

University of Richmond

UR Scholarship Repository

Jepson School of Leadership Studies Dean's Reports

Jepson School of Leadership Studies

2022

Jepson School of Leadership Studies Dean's Report 2021 - 2022

Sandra J. Peart

University of Richmond, speart@richmond.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/jepson-deans-reports>



Part of the [Leadership Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Peart, Sandra J., "Jepson School of Leadership Studies Dean's Report 2021 - 2022" (2022). *Jepson School of Leadership Studies Dean's Reports*. 2.

<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/jepson-deans-reports/2>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Jepson School of Leadership Studies Dean's Reports by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.



UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
Jepson School
of Leadership Studies™

Dean's Report
2021-2022



1st

undergraduate school
of leadership studies
in the nation

2

seniors awarded Jepson scholarships
to pursue master's degrees
at University of Oxford

11

public programs presented
by scholars and experts

17

tenured and tenure-track faculty
representing 9 disciplines

287

declared leadership studies
majors and minors

27k+

Jepson internship hours logged
by Class of 2022

\$500k+

Pauley Family Foundation grant
to support programming
at the School's
Gary L. McDowell Institute

Jepson Hall

The Leader in Leadership

Leadership to inspire. Leadership for change. Leadership for life. At Jepson, we do all this and more. By grappling with the most important historical and current leadership issues, we educate students for and about leadership. This year was no exception.

Students explored the legacy of slavery and the Lost Cause through a documentary screening and class field trips. Our Gary L. McDowell Institute Student Fellows studied the rise of disinformation in democracies. Scholars from near and far engaged in lively debate at the Ethics of Choice Conference hosted by the Jepson School. The Jepson Leadership Forum challenged students, faculty, staff, and community members to consider the impact of nationalism on immigration and asylum. These are but a few examples of how the Jepson School sets the standard in leadership studies.

Now it is time to share our story more broadly. The branding campaign we launched this year aims to inform C-suite executives, top government officials, and nonprofit executive directors to equate Jepson with leadership excellence.

Our faculty's innovative teaching inspires our students to seek solutions to tough problems. Our alumni exercise ethical, effective leadership in their professional and civic roles. Our programs and conferences expand the understanding of leadership. In short, Jepson is leadership.

We could not do all this without your support. Thank you for the many ways you contribute to the success and excellence of the Jepson School.

With appreciation,



Sandra J. Peart

DEAN AND E. CLAIBORNE ROBINS DISTINGUISHED
PROFESSOR IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES
PRESIDENT, JEPSON SCHOLARS FOUNDATION



“Our faculty’s innovative teaching inspires our students to seek solutions to tough problems.”

Leadership *for Change*



“I am passionate about equity, particularly as it relates to people of color.”

Jepson students are as diverse as the interdisciplinary faculty who teach them, yet they share common goals: to learn about leadership and become leaders who drive positive change.

In her **Jepson senior honors thesis**, **Kayla Woods**, '22, examined the impact of segregation and desegregation on Black student achievement. The Women's Track and Field team captain and long jump record holder received the Jepson School's **2022 Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award**. She will further her interest in housing equity through a University of Maryland graduate program in community planning.



“I want to expand educational programs that help immigrants succeed in the U.S.”



“I am interested in working on public policy to resolve issues facing society.”

Through the **Jepson Scholars Program**, **Ally Osterberg**, '22, and **Benjamin Weiser**, '22, will attend University of Oxford master's programs on full scholarships. Osterberg, whose undergraduate **service-learning** classes paired her with Latinx elementary school students, will pursue a Master of Science in Latin American Studies. Weiser, who completed his **Jepson internship** in the Office of U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff, D-Ga., will pursue a Master of Public Policy.

“The award inspires me to strive to become a scientific leader who can improve the life of others in my future career.”



Helen Xia, '24, received a **Beckman Foundation Scholarship** to support her synthetic organic chemistry research, which has applications in medicinal drugs used to treat human diseases. She participates in the Jepson School's **Science Leadership Scholars Program** for students interested in the study of leadership in science-related fields.

“Using innovative technology to promote human flourishing fascinates me.”



“I am ready to help candidates and elected officials communicate their messages.”

Seniors **Matt Barnes**, left, and **Franklin Borre**, right, carried the School's banner during Commencement. Barnes received the **James MacGregor Burns Award**, the School's highest honor. As part of his **Jepson senior honors thesis**, he designed an app that encourages healthy exercise habits. Borre received the University's **Clarence J. Gray Achievement Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Leadership**. After completing his **Jepson internship** with the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association, the budding political communicator started working full-time for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee following his graduation.

Leadership *to Inspire*

Through innovative teaching and rigorous research, faculty inspire students to understand and practice ethical, effective leadership. The School's **17** core faculty members bring their expertise in **nine** academic disciplines to bear on the subject of leadership.

“Working with students on research is one of the best and most engaging forms of teaching.”

Professor of leadership studies and psychology and endowed chair **Crystal Hoyt** received the University's Distinguished Scholarship Award in August and the Jepson School Award for Leadership and Service in May. She served as the School's associate dean of academic affairs for the past six years. An acclaimed researcher, she has mentored countless students, often co-presenting research with them at national conferences.



“My current research examines how racism in the United States and Europe and the global rise of populism affect African migration.”



Nigerian philosopher and political scientist **Frank Abumere** is the School's 2021–23 Zuzana Simoniova Cmelikova Visiting International Scholar in Leadership and Ethics. He specializes in ethics, political philosophy, international politics, and African/Africana studies.

Social and personality psychologist **Don Forsyth** joined the faculty in 2005 as an endowed chair and professor of leadership studies. The recipient of numerous teaching and professional awards, he has written more than 150 books, articles, and chapters on groups, ethics, and related topics. His best-selling textbook, "Group Dynamics," is now in its seventh edition. After teaching in academia for more than 44 years, he retired as professor emeritus in May.



“Groups, not individual personality traits, are the best explanation of people’s behavior.”

“When you look at what is going on in society today, you see the legacies of slavery still impacting people from the womb to the tomb.”



The Jepson Student Government Association presented public historian and adjunct lecturer **Lauranett Lee** with its annual Jepson Servant Leader Award. As an advisor to the University’s Burial Ground Memorialization Committee, she worked with others to determine how to memorialize the enslaved burial ground located on what is now Richmond’s campus.

Leadership *for Life*

In September, the School launched a branding campaign aimed at helping corporate, government, and nonprofit leaders equate Jepson with leadership excellence. The campaign features stories of some accomplished alumni, including those on this page.

Numbering almost **1,900**, Jepson alumni apply their leadership studies education in C-suites, top tiers of government, nonprofit boardrooms, halls of higher education, and civic organizations. They are an integral part of the School's success, regularly engaging with and mentoring students, leading key programs and initiatives, and offering significant financial support.

GREG EFTHIMIOU, '99 — As Vice President of Internal Communications and Community Relations at Honeywell, Efthimiou prioritized getting timely, credible information to the Fortune 100 company's 103,000 employees during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. In May, he joined GoDaddy, the world's largest web host, as Vice President of Public Relations.



MAURICE HENDERSON, '97 — Henderson, a Senior Advisor in the U.S. Department of Transportation, meets regularly with mayors, governors, and members of chambers of commerce to discuss the implementation of the \$280.5 billion in new transportation infrastructure spending authorized by the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

LYNSAY BELSHE, '98 — Whether dealing with tornado alerts or a 65,000-person capacity crowd at a football game, Belshe collaborates across multiple teams. As Vice President for Enterprise Administrative and Business Services at Virginia Tech, she oversees Tech's Police Department, Emergency Management, Environmental Health and Safety, Rescue Squad, Transportation Services, and Mail Services.





Kate Materna Rezabek, '02, at left, and **Natasha Levanti**, '12, at right, pictured here with President Kevin Hallock and Dean Sandra Peart, received Jepson's Alumni Award and 10th-Year Reunion Recognition Award, respectively. They were recognized for their volunteer service to the School and for their professional accomplishments.



11 alumni currently serve on the School's 19-member Executive Board of Advisors.

158
DONORS

gave
\$146,405
to
the School
during

**UR Here
Giving Day,**

April 6-7.

***Thank
You!***

A JEPSON EDUCATION

Leadership *for Impact*

Jepson students are active participants in their education. Lively classroom discussions, field trips, group projects, internships, meetings with leaders and experts, and scholarship opportunities contribute to high-impact learning that prepares them to be tomorrow's leaders.

The **U.S. Department of State** awarded **Sarah Schalkoff**, '23, a **Critical Language Scholarship** to study the Bahasa Indonesia language and **Eva Kemal**, '22, a **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship** to study abroad in England.



Students in the Civil War Leadership class vividly reimagined the Civil War's bloodiest battle as Professor George Goethals and retired Brig. Gen. John Mountcastle led them on an unforgettable two-day tour of **Gettysburg National Military Park**.





Students in Professor Ken Ruscio's The Democratic Prospect class discussed the **Russia-Ukraine war** with journalist and Russia-Ukraine expert **Anne Applebaum** during a dinner just before her Jepson Leadership Forum presentation on the same topic.

INTERNSHIPS

All 77 Class of 2022 majors applied theory to practice during their academically grounded Jepson internships, contributing **27,053** hours of work to their respective organizations. The School awarded **21** Burrus Fellowships to provide funding for internships that otherwise would have been unpaid or nominally paid.



Violist **Mimi Laws**, '22, honed her communications and marketing skills during her **Americans for the Arts** internship at **Rowan Community Music School**.

Patrick O'Keefe, '22, and **Aerin Kalmans**, '22, interned with investment firms **William Blair** and **New York Life Investments**, respectively. They now work full-time for these companies in New York City.



STUDENT RESEARCH

Leadership *with Purpose*

Undergraduate research opportunities abound. The annual **Jepson Research Symposium** featured the research of **18** students, including **eight** senior honors theses.

Olivia Podber, '22, presented her research on ethical strategies for increasing Covid-19 vaccinations at the annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics International Conference in Cincinnati, where she received the **Award for Best Formal Paper by an Undergraduate**. Terry Price, who specializes in leadership ethics and moral psychology, served as her faculty mentor.



Anna Marston, '22, and her faculty mentor, Crystal Hoyt, co-presented their research on attitudes about weight and mental illness at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention in San Francisco.

“Combining my work in the classroom with hands-on research has been the most profound experience I’ve had at Richmond.”



As the recipient of the School's **Fredric M. Jablin Award for Undergraduate Research**, **Ally Osterberg, '22**, received \$4,000 to support her Jepson senior honors thesis research on the impact of volunteering on college students' morality. Crystal Hoyt, a psychologist, served as her faculty mentor.



Will Brooks, '22, discussed his **Jepson senior honors thesis** on the intentional criminalization of minority communities with Professor Peter Kaufman at the **Jepson Research Symposium**. Julian Hayter, an expert on civil rights history, served as Brooks' faculty mentor.

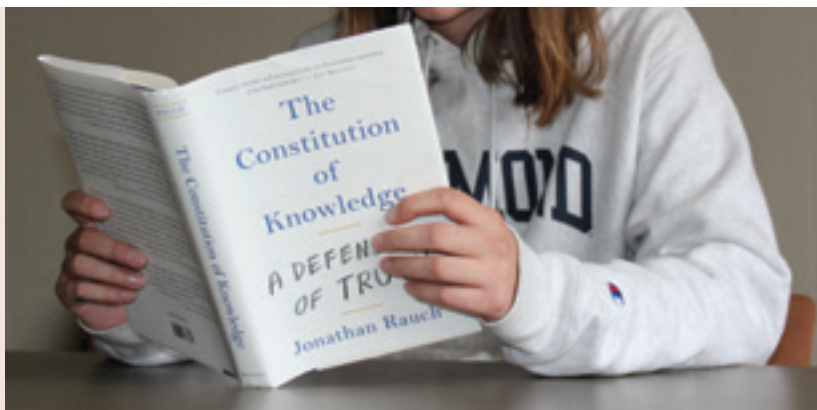
Leadership

for Understanding

The School hosted 11 public programs that contributed to a better, more nuanced understanding of leadership.



The **Jepson Leadership Forum** featured scholars, activists, and experts discussing global migration and asylum in an era of nationalism. A capacity crowd attended journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Anne Applebaum's** March 15 presentation on the **Russia-Ukraine war**. A YouTube video of her presentation generated over **29,000** views.



The 12 **Gary L. McDowell Institute Student Fellows** read and discussed award-winning author Jonathan Rauch's book "The Constitution of Knowledge: A Defense of Truth." They then attended his presentation on the threat of disinformation to democracies.

The Ethics of Choice Conference, a University-wide initiative spearheaded by the Jepson School, drew **42** academics and experts from four countries and 16 universities to debate a range of ethical issues. Jepson School philosopher Jessica Flanigan and George Mason University economist Tyler Cowen kicked off the conference with a lively plenary session.



Shenandoah University President **Tracy Fitzsimmons**, the School's **2021-22 Leader-in-Residence**, gave a presentation on universities' role in regional development.



Jepson, the *leader* in leadership

Jepson Hall
221 Richmond Way
Richmond, VA 23173

(804) 289-8008
jepson.richmond.edu

Jepson School benefactor **Robert S. Jepson Jr.**, B'64, GB'75, H'87, is shown here giving remarks during the April 8 inauguration of Kevin F. Hallock as University of Richmond's 11th president. Mr. Jepson's vision and transformational gift led to the 1992 founding of the nation's first undergraduate school of leadership studies. When you give to the Jepson School, you affirm Mr. Jepson's vision by supporting our mission to educate students about leadership as it was, as it is, and as it should be. Give today at uronline.net/givetoJepson.

