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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

A year ago, I wrote to you about how violent disruptions at Berkeley and Middlebury impeded these universities from playing their essential role as places of free and respectful exchange of ideas. I am proud to share that in the wake of the events of August 11 and 12, UVA was selected to host a PEN America panel event, Whose Freedom, Whose Speech? The Future of Community and Free Speech at University of Virginia. This lively conversation added to the ongoing dialogue that is alive and well here at UVA, and gave us a stirring to-do list.

Another event took place this quarter at Monticello—the UNESCO conference on Interpreting and Representing Slavery and its Legacies in Museums and Sites: International Perspectives. Co-hosted by UVA, the conference drew world leaders in history, museum administration, scholars and public thought to discuss questions of the global impact and legacies of slavery. This is a conversation that is very much alive at UVA, given the ongoing work of the Commission on Slavery, the recent establishment of the Commission on the University in the Age of Segregation, and the controversy over the statues here in Charlottesville.

UVA’s interest in publicly relevant spaces extends beyond our borders; I recently traveled to India to host the launch of Yamuna River Project: New Delhi Urban Ecology, a book detailing more than five consecutive years of focused research initiatives and designs from the School of Architecture and many other University collaborators. The launch was a huge success, with major media outlets like India Today, India.com, Business Standard and Outlook India reporting on the event, and attendees from many branches of government, both Indian and beyond.In collaboration with the Delhi Jal Board, The University of Virginia’s Yamuna River Project is an interdisciplinary research program, proposing to revitalize the ecology of the Yamuna River in New Delhi, and creating vital urban links with the river as it flows through India’s capital city. This project is the largest multi-disciplinary study at UVA, and serves as a model for how we can influence and lead creative solutions to global problems.

My visit to India and the many fascinating conversations I had there led me to suggest some creative solutions myself, detailed in the Economic Times. Closer to home, another positive collaboration is yielding results: Virginia Tech and UVA are working together to maximize economic impact in the Commonwealth through the traditional roles of research and workforce development, and as an economic engine. You may find interest in our thoughts as we chart a course forward.

Sincerely,

Tom Katsouleas
Executive Vice President & Provost
Notable Events
A special exhibition at the Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia curated by Richard Guy Wilson, Commonwealth Professor of Architectural History, explored Jefferson’s architectural vision for the United States. “From the Grounds Up: Thomas Jefferson’s Architecture & Design” investigated and illuminated Jefferson’s many architectural accomplishments, as well as the classical tradition that inspired his architecture. The exhibition (January 26 – April 28) consisted of drawings, prints, paintings, photographs and building and construction artifacts, among other archival materials. Complementing the exhibition was a suite of public programs, including a two-day symposium.

Global
Sixteen students enrolled in the Spring 2018 seminar, Uniting Landscape and City in Winneba, Ghana, travelled to Ghana to participate in a workshop in collaboration with the University of Education, Winneba (UEW) in Ghana. Students met with local planners, foresters, farmers and fishermen, along with government officials, policy makers, and UEW professors and students, focusing on low-cost sustainable development strategies for the region. The City of Charlottesville is collaborating with the city of Winneba under the Sister Cities International, a nonprofit citizen diplomacy network that creates and strengthens partnerships between U.S. and international communities.  https://www.arch.virginia.edu/news/uva-school-of-architecture-participates-in-seminar-on-sustainable-development-in-ghana

Student Honors & Accomplishments
YEDEA, a healthcare and education service-learning project in Koforidua, recently won second place and $15,000 development funding in UVA’s Entrepreneurship Cup. Founded by a student from the School of Medicine, this design thinking and medicine team, advised by Elgin Cleckley from Architecture, develops innovative solutions for issues facing poor Ghanian communities, focusing on education and healthcare. https://www.arch.virginia.edu/news/yedea-wins-2nd-place-in-uvas-2018-entrepreneurship-cup

Between the School of Architecture faculty and students, UVA won six out of seven American Institute of Architects Washington DC Unbuilt Awards. The Unbuilt Washington Awards bridge the gap between academic and professional design communities by providing a forum for recognizing the contributions of both younger and established practitioners alike.
The following student projects were selected:
- City Fragments: Phil Chang
- Post Industrial Appalachia: Andrew Shea
- Folded Barcelona: Haoruo Zhu and Fang Nan
- Angles of Incidence: Austin Edwards

http://www.arch.virginia.edu/news/uva-architecture-wins-6-out-of-7-aia-unbuilt-awards

The collaborative team of Anna Morrison (M Arch, ’19), Henry Neuwirth (MBA Darden, ’19) and Zazu Swistel (M Arch, ’19) recently won first place in the Rethinking the Future Sustainability Awards for their submission, Atlanta: Absorb & Release, in the international design competition, which sought innovative ideas in architecture and design to address the impacts of climate change.


**Faculty News, Honors & Accomplishments**


New York Soundscapes: New York Public Library, by Professor Karen Van Lengen and James Welty, was selected to be on display at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum as part of the collaborative exhibition, The Senses: Design Beyond Vision. [https://www.cooperhewitt.org/2018/02/27/cooper-hewitt-smithsonian-design-museum-to-present-the-senses-design-beyond-vision/](https://www.cooperhewitt.org/2018/02/27/cooper-hewitt-smithsonian-design-museum-to-present-the-senses-design-beyond-vision/)

Associate Professor Phoebe Crisman was recently named a Mellon Arts Fellow through the Mellon Indigenous Arts Initiative. The fellowship will support the collaborative design of a culturally inspired and sustainable Arts Center with the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyete (SWO) on their Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota. [https://indigenousarts.as.virginia.edu/2018-19-fellows](https://indigenousarts.as.virginia.edu/2018-19-fellows)
School-Specific: The Democracy Initiative
The College, in partnership with UVA schools, centers and institutes across Grounds, has launched its new Democracy Initiative—a research, teaching, and public engagement effort focused on urgent issues related to democracy worldwide. The first two “democracy labs” have been announced and are now in the launch phase. The Religion, Race, and Global Democracies lab will draw on faculty and graduate students from across A&S—including Religious Studies, Jewish Studies, Politics, History, Carter G. Woodson, and Media Studies. The second lab, The Governance Initiative: Corruption in Institutions, History, and Markets, will focus on combatting corruption, led by scholars from disciplines across A&S as well as the School of Law. It will run for approximately three years and will feature new classes, conferences, and research in the field of corruption studies. More details about the Democracy Initiative are available here: http://as.virginia.edu/democracy-initiative

School-Specific: Curricular Reform
The first academic year (2017-18) of the New College Curriculum pilot has been completed under the leadership of the College Fellows, the inaugural group of A&S faculty members entrusted with designing and teaching the new Engagements courses for first-year students. During this inaugural year, the A&S faculty voted to continue the pilot phase of the new curriculum through the 2018-19 academic year. The vote was based on a proposal from the General Education Assessment Committee articulating the need to collect a more complete set of data in order to adequately assess the pilot’s performance.

Research
From January through March 2018, A&S submitted 55 research proposals worth $40.5 million and received 60 new awards worth $7.9 million.

Notable new awards include:

- Per Sederberg, Associate Professor (Psychology) – U.S. Dept of Defense Air Force award, “SUPREME: Sensing to Understanding and Prediction Realized via an Experiment and Modeling Ecosystem” for $765,000

- David Hill, Professor (Psychology) – National Inst. of Health award, “Ontogeny of Central Neural Taste Responses” for $572,000
• Jianhua (JC) Cang (Psychology/Biology), the inaugural Jefferson Scholars Professor in Neuroscience – National Inst. of Health award, “Visual Signal Transformation in the Retinocollicular Pathway” for $571,000

• David Parichy, Pratt-Ivy Foundation Distinguished Professor (Biology) – National Institutes of Health award “Developmental Origins and Homeostatic Mechanisms Underlying Adult Phenotypes (R35)” for $472,000

• Jill Venton, Professor (Chemistry) – National Institutes of Health award AS-CHEM “Real-Time Measurements of Neurotransmission in Drosophilia melanogaster-renew“ for $340,000.

Faculty Honors & Accomplishments

Anna Brickhouse (English, American Studies, Centro de las Américas/Americas Center) and Thomas Klubock (History, Latin American Studies, Centro de las Américas/Americas Center) — have been awarded Guggenheim Fellowships by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. The fellowships are awarded on the basis of prior achievement and exceptional promise.

Grace Hale (Commonwealth Professor of American Studies and History), and Talitha LeFlouria (the Lisa Smith Discovery Associate Professor in African and African-American Studies), are among the 31 distinguished scholars and writers who had their research proposals selected by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The two A&S faculty members have been named to the 2018 class of Andrew Carnegie Fellows, one of the most prestigious academic fellowship programs supporting scholarship and research in the humanities and social sciences.

Joseph Miller (History Professor Emeritus) has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an honorary society founded in 1780 that recognizes achievement in the natural sciences, social sciences, law, arts and humanities. Its 4,900 fellows convene to address global challenges.

Herman Mark Schwartz (Politics) has won a 2018-19 Berlin Prize, awarded by the American Academy in Berlin. Schwartz will be at the Academy in spring 2019 to conduct research on the economic reasons behind increased ethno-nationalist, anti-immigrant, anti-system parties in wealthy Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries. The Berlin Prize is awarded annually to scholars, writers, composers, and artists from the United States who represent the highest standards of excellence in their fields.
Enrollment
The Batten Admissions Office is nearing completion of its Class of 2020 recruitment cycle for the Public Policy & Leadership Minor, Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy & Leadership and Master of Public Policy (accelerated and traditional) programs. The Minor is the Batten School’s newest offering, with the inaugural class entering in Fall 2018.

Applications were up for both the accelerated and the traditional MPP program; for the latter, the yield rate is currently at 40%, far above the industry average of 33%. This year’s applicants come from leading universities, bringing a range of backgrounds and experiences to Batten – military officers, think tanks and NGOs, service organizations, private sector, government, and even a tenured college professor. The MPP Class of 2020 will be the largest in the School’s history.

Research
Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics Jennifer Doleac’s co-written working paper, titled “The Moral Hazard of Lifesaving Innovations: Naloxone Access, Opioid Abuse, and Crime,” has been cited by outlets around the world, including The Washington Post, Forbes, The Atlantic, The Toronto Globe and Mail, The Times of London, The Wall Street Journal, CNN, STAT, The Bend Bulletin, Reason, and BuzzFeed News. Doleac’s research shows that broadened access to naloxone, a drug that can save lives when administered during an opioid overdose, led to more opioid-related emergency room visits and more opioid-related theft, with no reduction in opioid-related mortality.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Craig Volden’s co-authored paper with Alan E. Wiseman of Vanderbilt University was published in The Journal of Politics. Volden and Wiseman, who co-direct the Center for Legislative Effectiveness, produced legislative effectiveness scores for senators in each Congress for over four decades. Their research was also cited in outlets including The Washington Post and CNN.

Notable Events
The Batten School joined the City of Charlottesville to host the first Charlottesville Affordable Housing summit in Garrett Hall. Assistant Professor of Public Policy Paul Martin helped organize the summit, moderated a panel discussion, and answered audience questions about UVA’s
role in addressing limited affordable housing. The summit was one of the initiatives receiving Provost Flash Funding following August 11 and 12.

Dean Allan Stam and Assistant Professor of Public Policy Andy Pennock moderated the March 27 debate between candidates seeking the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate in Virginia. *The Washington Post*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *U.S. News*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Miami Herald*, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, and *The Seattle Times* were among the print outlets to cover the debate. The event was co-hosted by Batten, the Center for Effective Lawmaking, and College Republicans at UVA.

Batten’s Global Policy Center hosted a Global Ambassador’s Forum with Batten students and U.S. ambassadors and diplomats from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, and the Czech Republic.

Batten’s National Security Policy Center hosted a conversation on counterterrorism and credibility with Ben Wittes, Senior Fellow at Brookings, and a workshop on intelligence analysis with the National Ground Intelligence Center. The NSPC also joined Batten’s Global Policy Center and Center for Effective Lawmaking to host a panel of experts on right-wing populism in both the American and French contexts.

The Batten Graduate Council hosted Erik Weihenmayer, the first blind person in history to hike Mount Everest and all Seven Summits. Weihenmayer is also the founder of No Barriers Warriors, which uses teamwork in the mountains as a transformative force to help veterans reclaim their lives after devastating injuries.
CURRY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Rankings
The Curry School climbed to No. 16 in the U.S. News & World Report’s 2019 Best Graduate School rankings, continuing an upward trend in the annual list of the top graduate schools in the United States. This is the third consecutive year the Curry School has climbed in the rankings. The Curry School had five academic programs named in the top 10: Administration and Supervision (No. 7), Education Policy (No. 10), Elementary Education (No. 7), Secondary Education (No. 7) and Special Education (No. 4). In addition, Educational Psychology and Curriculum and Instruction both came in at No. 12.

School Specific: New Academic Programs
In March, SCHEV officially approved a new Master of Science in Athletic Training program at the Curry School. When UVA announced its first athletic training program in 1975, it wasn’t just a first for the University – it was one of the very first post-professional athletic training programs in the country. This year, the program aims to continue its trailblazing legacy as it retires the original 13-month master’s program and transitions to a new, two-year professional master’s program.

SCHEV also approved the launch of four new fully online degrees: Master of Education, Education Specialist and Education Doctorate degrees in Curriculum and Instruction, as well as a Master of Education degree in Social Foundations.

Notable Events
Beverly D. Tatum, president emerita of Spelman College, delivered the 2018 Walter N. Ridley Lecture to a standing-room-only audience in the Newcomb Hall Ballroom. The 20th anniversary edition of Tatum’s best-selling book, Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race, was selected as the 2017-18 Curry School Common Read.

In March, University of Virginia developmental psychologist Tish Jennings traveled to India to share her latest research on mindfulness and teacher stress with the Dalai Lama. Jennings presented her research at the annual Mind & Life Dialogue, held at the Dalai Lama’s personal residence in Dharamsala, India. The dialogue lasted five days, and included both faculty presentations and discussions. Jennings was one of 17 professors selected to present their research on social-emotional learning.
Curry Faculty Respond to Parkland Shootings
Three Curry School faculty members, whose research points to effective ways to make schools safe environments where students can thrive, have spoken up about what we can do after the school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Dewey Cornell
- Testified at two Congressional hearings the week of March 19.
- An Eight-Point Violence Prevention Plan to End Gun Violence
- Op-Ed: Will The Next Shooting Be In Virginia? | Richmond Times Dispatch
- UVA Expert: How Schools Can Catch Violence Before It Becomes Deadly | UVAToday

Tish Jennings
- At The Intersection of Teachers, Stress and Guns | UVAToday
- Op-Ed: Student Walkouts Show Compassion Is A Tool For Change | CNN
- Opinion: Rather Than Arming Teachers With Guns, Let’s Arm Them With the Supports They Need | The 74

Catherine Bradshaw
- Here’s How To Prevent The Next School Shooting, Experts Say | NPR
- UVA Researcher: More Than Gun Control Needed to Prevent School Shootings | WVTF

Faculty Awards
Associate Dean Catherine Bradshaw was selected to receive the 2018 Mid-Career Excellence Award from the Society for Research on Adolescence.

Professor Patrick Tolan was selected to receive the 2018 Presidential Award from the Society for Prevention Research.
DARDEN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

School-Specific: MS in Business Analytics
McIntire and Darden announced in early February this new one-year degree designed for working professionals to prepare them for a career in business analytics: Master in Science in Business Analytics. More than 1,300 prospective students have already inquired about the program. Pending SCHEV approval, the program will begin in early August, and courses will be taught online and at the UVA Darden Sands Family Grounds in Rosslyn, Virginia.

School-Specific: Digital/Online Offerings
Darden has partnered with the Boston Consulting Group to create a four-week online course on digital transformation. The launch follows last year’s successful collaboration with BCG on a Pricing Strategy Optimization Specialization.

In January, Darden launched a new massive open online course (MOOC), “Managerial Accounting Fundamentals,” taught by Professor Luann Lynch. The course is available to anyone on the Coursera platform.

Enrollment
Applications to two-year MBA programs of top 20 business schools in the U.S. — which draw heavily on global applicant pools — are mostly down. Ongoing uncertainty about the U.S. visa policy and political climate is an important factor. Worldwide coverage of the August violence in Charlottesville has also created headwinds for Darden. Applications to the full-time MBA program are down 18%, with more significant declines among international and U.S. URM applicants, yet the quality of applicants is as high as ever, and the school expects to yield a strong incoming class, building on the record-setting Class of 2019.

Facilities
The UVA Darden Sands Family Grounds, the school’s new facility in Rosslyn, Virginia, opened on March 1. The space encompasses two floors; includes tiered and flat classrooms, meeting rooms and office space; and features panoramic views of the National Mall and Arlington, Virginia. The facility supports delivery of the Executive MBA, Executive Education and the new Darden/McIntire MSBA. In April, the facility hosted a number of University programs, including a reception by the UVA Club of Washington, D.C., with remarks by President Sullivan.
Research
Darden announced in March a Global Water Initiative that brings together professors from across the University to take on one of the world’s most pressing challenges: protecting and distributing fresh and clean water. Darden Professor Peter DeBaere is executive director of the initiative.

Advancement
Batten Foundation Darden Worldwide Scholarship Program: A $15 million gift from the Batten Foundation unlocked a matching gift from UVA's Bicentennial Scholars Fund, and the resulting $30 million endowment ultimately will provide every student in Darden’s full-time MBA program a scholarship to attend a Darden Worldwide Course at no incremental cost. This spring, Darden offered courses on five continents.

New Initiative for Transformational Leadership and Learning: As part of the silent phase of the capital campaign, Darden has received $2 million in seed funding toward the initiative, including a $1 million gift from Abundant Power Group CEO Shannon Smith (MBA ’90) — matched by a $500,000 gift from the UVA Bicentennial Professors Fund — and $500,000 from the Jakarta-based Rainbow Foundation. The funding will enable Darden to pilot new approaches to leadership development and the use of cutting-edge technology to push the boundaries of best practices in leadership development.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE

Research
UVA Engineering’s focus on bold research in areas of societal need continues to earn results: Sponsored research funding increased by 20 percent in quarters one and two of FY2018, compared to the same quarters in FY2017. This double-digit gain comes after UVA Engineering earned a 36 percent increase in research funding in FY2017 compared to FY2016. Dean Craig Benson and Executive Associate Dean for Research Pamela M. Norris attribute the increases to increasingly successful research proposals from faculty, enhanced research infrastructure, and a focused, strategic approach — bringing Engineering School faculty’s unique, interdisciplinary strengths to bear on complex engineering challenges in targeted areas where UVA can make a difference, including medicine, cyber and sustainability.

Rankings
UVA Engineering has concluded an analysis of American Society for Engineering Education data showing that UVA is the No. 1 public engineering school in the country for four-year graduation rates. UVA is also No. 1 for four-year graduation rates for Hispanic, Asian and African-American students, and in the top 10 percent of public engineering schools for the graduation rates of women in engineering. The analysis is based upon the American Society for Engineering Education 2015 Retention and Time-to-Graduation Survey, the latest survey from ASEE.

Diversity
UVA Engineering concluded its second-annual Excellence Through Diversity Distinguished Learning Series, with Angela Davis, activist, scholar and writer, and Michael Sam, former NFL player and LGBTQ activist. Read more about the full series here. Series videos are available here. The Engineering Student Council also hosted a series entitled “The Future of Diversity and Leadership in Engineering,” featuring three women engineering alumni. Videos of the talks are available here. The all-woman executive board of the Student Council also produced its own video about the power of diversity in engineering.

Facilities
In February, UVA Engineering celebrated UVA’s investment in cyber-physical systems research and education with the grand opening of the University’s Link Lab on the second floor of Olsson Hall on Engineer’s Way. UVA Engineering announced its cyber-physical systems initiative in 2015, and in October 2016, the Board of Visitors approved $4.8 million from the Strategic Investment Fund for the Link Lab’s construction. The lab already has a return on investment of
more than $20 million in research funding. The lab is dedicated to interdisciplinary collaboration and research on cyber systems that interact with and help control the human environment. Examples are devices that monitor human activities and health, autonomous vehicles, and smart buildings. Read about the lab here. Watch a video about the lab here.

**Faculty Achievement**

John R. Scully, Interim Chair and Charles Henderson Chaired Professor of Materials Science & Engineering, has become the only person ever to have won all major awards from the National Association of Corrosion Engineers, NACE International. Scully earned the A.B. Campbell Award (young author – 1985), the H.H. Uhlig Award (young educator – 1997), Fellow Honor (2002), Best Paper (2010), the Willis Rodney Whitney Award (for contributions to corrosion science), and now the T.J. Hull Award in April 2018 (outstanding contributions to NACE publications). Read more about Professor Scully’s accomplishments here.
School Specific
UVA Law students assisted an alumna in the winning pro bono defense of DeAndre Harris, a man beaten during the “Unite the Right” protest in August and later accused of assault and battery.

Student Honors & Accomplishments
UVA Law students won the International and European Tax Moot Court in Belgium, becoming the first U.S team to earn that honor in the competition’s almost 15-year history. Christina McLeod, Phil Ogea, David Rubin and Julia Wynn comprised the winning squad, with student Brandon Dubov serving as team coach and Professor Ruth Mason acting as faculty adviser. It was only the second year that UVA Law has fielded a team.

UVA Law’s Black Law Students Association has won national chapter of the year honors for the second straight year and for the fifth time since 2002. See: Black Law Students Association Repeats National Chapter Win

Students in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic were at the court Feb. 20 to witness Professor Toby Heytens argue the case they prepared; these students helped develop the arguments advanced in the merits briefs, respond to the arguments presented in the respondent’s reply brief and participated in Professor Heytens’ moot as he prepared for oral argument. See: Supreme Court Clinic’s Efforts Culminate as Heytens Argues City of Hays

Research
The University of Virginia School of Law has collaborated on a new website that uses a data-driven, interactive map to illustrate the rapid decline of the death penalty in the United States since 1991. The website is a supplement to Professor Brandon Garrett’s 2017 book, End of Its Rope: How Killing the Death Penalty Can Revive Criminal Justice, published by Harvard University Press. Previously, there had not been comprehensive, county-level data about persons sentenced to death during the period of 1991-2016. Garrett worked with a UVA Law librarian and a group of law students, with assistance from undergraduate students in the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, to code and check the data of more than 5,000 death sentences, gathering information from government records, court rulings and other sources.
**Rankings**
UVA Law is No. 4 for Class of 2017 graduates hired by the largest 100 U.S. firms and No. 5 in associate-to-partner promotions in the latest data gathered by the National Law Journal.

**Notable Events**
The University of Virginia and its School of Law honored the legacy of Gregory Swanson on Feb. 5 with a ceremony that recognized his significance as the University's first black student. A portrait of Swanson was unveiled and two UVA Law students received the inaugural Gregory H. Swanson Award, which recognizes law students who demonstrate the kind of courage, perseverance and commitment to justice that Swanson exemplified when he successfully sued for his right to attend UVA.

**Faculty Honors & Accomplishments**
University of Virginia School of Law professor Kerry Abrams, who also serves as UVA's vice provost for faculty affairs, will be the next dean of Duke Law School starting July 1.
Advancement
College and Law alumnus Chiswell Langhorne, Jr., and his wife, Barbara, recently made a major gift to the Library to support the William Faulkner Family Collection.

The Faulkner Family Collection includes a wealth of miscellaneous items: awards, reviews, sketches, hand drawings of Yoknapatawpha County, and more than three hundred books from Faulkner’s personal library. It offers a compelling portrait of William Faulkner as a working author, devoted father, and thoughtful commentator on the social and political issues of twentieth-century America. The collection confirms UVA’s place as the international center for Faulkner studies.

Recruitment
Dennis Clark joined the Library’s senior administration as Associate University Librarian for Public Services, beginning on February 19, 2018. He is well known as an innovator and collaborator, having spearheaded new programs and services in previous positions at Vanderbilt, Texas A&M and Virginia Commonwealth universities.

Carmelita Pickett will join the Library’s senior administration as Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources and Content Strategy, beginning in July, 2018. Coming most recently from the University of Iowa, Pickett brings a wealth of experience in both public and private research universities, including Texas A&M, Emory University and the University of California Santa Barbara.
McIntire School of Commerce

School Specific: MS in Business Analytics, new Certificate
McIntire and Darden announced in early February this new one-year degree designed for working professionals to prepare them for a career in business analytics: Master in Science in Business Analytics. More than 1,300 prospective students have already inquired about the program. Pending SCHEV approval, the program will begin in early August, and courses will be taught online and at the UVA Darden Sands Family Grounds in Rosslyn, Virginia.

McIntire Business Institute will launch a Certificate in Sustainable Business in May 2018.

Student Honors & Accomplishments
McIntire fourth-years Brian Mitchell and Evelyn Wang were recognized as 2018 Best & Brightest students by PoetsandQuants for Undergrads.

Alumni
Triple Hoo Dave Burke (McIntire ’88, Law ’93, A&S ’94) spearheaded McIntire’s “World of Investing & International Relations” course in January, as well as starting a scholarship grant to fund the travel expenses of the 12-student cohort.

Global
McIntire’s “Innovation & Entrepreneurship” in Israel is the newest addition to the growing list of its immersion courses—in addition to “The Business of Saving Nature in Costa Rica,” and “Digital Marketing & Analytics in the UK and Ireland.”

Diversity
McIntire’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion hosted a faculty workshop (“Controversial Topics and Difficult Dialogues”), programming consisting of six Community Lunch Dialogues, and “Women in the Workplace” events supporting the dialogue around #MeToo.

Faculty Honors & Accomplishments
McIntire IT Professor Suprateek Sarker is the recipient of an AIS Fellow Award, one of the Association for Information Systems’ most prestigious awards honoring extraordinary individuals in the information systems community.

Research
New findings by McIntire Management Professor Kieran O’Connor and Marketing Professor Amar Cheema suggest that judges’ evaluations become more positive over time. Their research appeared in Psychological Science and was featured in The Economist.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Rankings

*U.S. News & World Report* ranks School of Medicine No. 21 in primary care (up from No. 24) and No. 26 (up from No. 27) in research. The rankings reflect the growing strength of the school’s research funding as well as the continued impact of its innovative curriculum. The School of Medicine has grown its research portfolio from $162 million in fiscal year 2014 to $222 million in fiscal year 2017, while students continued to be attracted to UVA by its “Next Generation” Cells to Society curriculum, which enhances students’ ability to provide excellent clinical care. [https://news.virginia.edu/content/latest-us-news-rankings-place-four-uva-graduate-schools-nations-top-20](https://news.virginia.edu/content/latest-us-news-rankings-place-four-uva-graduate-schools-nations-top-20)


Research

UVA doctors Irving Kron and Christine Lau have begun human testing of a drug they hope will one day save many lives among lung transplant recipients. The drug, regadenoson, is already commonly used to image cardiac patients’ hearts. But the UVA research suggests it could be put to another, lifesaving purpose: battling ischemia reperfusion injury, in which tissue is damaged by the restoration of blood flow after it has been cut off. [http://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2018/03/26/decades-work-uva-launches-human-tests-lung-transplant-drug/](http://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2018/03/26/decades-work-uva-launches-human-tests-lung-transplant-drug/)

The Alzheimer’s Association is awarding the School of Medicine’s John Lukens, PhD, a 2018 Research Grant Award. This funding will support research critical to developing more effective strategies for detecting/treating/preventing Alzheimer’s. [http://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2018/02/20/19074/](http://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2018/02/20/19074/)

School Specific: Teaching Innovation through Virtual Reality

Physicians, trainees and even laypeople can now join an expert radiologist as he performs one of the most difficult medical procedures of its kind — thanks to virtual reality. Ziv Haskal, MD, has created a dramatic teaching tool using the power of VR. Haskal’s virtual procedure puts the viewer right in the room with him as he creates a new blood vessel through a small

School Specific: Surgical Innovation through 3-D Printing
UVA surgeon Dr. Jonathan Black uses computerized tomography, commonly known as a CAT scan, to make a 3-D electronic image of his patients’ skulls. Through a special software, the scans are translated into programming that allows Dwight Dart, design lab engineer in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, to print a three-dimensional, life-sized model. With the 3-D models, the procedure planning can be custom-tailored to each specific case. Both Black’s and Dr. Jose Gurrola II’s 3-D printing projects were funded by the School of Medicine Innovations in Graduate Medical Education grant award. The software used for Black’s project was funded by the Trustees of the Jefferson Trust, which is an initiative of the UVA Alumni Association. https://news.virginia.edu/content/surgeon-uses-3-d-printed-skulls-prepare-delicate-procedures

Faculty Awards & Accomplishments
The UVA Licensing & Ventures Group has named W. Jeffrey Elias, MD, the 2018 Edlich-Henderson Innovator of the Year, an award given to university faculty members whose research is making a major impact on society. Elias is recognized for pioneering the use of focused ultrasound to treat essential tremor, and for leading the clinical trial that resulted in Food and Drug Administration approval of the approach to treat the condition. http://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2018/01/31/jeff-elias-honored-as-innovator-of-year-for-focused-ultrasound-work/
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Rankings
In the annual U.S. News Guide to Best Graduate Schools released in early March, UVA Nursing’s programs remain Virginia’s only nursing degrees ranked among the nation’s top 20.

UVA Nursing’s magazine, Virginia Nursing Legacy, earns a ‘special merit award’ (equivalent to a regional bronze prize) in the magazine category from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Enrollment
Applications to the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program rose 87 percent in 2018, compared to 2017.

UVA Nursing’s acceptance rate for the BSN program was 12 percent, the lowest on Grounds.

School Specific: New Program
Newly developed “Wisdom in Nursing” program admitted its first 10 nursing student applicants. The program, which begins in Fall 2018, offers second-year students the opportunity to see health care through a local patients’ eyes by following them for three years.

Diversity
The School of Nursing co-hosted (with the School of Medicine) a Health Disparities Research Symposium and reception for Eliseo Perez-Stable, director of the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities for the Health System’s Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration.

A qRN student group was established to create a forum for LGBTQ+ students and allies to discuss issues of health and health care for the LGBTQ+ population.

The School of Nursing co-sponsored the Excellence Through Diversity Distinguished Learning Series, led by the School of Engineering.

Advancement/Major Gifts
The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation committed to $524,000 in scholarship funding for the School of Nursing and School of Medicine for academic year 2018-2019.
Alumni
Mavis Claytor (BSN `70, MSN 85), the School’s first African-American graduate, was honored at the annual Strong Men and Women in Virginia History program. Claytor – one of just seven honorees from around the Commonwealth – was feted in January by Gov. Northam and also inspired the 2018 writing prompt for the annual essay contest for high schoolers from around the state.

Faculty Honors & Accomplishments
Assoc. prof. Ishan Williams was elected president of the Southern Gerontological Society, bringing to six the number of faculty who hold key roles in major state, regional and national nursing and health organizations.

Student Honors & Accomplishments
PhD student Caitlin Dreisbach earned NINR funding for a Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Service award for her dissertation topic of “The influence of maternal obesity on microbial function and impaired glucose tolerance during pregnancy. “ In addition, she and partner Caroline Kelsey (psychology) obtained a $25K grant from Dannon Yoghurt to study the relationship among mothers, infants, the microbiome and mental health. This is part of their Presidential Fellowship in Data Science project.

Throughout Jan and Feb 2018, DNP students HoChong Gilles and Cindy Fagan led fellow nurse practitioners to champion House Bill #793, which eases practice restrictions on Virginia’s NPs. The bill ultimately passed; in May, Gilles will become president of the Virginia Council of Nurse Practitioners (and earns a DNP from the School).