



April 2019 | Successful Defenses | Faculty | Alumni | Students | One Tribe

### WELCOME NEW DOCTORS

Congratulations to Yi Hao, Ben Boone, Charles Smith, and Erin Wojtkun (see below) who all successfully defended their dissertations last month.

### CONGRATULATIONS DR. HAO

Yi Hao successfully defended her dissertation: *Leaders of Graduate Education at Doctoral Universities and their Perceptions of the Role of Graduate Schools*

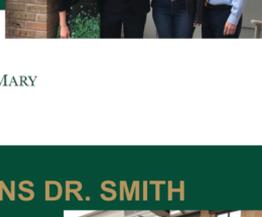
Her committee members included: Dr. Pamela L. Eddy, Chair, (front left) Dr. Gene Roche (back left), and Dr. Hironao Okahana (back right)



### CONGRATULATIONS DR. BOONE

Ben Boone successfully defended his dissertation: *Teaching Along the Way: An Ethnographic Study of Faculty Growth and Sensemaking on the Camino de Santiago*

His committee members included: Dr. Pamela L. Eddy, Chair (far left), Dr. James Barber (far right) and Dr. Kathleen Jenkins (center)



### CONGRATULATIONS DR. SMITH

Charles Smith successfully defended his dissertation: *Examining Persistence: The Influence of Joining Pan-Hellenic Black Greek Letter Organizations on African-American Male Students Attending Predominantly White Institutions*

His committee members included: Dr. Pamela L. Eddy, Chair, (middle right), Dr. Gene Roche (far right), and Dr. Natoya Haskins (far left)



### CONGRATULATIONS DR. WOJTKUN

Erin Wojtkun successfully defended her dissertation: *A Program Evaluation of Game Day the DIII Way*

Her committee members included: Dr. Gene Roche, Chair, (far right), Dr. Leslie Grant (far left), and Dr. Stephanie Blackmon (not pictured)



### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



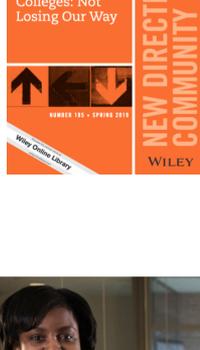
#### 2019 Annual NASPA Conference

William & Mary's Higher Education program had strong representation at [NASPA's annual conference](#) in Los Angeles, CA in March. Attended by over 7,000 Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, this year's focused on *Belonging and Student Success, Community and Democratic Engagement, and Learning into the Next 100 Years*. A W&M Social was hosted by the Higher Education Program and the Division of Student Affairs, and was well-attended by William & Mary staff members as well as current School of Education graduate students and alumni. We're already looking forward to next year's NASPA Conference in Austin, Texas!



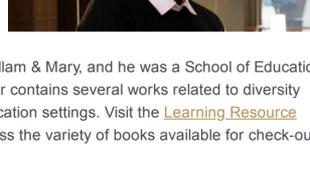
#### CSCC Annual Conference

Dr. Pamela Eddy (middle front row) recently attended the annual conference of the [Council for the Study of Community Colleges](#) (CSCC) with a total of six presentations. Not only did Dr. Eddy present on her continuous research on faculty and mid-level leadership, but also generously shared her experiences and advice on the topics of access and equity, mentorship, publication processes, and career pathways. Dr. Eddy served as the President of CSCC in 2012, and continues to be actively involved with the organization and its leadership. With her new role as the Editor of the [New Directions for Community Colleges](#) (right), Dr. Eddy continues to touch and influence scholars, practitioners, and professionals at all career stages in higher education.



#### Hulon Willis Diversity Collection

Dr. Stephanie Blackmon and Rebecca Beasley (Librarian & Director, Learning Resource Center) received an Office of Diversity & Inclusion Diversity Endowment (IDEA) grant to update the Hulon Willis Diversity Collection. Hulon Willis, Sr. was the first African American student admitted to William & Mary, and he was a School of Education alum. The book collection named in his honor contains several works related to diversity and inclusion topics for K-12 and higher education settings. Visit the [Learning Resource Center](#) on the 2nd floor of the school to access the variety of books available for check-out!



### ALUMNI *in the* SPOTLIGHT



#### Alumna Directing the NACCC

Natasha Janson M.Ed. '02, Ph.D. '05 (center second row) serves as the Director for the [National Assessment of Collegiate Campus Climate](#) (NACCC). For the past decade, the NACCC has published numerous reports and conducted hundreds of qualitative interviews "to identify the most salient survey content areas and questions today in the field of campus racial climate." NACCC is housed within the University of Southern California's Race & Equity Center.

#### Interview with Dean Niles

Mary Kate Watkins M.Ed. '19 recently sat down with the School of Education's Dean Spencer Niles for a two-part interview. She focused on his experience as a dean, as well as his time as a graduate student. The Dean also shared his advice for students seeking a career in education. Read it [here](#).



Wren's Nest welcomes School of Education alumni to [submit](#) articles on how they are integrating their graduate degree into current work. Submit to: [wrensnest@email.wm.edu](mailto:wrensnest@email.wm.edu)

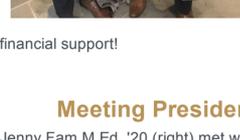
#### For Good Partnership

Erin Crotty Troia M.Ed. '01 recently started her own company called For Good Partnership. She works with organizations in the philanthropic space to improve systems, processes, and data practices to significantly impact fundraising. After 20 years as a fundraising professional, Erin is thrilled to begin this endeavor and invites partnerships.

### STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

#### FGLI Annual Conference

Dane Pascoe Ph.D. '19 (left) represented William & Mary as an Academic Advisor and as a Ph.D. student at the 2nd Annual [First Generation and Low Income](#) (FGLI) conference held at Princeton University in February. The FGLI consortium meets annually to discuss how selective universities can best serve and support their FGLI students. This year's theme was intersectionality and many conversations revolved around the topics of homelessness and food insecurity. It was a busy three days of learning and sharing ideas with others from different campuses who also care deeply about these issues in higher education. Dane would like to thank the Higher Education fund for the financial support!



#### Meeting President Rowe

Jenny Fam M.Ed. '20 (right) met with President Rowe last month to discuss how William & Mary can help the 35-40 percent of undergraduate students who don't study abroad. Jenny shared her desire with President Rowe to make something happen by helping students gain a more international perspective. If there are obstacles, what are they? And what we can do to remove them? President Rowe shared, "The more cosmopolitan we are, the better we are."



Jenny also attended the [ACPA 2019](#) annual conference in Boston over March break. She shared, "It was a great networking and professional development opportunity. ACPA helped me learn from peers and professional staffs from other institutions."

#### NASPA Presentation

Jingjing Liu Ph.D. '22 (left) with Dr. Jim Barber (right), attended [NASPA's 2019](#) annual conference. Jingjing collaborated with Lucas Schalewski, Associate Director for Assessment, Research, & Grant Development of the University of Arizona, and gave a presentation with the topic *Introducing Propensit Score Match: Linking Student Affairs Assessment and Student Success*. Jingjing regarded the NASPA annual conference as a great experience to advance professional development and build a support network. She is grateful for travel funding from the W&M Higher Education program.



**TRIBE DAY**  
for WILLIAM & MARY

A day for giving back and paying it forward.  
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019

Get ready to give back on [One Tribe One Day](#). Your gift will directly support our academic programs and departments, empower students to do research and present their work in the field, and strengthen our service to the community.

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