



# VIRGINIA LEADERS

Linking leaders with a statewide view

January 2009

## Congratulations to the LEAD VIRGINIA Class of 2008

Congratulations to the LEAD VIRGINIA Class of 2008, who now join with fellow alumni totaling 166 graduates. The Class of 2008 has fundraising underway for a full scholarship of \$6,000 on behalf of the upcoming Class of 2009.

**Bernie Niemeier, '07** was honored with the Service to LEAD VIRGINIA award and **Charlie Agee, '05** with the Virginia Leader award for their many contributions at the November Graduation.

**Heidi Abbott**, Counsel, Hunton & Williams, LLP

**Phillip Adams**, Vice President of University

Advancement, Norfolk State University

**Deborah Armstrong**, Senior Vice President, Bank of America

**Tracy Baynard**, Vice President, Business Expansion/ Government Affairs, McGuire Woods Consulting LLC

**Lucy Beauchamp**, Director of Development, SciencePort, Northern Virginia's Science Center

**Peter Blake**, Vice Chancellor of Workforce Development, Virginia Community College System

**Shannon Blevins**, Director of Economic Development, The University of Virginia's College at Wise

**Sandra Bushue**, President, B&I Transportation Consultants

**Chris Caldwell**, Government Affairs Manager, Southeast Region, DuPont

**Judith Cash**, Deputy Director, Virginia Health Care Foundation

**Craig Dixon**, Corporate Counsel & Assistant Secretary, Smithfield Foods, Inc.

**Helm Dobbins**, Executive Vice President & Chief Credit Officer, American National Bank & Trust

**Martha Dodd-Slippy**, GRI, ABR, NC, & VA Associate Broker, Wilkie Real Estate, Inc.

**Caryn Durham**, Senior Vice President, Charles Ryan Associates

**Mark Estep**, President, Southwest Virginia Community College

**David Goldberg**, Chief Growth Officer, Assistant Vice President of Operations, Inova Health System

**Thomas Gosse**, President & CEO, Northern Neck Insurance

**John Grady**, Director of Marketing, Nextlink Wireless



The Class of 2008 at the Williamsburg Lodge during their Opening Session in April

**Robert (Kent) Hill**, Senior Manager,

Economic Development, Dominion

**Joseph Hines**, Principal—Economic Development, Timmons Group

**Robert Innes**, Director of Communications & Community Relations, Columbia Gas of Virginia

**Earl Jackson**, Bishop, Exodus Faith Ministries

**Wanda Jeffress**, Owner/Vice

President/Secretary, S.L. Jeffress Co., Inc.

**Lisa Johnson**, Senior Vice President of Power Supply, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative

**Shawn Kelley**, Principal/Owner, Practical Solutions for Public Safety, Director for Services & Global Safety Solutions, International Association of Fire Chiefs

**Thomas Lisk**, Vice President & Shareholder, LeClairRyan

**William (Jeff) Liverman**, Executive

Director, Danville Science Center

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**LEAD VIRGINIA**  
is accepting  
applications for  
candidates for the  
Class of 2009

**Application Deadline:**

**January 15, 2009**

Please visit  
[www.leadvirginia.org](http://www.leadvirginia.org)  
for applications and  
additional information

**“LEAD VIRGINIA has opened  
my eyes and my mind to the  
endless possibilities available  
in Virginia”**

— Wanda Jeffress, Class of '08

## Profile: Dr. Patricia Cormier, 2009 LEAD VIRGINIA Board Chair



Dr. Patricia Cormier is currently in her thirteenth year as president of Longwood University, having served the higher education community for over 40 years.

Formerly, she was chief academic officer at Winthrop University, in key vice presidential positions at the University of Pennsylvania where she was also an associate dean and a tenured member of the faculty, vice president for development and alumni relations at the Medical College of Pennsylvania, and vice president and dean of the faculty at Wilson College. Dr. Cormier has master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Virginia and a bachelor's degree from Boston University. Her honors include selection as one of 30 fellows nationwide to participate in the American Council on Education's fellowship program in academic administration in 1982-83, a master's degree Honoris causa from the University of Pennsylvania in 1982, election to three national honor societies, selection as a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, and honorary degrees from Fontbonne University and Southside Virginia Community College. She has published two highly regarded books in her field: *Community Oral Health: A Systems Approach* and *Educating the Dentists of the Future*.

In addition to her many community and collegiate responsibilities, Dr. Cormier will become chair of the LEAD

VIRGINIA Board in January 2009. She was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Information Technology Investment Board as well as the Philpott Commission. She also serves on the Faculty Development Committee of the University of Virginia Medical School, and Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Board at Drexel University. She is the past chair of the Executive Committee of the Renaissance Group, past chair of the NCAA Division II Presidents' Council, and past chair of the Council of Fellows of the American Council on Education. She served as a Commissioner on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on Colleges, and is the past Chair of the Board of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), a higher education organization whose membership is comprised of more than 430 colleges, universities, and systems of public higher education throughout the United States and its territories.

Dr. Cormier recently delivered the President to President's lecture at the Annual meeting of AASCU. Dr. Cormier has worked with the campus community to develop and implement a new Mission, Vision, and Goals Statement for Longwood University. This strategic plan for the future of Longwood is embodied in the first sentence of the Mission Statement: "Longwood University is an institution of higher learning dedicated to the development of citizen leaders who are prepared to make positive contributions to the common good of society ..."

**"The overall LEAD VIRGINIA experience has been terrific and I have recommended it to many."**  
- Bob Innes, Class of '08

## 2009 LEAD VIRGINIA Board Officers:

Effective January 2009 the new Officers elected by the Board will be:

**Chair:** Dr. Patricia Cormier, Longwood University

**Vice Chair:** Hon. Whitt Clement, Hunton & Williams LLP

**Treasurer:** Theresa Noe, '08, HCA Healthcare

**Secretary:** Bernie Niemeier, '07, Virginia Business Magazine

**Immediate Past Chair:** G. S. "Sandy" Fitz-Hugh, Jr., Kaufman and Canoles

### With Much Appreciation

LEAD VIRGINIA extends its very sincere appreciation to our Immediate Past Chair, G.S. "Sandy" Fitz-Hugh for his four years of service as Chair of the Board of Directors. Sandy will remain on the Board and will continue to serve as Development Chair. Our sincere appreciation also to Lynn Strader, Class of 2005, for serving as LEAD VIRGINIA's Treasurer for 2007-2008 and to Tricia Hutcherson for her service as Secretary for 2006-2008.



## Class of 2008 continued

**Heather Mantz**, Director of  
Environmental Affairs, Virginia Port  
Authority

**Gail Milligan**, Virginia State Director,  
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

**Richard Moore**, Division Head—Program  
Management, Washington Gas  
Light Company

**Greg Napps**, Administrative Director of  
Operations, Bon Secours St.  
Mary's Hospital

**Theresa Noe**, Vice President of  
Strategic Planning, HCA Healthcare

**Frank Piatkowski**, Principal, Persimmon  
Tree Companies

**Robert Powell, III**, Editor, Virginia  
Business Magazine

**Patrick Reeder**, Associate General  
Counsel, Genworth

**Cian Robinson**, President, Robinson  
Ventures, LLC

**Melanie Salyer**, Deputy Clerk, Wise County  
Circuit Court Clerk's Office

**Scott Schoenborn**, Senior Account  
Manager, Pfizer Inc.

**Thomas Shumaker**, General Attorney,  
Norfolk Southern Corporation

**Glen (Skip) Skinner**, Executive Director,  
LENEWSICO Planning Commission

**Benny Summerlin**, County Administrator,  
Henry County

**Rhonda VanLowe**, Legal Counsel, Rolls-Royce  
North America Inc.

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## 2009 Alumni Committee

We congratulate the newly elected officers of the Alumni Committee and look forward to an exciting year of alumni gatherings. Mark your calendar for the 2009 Alumni Conference at The Tide's Inn in the Northern Neck, June 4-6, 2009.

**Alumni Committee Chair**—Mike Drzal '07, Principal, LeClair Ryan

**Chair-Elect**—Beth Bortz '07, Executive Director, Medical Society of Virginia Foundation

**Central Virginia Chair**—Scott Ford '07, Partner and President, McCandlish Holton

**Northern Virginia Chair**—Adrian Chapman '06, Vice President of Operations, Regulatory Affairs and Energy  
Acquisition, Washington Gas

**Hampton Roads Chair**—Jeff Wassmer '05, President and CEO, Spectrum

**Southern Virginia Chair**—Wanda Jeffress '08, Owner/Vice President/Secretary, S.L. Jeffress Co., Inc.

**Shenandoah Valley Chair**—Sharon Johnson '07, Senior Consultant, SRI

**Southwest Virginia Chair**—Donna Stanley '07, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Mountain Empire  
Community College

Our sincere appreciation to the 2008 Alumni Committee for their leadership and support!

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## How to Engage on a Statewide Board or Commission

Serving the Commonwealth of Virginia is both an honor and a privilege. To receive a list of the 2009 Term Appointments, the Current Vacancy list, the application, and the nomination form please visit

[www.commonwealth.virginia.gov/StateGovernment/Appointments/appointments.cfm#app](http://www.commonwealth.virginia.gov/StateGovernment/Appointments/appointments.cfm#app). To apply you must fill out an application, send in your resume, a cover letter and letters of recommendation. There is also a form on the website for you to nominate someone to an appointment. If you would like more information contact Kathryn DeFilippo Paxton at 804.692.2539.



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statewide view

9 South Fifth Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Phone: 804-237-1461  
Fax: 804-783-6112  
E-mail: info@leadva.org

Dr. Patricia Cormier, Chair, Board of Directors  
Susan Horne, President & CEO  
Amanda Keller, Director of Operations  
and Editor, VIRGINIA LEADERS

Web Site: www.leadvirginia.org



### LEAD VIRGINIA 2008 Sponsors

LEAD VIRGINIA is proud to recognize the following organizations and individuals for their contributions in 2008 and expresses heartfelt appreciation to each.

#### 2008 Sustaining Sponsors

(Gift of \$25,000 each year for four years)

Bon Secours Richmond Health System

HCA Virginia

Philip Morris USA

#### 2008 Sponsors

(Gift of \$25,000 in 2008)

The Harvest Foundation

Norfolk Southern Corporation

#### 2008 Session Sponsors

(Gift of \$10,000 or more in 2008)

Columbia Gas

Dominion

Inova

Verizon

Washington Gas

XO Communications

#### 2008 Alumni Conference Sponsors

Carilion Clinic

LeClair Ryan

NewVA Corridor Technology Council

Virginia Tech Foundation

#### Susan Timmons Scholarship Fund

Class of 2007

Hon. Kimble Reynolds, '05

Longwood University

OMNIPLEX World Service Corporation

The University of Virginia

#### Other 2008 Financial

##### Contributors

Mr. & Mrs. G.S. Fitz-Hugh, Jr.

Claude Moore Foundation

Hirschler Fleisher

Hunton & Williams

Leadership Fairfax

#### 2008 In-Kind Contributors

Blue Ridge Community College

Booz Allen Hamilton

Bridgewater College

Chmura Economics & Analytics

CRT/tanaka

#### 2008 In-Kind Continued

Danville Science Center

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Fort Monroe

Institute for Advanced Learning  
and Research

James Madison University

Metropolitan Washington

Airports Authority

Mountain Rose Vineyards

Norfolk Naval Station

Old Dominion University

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

The University of Virginia's College at Wise

University of Richmond, Jepson School

of Leadership

Valderas & Fishel

Venable LLP

Virginia Business Magazine

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Port Authority

Washington Gas

West Piedmont Workforce

Development Board

XO Communications