

REPORT TO THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY

November 26, 2019

To the Hampden-Sydney College Community:

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday and a season of gratitude, my campus colleagues and I continue to give thanks for the generosity shown by Mr. Stanley Pauley, whose transformational \$30 million gift will allow us to construct the Pauley Science Center. This new facility will strengthen Hampden-Sydney's position among the nation's finest colleges and enhance the teaching, research, and collaboration of our science faculty members so that our students can be even better prepared for career success. In addition to providing Hampden-Sydney with a state-of-the-art science building, Mr. Pauley's gift invites us to think ambitiously about the College's future and it puts momentum behind our efforts to be better known, more highly regarded, and to be an even more vital force for good in our society.

Fulfilling Our College's Distinctive Mission

Hampden-Sydney offers young men a transformative coming-of-age experience that encourages them to achieve their full potential. Our graduates are successful in every field of endeavor and contribute in important ways to their workplaces, their communities, and our society. Over 244 years, we have developed a unique "formula" to fulfill our mission of forming "good men and good citizens:"

- *A rigorous academic program* that teaches young men to think critically and to express themselves well, while providing them with the cultural, quantitative, scientific, and discipline-specific knowledge that equips them to thrive and lead in a changing world. Our dedicated faculty and staff members come to know our young men and mentor them so that they are well prepared for any pursuit after college. With a commitment to civil discourse in and out of the classroom, we encourage our students both to hear and to challenge each other's ideas and opinions.
- *The simultaneous development of intellect and character*, which is essential to our mission. Opportunities for character and leadership development are abundant and inherent in our student self-government, codes of honor and conduct, academic and athletic programs, clubs and organizations, and residential life. Our men study and live in a culture of responsibility and accountability, and by the time they reach their senior year, most have held a leadership position on campus. These high expectations of honor, conduct, and responsibility become and remain guiding principles for Hampden-Sydney men.
- *A powerful brotherhood* that is a source of deep and abiding friendships and, just as importantly, the vehicle through which our students challenge each other to be the best men they can be. The formative impact of our brotherhood translates into a devoted alumni network that *Princeton Review* rates as the fourth best of the 400 top colleges and universities it evaluates.

Timeless Values and Continuous Innovation and Improvement

Maintaining and strengthening everything that is distinctive, good, and noble about Hampden-Sydney is our mandate, but we must also evolve purposefully to remain well-positioned in a competitive higher education landscape. The College has made many advances over the last few years, introducing new majors, welcoming our second class of Wilson Leadership Fellows, hiring a full-time director in the Flemming Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, adding athletics staff and improving our club and intramural sports programs, and expanding our High Adventure (outdoor education) program. Most importantly, our faculty conceived and implemented Compass—an emphasis on experiential learning that will make internships, study abroad, research, service learning, and hands-on learning opportunities a part of every student’s Hampden-Sydney experience. This initiative is the most important curricular development since the adoption of our current Rhetoric Program, and it will make our students even better prepared and more competitive for the best career and graduate school opportunities.

Along with devoted alumni and faculty and staff members, our college’s culture is one of its most important assets. Building on our recent recognition as one of *The Great Colleges to Work For*, we aim to strengthen our culture, our commitment to becoming a more diverse and inclusive community, and our efforts to be an even more distinctive and remarkable College. Our campus is unique in its commitment to the simultaneous development of intellect and character, to its codes of honor and conduct, and to civil discourse—all of which are essential elements of our College’s culture. And, inviting and engaging the widest range of ideas and perspectives is the essence of college life and only enriches Hampden-Sydney’s intellectual vitality.

Finally, our students, faculty, and staff members are benefiting from many campus improvements. Following the opening of the Brown Student Center and the renovation of Brinkley Hall, we gave Cushing Hall a major refresh, remodeled other student facilities, broke ground on a new student residence complex, and dedicated the Pannill Center for Rhetoric and Communication. And, the Pauley Science Center will give us a state-of-the art science facility as well as an opportunity to imagine an exciting second act for Gilmer Hall.

Advancing the College’s Mission

Our most significant benefactor to date, Mr. Pauley, sees in Hampden-Sydney a commitment to all that is good about higher education. And, it is tremendously satisfying for all of us to be associated with a College that has such a positive and transformative impact on the lives of young men. Our work, which depends on financial support from the College’s alumni and friends, is advanced each day by an exceptionally talented and dedicated faculty and staff. Recent benefactors have supported our most revered programs, traditions, and infrastructure—including gifts for Rhetoric, the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest, renovation of historic facilities, and professorships that strengthen our academic program—and exciting initiatives, including the Flemming Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Compass, and the Pauley Science Center.

While major gifts allow us to take significant leaps, we rely on the annual support and generosity of all of our alumni and friends. Our “every Tiger every year” campaign for the Hampden-Sydney

Fund seeks to underscore our need for every alumnus and friend of the College to support our work every year. Each gift we receive, no matter the size, strengthens the College's educational program or makes it possible for a new generation of young men to receive the benefits of a Hampden-Sydney education. At this time of the year when we reflect on and offer our gratitude for life's many blessings, let us be grateful for this special College and all who have dedicated their talents, energies, and treasure to advance the College's work.

As our College approaches the 250th anniversary of its establishment, it holds steadfast to its founding mission, which remains as relevant today as it was at the birth of our College and nation. We also look forward to an exciting future, confident that there is much more that our College and its alumni can contribute to society in the decades ahead.