

PATRICK HENRY COLLEGE

AUTUMN 2014 ★ VOL. 14, NO. 2



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 - College Looks Forward Following Dr. Walker's Resignation
 - Chancellor Farris Cycles 110 Miles for Student Activities
 - Matching Gift Campaign Sparks Alumni Generosity

From the Chancellor



Dr. Michael Farris

I am continually amazed by this incredible institution that God has raised up called Patrick Henry College. When I talk to people about the history and development of PHC, I often say that a dorm or one of our campus buildings would have been a big but doable project for me. But never in my wildest dreams could I have even imagined what God has created here in Purcellville, Virginia.

Patrick Henry College is a God-sized project, and His indelible mark is on everything that we do.

Yes, I am proud of the role I've played in helping make PHC the place it is today. But even though I've had a big role, it's only been one of many. PHC is not about one man, one president, or even one founder. It is bigger than that. We've been called God's Harvard, and although that may not be a perfect fit, we are, with no uncertainty, God's.

As an organization, we've had many people come and go over the past 15 years. These people have been a treasured part of our team, but they have never been, nor will they ever be, bigger than PHC. New people will come and new leaders will emerge, but there will never be any doubt about the mission and vision of Patrick Henry College. Leading the nation, shaping the culture, and doing it with excellence and an unshakeable love of Christ is who we are and who we'll always be.

From the Interim President



Dr. Gene Edward Veith

In the history of any institution, leaders—even very beloved leaders—come and go. But the institution has a life of its own that continues through all of the different generations of students, faculty, and staff who have given part of their lives to her. Through all of the changes it will undergo, Patrick Henry College is determined to remain faithful to its mission, its purpose, and its Lord.

As the college goes through the transition to a new president and to new levels of growth, Patrick Henry College will NOT lower its standards, will NOT water down its academic excellence, will NOT compromise its commitment to Biblical truth.

It WILL continue to cultivate its classical Christian curriculum that has achieved such dramatic results in academic excellence. It WILL continue its reliance on Christ and His Word. It WILL continue to build a vibrant academic and spiritual community of Christian students. It WILL continue, in the words of the Patrick Henry College mission statement, "to prepare Christian men and women who will lead our nation and shape our culture with timeless Biblical values and fidelity to the spirit of the American founding."

IN THIS ISSUE:

1 THE CHANCELLOR

Michael Farris Bikes 110 Miles for Student Activities

2 CAMPUS UPDATE

College Looks Forward Following Dr. Walker's Resignation; Alumni Matching Gift Campaign; Video Streaming Technology at PHC; New PHC Promotional Video; 2014 NCFCA Championship; New Health Center on Campus

6 COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENTS

PHC Alumni Excel on *Harvard Law Review* and in Top Law Schools

7 FACULTY COMMENTARY

Dr. Steven Hake Shares the Goodness of God

8 NEWSMAKERS INTERVIEWS

Fall Series Hosts Randy Singer, Mikey Weinstein, and Others

10 INTERNSHIP PROFILES

Kight—Africa, Arts and Amity; Mowry—Top MI Campaign Manager; Williamson—Office of Rep. Meadows

12 ALUMNI PROFILES

Hamlin—Seeing Through the Blind; Carini—Unintended Treasurer

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On the Cover:

Chancellor Mike Farris on his *Chancellor's Constitutional Century Ride*



Vic Thompson (left) and Mike Farris (right) after biking 110 miles to raise funds for student life.

CHANCELLOR FARRIS BIKES 110 MILES FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Pedaling his carbon fiber road bike through the beautiful hills of Northern Virginia in late summer, Chancellor Mike Farris reflected on the coming school year, the exciting influx of new students, and the many extracurricular activities that must be financed to enhance the college experience. During that hour-long ride—his mind fixed on the challenges of funding the College’s championship moot court program, mock trial and debate, theater and athletics—his love of cycling and economic reality merged into a novel idea. He would embark on a solo cycling fundraiser to raise money for those critically important, albeit expensive, student activities.

On September 16—the day before Constitution Day—Farris rode his bike 110 miles in what he called the *Chancellor’s Constitutional Century Ride*, raising over \$50,000 in pledges to support student activities. Along with his good friend and PHC Board of Trustees member Vic Thompson, he set off at 8:30 in the morning and crossed the finish line just before 5:00 PM, cir-

cling the PHC campus and nearby side roads to a near-constant vigil of students clapping and encouraging them along with baskets of bananas, grapes, and granola bars. With the ride nearing its end, students, staff, and members of HSLDA gathered on the steps of the Hodel Center, listening to music, eating pizza, and cheering their progress toward the finish line.

“It was fun,” Farris said, “I rode 100 miles last October and it feels better this time, although around mile 90 my feet always start to hurt. Having the students cheer us on really helped!”

“It was a good fundraiser,” Thompson agreed. “We ride a lot together and you don’t want to do that kind of ride alone. We stayed together and were conversing for the whole ride.”

Tom Ziemnick, PHC’s Vice Presi-

dent for Advancement, said the amount raised was phenomenal.

“This type of fundraiser rarely sees this kind of participation,” said Ziemnick. “We were really amazed to see the way the PHC community rallied together in support of this.”

PHC senior Megan Fabling was both blessed and encouraged by the fundraiser and the direct impact it will have on the various campus organizations she is in-

involved with.

“When Dr. Farris is willing to do something so physically exerting, it shows how much he cares about his students,” she said.

Mike Farris, the College staff and administration, wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to all who participated in the *Chancellor’s Constitutional Century Ride*. ★

“When Dr. Farris is willing to do something so physically exerting, it shows how much he cares about his students.”

- Megan Fabling
PHC Senior

College Looks Forward Following Dr. Walker's Resignation

Dr. Graham Walker resigned as President of Patrick Henry College on Wednesday, Oct. 15, in an all-campus meeting in Town Hall. Dr. Walker had served at the College for eight-and-a-half-years, appointed in April 2006 following a unanimous vote of the College's Board of Trustees.

Acknowledging that his decision to step down was a "fully mutual agreement" with the Board of Trustees, Dr. Walker thanked the board, the College leadership, and the students for his time at PHC.

"I love PHC," he said. "These eight-and-a-half years have already been longer than the tenure of the average American college president! I am grateful to the Lord and to all of you."

Trustee Board Chairman Jack Hays said, "Under Dr. Walker, the College secured accreditation, expanded the campus, and deepened the academic and spiritual dimension of PHC. I should also state for the record that his departure does not result in any way from any moral or financial misconduct on his part. His ethical and moral character is above reproach.

"Dr. Walker was instrumental in 'institutionalizing' the vision that PHC's founders had when the College began in 2000," Hays added. "His extensive experience in higher education led to the creation of systems of protocol and governance that will continue to benefit the College for years to come. We sincerely thank Graham and Lindy for their years of service and leadership at Patrick Henry College. We wish them the very best as they begin this new chapter."

Dr. Walker will remain on Trustee approved sabbatical through the fall semester, and Dr. Veith began serving immediately as the Interim President until a new president is named. He assumes full responsibility for academics, operations, and all internal activities of the College. Dr. Farris, as Chancellor, will assume the responsibility for supervising the Advancement and Admissions Departments—the external components of the College.

"First, we want to say we think it is appropriate to remember and celebrate the many good things that have resulted from the years of leadership of President Graham Walker," wrote Drs. Farris and Veith in a joint statement. "He is a good man and will be missed. We pledge to each other and to the College community to first keep Patrick Henry College on the good and steady path which we enjoy in so many areas of the College.

"We also pledge that we will begin to pursue strategies that will allow PHC to substantially grow in terms of the size of our student body and with our donor community," they wrote. "We truly believe that PHC's greatest days are just ahead."

Chancellor Farris will chair a Presidential Search Committee formed at the direction of the Board of Trustees to find a long term replacement. That committee includes trustees Paul DePree, Marian Freeland, Gary Downing, and Michael Farris. From the faculty, current Chairman of the Faculty Senate Michael Haynes and Professor Robert

Spinney will also serve, as will staff representative Sara Pensgard, PHC's library director. Alumna Christy Ting, who is a teacher at a private Christian school in Fairfax County, Va., and is member of the alumni board, will serve as the alumni representative, and the student representative is current Student Body President Katie Tipton. Interim President Gene Edward Veith will also participate in an *ex officio* capacity.

The Search Committee held its first meeting in November and identified three professional search firms to interview before the new year.

The committee expects to have a new president installed by July 1, 2015.

Dr. Graham Walker became the second President of Patrick Henry College, having replaced Michael P. Farris, J.D., who founded the College in 2000. Prior to coming to PHC, Dr. Walker was an Ivy League professor (University of Pennsylvania), and later served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Oklahoma Wesleyan University in Bartlesville, Okla. Arriving at PHC, he pledged that the truth of God's Word would remain the anchor of the intellectual life at the College, and it was this principle that perhaps best characterizes his tenure. ★



The Walkers pray after Dr. Walker's resignation announcement

"I love PHC ... I am grateful to the Lord and to all of you."

- Dr. Graham Walker

Alumni Matching Gift Campaign Nets Fiscal Blessing

A matching gift campaign initiated by one of the College's longtime trustees was a tremendous success, according to PHC's Office of Advancement. Even with a short, 25-day window in which to promote the two-for-one matching campaign, results far exceeded the \$25,000 goal set by the Alumni Association and the campaign's sponsor, PHC Trustee George Clay.

"The alumni will be leading this College one day ... Giving is a very tangible way for alumni to show their support and commitment to the College."

- George Clay
PHC Trustee

More than \$65,000 was given by alumni and their immediate families in the month of June, making it the largest giving campaign hosted by the Alumni Association in school history. Individual alumni donors accounted for nearly \$10,000, with an average gift of \$290. When combined with Mr. Clay's matching contributions, this campaign raised a total of over \$115,000 for the College's General Scholarship Fund.

"The alumni will be leading this College one day," said Mr. Clay of his matching gift idea. "All of our donors, including the Board of Trustees, bring a measure of wisdom, work and their own personal wealth to the table in the form of giving. Giving is a very tangible way for alumni to show their support and commitment to the College.

"I simply wanted to jump start that giving process a little," he added, "and hopefully help to begin in some—and continue in others—the habit of stewarding their hard earned wages toward the College that helped them launch their lives and careers. As you know, sometimes we all need a little jump start."

Of the total funds raised, \$5,000

will go directly to the Alumni Association, helping the association serve the alumni community and the student body through programs like the College's annual scholarship essay competition. Members of the PHC Alumni Association Finance Committee, including Aaron Strassner, Matt Boehm, Daniel Hebda, and Zachary Enos, invested many hours networking with and mobilizing

PHC alumni to answer the matching gift challenge.

"Along with the other members of the Finance Committee, I believe very strongly in the purpose and mission of PHC," said Strassner, who worked the phones and wrote dozens of notes and letters, pumping up enthusiasm among alumni. "As an alumnus, one of the best ways I can give back to the school is through donations. PHC is a relatively new organization and needs the help of alumni to go forward. When George Clay said he was interested in doing a matching campaign, it was a no brainer.

"My experience contacting our alumni," added Strassner, who today works in the oil business in Houston, "was that there are a lot of us out there who are very interested in supporting the College. We just needed the right cause to get behind. Having a supporter like



PHC Trustee George Clay

George come forward—who so many of us know and admire—really gave alumni a way, not to just give to school, but to see their money doubled. Everyone I spoke with wants PHC to be successful, and most are very thankful for the great education they received and for the opportunities their education

has afforded them. Still, I was frankly a bit surprised at how many were genuinely thrilled by an opportunity to give back to the school."

The campaign kicked off with a June 5 e-mail from the PHC Alumni Association to alumni. Jonathan Carden, PHC's Director of Major Gifts and a former PHC student body president, not-

"My experience contacting our alumni was that there are a lot of us out there who are very interested in supporting the College. We just needed the right cause to get behind."

- Aaron Strassner
PHC Alumnus

ed how "Sometimes the best ideas come at the last minute. It was very encouraging for us, since it was the first of its kind and since the campaign lasted only 25 days. To get almost \$65,000 directly from alumni and their families was an enormous blessing and a wonderful boost for the College." ★

New ReadyCam Streaming Technology Arrives at PHC

A new live-stream ReadyCam video production studio was installed in PHC's Barbara Hodel Center this fall, converting an existing basement recording facility into a handsome VideoLink pipeline to major national news media outlets. The new studio, complete with lights, microphones, and attractive PHC screen backdrops, will allow Chancellor Farris and other PHC "experts" to conduct live streaming interviews with outlets like Fox News and CNN. In so doing, it will help brand the College as a center for public policy commentary and expertise.

PHC's Director of Communications David Halbrook says the user-friendly technology will "promote the college and promote its people" to a potentially wide audience.

"We often get requests from TV and radio producers inquiring if we have experts to speak about breaking news of topical concerns, and, in Dr. Farris's case, he often has to



Mark Meckler after the maiden stream to FOX (top);
Dr. Farris during a recording session for NBC (bottom).

drive to D.C. to do an interview. The ReadyCam support staff promotes our experts to their network of producers, remotely controls the camera during interviews, and streams the video over the Internet. Mike gets to stay on campus rather than spend an entire afternoon in D.C."

The College and Dr. Farris's Convention of States organization partnered with Mark Meckler, founder of Citizens for Self-Governance, to procure a grant for the VideoLink ReadyCam system. PHC alumna Natasha Malik (Government, International Politics and Policy, '12) helped write the proposal, and an anonymous foundation with ties to both Meckler and Dr. Farris fully funded the VideoLink

equipment for both organizations.

In early October, Meckler became the first to use the PHC studio for a live interview, discussing the implications of new revelations about the Benghazi terrorist attack with a Fox News anchor. ★

New PHC Promo Video Captures the Essence of Campus Life

Patrick Henry College released a new promotional video in June, produced by alumni Peter Forbes (Literature, '09) and Ian Reid (Journalism, '12), which showcases what it means to be a PHC student. Forbes and Reid are founding partners of Distant



Image from PHC's new promotional video

Moon Media Group, a new media production company that specializes in advertising and narrative storytelling through the medium of film and video.

The project's goal was to capture the essence of PHC's spiritual community and classical liberal arts education, and to give viewers an accurate portrait of student life.

"Both Ian and I know what it can be like to be a PHC student," said Forbes, "and we wanted to give people a taste of that in three-and-a-half minutes."

The video features former PHC government major and moot court champion Lindsay See (Government: Political Theory, '07), who graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and is now an attorney

for a high-powered Washington, D.C., law firm. It also features Wesley Freeland (Classical Liberal Arts, '14), and Matthew Boles, now a junior CLA major, who both shine as typically bright, energetic participants in the PHC experience.

The video has proven especially popular with students and alumni and has attracted thousands of views on Facebook and Twitter.

"It was a pleasure being back on campus," Reid said. "It reinvigorated our love for the institution, and I hope that's what shines through."

To watch the promotional video, go to www.phc.edu/Promo_2014 ★

2014 NCFCA National Championship at PHC

The Barbara Hodel Center gymnasium was filled with 1200 people gathered for the final night of the 2014 NCFCA National Championship. Thomas Siu was transfixed by the moot court demonstration unfolding on stage. A recent high school graduate and quarter-finalist in the weekend's tournament, Siu had already been accepted at another university closer to home. But as the Patrick Henry College students presented their arguments, he was "blown away."

"Seeing the quality of work and their level of preparation, the presentation and argumentation, really impressed me," Siu said.

Siu is now one of a dozen or so freshmen attending PHC this fall who, along with 400 competitors from across the country, competed in the 2014 NCFCA Championship at the College this past June. For most it was their first quality exposure to the College, as many spoke with members of the admissions team, enjoyed the campus community and facilities, and left with a newfound interest in actually attending.

"Name recognition and understanding what the school is really all about are two different things," said Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management William Kellaris. "I think many left thinking, 'Hey, PHC is more than we thought.'"

Dr. Frank Guliuzza, dean of academic affairs and co-coach of PHC's championship moot court team, said hosting the NCFCA tournament "gave an opportunity for the College to show off in a way that we wouldn't have if we were just sending literature off to students." ★

PHC's New Health Center: A Message of Quality

What were only recently spare storage rooms in the Barbara Hodel Center basement have been transformed into PHC's new health center. The renovation in July yielded an inviting waiting area with a wall full of health brochures and a doctor's office equipped with the basic amenities of a professional medical center.

Health Services Director Marsha Schreiber, wife of PHC's Executive Vice President Carl Schreiber, said that the new health center reflects the College's efforts to provide quality care for its students in every aspect.

"You send a message with how you put together any kind of facility," Schreiber said. "If you're trying to send a message that you have a quality facility with credentialed professionals and exceptional care and services, image is everything."

Schreiber first arrived at PHC in 2010. She volunteered for a year-and-a-half, spending much of that time in the coffee shop, using a table with chairs as her office space to counsel any student who dropped by. In 2012, she obtained real office space in the Student Life suite two days a week. The administration began talking seriously about setting up an institutionalized, professional medical center for PHC, and this past summer put the upgrade in motion.

Schreiber expects the center to be a safe harbor where students can identify and address physical ailments, as well as learn more about their spiritual and emotional selves. If one aspect is not faring well, Schreiber said, it affects the person as a whole.



Marsha Schreiber, R.N., imparts value to the campus health center.

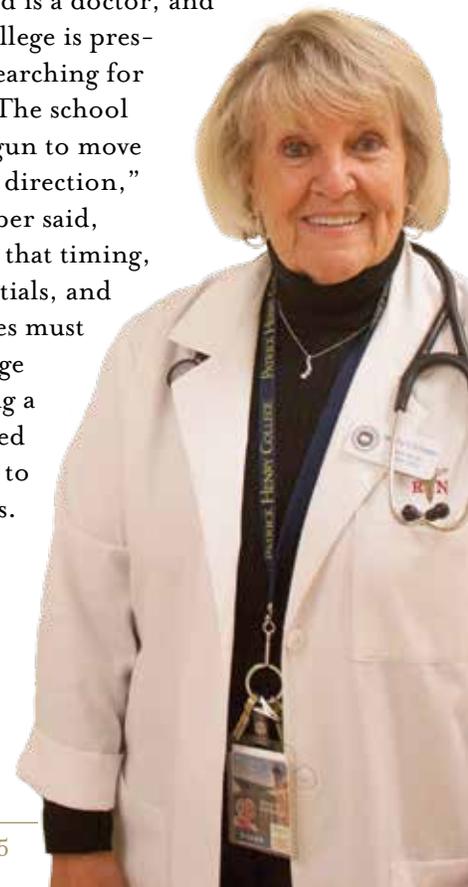
"Even though I'm doing assessment, it's about looking at each individual holistically," said Schreiber. "I want students to know that they can e-mail me, call me, leave a message. I want them to know I'm accessible, not just sitting in a seat so the school can say, 'We have an official health office.'"

The center manages health records for students, assesses their symptoms, and provides free over-the-counter products.

The only vacancy that remains to be filled is a doctor, and the College is presently searching for one. "The school has begun to move in that direction," Schreiber said, noting that timing, credentials, and finances must converge to bring a qualified doctor to campus.

★

Marsha Schreiber, R.N.



PHC Alumni Excel on *Harvard Law Review* and at Top Law Schools Nationally

The *Harvard Law Review* is a prestigious legal journal that examines high profile legal cases, including many from the U.S. Supreme Court. In publication for 127 years, it adds 46 new members annually to its board of editors, selected through a painstaking writing and review process from among 200 of Harvard's most talented rising "second-years." This renowned crop of high achievers writes, edits, and publishes the monthly, 300-to-400 page *Review*.

The *Review* also happens to feature a disproportionate number of PHC grads: five PHC alumni have served on the board of editors, including past ACMA Moot Court Champion **Matthew du Mée** ('05) and **Lindsay See** ('07). This year three former students serve on the board of editors: **Alex Harris** ('12, also an ACMA Moot Court Champion), who joined in July 2013, and **James Nelson** ('13) and **Evelyn Blacklock** ('11), who both joined the *Harvard Law Review* in July 2014. The editors are among seven PHC graduates currently enrolled at Harvard Law School—ten total since 2005—constituting a significant presence "that has not gone unnoticed here at Harvard," says Harris.

Along with his twin brother Brett, Alex published the bestselling book *Do Hard Things* and launched the national Reblution "movement against teenage apathy" as a high school student. Together the brothers won the 2011 ACMA Moot Court Championship, and today Alex serves as the Supreme Court Chair for the *Review*. Recently recognized in the *Business Insider* as one of "18 Incredibly Impressive Students at Harvard Law School," Harris's role as the *Review's* Supreme Court Chair has him collaborating with constitutional scholars, including Professor John Manning, a leading conservative scholar on statutory and constitutional interpretation.

That so many *Review* editors hail from PHC, says Harris, a school much smaller and lesser known than the alma maters of some other editors, speaks to the quality

of a PHC education.

"There are many, much larger schools that have fewer people make it on the [*Harvard Law Review*]," he said. "People have noticed that there are three editors from PHC, despite its age and size. That didn't just happen by accident."

More than halfway through Harvard Law, Harris has completed Supreme Court appellate litigation in D.C. and has also secured a post-graduation clerkship with Judge Neil Gorsuch on the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Denver.

"I feel incredibly blessed and grateful," he says.

For their part, Nelson and Blacklock spend large portions of the second year writing and editing articles for the November *Review*, fighting crushing deadlines, drafting lengthy analyses of new legislation, and penning comprehensive legal essays called "notes."

"It's a huge investment of time and it's an emotional investment too," said Blacklock, who will clerk this summer with Judge Brett Kavanaugh on the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. "It's great to be part of an institution that helps shape the ideas that come out of the legal academy." She says her PHC rhetoric, logic, philosophy and constitutional law classes were a "tremendous asset," teaching her how to think and write well.

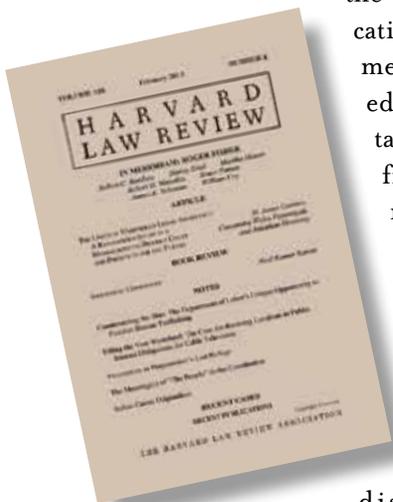
By any measure, editing the *Harvard Law Review* carries a singular prestige, affording students priceless networking and career

advantages while forging them into world-class legal writers and scholars. Yet other top law schools have also seen many PHC graduates serve as law review editors, clerk with esteemed judges, and begin their ascent at elite law firms.

"Others have been as, or more, successful," observed Harris, mentioning, among many others, friends **Nicole Frazer** ('12), near the top of her class at the University of Virginia School of Law, editing the *Virginia Law Review*, a 2014 John Marshall Fellow and clerking for Judge Jeffrey Sutton in the Sixth Circuit, and **Tyler Stockton** ('13), excelling at the University of Montana School of Law.

The numbers of PHC graduates who have seen success in law school and now serve as attorneys, judges, and high-level counselors for myriad organizations and ministries, are too numerous to mention here. The following is a brief, far from exhaustive, overview of some of the many deserving attention for how God is blessing their efforts:

Aidan Grano ('10), graduated from Columbia Law in 2013, served on the *Columbia Law Review*, was a James Kent Scholar and moot court champion, clerked with Judge Wesley of the Second Circuit, and is currently an attorney



PHC GRADUATES WHO HAVE SERVED ON THE *HARVARD LAW REVIEW* BOARD OF EDITORS

Matthew du Mée ('05)
Lindsay See ('07)
Evelyn Blacklock ('11)
Alex Harris ('12)
James Nelson ('13)

ney with Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett, LLP, in New York City.

Kyle Pousson ('05), a 2008 graduate of Duke Law School, is presently the Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina.

James Barta ('10), a 2013 graduate of Georgetown Law School, clerked with Judge Stephen Murphy of the Eastern District of Michigan and Raymond Kethledge of the Sixth Circuit and was a 2013 John Marshall Fellow.

Galen Thorp ('04), graduated from Georgetown Law in 2007, published an article in the *Journal of Supreme Court History* and is today an

attorney for the Department of Justice, Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch.

Lindsay See ('07), a 2011 graduate of Harvard Law School and editor of the *Harvard Law Review*, served with the International Justice Mission and Department of Justice, clerked with Thomas Griffith in the D.C. Circuit, and is an attorney with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in D.C.

Matthew du Mée ('05), graduated from Harvard Law School in 2010, served as editor with the *Harvard Law Review*, clerked with Judge Andrew Hurwitz of the Arizona Supreme Court, and is now an attorney with Perkins Cole in Phoenix, Ariz.

Eric Lansing ('10), graduated from Regent University School of Law in 2013, served as managing editor of *Regent University Law Review* and as law school chaplain, worked for the American Center for Law & Justice (ACLJ) and for the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia, and is today a Virginia Magistrate in Petersburg, Va.

Rachel Baer ('06), a 2009 graduate of the Regent University School of Law, served as Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and today heads the Law Office of Rachel Baer in Alexandria, Va.

Aaron Thomas Noble ('05), a 2009 graduate of Texas A&M Law School, serves as an attorney with the Air Force JAGS Corps.

Justin Jenkins ('09), who plans to graduate from Wake Forest University School of Law in 2014, clerked with Judge Roy Moore in the Alabama Supreme Court and wrote a successful oral argument in the Eleventh Circuit. ★

“People have noticed that there are three editors from PHC, despite its age and size. That didn’t just happen by accident.”

- Alex Harris
PHC Alumnus

THE GOODNESS OF GOD

By Dr. Steven Hake

Last May my wife was diagnosed with stage four cancer. We were in deep anguish, but the entire PHC community surrounded us with love and prayers. Recently, a full-body scan revealed no cancer left in her body. God is good!

I have seen His goodness in many ways. As a professor at PHC since its 2000 founding, I’m sometimes asked how the College has changed. What most encourages me are the ways it has *not* changed. The qualities that I so enjoyed in those first students 14 years ago still characterize my students today. They’re bright, energetic and godly—they *care*. As professors, we’ve all taught in other places, and there are always at least a few students who care and who really want what you have to give. We teach for those students. But at PHC virtually *all* the students care deeply, not just a few. It’s like cooking for people with a ravenous, rather than an anemic, appetite. Because I see how much it means to my students, because they so appreciate all that I bring to each class, I’m very motivated as a professor to keep growing.

I recently turned 60 and now strongly sense that I must focus on the things that matter most, the contributions that God has uniquely called me to make. I have designed a biblical studies course called, “The Christian Life,” and am working on a four-year discipleship plan through which I hope to pour my life into a small group of young men at PHC. I’ve also designed two “Christian Renaissance Camps” and a Christian Renaissance Conference for high school-aged young people, in the hope that many of them will end up at PHC. Finally, I am also beginning to reach out to home school and classical Christian school journals and magazines. Today, I am more excited about my work than I have ever been before. God is good!

I share the writer’s sentiment in III John 4, that “I have no greater joy than to hear that my [former students] are walking in the truth.” Some are active in missions, in Italy, Hungary, Tunisia, China and India. Some are in graduate programs, in English, Classics, and other fields. Some are serving churches, and many are teachers. One young couple in the area is raising a five year old who speaks in “full, carefully punctuated sentences.” I still honestly believe that, given time and the blessing of God, these young people will write the big books that turn our culture around, that spark the Christian Renaissance for which I have prayed for many years.

God is indeed *very* good. ★



Dr. Steven Hake
Professor of Literature

Fall Newsmakers Interviews

Bring Back Lively Discourse, Fiery Debate

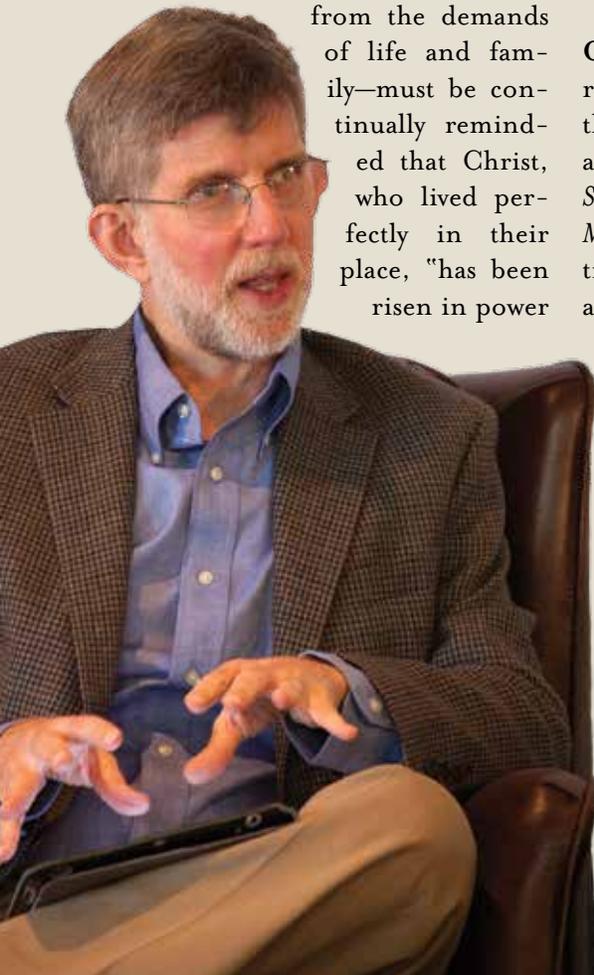
Fall semester brought another round of celebrated speakers to the *Newsmakers Interview Series with Marvin Olasky*, affording students extraordinary opportunities to personally meet and interact with distinguished authors, attorneys, and filmmakers.

Elyse Fitzpatrick, author of over 18 books on Christian living, including *Give Them Grace*, kicked off the first week. A popular speaker at women's conferences around the country, she's the head of Women Helping Women Ministries and encouraged listeners to find their identity in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.

"When I know that Christ loved me enough to die in my place, it makes me far more patient with the people around me."

The women she meets—often exhausted and stressed out

from the demands of life and family—must be continually reminded that Christ, who lived perfectly in their place, "has been risen in power



Randy Singer (top) and Carolyn McCulley (right)

for them. The longer I've walked with Christ the more I've learned that, in Him, I am already loved, already forgiven, already perfect."

Christian author and filmmaker **Carolyn McCulley** examined the role of Christian women in society, the church, and the workplace. The author of three books—*The Measure of Success*, *Radical Womanhood*, and *Did I Kiss Marriage Goodbye?*—she has also contributed to *Sex and the Supremacy of Christ* and founded Citygate Films, a documentary film company based in the Washington, D.C., area.

"We're not really meant for this life," she told her listeners. "We're moving through the land of the dying and going to the land of the living. And make no mistake, even though we can't see it with our eyes, we are engaged in an epic daily battle in the spirit."

Reminding her audience how one day we will die and meet our Maker face-to-face, she encouraged everyone to invest the talents

Dr. Marvin Olasky



that God gave them on earth.

Mark Dever, senior pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., spoke of the condition of the contemporary church. As president of 9Marks Ministries, he has taught at a number of seminaries and authored several books and articles.

"It should be normal in churches to see people growing spiritually, and today it's more rare than it should be," he offered. "Sometimes it looks strange to people who *aren't* growing spiritually, and it shouldn't."

Congregants at Capitol Hill Baptist hail from every political persuasion and ethnicity, including what he calls “loud Republicans,” and “loud Democrats.” Though he has been asked to advise members on everything from the ethics of torture to dealing with poverty, De-ver strives to remain non-partisan in the pulpit, choosing to call his people repeatedly back to the gospel. He said he has taught 90 percent of his congregation to give a concise gospel account in 60 seconds or less and to deliver a compelling defense of their faith.

“First, you should preach what’s in the Bible,” he said. “When I’m preaching, I feel like I’m giving God’s Word to God’s people, and I need to get my personality, at least in part, out of it.”

Bestselling author, attorney, and pastor **Randy Singer** offered a glimpse into his diverse vocations, describing the tension between his role as lawyer and pastor as his “Jekyll-and-Hyde thing.” Authenticity, he said, is the key.

“I try to be the same person in the pulpit and the court,” he said.

As one of the top 100 practicing lawyers in America and founder of the Singer Legal Group, Singer’s chief goal is, simply, to emulate Christ. “People are coming to me for counsel with what is often the greatest crisis of their lives. What an awesome opportunity I’ve been given.”

Singer says his practice is primarily rooted in his faith, which allows him to be both open and empathetic with clients. He sees the law as his means of fulfilling a higher calling.

“If I can earn their trust to give them advice, they aren’t shocked when I offer to pray for them. God gave me the law as a tool,” Singer added.

Between trials and sermons at Trinity Church in Virginia Beach, Singer has written 14 legal thriller novels. In 2002, his debut novel *Directed Verdict* quickly attracted attention and won the Christy Award.

To view archived video interviews, go to www.phc.edu/newsmakers. ★

“I try to be the same person in the pulpit and the court.”

– Randy Singer

Weinstein Presents “Alternative View” of Religious Freedom

“If you’ve come expecting an oral wrestling federation event, you may be in the wrong place,” Marvin Olasky stated at the beginning of September’s *Newsmakers Interview* with Mikey Weinstein. “Our goal today ... is to end up with more light than heat.”

Weinstein founded the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) to protect the religious freedom of all military members under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution. In his words, MRFF’s work largely consists of battling “far-right religious fundamentalists.” The College billed the event as a chance for students to engage in an “alternate view of religious freedom,” and Weinstein, comparing his visit to PHC to “setting foot on another planet,” seemed to relish at times fiery banter with Dr. Olasky and audience members.

The “military is unbelievably tribal, adversarial, communal, and ritualistic,” Weinstein began, noting that limits on religious freedom “not permissible at Patrick Henry College or Walgreens” are necessarily required in the military.



Mikey Weinstein

Referencing the “draconian specter of command,” Weinstein said the MRFF only gets involved when an officer, for instance, even benignly endorses one religion over another, or when religious activities occur during duty hours, are held in a military workplace, when uniforms are being worn, or “when there’s a superior-subordinate relationship.”

Recoiling from public accusations of “eating Christians for breakfast,” he pointed out that 96 percent of MRFF’s 38,000 clients identify as Christians. People who work for MRFF, consisting of Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, and mostly Christians, “do not want to see our democracy replaced with a theocracy.”

During a vigorous question and answer session, Weinstein emphasized the “danger” of what he calls fundamentalist, dominionist evangelicals—“people who can’t see the difference between the Great Commission and the Great Constitution,” he said. “The bottom line here is that you cannot mix these things. If your faith says that ‘I want to practice it irrespective of the United States Constitution,’ that’s where we’re going to get involved.” ★

Andrew Kight – When Africa, Arts, and Amity Combine

Most school cafeterias ooze hunger-fueled rowdiness. Yet as Andrew Kight entered the dining hall in the Rafiki village school for the first time, he was met with silence. A lone white face in a sea of dark skin, he noticed the children standing by tables until a parent or adult joined them. Even with the aroma of potatoes, beans, and rice wafting before them, they wouldn't touch a fork until prayer was finished.

Kight (Classical Liberal Arts, '15) slid up to a table of his new students and tried making small talk, but his comments were met with hushed stares and polite nods. Soon he realized the quiet lunch hour reflected an underlying truth about the Ugandan culture.

"Meals are a time for relaxing and enjoying your food, enjoying the fact that you're eating and not having to deal with anything," he said.

Serving as a high school English and literature teacher at the Rafiki Foundation Training Village this past summer and fall, Kight soon learned that his students had much to contend with be-

yond the relatively modern comforts of school. Between the time school ends at 4 p.m. and sunset falls at 7 p.m. his "day students" helped their siblings and performed chores, including searching for food and maybe even water. Since most didn't have electricity, nightfall meant no reading or homework before the next morning's class.

The hardest part of his internship, Kight said, was learning to adapt to and meet the students where they were. In order to accommodate his students, Kight did most of the reading in class and tutored several on the side.

"I wanted to be available for whatever God wanted," Kight said. After praying about different internship opportunities, he chose to travel to Africa with the Rafiki Foundation, where he would teach for six months.

"This seemed to integrate my passions for exposing children to teaching, being able to share great literature, and being able to work with an international community hun-



Andrew Kight among friends at the Rafiki Foundation

gry to grow and experience new things."

The Rafiki Foundation is a non-profit organization whose primary goal is to help orphans and widows, according to James 1:27 (Rafiki being the Swahili word for "friend"). Establishing "training villages" in the poorest African countries, the Foundation provides medical care and education for needy children while simultaneously training native churches to continue the ministry.

And since many of the teachers are native Ugandans who never received a formal education, the Foundation's mission includes providing village children with a classical liberal arts education. That's where Kight came in.

"I gave the students exposure to the classical liberal arts," Kight said. "We studied Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. I also taught a class on Shakespeare and a class on Ancient Literature."

Thanks to his academic background at PHC, Kight says he feels empowered not only to teach but also to expand and apply his knowledge no matter the setting.

"The core [curriculum] at PHC has been invaluable in providing me exposure to a wide range of disciplines," Kight said. "It provided basic skill sets and fostered my appetite for exploring things further."

Even though life at a private Christian college wouldn't seem to translate easily to a village in rural Uganda, PHC helped prepare Kight for the curious human dynamics of Rafiki. At PHC, Kight "practiced what it means to be in a Christian community, as the body of Christ, with all its unity and diversity. It equipped me to exercise spiritual discernment in the interest of being community minded."

Kight's internship ran through fall semester, and he's now looking toward the future. "I want to be open to all that God is about," he said, "and to fulfill my skills and passions." ★

"The core [curriculum] at PHC has been invaluable in providing me exposure to a wide range of disciplines."

- Andrew Kight
PHC Senior

Andrew Mowry, Top Campaign Manager in Michigan

He'd known since high school that he would one day manage a political campaign in his home state of Michigan. So when his chance came this past summer, Andrew Mowry was keen to learn how much of his education applied to his job.

Mowry (Government: American Politics and Policy, '15) spent the summer managing Dr. John Bizon's successful campaign for Michigan State Representative. The budding politician hired Mowry in January and by summer had put him in charge of the entire campaign. At just 20, Mowry became the youngest campaign manager in the state.

Each day had its own challenges—targeting voters, calling consulting groups, fielding media requests, advertising on social media, and writing press releases.

Other internships he'd completed at PHC, including serving with delegates Randy Minchew (VA-10) and Joe May (VA-33), as well as participating in the annual Student Action Teams, prepared him for managing Bizon's campaign.

"The internship opportunities at PHC are second to none," Mowry said. "Being in charge was kind of new to me, and it was essential that I'd learned the foundations of campaign theory at PHC."

Despite a slow start on election night, Bizon won by 11 points. The victory earned Mowry the highest rating of any campaign manager in the state, surpassing his veteran opponent who had been undefeated for 14 consecutive elections. Through it all, the most important lesson he learned was "humility."

"One thing you learn very quickly is that you need to be able to take criticism," he said. "PHC has definitely matured me. Every day you need to be humbled." ★



Mowry targeted voters, handled media requests, and held many other responsibilities.

Ben Williamson Interns for Representative Mark Meadows

When Ben Williamson first visited PHC during his senior year of high school, he'd already decided to attend another university. But personally experiencing the College's culture and academic environment, particularly the drive and passion he saw in its students, changed his mind. He enrolled at the College and ended up sharing a dorm room with his high school buddy Blake Meadows.



Ben Williamson

Not long afterwards, Meadows' father Mark, a business entrepreneur from North Carolina, ran for Congress, and Williamson (Government, '15) volunteered for his campaign. He'd hoped to land an internship if the campaign was a success, and when Meadows was elected in January 2013, Williamson made good on his plan this past summer.

When Congressman Meadows brought him on, he made it clear it wasn't just to make coffee and copies. Rather, Williamson quickly found himself drafting constituent letters, attending congressional briefings, and leading tours of the Capitol.

Beyond the detailed work of running a political workplace, Williamson says working in Meadows' office taught him how to balance hard work and down time. It was a new discipline for the chronic achiever, but he found that pairing flexibility with diligence goes far in achieving harmony in an office environment.

Having known the Meadows family since high school, the internship gave him the unique vantage of further observing the congressman's habits and character. He had always respected the way Meadows cared for the people around him, and the summer internship only heightened his regard.

"Knowing him before he was in Congress gave me a perspective for where he is now," he said. "He hasn't changed at all since being elected. He pours himself out for others."

As for his time at PHC, Williamson is thankful for the opportunities his education has afforded him.

"Interestingly, I've probably become more driven at PHC," he said, "because I now realize what it takes to succeed. It helped me realize the importance of making connections and impacting others through relationships. More than any class, I've learned to appropriately value relationships and friendships through this work." ★

Seeing Through the Blind – A Book from Brooke

A boy who has never seen a sunrise, or the colors of a rainbow, has glimpsed the heart of God.

Sitting alone in her room, lost in thought, quietly praying, the plot for a book slowly materialized. It was about a seven-year-old blind boy who attended her family's church in West Virginia.

A child who has never seen his own face in the mirror, has been used to make the invisible God visible.

Quickly sketching an outline, Brooke Hamlin (Journalism, '11) headed to Wal-Mart, bought a \$3 watercolor paint set and rushed home to bring her book to life. The petite, effervescent PHC alumna wrestled to recall the techniques her artist mother had imparted, and ultimately transformed a single drawing into a beautifully illustrated, 72-page children's book called *Noah's Invisible Adventures*, inspired by the life of Noah Spiker.

"It was God's timing and it was God's words and it was God's way," she said. "I didn't even know that I could illustrate a book! God gave me the story and the ability to write and illustrate it."

At PHC, Hamlin often studied for tests using pencil-drawn cartoon strips, and if she had a lot to remember, she'd use colored pencils. Turning flashcards into cartoons, she said, was the only way she could remember facts for her tests. At the time, she had no idea that skill would translate into a book just a few years later. She credits PHC with shaping the scope and nature of her dreams.

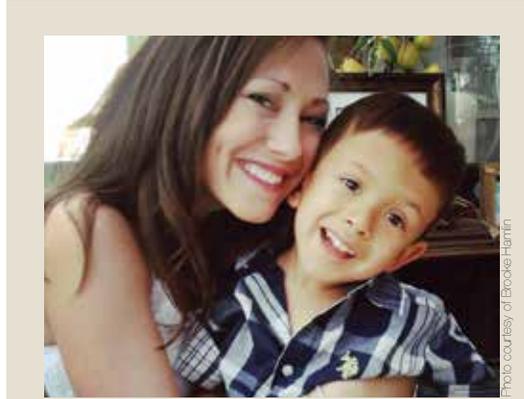
"PHC sharpened my ambition," she said. "It helped me understand that ambition is for the glory of God. As

Christians, we still want to do big things, but we want to do those big things for God. We work to sharpen our skills, but we do it for God."

From the time she first met Noah, she said, she saw God's hand upon him. He inspired her and countless

others, and she started wondering about the prospects of turning his story into a book.

"Because I believed people would see Jesus by seeing him, they needed to see this little boy," she said.



Brooke with Noah Spiker

"I didn't even know that I could illustrate a book! God gave me the story and the ability to write and illustrate it."

- Brooke Hamlin
PHC Alumna

Noah's birth parents were drug addicts, and as a result Noah's retina never developed. He was found by authorities at 10 months old, severely malnourished and weighing nine pounds. Today he's the size of most normal two year olds, and when he was adopted there was no guarantee he was ever going to talk or walk. Noah's adoptive parents felt drawn to children that "nobody else wanted," and ultimately brought into their home 15 children with disabilities.

Today Noah plays piano and has a drum set, and Hamlin says she's never met another child with such a vivid imagination. During a recent book signing (Hamlin autographs, he leaves a tiny thumbprint), he said, "We're in Africa right now. Please remember that." Hamlin

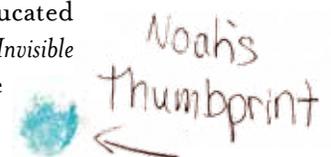
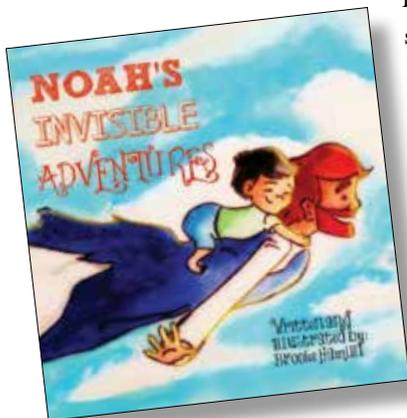
wrote of his imagination in her book, saying that he has a hidden set of eyes, the "eyes of your imagination."

Having taught Noah during vacation Bible school, she recalls him sitting through the lectures with intense focus. While other kids played and pulled each other's hair, he answered questions, absorbed in learning. Hamlin says he is filled up with God's blessings, and his sweetness and love for others often leave those around him in tears. When he broke his leg on Mother's Day, the entire hospital staff took shifts so that they could meet him, and doctors were heard to say, "You have to meet this kid!"

Hamlin and her husband Kyle live in Morgantown, W.Va., where she works at a preschool, and he works with a local church.

"There is nothing like knowing that you're exactly where God wants you to be," she said. "This whole book, I would just say it's a miracle."

A portion of the book's proceeds go towards helping the Spiker family offset the costs of Braille supplies so that Noah can continue to be educated at home. You can purchase *Noah's Invisible Adventures* on Amazon, or visit the book's website. ★



Jason Carini: The Unintended Treasurer

He wasn't planning to run for office, but when no one filed to run against the Rogers County, Oklahoma, Treasurer incumbent of twenty-three years, he recognized the importance of someone stepping up. Jason Carini (Government: Public Policy, '06) decided that he might as well be that person. Through a series of what he calls "God-orchestrated" events, Carini stepped in at the last minute and was elected as treasurer, beating the incumbent by 231 votes.

After graduating from PHC, Carini helped run a few campaigns before starting a lawn service with his brother Ryan, also a PHC alumnus (Journalism, '09). They founded Green Country Mowing in 2009,



which quickly transitioned to a full-time job.

Carini believes all candidates should be held accountable by their constituents, and he felt a burden to run for office when he learned that the incumbent was unchallenged. But because he decided to run for treasurer so late in the campaign—the election was a month away—he had no signs, much less a budget. His opponent's placards, meanwhile, blanketed the county with bright pink and purple hues.

At the end of May, he attended a candidates' debate and disclosed that his opponent had not sent out tax warrants for delinquent taxes in 23 years, costing the county nearly \$665,000 in lost revenue.

Carini told voters that, unlike his opponent, who was said to take unscheduled days off, he would show up to work every day. In local newspaper ads and mailers, he trumpeted



Jason, his wife Jessica, and children, Graci and Louis.

the fact that he had been a debt-free small business owner for five years. While he says his opponent seemed to coast during the last month prior to the election, perhaps because she expected to win (having done so for 23 years), Carini campaigned hard through election night. On election day, voters of Rogers County chose Carini as their Treasurer.

Carini and his wife of three years have two small children. He hopes to serve as the Rogers County Treasurer for eight to 12 years before pursuing his MBA. ★



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