DARDEN
LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION COUNCIL
2019
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We aim to be the best Management Communication program in the world. This means constantly improving our curricula and advancing impactful knowledge as thought leaders. To this end, we have established the Darden Leadership Communication Council (the Council) — composed of leading communications professionals and academics — to advise us and help Darden chart a path to achieve this objective.

Steering Committee:
Kenneth Askew, MUFG/Bank of Tokyo, Mitsubishi
Charles McNair, MAS Leadership Communication, Inc.
 Eric McNulty, T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
Steve Soltis, University of Virginia, The Darden School; MAS Leadership Communication, Inc.
June West, University of Virginia, The Darden School of Business

2019 Council Members and their bios follow.
JOHN ALDERMAN

John Alderman has spent his life at the intersection of leadership and communications. He simply loves helping leaders communicate better. John enlisted at age 17 and spent more than 20 years in the National Guard, Army Reserves, and on active duty including a year in Iraq commanding a 150-man Cavalry Troop in places like the charmingly named Triangle of Death. He subsequently commanded a Mobile Public Affairs Detachment comprised of photographers and videographers, using his combat experience to operationalize it into a crack domestic crisis and organizational communications team. John led all Ga. Department of Defense communications for three years as State Public Affairs Officer.

In the civilian world, John first focused on literature, earning a B.A. in English from North Georgia College and an M.A. in English from Georgia State. He managed Customer Communications publications at UPS and served four years as head of executive communications for Manheim and later Cox Automotive as it grew from a $1.8B to a $7B global company. John currently leads Executive and Internal Communications at Equifax, where he and his team work hard daily to connect, explain, and inspire.

KEN ASKEW

Ken Askew has worked in political, corporate, small-business, and agency environments for 30+ years, with emphasis on executive communication. He was senior White House speechwriter for President George H. W. Bush ('41'), chief communicator for U.S. Senator Sam Nunn (D-GA), head of executive communication for Pfizer Inc. and for Mitsubishi Financial Group/Bank of Tokyo, and executive speechwriter for Chairmen & CEOs Lee Iacocca at Chrysler and John Clendenin at BellSouth. For ten years, he operated a private communication consultancy, serving C-suites of more than 20 Fortune 100 companies. Raised in Japan as the son of missionaries, he earned a B.A. with honors in philosophy and history from Baylor University. He works in Tokyo, San Francisco and New York.

TIMOTHY J. BEECHER

Tim Beecher, Senior Partner, FleishmanHillard, helped create and build the public relations agency’s elite global community of certified crisis management counselors. With 30-plus years of experience, Mr. Beecher has guided clients through crisis response and reputation recovery programs when they have experienced activist attacks, natural disasters, environmental cleanups, class action lawsuits, discrimination claims, executive dismissals, investor/shareholder claims, government investigations, hostile takeovers, industrial accidents, management/labor disputes, litigation, product defects or recalls, racial or sexual harassment, transportation catastrophes and white collar crime. His expertise and experience include strategic counsel, creating research-based, high-impact communications programs having audience assessments, messaging, third-party support, and materials ranging from holding statements to news releases to speeches to “dark” sites that protect companies’ reputations in times of conflict. A new and emerging area of expertise is in the growing, highly sensitive area of cybersecurity communications and helping companies inform stakeholders when an intrusion occurs.

An acknowledged expert in crisis and labor communications, Mr. Beecher often speaks before industry groups on these subjects. Most recently, he presented “Tales From the Frontlines: Getting Your Message Out Via the New Media” to corporate leaders and labor relations, employment and human resources executives. Mr. Beecher has experience working with clients in several industries, including chemicals, oil and gas, agriculture, airline, electronics, financial services, food and beverage, healthcare, insurance, heavy equipment manufacturing, consumer products, medical devices, government, pharmaceutical, telecoms and wireless, travel and tourism, hospitality, transportation, electric and gas utilities and waste recycling.
Prior to FleishmanHillard, he worked at McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) for 11 years and served as a public Affairs Officer in the U.S. Navy for seven years. He earned a bachelor’s degree in Journalism from Saint Bonaventure University.

**KATRINA BLAUVELT, APR**

Katrina Blauvelt is the Senior Director of Digital Communications and Story Lab for The Home Depot. She is responsible for strategically driving messaging and engagement both internally and externally through creative communications programming and storytelling.

Katrina rejoined The Home Depot in 2007. Prior to that she was Director of Corporate Communications for Philips Consumer Electronics, North America, where she led the public relations, internal communications and community outreach functions for the Company. Katrina’s prior Home Depot experience includes managing public relations for Company’s Northeast, Expo Design Center and Villager’s Hardware divisions. Katrina also was a business reporter and home editor for Gannett’s Pensacola News Journal.

Katrina earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Boston University and a master’s degree in communications management from Syracuse University. She lives in Marietta, GA with her husband and two daughters in a 1910 farmhouse that they renovated. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, sailing and gardening.

**ROGER BOLTON**

Roger Bolton is the president of the Arthur W. Page Society, the premier global professional association for senior corporate communications executives.

Previously, Bolton served as senior vice president of communications at Aetna, with responsibility for all internal and external communications, advertising and brand management. He chaired Aetna’s Council for Organizational Effectiveness, a group of senior executives responsible for high performance through culture change.

Before Aetna, Bolton led IBM’s global media relations and also directed communications for the IBM server and software groups.

Prior to his business career, Bolton served as assistant secretary of the Treasury for public affairs under President George H.W. Bush; assistant U.S. trade representative for public affairs under President Reagan; and special assistant to President Reagan in the White House, with responsibility for the president’s relations with business and labor.

Bolton is a recipient of the U.S. Treasury Distinguished Service Award and was named one of the 100 Most Influential in Business Ethics by Ethisphere Institute.

Bolton serves on the boards of the Darden Leadership Communication Council, the Yale Center for Faith & Culture, the Elon University School of Communications, The Arthur W. Page Center for Integrity in Public Communication at Penn State University, and the Baruch College MA in Corporate Communication Program.
BARIE CARMICHAEL

Barie Carmichael has more than 35 years of experience directing global corporate communication and has managed strategic corporate communication on a global scale in a variety of industries involving issue management, corporate branding, crisis, employee engagement and media relations.

A co-author of Columbia University Press’ Reset: Business and Society in the New Social Landscape and Senior Counselor at the global communications consultancy APCO Worldwide, Carmichael counsels senior corporate management and the next generation of business leaders on navigating the new social ecosystem in which businesses today operate.

As Dow Corning Corporation’s chief communications officer, the company’s board of directors elected her to the position of corporate officer, recognizing her strategic contributions to guiding the company through the decade-long silicone breast implant crisis. In addition to her work at Dow Corning Corporation, Ms. Carmichael was formerly a partner at The Brunswick Group and also served as VISA USA’s executive vice president of corporate relations.

Ms. Carmichael is a Batten Fellow at The University of Virginia’s Darden Graduate Business School and is also a member of the Arthur W. Page Society. Throughout her career, she has won numerous awards for issue management, employee communication and change management. Ms. Carmichael graduated with honors from Carleton College and has a master’s degree in English from the University of Minnesota. She is also a graduate of INSEAD’s Advance Management Program, Fontainebleau, France.

BRUCE CONNERY

Bruce Connery is a Senior Advisor with Al Petrie Advisors, where he assists clients with a variety of investor relations needs as well as establishing corporate emergency response plans. He has worked in investor relations for 30 years, initially with Sonat Inc. in Birmingham, AL, where he became the first person dedicated to investor relations. When Sonat was acquired by El Paso Corporation, he became Vice President – Investor Relations for the merged company. During his 12 years at El Paso, he managed investor & media relations through a tumultuous period when the company narrowly avoided bankruptcy and was a key participant in a successful proxy contest defense. For four consecutive years, he was recognized as being among the top three investor relations professionals in industry by Institutional Investor Magazine. While at El Paso, he also served as the Chairman of the company’s corporate emergency response plan and oversaw the El Paso Corporation Charitable Foundation. After El Paso was acquired by Kinder Morgan, Bruce moved to England to become Group Head of Investor Relations for BG Group PLC, a FTSE 10 Company. Following BG Group, he returned to the U.S. to head up investor relations for Columbia Pipeline Group, where he was actively involved in the formation of a master limited partnership and related capital markets activity. Bruce began consulting in 2015 after Columbia was also acquired. He and his wife, Lynne, reside in Houston.

JULIE DAUM

Julie Daum is Executive Director of Communication & Marketing at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business and leads the institution’s global branding, marketing and public relations efforts to advance strategic goals.

With global marketing communications experience gained working in Europe and the United States, Daum joined Darden in 2008. She is a member of the University of Virginia’s Communications Council and in 2016 graduated from UVA’s Cornerstone Program for high-potential leaders.
Her passion to lift ideas and thought leaders first developed in book publishing in New York City, where she led publicity campaigns to create bestsellers at Simon & Schuster and Rizzoli International Publications.

She then moved to Barcelona, Spain, where she earned a M.S. in Journalism from the University of Barcelona and Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Over a decade in Spain, she worked and consulted with organizations including Loft Publications/HarperCollins, the White House Writers Group and IESE Business School, where she served as founding English-language editor of the knowledge portal IESE Insight.

Daum earned a B.A. from UVA and attended New York University’s book and magazine publishing institute.

DAIN DUNSTON

I help people live more rewarding leadership lives. I provide executive coaching and communications for C-suite leaders of public companies. That includes personal coaching, development of leadership and cultural platforms, and communication campaigns. I’m a speechwriter as well as an emcee and speaker on leadership and innovation and the author of two books on those topics. I’ve been helping craft corporate stories since 1987, when an automotive article landed me speechwriting work at Chevrolet. I spent 25 years primarily doing creative direction, speech writing and speech coaching for high end corporate events for clients like IBM, Sherwin-Williams, GE, BMW, Ricoh and several hospitality brands. I was honored with the 2016 Cicero Grand Award, for a speech on giving great speeches. My work focuses around a simple question: what if we came to work as though it were a path to enlightenment? A fifth generation San Franciscan, I studied classics at UC Santa Cruz. I live in the hills outside of Austin, Texas, with my wife, writer and art dealer Jean Compton, where we are surrounded by fine wine and fine dogs.

JOHN E. FORDE

Dr. John E. Forde, APR, is a professor of public relations at Mississippi State University where he has taught since 1987. He also served as head of the Department of Communication from 2004-2019. The department offers concentrations for approximately 550 undergraduate majors in broadcasting, communication studies, journalism, public relations, and theatre.

His research agenda includes study related to innovative instructional technology strategies implemented in teaching public relations. He also conducts research related to public relations education and professional practice and accreditation.

Prior to entering full-time teaching, Forde served as director of public relations at William Carey College (now University) from 1985-1987. He has remained active in volunteer service and consulting, including currently serving as a faculty fellow with the National Strategic Planning and Analysis Research Center on the MSU campus.

Forde has served in leadership positions with multiple professional organizations, serving as president of the Southern Public Relations Federation, Public Relations Association of Mississippi, and Mississippi Communication Association. He also worked as chair and co-chair of the Universal Accreditation Board, having represented the Public Relations Society of America and the Southern Public Relations Federation.

He has been honored with induction into the Arthur W. Page Society, Southern Public Relations Hall of Fame, Public Relations Society of America College of Fellows, and the University of Southern Mississippi School of
Mass Communication and Journalism Hall of Fame. He received the SPRF Professional Achievement Award, Public Relations Association of Mississippi State Practitioner of the Year, and PRAM Educator of the Year. Along with his wife, Connie, they were named as the Jones County Junior College Honor Alumni.

Forde received a National Academic Advising Association Outstanding Academic Advisor Award and at MSU was presented with a John Grisham Faculty Excellence Award and the university’s Outstanding Academic Advisor Award. Forde also is a Rotarian, honored by his Starkville Club with Rotarian of the Year, Service Above Self Award, and Rookie of the Year.

He earned degrees from Jones College (Associate of Arts), Mississippi State University (Bachelor of Arts in Communication), and the University of Southern Mississippi (Master of Science in Public Relations and Ph.D. in Communication). Forde and his wife have two sons (John David and Daniel), two daughters-in-law (Sofia and Laura), and two granddaughters (Isabella and Emma).

DEAN FOUST

Dean Foust serves as director of executive communications for UPS, where he oversees speechwriting and other thought leadership initiatives including the TED@UPS partnership and the Longitudes corporate blog and podcast. From 2009 to 2012, he worked as president of Inspirent LLC, providing thought leadership consulting and content to Fortune 100 clients. From 1987 to 2009, Foust worked as a writer, editor and bureau chief for BusinessWeek magazine in Washington, D.C. and Atlanta. Foust also taught for five years as an adjunct instructor in the undergraduate journalism program at Emory University.

MICHAEL GOODMAN

Michael B. Goodman, Ph.D. is Professor and Director of the MA in Corporate Communication at Baruch College, The City University of New York. He is the founder and director of CCI Corporate Communication International www.corporatecomm.org. He is Visiting Professor of Corporate Communication at Aarhus University (Denmark), Bangkok University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and Universita IULM (Italy).

He has published widely, including most recently: Corporate Communication: Critical Business Asset for Strategic Global Change; Corporate Communication: Strategic Adaptation for Global Practice; Corporate Communication: Tactical Guidelines for Strategic Practice; Corporate Communication for Executives; Intercultural Communication for Managers; Working in a Global Environment; Crisis Communication; and Work with Anyone Anywhere: A Guide to Global Business.

He is on the Editorial Advisory Board and Associate Editor for North America of Corporate Communication: An International Journal (UK). He is a member of the Arthur W. Page Society; a Fellow of the RSA (The Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce), London; a Fellow of The Society for Technical Communication; and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Association for Business Communication.

He has been a consultant to more than 40 corporations and institutions on corporate communication, managerial communication, problem-solving, new business proposals, change, and corporate culture.
J.R. HIPPLE

J.R. Hipple is managing partner of SIR, a 50-year-old strategic consulting and market research firm, where he leads the firm’s organizational leadership and communications practice area. He is an advisor to senior leaders and decision makers in corporations, universities, municipalities and nonprofits throughout the U.S.

J.R. spends the majority of his time helping clients prepare for and manage change, often developing strategies around complex and sensitive issues. Current issues he is involved with include: diversity and inclusion, organizational change and workforce planning, and leadership transitions. He also is skilled at helping organizations manage crisis situations.

When he isn’t practicing management communications, he is teaching it as a visiting lecturer and adjunct instructor at the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. He also was a founding faculty member of the executive master’s program in public relations at the Robertson School of Media and Culture at Virginia Commonwealth University.

He has been a contributing writer to national and regional publications including the Harvard Business Review, Public Relations Strategist magazine, PRTactics monthly newsletter, Insight to Diversity magazine and the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

ARTEMIS BAKOPOULOS HISS

Artemis is an innovative communications leader and strategist. She is passionate about using communications to translate complex situations into clear and compelling messages that help businesses achieve business strategies.

Today, she drives alignment and planning across McDonald’s global corporate relations function as the team works to help the business strengthen its reputation to support growth.

Before assuming her current responsibilities, Artemis spent nearly a decade driving executive and internal communications as a trusted advisor and speechwriter for several CEOs and members of McDonald’s c-suite. In this role, she led a team responsible for communicating significant global business and change initiatives. This portfolio included the company’s biennial convention for 15,000 franchisees, employees and suppliers to executive transitions, organizational restructurings and investor messaging.

Her experience at McDonald’s builds on a strong background developing communication strategies, facilitating message creation, marketing and media relations. Prior to joining McDonald’s, Artemis was a senior account executive at The Grossman Group, an award-winning boutique consultancy. There, she worked closely with clients including McDonald’s USA and Canada, Greeley and Hansen and Cisco Systems.

Artemis began her career with the National Restaurant Association where she drove marketing, communications and media relations efforts for the Educational Foundation’s recruitment and retention initiatives. She is an honors graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago. There, she earned her Bachelor of Science in marketing, management and entrepreneurship.
JAY P. HODGKINS

As editorial director at the Darden School of Business, Jay oversees the School’s online news content and strategy; manages publications including *The Darden Report* alumni magazine, *Pillars* philanthropy newsletter and annual *Darden Investors Report*; and ensures quality control for all external-facing communications.

Previously, he worked as lead speechwriter for David Crane, CEO of NRG Energy, a Fortune 500 company based in Princeton, New Jersey, following seven years as a journalist reporting and editing for Gannett newspapers and S&P Global (formerly SNL Financial). As a journalist, he won seven awards for reporting from the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association. Jay’s short fiction has appeared in *The Legendary*, *Pythia Journal*, *Oblong Magazine* and the *Eunoia Review*. You can read more at [www.jayhodgkins.com](http://www.jayhodgkins.com) or follow him on Twitter @JayPHodgkins. He has written four complete novel manuscripts and thinks two might even be decent.

Jay earned a M.Sc. in creative writing with distinction from the University of Edinburgh and a B.Sc. in commerce from the University of Virginia.

DENISE HORN

Denise Horn is a communications and media professional with corporate, political, and government experience who has been featured as a spokesperson in national outlets such as the New York Times, Washington Post, Bloomberg, Buzzfeed, Huffington Post and ESSENCE.

Currently, Denise is the Director of Corporate Communications for Turner in New York and is responsible for managing corporate partnerships and overseeing communications strategy for executive leadership.

She credits her jump start in communications to the positions she held in NBC Universal’s highly competitive page program where she worked on shows such as Mad Money with Jim Cramer and Dr. Oz. In 2012, Denise served as the assistant traveling press aide for President Barack Obama’s re-election campaign, affording her the opportunity to travel across the country to work with national and local reporters. Shortly after the campaign she worked on Facebook’s Policy Communications team in Washington D.C., before joining the U.S. Department of Education as the Obama Administration’s primary spokesperson on higher education. In 2016, Denise was tapped as the as the Director of African American Media on Hillary Clinton’s 2016 Presidential campaign—producing ads, developing messaging and leading communications outreach to the Black community.

Today she remains an active member of New York Women In Communications, ColorComm and the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications; and is a board member of the Global Media Project.

A New Jersey native, Denise graduated cum laude from Howard University with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and earned her Master of Public Policy at the University of Chicago.
FRANK P. HURLEY

With nearly 25 years of combined experience in congressional legislation, the pharmaceutical industry, and higher education leadership, Dr. Frank Hurley brings a wealth of specialized communication knowledge into his classrooms. For the past eight years he has taught graduate and undergraduate business students in strategic, healthcare, and organizational communication at two large public universities. Dr. Hurley specializes in visual rhetoric and cross-cultural communication to enhance management communication curriculum at the graduate and executive education level.

Frank’s career began in Washington DC where he worked as a legislative assistant to a popular congressman and committee chair. Here he devised, wrote, and implemented legislative initiatives within the committee and on the house floor. He specialized in writing press releases, congressional speeches, and committee briefs. He also served as the communications liaison between constituents the congressman.

From Washington Hurley moved to California to further his education and pursue his interests in higher education. He applied his communication abilities as a legislator to an academic advisory role at a private university. Here Frank helped students in their growth and development by assessing their needs and constructing meaningful education plans that would help them achieve their personal and professional goals.

Hurley was eventually offered an opportunity to work in sales and marketing within the pharmaceutical industry. He quickly became an award winning sales representative and was able to work with the marketing leadership team to enhance product messaging on a blockbuster drug. In fact, it was here where his passion for visual and persuasive rhetoric would culminate and inspire him to pursue a PhD in the field of visual and professional communication. Today Dr. Hurley is able to utilize his professional and academic training in his graduate business communication courses to offer deeply rich learning experiences for students.

Frank holds a BA in Social Science from Chapman University and a MA and PhD in Rhetoric and Professional Communication from East Carolina University. He currently lives in North Carolina with his spouse and their exceptionally outstanding dog, Harper. Outside of the university, Frank can usually be found redeveloping real estate or traveling around the world in search of cultures and the fascinating and countless ways in which they communicate.

KATE IRVIN

Kate Irvin is head of R&D communication for Corteva Agriscience, an $18 billion agriculture company focused on seed development and crop protection systems for farmers worldwide. Kate joined the company in 2018 after a nearly 20-year career at The Coca-Cola Company, where she led employee communication, international stakeholders relations and served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Chairman and CEO Muhtar Kent.

Kate earned her undergraduate degree in public policy from Duke University and received Masters degrees from Harvard University and the University of North Carolina in education and public administration, respectively.

Kate resides in Washington, D.C.
LYNN ISABELLA

Dr. Isabella teaches courses in organizational behavior, leadership and change and teams in the University of Virginia Darden School's MBA, MBA for Executives and Executive Education programs. She is the coauthor of two books (Alliance Competence and Leader and Teams: The Winning Partnership) and has published numerous articles in the areas of strategic alliances, change and career management. She has also researched and authored many original case studies focused on U.S. and international companies and issues.

As a management consultant, Dr. Isabella has extensive international experience with companies worldwide, helping them develop their global leadership talent and organizational effectiveness. She regularly works with companies in Central and Eastern Europe through the Bled School of Management, and has extensive experience in Latin and South America, China, Africa and Western Europe.

As a certified executive coach, Dr. Isabella also works one-on-one with executives and managers. Her executive coaching focuses on helping managers to achieve their best leadership and organizational performance as they learn to motivate, support and encourage others to achieve their best as well.

As a researcher, she focuses on questions of developing one’s personal leadership expertise, leading change as a middle manager and the events that shape individual careers and propel organizational change. Before joining the Darden faculty in 1990, she was on the faculty of the Cox School of Business, Southern Methodist University, and taught at the Harvard Business School. Dr. Isabella holds a BS in Mathematics from Tufts University, an Ed.M, in Organizational Development from Harvard University and an MBA and DBA from Boston University.

DEAN JONES

Dean Jones has more than 20 years of experience in the communication training field. Under Dean's leadership, The Communication Center has doubled in size and has significantly increased the company’s global presence; delivering communication trainings on four different continents to hundreds of participants.

As President & CEO of The Communication Center, Dean serves as the primary liaison for clients, quality control and contract negotiation. Dean is a dynamic communicator and leverages her expertise in synthesizing complex data and scenarios to achieve successful business results.

Dean began her career in the accounting field working with a CPA firm outside Atlanta, Georgia. Dean was able to merge her financial background with her aptitude for public speaking when she joined The Communication Center in 1992. Dean has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Finance from the University of Phoenix, and her Associates of Arts degree from Florida State College.
CLARK JUDGE

Clark Judge is founder and managing director of the White House Writers Group, Inc. and an opinion journalist. He was a speechwriter in the Reagan White House.

As Managing Director of the White House Writers Group, he has advised some of the world’s most prominent corporations in meeting their strategic and communications challenges in the U.S. and elsewhere. For political clients he has written many nationally televised speeches, primarily during presidential campaigns. He has provided communications advice in support of numerous cases before the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Judge served as Speechwriter and Special Assistant to both President Ronald Reagan and Vice President George Bush. A member of the Moscow Summit speechwriting team, he was also the lead writer for the Toronto Economic Summit in 1988 and helped shape the White House approach to the 1988 presidential campaign. A Harvard MBA, Mr. Judge had administration assignments involving assessing the management of the government, urban policy and international economic policy before joining the White House staff.

As an opinion journalist, he has written extensively on U.S politics, the international financial crisis, health care reform, the current state of the U.S. and global economies, and global security issues. Among the publications in which his work has appeared are the Wall Street Journal, NYTimes.com, USNews.com, National Review Online and Claremont Review of Books.

ANGELA GREILING KEANE

Angela Greiling Keane is POLITICO’s deputy managing editor for states. She runs a team of about 45 journalists in six state capitals, covering policy and politics. She has helped oversee POLITICO’s expansion to California and helped direct 2018 midterm election coverage from the states. Angela joined POLITICO in 2016 and previously was deputy states editor and deputy technology editor. She was the 2013 National Press Club president, where she focused on domestic press freedom and government transparency and elevating women in the news business. She serves on the executive committee of the National Press Club Journalism Institute, is an alumna of the Journalism and Women Symposium board and has served on Girl Scout Council Nation’s Capital advisory groups.

Greiling Keane spent nearly a decade at Bloomberg News, as a White House correspondent during the Obama administration and reporter covering auto and railroad policy and freight transportation companies. While at Bloomberg, she won the Washington Automotive Press Association Golden Quill award and was part of a team that was a finalist for a Gerald Loeb Award for business journalism. Prior to Bloomberg, she was an associate editor at Traffic World magazine and a Washington correspondent for the Small Newspaper Group. She grew up in the Twin Cities and graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism, for which she was the 2014 commencement speaker. She lives in Washington with her husband and daughter.

CHRISTINE KUETER

Christine Phelan Kueter is senior writer, editor, and a seasoned storyteller with nearly two dozen years of experience in news and feature reporting, speech writing, book editing, and strategic communications. She’s worked in book publishing, as a ghostwriter for authors, and in higher education. In addition to work at the
New Haven Advocate and the Atlantic Monthly, Kueter held reporting positions at the Lowell Sun, the Fitchburg Sentinel & Enterprise, and the Boston Globe.

Currently editor-in-chief of the award-winning Virginia Nursing Legacy at the University of Virginia’s School of Nursing, Kueter earned a BA from Beloit College, and has also worked at Northeastern University, the University of Arkansas, and Harvard. A lead judge for CASE’s annual awards for a half-dozen years, Kueter earned the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Innovation from the School of Nursing in 2015, and oversaw the nursing school’s magazine which earned a silver (2017) and bronze award (2018) from CASE District III.

MICHAEL MANEY

Michael Maney is the global head of internal communications for Whole Foods Market, where he oversees the strategy and team that informs and engages more than 90,000 team members across the United States, Canada and United Kingdom. Previously, he led internal communications for Target and its more than 320,000 team members. As an internal communications leader and strategic adviser, Maney is known for building capabilities and shaping storytelling that drives understanding and behavior, strengthens confidence and creates a shared identity.

Prior to Target, Maney oversaw global communications for Sony Pictures’ television businesses across Asia, Australia, Latin America and Canada. He began his communications career with Disney, where he established the internal communications strategy for company’s global television businesses, including ABC and Disney Channels Worldwide.

LAURA HENNESSEY MARTENS

Laura Hennessey Martens handles communications and strategic initiatives at the Institute for Business in Society. Over her career, she served as Speechwriter and Chief Policy Advisor within the administrations of two Massachusetts governors, worked in branding at a Berkshire Hathaway company and was Vice President of Public Relations, Marketing & Development at a regional non-profit in Massachusetts. Martens has also taught Mass Communication courses as an adjunct professor at Boston University.

W. MICHAEL McKENNA

Mike McKenna heads a strategic communications firm with global headquarters in his barn in Weybridge, Vermont.

Before heading north from Manhattan in 2005, McKenna was President, CEO and Chief Creative Officer of Marsteller, the corporate advertising arm of Burson-Marsteller. Clients there included The Coca-Cola Company, The United States Treasury, and the World War Two National Monument among others.

Prior to Burson, he worked at Young & Rubicam New York where he was Creative Director on clients including TIME, adidas, Advil, and the United Negro College Fund. He also worked for London-based Citigate as Chief Creative Officer and Managing Director, and was a member of the North American board. Clients there included UBS, GE Capital, Saudi Arabian Airlines and CEMEX.
An interest in education led him to a career change when Middlebury College invited him to become the first Vice President for Communications and Marketing in the school’s history. Middlebury later became a charter client of McKenna & Partners, as did Hitachi, Brown Forman and Coca-Cola where he was creative consultant on Journey, a new global online content publishing platform named corporate website of the year by PR Week in 2013, and again in 2016 when it won the same honor in the United States and in the United Kingdom.

He holds a MS in Journalism from Boston University where he was an Abbott Scholar, and a BA from Wesleyan University. He served on the Board of Trustees at Wesleyan and at Emma Willard School, and currently on The Conversation US, an online journal featuring media content created exclusively by university experts. He is also on the Marketing Advisory Committee at Wasabi Cloud Computing in Boston.

CHARLES McNAIR

Charles is a founder of MAS Strategic Communication.

Charles has served UPS, Delta Air Lines, American Airlines, The Coca-Cola Company, Wal-Mart, AFLAC, BellSouth, CNN, Kaiser Permanente, Wells Fargo, Pfizer, XEROX, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Dallas-Ft. Worth International Airport, Waste Management, Coca-Cola Latin America, and dozens of other large, mid-cap, and small organizations in the U.S. and abroad.

His critically acclaimed debut novel, Land O’ Goshen (St. Martin's Press, 1994) received a Pulitzer Prize nomination for fiction. He has since published two other novels. (The Epicureans currently appears as a weekly serial in The Bitter Southerner.) A history, Play It Again, Sam: The Notable Life of Sam Masssell, Atlanta’s First Minority Mayor, just published in September 2017.

Charles has been a weekly business commentator on Atlanta’s public radio station, WABE-FM, and a guest literary reviewer for Canada Broadcasting Company’s Sunday Morning Live. His book reviews have appeared internationally in the London Times Literary Supplement and in Atlanta on WMLB 1690 AM. He has been a guest business commentator on NPR’s Marketplace, and he served from 2005-2015 as Books Editor for Paste magazine.

ERIC McNULTY

Eric J. McNulty works to increase the leadership capacity and capability in individuals, organizations, and communities to advance positive change. Eric is an active writer, speaker, and educator on leadership and, in particular, leading through crises and other turbulence. He holds an appointment as Associate Director of the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative (NPLI), a joint program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government and as Instructor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School. Eric teaches in numerous executive education and graduate level courses at Harvard, M.I.T., and the University of California San Diego.

He speaks on and writes about the challenges of leading in fast moving, unpredictable circumstances. Eric is a contributing editor at strategy+business. He has also written for Harvard Business Review, Sloan Management Review, and other publications. He is the author of Three Critical Shifts in Thinking for the Evolving Leader (O’Reilly. 2015) and Your Critical First 10 Days as a Leader (Safari, 2015). He is also the co-author of the second edition of Renegotiating Health Care: Resolving Conflict to Build Collaboration (Jossey-Bass, 2011). His forthcoming book is, You’re It: Crisis, Change, and How to Lead When it Matter Most (Public Affairs, 2019).

Prior to his current role, Eric was Managing Director of Harvard Business School Publishing’s conference division. Earlier in his career he held communications roles in the private sector.
MARC MODICA

A member of the Darden Community since 1998, Marc brings broad international experience to his negotiation, communications, and conflict management teaching and consulting. He’s particularly interested in international business, economics and politics and offers courses through Darden’s Center for Global Initiatives and Global Executive MBA Program. He’s taught and consulted for a variety of clients in locations including Dubai, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, Brazil, China, India, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Japan. Marc also designs and delivers programs in Darden Executive Education Programs and within the University Of Virginia’s School of Medicine and Curry School of Education.

Before coming to the University of Virginia, Marc taught for ten years at the International University of Japan where he also served as Associate Dean of the degree program in International Management, Director of International Exchange Programs, and Co-director of the school's Intensive International Executive Program. He has also taught at the University of Washington and University of Hawaii.

Married to Shizuka Modica, he is an avid musician and a practicing grandparent of two girls, ages four and six.

SHIZUKA MODICA

Shizuka Modica is Professor of Organizational Behavior and Leadership at the Kyoto College of Graduate Studies for Informatics and Visiting Professor at the Nagoya University of Commerce and Business. As a learning facilitator, Shizuka helps individuals and organizations perform optimally and grow sustainably. In addition to academic courses, she offers workshops and coaching in the areas of leadership and management. Her interests are high performance, meaningful work, leadership, change management, and mindfulness in multi-cultural settings.

She earned her master’s in education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and her PhD in higher education from the University of Virginia (UVa). She is also an ICF-certified coach. Previously, Shizuka was an international higher education administrator and publicist at the International University of Japan. At UVa, she managed a world-class cardiology research center and various academic programs; researched and wrote business cases on leadership, organic growth, and entrepreneurship; and taught organizational behavior. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Work and Meaning Division for the International Network of Personal Meaning and on the ICF Virginia Board.
BRIAN MORIARTY

Brian Moriarty is an Assistant Professor in Management Communications, and Director of the Institute for Business and Society at the University of Virginia’s Darden Business School where he teaches in the full-time MBA program. He is also Director of the Business Roundtable Institute for Corporate Ethics, an independent business ethics center housed at the University of Virginia which operates in partnership with Business Roundtable - an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies working to promote sound public policy and a thriving U.S. economy. In his role as director, he is responsible for leading market-facing activities with corporate and partner association audiences, as well as serving as the primary spokesperson of the Institute.

He is the author of several articles, chapters, and reports on business ethics and business and society issues. His most recent book, Public Trust in Business from Cambridge University Press, provides business leaders with insight into the creation and maintenance of this critical asset. His articles on public trust in business and government have been featured in publications such as the Washington Post and Forbes.

Mr. Moriarty was selected as one of the "Top 100 Thought Leaders in Trustworthy Business" by Trust Across America from 2011-2014. Since 2008 he has served on the advisory council for Ethisphere Magazine's list of the "100 Most Ethical Companies." He has spoken at a variety of business and academic forums, including the US Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Business Ethics, the Arthur W. Page Society, the Institute for Public Relations, Congress for Free Markets and the Culture of Common Good, the Rotary Clubs of New Jersey and the Tuck Symposium on Communications.

He holds a B.A. in Political Science and English Literature from Boston College, an M.A. in Religious Studies from Wake Forest University and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from the University of Virginia. His dissertation, Dante’s Theory of Signs and the Warping of Language, examines the poet’s ideas about the relationship of language to human actions and growth. His research interests include: the role that narrative plays with respect to perception; public trust in business; reputation and intangible assets; and, coaching, practice and performance excellence.

Mr. Moriarty lives in Charlottesville, Virginia with his wife and two sons where he enjoys coaching youth baseball and basketball. He serves on the board of the Carson Raymond Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to giving every child the opportunity to experience the joy of youth sports.

NELSON MUMMA

For more than 20 years, Nelson has used strategic communications to help drive growth for large corporations and major brands, including Coca-Cola, InterContinental Hotels Group, Eli Lilly, Cox Automotive and others.

Nelson currently leads internal communications for Cox Automotive, a division of Cox Enterprises. He and his teams partner with leadership to drive their businesses by engaging and inspiring employees.

Nelson came to Cox Automotive from The Coca-Cola Company, where he was accountable for raising visibility of Coca-Cola’s sustainability efforts. While there, he helped lead the change management communications team during the company’s $13B acquisition of Coca-Cola Enterprises in 2010.

Nelson spent nearly a decade with Cohn & Wolfe, a global marketing communications agency. As director of the corporate communications practice, he helped grow the partnership with InterContinental Hotels Group from one brand project to marketing communications support for all IHG brands.
Nelson serves on the Board of Directors for MUST Ministries, coaches both sons’ basketball teams, and is a foster parent. He’s a military veteran and earned a Master’s degree in Public Relations from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He lives in Atlanta with his wife and two boys.

DAVID MURRAY

David Murray is editor and publisher of Vital Speeches of the Day, an 83-year-old magazine that collects the best oral communication in the world.

He’s also executive director of the Professional Speechwriters Association, a global organization that he founded five years ago to give voice to a silent profession. The PSA holds an annual World Conference in Washington, D.C., that draws speechwriters and other leadership communication professionals from around the world.

He co-wrote the New York Times-bestselling memoir Tell My Sons (Random House, 2013) and a memoir about his advertising copywriter parents, Raised By Mad Men.

His journalism has appeared in publications and a wide variety of publications and media outlets, including The New York Times, The Atlantic Monthly, the Chicago Tribune, and Advertising Age and Chicago Public Radio.

He writes a popular daily blog on communication, called Writing Boots.

He lives with his wife and daughter in Chicago.

MEGHAN MURRAY

Meghan R. Murray has served in a number of strategic and managerial roles across several industries, including startups and Fortune 100 corporations; complimented by work for local nonprofits and small businesses.

Meghan is currently the COO at the Miller Center at the University of Virginia, a nonpartisan think tank that studies the U.S. presidency. At the Miller Center, Meghan oversees strategic planning, board development, personnel, and public events. She also teaches as an adjunct instructor at the Darden Graduate School of Business.

Before earning her M.B.A. and pursuing a career in strategic marketing and planning, Meghan worked in political fundraising and media. Since the 1999, she has specialized in business strategy: online marketing, business development & purposeful planning at Gap Inc. and Fannie Mae. Meghan then founded a consulting firm, Stynson, which she ran for twelve years before joining the Miller Center.

Meghan lives on and manages a farm outside of Charlottesville, Virginia. She also serves on several community boards and committees ranging from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Virginia to the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. Meghan is a graduate of the University of Virginia (BA, Government) and the University of Oxford (MBA).
Noelle Mykolenko is passionate about growth – for people and in business – and has experienced first-hand that trusted relationships powerfully accelerate the achievement of both personal and corporate goals.

Noelle has been with Trusted Advisor Associates since 2016, where she helps professionals in consultative roles achieve their goals through improved client relationships. She delivers tailored, interactive programs that examine the paradigm of trust through the filter of professional services, identifying barriers to trust and delving into new ways of thinking and being to increase individual trustworthiness and rapidly create trust with others.

Prior to joining Trusted Advisor Associates, Noelle was global Director of Client Development at Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC). During her fourteen years at CSC, she held several director-level roles in business development, sales and marketing, and was executive sponsor for the Women in Leadership employee resource group. She also served as a Delivery Partner and Practice Lead in CSC’s Federal Consulting Practice.

As a strategy and organizational development consultant for over 20 years, Noelle has delivered, managed and sold complex business solutions to clients in the US federal government, manufacturing, telecommunications and IT, and financial services industries.

In 2014, Noelle left the corporate world for a year’s “seabatical” in the Caribbean, ultimately launching an ongoing vacation charter yacht business on St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands.

Based in metropolitan Washington, DC, Noelle holds bachelor’s degrees in Business Administration and French from St. Louis University, a Master’s of Business Administration from The Darden Graduate School of Business (University of Virginia), where she is an adjunct professor of Management Communication. She holds certifications in executive leadership and digital marketing.
JAMES S. O’ROURKE

Professor of Management, Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame.


First-author or co-author of 19 academic textbooks in Management Communication, two trade books in Strategic Communication, nine book chapters, 29 refereed articles, and sole author or directing editor of more than 375 original case studies in Corporate Communication. His work has been translated into Arabic, Greek, Mandarin, Marathi, Portuguese, and Tamil.

Has taught more than 20,000 students over a 50-year academic career at Temple University, Syracuse University, the United States Air Force Academy, the Defense Information School, the United States Air War College, and the University of Notre Dame, 1968-2018. His former students include an astronaut, former members of Congress, the current Secretary of the Air Force, several Chief Marketing Officers, Chief Communication Officers, an Assistant Secretary of State, and half-a-dozen commercial airline pilots.

He is Founding Director of the Conference on Corporation at Notre Dame, now in its 20th year. Three dozen chief communication officers, professionals, practitioners, and professors gather on the Notre Dame campus each autumn to discuss current issues and best practices in an invitation-only, off-the-record environment. Nearly 700 people have been guests of Prof. O’Rourke and his sponsors over the past two decades.


In the past 16 years, his students have won 24 case-writing awards, including the Arthur W. Page Society’s Grand Prize on four occasions. O’Rourke himself was named the 2017 recipient of the Page Society’s Distinguished Service Award, presented September 17th at the Society’s Honors Dinner on Coronado Island, California.

Prof. O’Rourke learned his craft as a public affairs officer in the United States Air Force, serving 20 years on active duty from 1970 to 1990. His work included duty in numerous frontline flight test aircraft, participation as a public spokesman for accident and incident investigations, and training unit commanders and combat aviators to speak with the media and appear on television prior to Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Last spring, Prof. O’Rourke served as faculty-in-residence in Notre Dame’s M.K. Fisher hall in London, directing Notre Dame’s business education programs in the United Kingdom. This fall, he resumed teaching in the Corporate Communication program he founded at Notre Dame in 1996 and begin work on a new book in that discipline.
ARABELLA POLLACK

Arabella Pollack has been leading Columbia University’s Master of Science in Strategic Communication and Executive Master of Science in Strategic Communication since 2016, for most of this time as Academic Director. Arabella has been faculty since 2010, teaching Strategic Communication Management; Communication Research and Insights; and the Capstone course where students work with organizations to address real world strategic communication challenges. During her time at Columbia, Arabella introduced a new curriculum more tightly linked to employer needs and the rapidly developing communications field. As a result of this, along with a renewed focus on academic rigor and the scholar-practitioner model, the program has seen a four-fold increase in applications.

Prior to joining Columbia, Arabella built her career in consumer products, with a particular focus on growing aspirational, image-driven brands. Arabella specializes in providing deep understanding of the consumer and translating insights into growth opportunities for brands including Absolut Vodka, Lancôme, Bath & Body Works, KIND, and many more. Arabella has worked for leading organizations both client and vendor-side, including The Boston Consulting Group, Pernod Ricard, Diageo, GFK, and The NPD Group.

Arabella holds an M.A. from Cambridge University and an M.B.A. from the Darden Business School at the University of Virginia.

ELIZABETH POWELL

Lili Powell joined the Darden School faculty in 1994, where she teaches MBA, EMBA and Executive Education classes in leadership, management and corporate communication. Professor Powell has designed and taught courses ranging from the required First Year MBA course in Management Communication, the elective "Communicating through Leadership Presence," and the executive short course "Leading Mindfully."

Recently, Dr. Powell accepted an invitation to join the Arthur W. Page Society, whose mission includes advancing the highest professional standards in enterprise leadership and advancing the way corporate communications is understood, practiced, and taught. In 2017, in recognition for her work in leadership presence and mindful leadership, she was awarded a joint appointment as the Kluge Endowed Chair at the University of Virginia's School of Nursing where she teaches a leadership course for nurses and physicians.

Dr. Powell has authored numerous business case studies and technical notes. She has presented her work at the Conference on Corporate Communication, the Association for Business Communication, the Management Communication Association, the National Communication Association, and the Reputation Institute's Conference on Reputation, Image, Identity and Competitiveness. She is co-author of Women in Business: The Changing Face of Leadership (Greenwood, 2007).

As a consultant, facilitator, instructor and coach, Professor Powell has assisted in industries ranging from banking to biotech. She has worked with numerous national and international businesses, organizations, and universities, including: American Medical Association; Annenberg Foundation; Council for Public Relations Firms; Hilton Worldwide; IAE Business School (Argentina); IBMEC Sao Paulo (Brazil); KPMG; Lagos (Nigeria) Public Schools; National Industries for the Blind; Providian Corporation; Stockholm School of Economics (Sweden); United Technologies; University of Virginia; US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); and the World Bank.

Professor Powell's diplomas from the University of Virginia include undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Communication Studies, and a master's degree in Rhetoric and Communication Studies. She earned the Ph.D.
in Communication Studies, with a focus on leadership, rhetoric, reputation and performance, from Northwestern University.

**JONATHAN F. RIEF**

Jonathan (“Rocky”) Rief works as a Group Director of International Government Relations for The Coca-Cola Company, and is responsible for global public policy political and economic insights, as well as providing support to Company initiatives regarding tax, public health and other public policy issues. He also provides leadership in areas of public policy polling and competitive intelligence. Before joining Public Affairs, Rocky directed the Company’s Public Affairs and Communications group in the South Pacific. Other roles within the Company have included assignments as director Operations Research & Strategy for Public Affairs, member of the internal Company Think Tank and a variety of roles within the Company’s North American Business Unit. Prior to joining The Coca-Cola Company, Rocky worked for a dozen years in the United States Congress, including more than a decade with Senator Sam Nunn, with the last half dozen years as Senator Nunn’s Legislative Director. As Legislative Director, he helped draft legislation on a variety of issues, ranging from reform of the entire US Tax Code to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics to nuclear threat reduction. Rocky is a graduate of Stanford University, where he studied under Condoleezza Rice.

**DAVID B. SANDOR**

David B. Sandor is senior vice president of communications and public affairs. He leads the division as it works strategically through print, digital, and media platforms to create awareness, understanding, and support of the university and its mission.

Sandor has three decades of experience in corporate positioning and reputation management. He has led large teams engaged in earned and social media relations, thought leadership, marketing communication, community relations, and employee engagement for such brands as The Home Depot, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, NCR, and Visa USA. His work aligning business and social responsibility initiatives has been nationally recognized by The Civic 50, US Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Boston College, EPA, and World’s Most Ethical Companies.

Most recently, he served for seven years as vice president of communications for the nation’s largest customer-owned health insurer, HCSC, a $30 billion company that operates Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans across the nation serving nearly 15 million members. In addition to his corporate experience, he helped to found Powell Tate, a well-regarded public relations agency led by former presidential press secretaries Jody Powell and Sheila Tate. His experience in public service includes work as special assistant for public affairs to US Transportation Secretary Samuel K. Skinner and as a headquarters spokesperson for the Bush–Quayle 1988 campaign and presidential transition.

He earned a BA in international affairs from George Washington University and served four years on the Civilian Public Advisory Council of the US Military Academy at West Point and the Communications Advisory Board of the College of Charleston. He is a former member of the Arthur W. Page Society. Sandor is married and has two adult sons.
JOHN P. SANTORO

John Santoro is the Lead for Executive Communications at Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS), the world’s 12th largest biopharmaceutical company and a leader in transformational medicines. Most of his work is with Giovanni Caforio, MD, the company’s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Once a diversified consumer products/healthcare company, Bristol-Myers Squibb is now centered on advanced biomedical research and specialty therapies. Its largest-selling medicines are *Opdivo* for various forms of cancer and *Eliquis*, an anticoagulant.

John joined BMS in March 2018 after retiring from Pfizer, where he held similar communications strategy and counseling positions. In his last post at Pfizer, he worked closely with Dr. Freda Lewis-Hall, the company’s Chief Medical Officer and the face of Pfizer to the general public.

He came to Pfizer after its 2000 acquisition of Warner-Lambert Company, where John worked first as Director of HR Communications, and later as Senior Director of Communications for two chief executives. After joining Pfizer following the acquisition, John worked for two chief executives and directed internal communications before coming to work with Dr. Lewis-Hall.

John began his communications career with Brecker & Merryman, a seminal firm in recruitment and employee communications. He joined the company in 1975 as a junior copywriter and left as creative director. His clients included Ford, Merck, Honeywell, the New York City Police Department, and both Pfizer and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

He graduated from Dickinson College in 1975 and received his master’s degree in communications from Seton Hall University in 1998. He is an adjunct professor of communications with NYU, a trustee of The Compassionate Friends Foundation, and a co-founder of the Paula Rosina Santoro Foundation.

He and his wife, Pamela Bennett-Santoro, reside in Morristown, New Jersey.

KHARY SCOTT

Khary Scott is currently Vice President of Business Development for Capital One’s Corporate Development Team. In this role, he is responsible for developing co-branded partnerships with selected merchants in the Travel, Entertainment and Digital markets. He led the Orbitz engagement that launched Capital One back into the co-brand business. In addition, Khary led the Sony Card engagement team that converted Capital One’s first co-brand portfolio. Khary brokered the Mobile Payments partnership between Capital One and Softcard. He led the engagement teams for GM & UP as part of Capital One’s HSBC Acquisition.

Khary also has been the Accountable Executive for the African-American Network closely linked to Capital One's goals of recruiting, retaining, and developing diverse talent and leveraging their differences to contribute to the success of the organization. Khary also sits on the Diversity & Inclusion Council for Capital One US Card.

Prior to joining Capital One, Khary was the Director of Marketing for Invensys Controls. At Invensys, he led marketing for their wholesale distribution, global product development and original equipment manufacturing teams. Khary specializes in business development, product management, and sales promotion in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Mr. Scott graduated from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia in May 2001. Prior to Darden, he graduated from the University of Texas – Austin in 1995 with a BBA in Finance.
Khary currently lives in Midlothian, VA with his wife, Danielle D. Scott, Ph.D., Partner at Nelson Scott Evaluation Center, and 11 year-old twins, Elle and Jackson, 6th graders at the Collegiate School.

STEVE SOLTIS

Steve Soltis is a senior advisor with MAS Leadership Communication, a company he formed in 2017 with partners Ken Askew and Charles McNair. Soltis is also an Adjunct Lecturer and Executive-in-Residence at Darden, teaching management and leadership communication.

Soltis recently retired from The Coca-Cola Company, where he led both executive and internal communication for the past 11 years. In that role, he served as the lead communication strategist for Chairman and CEO Muhtar Kent, and was responsible for all of his executive speeches, town halls, videos, press briefings, correspondence and external and internal appearances. In addition, Soltis was responsible for orchestrating the company’s entire C-suite executive visibility efforts and for formulating its employee communication strategies and execution.

Prior to joining Coca-Cola in 2006, Soltis led executive communication efforts for 10 years at UPS, the world’s largest transportation company. In that role, he was instrumental in developing the company’s executive visibility programming and supporting three successive CEOs. During that time, Soltis was also responsible for helping develop Coca-Cola’s B2B customer thought leadership conference, Longitudes.

Soltis’ corporate career began in 1994 as an executive speechwriter for MCI in Atlanta. In addition, he was part of the founding editorial team at Washington Flyer Magazine, a joint venture with the Metropolitan Washington DC Airports Authority and Ackerley Advertising. Soltis was also part of the founding editorial team at the Austin Chronicle, and later worked for futurist and author John Naisbitt in Washington, D.C. He began his career in journalism working for the Plano (Texas) Daily Star Courier.

Soltis graduated from North Texas State University in 1986 and received a Master’s Degree from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia in 1992. He is the author of two guide books, published by the Richmond (Virginia) Times Dispatch and The Boston Globe Company, respectively.

Soltis and his wife Stacy split time between Gulf Shores, Alabama, metro Atlanta and Charlottesville.

KEN STERNAD

Ken Sternad enjoyed a 35-year career with UPS, where he served as vice president of worldwide Public Relations and Media Affairs, as well as president of The UPS Foundation. He was responsible for all media relations, reputation management, executive communications, marketing public relations and crisis communications activities for the company globally. As president of The UPS Foundation, he oversaw more than $100 million in annual philanthropy that supported the company’s programs in volunteerism, disaster response, environmental sustainability, education, diversity and road safety. During his tenure, UPS received numerous reputation awards, including consistently being named one of Fortune Magazine’s “Most Admired” companies.

Ken currently works with the Barton Russell Group, a public relations firm focusing on all things "small town America". He is also an active volunteer, serving on the Board of Trustees for his alma mater, Ohio Wesleyan University, the Board of Directors of the Points of Light, and several other nonprofits.

Ken is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, where he double-majored in Journalism and Political Science and minored in Economics. He did post-graduate studies in the Fairfield University Corporate and Political Communications Masters program.
FREDERICK G. THOMPSON

Fred is the founder and principal of the Communications Collaborative LLC, and a subsidiary company, The Center for Non Profit Growth™. Both firms are focused on developing marketing/branding, social media and fundraising strategies for commercial and non-profit institutions in the health-medical, education, public policy, veterans’ affairs and conservation/endangered species sectors.

He is currently a lead strategic advisor to ScoutComms, a Washington based B-Corp communications and advocacy consultancy focused on helping veterans and military families create greater public awareness of veterans’ needs, and increase veteran access to economic and social opportunities. Clients include the General Electric Foundation, BAE Systems, the Semper Fi Foundation, Blue Star Mothers, and Home Depot Corporation.

He also remains “of counsel” to Creative Partners LLC, an integrated marketing communications company he co-founded in 2001, with offices in Stamford, CT and Los Angeles, CA. Creative Partners represents a diverse range of corporate, professional service and non-profit clients, including HealthNet, Citibank, Whirlpool Corporation, National Realty and Development Corp., The Kennedy School at Harvard University, Capital One, MBIA, and Standard & Poors.

After co-founding Creative Partners, Fred took a seven year sabbatical to head two nonprofit organizations in the public health and wildlife conservation areas. In March 2006, he joined The American Liver Foundation (ALF) as President/Chief Executive Officer.

Prior to joining ALF, he was President/CEO of the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) in Washington, D.C. Under his leadership, JGI grew five-fold and established collaborative partnerships with key governmental, policy and funding entities, including the United Nations, the World Bank, the U.S. Department of State, the European Union, and numerous private foundations throughout the U.S., Europe and Africa.

Prior to joining the Jane Goodall Institute, he held executive positions with several leading global marketing communications firms, including Burson-Marsteller, Manning Selvage & Lee, Earle Palmer Brown, and Kerr Kelly Thompson, where he represented such major Fortune 500 corporations as IBM, Citibank, Procter & Gamble, Nikon, Novartis, Johnson & Johnson, Exxon-Mobil, U.S. Trust, Four Seasons Hotels, McGraw-Hill, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merrill-Lynch and Visa.

BENJAMIN WEST

In 2017, West joined the Experimental Group as Global Marketing & Communication Director after five years managing the international communication strategy, partnerships and brand image for the champagne House Veuve Clicquot.

Founded by three childhood friends whose initial vision was to bring a true craft cocktail to Paris, the Experimental Group is known today as the only “Made in France” entrepreneurs with a global expansion. The Experimental Group owns and operates twenty cocktail bars, restaurants and hotels in Paris, London, New York and Ibiza and has expanded to opening hotels in Verbier, Menorca and Venice. West will oversee the group’s brand development as well as the global communication and marketing strategies.

He has previous experience in international communication strategy and brand development at jewelry brand Boucheron (Kering Group) and through agency work at DM Media representing clients such as Fabergé jewelry, Diptyque and Dom Pérignon. West’s educational experience includes North Carolina State University,
Istituto Lorenzo de Medici and Université Lyon II. He is married and has been based in Paris for the past 15 years.
**JUNE WEST**

June West joined the Darden School faculty in 1997 where she has enjoyed the entrepreneurial culture and the opportunities to collaborate with colleagues on curriculum design for world-wide initiatives. These include the Partnership for Leaders in Education (PLE), a program with UVA’s Curry School of Education. The mission is to provide executive education for pre-collegiate administrators who are working on turning around our nation’s lowest performing schools. The success of the PLE has led to Professor West working with several universities to develop their own school turnaround programs. Today, West’s focus is with state superintendents of education and their senior cabinet administrators.

Her work in education includes teaching both at the college and pre-collegiate levels. She was a member of the Study of Schooling, one of the first comprehensive research studies of pre-collegiate education. She designed and directed the Center for Business Communication at Lehigh University and served on the design teams for Seton Hall University’s virtual university and its executive graduate degree program in corporate communication. With her late husband Dr. Fred West, she founded the Hobb’s School, a Washington, DC. based pre-school for children with autism.

At the Darden School, West teaches courses in management and organizational communication and interpersonal communication. She is UVA’s Faculty Liaison to the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and she leads a Darden faculty team that teaches in the summer orientation program for the Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellows Program that places active-duty military officers in corporations for a one-year fellowship. West holds degrees from The University of Tennessee, Kent State University, and Lehigh University.

**KENNETH R. WHITE**

Dr. Kenneth R. White is Associate Dean for Strategic Partnerships and Innovation at the School of Nursing and holds the UVA Medical Center Professorship in Nursing with additional faculty appointments in the McIntire School of Commerce, the Darden School of Business, and the UVA School of Medicine.

With more than forty years’ experience working in healthcare organizations in clinical, administrative, governance, and consulting capacities, Dr. White spent 13 years with Mercy Health Services as a senior executive in marketing, operations, and international healthcare consulting before moving into academia. While with Virginia Commonwealth University for 20 years, he served as the director of VCU’s Graduate Program in Healthcare Management, where he was named the inaugural Charles P. Cardwell, Jr., Professor of Health Administration. In 2009, Dr. White became more involved with global partner programs and was named the inaugural Sentara Healthcare Professor, before arriving at the University of Virginia in 2013.

Dr. White is co-founder of the innovative UVA School of Nursing/Darden School of Business program, “Leadership which is a certificate program for nurse-physician leader dyads. He also directs the School of Nursing’s Continuing Education programs.

A registered nurse, adult/gerontology acute care nurse practitioner, and Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, Dr. White is also a Fellow, former Regent and member of the Board of Governors of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and holds a visiting professorship at the LUISS Business School in Rome. He currently chairs ACHE’s LGT Forum and is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Nursing. He is the author of the Well-Managed Healthcare Organization, 8th edition (2016) and Boost Your Nursing Leadership Career: 50 Lessons that Drive Success (2017).