

# 27th President Reveley is TAYLOR MADE for the College

→ Amidst the chaos of former president Gene Nichol's resignation in the previous semester, the Dean of the College's Law School, Taylor Reveley, was named Interim President. It was a job that few would have wanted; the new president faced the task of healing a school deeply wounded and divided. As Reveley began to rebuild the College, the search for William & Mary's 27th president began as well.

The decision was announced rather unexpectedly in an e-mail from Michael Powell, Rector of the Board of Visitors. The Board had decided to extend the offer of President to Reveley for the next three years. Describing Reveley as a "strong leader," Powell supported the decision with evidence of Reveley's dedicated work as Interim President. "With his deep knowledge of and experience with the community, [Reveley] tirelessly reached out," Powell said. "And, in a very short period, he has indeed advanced [the school's] priorities."

The reaction among students was mixed. Some, like the over three hundred members of a Facebook group dedicated to Reveley,

were thrilled. Others, however, like senior Jessica Jackson, found it hard to be excited. "I loved Nichol so much," Jackson said. "I have nothing against [Reveley], I just don't know him and don't have a relationship with him."

Some remained disconcerted by the lack of communication by the BOV with the student body and the lack of a national candidate search. Nevertheless, most believed Reveley's actions as Interim President merited his Presidency and seemed pleased to have him lead William & Mary.

Reveley himself considered the appointment a privilege. "The opportunity to lead an institution so deeply integrated in America's past is one of my greatest honors," Reveley said. When asked the best part of being President, though, Reveley's immediate response was "the people."

Despite some initial misgivings, the campus quickly rallied around President Reveley and his hallmark cheer of "William! William! Mary! Mary! Mary!"

>Carrie Faur



Photo courtesy of Alex Guillen.



Newly sworn-in President W. Taylor Reveley, III speaks to an audience of BOV members, faculty, administrators, and student leaders. The Board of Visitors voted unanimously to appoint Reveley as the 27th President of the College of William & Mary.



Photo courtesy of Stephen Salpukas.



Photo courtesy of Amanda Gage.

After Convocation, the ladies of Dupont 2nd Center pose for a picture with President Reveley. There were numerous opportunities for students throughout the school year to get to know Reveley personally, including e-mails from him and invitations to have lunch with him in the President's House.

President Reveley poses with Glenn D. Lowry and Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor during Charter Day celebrations after awarding Lowry the degree of Doctor of Arts, *Honoris Causa*. Glenn D. Lowry founded the Muscarelle Museum and was the sixth director of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, New York.