

Subject: R-MWC President Retires in 2006
From: Alumnae Office <alumnaeoffice@rmwc.edu>
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May 9, 2005

To the Randolph-Macon Woman's College community:

At this past weekend's Board meeting, I informed the Trustees of my intention to retire as President of the College at the conclusion of the 2005-06 academic year. By that time we will have completed a new strategic plan, and it will be a natural time for a leadership transition, with the new President overseeing implementation of the blueprint for the College's next phase of development.

The College's future success will build on all we have accomplished together over the past eleven years. We have vastly diversified and enriched the student body, while maintaining our traditional high academic standards. We have created new majors in Environmental Studies and American Culture, each anchored by an endowed professorship, and new graduate degree programs in Education. We have distinguished ourselves by our extensive globalization, accomplished through the creation of a student body that is a microcosm of the world; the Quillian professorship and other visiting international scholar programs; international faculty development seminars; new study abroad opportunities; the Susan F. Davenport Global Leadership Program; the Pearl S. Buck Award; the President's Award for Globalization; academic initiatives across many disciplines, including the teaching of Chinese and Arabic; and partnerships with international organizations and agencies. We have received national and international recognition for these achievements. We have also established an endowed summer research program for faculty and students, developed a technologically advanced learning environment, and enhanced our athletics and wellness programs. We have renovated classrooms, studios, and performance spaces, including Smith Hall Theatre and Wimberly Recital Hall, and created a state-of-the-art soccer and softball facility. Much of this work was supported through the success of the largest capital campaign in the College's history, whose commitments now total more than \$89 million.

The importance of the transformations we have undertaken is reflected in the recent research of Art & Science: R-MWC alumnae across all generations hold today's College at a level of esteem that is among the highest Art & Science has found in its many studies of colleges and universities. Of this we can be justly proud.

As anyone associated with this College knows, it inspires an uncompromising level of emotional, intellectual, and spiritual engagement that becomes an essential part of one's personal identity. Separating from this special place will be very difficult for both Daniel and me. We feel privileged to be associated with committed scholars, gifted students, dedicated staff, outstanding alumnae, and remarkable Trustees. The spirit of the College and the people who comprise it will be part of us for the rest of our lives.

The Board will initiate a search for my successor in the next several weeks. I look forward to working with all of you over the next year to continue our momentum and ensure the successful completion of the new strategic plan.

With fondest regards,

Kathleen

Please do not respond to this email. If you would like to write Kathleen, her address is:

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