of many others suffering from extreme poverty.

Cindy and her husband Mark now reside in Southport, North Carolina.



### Erica Glasper Andrews '02

Dr. Erica Glasper Andrews '02 graduated with honors from Randolph-Macon College with a major in Psychology and a minor in Biology. Selected three times as a SURF fellow, Erica's research experience aided by keen faculty mentorship set her professional journey in motion. Erica went on to earn an M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychobiology and Behavioral Neuroscience from The Ohio State University and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Princeton University. During her time at Princeton University, she was supported by a fellowship from the UNCF/Merck Science Initiative and the National Institute on Aging at NIH.

Erica works today as a tenured Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Maryland College Park and will join the Department of Neuroscience and the Institute for Behavioral Medicine Research at The Ohio State University in the next academic year.



## DEBATE TEAM SWEEPS IN ONLINE SEASON

Randolph-Macon College students in the R-MC Franklin Debating Society had a stellar year, winning the overall yearlong top award for competing in the Collegiate Forensic Association's (CFA) virtual tournaments as well as numerous individual year-long titles.



Sheckels credits four outstanding student leaders for the major role they played in providing leadership and ultimately contributing to the debate team's success. (l. to r.) Brianna Tsitsera '22, Historian (Environmental Studies, Communication Studies); Melissa Pritchard '21, Secretary (Economics and French); Matthew Delancey '21, Vice President (History and Communication Studies, Education minor); and Emma Reilly '22, President (Political Science and Communication Studies).

"These students triumphed, in this most unique and challenging year, through their resilience, perseverance and hard work," says Communication Studies and English Professor Ted Sheckels, who coaches the Franklin Debating Society. "I am exceedingly proud of these individuals who represent a wide variety of majors and minors. They are a strong, passionate and supportive team."

CFA featured four tournaments in 2020-21, not the usual six, and they were all online. R-MC swept all four.

R-MC thus won the overall virtual CFA Tournament in March 2021 and regained the coveted Welch-Strine trophy, which is awarded to the college with the most outstanding debate and forensics team for the entire season. This trophy, proudly displayed outside the Campus Store, has been awarded to R-MC's team eight out of the past eleven years.

### **The Franklin Debating Society**

The Franklin Debating Society competes in a variety of events, including debate and forensics, in

the College Forensics Association circuit. Debate includes both parliamentary debate and Lincoln-Douglas debate. Forensics events include informative speaking, persuasive speaking, after dinner (humorous) speaking, impromptu speaking, extemporaneous speaking, communication analysis, declamation, poetry interpretation, prose interpretation, single dramatic interpretation, and duo dramatic interpretation. Most students compete in several events, often combining public policy categories with the more theatrical.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

*CFA also presents year-long awards in the various competition categories:*

#### **Dramatic Interpretation**

Runner-up: Emily Villacrusis '23

#### **Declamation**

Winner: Brianna Tsitsera '22

Runner-up: Emma Reilly '22

#### **Persuasive Speaking**

Winner: Matthew Delancey '21

Runner-up: Emma Reilly '22

#### **Communication Analysis**

Winner: Emma Reilly '22

Runner-up: Briana Tsitsera '22

#### **Extemporaneous Speaking**

Winner: Matthew Delancey '21

#### **Impromptu Speaking**

Winner: Matthew Delancey '21

#### **Lincoln-Douglas Debate**

Winner: Brianna Tsitsera '22

#### **Pentathlon**

Winner: Emma Reilly '22

Runner-Up: Brianna Tsitsera '22



Matthew Delancey '21



# NEW HOME FOR ATHLETICS, PA GRADUATE PROGRAM BREAKS GROUND IN SEPTEMBER



## Duke Hall



Harold Duke

Start the bulldozers! Duke Hall, a building project that will serve both the College's long-standing tradition of athletic excellence and its new venture into graduate studies, is set to begin this fall.

Earlier this spring, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the construction of a 45,000-square-foot building adjacent to Day Field. The planned three-story building will meet a number of key needs for R-MC's athletic community. The floor plan accommodates new locker rooms for women's soccer, women's lacrosse, field hockey, softball, as well as baseball and football. In addition, the first floor of Duke Hall will accommodate a second training room. The upper stories, overlooking Day Field, will have coaches' offices for men's and women's sports, conference and

meeting rooms, a football suite, a new press box, and an event space for small gatherings.

"The continuing improvement and transformation of Randolph-Macon's athletic facilities are a testament to the integral role athletics plays in the College's overall mission to educate and develop the whole student," said Randolph-Macon's Athletic Director, Jeff Burns '87. "Duke Hall and the new turf field for field hockey and soccer (Nunnally Field), along with plans to build a new softball stadium and to renovate Crenshaw Gym will better enable R-MC to attract, retain, and graduate top-quality, well-rounded student-athletes."

The building will also house a fully-dedicated floor for Randolph-Macon's Physician Assistant (PA) graduate studies program, which will begin

accepting applications in April 2022 for its first cohort in 2023. This exciting addition to the academic landscape at R-MC meets a growing need for health care providers who can fill gaps in our medical system. Physician Assistant was recently ranked #1 in "Best 100 Jobs" and "Best Healthcare Jobs" by *U.S. News and World Report*.

The central spaces in the building will also house three large new classrooms for general academic use.

"It is rare to be able to meet so many needs with a single building," remarked President Robert R. Lindgren. "I am exceptionally pleased with the creative and thoughtful use of space and all that it means for our future."

The overall cost of Duke Hall is \$13.5 million. All but \$2.5 million has been committed

thanks in large part to the generosity of many, including these lead donors: the Estate of Harold Duke, the Brock Venture Fund created by the late Macon F. Brock, Jr. '64 and his wife, Joan; the late Stuart Laughon, widow of Frank E. "Pepper" Laughon, Jr. '59; Jack and Shearer Luck '64; and Jeff and Michelle Neville.

The building is named for Harold Duke, who was a lifelong resident of Ashland and the owner of Duke's Market, a community staple until it closed in 2001. Duke, who died in 2017 at age 86, was an honorary R-MC alumnus, loyal and enthusiastic Yellow Jacket fan, and a generous member of the Yellow Jacket Club. He left the majority of his estate to the College. The hall that bears his name is expected to be completed in the fall of 2022.

# A Year of Resilience

AS WE ROUND A CORNER IN THE PANDEMIC, A LOOK BACK AT THE ROAD WE TRAVELED



The Virginia Department of Health holds a vaccination clinic for Randolph-Macon students, faculty, and staff on April 17.



Sophomore Katie Herzberger vaccinates senior Anshu Sharma.

## THE COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC

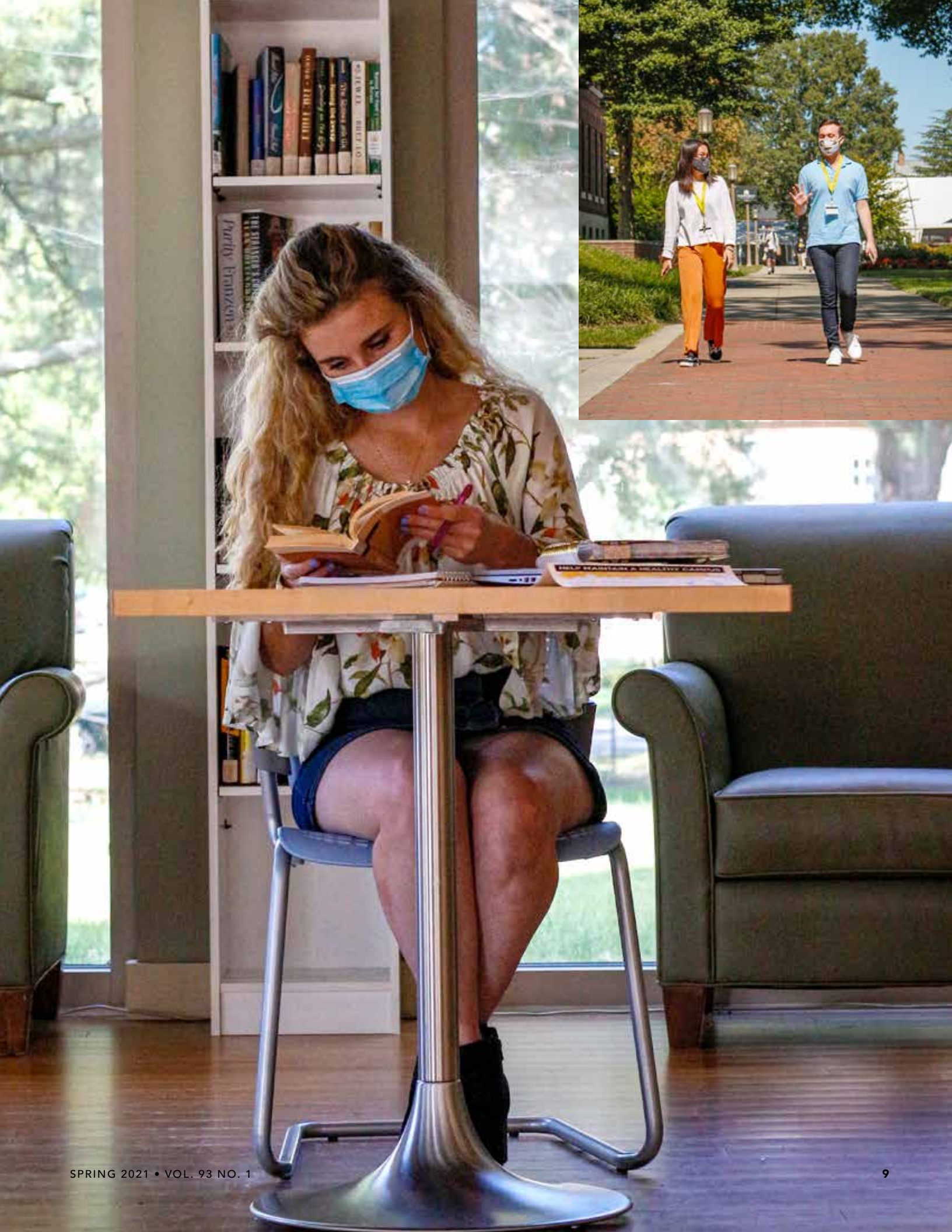
at the Brock Center on April 17 marked a high point—and a turning point—in a year that has seen the Randolph-Macon community reimagine nearly every aspect of college life.

In the throes of the early COVID shutdowns in 2020, R-MC set off into uncharted waters. Just 13 months later, sophomores in the R-MC nursing program would have the opportunity

to vaccinate their fellow students from a virus that has upended life as they knew it.

“That was my first one,” beamed Katie Herzberger ’23, who is pursuing her bachelor’s in nursing, as she jabbed senior Anshu Sharma. “That was really cool!”

Whether it was day-to-day encounters like Zoom faculty office hours, or Grab-and-Go dining, or



“Dr. Bordera shifted her assignments to include skits, Jam boards, and interactive online worksheets in her SPAN 303 Medical Spanish course this spring. We have had so much fun creating scripts, making or finding props, and acting out situations over Zoom. It is the efforts of professors like Dr. Bordera to engage students that made learning in the pandemic doable.”

**Catherine Hughes '21 (Environmental Studies, Spanish)**

treasured traditions like The Game (held in spring semester), this was a year in which the R-MC community simply made it work. Behind every pivot was a team of individuals thinking through the safety implications, implementation, and the broader impact on the experiences themselves.

“Throughout the last year, our two guiding principles have been the health and safety of the R-MC community and our commitment to maintaining the academic continuity of our students” reflected President Robert R. Lindgren.

“Our faculty, staff, and really, our entire community, has met each and every challenge head-on, at full-speed, all with determination, creativity and grace. While I fervently hope we are on the verge of returning to something more like our pre-pandemic R-MC, I look back on this year with tremendous pride, particularly in the resilience of our students.”

After finishing the 2020 spring semester online, Randolph-Macon began the 2020-2021 academic year in-person with a detailed plan. The Core Planning team, with Provost Dr. Alisa Rosenthal at the helm, included faculty, the registrar, student life staff, athletics, and staff from the health center. Jill Grant, PA-C, MMS, MS, who joined the



Jill Grant

college in June 2020 to help build the PA program, was quickly recruited and transitioned to a new role as COVID-19 Coordinator. “The single most important factor to our reopening success was Jill Grant coming aboard as the COVID-19 Coordinator,” Dr. Rosenthal said. Grant’s wide-ranging responsibilities include oversight of testing, case management, quarantine implementation, and, broadly, developing a framework for evaluating and recommending adjustments to all activities on campus.

## ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS

To minimize the number of contacts any one student or faculty might have had, the fall academic calendar was significantly adapted so that students would take just two classes in intensive seven-week sessions. The approach required massive shifts for the registrar and faculty, as well as shifting the pace of the semester in ways that tested the academic support team and students.

“I feel Dr. Stevens and Dr. Michelsen deserve shout-outs for completely reworking their Genetics and Physical Chemistry courses, respectively, to make them thorough yet survivable during the Fall 2020 semester,” recalled Anshu Sharma '21 (Physics, Latin). “They made almost everything virtual, they had to completely revise or overhaul the lab component, and they had to fit in time to answer questions on dense problem sets. There was so much to learn in their courses, and I always felt I had the support I needed, even in the accelerated format.”

Classrooms were reconfigured to accommodate 6 feet of distance,



Cedar Reiner, Associate Professor of Psychology, outfitted his office with lights, audio equipment, and handheld technology to augment his virtual class presentations.



Savanna Love, Assistant Professor of Education, teaches over Zoom.

and many courses were taught in a hybrid format. After a mostly-virtual January term, the community started the second semester virtually after an unanticipated spike in cases, and then transitioned to the planned format—a more typical 4-course load, 14-week experience—for the rest of the spring semester. Throughout these changes, Randolph-Macon allowed faculty to choose their mode of delivery and allowed students to choose either in-person or virtual attendance. “While that certainly introduced complications, we knew each individual was affected by the pandemic. It felt important to acknowledge that as we implemented the academic program,” explained Provost Rosenthal. “On the whole, everyone rose to the challenge of making that work, even though it required enormous adaptation and flexibility.”

Dr. Cedar Riener, Associate Professor of Psychology and Department Chair, chose a fully virtual approach to create a universal experience for all his students. His office quickly became a kind of studio, complete with lighting equipment, three monitors, and a virtual camera commonly used by gamers.

“I got comfortable with the tech early on,” Dr. Riener explained. “I teach

sensation and perception, so I think about cameras and light. It’s in my professional bailiwick.”

He used videos, memes, and split screen demonstrations to replicate demos he would normally have done in person. For small-group work, he used Zoom breakout rooms with shared Google Docs so that he could monitor the group’s work in real-time. And, he says, he tried to be realistic about the students needs. “For an 8 o’clock class, I wasn’t going to go to war with them over ‘cameras on’. But if you are keeping your camera off, you owe me a thumbs up, or a comment in the chat. Show me that you’re there,” he said. “Beyond the practical challenge of Zoom teaching, we as teachers really had to be aware of the herd of emotional elephants in the room that is ‘The Pandemic.’ Connection with and empathy for students has always been true of the professor/student relationship at Randolph-Macon, and I think that helped carry us through.”

### HEALTH AND SAFETY, FIRST AND FOREMOST

All of this was made possible by the careful planning, testing, and case management overseen by the health team. The official Protect the Hive protocols were informed by a strong partnership

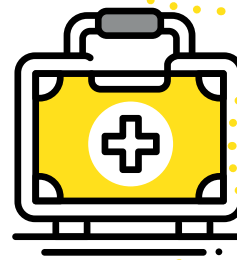
**170**

hand sanitizer stations added



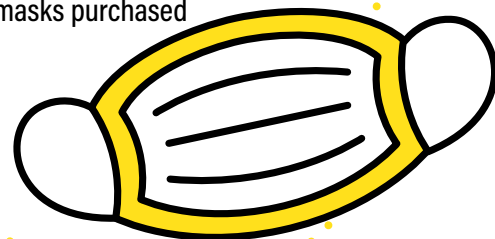
**95**

Adirondack chairs added



**2,500**  
health/safety kits prepared

**10,000**  
masks purchased



**3,000+ sq ft**  
of plexiglass installed

with the Chickahominy district of the Virginia Department of Health. The protocols were widely publicized and largely observed, according to Jill Grant, COVID-19 Coordinator. “It is a credit to the students and our broader R-MC community,” Grant said. “It hasn’t always been perfect, but I think most everyone took their role in protecting the community seriously. That shared responsibility is what *Protect the Hive* is all about.”

“I was impressed with the Core Planning Team and how attentive they were to the guidelines put in place,” observed Aiden Spence ’21 (Criminology). “The availability of tests and now the vaccine to students made me feel like the school really cared about our safety and well-being.” The sports medicine team also had a large role to play in developing and executing extensive protocols to allow athletics to resume. With regular testing and significant contact tracing, there were no known cases contracted through contact at practice or games.

Several students even partnered with the health staff as members of the COVID-19 response team. Emma LeBlanc ’23 (Nursing) learned prevalence testing, documentation,



Students Caroline Dwyer '21 and Anshu Sharma '21 chat with Chaplain Rev. Kendra Grimes and Jamie Grant.

and donning/doffing PPE. “I know these skills will continue to prove beneficial as I move through the Nursing program. I also met the incredible individuals who work for the Student Health Center/ COVID-19 Team, all of whom have provided me meaningful mentorship,” LeBlanc said.

### **SOCIALLY DISTANT CONNECTIONS**

The college experience is inherently social and there were traditions that had to be foregone due to the pandemic, like Homecoming, Senior Gala, and tailgates. Students mourned the loss of these large events, but also the absence of more daily pleasures. “Estes is what many of us would consider the

social epicenter of everyday campus life,” reflected LeBlanc. “It provided the perfect opportunity to catch up with friends you don’t get to see often, or even meet new people sitting at the table next to you.”

Instead, students adapted to a Grab-and-Go eating experience, sometimes gathering in tents or in the Adirondack chairs that dot campus. Six-person pods were established to enable small groups with whom students could safely socialize more freely. The Office of Student Life planned hundreds of hours of virtual programming to replicate or replace in-person events. “As an RA, I enjoyed being able to interact with my residents in new ways thanks to Zoom,” said Kyle Browne ’21 (Engineering Physics).

## **SILVER LININGS**

“It definitely provided me an opportunity to **work on myself**, both inside and out.”

**Becca Shaw '23 (Nursing)**

“I realized **I love networking through Zoom**; I don’t have to worry about collecting dozens of business cards and writing dozens of thank you emails; as I’m networking, I can just send connection requests via LinkedIn.”

**Anshu Sharma '21 (Physics, Latin)**

“I enjoyed getting to stay home with my family and just do small things—completing puzzles, taking walks, etc. I know that as I get older, **I will treasure the “extra” time I got to spend with my loved ones.**”

**McKenzie Adams '20 (Psychology)**

“I started hiking and exploring Virginia with my friends, which have become some of my most **favorite memories** during my time at Randolph-Macon.”

**Sam Armstrong '21 (Political Science)**

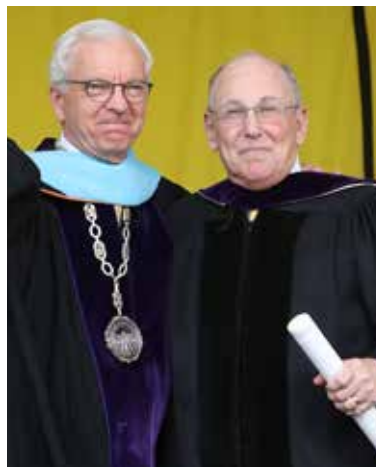
**POMP AND SLIGHTLY UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCE**

Commencement offered an opportunity to celebrate not one, but two, resilient classes in person on Day Field. Students from the class of 2020 participated in a delayed ceremony on Saturday, May 22; 336 members of the class of 2021 celebrated their graduation on Sunday, May 23.

Bonnie St. John, the first African-American to win an Olympic medal in winter competition and former Director of the National Economic Council, was featured as Keynote Speaker on video, sharing her inspiring story of resilience as an amputee, Rhodes scholar, and national leader.

Dr. David B. Young '58, M.D. was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree and Alan B. Rashkind '69, Esq. was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Senior speaker Elizabeth Simmons summarized the momentous accomplishments, and indeed the year behind us, with this: “We have learned what it is like to experience life through changes in science, social events, and especially online education. As we go throughout our lives, I hope these experiences allow us to be a more understanding and compassionate group of people as a result of coming through this institution. We shall be the ones to lift one another up and encourage each other to share their own voices.”



President Lindgren with Alan Rashkind '69



In a nod to the COVID protocols still in place at the time, graduates crossed the stage to receive a fist bump from President Lindgren.

“After being apart from my friends and school for so long, being able to return and see them again made me **value those moments so much more**. I took more enjoyment in the simple pleasures such as sitting by the fountain or eating a meal with friends.”

**Elise Knobloch '21 (Biology)**

“In order to sustain **good mental health**, I started to incorporate meditation into my daily routine. I also took advantage of the wellness days.”

**Bella Samper '21 (Psychology)**

“I began saying no to working constantly towards unachievable goals and began **setting boundaries and more realistic expectations** for myself.”

**Aftyn Trumbo '21 (Behavioral Neuroscience, Psychology)**

# For Future Generations

THE RACIAL EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION WILL MAKE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS LATER THIS YEAR

**IN THE FALL OF 2020** and as a result of the 2020-2021 events of racial injustice that captivated the attention of our nation and our Randolph-Macon community, President Lindgren announced the formation of the Racial Equity and Opportunity Commission (REOC). In his statement of introduction, President Lindgren stated, “The overarching goal of the Commission is to identify and help implement improvements to the College, so as to create a more equitable, inclusive, welcoming and effective environment where all faculty, staff, and student members of the R-MC Community, and specifically R-MC Community members of color, can each thrive and better fulfill their full potential. We must commit to this work, not only for our current students, faculty, and staff, but for future generations here as well.”

The Commission at work today consists of 25 members who represent a diverse group of students, alumni, faculty, staff and trustees who have committed themselves to listening, learning and providing recommendations for necessary changes that will have a direct positive impact at Randolph-Macon in the present and future. As they work toward a set of specific recommendations the group will provide to President Lindgren, we asked members of the Commission what drives them.

**LaNea Winston**

DIRECTOR OF ADVISING RESOURCES,  
RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE

When I was asked to be a member of the REOC, I gladly accepted with the hope that I can provide seeds of improvement, encouragement, and new beginnings that those in power will water and help grow. As an administrator in higher education, I have always worked to provide a space where students and staff feel and know that they are valued and wanted. Although I can be a quiet person by nature, I believe that my voice is needed to serve as a conduit or advocate to ensure the under-represented are heard and actions are taken to assure equity and inclusion in all areas of our campus community.



**LaChelle Lewis conducts a Zoom meeting in her R-MC office.**

Inclusion begins with an I—I can and am willing to do more. Equity begins with E—and Each of us can do more and Diversity begins with D—it’s time to Do more and not just talk about it.

**LaChelle Lewis '12**

FORMER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR FOR  
ATHLETICS, RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE

I consider myself a major stakeholder of the Randolph-Macon community and a staunch advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion within higher education institutions. Therefore, I believe the work of the Racial Equity and Opportunity Commission is vital to the growth and sustainability of R-MC. As a former employee of the college and involved alum, I was beyond thrilled to have been invited to serve the College in this way and formally have a “seat at the table” to be a part of the conversations and decision-making process to make the R-MC community a place where everyone can grow, lead, and thrive. Given



**LaNea Winston**







**Doug White '80**

the state of our country, R-MC must make diversity, equity, and inclusivity a priority. In doing so, it will demonstrate to all members of this community—regardless of their background—that they are seen, heard, valued, and appreciated, which will ultimately make our community stronger. The REOC is a step in the right direction to making diversity, equity, and inclusivity a priority. Diversity, equity, and inclusion work is not easy and takes a lot of time and commitment. Every member of this community, including alumni, has to do their part to achieve equity and inclusiveness for current and future Yellow Jackets.

**Doug White '80**

OWNER, GATHER; PARTNER, WHITESTONE PARTNERS; TRUSTEE, RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE



**Elizabeth Simmons addresses the 2019 Ring Ceremony for the Class of 2021.**

I stand firmly with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I believe strongly that people should not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. It is critically important to me that Randolph-Macon College, the school I love, the school that has given me so much, fully live up to this ideal. That is why the work of this Commission is so important to me.

Having lived on a family farm in rural Virginia and in inner-city Baltimore twice before going to Chicago for college, I offer a critical analysis as to how power and race operate in the larger society.

I want to represent all of the groups of people who have never been invited to or participated in these kinds of high-level discussions which affect their lives directly. We can recover the names, recount the stories and even recognize those who provided service to the institution; however, it is necessary that we move beyond words and designate concrete and specific actions and formulas to address, redress and remediate institutional practices of discrimination and exclusion.

My personal motto of “no one advances, unless we all advance” extends to all of the previously excluded constituents of the College community. Hence, I am here to ask us to remember the challenges and concerns of the cafeteria and custodial staff as well as the “differently abled,” the LGBTQ+ community, and all of us who work at the College. As Martin Luther King said, “No one is free until we are all free.”

**Elizabeth Simmons '21**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The Commission is important to me and many other students because every student, faculty, and staff member deserves to feel comfortable on our campus. When President Lindgren asked me to join the commission, I of course, said yes. I wanted to be a part of the change that Randolph-Macon is striving for. We do not condone hate and there is no room for it on our campus. My fellow subcommittee members and I have been working all year to ensure our recommendations are conveyed. During the course of my time on the Commission, I have felt very comfortable expressing my opinion; we are all willing to listen to one another. The process will be entirely worth it in the end. I look forward to seeing the changes unfold in the next year and years to come.



**Professor Jefferson teaches a class in 2012.**

**Alphine W. Jefferson, Ph.D.**

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY  
DIRECTOR OF BLACK STUDIES

I believe the Commission gives the College a chance to examine its relationships to and participation in gender and race discrimination, as well as use of the enslaved as a part of the institution’s history.

I felt compelled to become involved with the Commission because I not only study Black American history in particular and American history in general, but I also bring a unique academic, personal and professional understanding to the essential components of this Commission’s charge and work.

# Faculty

## Q&A

## Research details breadth of childhood inequality and COVID-19



DR. NAZNEEN KHAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY, FELT COMPELLED TO ACTION AS THE PANDEMIC UNFOLDED

As the global health crisis began unfolding in March 2020, a series of related crises began, or rather, deepened, for children and youth across the United States. Responding to the rapid worldwide spread of the deadly virus, public

schools and their associated support services and extracurricular programs shut down operations. In this process, Randolph-Macon College Associate Professor of Sociology Dr. Nazneen Khan observed far too many children and youth losing access to the vital social-emotional resources that are essential to a thriving, vibrant childhood—meaningful community, friendships, and affirmative adult support—with disproportionate impacts on Latinx, Indigenous, and Black children.

Khan felt compelled to document the emergent inequalities she and colleagues across her field were observing in real time. She began working on a book volume that would amplify both the perspectives of youth and children as well as highlight sociological perspectives on the unequal impact of COVID-19. The volume, titled *Childhood and COVID-19: Critical Perspectives on a Global Pandemic*, assembles critical research from an international and interdisciplinary group of childhood and youth scholars who utilize a range of methodological approaches.

**Q: It's clear that you were moved and inspired to work on this volume. How did that evolve?**

As I watched the pandemic response unfold, my indignation and despair over the heightening racial and class inequalities intensified and I felt it important for these disparities to be documented in critical ways. In response, I reached out to my colleagues in the American Sociological Association and requested contributing essays that centered on youth and child experiences with the pandemic. Within a few short weeks, I had received numerous quality submissions, all variations on the theme of childhood inequality and COVID-19. I was excited to learn of the wide range of

childhood-related research and activist projects currently being executed by my colleagues across the nation.

**Q: The inequalities you speak of are largely not new. How did the pandemic impact them?**

This is unfortunately very accurate—childhood inequality, a product and staple of settler colonialism, is endemic to the United States. However, long-standing racial and class inequalities were both laid bare and exacerbated as the pandemic swept across the globe and shuttered support services for children and youth. Additionally, the aftershock of household income loss, parental unemployment, disruptions



## Spotlight

**Professors Mike Fenster (Environmental Science) and Chas. Gowan (Biology)** are inaugural recipients of the York River and Small Coastal Basin Roundtable Award for Excellence in Environmental Education for working toward improved understanding and greater support within the watershed for water quality restoration and protection—and resilient socioecological communities.



### Professor Adrian Rice (Mathematics)

is the winner of the Catherine Richards Prize by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA). The prize is awarded for the best feature article in the IMA's publication *Mathematics Today* each year. Rice was recognized for his article "Srinivasa Ramanujan (1887–1920): The Centenary of a Remarkable Mathematician," published in April 2020.

### Assistant Professor Robert Volpicelli (English)

authored a new book, *Transatlantic Modernism and the US Lecture Tour*, published by the Oxford University Press. This is the first comprehensive study of modernist authors on the U.S. lecture tour and features a wide range of archival research, including previously unpublished lectures and tour ephemera.



to care, family mortality and morbidity, and stressed health care systems, all pose additional threats to the already tenuous well-being of children and youth across the United States.

**Q: You had an opportunity to mentor a R-MC student who contributed to the volume. Tell us more about what you studied together.**

Yes, Amaya Boswell '21 is an outstanding sociology major at R-MC. She and I are working on a co-authored chapter that focuses on pandemic racism. Integrating her own experiences, Amaya highlights the experiences of children living in her Baltimore, Maryland neighborhood who are unable to access the wireless devices and technologies that are required to participate in school. We situate Amaya's experience within the broader context of structural racism. For example, according to a 2021 Child Trends report, Black and Hispanic children are

more likely to live in families that have/are experiencing three or more hardships—economic and health—as a result of COVID-19, twice the rate of their White counterparts. Latinx and Black children are also more likely to be diagnosed with MIS-C (a dangerous inflammatory syndrome impacting multiple organs), to be hospitalized, and to die from COVID-19 complications. Structural barriers to nutritious food, safe, uncrowded housing, financial resources, educational resources, and health resources all underlie and propel these trends.

**Q: School closures were a well-documented impact on children and youth. How do you see this inequality manifesting itself going forward?**

Yes, several chapters examine inequalities in educational access and supports. Authors note that wealthier parents have been able to leverage their financial resources to turn

to tutors and in-person private schools. Meanwhile, children in marginalized communities are unable to access the basic technology needed to navigate online schooling platforms. We are likely to see that the racial gap in educational outcomes will further widen due to these disparities. Another chapter focuses on the unique impacts of school closures on children with disabilities, many of whom are not able to receive the same quality of care in online formats. Many low-income children also receive mental health services and medical care through their schools—the loss of this lifeline has been devastating, as documented by another contributing author. The truth is though, many Black, Indigenous, and Latinx children, have lost something much more important than curricular content throughout the pandemic. Many have lost parents (some children have lost both parents), siblings and close family members to

COVID-19. There are no policies or services that can rectify these losses.

**Q: What action do you hope this volume will inspire?**

The volume suggests that we lean into the moment and chart creative ways of reorganizing institutions utilizing strategies that are in service to childhood wellbeing. My hope with the volume is that childhood practitioners and researchers take seriously the social impact of inequality and that we take advantage of the opportunity to rebuild our organizations in inclusive ways. I hope that we all double-down in our efforts to take seriously the historical and social construction of unequal childhoods.

*Dr. Nazneen Khan teaches sociology courses at Randolph-Macon College. Her research explores the intersections of social inequality, childhood, and family life.*

### Nancy Falciani-White (Library)

published her monograph *Creativity: A Toolkit for Academic Libraries*, published by the Association of College & Research Libraries. Creativity is inherently human, a transferable skill that can be developed and that can improve an individual's personal and professional life regardless of their level of artistic ability, education, or experience. This book is a guide to understanding and developing creativity in academic library staff and their organizations.



## Unger Award Recipients Honored

Dr. Bruce M. Unger was a Political Science professor at Randolph-Macon College for forty years. Unger planned to retire in 2008 but lost his courageous fight against cancer before his retirement was official. The Bruce M. Unger Award was established to recognize the contributions of retiring faculty with more than ten years of service to the College. These recipients were honored at this year's commencement ceremonies and retired in 2020 and 2021.

**Aouicha Hilliard**  
Professor, Modern Languages  
Dates of Service: 1977–2019

**George Lowry**  
Professor, Economics, Business and Accounting  
Dates of Service: 1984–2020

**Carroll LaHaye**  
Associate Professor of Physical Education and Head Women's Basketball Coach  
Dates of Service: 1981–2020

**M. Thomas Inge\***  
Robert Emory Blackwell Professor of the Humanities  
Dates of Service: 1984–2021

\*recognized posthumously

**George Spagna**  
Associate Professor of Physics and Director of Keeble Observatory  
Dates of Service: 1986–2021

**Bruce Torrence**  
Professor, Mathematics  
Dates of Service: 1993–2021

**Eve Torrence**  
Professor, Mathematics  
Dates of Service: 1994–2021

**Donna Turney**  
Associate Professor, Philosophy  
Dates of Service: 1985–2021



The 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan in the early hours of March 11, 2011 was an international crisis felt the world over.



R-MC students at Senso-ji in Tokyo in 2019.

First, there was the subsequent meltdown of the Fukushima nuclear plant. Then, there was news of tens of thousands dead, displaced, and missing.

The tragedy washed into central Virginia with the news that Richmond native and 2008 Randolph-Macon graduate Taylor Anderson was among the dead.

March 2021 was the 10th anniversary of the disaster. It was honored on Randolph-Macon's campus by faculty, students, and administrators with a campus-wide moment of silence and ringing of the carillon for one minute at 2:46 p.m., the time that the earthquake struck on March 11, 2011. The anniversary was marked to mourn the dead, while also celebrating the unique cultural exchange that has developed in the decade since the tragedy.

The Japanese Embassy in the U.S. coined the hashtag #unshakeablefriendship to mark the moment.

### Taylor's Story

Taylor's love for the Far East began in Japanese classes at Millwood School in Richmond, and continued through her days as a student at St. Catherine's School in Richmond. Described as warm, sincere, and fun, Taylor was very involved when she

arrived at Randolph-Macon, pledging Alpha Gamma Delta and majoring in international studies with minors in both Asian studies and political science. She traveled to Tokyo during January term with Professor Todd Munson in 2006, and



Taylor Anderson '08

later studied the works of Japanese author Haruki Murakami as a SURF summer research fellow.

"Those are some of the opportunities that helped her see that she wanted to live, work in, and explore Japan in 2008 when she graduated college," her father, Andy Anderson explained. "That sense of how she wanted to live after college was supported academically, intellectually, and socially at Randolph-Macon College."

Taylor pursued her dream through the Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program and taught English to elementary-age students in the seaside town of Ishinomaki in the Miyagi province. After the earthquake struck, Taylor made sure that her young students were safely returned to their families. She was attempting to bicycle home as the tsunami swept in.

### A Legacy of Learning

In the years following March 11, 2011, Randolph-Macon College received several grants in Taylor Anderson's honor, including from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and from the U.S.-Japan Council's TOMODACHI Initiative, which helped to strengthen the college's Japanese language and culture programs. Supported with additional grant funds from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Randolph-Macon College extended its Japanese language program to encompass a campus-wide commitment

# Reflections on My Time in Japan

by BJ Camano '21

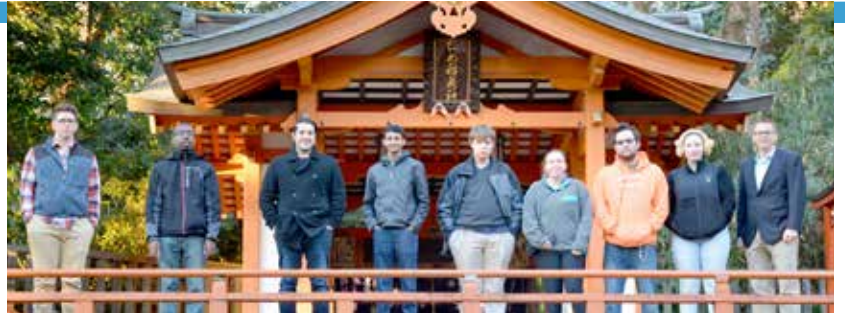


In 2019, I boarded a plane to Japan, alongside my research mentor, Dr. Jim Doering, and other faculty and students from Randolph-Macon College to learn more about the triple disaster and to discover the role that music has played in the recovery and relief

efforts for the people in the Tohoku (northeast) region of Japan. Despite having studied Japanese language and history and engaged with the many Japanese cultural exchange events, I was still unsure of what to expect once we landed.

In Tokyo, we explored the sites and I discovered street-side fried octopus, and then enjoyed exploring the historical city of Kyoto where we saw the famous Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion), walked through a bamboo forest, and participated in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. Then, we travelled by bullet train to the seaside town of Ishinomaki. Greeted by the *がんばろう! 石巻* (roughly translated: Stay strong, Ishinomaki!) sign upon our arrival, we began to engage with the local community and listened as they recalled the disaster and their continuing journey and recovery just eight years later. Many of them fondly recalled Taylor Anderson and the positive impact and legacy which she had upon them and their children. Afterwards, we met with the students and staff of Ishinomaki Senshu University, where we had a luncheon and cultural exchange.

Almost two years later what has stuck with me the most is not the great meals we had, or the historic sites that we visited, but the people that I met and friendships that I was able to make while there. I still have a collection of the business cards that I exchanged with people while in Japan sitting on my desk next to a stack of my own business cards from the trip. Many of the people that I met I have been able to connect with via social media and I enjoy seeing their various life updates every year. Thanks to the TOMODACHI Initiative and Randolph-Macon's continued commitment to cultural exchange with Japan, I have been able to make friendships abroad and engage with the Japanese culture in ways that I had never imagined I would be able to when I signed up for my first Japanese class during the summer orientation of my freshman year in 2017. In the future, when I visit Japan again, I look forward to reuniting with the friends that I made during my time there.



"I can attest that these experiences have enriched not only the individuals who traveled but our community as a whole."

—PRESIDENT ROBERT R. LINDGREN

to cultural exchange with Japan.

"Thanks to these generous donors, we have been able to send nearly 30 faculty and staff and provide support to 200 students to travel to Japan to study and conduct research," explained Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor Lauren Bell.

The college also began offering a minor in Japanese studies and started or reinvigorated relationships with four Japanese universities. Each summer, high school students come to Ashland for the Virginia Governor's Japanese Language Academy on campus.

"I can attest that these experiences have enriched not only the individuals who traveled but our community as a whole," recalled President Robert Lindgren, who traveled to Japan

alongside his wife Cheryl, with students in 2017.

In March 2020, 23 additional students were due to depart for Japan as guests of the Japanese government, through its KAKEHASHI initiative, when travel was cancelled due to the pandemic. In February 2021, the KAKEHASHI program brought together 35 Randolph-Macon College students and five faculty and staff members for a three-day virtual exchange with an equal number of students and staff at Tokyo's Rikkyo University.

Like so many friendships this year, the one between Randolph-Macon and Japan was largely forced online, but it flourished. Taylor's legacy endures and grows, and Randolph-Macon students and faculty are richer for it.



Mayumi Nakamura, Director of R-MC Office of International Education, Professor Jim Doering, and Dean Lauren Bell visit Hiroshima in January 2019.



Adam Wright '17, Joshua Byrd '20, Arjun Dholakia '19, and President Lindgren visit Fushimi Inari shrine in Kyoto in 2017.

# ALUMNI Today

From the President of the Society of Alumni, **Dee Raubenstine '80**



**Dee Raubenstine '80**

Dear Fellow Alumni:

The alumni of Randolph-Macon College have exhibited resilience, gratitude, and unwavering support for our alma mater over this last year. It has been heartening to hear of alumni taking time to participate in virtual mock interviews with students and of the generous financial contributions to the Annual Fund *Protect the Hive* initiatives. **Thank you for being a part of our special community** and for your continuing interest.

As we all look to the fall with renewed optimism, the Board of Directors will be excited to welcome you to campus for **Homecoming Weekend, October 8-9**. Details of the plans will be sent to you in late summer but in the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to return to the *Center of the Universe* and our beloved campus.

It has been my honor to serve as the president of the Society. As always, we welcome your suggestions as the Society leaders continue to work on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Dee Raubenstine '80  
President, Society of Alumni

P.S. Connect to the college by sending in news for Class Notes, volunteering for The EDGE, recruiting the next generation of students through *Refer a Yellow Jacket*, or sending in a donation to help us continue to set records in our alumni participation. **Make sure we have your e-mail address as this is the most efficient way to communicate with all alumni.**

TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION, VISIT:  
[www.rmc.edu/alumni/alumni-news-resources](http://www.rmc.edu/alumni/alumni-news-resources)





Pictured (from top, left): Tara Balasubramanian '18, Kate Girtain '20, Ria Khandpur '20, Ealon Mann '18, Steven Neal '18, Jose Trejo-Perdomo '19, and Abbie Winkelmann '20



## EIGHT IS GREAT: Recent Alumni Enter Medical School

In fall 2020, eight Randolph-Macon alumni entered medical school to begin their studies.

As students at R-MC, these alumni had opportunities to work with dedicated faculty mentors, participate in the Schapiro Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program and conduct internships with community health care partners. While at R-MC, several of these new medical alumni took advantage of the Wornom Fellowship, a full tuition scholarship awarded to students who demonstrate drive and determination to pursue medicine.

“This is a very significant number of R-MC alumni entering medical school in a single year,” says Dr. James A. Foster, the Paul H. Wornom M.D. Professor of Biology and Chair of the Pre-Medical Advisory Committee. “This points to the hard work and dedication of the students as well as to the opportunities they had at R-MC with our programs and close work with faculty, alumni mentors, and staff.”



**Tara Balasubramanian '18**  
Majors: Biology and French  
University of Maryland School of Medicine

**Ria Khandpur '20**  
Majors: Biology and Chemistry  
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

**Jose Trejo-Perdomo '19**  
Major: Biology  
University of Virginia School of Medicine

**David Brooks '10**  
Majors: Biology and Chemistry  
Virginia Tech Carilion Medical School

**Ealon Mann '18**  
Major: Biology  
Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Abbie Winkelmann '20**  
Major: Biology  
The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

**Kate Girtain '20**  
Major: Chemistry  
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville

**Steven Neal '18**  
Majors: Behavioral Neuroscience and Biology  
University of Virginia School of Medicine



## ARCHAEOLOGY: Unearthing New Discoveries

R-MC alumnus **Rachael Ruth Smith '18** was recently honored as the 2021 recipient of the prestigious Paul Goldberg Award, presented by the Society for American Archaeology, an international organization and the largest of its kind in North America.

Smith's thesis, "The Use of Portable X-Ray Fluorescence to Distinguish Individuals in a Commingled Assemblage of Human Remains" was selected by the association's Geoarchaeology awards committee on behalf of the entire society.

Smith's interdisciplinary research applies geoarchaeology

methods to forensic anthropology issues to test the feasibility of portable X-ray fluorescence to resolve commingled skeletal remains, after being excavated from a historic cemetery site. Her research



aims to understand how elemental signatures (e.g., calcium, phosphorous, manganese, and others) vary within a single bone and within an individual after being interred for hundreds of years.

Smith, who majored in Archaeology, Environmental Studies, and Classical Studies with a minor in Sociology/Anthropology at R-MC, credits her professors and experiences with fueling her passion for

archeology and heightening her interest in pursuing teaching in this field as a career path.

"Engaging the public in history and archaeology is a main passion of mine," says Smith.

A second-year graduate student at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Smith hopes that her degree and experience will help educate others in the importance of preserving history and the stories of descendant communities.

## MULTICULTURAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHES ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

*The Randolph-Macon College Multicultural Alumni Association's Scholarship was established to support and promote the college's efforts to develop and sustain a more inclusive campus and increase diversity among its students.*



by **Dr. Tameshia V. Grimes '96**

As a black student who graduated from R-MC with a multitude of experiences and leadership opportunities that I may not have been afforded at a larger school, I personally want to see Randolph-Macon become

known for recruiting and retaining students who are representative of the global world in which we live today: people of all ethnic backgrounds, races, gender identification, and socio-economic status.

Members of the Multicultural Alumni Association often speak of the desire to see a future at R-MC where students from non-white backgrounds see themselves in others on campus—both in the student body and among faculty—and readily see opportunities and activities that appeal to their diverse interests, contributing to a culture of inclusivity that is sought, celebrated, and sustained. The fact that the group was able to engage and network to raise funds necessary to

create the endowed scholarship in less than three months speaks to the Multicultural Alumni Association (MAA) members' motivation and dedication.

The MAA Endowed Scholarship provides another avenue the college may use to attract students who have historically been omitted and/or underrepresented in the student body: students of color, students from less affluent backgrounds, and non-binary students. We are hopeful that the presence of the MAA Endowed Scholarship will reinforce (1) the college's efforts to adapt its recruiting efforts to encompass a more diverse demographic and (2) the value and benefits that R-MC can provide to students from

all backgrounds because of its size, location, and connections among alumni.

The Multicultural Alumni Association not only wants to see a more diverse student body on campus, but it also wants that student body to be filled with people who embody the spirit of R-MC and who have demonstrated a dedication to the values of leadership and scholarship. The MAA Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to students of color, diverse ethnic backgrounds, and/or who identify as LGBTQ+ who also have an economic need for financial assistance and who have demonstrated leadership and community engagement prior to their enrolling at Randolph-Macon.

# IN Pursuit OF THE Podium

*Adaptive competition gives  
Murphy '08 purpose after accident*



## ATHLETICS IS AS NATURAL AS BREATHING TO MICHAEL MURPHY '08.

He began playing sports at age five. He played both baseball and football while attending R-MC. In 2026, he aspires to represent Team USA as a sit-skier at the Winter Paralympics.

To realize this ultimate athletic feat would be a dream come true for a lifelong athlete whose numerous adaptive athletic achievements include eight Marine Corps Marathons, three New York Marathons, one Boston Marathon, a handful of half marathons and two Tough Mudders.



In high school, Murphy excelled at athletics and planned to play football and baseball in college. “I loved being a running back and a full back, and I loved being a pitcher. I wanted athletics to be a part of my college journey,” he says. When he toured Randolph-Macon College during his senior year, he felt an immediate connection. “The second I stepped foot on campus, I knew Randolph-Macon College was exactly where I wanted to go. The college had everything I was looking for, as did the quaint town. It was a perfect fit,” he says.

Murphy’s junior year proved particularly eventful. He retired from collegiate sports. He discovered a newfound passion for military history. He even considered enlisting in the Marine Corps. On Saturday, April 22, 2007, he had a life-altering event: he fell off the roof of a friend’s house after a fraternity party. “I accepted my accident almost from the beginning. I knew what it meant when I couldn’t move my legs that night,” he says. Though the accident left him paralyzed, he was undeterred. His upbeat attitude, along with the tremendous support he received

from family and his R-MC friends and professors, aided his recovery. “Being in the hospital so close to Ashland and campus made getting through those early days easier. All my close friends visited constantly, and people sent well wishes in notes and messages,” he says.

He returned to campus for his senior year. While he focused on his studies, he missed competition. “In my wheelchair, I would race myself against the clock up and down the side of the courts in the Brock Center,” he says. “I realized I needed athletics back, but I didn’t know what to do, and there were really no outlets at the time.”

The summer after graduation and before he started his master’s degree in American Military History at George Mason University, he went to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, where wounded warriors go. There he got his first loaner handcycle. He raised money for spinal cord injury research in exchange for a spot in his first Marine Corps Marathon in the fall of 2008. “That was my foray into adaptive sports. It has been a tremendous outlet for me. Even though I retired from sports in college, I’ve always been an athlete, and I’ve always been competitive. Once I found handcycling, I decided to try as many adaptive sports as I could,” he says.

In 2009, he set a goal to compete as a Paralympian. He’d planned to compete as a hand cyclist, until he discovered sit-skiing. “That experience led me to where I am now, which is living in Colorado and training with some of the best adaptive ski racers in the world,” he says. In a typical year, he lives in Denver and trains at Winter Park with Paralympic gold medalists.

He considers finishing the Tough Mudder competitions in 2012 and 2013 to be two of his greatest athletic achievements. “My teammates lifted me off of my off-road handcycle and threw me in the mud, or they passed me back and forth to get through the obstacles,” he says. Just after his first Tough Mudder, Murphy met his now-wife Casey. While he was a guest in a physical therapy class during Spinal Cord Injury Week at Marymount University, he



Michael, pictured with Casey, parents Teri and Frank Murphy, and son, Dylan

**In 2015, Murphy’s grandmother, Betty S. Gardner, established The Michael Gardner Murphy ’08 and Rachael Laine Gardner ’15 scholarship. The scholarship was established in part to honor “Michael’s courage, strength, and optimism as he faced extraordinary physical challenges after becoming a T-9 paraplegic during his junior year.” Of the scholarship, Murphy says, “My family felt a need to give back to Randolph-Macon College and to help other future students with different types of disabilities come live on campus and experience what it’s like to be a Yellow Jacket.”**

struck up a conversation with Casey, who was a doctoral student. They learned they had competed in the same Tough Mudder a few days earlier. They connected and began dating. They married in 2016.

Off the slopes and outside his pursuit of new athletic feats, Murphy is an author and a motivational speaker. He wanted to write a book about his experience to help others. “There are 18,000 new cases of spinal cord injuries in the US every year. 18,000! We need more stories to be told. I hope my story inspires other people, whether they have a spinal cord injury, a traumatic injury or just challenging circumstances in their life,” he says. His book, *When I Fell* (Morgan James Publishing 2021), chronicles Murphy’s journey of recovery, his resilience and post-traumatic growth.



Murphy has shared his story at school assemblies and plans to use his book as a platform to reach more people. “I hope I can connect with somebody who might be struggling because their world has just been torn upside down, and everything is different, and nothing will be the same again,” he says. By connecting with others through

his writing and motivational speaking, Murphy says he feels like he’s fulfilling his purpose.

Even though he has lived a rich life already, Murphy still has huge ambitions. Within the next 10 years he hopes to achieve his Paralympic dream. He had hoped to compete in 2022, but he’s modified his timeline due the birth of his son, Dylan John Murphy, in 2020, and back surgery earlier this year. “I might not meet my [Paralympic] goal until 2026, but I’m still fighting, and I’m still working towards it,” he says. He plans to publish parts two and three of his *When I Fell* trilogy. And he plans to grow his family. “I hope to have a big family and be happy and healthy. I plan to remain active in sports and continue to make an impact with my story and my messages,” he says.

He’s grateful for the R-MC community’s ongoing support. “From the day I set foot on campus as an 18-year-old in 2004 until now, and with everything I’ve been through as a student and an alumnus, and as that guy who fell off the roof, I’ve been so blessed to be part of this community,” he says. “They have shown me such amazing support. I hope that the school and the community know how much I love them and how fortunate I am that I was a Yellow Jacket.”

# Athletics



## R-MC MEN'S BASKETBALL FINISHES AS TOP TEAM IN NATION

Head coach Josh Merkel and the Yellow Jackets would have to be flexible during the 2021 season, as games would be added and deleted almost daily. Instead of focusing on what was out of their control, Coach Merkel and the men's basketball team held close what they could control: a positive team outlook in the face of uncertainty.

"Our players showed their resilience throughout the season by doing what they had to do to play the game they love. From wearing masks during practice to not having use of the locker room, our guys adjusted and adapted. They found ways to get better and the motto was to come out of

this time better than when we went in," reflected Merkel.

R-MC's opener at Bridgewater on January 20 was agreed upon just the night before the Jackets took the floor. Josh Talbert would tally a career-best 23 points in his first start as the Yellow Jackets rolled to a 74-56 victory.

On the road for the first time since the ODAC tournament in March 2020, the Yellow

Jackets would survive a scare at Ferrum, as Miles Mallory scored the final nine points, including a clutch three-pointer with two seconds left to secure the win, 61-57.

After juggling multiple cancellations and additions to their evolving schedule, the team was 8-0 at the end of the regular season, but only 3-0 in conference contests. They were the No. 5 seed in the 2021 ODAC

"We will be stronger for the struggle and we are grateful for every day we get to develop on the court and as a team."

—COACH JOSH MERKEL



Tournament and would be forced to play all tourney games on the road.

In the quarterfinals at fourth-seeded Bridgewater, the Yellow Jackets rolled to an 80-49 victory. For the semifinals, R-MC would play at top-seeded and 15th-ranked Roanoke. Buzz Anthony scored 20 points and dished out nine assists in a 77-71 win. For the finals, the Yellow Jackets played at third-seeded Lynchburg. Anthony scored 20 to lead R-MC to a 70-62 victory and its second consecutive ODAC championship.

R-MC finished the season with one final game that some called the de facto national championship. Second-ranked Trine would bring a 17-0 record to Crenshaw Gym. The Yellow Jackets built an early 14-4 lead and scored the first 10 points of the second half for a 46-24 advantage on their way to a 69-55 victory to finish 12-0 at the top team in the D3hoops.com national poll. R-MC set a program mark for consecutive home wins with 33.

In the face of much uncertainty, R-MC men's basketball held to their positive outlook and earned accolades in spades. Merkel was named national Coach of the Year in Division III and was voted ODAC Coach of the Year for the fourth consecutive season. Anthony was the Kurt Axe Memorial Player of the Year in the ODAC, the first player to capture the award three times. Mallory and Anthony were named first team All-Americans.

"The 2021 season is one that we are grateful for despite the challenges," Merkel said. "We enjoyed the challenge of playing back-to-backs vs Virginia Wesleyan, winning an ODAC championship on the road, and playing a meaningful game in Crenshaw vs a great Trine team. We will be stronger for the struggle and we are grateful for every day we get to develop on the court and as a team."

## JACKETS CLAIM 12<sup>TH</sup> ODAC FOOTBALL TITLE

After postponing their season in fall of 2020, the Yellow Jackets were prepared and eager for a chance to play in the spring of 2021. And it showed. Led by veteran Head Coach Pedro Arruza and staff, the team won all five of their games for an undefeated season, and then captured their 12<sup>th</sup> ODAC Championship.

Play began February 26 on a rain-soaked Day Field. Still, there was a current of energy running through the stadium as the Yellow Jackets took the field for the first time since 2019. That energy propelled them to dominate Guilford College in a shutout, 44-0.

The Yellow Jackets hosted defending ODAC champion Bridgewater on March 5 for another evening under the lights. R-MC took an early 12-0 lead and held off the Eagles 25-13. Following a bye week, R-MC headed to Winchester and outscored Shenandoah in another sound defeat, 52-38.

That set up a battle of unbeaten for the 125th meeting of The Game as R-MC and H-SC both sat at 3-0. In addition, the winner would advance to the first ODAC Championship Game. In front of 1,000 Tiger fans at Hampden-Sydney, the Yellow Jackets would again dominate in blanking the Tigers 28-0 for their seventh straight victory in the series.

The Yellow Jackets earned the right to host the ODAC title game against 3-0 Emory & Henry. The teams were scoreless after three periods. R-MC scored a touchdown in the fourth quarter, but the Wasps would answer on their next drive to knot the score at 7-7 and force overtime. The Yellow Jackets won the toss and elected to play defense first. E&H moved to the R-MC 7 but had to settle on a field goal. The Yellow Jackets picked up a first down on the E&H 13. A potential handoff popped up in the air. Sophomore quarterback Presley Egbers grabbed the ball and burst up the middle to the end zone to give R-MC a 13-10 victory.

"I am so proud of our kids," Arruza said. "The guys who battled through this year and endured all of the challenges – you could see how much they love football and care about this program. It was an unforgettable season and a team of whom I will always be proud."

### Making History

**12** R-MC has the most ODAC championships in the conference

**1<sup>st</sup>** unbeaten season since 1968



# Backing the Jackets

My first day in the office in January as the new Director of Athletic Development was nine days shy of the first athletic competition since March 2020. I walked our facilities with Heather



Bauby, Director of Sports Medicine, to witness the extraordinary efforts made to ensure the safety and health of our student-athletes during this pandemic.

*Backing the Jackets* was about more than testing. It was about supporting all 20 of our varsity and coed club sports on the competition field in the span of 5 months between January and May.

Many alumni, family, friends, and fans were sending in their donations to ensure our student-athletes were equipped for the season, and that momentum only grew. We launched a successful Crenshaw Cutout campaign to decorate our stadium seats for our winter sport teams with 84 cutouts of alumni, kids, Hall of Famers, pets, legendary coaches, and even a few celebrities.

We sold over 800 tickets for Day Field in our Virtual Sell-Out for the Hampden-Sydney Football game on Saturday, March 27th and relished our 28-0 victory over the Tigers in Farmville. *We are grateful for nearly \$50,000 in financial support of our Back the Jackets fund.*

You have truly *Backed your Jackets* for a thrilling and successful athletic campaign. Thank you!

*Nicole*

**Nicole Childress Ball '08**  
Director of Athletic Development and the Yellow Jacket Club



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GOES UNDEFEATED IN SHORTENED SEASON

Lindsey Burke knew that the 2021 season would be filled with firsts and with unique situations. She was managing practices and games for the first time as a head coach and learning how to navigate COVID 19 protocols, each requiring patience and flexibility. Similarly, she was building new relationships with a squad of players who spent more time on Zoom calls than in the presence of one another.

"While this season was far from ordinary," Burke said, "one constant was our players' desire to be on the court with their teammates. The resiliency they showed in coming each and every day hungry and ready all while not knowing what the next day would hold was amazing to watch."

The reigning ODAC champions took the floor for the first time since March 2020 on January 23. Junior Aimee DeBell lead the Yellow Jackets to a 77-64 home win over Ferrum to give Coach Burke a victory in her debut.

The Yellow Jackets hosted Roanoke next, the preseason favorite to win the ODAC title. Junior Cheridan Hatfield was a sharpshooter on offense, pouring a career-high 27 with 7 assists as R-MC outscored the Maroons, 82-76. The Yellow Jackets led by as many as 12 in the second half before



Becca Arrington '21

the Maroons, twice, cut the lead to 2 points. Hatfield and sophomore Devan Conrad hit free throws to secure the win.

"Even with no fans, the atmosphere in Crenshaw that night was electric! Our team battled, executed and never lost energy for 40 minutes," Burke recalled, calling the win a season highlight.

In what became routine verbiage in the world of sports communication, the women's program faced forced cancellations from Eastern Mennonite and Washington & Lee due to "COVID 19 protocols." In the interim, R-MC would add a non-conference con-

test with St. Mary's (Md.), in which Becca Arrington scored 21. (Yellow Jackets vs. Seahawks 67-53)

The Yellow Jackets were receiving votes in the D3hoops.com national poll, climbing as high as No. 16. However, the home win against Randolph College (59-44) was the final contest of the season as the remaining games were cancelled due to COVID protocols. Burke and the Yellow Jackets would finish at 4-0, all home victories.

"We all wish we would have had the opportunity to play more contests," Burke said. "We are thankful for all who made it possible for us to even have the chance to compete this season and are looking forward to a full schedule in '21-'22!"



## eSports Team Captures Conference Championship, Expanding in Fall 2021

The Yellow Jackets eSports program captured its first East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship since the inception of Randolph-Macon's eSports program in 2017. The Yellow Jackets Hearthstone Team brought home the Conference Championship, winning 3-0 against St. Francis University on April 29.



The Yellow Jackets began their season 1-4, but then won an astounding eight straight matches to finish the regular season 4-4, earn a spot in the playoffs, and emerge as the ECAC champions.

eSports continues to grow and expand at Randolph-Macon, and will add Super Smash Brothers and Madden teams to the program in Fall 2021.

## R-MC EVENTING TEAM MEMBER SELECTED FOR NATIONAL PROGRAM

Earlier this year, Katherine DeLaney '22 was selected to be part of the United States Eventing Association's Emerging Athletes program. Eventers aged 25 and under are eligible for the program, which identifies and supports athlete/horse combinations that have shown the potential to develop into future U.S. team candidates.

DeLaney is one of only 16 riders in the country to be chosen.

"Being a part of the Emerging Athletes Program has always been a goal of mine, and I am so excited to have received this opportunity," DeLaney said. "I owe a huge thank you to Coach Ashley Adams and her immense help over the past three years. I was thrilled to be able to take part in the assessment sessions and receive feedback from Leslie Law. I look forward to this incredible training opportunity."

DeLaney has developed her horse, Canto Royale (aka Jake), a Holsteiner, since she purchased him as a young prospect, and they are currently competing at the Intermediate/3\* level. They were ranked 2nd on the USEA Intercollegiate Leaderboard in the Intermediate division for 2020.

In addition, DeLaney is a Dean's List student majoring in Psychology and English. She is a team leader and has taken an active role in mentoring underclassmen on the team, both academically and at the barn.

"Katherine epitomizes what a Randolph-Macon student can accomplish," commented Dana Lesesne, program director. "With the unwavering help and dedication of Coach Adams, she has been able to pursue her lofty competition goals and be successful as a student and as a rider. She has put in an incredible amount of work and is so deserving of this recognition."



Katherine DeLaney '22

# Class Notes

**'62 Thomas C. Marshall II** retired from the Loudoun County School Board in December 2020. He served two four-year terms.

**'66 Joseph R. Wolfinger** is a valued member of the Kappa Alpha Order Zeta Alumni Advisory Committee and a longtime supporter of the Order and Zeta Lodge Institute. Joe was instrumental in the successful re-chartering of Zeta in 2019 and participated in the new Brother initiations last fall.

**'69 Robert "The Fish" M. Blank** and his wife Diana celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 28, 2020 at Massanutten Resort in Virginia. Diana was AEPI's fraternity sweetheart '68-'69. They have three children and three grandchildren. They live in Baltimore, MD.



Robert Blank '69

**'71 James L. Callison** retired from the banking industry in 2014. He and his wife Connie live in Lakewood Ranch, FL and enjoy family, golfing, and traveling.

**'77 William F. Prior** announces his retirement from teaching foreign languages for over 40 years. Most recently he taught Latin and Greek for 16 years at the Classical Academy in Colorado Springs.

**'79 Dr. Michael Coppedge** is a senior scholar in residence at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at Vanderbilt University for the spring 2021 semester.

**'81 Philip Emerson** is the Executive Director Emeritus of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, and has been elected as a Trustee of the George Washington Foundation, which operates Historic Kenmore and Ferry Farm, George Washington's boyhood home. He is also assisting William & Mary with formulating a strategic plan for President Monroe's home, Highland.

**'82 Reverend Louis Kuykendall Jr.** published *Grief and Loss: Your Questions Answered* (ABC CLIO/Greenwood Press). The book is a part of the publisher's Q&A Health Guide Series focused

on topics of interest to young adult readers. The information is useful for anyone facing grief and loss, and is especially helpful to counselors, teachers and adults working with older teenagers and young adults.

**'86 Scott Tilghman** had two paintings featured in the fourth Richmond Virginia Black Lives Matter Art Show (BLM RVA ART) 2021 virtual exhibition.

**'87 Mary Ellen Colangelo** finished her School Librarianship endorsement from Longwood University in December 2019. After 32 years in the classroom, she is now a library media specialist for Richmond Public Schools at Oak Grove Bellemeade Elementary School.

**'88 Lisa Kennedy** shares news of R-MC grads going strong after 38 years. Most of us met in 1983 as freshmen - some lived in Conrad, a couple in Mary Branch and one in Jones Hall. When we graduated in 1987, we had no idea how we were going to stay in touch, much less did we know how we would grow our friendship. As eager young graduates, we relied on faith as our guide. The following year, Cathy Slider moved to Louisville, Kentucky, and the very next spring, we decided to visit her on the first Saturday in May for the Kentucky Derby! That celebration became an annual event, and we have never missed a year of getting together. Several trips to Louisville led to visits wherever we all lived: Atlanta, the Georgia lakes, the Florida Keys, Dallas, Virginia Beach, the Eastern Shore, Baltimore, Richmond, and Nags Head (our favorite). The planning always seemed to take care of itself, and the celebrations usually started in the airport. We are thankful for this bond that was forged on R-MC's campus in the late 1980s and that was strengthened in our Phi Mu sisterhood. We have been there for every wedding and for every funeral, and for the beautiful babies, who are now all grown. We salute our alma mater and are grateful for everything it has brought to our lives.

**'89 David Anderson** won first place in the non-fiction category in the Writer's Digest contest. He dedicated his win to former professor and Religion Department Chair, Dr. B. J. Seymour. The book is called *Dark Nights of the Soul: Reflections on Faith and the Depressed Brain*, and it is available through several online retailers.





Back row (l. to r.): Stacey Williams Moreau '87, Ginny Higgins Lovern '87, Dale Truitt Berrett '87, Lisa Kennedy '88, Lesli Williams Henry '87, Cathy Conway Slider '87. Front row (l. to r.): Angela Swisher Kim '87, Janet Simpson Cutcliff '87, Jessica Fulton Samet '87, Maria Tucker Gill '87.

**Charles D. Boyd and Alison Anderson Boyd '90** were featured in the January 2021 issue of *Neighbors of Ashland*. Charlie has a development and contracting business called The Boyd Group of Virginia. He will be inducted in the R-MC Hall of Fame this year. Alison is the co-founder and executive director of Wings of Hope Ranch, which rescues and rehabilitates neglected horses to provide free programs to children facing challenges or conflicts in their personal lives. Having raised three sons to adulthood, Alison and Charlie have recently been certified to be foster parents through UMFS.

**'93 Thomas S. McCallie, III** has been elected 2020 President of the Top Producer's Club of the Lexington-Bluegrass Association of Realtors. He has also recently been awarded the Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager designation by the Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers.

**'98 Dean Browell** co-authored the new book, *Don't You Forget About Gen X: One Generation's Crucial Role in Healthcare*, which was published in October 2020. The book was ranked the #1 new Consumer Behavior book on Amazon.

Browell is also one of three creators, along with The EDGE Career Center Director, Dontrese Brown, of a web experience called Hidden in Plain Site: Richmond ([www.hiddeninplainsite.org](http://www.hiddeninplainsite.org)) that explores the story of

Black experience throughout the city's history using archival imagery and 360-degree technology.

**Joy Bechtold Jones** is currently earning her M.Ed in school counseling at William and Mary and expects to graduate in Spring 2022.

**'02 Maryn L. Formley**

started a non-profit three years ago to increase voter turnout in Allegheny County, PA. The Voter Empowerment Education and Enrichment Movement is non-partisan and works to educate voters and remove barriers to voting. In-person sessions were held

prior to COVID and online sessions were offered through Facebook. The firm hired canvassers for texting and phone banking and saw a big increase in voter turnout.

**Derrick Jackson** is the associate complex manager at Morgan Stanley for the Missouri/Kansas territory. He has a graduate degree from Northeastern University. He is married to Jennifer Jackson and they have three girls ages 7, 5 and 2. He is looking forward to seeing classmates at the upcoming 20-year reunion!

**'03 Travis Melton** and his wife Audrey announce the birth of their daughter, Aurora Lee Melton, on September 7, 2020.

**William H. Miller, CFRE** is being recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Top Distinguished Professional in the philanthropic industry for his outstanding service in the non-profit space. He serves as the CEO of the Kean University Foundation.

**'04 Virginia "Gigi" Dickerson Hastings**

received her School Leadership Master of Education from Wilmington University, New Castle, DE in January 2021. She became the associate principal at Seaford High School, Seaford, DE in January 2021.

Greenwood Elementary School Principal **Ryan Stein** earned the 2020-21 REB Award for Distinguished Educational Leadership, presented by The Community Foundation to four principals annually — one each from the school systems of Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover counties and one from the city of Richmond.

The award recognizes principals who go beyond the day-to-day demands of their jobs to create an exceptional



Stein

educational environment. Stein will receive a \$10,000 cash grant and an additional \$20,000 for school projects of his choosing. Stein plans to use the bulk of his project funding for “KinderGator Camp,” a five-week in-person academic camp for rising first-graders that will take place at Greenwood from July 12 to August 12. The camp will focus on connection, literacy, and emotional development.

**'05 Sarah Council Letina** is a middle school dean for Loudoun County. She married Josip Letina on August 14, 2010 and they have three daughters, Sophia (2014), Julia (2016) and Olivia (2018).

**'06 Brooke Lambert Brown** and her husband **Colin Brown '05** announce the birth of their third child, a daughter, Emma Louise Brown, on September 8, 2020.

**'07 Megan Willis Becker** and her husband **Thomas M. Becker '06** announce the birth of their third daughter, Annie Grace Becker. She was born on August 14, 2020 and has stolen the hearts of her big sisters, Kate (6) and Claire (4).

**'08 Nicole Childress Ball** joined the Randolph-Macon College staff as the director of athletic development in January 2021.

**Chelsea Coleman Dunn** and her husband **Michael S. Dunn '07** announce the birth of a future Yellow Jacket, Axel Stephen Dunn, on May 7, 2020.

**Michelle Kutcher Mertens** and her husband Will Mertens announce the birth of their daughter, Addison Rae, on August 6, 2020.

**Virginia Seatherton** completed an MA in English from Virginia Commonwealth University and obtained an LL.M in American law from Wake Forest University. She is a lawyer in North Carolina. She is pictured at the Lempuyang Temple in Karangasem, Bali, Indonesia.

**'09 Reverend Lindsey Baynham Freeman** and Matthew Freeman had a pandemic proposal and were married on December 4, 2020 in Richmond, VA. Lindsey is a United Methodist clergy and serves at the Virginia Conference Center. Matthew is a native of Richmond and a consultant for race and diversity inclusion.



**Melissa Moran Hughes** and her husband, **Jay “Patrick” Hughes '08**, announce the birth of their third child, Margaret Ann Pepper Hughes, on April 1, 2020.

**Kellyn Fleming Moody** and Benjamin Moody were married in September 2019 at the Historic Hanover Tavern in Hanover, VA. The wedding party included fellow Yellow Jackets **Darby Fleming Hawley '07**, **Molly Hyer '09**, **Lauren Soles '09** and **Madalynne G. Moody '24**. Several other alumni were in attendance. The couple resides in Hanover, VA.

**Madeleine Forrest Ramsey** and her husband, **Quinn Ramsey '06** celebrated the first birthday of their son, Charles “Charlie” Ramsey, who was born on July 21, 2019.



Becker



Dunn



Mertens



Seatherton



Freeman



Moody



Tevis

**Amanda Dixon Tevis** and her husband Austin announce the birth of their second child, Ryland James Tevis, on September 21, 2020. Big sister, McKinley (3), is so happy he is finally here.



McCarthy

**'10 Mikahla Ogrinc McCarthy** and her husband Justin announce the birth of their daughter, Leighton Ann McCarthy, born on February 9, 2021. Big brother Calvin is so proud!

**Kaitlyn Allan Pullin** and her husband **Robert Pullin '08** announce the birth of their daughter, Eleanor June Pullin, on March 17, 2020.



Pullin

**'11 Katie Dunn Hassen** and **Chris Hassen '12** announce the birth of their daughter, Collins Grace Hassen, on July 25, 2020.



Hassen

**'12 Cara Carne Haddon** and her husband **Trey Haddon '11** announce the birth of their son, Ezra Francis Haddon, on October 9, 2020.



Haddon

**'13 Nicole Morton Ryan** and **Thomas Ryan '12** were married on April 25, 2020. The small socially distanced ceremony took place overlooking Lake Anna. They plan to celebrate in the spring of 2021 with family and friends. Nicole and Thomas reside in Fairfax, VA with their dog, Shelby.



Ryan

**'15 Mikhaila Calice** graduated from the La Follette School of Public Affairs with an MPA in energy policy in May 2019 and is currently a PhD student at UW-Madison studying science communications.

In October 2020, **Steve Funk** tied the knot with his grad school sweetheart, Samantha. The wedding party included: **Tom Solak '15, Zach Emerson '15, and Jesse Knepp '15.** Funk also recently completed his second master's degree in early childhood studies and transitioned to a new role at Amazon. The couple reside in Phoenix, AZ, with their husky, Leia.



Funk

**Sarah Maxwell** currently resides in New York City and works for Deutsche Bank on Wall Street in Liquidity Technology Business Management.

**Catherine Pricone** is a data operations manager at Amazon and a newly published author of the book *Tapped Millennial*, a story written in the form of poetry



Pricone

about technology and social media. It is divided into four chapters which dive deep into the challenges faced by a modern-day human. The book outlines how trying to stay connected should not come at the cost of sacrificing who you are.

“Technology is my field of work and it fascinates me, but there comes a time when disconnecting is needed in order to reconnect with your own mind.”

**'16 Emily Hewitt and Jack Miller '16** were married on October 17, 2020 in McGaheysville, VA. Several Yellow Jacket friends were bridesmaids and groomsmen.

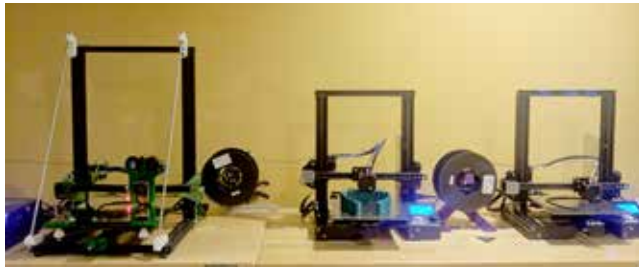
**Yasmine “Mina” Raychouni Jeremenko and Max Jeremenko '16** were married August 8, 2020. They shared that without R-MC, they never would have met.

**Chris Mallory** recently graduated from the Henrico County Fire Academy and is a firefighter at Station 7.

**'17 Brandon Delpi** works on a project to assist in the protection of health care workers. In April 2020 he used five 3D printers to manufacture face shields and to date has donated and delivered over 1000 face shields to facilities such as Johns Hopkins PICU, Mercy Hospital, Union Memorial Hospital, Harford Memorial Hospital, Upper Chesapeake Hospital, and Stella Marris Nursing Home, all in the Baltimore area.



Miller



Manufacturing face shields using 3D printers.

**Madeline “Maddie” Farmer** is scheduled to graduate in the spring of 2021 with a master’s degree in marine estuarine & environmental sciences from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore. She began the program in 2018 and shared “I am forever grateful for my time at R-MC and would not change it for the world!”



Noe

**Sydney Carpenter Noe and Steven Noe '14** were married on July 11, 2020. They shared, “We are eternally grateful for the memories and friends made at R-MC.”



Lutz

**'18 Bryan Lutz and Alexandra “Alex” Lightfoot Lutz '18** were married this past October. Alex’s parents **Sally Wood Lightfoot '91** and **William S. Lightfoot '88** threw the party. Wedding party included RMC alumni: **Lindsay Andrews '18, Will H. Lightfoot '20, Jake Tyler '18, Michael Bly '18, Johnny Maldonado '19.** R-MC alumni of all ages attended their masked-up wedding!

**'20 Katherine Emerson** joined the faculty at Culpeper County High School in Culpeper, VA as a Special Education Teacher. She is also an Assistant Girls Volleyball Coach and is piloting new classroom technology for the school division.

**Winston Gallimore** continued his path in politics working currently as a field director for Turning Point USA. He also is completing a master’s in political science at Liberty University. The degree should be completed by the end of 2021 and he plans to move back to his hometown, Ashland, VA.



Iwumune

**Aditya Nikhil “Nik” Goyal** is currently pursuing a master’s degree in public policy from the Schar School of Public Policy and Government at George Mason University.

**Chimaobi Iwumune**, received the “Top Dawg” award in his sales office (Top leader award) and started to build his own sales crew. He credits his early success to the tools taught by Coach Arruza.

**Katie Wax** was selected for the United Methodist First Career Seminary Award at Candler School of Theology @ Emory University.

**CORRECTIONS**

2019-2020 Annual Report:  
**Mike Gabay ’73** was erroneously excluded from the Class Agent volunteer list. R-MC is grateful for his continued volunteer support.

**CLASS NOTES SUBMISSION**

Share news so your classmates learn about what has been going on in your life since you left R-MC. Do you have a new job, new professional success, or new degree? Have you married, had children, grandchildren? Have you retired? Have you recently reconnected with alumni friends? Do you have an interesting hobby or volunteer role in your community? Submit photos of life events, encounters with classmates, or anything that is noteworthy. We would love to hear from you! Submit your information to: [www.rmc.edu/classnotes](http://www.rmc.edu/classnotes), email [alumni@rmc.edu](mailto:alumni@rmc.edu) or call 866-694-4574.

**GET CONNECTED**

*Your participation and opinions help the college create programs and sponsor events that are fun, interesting and educational. We are excited to hear from you and hope you will take advantage of the easy ways we have to keep the connection!*

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# PASSAGES

The Alumni Office is available to assist if you are looking for additional information about any of our alumni and friends listed below.

Notice of passages received between March 2020 and February 2021 are included in the spring 2021 alumni magazine.

**Rev. C. Warner Crumb '44**, Roanoke, VA, February 8, 2021.

**Elmer M. Challenor '46**, Richmond, VA, September 16, 2020.

**Vaden Pitts '46**, Port Saint Lucie, FL, January 16, 2021.

**Frank Cotton '48**, Florida, January 5, 2021.

**Leslie D. Campbell, Jr. '50**, Doswell, VA, December 26, 2020.

**Donald H. George '50**, Reedville, VA, June 1, 2020.

**Robert H. Jensen '50**, Wallingford, PA, April 30, 2020.

**Donald W. Sartelle '50**, Virginia Beach, VA, March 20, 2020.

**Hill C. Mallory '51**, Ashland, VA, April 17, 2020.

**Rev. Milford Rollins '51**, Poquoson, VA, September 13, 2020.

**Dr. George D. Resh '51**, Westminster, MD, July 3, 2020.

**Alfred G. Stables '51**, Corinth, MS, August 17, 2020.

**John T. Baylor, '52**, Glen Allen, VA, January 30, 2021.

**Dr. John A. Board '52**, Richmond, VA, December 25, 2020.

**Rev. James Boice, Jr. '52**, Chambersburg, PA, December 23, 2020. After Jim graduated from Seminary, he returned to R-MC to teach Bible and religion classes from 1955-1959.

**Rev. Dr. L. Robert Fleming '52**, Henrico, VA, November 24, 2020.

**James L. Miller '52**, Henrico, VA, July 9, 2020.

**Rev. Dr. William K. Thomas '52**, Waynesboro, VA, March 23, 2020.

**Col. Walter "Bud" L. Catron '53**, Springdale, AR, December 13, 2020.

**John Nordstrom "Buddy" Crowder '53**, December 7, 2020.

**Stasi Delvizis '53**, Brentwood, TN, October 24, 2020.

**Edward H. Jones '53**, Midland, MI, March 19, 2020.

**Rev. Ben H. Smith, Jr. '53**, Henrico, VA, May 7, 2020.

**Rev. Fred T. Gilley, Sr. '54**, Stuart, VA, January 9, 2021.

**Kenneth I. Van Cott '54**, Titusville, FL, May 15, 2020.

**Dr. E. Beaumont Hodge '55**, Norfolk, VA, May 13, 2020.

**John B. Quade '55**, Ashburn, VA, December 1, 2019.

**Nelson Ray "Fox" Ramsey '55**, Petersburg, VA, September 2, 2020.

**Robert Howdershelt '56**, Fredericksburg, VA, April 27, 2020.

**Charles Nuttycombe '56**, Newport News, VA, December 4, 2020.

**Basil Surgent '56**, Richmond, VA, November 24, 2020.

**Walter W. Flythe '57**, Martinsville, VA, November 18, 2020.

**Richard H. Forrester, Jr. '57**, Richmond, VA, March 12, 2020.

**Albert Joseph "AJ" Fortune '57**, Covington, GA, September 27, 2020.

**Joseph M. Jacobs, Jr. '57**, Delaware, November 15, 2020.

**Douglas M. Lawson, PhD '57**, Dallas, TX, December 26, 2020.

**Franklin H. "Buck" Bryant, Jr. '58**, Port Wentworth, GA, October 19, 2020.

**Rev. James W. Draper '58**, Doral, FL, April 22, 2020.

**Albert Greenberg '58**, Franklin, TX, December 22, 2019.

**James A. Smith '58**, Chester, VA, September 29, 2020.

**Lawrence R. Ambrogi '59**, Winchester, VA, September 22, 2020.

**Joseph Ferguson, Sr. '59**, Chesapeake, VA, July 4, 2020.

**Joseph Shannon Rose '59**, Washington, NC, December 16, 2020.

**Dr. F. Carlyle Stebner '59**, Grand Blanc, MI, March 30, 2020.

**Robert L. Cummings, Sr. '60**, North Hampton, NH, July 9, 2020.



William Reinhardt, Emeritus Professor of History, died December 18, 2020.

Professor Reinhardt obtained his education at Duke University, where he earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees and was awarded a prestigious Fulbright fellowship. He was hired at Randolph-Macon College in September 1967 where he spent his entire career until his retirement in June 2008. As a historian, Professor Reinhardt's teaching and research focused on India and Southern Asia. His book *The Legislative Council of the Punjab, 1897-1912* made an important contribution to scholars' understanding of the legislative body in colonized British India, with one reviewer calling Professor Reinhardt's work "of considerable utility, especially to those interested in the Punjab."

In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities, while at Randolph-Macon, Professor Reinhardt served as chairman of the History Department for many years. Early in his tenure at the College, Professor Reinhardt was an important faculty voice encouraging the full integration of women and the movement of the College to become co-educational.



**Robert A. Rankin '71**, a Richmond native who shared a Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing at *The Miami Herald*, died February 24, 2021, in Wilmington, N.C. He was 71 years old.

Rankin was a successful newspaper journalist for 40 years. He shared a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in 1983 as lead writer of a year-long Pulitzer-winning series of editorials that challenged the Reagan administration's inhumane treatment of Haitian refugees in South Florida. He also won state, regional and national journalism prizes with *The Richmond (VA) News Leader*, *Congressional Quarterly*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Knight-Ridder Newspapers*.

Rankin was Knight-Ridder's senior White House correspondent covering the Clinton presidency for five and one-half years. Knight-Ridder editors nominated his writing for a Pulitzer Prize five times. From 2000–2006, he was the Knight-Ridder Washington bureau news editor overseeing coverage of the White House, Congress, politics, elections and economics.

Rankin graduated from John Marshall High School in Richmond in 1967 and earned a B.A. in political science from Randolph-Macon in 1971, and an M.A. in Government from the University of Virginia in 1974. In 2017, Rankin was given a distinguished achievement award by Randolph-Macon "in recognition of contributions made to society through your chosen profession."

Rankin is survived by one son, Benjamin John Rankin, a lawyer in New York City (and his wife, Carrie Bodner); by a brother, Richard Alan Rankin, a retired sales rep for Motorola, of Richmond (and his wife, Daphne Rankin); and by two granddaughters.

**Richard C. Oliver '60**, Orange, VA, May 12, 2020.

**N. Berkeley Smith '60**, Richmond, VA, April 27, 2020.

**John Borders, Jr. '61**, Alexandria, VA, July 21, 2019.

**Lee Roy "Buddy" Johns, Jr. '61**, Henrico, VA, May 27, 2020.

**William T. Austin '62**, Falls Church, VA, July 8, 2020.

**John R. Ihlenfeld '62**, Colonial Beach, VA, August 11, 2020.

**Judge W. Thomas McDonald '62**, Bryan, TX, February 17, 2021.

**G. Thomas Walls '62**, Glen Allen, VA, August 29, 2020.

**Rev. Willard W. "Buddy" Olney, III '63**, Asheville, NC, June 29, 2020.

**William T. Steele, III '63**, Richmond, VA, February 27, 2021.

**William J. Wiseman, III '63**, Portsmouth, VA, February 8, 2021.

**Norman B. Housch '64**, Midlothian, VA, November 24, 2020.

**Dr. Michael J. Shack '64**, Escondido, CA, January 15, 2021.

**Andrew James '65**, Gloucester, VA, April 23, 2020.

**Dr. Andrew "Worth" Landis '65**, Daniels, WV, October 17, 2020.

**Craig M. Glasheen '67**, Greensboro, NC, November 25, 2020.

**Dr. Jon B. Lowe '67**, Edgewater, MD, January 23, 2021.

**W. Clarke Mason '68**, Virginia Beach, VA, July 10, 2020.

**Lester "Andy" E. Andrews, Jr. '68**, Farmville, VA, September 22, 2020.

**Joseph S. Johnston, PhD, '69**, Berryville, VA, November 14, 2020.

**H. Stuart Terry, Jr. '69**, Midlothian, VA, March 25, 2020.

**Gilbert L. Miles, Jr. '70**, Glen Allen, VA, April 20, 2020.

**Robert E. Bargamin, Jr. '71**, Green Cove Springs, FL, May 14, 2020.

**Ernest "Big Ernie" A. Dettbarn, Jr. '71**, Richmond, VA, February 23, 2021.

**Harry H. Herndon, III '71**, Poway, CA, March 30, 2021.

**Edward "Jeb" Paarfus, III '71**, Hampstead, NC, April 22, 2020.

**Richard S. Williams '71**, Richmond, VA, August 12, 2020.

**Alvin R. Gritz '72**, Ashland, VA, March 26, 2021.

**Charles E. Jones '73**, Suffolk, VA, September 13, 2020.

**James M. Pierce, Jr. '77**, Midlothian, VA, December 28, 2020.

**William V. Sherrod, Jr. '77**, Richmond, VA, June 1, 2020.

**Kimberly Smith Wheeler '77**, Sarasota, FL, December 2, 2020.

**Janet Taylor Thomas '78**, Beaverdam, VA, September 24, 2020.

**William D. Toler '83**, Troutman, NC, March 7, 2021.

**Leslie Osterheim Maharaj, '86**, Honolulu, HI, November 15, 2017.

**Brian Chambers '92**, DeLand, FL, March 3, 2021.

**Larry S. Brinkley, Jr., '95**, Portsmouth, VA, December 27, 2020.

**Christine Garrison Guise Wright '98**, Midlothian, VA, June 6, 2020.

**Jessica Sinclair DeShazo '08**, Glen Allen, VA, July 15, 2020.

**Anna Katherine Hulick '10**, Hampton, VA, November 23, 2020.

**John L. Johnson, Jr. '11**, Richmond, VA, January 19, 2021.

**Austin T. Romine, '20**, Edmond, OK, March 19, 2021.

**Sarah B. Saponara, '21**, Ashland, VA, February 17, 2021.

**M. Thomas Inge '59**, Robert Emory Blackwell Professor of Humanities, died May 15, 2021. Dr. Inge was a lauded scholar of American literature and culture, prolific writer, and treasured member of the Randolph-Macon College faculty. A native of Newport News, Virginia, Professor Inge received in B.A. in English and Spanish from Randolph-Macon in 1959. He pursued his M.A. and Ph.D. in English and American literature from Vanderbilt University in 1960 and 1964, respectively, and went on to a distinguished teaching and research career at Vanderbilt University, Michigan State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Clemson University.



In 1984, he joined the R-MC faculty. Over more than 35 years at Randolph-Macon, Dr. Inge taught popular courses across a broad range of fields including American Studies, interdisciplinary humanities, Asian literature, Southern literature and culture, American humor and satire, and film. He also continued his prolific research and writing; he authored or edited more than sixty books including *Charles M. Schulz: Conversations*, a collection of interviews with the creator of Peanuts, the first in a series of such collections.

Dr. Inge had planned to retire from teaching this spring and planned to remain on campus for at least another two years doing research.

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Lewis F. Baker, father of **Brenda Baker Wimmer, '77**, passed away on February 12, 2020.

Rebecca Benson Cross, wife of **Philip B. Cross, III '61**, passed away on October 24, 2020 after a brief battle with cancer. They were married for 58 years.

Susan Dabney, wife of **Reverend John "Jack" V. Dabney '63** passed away in 2018. They were married for 58.5 years. Jack has nine children, 26 grandchildren, and served as pastor of four congregations (total of 35 years), and served as a Missionary to Albania for 10 years. He retired to Bryan, TX in 2010.

Edward P. Draney, father of **Sue Draney Schick '84** and grandfather of **Andy P. Schick '13** and **Will Heston Schick '19**, passed away on November 26, 2020.

Thomas P. Dwyer retired from Randolph-Macon College and served as Director of Operations of Physical Plant for 20 years. He passed away on May 22, 2020.

Patricia Paddison Evans, wife of the late **Stewart C. Evans '52**, passed away on February 13, 2021.

Dwayne Edward Fells was a former grill cook at R-MC. He passed away on November 1, 2020.

Sarah Hamby, a former employee and retiree of the College, mother of **Michelle "Shelly" Hamby Mahnken '93** and sister of **Tom E. Waldrop '58**, passed away on October 12, 2020. Over nearly 30 years, Sarah worked in various capacities at R-MC. At the time of her retirement, she was serving as Student Life operations manager.



Dr. Jerome H. Garris, Dean/Provost from 1984-1998, died at his home in Claremont, California on June 27, 2020. Recruited to Ashland by President Ladell Payne, Dr. Garris served ably as the chief academic officer of the College. He also taught political science courses on the congress and the presidency, and twice served as interim president. Garris held several senior administrative positions at Claremont McKenna College before and after his tenure at Randolph-Macon.

Dr. Garris was instrumental in the 1996 establishment of the College's signature Schapiro Undergraduate Research Fellowship program. The College's first interdisciplinary majors in environmental studies, international relations and international studies were established under his leadership. Dr. Garris was a staunch supporter of international education and study abroad opportunities. He helped guide the College's transition from Division II to Division III for its athletics programs.

Dr. Garris received his Bachelor of Arts degree from San Francisco State University, his Master of Social Sciences from Stockholms Universitet, and his Ph.D. in Political Science from UCLA.

He leaves behind many dear friends; his wife Penny; sons Christian and Alexander, both Claremont McKenna College graduates of whom he was very proud; daughter-in-law Brandi Garris; and grandchildren Nathaniel and Madeleine, whom he adored.



Donald Edward Hanky, friend of the college, passed away on March 8, 2021.

Michael T. Jewell, father of **Jacob B. Jewell '19**, passed away on July 4, 2020.

William "Bill" Liles retired from R-MC in January 2011 after serving as a mechanic for 29 years in Physical Plant. He passed away on November 28, 2020.

George W. McCadden, Sr., father of **William B. McCadden '10**, passed away May 29, 2020.

Dr. Joe Nelson, a professor emeritus of Religion at Lynchburg College, passed away on January 24, 2021. His family includes R-MC alumni **Randy Nelson '73**, **Mitch Nelson '74**, **Tommy Nelson '84**, **David "Hap" Nelson '87**, David's wife, **Kim Norman Nelson '86**, and David and Kim's son, **Peter Nelson '18**.

O. Ralph Puccinelli, Jr., father of **Mark R. Puccinelli, Sr. '88**, **Matt O. Puccinelli '93** (Alison), **Mary Beth Puccinelli Quist '94** (Tim), **Mary Kathleen Puccinelli Loving '01** (Larry), and grandfather to **Melissa Puccinelli '17** and **Bianca Puccinelli '17** passed away June 14, 2020.

Sarah Sanders, former employee and retiree of the College, passed away on November 2, 2020. She served as a secretary in the Admissions Office, from 1972- 1989.

Wendy Allen Schmitt, daughter of Ann Allen and the late **Everette "Buddy" Allen '62**, passed away on September 30, 2020.

Marvin Staughton was a former employee of Chartwells at R-MC. He passed away on November 15, 2020.

Kenneth L. Tiller, father of **Matthew S. Tiller '10**, passed away on December 11, 2020.

Edward "Byrd" Turner, Jr., father of **Edward B. Turner, III '88**, passed away May 15, 2020. He was a lifelong fan of R-MC basketball.

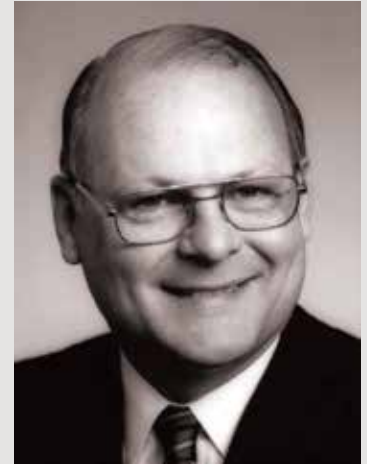
Mona Wade, wife of **John B. Wade, III '57**, passed away on March 29, 2020.

Gloria Genevieve "Gene" Vickers Wallace was a former R-MC employee and retired from the Business Office. She passed away on August 29, 2020.

Edith "Edie" R. White, wife of the late **Forrest P. White, M.D. '41** passed away on June 6, 2020.

Betsy L. Whitehead, mother of **Kevin L. Branner '90**, passed away on December 18, 2020.

**John B. Werner '53** died on August 20, 2020. Werner graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa from Randolph-Macon College with a B.A. in History. He served with distinction on the College's Board of Trustees for twenty-two years from 1974 to 1994 and again from 2000 to 2003, offering wise and invaluable counsel to four Randolph-Macon presidents. Randolph-Macon awarded Mr. Werner an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree in 2005 and the College's Distinguished Service Award in 2009.



Upon his passing, the John B. Werner Fellowship in the Liberal Arts was established by the Board of Directors of The Robert G. Cabell III and Maude Morgan Cabell Foundation, in memory of Mr. Werner and to recognize his significant impact to the philanthropic efforts of The Cabell Foundation during his 15-year tenure as its executive director. The fellowship will support and stimulate faculty members' teaching of the liberal arts, to advance their scholarly and creative work, and to enhance the College's liberal arts academic programs. The appointment of the John B. Werner Fellow in Liberal Arts is pending.



Marilyn Mattys, who was an adjunct assistant professor at R-MC for 24 years, passed away April 12, 2021 after a brief illness. Professor Mattys taught core speech courses, an occasional theatre course, and a number of iterations of the First Year Colloquium with colleagues, while providing speech support services to numerous other courses. She may be best remembered by many as the author of an adaptation of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," which was produced by the Drama department each December for 25 years. Mattys was married to former Drama Professor Emeritus Dr. Joe Mattys for 52 years.

# 2021 Mark YOUR Calendar





Randolph-Macon donors helped support the *Protect the Hive* initiative this past year that enabled me and my fellow classmates to return safely for on-campus learning. It also allowed student-athletes to return to athletic competitions for a special spring sports season.

Being back on campus with my friends, teammates, and professors helped complete my high-quality Randolph-Macon education and remarkable R-MC experience.

I am thankful to be a Yellow Jacket, and I am grateful to all of you who support this special place!"

***Bella Samper '21***  
*Montgomery, TX*

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