Remembering Dr. Carroll F.S. Hardy: A Trailblazer and Visionary

On November 27, Dr. Carroll Hardy departed this life and left a large void in the hearts of many. In August 1980 Hardy was hired as the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs at the College of William & Mary. During her tenure, she touched the lives of many students, faculty, and staff. She was affectionately known as “Dean Hardy” to most who knew her. Dr. Hardy opened the doors to the College for many students from diverse backgrounds through her summer programs: STEP, EMC, WEBS, and CHAMPS. In 1995, she resigned from The College to pursue her dream of preparing future leaders for tomorrow. In conjunction with her three brothers and three sisters, she formed The Stuart Educational Leadership Group, Inc. Under this umbrella, Dr. Hardy was able to extend and expand her vision for 27 years through the National Black Student Leadership Development Conference. In 1992, she founded the Hulon Willis Association at William and Mary. In May 2012, The College of William & Mary granted her Honorary Alumna status. Much of the success that William & Mary experiences today with diversity is a tribute to her vision and leadership.

William and Mary Theatre Students Produce “8” The Play for Marriage Equality and Equal Rights

“8” was performed as a staged reading at W&M Phi Beta Kappa Hall on Friday, November 30. Written by Dustin Lance Black, this piece of history-on-stage follows the groundbreaking court decision, boldly proclaiming that marriage should be available to all – even between members of the same sex. Today – two years later – the case has still not been finalized.

A group of first-year students banded together to make this dream a reality, and to unashamedly tell the world of their stance on equality, fairness, and love. The play detailed a moment in history when discrimination was put on trial.

According to Executive Producer, Professor, ‘in producing 8 with my students, I aim to exhibit our experiential pedagogy where our students engage theatre in all its components, learning first hand its power to ask the difficult questions and creating a safe space for the community to collectively discuss its future.” The play was very educational and moving. Thanks to all who supported and participated. –Professor Francis Tanglo-Aguas

Suggested Books for Winter Break Reading

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks- Rebecca Skloot

A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from Inner City to the Ivy League- Ron Suskind

Welfare Brat: A Memoir- Mary Childers

Portraits of Service: Looking into the Faces of Veterans- Robert H. Miller and Andrew Wakeford

My Name is Yoon- Helen Recorvits
Jefferson Hall Unveils Plaque

On Saturday, November 10, 2012, the Jefferson-Taliaferro Hall Council hosted a celebration to unveil a plaque honoring the first three African American residential students at William & Mary, Janet Brown, Karen Ely, and Lynn Briley. The event included remarks from President W. Taylor Reveley, III, Dr. Vernon Hurte, Director of the Center for Student Diversity, and Tyler Bell, Vice President of the Hall Council. The plaque is located in the Jefferson Hall Basement Lounge.

W.I.S.E. Hosts Faculty Retreat

The Women In Scientific Education (WISE) grant hosted its first annual Women's Faculty Retreat at VIMS on Saturday, November 17. The afternoon began with a catered lunch and an opportunity to socialize and network with colleagues from William & Mary, Thomas Nelson, and Richard Bland colleges.

The first speaker, Dr. Cheryl Dickter, presented results from a survey WISE conducted at the beginning of the grant. There were some compelling findings. The survey suggests that male faculty outperform female faculty on productivity measures including publications and grants and that females tend to spend more time on service. But having a mentor or advocate, or belonging to a support group such as the Women's Network, seems to ameliorate this effect.

Our second speaker was the new Dean of Arts & Science, Dr. Kate Conley. Kate gave a wonderful autobiographical account of her life. The account highlighted the female mentors and role models she has had along the way, providing an explicit account of the impact such individuals can have in our lives. Moreover, it seemed to provide an implicit call to arms for the audience. Not only must we reflect on our own role models and mentors, we must think about what we, as women, can and should do to mentor and lead others in our group.

It was a positive afternoon of community building, data consideration, and reflection. We look forward to hosting the same event next year. In the meantime, tell us about one of your female mentors or role models. Send a picture with one or two sentences about her importance to apeabody@wm.edu and we will post it on our WISE webpage. —Professor Jennifer Stevens
Women’s Basketball L.A. B. Partners
Mentorship Program

While the pressures to perform on the field or the court continue to grow exponentially for collegiate student athletes and coaches alike, it would be all too easy to lose sight of the importance of preparing these young people for such a thing known as “life after sport.” You know, that little thing that inevitably awaits even the best of the best when their eligibility expires.

However, William & Mary’s head women’s basketball coach, Debbie Taylor, has it figured out. She sees beyond the rebounds and the lay-ups and realizes just how important this additional aspect of training is for her student athletes. As a result, she has spearheaded the inaugural L.A.B. Mentoring Program for the William & Mary women’s basketball team. This program, which so appropriately stands for Life After Basketball, pairs Juniors and Seniors from the team with professionals in the Williamsburg community in an effort to foster an environment and a forum for mentoring, career counsel, and ultimately friendships that last for years to come.

The program aims to help these student athletes gain the knowledge and skillset essential in preparing for the career path that they envision beyond the hardwood. Many of the mentors were once in the shoes of these student athletes, which make their wisdom so very impactful. LAB is focused on providing these young women with tools to build resumes, job search, network, and most importantly to learn from successful professionals who have been there and done that. The program features such events as a panel discussion, where players can pepper the mentors with questions as they seek tidbits of wisdom from anyone other than their coaches or parents; community service events that help remind everyone to step outside of their respective roles in order to give back; and a bring your mentee to work day where the student athletes get a sneak peek into the glories of the corner office, the cubicle, the classroom, etc. thus painting a realistic picture of what to expect in any number of work environments.

There is a degree of receptiveness that is evident when the student athletes speak to the panel of mentors. They have just met these women. They are not coaches. They are not parents. As a result, there is a very special degree of honesty and openness that allows for both parties to impact each other. It is the hope of Coach Taylor that these relationships will transcend the walls of William & Mary Hall and hold strong throughout the careers of all involved.  

-Beth Bradley, Assistant Coach, Women’s Basketball
LEMON PROJECT UPDATES

Lemon Project hosts Second Porch Talk

The second Porch Talk took place on Friday, November 16 in the Sadler Center Chesapeake B. This event began with students, faculty, and staff taking part in a lively conversation about the realities of returning home after a semester of ‘freedom’, but before it was all over, the discussion had covered family traditions, superstitions, and “graduating from the kids table” at holiday dinners. When all was said and done, it was clear that this multi-generational, multicultural group had a great deal in common. Dr. Warrenetta Mann, Director of the Counseling Center led this discussion.

The Lemon Project Oral History Collection

The Lemon Project Oral History Collection is well underway, and we are looking for undergraduate and graduate students who would like to participate. There will be a training session on Saturday, January 26th from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm in the Sadler Center Tidewater B. Alphine Jefferson, Ph.D., professor of History and Director of Black Studies at Randolph – Macon College in Ashland, VA, will lead the workshop. Professor Jefferson has degrees from the University of Chicago and Duke University, where he was among the first graduate students to train under that institution’s oral history project in the late 1970s. A past president of the Oral History Association, Professor Jefferson has conducted countless oral history training sessions. If you would like to participate in this training session, please register at https://forms.wm.edu/7070. The deadline is January 22, 2013. The workshop is limited to 25 participants.

The Lemon Project Corner

This monthly column will highlight some aspect of African American history at the College or in the local community.

In 1807, Bishop James Madison, the president of the College of William and Mary from 1777 until 1812, wrote to William Cabell, Governor of Virginia, on behalf of a twenty year old, landowning free black man by the name of Rozarro. This man was possibly John Wallace Rozzaro (sometimes spelled De Rozarro and Rozario], a local gunsmith. According to the letter, Rozarro had taught himself reading, writing, and arithmetic, and some Latin and wanted to continue his education by attending lectures at the College. Madison wrote “that the Mind of such a Man, considering the peculiar Situation of our Country, ought, if possible, to be directed into a safe Channel, & ardent as he really appears to be, in the Acquisition of Science, I, not withstanding, advised him to apply himself to those Trades, which he has commenced, & by perfecting himself in which he may obtain a comfortable living. He has resolved to follow this Advice, & if he can be admitted into the Armoury, -- upon wages proportioned to his Skills, he will attend, with the fullest Certificate of good character.” What did Bishop Madison fear might happen if Rozarro’s abilities were not “directed into a safe Channel?” Needless to say, we will continue to look into the very interesting Mr. Rozarro.

-Jody Allen, Managing Director, Lemon Project
Neurodiversity News

William & Mary Neurodiversity Working Group member, Renee Salas, publishes a new book, *Black and White: A Colorful Look at Life on the Autism Spectrum*. As we continue to develop our efforts at the College, please consider reading Renee’s story.

"YOU DO REALIZE PEOPLE DON'T THINK THE WAY YOU DO?" MY PSYCHOLOGIST IS LOOKING AT ME OVER THE RIM OF HIS GLASSES WITH BOTH CONCERN AND DISBELIEF...

"Black & White is a unique and refreshing look at life, love, and parenthood on the autism spectrum. Diagnosed in her late 20’s with Asperger’s Syndrome and Asperger Syndrome Disorder, Salas tells openly and truthfully about growing up on a spectrum she didn’t know existed until the diagnosis of her son in 2000. Inspiring and at times moving, Salas’s heartfelt account of friendship, marriage and parenting, both on and off the spectrum, are humorous and enlightening.

"I wanted Black & White to tell a different story—a positive one," says Salas. "It had to be about life on the autism spectrum—now the autism inside."";

Meet the Equal Opportunity Committee

The Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity works closely with the Equal Opportunity Committee. The Committee plays an active role in advancing the goals of equal access and diversity throughout the campus community. In addition, the Committee advises the Chief Compliance Officer. This is an appointed committee that serves as advisory to the President. Members serve a 3-year term. The faculty and staff members for 2012-13 are: Chon Glover, Co-Chair, Sharron Gatling, Co-Chair, Chon Abraham, Kiersten Boyce, Anne Charity-Hudley, Destiny Elliott, Tatia Granger, Susan Grover, Caroline Hanley, Joyce Holmes, Robert Kaplan, Kyung Hee Kim, Ron Price, Robert Reis, Carina Sudarsky-Gleiser, Kam Tang, and Jennifer Taylor. The student members are: Drew Lanzafama, Gabriela Schaps, Neal Chhabra, Gowri Janakiramanan, and James Hudley.

College Diversity Advisory Committee Meets with Students

On November 27, the College Diversity Advisory Committee met with a group of undergraduate and graduate students representing various aspects of campus life. The students shared their perspectives on current diversity efforts and provided suggestions of areas for improvement.