2005

William & Mary & Tim

College of William & Mary
William & Mary & Tim
TIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN

takes the presidential oath of office in 1992
from Harry L. Carrico, chief justice of the
Supreme Court of Virginia.
The Sullivan Years

"As long as you live, some part of this place will abide with you, touch you in unexpected moments and in unanticipated ways. And so, too, each of you leaves behind a part of yourself that will forever make this College different."

—TIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN

President of the College of William & Mary
Closing Remarks
Commencement 2001
The Past Is Prologue

When we first heard rumblings that Tim Sullivan was stepping down from his post as president of the College of William & Mary, we were dumbstruck. What if it were true? Who would replace him? Indeed, who could replace him?

We began a mental rewind through all the events of the past 13 years. We remembered his inauguration in October of 1992. We recalled the tercentenary of 1993 and how we did a double take as he walked the grounds with the Prince of Wales.

We raced through the College's long list of notable guests: Lady Thatcher; President George H. W. Bush; Henry A. Kissinger; Queen Noor of Jordan; comedian Bill Cosby; TV star, satirist and alumnus Jon Stewart.

There he was congratulating all the proud William & Mary Rhodes Scholars (four of them named during his tenure) and entertaining so many generous benefactors. We saw him engaging beloved colleagues, parents and students past and present. We remembered a bowling night, class reunions, a dozen Charter Day ceremonies and Santa Sullivan reading How The Grinch Stole Christmas at holiday time. And we thought of Anne Sullivan, first lady of the College, who made her own mark on William & Mary and leaves her own legacy.

A Champion for William & Mary

There were the times of crisis and tugs-of-war too—from belt-tightening and budget cuts to "Armageddon" and the "tempest in a sherry glass," but President Sullivan stayed the course and inspired us to fight for the College without losing hope, courage or dignity.

At critical junctures, when the rhetoric got rough and the fighting fierce, many took heart as he stepped into the ring with boldness and confidence. He reminded some of us of another who bore the same surname, acting more like the bare-knuckled champion John L. Sullivan than the Timothy J. Sullivan his antagonists thought they knew.

President Sullivan, accompanied by his wife, Anne (right), and College Rector Susan Aherne Magill, walks to the press conference in the Great Hall of the Wren Building where he announced his resignation.
Those of us who lived through some of the turbulent years of the past decade remember all too well what courage it took to withstand forces and circumstances that would have had, if not checked, a destructive impact upon the spirit, tradition and mission of the institution.

That does not mean that everyone always concurred with everything he did. Some of the challenges the College faced were highly charged and, many times, political. But even those who found themselves on the other side of an issue knew Tim Sullivan was a man whose door was always open, and whose hand was always extended in goodwill.

How to Say Thanks?
A thousand memories made us want to join together to honor Tim’s service to the College and celebrate his friendship. It seemed like the right thing to do, but there would be one big problem. How could we honor him in a way that would not make him feel uneasy? He has never felt comfortable in the limelight, in spite of his many quite public accomplishments.

We decided to take our cue from the man himself. We could show our appreciation by celebrating the achievements of the past 13 years as a collaborative effort among the president, faculty, staff, students, alumni, benefactors and friends.

This commemorative booklet is one small way we can say thanks to everyone, and most especially to say thanks to Tim.
312 Years of Excellence and 13 Years of Awesome

Perhaps it is simply a mark of the fast-paced world in which we live, but words of gratitude, praise, respect or fondness for another are rarely put in writing. Not so when news of Tim's retirement became public. Here are a few words about Tim Sullivan and about the College from his many friends, colleagues and well-wishers.

"I think during his tenure, this is an institution that found itself. It found its focus and came to believe in its own greatness."

SAM SADLER
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

"He always remembered the human dimension and was always concerned about the effect decisions would have on people."

DICK WILLIAMSON
CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR OF LAW

"Tim gets down with the staff while doing the electric slide during the 1994 employee picnic in the Wren Yard."

"I will always be grateful for the steadfast and oftentimes courageous support that Tim Sullivan gave to higher education funding in Virginia."

MARK WARNER
GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA

"You will no doubt leave many lasting legacies at William & Mary. But you will also be remembered always as one who did not cower or decline the responsibility of saying those things that needed to be heard. For that, we are all grateful."

WHITT W. CLEMENT
VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
“Tim Sullivan is the best damn president of a college or university that I have ever seen.”

LAWRENCE EAGLEBURNER
Member, Board of Visitors
Former U.S. Secretary of State

“When I think of the people who have been in this position before me (receiving an honorary degree), from Benjamin Franklin to Queen Noor of Jordan, I can’t help but wonder what has happened to this place. Seriously, it saddens me. As a person I am honored to get it—as an alumnus, I have to say, I believe we can do better.”

JON STEWART ’84
Host of Comedy Central’s "The Daily Show"

“I consider myself most fortunate to have seen William & Mary assume a prestigious position in higher education under the leadership of President Sullivan. He well understands the direction in which his predecessors took us, and he came to office with an energy and a vision that made the last 13 years quite exciting.”

JIM KELLY ’51
Former Assistant to the President

“President Sullivan has been a tremendous leader. He is a student’s president. There are very few colleges where students both know their president and care so much about him as if they were great friends. His leadership and vision have made William & Mary truly ‘a place of possibilities’ for all students.”

CHON GLOVER
Assistant to the President
Director of Multicultural Affairs

“The Grinch and the President—oops, Santa Claus. Each year President Sullivan dresses up as Santa Claus and reads How The Grinch Stole Christmas to students. Afterwards, he lights the Yale Log in the Great Hall of the West Building. This year, the Grinch showed up to present Santa with a first edition of the Dr. Seuss classic.”

CLAY CLEMENS
Associate Chair and Professor of Government

“A little story and a big heart
Tim reads to children at the Sarah Ives Gone Child Care Center in December 2000.

“Most scholars define a leader as someone who is skilled at mobilizing others toward the achievement of common goals. They often add that the most important traits of a leader are perceptiveness and persuasiveness. Throw something in there about bushy white hair and power-walking, and it pretty much describes Tim Sullivan.”

CLAY CLEMENS
Associate Chair and Professor of Government"
Here's What They Say About “Timmy J.”

If you really want to get a handle on the influence Tim Sullivan has had on the College, ask the students. They will tell you that they were pleasantly surprised to find him an almost daily part of their lives. They will tell you how he showed up at football games to sit with them in the stands, cheering with the best of them. They can tell you firsthand about a round of Frisbee-tossing with him in the Sunken Garden or being astonished that he knew their names. They will speak of him in terms that are personal and immediate. Why not let a few of them tell you in their own words about the guy they affectionately call “Timmy J.”?

"He is the one who closes the King and Queen Ball by leading the singing of the Alma Mater. His pride in the students is always apparent. He fights for us and for our College, not for himself."

MEGHAN WILLIAMS '05
WILLIAM & MARY NEWS, JUNE 1, 2004

"You can sense the impact President Sullivan has on the political scene. Where some would have assumed impasse, President Sullivan saw opportunity and common ground. No one ever doubted his personal conviction to the cause of improving our College and all respected his calm dignity as he went about doing just that. He has a profound love for all things Tribe."

VAN SMITH '03, '07 J.D.

"Whenever I'm at a football game and we chant 'Timmy J., Timmy J.,' I think of it as our way of enthusiastically acknowledging a man who truly believes not just in this institution, but in each and every one of us. He's the kind of guy I wouldn't be surprised to see out there with us, his chest painted green and gold, cheering on the Tribe."

GEORGE SEOUR '05
EDITOR AND FOUNDER
THE DOG STREET JOURNAL
During the Sullivan administration, it seemed that the College was getting more press than most other schools. *U.S. News and World Report* consistently has ranked William & Mary the best small public university in America. Our podium was constantly filled by famous speakers from around the world. From Nobel Prize winners to an incredible number of William & Mary Rhodes Scholars, the College was in the news. International and national events unfolded right on our doorstep.

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**Opportunities**

to host world-famous dignitaries are standard fare at the College.

Here, President Sullivan chats with Chancellor Henry Kissinger and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, who gave a major policy speech about Iraq. Where else, other than Stockholm, could one find two Nobel Peace Prize recipients together in the same room?

**Video games**

At times the debate became so fractious that Board of Visitors meetings were videotaped.

**"Armageddon"**

Tim Sullivan led Virginias college presidents as they pressed for more funds for higher education.
Queen Noor of Jordan

At the 2003 commencement, Queen Noor of Jordan spoke about her hopes for peace in the Middle East. The best-selling author shared the podium with Rep. John Lewis, a congressman from Georgia and a great civil rights leader. Both received honorary degrees.

A royal visit

During William & Mary's Tercentenary Celebration, Prince Charles was made an honorary fellow of the College.

Tim and Margaret

Margaret Thatcher joined the president as a participant in the 1996 NATO conference held on campus.

Sherry, anyone?

One of many tchotchkes on Tim Sullivan's desk celebrates the time-honored tradition of a glass of sherry and serious conversation with colleagues after hours, despite state pressure to abandon it.

Jimmye Laycock

the Tribe's head football coach, gives last-minute instructions to his star quarterback, Lang Campbell. Campbell, who won the 2004 Walter Payton Award, exemplifies the scholar-athlete that William & Mary has fostered over the last 13 years. Under Sullivan, the College got athletics right.
Raindrops keep falling

One of the many achievements of the Sullivan tenure was his resurrection of opening convocation, a campus-wide ceremony that marks the beginning of each academic year. Tim reinvigorated the tradition by bringing important speakers to campus and by welcoming the incoming class. At this convocation in 2002, in spite of a steady downpour, the crowd of 1,500 was riveted by the words of Capt. David Brown, USA.
Keepin’ It Real

Not many institutions can maintain the kind of momentum and spirit to continue over a generation or two, let alone more than 300 years. The fact that William & Mary is the second-oldest college in America is remarkable enough. Even more impressive, however, is that after 312 years William & Mary is more excited and clear about its mission than at any other time in its history. Few presidents have done more than Tim Sullivan to energize, inspire, promote and lead the College into a brighter future.

Tim Sullivan encouraged us to be genuine, to be authentic, to be real. We armed ourselves with laptops and iPods. We bonded at ice cream socials and kept the spirit alive at Tribe football games. With the aid of pizza and coffee, we pulled all-nighters. Books in hand, we ventured to sit in the warmth of the sun against the wall in the Sunken Garden. In all these things, big and small, Tim taught us by his own example to be ourselves.

William & Mary advanced to the NCAA I-AA semifinal in football in 2004. The game, against James Madison University, attracted a national TV audience on ESPN, Commonwealth Governor Mark Warner, U.S. Senator George Allen and Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore. The outstanding season thrilled students, faculty and staff and energized an entire community.

Tim Sullivan showed us how to “keep it real” through a national tragedy, a major hurricane, a critical bond campaign and the daily challenges of life—College and otherwise.

We have always had a reputation for being a tight-knit family whose members come together, roll up their sleeves and get the job done. We had our hearts broken and our resolve tested during the dark days of September 2001. We lost hundreds of trees and years of research during Hurricane Isabel in 2003, but we are still here, stronger than ever.

2003 ice cream social
Tim gets armfuls of hugs from students. Many of the students took only a short break before getting back to the serious business of studying for final exams.

Hurricane Isabel
In September 2003, Hurricane Isabel ripped through Williamsburg. The College was closed for an unprecedented ten days. Isabel left her mark at VIMS, too. Here, VIMS professor Roger Mann and President Sullivan survey the damage. VIMS lost two piers and several small buildings that contained years worth of research.

Bonding together for the College
In 2002, Virginia voters approved $61 million to fund needed improvements and new construction at William & Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Richard Bland College. Students played an important role in delivering the message in Richmond.

Guess who’s schleppin’ your stuff?
Since the beginning of his tenure, Tim has made a point of lending a hand to freshmen and their families as they move into the dorms.
“We gather now in darkness and in sorrow—in the midst of a great national tragedy we do not yet understand—to affirm, despite our anguish, that we are a community that cannot be sundered, that we are a country that cannot be broken.”

Timothy J. Sullivan
September 11, 2001
The Fine Art of Being First Lady

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then the splash of color and surprise of form that hit visitors upon entering the upper floors of the President’s House speak volumes about Anne Klare Sullivan. Juxtaposed against the surrounding traditional décor are works from the President’s Collection of Faculty and Student Art—the perfect embodiment of the difference this president and first lady have brought to the College of William & Mary.

If there were a coloring book for the wives of college presidents, Anne would color outside the lines. The palette would be bright, brilliant and exciting to see. It would not be random. It would be deliberate, studied and artful. As first lady of William & Mary, Anne has brought both energy and art to the office. She has also managed to keep her identity as a practicing clinical psychologist. She is involved in sorority activities, community outreach, cultural-enrichment projects and a host of other worthy endeavors. All this fills her busy schedule while she supports her husband’s long list of official duties.

Anne has inspired us all to reach for the highest standards of hospitality, etiquette and taste. From entertaining students to world-famous dignitaries, Anne’s care and concern for her guests is always at the heart of every social event she hosts. She has taught us the importance of seeing each guest as unique and interesting.

In the case of Prince Charles, for instance, His Royal Highness and she struck up a conversation that ran its course from holistic medicine and health care in Britain to the environment and matters metaphysical. He found the time exhilarating and she, completely at ease with him, found him quite down-to-earth. It was all in a day’s work. But what she enjoys most is the company and conversation of people closest to the College, especially the students.

Inaugurated by the Sullivans, the President’s Collection of Faculty and Student Art has yielded a number of creative works that beautify not only the President’s House, but also a large number of other campus locations.

Tim and Anne Sullivan, both members of the class of 1966, ride in the Homecoming Parade.
On a crisp autumn day in October 1992, Timothy J. Sullivan, former dean of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, was inaugurated as the 25th president of the College of William & Mary. He brought with him an impressive list of qualifications and record of achievement for such a young man. His reputation for excellence, integrity and dedication at the School of Law would be a good indication of what could be expected from him as president. But few could have imagined that a quiet revolution spanning 13 years was about to begin.

"Our task is to build a great university, a university that endures and whose strengths are shared among disciplines and between graduate and undergraduate programs. We have traveled part way down that road, but we have far to go."

—President Timothy J. Sullivan
November 2004

The Road to Excellence
Tim Sullivan knew that William & Mary’s road to excellence would be more like a superhighway than a slow carriage ride down Duke of Gloucester Street. To take a leadership role among America’s premier institutions of higher education, the pace would be swift and grueling, the competition fierce.

But Tim was equal to the task. By building consensus on campus, crafting a new relationship with the Commonwealth and opening the first William & Mary office in the nation’s capital—by standing tough and tall when he needed to, he made the College a name to be reckoned with, an alma mater of which to be proud.
Great Expectations (and other classics)
Tim Sullivan always said that you couldn't have a great college without a great bookstore. William & Mary's great new bookstore in Merchants Square was dedicated in April 2001. Operated by Barnes & Noble, the development of the store was a cooperative undertaking of the College and Colonial Williamsburg.

Buildings, Towns and a Community Along the Way
If, as they say, the past is prologue to the future, then the changes occurring at the College of William & Mary, in the town of Williamsburg and in the surrounding area are tangible examples of how the past and future are being joined together in a marvelous way. A deep respect for history, meticulous care and planning to accommodate future growth, as well as services and amenities, are making this region a model for the nation and a prime environment for new business, research and development, education and quality of life.

It's a grand slam!
Former Tribe second baseman Joe Plumeri '66 donated $1.8 million to build his "field of dreams" at the College. Plumeri Park is a 1,000-seat, state-of-the-art baseball facility.

All the president's people
Tim would be the first to acknowledge that he couldn't have accomplished nearly as much without the hard work of his dedicated staff.

Intelligent growth
is exemplified by the 300-acre community being developed by New Town Associates. The development will include residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, stores and R&D facilities. The William & Mary Endowment Association is a partner in the development of New Town.

Little artists, big futures
At a September 24, 2004, ceremony with young artists from D. J. Montague Elementary School in Williamsburg, Dean Virginia McLaughlin (center) welcomed the first holdings to the newly created School of Education children's art collection.
Charting Our Destiny

With President Sullivan's dedicated advocacy for the College, the face of William & Mary changed dramatically—yet remained recognizably the place so many have known and loved. Eleven major building projects were completed on his watch, and many more are under way. The historic Wren Building was given new life for the 21st century, and a $36.2 million expansion and renovation of Swem Library gave the College an intellectual heart worthy of a world-class university.

Rhodes Scholars
President Sullivan congratulated the College's two new Rhodes Scholars, Paul Larsen '99 and Eileen Cavallaro '99, during a December 1, 1999, reception honoring their extraordinary achievements.

Tim and The DoG Street Journal
co-editor in chief
George Straw '05
celebrate the planting of Standing Tall's first tree. Standing Tall is the student-driven effort to raise money for replanting trees lost on campus during Hurricane Isabel.

Charting Our Destiny
is the theme of the College's largest fund-raising effort to date. Tim and campaign chair Jim Murray, Jr., J.D. '74, LL.D. '00 announced William & Mary's $500 million campaign goal during 2003 Charter Day festivities.

Tim cuts a rug
with students at the Charting Our Destiny campaign kickoff during the 2003 Charter Day weekend.
valued beyond measure, and helped to ensure that the College’s standards of excellence would be supported by the Commonwealth it serves so well.

To fully realize his vision for the College, President Sullivan also cultivated a spirit of philanthropy among the William & Mary family, and private support exceeded all expectations during his presidency. The College’s endowment surpassed $400 million for the first time in its history, and the Campaign for William & Mary set—and is poised to meet—an ambitious $500 million goal (more than tripling the goal of the College’s previous campaign). The three largest gifts to the College were received during President Sullivan’s tenure.

From the moment he assumed occupancy of the Brafferton, President Sullivan invited all members of the William & Mary family to join him in the pursuit of excellence. That charge—and the eternal challenge of its fulfillment—will be his best and most lasting legacy.

New library for a new century
On April 24, 1998, more than 200 faculty, staff, students and members of the Board of Visitors gathered in the bright sunshine outside Swem Library as Tim broke ground with a backhoe.
He walks the walk.
“Just tell them I love 'em.”

TIMOTHY J. SULLIVAN, President of the College of William & Mary

speaking of students during his resignation announcement in June 2004