



NETTING UNRESTRICTED FUNDS FOR VIMS

One Tribe One Day, William & Mary's annual day of giving, has sparked a tradition of fun and friendly rivalry at VIMS. Departmental teams, often dressed in marine-themed costumes, compete to achieve the highest rate of giving back to VIMS. In 2018, the VIMS Foundation Board added a \$10,000 challenge, heightening the competition. "The Delicious Fishes" — led by staff team captains Celia Cackowski, Abigail Hils, Carol Tomlinson, and Adrienne Washington — netted the big win with an 85 percent participation rate from their team. The strong showing from all VIMS departments and donors helped secure a \$15,000 university-wide Gerdelman Prize for VIMS for the highest percent increase in giving on One Tribe One Day. In recognition of their efforts, the four women were awarded the inaugural Massey Medallion, named for the Massey Foundation's long-term commitment to unrestricted giving at VIMS. "VIMS is a family," Cackowski said. "It's a group of dedicated people working together to accomplish incredible results, and I want to see its work continue."

The team of Celia Cackowski, Abigail Hils, Carol Tomlinson, and Adrienne Washington received the inaugural Massey Medallion for their One Tribe One Day success.



Steering a New Course

Leadership groups unite to form new VIMS Foundation

In 2016, following robust discussion and debate, the original VIMS Foundation Board (est. 2000) and the VIMS Council (est. 1982) voted unanimously to merge and combine their missions to form a new VIMS Foundation Board with a mission to advise and assist VIMS, promote philanthropy, steward the philanthropic resources of the VIMS Foundation, and act as ally and ambassador to position VIMS as the preeminent leader in coastal and estuarine science and education for Virginia and the world.

After his work with A. Travis Massey and John Wells to plan out the foundation's purpose and structure, integrate the missions of each body, and navigate the merger logistics, Stephen A. Johnsen was elected president of the newly reconstituted foundation and set it on the successful course it is pursuing today. VIMS and the VIMS Foundation are grateful to the many outstanding leaders who have served on the Council and the Foundation Board over the course of this campaign, listed on the following pages.

Stephen Johnsen HON '18 oversaw the merger of the original VIMS Foundation and VIMS Council to form a new VIMS Foundation, serving as the new board's first president. As a longtime supporter of the Eastern Shore Lab, he advised Dean & Director John Wells on securing funding to enhance its facilities and led an initiative to establish the Bonnie Sue Fund, a fund for Eastern Shore students to pursue internships at the ESL, named for Captain Robert Turner's boat the *Bonnie Sue*.

Ask lifelong beachcomber Amelia Ann "Amy" Dick about shells and she can tell you just about anything — from the features of the oldest fossils to the habits of today's mollusk inhabitants. She's turned her passion into an enduring legacy as a nationally recognized amateur conchologist, winning awards for her scientific presentations. That same passion led Dick to establish a bequest to the VIMS Foundation to ensure the future health of our marine ecosystems. "To smell the ocean air brings me joy," she says. "Water is alive." She specifically earmarked her planned gift to help students studying water quality, so that "this love of mine will continue on after I'm gone. That is my legacy."

A SHELL SEEKER'S BEQUEST



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"The successful merger of the VIMS Council and the VIMS Foundation has realized our goal of achieving a laser focus on philanthropy. The active participation of members of both groups has helped significantly as VIMS steers a steady course in meeting its mission goals. A special thanks to all involved!"

— STEPHEN JOHNSEN HON '18,
 VIMS FOUNDATION PRESIDENT EMERITUS

