

CROMWELL AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN TEACHING

Erin M. Counihan

Erin Counihan's truly innovative and inclusive work has greatly benefited her students, the College, the Secondary Education Program, the Department of Education, and the wider Kent and Queen Anne's County communities. Erin doesn't just teach what to do, or look for results via graded assignments, she models the concepts herself on a daily basis. She is always the first person in the department to introduce colleagues and students to a new online tool or platform. She takes it upon herself to learn new approaches and then will bring this knowledge and understanding to her colleagues as well as applying it to the classroom. But she doesn't stop there, as Erin shared new technologies with the wider college community through CTL sessions and with the public school communities in Kent and Queen Anne's. Erin's teaching also stands out for her commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. She works tirelessly to seek out and use readings, activities and resources that represent diverse experiences, identities and viewpoints. Key among her recent innovations is the modernization of EDU 315, Traditional and Modern Grammar, a course required by Maryland State Department of Education that many students found both dry and irrelevant. She saw an opportunity to modernize the course by challenging students to evaluate language through multiple lenses — cultural, racial, gender-based — and create awareness of problems that can stem from emphasizing a standard that is not all-inclusive. The work she is doing is a shining example of the belief that teaching should model effective and creative pedagogical decisions and actions for students. Not only does Erin teach about how to be a culturally responsive teacher, but she also models these attributes every single day.



JOSEPH L. HOLT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Robert Bishop

Bob Bishop exhibits an extraordinary commitment to providing outstanding customer service and technology support to the college community, and his ability to effectively respond to the extraordinary demands of supporting technology during a pandemic further underscores that dedication. His excellent technical skills and abilities, combined with his creative thinking, and his professional and compassionate manner, allow him to resolve challenging technical problems calmly and efficiently, even when under pressure. He shares his knowledge with his professional and student staff. He also coaches and mentors his team and sets the example he wants them to follow. The past twenty-one months have been a challenge for everyone, but Bob Bishop stepped up to ensure that we were able to continue to provide a world-class education. He identified solutions for the problems presented by a sudden switch to remote work and education, and through clear communication and strong leadership, helped to integrate new technologies very quickly. He worked selflessly to ensure the campus community would still receive the technical help needed as everyone adjusted to remote teaching and learning. Bob is a quiet leader who does whatever is necessary to accomplish the job and in spite of the challenging conditions and demands on his team, he always shows up with a smile and a positive attitude.



JOSEPH L. HOLT
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Marc Dykeman M'07

If we had a fantasy draft for colleagues at the College, Marc Dykeman would go in the first round. As the Director of Advancement Services & Strategy, he is not only an essential member of the College Advancement leadership team, but also a strategic partner and key ally to any number of other offices on campus. Marc serves as the central nervous system for all of College Advancement, a role that showcases his intelligence, sound judgment and work ethic. His approach to his work is both pragmatic and enlightened and he is well-known for keeping his head when others around him are losing theirs. Marc's professional manner and pleasant attitude further cement his value amongst the many colleagues who rely on his good work. In his supervisory capacity, Marc is very aware of the well-being of his staff, always asking "what do you need to do your job better?" His door is always open to discuss situations, either as a team or one-on-one. He works with his team in the weeds, while still keeping an eye on the big picture. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Kent Cultural Alliance and Sumner Hall, Marc is also an ambassador for the College beyond the campus. And like everything else he does, he serves in these volunteer roles without fanfare or recognition.



JOSEPH L. HOLT
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

L. Josephine "Peach" Hawn '08

Josephine Hawn, affectionally known to all as "Peach," has given more than half her life in service to Washington College. In many ways, she is Washington College. As a transfer student, she earned her Bachelor's degree from the College after many years of taking one class at a time, while also earning everyone's respect and admiration as a dedicated employee. Because she spans generations of the Washington College family, Peach is both the glue that keeps many older alumni connected, and the College's memory keeper. When all else fails and information needs to be found or validated, it is a great comfort to know that Peach — with her vast institutional knowledge — will have the answer. With faculty and staff, she is that whisper in the ear, reminding us of a donor's birthday, a pet's name or a fond memory. She fills this critical role quietly and without fanfare, happy to contribute to the institution she calls home. She is not just a colleague to everyone on campus, she is a true friend. Everyone smiles after a chat with Peach! Her positivity towards the Washington College community is contagious, as are her smile, her energy, and her caring nature. While her years of service are impressive, it is what she has done with those years that is most remarkable.



JOSEPH L. HOLT
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Shaun Ramsey, Ph.D.

Shaun Ramsey stands out for his commitment to making Washington College a better place. He is truly devoted to this institution, and demonstrates this through his mentoring of students, his collaborations with colleagues, and his willingness to step into leadership positions at critical moments for the College. The first example of this was when he took over as Chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department. He succeeded in stabilizing a struggling department and now under his leadership, it is thriving. He then stepped up to chair Faculty Council, and was especially instrumental in helping faculty to navigate through the recent presidential search. Most recently, he took on the position of Associate Dean of Faculty, where he is focusing on mentoring colleagues and finding solutions to everyday challenges. A true consensus builder, Shaun has that rare ability to listen to and understand competing interests, while finding critical points of commonality and agreement. Shaun is exactly the type of energetic, caring and dedicated teacher-scholar that the College prides itself on attracting. His commitment to his students is evident and his approach is fully student-centered. Discussing teaching ideas with Shaun always improves them, because he knows our students so well and has a keen sense for what works for them. He truly epitomizes the hardworking and dedicated faculty member, willing to go above and beyond for both his students and the College as a whole.



JOSEPH L. HOLT
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Jennifer Schultz

Jenn Schultz has consistently provided caring leadership that goes well beyond her official role, and while she has been a gift to the campus since her arrival, her value to the College has never been more apparent than in the last two years. It is fitting that her desk is situated at the heart of the first floor of Bunting, because it is from this post that she efficiently and compassionately manages a never-ending stream of queries, concerns and other miscellaneous items brought forth by students, faculty and parents alike. And Jenn makes time for all of them, always keeping the students at the center of her work. Those responsibilities have only intensified as the College has endured reduced budgets and staffing, together with the myriad of strange new crises tied to running an academic department in the midst of a pandemic. Yet she has remained steadfast and true, always seeking the wisest course and helping to guide the College forward with her common sense, her good cheer and her professionalism. Jenn's ability to field any issue, situation or problem with equanimity is legendary and her patience extraordinary. Her intelligence and care are a model for what we want from all employees and she fulfills her role as air traffic controller with humor and grace. The past two years have revealed her remarkable strength and proven her to be the rock of Bunting Hall.



ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

Lois Ireland '84

Lois Ireland is a proud graduate of the Class of 1984. As an undergraduate student, Lois gave a four-year commitment to the Miller Library, working mostly in the U.S. government documents selective repository service. She held various offices within the Beta Pi chapter of Alpha Chi Omega, including chapter president, and was inducted into Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society and Omicron Delta Kappa.

She followed the History degree she earned from Washington College with a Master's of Science in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her successful career has included opportunities in both private enterprise and public libraries. In D.C., she was head librarian at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and recently retired after 22 years as Director of the Corporate Library & Research Service for Freddie Mac in McLean, VA.

Lois gave of her time, talent and treasure to Washington College as class agent and reunion chair before agreeing to serve first on the Alumni Alliance, then the Alumni Board as chair of the Washington Fund. Since retiring, she has participated with the Watershed Program, sending notes to accepted students encouraging them to say yes to Washington College and has proudly represented the College at several college fairs in Northern Virginia.



ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

Arian Ravanbakhsh '89

Arian Ravanbakhsh, class of 1989, was well-known for editing the *Pegasus*, which he did for three editions — 1987, 1988, and 1989. He also served as a contributing columnist for *The Elm* during his junior and senior years. Prior to graduation, he was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa.

After graduation, Arian started his career in archives with a job at the Maryland State Archives, where he eventually became the Director of Geographic Services. In 2000, he joined the staff of the National Archives and has since become the Supervisor of the Policy and Program Support Team in the Office of the Chief Records Officer. His team is responsible for all government-wide records management policy and guidance under the Federal Records Act.

His service to the College has occurred in many areas. The intersection of both his professional interests around archives and personal interests in the College occurred in 2004, when he reached out to then Director of the Miller Library, Ruth Shoge to lend his time and talents to the renovation to Miller Library, and formally established the space for the College Archives which is on display today.

In 2013, he was elected to serve on the Alumni Board and proved to be a very engaged, and sometimes vocal, member of the Board. The completion of his term in 2016 coincided with a vacancy at the leadership level and he was subsequently elected to serve as Chair of the Alumni Board. During this two-year term, he worked tirelessly to improve the stature of the Alumni Board and its role at Washington College. He also served on a variety of task forces and search committees during these years. Arian's contributions have been, and continue to be, significant to the life of Washington College.



ALUMNI HORIZON RIBBON AWARD

Mollie Binotto '07

Mollie Binotto came to Washington College by way of Upper St. Clair High School in Pittsburgh, PA. As a student and an athlete, she was active in various campus groups, including Model U.N. and a four-year member and senior year captain of the Women's Lacrosse team. Her studies in Political Science and International Studies, along with her internship with the Washington Center in Washington, D.C., prepared her well for her current groundbreaking career in politics.

Currently, Mollie is Vice President at Sena Kozar Strategies. She joined the team at Sena Kozar following her hard-won 2021 victory as Campaign Manager for the re-election of Governor Phil Murphy, making her the first woman to manage a successful gubernatorial campaign in New Jersey. Mollie remains an integral part of Governor Murphy's political team, serving as a national strategist for Governor Murphy's efforts on behalf of New Jerseyans and the Democratic Party.

Since graduating from Washington College in 2007, Mollie has been very active in Federal and State politics, elections, grassroots advocacy, and issues management. Throughout her career, Mollie has managed or advised electoral campaigns of all shapes and sizes at the state and federal levels, developing expertise in large-scale mobilization and turnout programs for U.S. Senate and Presidential races. In the 2019–2020 cycle, she was the Western Director for Federal and Gubernatorial Campaigns at EMILY's List. She advised, advocated, and recruited pro-choice democratic women for electoral office.

When she is not on the campaign trail, Mollie lives in Washington, D.C. with her partner Max and her mutt Howie.

Mollie receives the Washington College Alumni Horizon Ribbon Award because of her incredible accomplishments after graduating from Washington College. She is an inspiration to all who aspire to be leaders in their field.



PRESIDENT'S MEDAL AWARD

Charlene Perry

Washington College was prepared to meet the challenges of COVID-19 thanks to the foresight and leadership of Charlene Perry. Long before COVID, Charlene founded the Kent County Health Care Emergency Response Coalition (HERC). HERC's mission was to develop and promote health emergency preparedness and response capabilities through leadership and teamwork, lessening the effects on the lives of Kent County citizens. She instituted monthly meetings and led HERC towards true emergency preparedness, with sound strategies for resource allocation, along with drills and training exercises. Additionally, she served as a member of the College's Emergency Operations Group, sharing her expertise around emergency preparedness.

Charlene's leadership became essential again, when in December 2019, she alerted HERC after a novel coronavirus was identified overseas. Before there was even one confirmed case in the United States, Charlene had activated HERC and was planning the County's response. She was particularly concerned about our students and was an essential partner in the early planning and response. She worked tirelessly with the administration, reviewing plans, and offering guidance on critical operational elements such as testing, housing and compliance plans. She was a consistent resource for critical information and supplies that were difficult to secure on our own. She even assisted with setting up vaccine clinics just for Washington College's workforce at a time when vaccines were difficult to find.

Charlene demonstrated remarkable concern for and understanding of the College's operations, students, and resources. She was caring and compassionate, and acknowledged the importance of the relationship the College has with the greater Chestertown community. The trusting partnership and open collaboration with Charlene and the Health Department was essential to our ability to weather the last two years. It is because of her insistence that our institution embrace emergency preparedness that we were prepared to navigate through the pandemic.

Public health officials like Charlene are some of the true heroes of the pandemic. It is an honor and a privilege to be able to recognize an individual whose career was dedicated to keeping us and our neighbors safe for years. Charlene's work saved lives and we are eternally grateful for her forward-thinking leadership and friendship.

