

Introduction



The Year's Highlight's in Alumni Relations:

- The Alumni Association moved its offices into the new Holtzman Alumni Center.
- The Holtzman Alumni Center, Skelton Conference Center, and The Inn at Virginia Tech were formally dedicated on October 28, with more than 700 people attending the dedication activities.
- A new strategic plan, including principles, core values and strategic directions, was approved by the Board of Directors in April.
- Staffing each of the “alumni constituencies programs” was completed – including those serving alumni of all eight academic colleges, Corps of Cadets alumni, and multicultural alumni.
- Attendance at the annual “Hokie Day” legislative advocacy program in Richmond reached a record level of alumni and student participation in its eighth year.
- A Sportsmanship and Fan Behavior Task Force was formed in January to address the culture of fan behavior with a Sportsmanship Resolution encouraging high levels of sportsmanship and respect. The Alumni Association is collaborating with Athletics and other areas of the university in the ongoing Hokies Respect campaign.
- The Association partnered with the Michael Vick Foundation to bring Michael Vick to campus for the Gateway program, which targets under-represented students offered admission, and on the Michael Vick Golf Classic to raise funds for youth programs and for the Tidewater Alumni Chapter’s Scholarship fund.
- The Alumni Association, in conjunction with the Virginia Tech Iraqi Outreach Committee, participated in the Operation Provide Classroom Comfort project which collected school supplies and monetary donations for distribution to Iraqi schools.
- Events for alumni, ranging from traditional alumni chapters to on-campus homecomings and reunions totaled approximately 750 separate events.
- Alumni chapters and clubs through the nation and abroad climbed to 115 in number. 150 alumni chapter scholarships totaling \$145,350 were awarded to incoming freshmen.
- The Class of 2007 *Mary Jones Berry Ring Collection*, honoring one of the earliest women graduates in Engineering, was featured at the October Ring Premiere and March Ring Dance.

Alumni Awards and Recognition

The Alumni Association continued a long tradition of service to the university by awarding scholarships to students, excellence awards to faculty and service awards to alumni. Endowments have been established to provide annual funding for professorships and merit scholarships. The total amount awarded to students and faculty was approximately \$490,000. Several awards were presented at Commencement, the Fall Faculty and Staff Awards Ceremony, the Student Honors Dinner, alumni chapter activities and special programs.

In total, fifteen awards were presented to faculty at the Fall Faculty and Staff Awards Ceremony with cash stipends of \$2,000 each. Graduate student awards totaling \$3,000, which recognize teaching and service, were awarded at the spring Graduate Student Awards dinner. Two alumni were recognized at Commencement for their distinguished service to the Association and university. The Humanitarian Award, recognizing an alum who has significantly made an impact on a humanitarian cause with their participation and leadership, was presented to William T. Sergeant '40, for his dedicated leadership for Rotary International in a campaign to eradicate polio around the globe.

Awards and scholarship presented in 2005-2006

- Alumni Chapter Scholarships (150 scholarships)
- Alumni Distinguished Professorships (11 continuing appointments)
- Alumni Honors Scholarships (78 scholarships)
- Excellence Awards for teaching, research, extension, service, academic advising, outreach, and international programs (15 awards)
- Outstanding Alumni Chapter Awards (28 with \$500 scholarship awards)
- Outstanding Alumni Chapter Officer (1 recognition)
- Outstanding Chapter Volunteer (1 recognition)
- Outstanding Graduate Alumni Award (1 recognition)
- Outstanding Recent Alumni Awards (8 recognitions)
- Outstanding Students by college (8 recognitions)
- Student Alumni Associates Students' Choice Award (1 faculty recognition)
- "Top 25" Awards for Virginia Tech's nationally ranked athletic teams (football)
- Humanitarian Award (1 recognition)

Alumni Legislative Advocacy



This advocacy group supporting higher education and General Fund appropriations for Virginia Tech continues to provide vocal support on issues of importance to Virginia Tech and to higher education, and to cultivate support among elected officials.

Virginia Tech alumni members of the General Assembly were hosted at a breakfast and a reception for Virginia's senators and representatives in Congress was held on Capitol Hill (jointly with Virginia Commonwealth University), which included the Northern Virginia alumni business community. The 8th Annual "Hokie Day at the General Assembly" was a successful event with approximately 70 alumni chapter representatives and 18 students visiting legislators in Richmond during the 2006 session. Additionally, Hokies for Higher Education newsletters and legislative updates were mailed on a periodic basis.

The Hokies for Higher Education Legislative Advocacy Program was recognized by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) with an Award of Excellence in recognition of outstanding achievement in concept and execution of programs for institutional advancement.

Alumni Chapter Programs



Chapters and clubs have been organized throughout the US and abroad to provide opportunities for alumni to gather in their local communities. Chapter activities typically included receptions or dinners hosting faculty speakers, assistance in recruiting students,

community service, and providing scholarship support for local students. The primary purpose for chapter programs is to involve and inform alumni about the university, enhancing its image and support from alumni.

The annual Chapter Officers Leadership Forum was held in the fall with attendance of approximately 100 chapter volunteers and Alumni Board members representing 34 chapters. Twenty-eight chapters received Outstanding Chapter Awards, receiving \$500 toward each of their student scholarship funds. Chapter superlative awards acknowledged excellence in seven areas – Outstanding Admissions Program, Outstanding Community Service, Outstanding Event, Outstanding Fundraising Event, Outstanding Golf Tournament, Outstanding New Member Plan, and Outstanding Website. Achievement Awards were presented to 12 chapters. Additional awards

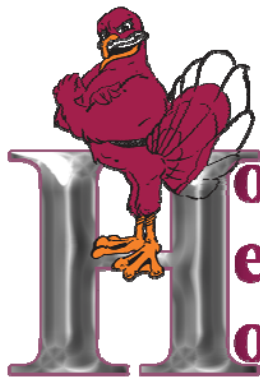
highlighted the Most Improved Chapter, Outstanding New Chapter, Best Chapter Scrapbook, Outstanding Chapter Officer and the Outstanding Chapter Volunteer.

The number of alumni chapters or program areas throughout the nation and internationally reached 115 (32 in-state, 73 out-of-state, and 10 abroad in Australia, Hong Kong, Lebanon, London, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Panama, Paris, Philippines and the Virgin Islands). Approximately one-third of the chapter areas are classified as alumni “clubs.” Clubs label areas that do not have elected officers or boards of directors and hold a limited number of events. Members from 58 chapters participated in the Alumni Admissions Program by assisting the Office of Undergraduate Admissions staff with college fairs, phone calls to prospective students, and scholarships. Forty-nine chapters awarded a total of 150 scholarships totaling \$145,350 to freshmen from their local chapter areas.

A chapter president’s training weekend was held in January with a total of 20 chapter officers in attendance. Participants were introduced to the new chapter database, heard an Alumni Association update and shared ideas about successful chapter programming and motivating volunteers. The weekend concluded with a brunch hosting chapter scholarship recipients.

The Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) programs included the scholarship brunch, Seniors Movin’ On and Open House, and Adopt-a-Co-op. In addition, alumni chapters were encouraged to participate in the Young Graduate Incentive for alumni who graduated in 2004 and 2005. Those who attended a chapter meeting or event could sign up to be entered in a drawing for a football weekend at The Inn at Virginia Tech, and game tickets.

Alumni Career Services



The CareerLink program enables Virginia Tech students and alumni to network with Virginia Tech alumni for career planning and job search assistance. Users may search for alumni volunteers from the CareerLink database based on major, occupation, employer name, work setting, services offered, schools attended and/or location. The program was featured in college newsletters, the VTNetLetter, linked on college websites and information was provided at reunion and chapter events. Alumni volunteer mentors and participants served during the past year included:

- 408 active alumni volunteers
- 2,366 total number of users – students and alumni
- 3,217 total online searches by students and alumni

Other services available to alumni include eRecruiting, an on-line system which enables alumni to publish a resume and apply for jobs; CareerSearch – a database of organizations by industry; and on campus or telephone advising appointments. The National Capital Region Alumni Chapter sponsored the 15th Annual Job Fair in March – approximately 110 companies were represented and 400 candidates. Career and personal counseling services are available to students and alumni at the Northern Virginia Center, conducted by graduate students.

ExecuPlanet, an out-sourced, fee-based service firm, provides professional career services to Virginia Tech alumni. With 150 offices throughout the United States, alumni have access to monthly job search workshops in most major cities. ExecuPlanet had 3,301 alumni registered on the CareerTools site, and several alumni participated in career service seminars.

Special Alumni Programs



The Alumni Association, in conjunction with the Division of Continuing and Professional Education, hosted its 15th Annual Civil War Weekend in March at the Skelton Conference Center and The Inn at Virginia Tech. A total of 275 registrants attended. Featured speakers included: James I. Robertson, Jr., Alumni Distinguished Professor of History; William C. Davis, Director for the university's Virginia Center for Civil War Studies; Keith Gibson, Executive Director of Museum Progress and Architectural Historian at VMI; Daniel Hurd, a local physician; Jared Peatman, Virginia Tech master's candidate in history; Edward Steers, an authority and author on the Lincoln assassination; and Brian Wills, professor and Kenneth Asbury Chair of the History Department at the University of Virginia College at Wise. Participants enjoyed informative lectures, book sales and signings, and a documentary on Railroads in the Civil War.

The Alumni Association resumed its popular Summer Around the Drillfield program with a new college-oriented format. The theme, "How Small Can you Go? A Peek into Nanotechnology at Virginia Tech," focused on presentations by faculty from the College of Science. Nearly 100 participants learned about nanotechnology and related cutting-edge research through lectures led by Tech researchers, including demonstrations and tours of several state-of-the-art labs. Participants spent their afternoons visiting popular attractions and taking advantage of recreational opportunities in and around Blacksburg.

A Hokie Sweethearts Weekend was held in June offering a romantic and unique getaway. Participants enjoyed a Welcome Reception and carriage rides, tours of the Hahn Horticulture Garden, the Merryman Center and the South End Zone, a cooking class, dinner and dancing.

Alumni Reunions and Homecomings



In the fall, the Alumni Association enjoyed a successful reunion season. Almost 2,550 alumni attended six class reunions, eight college homecomings, a Corps of Cadets Reunion, and the Graduate School Homecoming. The Joint Class reunion program for three classes in the '80's, '90's, and '00's decades continued to be successful in attracting younger alumni back to the university. At their 50th Anniversary Reunion, the Class of '55 was inducted into the Old Guard. The class raised nearly \$800,000 for their

anniversary gift to support the Holtzman Alumni Center, Solitude, scholarships for the University Honors program and the Corps of Cadets, and a memorial garden. Seven College Homecomings were held on home game weekends and the College of Veterinary Medicine hosted their Homecoming event prior to the football game at Maryland. These events provided an excellent occasion for alumni to visit with faculty and other alumni and gave the colleges the opportunity to showcase their programs.

Spring reunions included the Department of Communication's 25th Anniversary and the annual Old Guard reunion, attended by members of the classes of '29 through '55. Highlights of the reunion included: a tour of the Holtzman Alumni Center, Skelton Conference Center and The Inn at Virginia Tech, and presentations by Alumni Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Ezra "Bud" Brown and Richard Benson, Dean of the College of Engineering. A reunion banquet was held; the reunion concluded with presentations by representatives from the Honors Program, Athletics, the Corps of Cadets and Cranwell International Center at a closing brunch.

The Alumni Relations staff provided full-time support of seven academic colleges and Multicultural Alumni Programs. Additional part-time support of one college and the Corps of Cadets was provided for their alumni.

International Programs for Alumni

The "Hokies Abroad" program, a cooperative effort between the offices of International Programs, Undergraduate Admissions and Alumni Relations, seeks to involve traveling members of the Virginia Tech faculty and administration with university alumni and prospective students who reside abroad. The Alumni Association co-sponsored receptions for international graduates in the fall and spring semesters.

Alumni Records



Responsibility for maintaining biographical records increased to more than 190,000 records. Through returned USPS mail, email, phone calls and alumni visits to Alumni Hall, the Association received and updated over 65,000 records. Mailing labels and alumni rosters were supplied as a service to colleges, departments, and student organizations throughout the year.

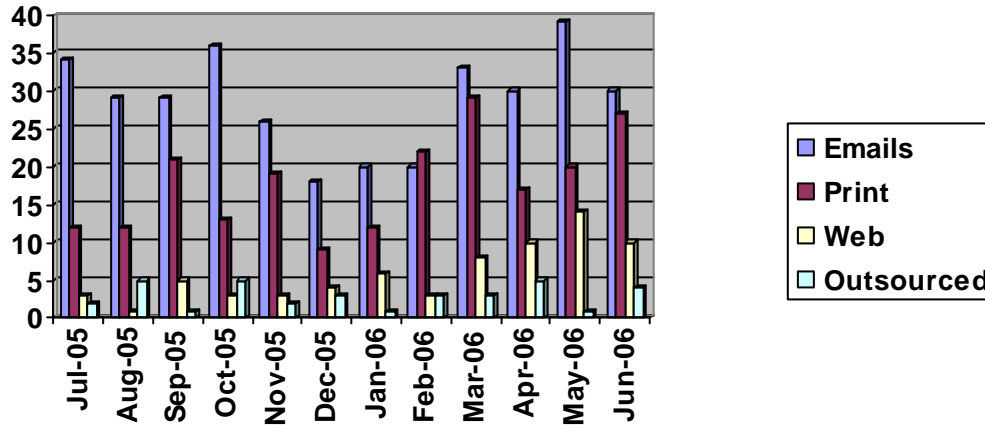
The Alumni Association staff continued its work with the Banner database system to facilitate the recording of additional data and provide for more flexible reporting.

Communications

The Alumni Association's portal page at www.alumni.vt.edu continues to offer a number of features to welcome and serve alumni. The Alumni Gateway is a password-protected feature and offers access to several university services and informational features, such as accessing alumni record profiles to make updates and additions online, exploring the VTAlumnNet Website for free online educational programs (or "knowledge units") or a variety of other courses for a fee. Another feature offers registration for class reunions and special programs online, including lodging reservations and reserving football tickets. This gateway helps alumni maintain a closer relationship with those aspects of the university in which they have an interest or may choose to learn more.

Also available to alumni is an online directory, accessed through the Alumni Gateway portal, with search capabilities by name, class year, zip code, city and state.

The Association published and mailed two issues of the *Alma Mater* to all alumni, and an Alumni Travel magazine which was mailed to approximately 25,000 alumni. Other publications included reunion registration invitations, the Class of '55 *Reunion Bugle*, Handbook for Alumni Volunteers (available on-line), Board of Directors Manual, announcements for university events and receptions, and newsletters and event publicity for alumni chapters. Total program mailings were approximately 773,000 pieces of mail and approximately 565 emails were sent to chapters and constituency groups informing them of upcoming events,. Also, news and class notes information were provided for inclusion in the *Virginia Tech Magazine*.



A program designed and printed for the dedication of the Holtzman Alumni Center was recognized by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) with an Award of Special Merit in recognition of outstanding achievement in concept and execution of programs for institutional advancement.

Student Programs



Student programs complemented the mission of Alumni Relations by helping instill a sense of loyalty and pride in students who are soon to become members of the Alumni Association. The Class Officer and Student Alumni Associates (SAA) are two active and respected organizations. They foster special traditions designed to bond students more closely with the university.

During the freshman year, Class Officers are elected to serve lifetime terms and are responsible for promoting and preserving class traditions. Highlights of events for the Classes of '05, '06, '07, and '08 were:

- Election of officers for the Class of 2009
- Class of 2009 Officer Luncheon
- Committee selection and ring design for the Class of 2008
- Class of 2008 Officer Dinner
- Ring Premiere and Ring Dance for the Class of 2007
- Senior Celebration for the Class of 2006

The Class of 2007 held a Kickoff Concert and Pep Rally in September and to help advertise their Ring Premiere, handed out t-shirts and other giveaways at the Class of 2007 Day at the Homecoming football game. Class of 2006 held a Senior Celebration before Commencement in May. Class officer elections continue to generate high voter turnout with the online balloting process.

SAA members assisted with registration for alumni reunions and other programs, helping greet alumni and other visitors to the campus. Through the SAA, current students are introduced to the Alumni Association and to various opportunities to serve after graduation. SAA assisted with planning of the Scholarship Brunch and other programs associated with the Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) initiative. SAA membership includes Class Officers and other student ambassadors. Highlights of SAA activities during the year included:

- Alumni Reunion Registrations
- Hokie Hi! – Welcome Back Picnic
- Student Organization Showcase
- SAA Retreat (Fall and Winter)
- Fall Home Game Pep Rallies – with spirit item giveaways
- Ghost Tour of Virginia Tech
- Assistance at the Holtzman Alumni Center, Skelton Conference Center and The Inn at Virginia Tech Dedication, Old Guard Reunion, Career Fairs
- Participation in the Blacksburg Christmas Parade
- “Seniors Movin’ On” Program
- Faculty Appreciation Day

The SAA presented several sessions at the Association of Student Advancement Programs District Conference including presentations on the Essential Europe tour, Ghost Tour of Virginia Tech, Spirit, Traditions and the Hokie Zone and a True Colors session.

Alumni and Conference Center



The Alumni Association moved into the new Holtzman Alumni Center in the fall of 2005. The Holtzman Alumni Center, Skelton Conference Center and The Inn at Virginia Tech were formally dedicated on October 28 and hundreds of alumni and guests were present to celebrate the new facility and tour it. In addition, tours of the new facilities were available to all alumni during many fall weekends. The Holtzman Alumni Center features a Grand Hall; Alumni Museum, which traces Virginia Tech’s history from the beginning to the present; meeting rooms; Alumni Board Room; Alumni Library; Alumni Assembly Hall; Alumni Gallery, which displays local artists’ work; and staff offices. A Donor Wall in the front lobby recognizes those who made major contributions to the “Home of Our Own” campaign supporting the new alumni and conference center. Alumni Terrace pavers also are inscribed with the names of additional supporters.

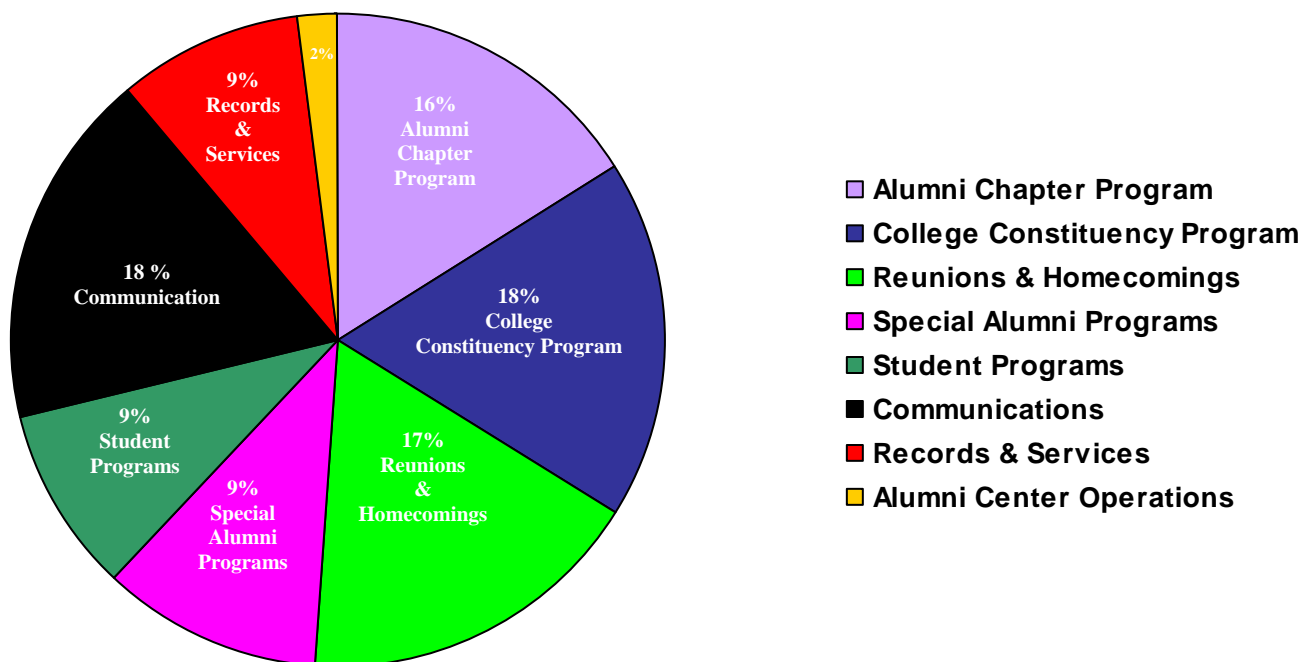
Financial Summary

The staff, programs and services of Alumni Relations were supported with income from seven private sources (no state funds are available for administering alumni programs):

Sources of Income

- Virginia Tech Foundation support (40%)
- Affinity Credit Card royalties (27%)
- Merchandising/Tours royalties (7%)
- Alumni Gifts (2%)
- Reunions and Special Programs income (10%)
- Endowment Income (13%)
- Alumni Directory (1%)

Expenditures by Program Area



Revenue totals for the fiscal year were \$2,611,779 and expenditure totals were \$2,605,079. An agency endowment for the Alumni Association managed by the university's Foundation was valued at \$4,105,277 as of June 30, 2006. Considerable income was generated by the affinity Visa card program. Other programs including on-line banking, an auto and home insurance affinity, home loan program, student loan consolidation program, health insurance program, watches, diploma frames, jewelry and chairs, were revenue producers. Some 173 alumni and friends participated in 16 different tours abroad offered by the Association, providing additional income. Reunion and other alumni programs resulted in a positive revenue over expense totals for the year.

Collaboration with Other Campus Departments



The Alumni Staff often collaborated with various units and departments on programs serving alumni. These included:

Undergraduate Admissions
University Development
University Relations
Student Affairs
Career Services
Athletics and Athletic Fund
Government Relations
Continuing Education
International Programs
Virginia Tech Richmond Office
Virginia Tech Roanoke Center

President's Office
Provost's Office
Corps of Cadets
Northern Virginia Center
Graduate School
Honors Program
Academic Colleges & Departments
Multicultural Affairs
Southwest Virginia Higher Ed Center
University Outreach

Current Alumni Relations Staff



- Thomas C. Tillar, Jr., *Vice President for Alumni Relations*
- Carolyn Bain, *Assistant Director* (College of Engineering)
- John Borman, *Print and Mail Room Manager*
- Sharon Croy, *Alumni Records*
- Deborah A. Day, *Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations*
- Karen Denny, *Fiscal Technician*
- Shirley Fleet, *Executive Secretary Senior*
- Patricia B. Foutz, *Alumni Coordinator** (College of Natural Resources & Chapters)
- Cathy Gellis, *Alumni Records and Reunion Support*
- Bonnie Gilbert, *Assistant Director* (Pamplin College of Business)
- Ruth Graves, *Alumni Records*
- Carol Green, *Reunions and Constituency Programs*
- J. Andrew Hall, *Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations*
- John R. Hutcheson III, *Associate Director* (Northern Virginia Graduate Center)
- Robin Jackson, *Assistant Director* (College of Science)
- Debbie Jenkins, *Technical Services Manager*
- Cathy Lally, *Assistant to the Vice President*
- Elizabeth D. Lee, *Alumni Chapter Coordinator**
- Jamie Lucero, *Assistant Director* (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences)
- Jen MacDonald, *Student Programs Coordinator*
- Taris Mullins, *Director of Multicultural Alumni Programs*
- Vanessa Prichard, *Receptionist**
- Richard S. Roszak, *Associate Director for Corps Alumni**
- Laura Snelgrove, *Receptionist**
- Douglas Tschetter, *Assistant Publications Manager*
- Seth Tuttle, *Assistant Director*
- Vaughan Twigger, *Postal and Building Assistant**
- Melissa Vidmar, *Publications Manager*
- Amanda Walters, *Chapters/Reunion Support*
- Laura Wedin, *Students Programs Assistant/Alumni Travel Coordinator*
- Kellie Wells, *Assistant Director* (College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences)
- Jan Wilson, *Assistant Director* (College of Architecture and Urban Studies)
- Lynn Young, *Assistant Director** (College of Veterinary Medicine)

**Part-time in Alumni Relations or a shared position with another university department*

Alumni Association Board of Directors

Officers for 2005-2006

- James E. Smith '66 *President*
- E. Ann Spencer '76, '84 *President-Elect*
- J. Thomas Carter '81, '83 *Vice President*
- Thomas C. Tillar, Jr. '69 *Secretary-Treasurer*
- Kimble Reynolds, Jr. '88 *Immediate Past-President*

Directors for 2005-2006

- Ronald E. Ball '70
- Jeanne C. DaDamio '75, '76
- Peter S. Darby '90
- Douglas R. Fahl '65
- Elizabeth A. Flanagan
- Douglas S. Graham '94, '98
- Harry N. Gustin '43*
- Joseph M. Harris '68
- Dwight A. Holland '86, '91, '01
- Wayland E. Hundley '84
- Gene A. James '53*
- Gregory B. Jones '77
- William C. Latham '55*
- Mark S. Lawrence '80
- Kevin W. Leclair '95
- Elizabeth L. Leonard '80
- Drew Lichtenbrger '00
- David E. Lowe '63
- James L. Mahon '73
- Cecil R. Maxson, Jr. '52
- Roberta M. Minish '77
- Thomas W. Moss, Jr. '50*
- Kevin W. Mottley '93
- Coleman G. Rector '86
- Curry A. Roberts '80
- Wayne H. Robinson '80
- J. Thomas Ryan '68
- William E. Skelton '40*
- Brian Slingerland '00
- Melissa Smarr '00
- Charles W. Steger '69
- Jean S. Swartz '86
- Lee C. Tait '41*
- G.T. Ward '49*
- John C. Watkins '69

**Lifetime Honorary Member*