Knowledge Leaders
Dean’s Report 2018–2019
To the knowledge leaders,

At the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, we seek to gain, share, and apply knowledge about leadership in ways that make a positive difference on our campus and in our world.

I see the evidence of this every day: In a Science Leadership Scholar who researched climate change in her Jepson internship. In a professor who promoted cross-campus debate of ethical issues. In a Jepson Leadership Forum speaker who pushed us to consider solutions to voter disenfranchisement. And in two alumnae who have devoted their careers to helping people in crisis.

In this dean’s report, you’ll find these and other stories. Even as I celebrate our knowledge leaders’ recent achievements, I eagerly anticipate their accomplishments in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Peart, Dean and E. Claiborne Robins Distinguished Professor in Leadership Studies
2018-19 Year at a Glance

July
Associate Dean Kerstin Soderlund coordinates the Jepson internship program for rising seniors interning in the United States and abroad.

August
Dr. Marilie Coetsee, who holds a PhD in philosophy, joins Jepson as an assistant professor of leadership studies.

September

October

November
Associate professor Javier Hidalgo publishes the book “Unjust Borders: Individuals and the Ethics of Immigration.”

December
The Association for Psychological Science names professor Crystal Hoyt to its elite class of international fellows.

January
Dr. Ken Ruscio, former Jepson dean and Washington & Lee University president emeritus, returns as senior distinguished lecturer.

February
Dr. Christopher von Rueden, who holds a PhD in anthropology, is promoted to associate professor.

March
The School dedicates its new ethics suite to University of Richmond Chancellor Richard L. Morrill.

April
Jepson surpasses its UR Here Day of Giving goal.

May
Madeleine Bright, ’19, receives the James MacGregor Burns Award, the School’s highest honor.

June

Jepson Fast Facts

20+
Faculty articles & chapters in academic journals & edited volumes

25,976
Jepson internship hours logged

74
Leadership studies majors graduate

94
New students inducted

2,000+
Jepson Leadership Forum attendees

83
Alumni plan EDGE, a professional development program for juniors

Sabrina Escobar Miranda, ’19, received the inaugural Jepson Scholarship to pursue a master’s degree at the University of Oxford in fall 2019. The Jepson Scholars Program was made possible through a generous donation by School benefactors Robert S. Jepson Jr. and Alice Andrews Jepson.

The Jepson School welcomed 94 new students at Prelude, its annual induction ceremony. This group represents the School’s most diverse class to date.
Michael Johnson, '19, explored K-12 education equity through volunteer mentoring, his Governor’s Children’s Cabinet fellowship, his Jepson internship in public policy, and his honors thesis.

Science Leadership Scholar Chelsea Eareckson, '19, spearheaded a research project on the effects of climate change on sea sponges during her Jepson internship with Mote Marine Laboratory in the Florida Keys.

Jimmy Bernstein, '19, celebrated the importance of community during his Candlelight Ceremony speech Commencement weekend.

Emma Thomas, '19, and Julie Ball, '19, applied their knowledge of collaborative leadership as the first co-presidents of the Jepson Student Government Association.

Jieyi Ding, '19, explained her honors thesis research on identity and intergroup relations at the eighth annual Jepson Student Research Symposium.
Dr. Julian Hayter, recipient of the University of Richmond Distinguished Educator Award, was frequently quoted in regional and national media stories about race relations in the South. Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney appointed Hayter to serve on the city’s new History and Culture Commission. Pictured right: UR President Ronald A. Crutcher, Julian Hayter, and UR Provost Jeffrey W. Legro at Colloquy.

Dr. Terry Price
Dr. Allison Archer
Dr. Don Forsyth
Dr. Peter Kaufman
Dr. Haley Harwell

**Vanguard Educators Who Promote & Disseminate Ideas**

**Dr. Jessica Flanigan** served as the University’s inaugural ethics fellow, responsible for supporting university-wide conversations on ethical issues.

**The Jepson Student Government Association** presented **Dr. Thad Williamson** (pictured with UR Chaplain Craig Kocher to the left) with its annual Servant Leader Award.

**Dean Sandra Peart** was appointed to the E. Claiborne Robins Distinguished Professorship in Leadership Studies in the fall.

**Dr. George "Al" Goethals** was reappointed to the E. Claiborne Robins Distinguished Professorship in Leadership Studies. This endowed professorship recognizes and pays tribute to distinguished faculty members who set the University’s intellectual tone.

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UR Chancellor and President Emeritus Dr. E. Bruce Heilman presented “Why They Never Talked About It,” a talk on the experience of World War II vets, to a standing-room-only crowd comprising community members and students in Dr. Al Goethals’ Theories and Models of Leadership class.

UNC associate professor Zeynep Tufekci presented “Democracy in the Age of Twitter, Facebook, & YouTube” as part of the Jepson Leadership Forum speaker series.

Top left: Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney discussed voter disenfranchisement with students in Dr. Thad Williamson’s Leadership in Political Contexts class prior to his Jepson Leadership Forum presentation on the same topic.

Top right: Virginia state Senator Jennifer McClellan met with students and faculty (including Dr. Kristin Bezio on the right) and gave a public lecture on the history and current state of race relations in Virginia in her role as the Jepson School’s leader-in-residence.

Left: Marshall Center speaker Anthony Bradley, chair in religious and theological studies at The King’s College, discussed solutions to the mass incarceration crisis.
“Through the practice of service as a path to leadership, I learned to live a life of moral consequence,” said alumna Raegan Morris, ’99, keynote speaker at Finale, the School’s Commencement weekend celebration. Morris serves on the School’s Executive Board of Advisors.

Alumni gave abundantly of their time and talents at this year’s EDGE, a daylong professional development program for Jepson juniors. Eighty-three alumni helped plan EDGE, and 48 participated in the event itself.

At Reunion Weekend, Dean Sanda Peart presented Dr. Paige Wigginton, ’09, and Dr. Stephanie Eken Sander, ’97, with the School’s Tenth-Year Alumni Recognition Award and Alumni Award, respectively, for their work helping people in crisis. Pictured left to right: Paige Wigginton, Sandra Peart, Robert S. Jepson Jr., Alice Andrews Jepson, and Stephanie Eken Sander.

Notable Alumni Who Make a Difference

Entrepreneur Djordje Hinic, ’13, launched the socially responsible business consulting firm Perpetuum Projects in November. In July, he joined Jepson’s Executive Board of Advisors.

Griffin Trau, ’18, a stellar scholar and one of the most successful kickers in Spider Football history, received a Fulbright grant to teach English in the Czech Republic.
Since its founding in 1992 as the nation's first undergraduate school of leadership studies, Jepson School students, faculty, and alumni have excelled as knowledge leaders.

The School's Executive Board of Advisors launched a campaign in 2017 to tell our story by highlighting alumni's professional successes and faculty scholarship and expertise. We are now three-quarters of the way to our campaign's $240,000 fundraising goal. Our faculty were quoted in national and international news reports with an estimated 575 million reach last year.

Learn how you can become a part of the Jepson Profile-Raising Initiative: jepson.richmond.edu/support

“The Jepson curriculum arms you with skills you'll utilize in any job, across any industry: critical thinking, ethical decision making, synthesizing of information, thoughtful collaborating, building connections across differences, and challenging the status quo to effect change.”

— Brittney Quinones, ’13
With the graduation of the Class of 2019, the number of our alumni rose to almost 1,500.