

WILLIAM & MARY  
RETIREMENT OF VIRGINIA L. MCLAUGHLIN  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Virginia L. McLaughlin was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of The College of William and Mary (W&M) in 1971 with highest honors in psychology. She earned a master's degree in special education from Peabody College (later part of Vanderbilt University) and taught for three years in South Carolina public schools. After completing a doctorate in special education at the University of Memphis, Dr. McLaughlin served as an assistant professor of education at Clemson and Old Dominion Universities before returning to her alma mater as an assistant professor in 1983.

Professor McLaughlin served for seven years as Associate Dean in the School of Education with major responsibilities for academic programs, accreditation, enrollment and student services. In 1992, she was invited by newly-appointed President Timothy J. Sullivan to become his Chief-of-Staff and served for two years in that role. After a national search, Professor McLaughlin was named Dean of the School of Education in 1995. During her 18-year tenure as dean, the School of Education restructured academic programs, increased quality and diversity of the faculty and student body, achieved national rankings, enhanced grant-funded research and projects, and developed important partnerships with schools and agencies. Dean McLaughlin led William & Mary efforts to acquire property, secure funding, design, and construct a new facility for the School of Education to bring all of its programs and projects under one roof in 2010.

Professor McLaughlin taught graduate and undergraduate students throughout her time at William & Mary with courses ranging from freshmen seminars to core masters- and doctoral-level courses in teacher and leadership preparation programs. She supervised student teaching, as well as doctoral dissertations. Professor McLaughlin's scholarly agenda has centered on interventions for students with special needs, collaborative and interagency service delivery, and education policy issues. She authored or co-authored 3 books, 22 chapters in edited volumes, 21 articles in refereed journals, as well as multiple reports, and online modules. Additionally, she has given hundreds of presentations at international, national, and state conferences. Throughout her career, Professor McLaughlin has been heavily engaged in grant-writing and management of externally funded projects. Overall, she has been a Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-PI on 32 federal and state grants or contracts totaling over \$10.5 million.

Over nearly four decades at W&M, Professor McLaughlin has served on hundreds of major committees at university and school levels. Nationally, she has served on boards of several major professional associations, and she was elected to a two-year term as President of the Council of Academic Deans from Research Extensive Institutions (CADREI). Within the Commonwealth of Virginia, she was appointed by Governors to serve on the P-16 Education Council and later the Virginia State Board of Education. Locally, Professor McLaughlin has been involved on boards of many educational, health, and human service non-profit agencies.

In recognition of her contributions, Professor McLaughlin has received a number of awards, including the Thomas Jefferson Award (William & Mary, 2021); the Alumni Medallion (Alumni Association, 2015); Margaret, the Lady Thatcher Award for Character, Leadership, and Service (School of Education, 2013); and Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education (AACTE, 2013).

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Visitors acknowledges the retirement of Virginia L. McLaughlin; expresses its appreciation for her many contributions to William & Mary; and approves, with deep gratitude for her 38 years of service, a change in status from Chancellor Professor of Education to Chancellor Professor of Education, Emerita.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board and a copy of the same delivered to Professor McLaughlin with best wishes for continuing and creative work in the years ahead.