



Honored guests look on as President Taylor Reveley offers opening remarks following a selection from the William and Mary Choir. His opening remarks concluded with the introduction of Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor, who followed with her welcome address.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY FEBRUARY 7, 2009

A lush enveloped the audience as the William & Mary Chorus signaled the beginning of the 316th anniversary of the College's Royal Charter. Harmonic textures of the College Alma Mater saturated the auditorium as Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor and President Taylor Reveley led the procession of faculty, guest speakers, and members of the senior class into Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall for the traditional ceremony. The honored guests and award recipients proved the lasting power of the legacy of the College.

In the welcome address, Chancellor and former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor provided the purpose for the ceremony. "Charter Day is a wonderful opportunity for those of us who care about William & Mary to get together to honor various people who have served this College in special ways,"

Chancellor O'Connor said. For O'Connor, Charter Day fulfilled a significant function for each individual experiencing the effects of the nation's economic recession. "We are living in very difficult economic times, times that test each of us. And we need special occasions, like this, to acknowledge those who perform in special ways that elevate all of us above and beyond our daily concerns," Chancellor O'Connor said.

Virginia Senator Jim Webb provided the keynote address. Despite the intensity of the economic debates taking place in the Senate, Senator Webb was glad to take part in the ceremony. "I'm standing here with three hours of sleep and four cups of coffee. But it's an event that I was really honored to be invited to come to," Senator Webb said.

Senator Webb also expressed his appreciation for William & Mary's tremendous legacy.

"It was impossible not to be struck by the rich history of this institution as well as the long-standing tradition of public service that is embraced by its students and its alumni," Senator Webb said. Senior Devin Oller received the Monroe Prize in Civic Leadership for his work with the College's chapter of AidsTanzania, and Professors Katherine Kulick and Rowan Lockwood received Jefferson Awards for their teaching achievements.

Finally, President Reveley acknowledged that as economic conditions have changed throughout the history of William & Mary, the fortitude of the College has remained. "We celebrate the poise and dignity born of experience and perseverance," President Reveley said, "poise and dignity not just during the good times, but especially during the bad times."

>Jillian Walton



Professors Katherine Kulick and Rowan Lockwood share a smile as Lockwood receives the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award. The Jefferson Award recognized individuals whose devotion to the campus community was patterned after the principles of Thomas Jefferson.

Senator Jim Webb and Chancellor O'Connor remain standing as honored guests and Members of the graduating class procession into Phi Beta Kappa auditorium. Senator Webb was the keynote speaker for the event.



Dignitaries applaud as the William and Mary Chorus completes a selection from Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Vespers*. The choir later led the audience in the singing of the Alma Mater.

Photos courtesy of Stephen Salpukas.