



# The William and Mary FAMILY

A newsletter for the families of William and Mary students

## Say It Ain't So, Sam! VP for Student Affairs Will Retire on June 30

Student, assistant dean of admission, dean of men, dean of students, dean of student affairs. And, finally, vice president for student affairs. Sam Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71 has been all these things since he arrived at Wil-



Sam Sadler

liam and Mary in 1960. But for three generations of the William and Mary family, he's also been just plain "Sam."

And, hard as it will be for the William and Mary community to believe, as of July 1, he will be the retired vice president for student affairs.

"William and Mary has nurtured me, encouraged me, shaped me, and become such a part of me that thinking about not being a formal part of its day-to-day excitement is hard to grasp," Sadler told the *William & Mary News* when he announced his intention to retire in January. "While there is always work to do and much I would still like to accom-

plish, the staff and program in Student Affairs have never been stronger. As much as I love what I do, I know it is time to step down."

Sadler said that students have been the constant source of pride and inspiration for him during his time at the College, and that he has learned much from them over the years.



A combination guaranteed to bring huge smiles across campus — Sam Sadler and William and Mary students.

"It is not an understatement to say that William and Mary has helped me become the person I am," he said.

Read more about Sam on page 6.

## Interim President Reveley Busy Moving College Forward



W. Taylor Reveley III

Since he was named William and Mary's interim president on Feb. 12, Taylor Reveley has been extremely active on campus and in Richmond, carrying forward the cause of the College. Reveley, who has served as dean of the William and Mary Law School for the past 10 years, has met with many students, faculty and staff, both individually and in groups,

to hear their concerns and discuss ways to build on William and Mary's proud tradition of academic excellence. He has participated in a student-organized forum on diversity, and heard from student volunteer leaders.

Reveley spent several days meeting with legislators at the General Assembly, his colleagues on the Council of Presidents, and members of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to secure the College's financial future. He also fielded questions from alumni, parents and friends during a conference call on March 11 and continued to teach his class at the Law School.

Reveley is devoting a great deal of time to learning about, and securing support for, all the many people and programs that make William and Mary, in his words, "one of the most ancient and important institutions in America."

"This is a man who gets things done," said Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler, who shared his support when Reveley met with students at the end of February. "I feel very confident that we're in good hands."

## In the News...

### Ambler Named Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Virginia M. “Ginger” Ambler ’88, Ph.D. ’06, assistant vice president for student affairs, will serve as interim vice president for student affairs, Interim



*Ginger Ambler*

Ambler became assistant vice president for student affairs in 2001. Prior to that, she served as assistant to the vice president for student affairs from 1991 until 2000. A career student affairs professional, Ambler was also the acting assistant director of career services for the College of Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University and the assistant director of residential life at Franklin and Marshall College.

“At a time when leadership continuity is especially important, the College is fortunate to have someone like Ginger Ambler to provide interim leadership to the division of student affairs,” Sadler said. “She understands the College and its students, has been a part of most of the major developments in student affairs and many in the College at large for the past 17 years and possesses rock-solid, steady judgment.”

### Tomlin Gives “Pep Talk” at Commencement

The Class of 2008 graduated on Sunday, May 11 after getting a “pre-game” talk from Pittsburgh Steelers head coach

Mike Tomlin ’95, and sharing in a separate surprise announcement of plans to honor a retiring campus icon.

During the Commencement ceremony held in William and Mary Hall, Rector Michael K. Powell ’85, D.P.S. ’02 surprised everyone when he announced that the University Center will be renamed the Sadler Center for Sam Sadler, who will be retiring this summer after more than four decades of service.

Earlier, Tomlin said the the graduates were about to start in a “game” of their own — the game of life. Likening his speech to a pre-game pep talk, Tomlin complimented them on what they had



*Mike Tomlin*

experience here has sharpened your sword for battle. I encourage you to trust that preparation.”

In his closing remarks, Interim President Taylor Reveley reminded graduates about the special nature and history of the College. William and Mary may not have a surplus of funds, Reveley said, but its history, its beauty, its academic reputation, its ability to overcome adversity — and its legacy were things that could not be purchased. He told the graduates that their alma mater was proud of what they had accomplished and looked forward to what they’d achieve in the years to come.

### Parent Leaders Honor Vice President Sadler

During its spring meeting on Saturday, April 5, William and Mary’s Parents Steering Committee honored retiring Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71 with a check for \$100,000. The amount, which was



*Sam Sadler and Joe Collerd*

contributed by current and past parent leaders of the College and presented by Steering Committee Co-chair Joe Collerd, will support Student Affairs initiatives that help William and Mary students develop critical skills for life. Sadler refers to these initiatives as “A Few of My Favorite Things,” and they include diversity and leadership development programs, career services, university speaker and concert series, the First Year Experience Program and more.

*For more information, please contact Iris Ramey, Director of Development for Student Affairs and Family Giving, at (757) 221-1248.*

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## New Career Center Planned for Heart of Campus

In today's job market and economy it is critical that students have access to the very best career services William and Mary can provide. They deserve no less. Funded completely by private gifts, the \$7 million Career Center will provide these services in a highly visible and accessible facility that can grow and change as its needs do.



Just as exciting, the new Career Center will match the quality of our staff and the expectations of our students. Building it will allow William and Mary to provide an opportunity for a future that our students deserve. The Career Center, therefore, is critical both to the College's ability to remain competitive and to the engaged and fulfilling lives that our students will lead upon graduating from this special place.

Among other things, the new Career Center will feature:

- ❖ An open and welcoming reception area and resource lounge with print materials and computers for immediate access to online resources.
- ❖ Attractive, comfortable interview rooms with natural light and adequate space, which provide an inviting and engaging environment for prospective employers to meet students.
- ❖ A presentation room fully equipped with state-of-the-art technology that offers a setting for presentations,

information sessions, workshops, networking events and teleconference sessions designed to develop career awareness and skills necessary for career development.

For more information about how you can help us build the Career Center, please contact Iris Ramey, director of development for student affairs and family giving, at (757) 221-1248 or [irrame@wm.edu](mailto:irrame@wm.edu).

## Class of '08 Shatters Class Gift Record

The Class of 2008's Senior Class Gift drive is over and it's one for the record books. As of May 2, the Class had reached its goal of 60 percent participation and surpassed an ambitious monetary goal of \$160,000 with \$168,713 pledged to the College.



*Interim President Reveley toasts the Class of 2008 at a special event for leadership donors on April 22 at the Muscarelle Museum of Art.*

Congratulations are in order to the Senior Class Gift Committee: Greg Cooper, Jimmy Edmonds, Nick Faulkner, Kate McCarthy, Matt Taylor, Katy Wall and Tiseme Zegeye. Their hard work organizing fundraising events throughout the fall and spring semesters, and educating their classmates about the importance of private support affirms their commitment to the College, both today and for the long term.

*For more news and information about the 2008 Senior Class Gift, please visit [www.seniorclassgift.org](http://www.seniorclassgift.org).*

## Parents Reception Held in Richmond

Sarah and Don Finley Ed.D. '76, parents of Catherine Finley '09 and members of the Parents Steering Committee, held a reception for William and Mary parents in March at their home



*Don and Sarah Finley with Provost Geoff Feiss (center).*

in Richmond. Twenty couples attended the event, during which Provost Geoff Feiss spoke about moving the College forward, outlined Interim President Reveley's goals and answered questions about academics at the College.

## Parents Chairs Announced

Suzanne and Peter Sealy (below, right) have been named chairs of the Parents Steering Committee for 2008–09; Robert Blau and Jane Mago (below, left, with Sam Sadler) will chair the Parents Fund and the Parents Leadership Circle; and Sarah and Don Finley (see above) will serve as secretaries to the Parents Association.



## Parents Fund Update...

### Student Impact — Parents Scholar Matt Taylor

Matt Taylor '08 recalls the moment he decided William and Mary was for him. About 10 days before he had to make a decision, the Houston, Texas, native attended the College's Day for Admitted Students.

That visit sealed the deal. "Size was a big factor," recalls Taylor. "William and Mary was small enough that I could quickly meet new people and large enough that I knew all of my interests would be met. But ultimately the deciding factor was the sense of community I found while visiting campus."



Matt Taylor

During his time here, Taylor proved he has what it takes to give back to the College community and beyond. He served on the College's Honor Council, and as a tour guide, resident advisor, co-chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee and as a member of One in Four, a group of young men who educate peers about rape on college campuses. He also mentored at-risk James City County students at the Center for Educational Opportunities, which opened his eyes to the education gap that exists between lower and higher income students.

Taylor also served as president of his fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, and as chair for the Council for Fraternity Affairs. In fact, Taylor was recently recognized by Beta Theta Pi's national chapter with the Most Outstanding Senior in the Northeast award.

The Parents Association also recognized Taylor's good work, naming him the 2007-08 Parents Scholar. With the

scholarship, Taylor was able to travel to Wales last summer for an internship with the National Assembly for Wales, where he worked for David Melding M.A. '89, the shadow minister for economic development and transport. "The Parents Association scholarship went a long way toward making the internship possible," says Taylor, who adds that it helped offset a lot of the startup costs associated with traveling overseas for the summer.

Taylor is grateful for the support he has received from the Parents Association — and for the opportunities he has engaged at the College. Now graduated, he will continue to give back with Teach for America, which he will serve as a secondary English instructor in New Orleans.

### How the Parents Fund Makes a Difference

The Parents Fund truly makes a difference in the lives of our students. This year, the Parents Association earmarked funds for a number of groups and projects. Highlights include:

❖ Housing in New York City last summer for students who performed in the New York International Fringe Festival — the largest multi-arts festival in North America.



❖ Support for the Campus Kitchen project, which raises awareness and reduces hunger by taking surplus food from area restaurants and grocery stores



and repackaging it as healthy meals for needy populations.

❖ General support for the Ebony Expressions a capella singing group.



❖ Support for One in Four, an all-male sexual assault peer education group, to attend a conference.

Your gifts to the Parents Fund support all this and much more. See below for how you can make the William and Mary experience even better!

### Want to Support the Parents Fund?

Gifts to the Parents Fund support financial aid, undergraduate research, faculty research, summer community service grant programs, the Monroe Scholars program and much more. You can support the Fund in any of the following ways:

- 1) Send a check payable to "The Parents Fund" to: The Parents Fund, P.O. Box 1693, Williamsburg, VA 23187-9915.
- 2) Charge your contribution to your MasterCard, Visa or Discover card by visiting our secure Web site — [www.wm.edu/fundwm](http://www.wm.edu/fundwm) — or by calling (757) 221-1008.
- 3) To make a gift of appreciated securities, call (757) 221-1080 to arrange the transfer.

**Your gift by June 30, 2008, will help the Parents Fund have another successful year supporting students.**



## Making a Difference...

### College Announces \$10M Initiative for Gateway

The Board of Visitors and the College have announced a plan to increase the Gateway William and Mary endowment to \$10 million by year's end. As part of that effort, Rector Michael K. Powell '85, D.P.S. '02 announced a commitment by Board members to provide \$1 million, which will serve as a dollar-



for-dollar match for money raised by the William and Mary community.

"Two months ago my colleagues on this Board made a promise to the

William and Mary family — providing resources that allow the College not merely to sustain its mission, but to thrive," said Powell, adding that \$1 million represents 100 percent participation in commitments by Board members.

"Chief among our interests is Gateway William and Mary. This program requires a substantial commitment of private monies to reach our goal — in six years helping 600 students or 10 percent of the student body with resources from the endowment," Powell said.

Gateway William and Mary is designed for students whose household income is \$40,000 or less and provides supplemental assistance when other financial aid falls short. Currently, 175 William and Mary students receive Gateway funds.

In addition to the Board's challenge, Interim President Taylor Reveley announced that the College has also received a bequest gift of more than \$5 million from the estate of Joan Jarrett Woods '40 that will go toward the Gateway William and Mary Endowment.

Jarrett, who left the money in her will for the College's greatest needs, was the creator of Project Liftoff, a mentoring program designed to assist students in Logan County, Ill., to obtain a college degree.

"With tremendous support of the Board and the generosity of Mrs. Woods, the College is now well on its way to reaching this important \$10 million goal," Reveley said.

### Faculty Excellence Honored

Joseph J. Plumeri '66, member of the Board of Visitors, and longtime supporter — has committed \$2 million to establish the Plumeri Awards for Faculty Excellence.

"It is a privilege for me to give back to honor and support our faculty's efforts," said Plumeri. "The faculty is the DNA of the College and each day they work passionately to challenge the minds of



*W&M students and faculty, like Emily Sherbin '08 and associate professor of biology John Griffin (above), are renowned for working collaboratively. Joseph Plumeri (left) considers faculty to be the DNA of the College.*

our exceptional students. Their research and other pursuits extend well beyond the campus."

With an annual payout of \$200,000 over 10 years, the Plumeri Awards will provide 20 members of the faculty with \$10,000 for research opportunities, summer salaries or other stipends associated with scholarly endeavor.

Candidates for the awards will be nominated by the deans of their respective schools, with the final decision made by Provost P. Geoffrey Feiss. The first awards will be announced and presented during the 2009–10 academic year and will continue each year for 10 years.

Plumeri is chairman and CEO of the Willis Group, a leading global insurance broker, handling risk management and reinsurance across a wide range of service areas and industries.

"Joe Plumeri is a devoted servant-leader and a true ambassador of the College of William and Mary," said Rector Michael K. Powell. "Through his generosity, he is enhancing the landscape of the College as a premier institution of higher learning for both our faculty and our students."

### Parents Association Summer Service Grants Have Wide Reach

Though the school year is over, many students will remain busy as ever. Recently, 40 students were awarded summer service grants to conduct service projects. Among them are recipients of Parents Association Summer Service Grants, including: Alexander Wu '10 (documentary filmmaking in India); Sarah Goldman '09 (Students for Healthy Communities, Nicaragua); Blanca Tyler '09 (service in Xalapa, Mexico); Kristen Pantazes '10 (SAFY Uganda); Sarah King '09 (service at Dayspring Farm, Cologne, Va.); Caroline Mullis '09 (HIV/AIDS work in Capetown, South Africa); Nashrah Ahmed '09 (service in Dhaka, Bangladesh); Timothy Bacon '09 (Poverty's Demise pilot program in New York City); and William Lacy '10 (service with the Bosnia Group).

*For more on service efforts, visit [www.wm.edu/studentactivities/osvs/](http://www.wm.edu/studentactivities/osvs/).*

## Sam Sadler — As Others See Him

“Vice President Sadler’s campus presence and enthusiastic love for the College have been such a reinforcing influence upon my own positive experience at William and Mary.”

— *Thuy-Van “Tina” Ho ’08*



“Sam was always there and always looking out for our children’s best interest and welfare first. As a William and Mary parent it was great comfort to know our children were in ‘good hands’ — Sam’s!”

— *Joe and Therese Collerd,  
Chairs, Parents Association Steering  
Committee 2007–08*

“Sam Sadler has been such a remarkable mentor to so many professionals in the field of student affairs. Many William and



Mary undergraduates have pursued this profession because we experienced first hand Sam’s caring, compassionate and provoking leadership.”

— *Anne H. Arseneau ’88,  
M.A.Ed. ’92,  
Associate Director of  
Student Activities*

“I’ve been lucky enough to call Sam Sadler my mentor and friend. Each day he shows us what it means to be a student affairs professional, what it means to put and keep students at the heart of our work. Each day he shows us how to find reasons to smile and laugh.”

— *Deb Boykin ’76, M.Ed. ’82,  
Director of Residence Life*



“Sam Sadler has dedicated his career to supporting the growth and development of our students; he cares deeply about the individual and takes time to really know people; and he has mentored countless student affairs professionals during his years as dean of students and vice president. He certainly was a mentor to me when I was an undergraduate here, and it was Sam who encouraged me to enter this field. I count myself doubly blessed, then, to have worked so closely with him for the last 17 years, and to have learned so much by his unmatched example. He is a wise, generous servant leader and a true friend. I am grateful beyond words.”

— *Ginger Ambler ’88, Ph.D. ’06,  
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs*



The College of  
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