

June 2025 :: Celebrating the Class of 2025 :: Thatcher Award Recipient :: School Counseling Recognition ::  
Juneteenth :: Upcoming Events



## School of Education Celebrates the Class of 2025

The William & Mary School of Education commemorated the Class of 2025 with a series of celebratory events, including the Doctoral Cording Ceremony held on May 16 and the Graduation Celebration held on May 17, 2025. These milestone events honored the accomplishments of graduates from diverse programs, including doctoral, master's and undergraduate degrees. The weekend was marked by a strong sense of community and achievement, reflecting the School of Education's commitment to preparing transformative leaders in education. **More.**

## FROM THE DEAN



As we close a record-setting year at the William & Mary School of Education, we celebrate more than academic achievement: we affirm our collective commitment to the democratic ideals that education sustains. A thriving democracy depends on an informed, thoughtful and engaged citizenry. Our work as educators, counselors and scholars plays a vital role in preparing individuals not only to succeed personally, but also to participate meaningfully in civic life.

From landmark rulings like *Brown v. Board of Education* to the writings of Jefferson and Dewey, history reminds us that access to quality education is both a right and a responsibility. Today, in a time of rapid change and deepening divides, our mission is more urgent than ever.

We send forth a new class of graduates with pride and with confidence that they will lead with justice, inclusive excellence and a deep commitment to democracy.

— Dean Rob Knoeppel

## NEWS & NOTES



### Doctoral Cording Ceremony

Watch a recording and view photos from the School of Education Doctoral Cording Ceremony.

[Watch Livestream Recording](#)

[View Photo Slideshow](#)



### Graduation Celebration

Watch a recording and view photos from the School of Education Graduation Celebration.

[Watch Livestream Recording](#)

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## Unconventional journey in Counselor Education leads to top honor at graduation

Described by one of her professors as someone who embodies “everything the W&M School of Education strives to be,” **Tamika Nicole Jackson Ph.D. '24** (Counselor Education) is the 2025 recipient of the Margaret, The Lady Thatcher, Award for Scholarship, Character and Service. Her journey began in an unexpected place — on a path shaped not by education or counseling, but by a 15-year career in the finance industry.

“One day I realized that something needed to change. I love being with people, and I never felt dread when I was going to work at the Church. One of those things was making me feel more joyful and felt more life-giving than the other, and it was the one helping people and serving people.” **More.**



# Online master's in School Counseling recognized among nations' best for 2025

William & Mary's Online School Counseling Program has been recognized by **CounselingPsychology.org** as the No. 2 program in the country. As detailed by WYDaily.com, the ranking cites the School of Education's CACREP-accredited program's emphasis on social justice and diversity, as well as two on-campus residencies that make it unique. The program is also recognized for preparing students for licensure through a curriculum that includes academic planning, career exploration and emotional support strategies, alongside required practicum and internship experiences for hands-on learning.

Rankings are based on curriculum strength, faculty credentials, flexibility, value and licensure preparation, according to the organization. **More.**



## Welcome Curriculum & Instruction Class of 2026

Our Curriculum & Instruction Orientation welcomed new students with program insights, alumni advice and a reaffirmation of our values through the Honor Code Pledge and Signing Ceremony. Students also explored their new academic home through a fun School of Education scavenger hunt. A great beginning for a new cohort of future educators!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Juneteenth at William & Mary

William & Mary's 2025 Juneteenth celebration will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 18 in the Sadler Center. The event will include performers, vendors, and more.

[More Information](#)

June 16-17: **SURN's 27th Annual Leadership Conference**

June 23-27: **Eastern Virginia Writing Project Youth Writing Camp**

June 26-July 9: **CFGE: The Optimist Project**

July 16-17: **T/TAC SIM-Posium**

## SHARE A STORY

Let us know what you're up to!

## MAKE A GIFT

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