

# BACK TO SCHOOL



UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND  
School of Professional  
& Continuing Studies™

2024-25

# CAMPUS MUST

# List



## Cheer on the team.

Home football games kick off September 19. Come early and enjoy the rich tradition of Spider tailgating. Or enjoy cheering on 18 other varsity sports teams, some free of charge, throughout the year.

[richmondspiders.com](http://richmondspiders.com)

## Discover the museums.

The University Museums host lectures, gallery talks and family programs throughout the year, in conjunction with current exhibitions or to highlight research on works from the permanent collection. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

[museums.richmond.edu](http://museums.richmond.edu)

# 4



## Grab a bite to eat.

Or a cup of joe. Eateries across campus offer the option of settling down for an all-you-can-eat meal, grabbing a quick bite on your way to class, or finding the perfect cup of coffee for a late-night study break.

Visit [dining.richmond.edu](http://dining.richmond.edu) for location, menus and hours.

# 3



## Take in a show.

The Modlin Center for the Arts presents more than 40 world-class performing arts events as part of the ModlinArts Presents Series, five productions presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance and the University Players and Dancers, and another 23 music performances as part of the Department of Music's annual free concert series.

[modlin.richmond.edu](http://modlin.richmond.edu)

# 5

## Get the whole family involved.

There are lots of great learning options for family members. Through SPCS's *Think Again* schedule of classes, you'll find a variety of professional development programs. Plus the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute offers classes and interest groups specifically designed for those over 50.

[spes.richmond.edu/thinkagain](http://spes.richmond.edu/thinkagain) & [osher.richmond.edu](http://osher.richmond.edu)



Orlando Dick (above), Education Leadership and Policy Studies graduate, and Lauren Bollier (bottom right), Master of Teaching graduate, enjoy fun photos at the annual Regalia Pick Up & Graduation Celebration event.

- 2 Campus Must List
- 7 Nettie Ardler
- 8 Michael Dickerson
- 10 Alumni Discount
- 12 Education Studio
- 13 Most Beautiful Campus
- 14 SPCS #SpiderPride
- 15 Ask SPCS

**BACK** Celebrating the Class of 2024

## FROM THE COVER

Zariah Chiverton, 2024 Student Commencement speaker, is ready for the ceremony to begin.

See more photos from Commencement 2024 and all our special events on our **Flickr** page at [flickr.com/urscs](https://www.flickr.com/photos/urscs).

**Back to School** is a publication of the University of Richmond School of Professional and Continuing Studies.

Photography by Kevin Schindler, Chris Ijams and Jamie Betts.

## 4 ZARIAH CHIVERTON

Get to know the 2024 Commencement Student Speaker and two-time University of Richmond alum

## 6 LISA RESCH

Double alum gives back to the place she calls home

## 9 GABRIEL AND MARISOL

Mother and son shared the stage at Commencement

## 10 ANDRE DAVIS

André Davis celebrates his life-changing experience of becoming a Spider

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# Double Spider makes the

**ZARIAH CHIVERTON, '22, GC'24, WASN'T THINKING ABOUT EARNING A MASTER'S DEGREE — UNTIL SHE LEARNED ABOUT SPCS'S MLA PROGRAM.**

She was the 2024 Commencement student speaker and earned her Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) degree. With her MLA, Chiverton became a double Spider alum. In 2022, Chiverton earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond. She majored in Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law, or PPEL, and planned to attend law school.

Originally, Chiverton had no intention of earning a master's degree before going to law school. After meeting Dr. Erik Nielson, SPCS's faculty chair of liberal arts, she decided to extend her stay at



**READ MORE  
ABOUT ZARIAH**

UR and started her graduate program in January, 2023.

“Dr. Nielson recommended the MLA program to me, and I’m glad he did,” Chiverton shared. “I was able to tailor the program to suit my career needs, and I feel so much more prepared and confident in the direction of my future.”

With career aspirations of becoming an attorney and a passion for defending and protecting the rights of others, Chiverton worked with Nielson to design her MLA focus on sports and entertainment law, specifically on the protection of student athletes.

Throughout her program, Chiverton incorporated research on sports and entertainment law into her coursework. She enrolled in two electives in sports leader-

edge of how law and sports intertwine on a college campus.

The MLA program allowed Chiverton to focus on and fine tune her long-term career goals. It also gave her the opportunity to maximize her time as Spider. Some of her undergraduate experience was dampened by the COVID pandemic and the personal growth she didn’t know she needed at the time.

“I did okay in school [as an undergrad], but I wanted to look back and be proud of my time at UR,” she reflected. “After finishing this master’s program, I can say that I am.”

Since Chiverton first graduated in 2022, she started working as paralegal in a local law firm and quickly discovered managing a full-time job

become a thing of the past because I didn’t have time to waste,” Chiverton noted.

Not only was Chiverton up to the task of balancing work with school, she excelled. Chiverton credits much of her success to her mom. As a single immigrant parent, her mother modeled hard work, tenacity, and determination. As the youngest of nine children, she also recognizes that the support and sacrifice of her entire family helped her succeed.

“I want to thank my family,” Chiverton said. “They have been a consistent support system that I have always been able to rely on, no matter what.”

Chiverton plans to start law school in the fall of 2025. She’ll spend the summer

## most of her UR experience



ship and completed an internship with the Athletics Department’s compliance office, allowing her to gain first-hand professional knowl-



with graduate school and her other life commitments is challenging, and good time management is critical.

“Procrastination had to



preparing her law school applications, continue her work as a paralegal, and enjoy not being a student for a little while.





*Double  
alum gives  
back to the  
place she  
calls home*

# All in for UR

Lisa B. Resch, C'17, GC'22, didn't think college was for her – until she found the University of Richmond. After graduating high school, she attended Ferrum College for two years before leaving to begin a career in nonprofit administration. Years later, while working at Bon Secours Richmond Health Care Foundation, a colleague encouraged Resch to finish her degree.

"My boss would check in with me and say, 'where do you see yourself going? What do you want to do?'" she recalled. "He told me that I needed to get my degree if I wanted to be a leader in the organization. But I thought, 'no way, [going to] night school will take me forever.'"

Resch first heard about UR's School of Professional & Continuing Studies (SPCS) from another colleague, which inspired her to enroll in the SPCS Institute on Philanthropy, a certification program for nonprofit professionals focusing on fundraising, marketing, and board development strategies.

"At our graduation luncheon, [SPCS Dean Emeritus] James Narduzzi came to me and said, 'I heard you're thinking about completing your degree. Did you know we have a program here at SPCS?'" she said. "I was so impressed that he knew that about me and cared enough to ask. So, I had a conversation with myself, and said, 'should I do this? Should I really do this?'"

The stars aligned when Resch discovered that not only could she receive employer tuition reimbursement to attend SPCS, her Ferrum course credits were eligible for transfer. "It meant I was halfway to my degree already," she said. "I thought, 'wow, I think I can do this.'"

Thanks to the flexibility offered by SPCS' part-time degree program, Resch was able to balance academics with her personal life and full-time career (she has served as director of donor relations at Sheltering Arms Foundation since 2014). She got involved on campus as a member of the SPCS Student Govern-

ment Association (SGA), of which she served as president.

"I enjoyed working with students from other schools on campus—both traditional and nontraditional—for the benefit of getting more students involved with SGA and engaging with the surrounding Richmond community," she said.

In 2017, Resch graduated with a bachelor's degree in liberal arts, and immediately enrolled in the SPCS Master of Nonprofit Studies program, which she completed in 2022. "It was a no-brainer for me to enter the program because it touches on all components of working in the non-profit industry," she said. "I figured I had come so far; I might as well keep going."

After attending classes at UR for many years, Resch didn't want to leave the place that had become a second home. She now volunteers as a member of the SPCS Dean's Ambassadors Circle (DAC), a leadership committee of alumni, faculty, friends, and community leaders who aim to advance the school's mission, vision, and goals. This group helped lead the school's 60th anniversary celebration this year. In addition, Resch is a loyal annual supporter of the SPCS Dean's Impact Fund, which is used to fund student scholarships and other student-focused institutional priorities.

"So many working professionals want to go back to school, but they can't afford to go back," she said. "I want people to have the experience that I had and not have to worry about money."

Resch said she enjoys telling her success story to share the impact UR has had on her life and inspire others to get involved and give back. "My story is about community because that's what I got by coming here," she said. "SPCS helped me achieve something that I never thought was attainable. I cherish that UR is part of my heart and part of my life."



As the 2024 Gibb Family Distinguished Alumni Award winner, Annette "Nettie" Ardler, C'01, (pictured above right with current SPCS Alumni Association Board President Sabrina Guerin) addressed graduating students during the ceremony. In her speech, Ardler shared that SPCS "will always be home" for her and that "because it is home, that means you will come back." She knows first hand as she is an avid Spider sports enthusiast and devoted alumna.

"I felt a call of duty to serve as an advocate for SPCS and UR," Ardler recalled. "That was when I joined our SPCS Alumni Association board."



She just completed a seven-year stint on the board as its immediate past-president and has held the roles of Governance Committee chair, vice president and president.

"During my service with the board, I have had many opportunities," she shared. "I made great friends. Tested my leadership skills. Learned that I am not perfect. Helped others grow. Celebrated our successes. Learned from our missteps."

Ardler is a vice president and senior underwriter in the US Agents team at Swiss Re Corporate Solutions where she underwrites Errors and Omissions (E&O) business in the Alliance Program. She recognizes and appreciates the role her UR education has played in her career.

"The experiences I had while I was a student helped me professionally and personally," Ardler said. "I learned a lot about myself in the four years I was a student here."

Scan the QR code to read more about Nettie.



**READ MORE  
ABOUT NETTIE**





Photo by Gordon Schmidt

## Step into my office

By M.R. Badillo

In the low light of his first-floor office, Michael Dickerson, C'14, made a decision. Dickerson, the law school's IT systems administrator and current MLA student, spoke with a stranger who would share his story in this magazine. His story illustrates well the dedication Richmond Law has to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.

Dickerson decided to be vulnerable, a virtue that also supported his journey to becoming the first certified Inclusive Partner on campus.

The Inclusive Partner Certificate Program is a series of workshops for UR students, staff, and faculty that builds a toolkit of inclusive practices to support identity-based communities. Race, religion, and socio-economic status are among the topics discussed. One workshop, Affirming Space, teaches how to foster inclusive environments for LGBTQ+ people and was previously known as Safe Zone.

"I'm telling you this because I feel safe with you," Dickerson began.

He then pointed to his office door and its line of badges representing the stages of his Inclusive Partner training and similar campus participation. "See all those? There's an Easter egg in there of sobriety," Dickerson said, referencing the Peer Recovery Specialist and Recovery Ally stickers. "It's an easy way for me to tell my truth without standing on the corner with a bullhorn."

The more support Dickerson experienced on campus, the more he wanted to carry that compassion to the law school community. "All these opportunities where I could share myself helped me break down my own walls. In turn, maybe they can help build someone else up. [This certification] is a starting point of letting people know they're not alone. [My office] is a safe place to have a simple conversation, and sometimes that's all people need to get them thinking differently."

Dickerson's windowless workspace is intentionally decorated with warm lighting and Spider-Man memorabilia on display. In a word, it feels safe. "It's an extension of my personality and lets people's guards down when they walk in. Especially because I'm not in the hierarchy. I'm not faculty. I'm not part of the dean's office. I'm an IT professional. And for some, that's more approachable.

"Not all [the Inclusive Partner workshops] are directly part of my life, but they're part of somebody's life. And if I'm more informed, it makes me a better-rounded employee and a better-rounded advocate."

## Mother and son shared the stage at Commencement

Although their pathways were slightly different, Marisol Marrero, C'24, and her son, Gabriel Delgado, C'24, both found their way to SPCS's information systems programs.

Marrero was an IT management major, and Delgado majored in information security, and both completed their bachelor's degrees in 2024.

Marrero, 51, had quit college when she started her family. She always wanted to return and complete her degree, but it was difficult when her children were young.

Delgado, 28, took a traditional route to college. He attended Reynolds Community College after high school and earned his associate's degree. He then transferred to Old Dominion University but dropped out after a year because he wasn't happy with his major.

After taking off about a year and a half, Delgado decided to go back to college, which



happened to coincide with Marrero's decision to finish her degree. She had already been accepted to SPCS and shared her positive experience with Delgado, knowing he was looking to finish his degree, too.

"I told Gabe about my positive experience applying, registering, and meeting my advisor,"

Marrero shared. "I asked him to join me at the University of Richmond."

After a little research, Delgado decided

SPCS was a great option for him. First, the degree programs allowed him to continue working full time. Second, he would be able to transfer much of his associate's degree, which was extremely important. Third, studying IT would allow him to make a career change. And of course, his mom recommended SPCS highly.

In addition to sharing an occasional ride to campus, they also shared a photography class.

"I really enjoyed it," Marrero said. "We kept each other on track with due dates and bounced ideas off each other for our projects."

Although they didn't take many classes together, they had very similar experiences and both appreciated the support of the staff, which Delgado noted was above and beyond any support he had experienced at other colleges.

Delgado also admired the faculty. They understood adult learners and the challenges they faced balancing school with work and home life. The way Delgado's faculty engaged with him had an impact on his learning and confidence.

"I was never confident in school, a C-average student most of my life," Delgado shared. "SPCS taught me to be confident in myself."

Returning to school was a confidence builder for Marrero as well.

"I realized I could accomplish anything!" she shared.

For Marrero, earning her degree from SPCS was just the beginning. She plans to continue her education. Delgado is focusing on completing his career change and finding a job in IT or information security. Regardless of what comes next, they both treasured their time at UR, especially graduating together.

"I'm proud to say I walked [at Commencement] with my mother," Delgado said. "I know in that moment the feeling we both had was truly an out of body experience."





[spes.richmond.edu/alumni-discount](https://spes.richmond.edu/alumni-discount)

## SPIDER SPIRIT ALUMNI DISCOUNT

University of Richmond alumni receive a 25% discount on tuition on college credit classes offered by the School of Professional and Continuing Studies.

University of Richmond alumni may use the Spider Spirit alumni discount to take a college credit class for professional development or to enroll in an entire degree program, including a post-bachelor's certificate, a graduate certificate or a master's degree offered through SPCS.

The Spider Spirit alumni discount is applicable to tuition only and does not apply toward books, materials, and other supplies or fees needed for a course. Your discount may not be combined with other tuition discounts or reductions. A few other exclusions apply. Visit us online to learn more.

# André Davis celebrates his life-changing experience of becoming a Spider

André Davis, C'06, GC'23, describes his educational journey as turbulent. He remembers being a struggling learner from elementary school through high school.

"I was diagnosed with a learning disability, but I always felt that with the proper nurturing, support and encouragement, I could excel academically," recalled Davis.

After dropping out of high school and obtaining his equivalency diploma, Davis attended community college. He started to build his academic confidence and decided to transfer to complete his bachelor's degree. He was accepted into SPCS's Bachelor of Liberal Arts program.

Davis's transition to UR was not seamless, but he received lots of encouragement and support from staff, faculty and family. With each class, Davis grew more confident, and he graduated with his bachelor's degree in 2006.

Davis began substitute teaching shortly after graduating and quickly discovered a passion for teaching. He went on to teach middle school English and adult education classes.

When Davis decided to pursue his master's degree, his college choice was obvious.

"When I decided to go back to school, it was absolutely a no brainer," recalls Davis. "I wanted to return to SPCS and obtain my

master's education at the place that made me feel so confident."

Davis is currently an adult secondary and ISAEP specialist in the Career, Technical, and Adult Education (CTE) division of the Virginia Department of Education, so he recognizes that all adult learners likely have their own unique sets of challenges to overcome. His advice to those considering returning to school is simple: Follow your own path and don't compare yourself to others.

"Run your own race. Run at your own pace," Davis said with a smile. "And know that your story is just going to be that much sweeter."

Davis also remembers his mother having unwavering confidence in his abilities despite struggling so mightily in the comprehensive setting.

"She saw my capacity for success and achievement even when I didn't see it in myself, and I love her for that," Davis shared.

For Davis, SPCS was life changing. Before he finished his bachelor's degree, he was working multiple customer services jobs, without purpose or guidance. Earning his degree sharpened his focus and jumpstarted his career in education.

"It changed the trajectory of my life," Davis exclaims. "And that's not hyperbolic."



**READ MORE  
ABOUT ANDRE**





“

*When I decided to go back to school, it was absolutely a no brainer — I wanted to return to SPCS and obtain my master's education at the place that made me feel so confident.”*

—André Davis, C'06, GC'23



Andre receives the 2024 Book Award for the Curriculum and Instruction program from Dean Wilson.



# Hidden GEM



Angela Leeper is the Education Studio Director in the Department of Education. In addition to curating the Education Studio's collection of children's, young adult, and pedagogical resources, she lectures on children's and young adult literature, reviews children's and young adult literature for national publications, and teaches in the First-Year Seminar program.

Leeper has served on numerous state and national award committees for children's and young adult literature, including the Caldecott, Printz, and Odyssey awards.

**Every week during the academic year, rising senior and future teacher Carstyn Klosterman brings her latest assignments to the Education Studio.**

"The professors do a great job of introducing us to the studio and all the wonderful resources available," said Klosterman, a sociology major with an elementary education minor.

The space was reimaged during a planned move to Fountain Hall, as Director Angela Leeper considered the role of the studio within the University's academic mission.

The rebranded Education Studio (formerly the Curriculum Materials Center) provides everything teachers might want to enrich their classroom lessons. That starts with a wide-ranging library of books, from pedagogical texts to books their students might read in English and language arts classes or to deepen learning in science, history, and mathematics.

Then the studio expands into related resources that UR students—from undergraduates striving toward education degrees to graduate students already in practice—can use to bring a lesson to life or deliver the content in different ways. That includes games, art prints, iPads loaded with educational apps, and manipulatives, which are hands-on learning tools. Students can also use the space to try out projects before bringing them into their practice classrooms.

"We have other studios and labs where you create things," said Leeper, a former librarian with North Carolina's Department of Public In-



struction. "I like what the name 'studio' implies, as we are moving away from just a place that holds books to an active space where students come in to make things and have big ideas."

As a book reviewer for professional journals and 2025 selection panelist for the Caldecott Medal, presented annually to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book, Leeper stays on top of emerging trends in K-12 education and student needs, allowing her to curate optimal additions. After 15 years at Richmond, she also has strong insights into common course assignments.

"I'm now able to anticipate needs and proactively grow our collections and resources in alignment with what our professors want their students to explore during their coursework," Leeper said.

"The Education Studio is a hidden gem on campus," said Halle

Zweibel, a rising senior and studio associate who plans to teach in elementary school. "I can apply what I've learned in my literacy classes to the children's books within the library," she said.

Creating targeted areas for various activities and student interactions was essential to Leeper in planning the studio space, open to the entire campus community. She introduced huddle rooms, a lounging area, and workstations. A dedicated maker

space features expansive die-cutting tools for creating lesson materials or decorating classrooms.

In a single day, students can pull from every collection to develop inventive lesson plans — creating manipu-

latives in the maker space or culling art prints — that go beyond reading and discussing a piece of literature. "It's exciting to see all the ways that students approach these assignments and how they use their creativity,"

Leeper said.

"The best thing I've learned is how a classroom can operate," Klosterman said. "I'm so lucky to have talked with past, present, and future educators, who come in and share their experiences. They give me advice for my future, tips for which books to read, and are genuinely invested in my teaching passions."

***"It's exciting to see all the ways that students approach these assignments and how they use their creativity,"***

— Angela Leeper  
Education Studio Director



## THE NATION'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS

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No wonder "The Princeton Review" recognizes us as the "Most Beautiful Campus" in the entire nation.

There are also amazing spaces to study, collaborate and ... rejuvenate. Stroll the Eco-corridor, walk around Westhampton Lake or relax on the Forum.

We invite you to share your photos via Facebook and Instagram (@urspcs).



## SAVE THE DATES

**August 26** Fall Semester Begins

**November 1-3** Homecoming

**January 13** Spring Semester Begins

**May 7** SPCS Night

**May 10** Commencement

**May 13** Summer Semester Begins

**May 30-June 1** Reunion Weekend

# #SpiderPride

**Great things are happening for SPCS alumni, students, faculty and staff. Congratulations to the following individuals for their recent accomplishments throughout the last year.**

SPCS education alum **Travis Dodds**, GC'14, GC'17, was awarded the Milken Educator Award. The award is the nation's preeminent teacher recognition program that celebrates, elevates and activates talented educators.

**Andrew Schoeneman**, associate professor and chair of nonprofit studies, gave the keynote address, titled *Strengthening Communities, Building Movements & Facilitating Change: Independent Schools as Civil Society Organizations*, at the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS) Advancement Institute in Staunton.

**Erik Nielson**, SPCS professor & chair of liberal arts, served as the consulting producer for a documentary titled "As We Speak" that premiered this month at Sundance Film Festival. UR alum Sam Widows, '08, is a producer for the film, which is vying for the Sundance Best U.S. Documentary Award. The film features Bronx rap artist Kemba exploring the weaponization of rap lyrics and revealing how law enforcement has used artistic creation as evidence in criminal cases.

**Ann Hodges**, SPCS paralegal studies program chair and professor of law emerita, is featured as a labor market expert in a *WalletHub* article, *Hardest-Working Cities in America* (2024). Hodges answers questions about worker productivity, employee engagement, and employer contributions to workers' quality of life.

**Lauranett Lee**, adjunct assistant professor of liberal arts, has been named an RVA Community Maker for 2024 by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The VMFA's yearly project honors African American leaders from a variety of fields and

showcases the Black history being made every day in Richmond.

**Sandra Park**, Adjunct Professor of Paralegal Studies and Chief of the Civil Rights Bureau, New York State Office of the Attorney General, has been named the 2024 Law Women Alumna of the Year by NYU School of Law.

**Daniel L. Hocutt**, SPCS web manager and adjunct professor of liberal arts, was named the 2024 SPCS Innovations in Teaching Award recipient during the School's spring faculty meeting in January. The recipient, selected from among nominees by the Adjunct Faculty Advisory Committee (AFAC), is recognized for excellence and innovation in their teaching.

**Bob Spires**, associate professor of education, has been named co-editor-in-chief of *The Urban Review: Issues and Ideas in Education*, with James Martinez, professor of education from Valdosta State University. The Urban Review provides a forum for the presentation of original investigations, reviews, and essays which examine the issues basic to the improvement of urban schooling and education.

**Tom Shields**, associate dean and chair of graduate education, with Emmy Ready, visiting lecturer of Latin American, Latino & Iberian studies, co-authored an A&S Next case study titled "Multilingual Student Success in Public Schools" examining issues of Latinx students' graduation and retention rates in Richmond Public Schools. Alums Lyons Sanchez-concha, GC'23, Victoria Case Gochez, GC'22, and Jonathan Zur, '03, collaborated on the project.

**Daniel L. Hocutt**, SPCS web manager and adjunct professor of liberal arts, published "Composing with Generative AI on Digital Adver-

tising Platforms" in a special issue on composing with generative AI in *Computers and Composition*.

**Lisa Micou**, GC'16, SPCS adjunct associate professor of education, published an essay titled "Using Universal Screening to Improve Student Well-Being" in *eSchool News*, advocating an approach to well-being using a dual model resilience and risk framework that promotes early identification and prevention of risk factors.

**Ma'asehyahu Isra-UI**, SPCS adjunct assistant professor of education and founder of the Black Judaic Heritage Center, gives a talk titled *Through The Spectacles of Ethiopia: Garveyism, Black Judaism and the Virginia Commonwealth at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture*.

Dr. Kate Cassada, associate professor and assistant chair of the Educational Leadership & Policy Studies program and director of the Center for Leadership in Education, is a regular *Forbes* contributor, sharing and helping an international audience make sense of K-12 decisions and practices in the U.S.

Liberal arts professor Erik Nielson, an expert on rap lyrics, is quoted in "A rapper made 2 viral music videos on Rikers Island. Experts say it might make him a target," a piece published by New York Public Radio.

**Dana Jackson**, assistant professor and director of clinical practice in educational leadership, and Kate Cassada, associate professor & chair of educational leadership and director of the Center for Leadership in Education (CLE), gave two presentations at the 2023 International Conference of Education, Research & Innovation (ICERI) in Seville, Spain. The first, with edu-

cational leadership alum **Peyton Anderson**, GC'20, focused on the CLE's Teacher LEAD partnership. The second focused on the CLE's Next Generation Leadership Academy (NGLA) regional model.

**Tracy Nicholson**, assistant professor & chair of human resource management, gave two presentations at the 2023 International Conference of Education, Research & Innovation (ICERI) in Seville, Spain. The first focused on graduate program responses to disruptive post-COVID changes in HR curricula and programs. The second focused on the changing role of HR leaders in our current post-COVID era.

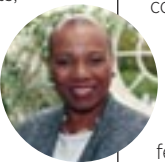
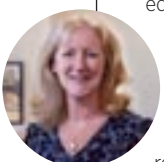
**Ann Hodges**, law professor emerita and chair of paralegal studies, is quoted in "27 Charlottesville High teachers called out of work after student violence. Was it a strike?" a recent article in the *Virginia Mercury*.

Education professor **Kate Cassada**, assistant chair of graduate education, authored "Out of School Time' Programs Offer K-12 Families Limitless Possibilities" in *Forbes* as part of her selection to the *Forbes* contributor network as a regular contributor in the education section of the popular media outlet.

**Adria Scharf**, SPCS Adjunct Assistant Professor of Nonprofit Studies and Associate Director of the Institute for Study of Employee Ownership and Profit Sharing, published "Worker Co-Ops in Health Care: Lessons from the Field" in *Non-profit Quarterly*. The article serves as a primer on worker co-ops in the health care field.

**Daniel L. Hocutt**, web manager and adjunct professor of liberal arts, presented "Mining Ourselves: Collaborative Autoethnography (CAE) as Methodology" with fellow Digital Life Institute researchers at the annual conference of the ACM Special Interest Group on Design of Communication.

**Lionel Mew**, assistant professor & chair of Information Systems





# Ask SPCS

Have a question for us?  
Shoot us an email at [spcs@richmond.edu](mailto:spcs@richmond.edu).

**Q: What types of career services are available to SPCS students?**



**A:** As an SPCS student, you have access to a full suite of Career Services. The SPCS Career Advisor can help with professional development topics such as resume writing/updating, job search strategy, networking, interviewing and more.

The Career Services Resource Library, located on the third floor of Tyler Haynes Commons, is also open for use during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. A wide variety of resources are available on cover résumé writing, career paths in various fields, and interviewing skills.

The best way to get started is to simply start. If you're a new student, schedule an appointment in your first semester. Early and often is best!



and Data Analytics, presented a paper titled "Leveraging Chat-GPT for Higher Education Course Offerings" with co-pre-senter William H. Money from The Citadel at the ISCAP Conference on Information Systems and Computing Education.

Education professor **Kate Cassada**, assistant chair of graduate education, authored "Nations Eager To Compete Must Account For What Impacts K-12 Students" in *Forbes* as part of her selection to the *Forbes* contributor network as a regular contributor in the education section of the popular media outlet.

Research by liberal arts professor **Erik Nielson** is highlighted in "Hip-hop on trial: When can a rapper's lyrics be used as evidence in a criminal case?" an article original published in *The Conversation* and picked up by the *EconoTimes*.

**Lionel Mew**, assistant professor & chair of Information Systems and Data Analytics, published "A Proposed Methodology to Teach Robotic Process Automation Analysis, Design and Development by Combining Project Based Learning and Lean Six Sigma" with co-author William Money from The Citadel in the *Information Systems Education Journal*.

**Daniel L. Hocutt**, R'92, G'98, web manager and adjunct professor of liberal arts, led a pre-conference workshop titled "Ethical Data Analytics: Investigating Data Analytics as a Pedagogical Tool" at SIGDOC 2023 in Orlando, Florida.

**David Kitchen**, SPCS associate dean and associate professor of geology, released the second edition of *Global Climate Change: Turning Knowledge into Action*, published by Routledge. The book investigates the scientific, environmental, social, political, and economic aspects of climate change.

Labor law expert **Ann Hodges**, law professor emerita and chair

of paralegal studies, was quoted in a recent online article published by the SHRM Executive Network titled "NLRB Decisions Curb Employers' Ability to Make Unilateral Changes."

**Laura Kuti**, assistant professor and chair of teacher education, co-authored a chapter in the edited collection *International Perspectives on School-University Partnerships* with **Deborah Napoli**, director of clinical practice for University education programs, and **Bob Spires**, associate professor of education. The chapter addressed the teacher shortage in Virginia.

Education professor **Kate Cassada**, director of the Center for Leadership in Education and chair of educational leadership in SPCS, was selected for the *Forbes* contributor network as a regular contributor in the education section of the popular media outlet. Cassada has agreed to contribute two articles to the platform each month with a focus on K-12 education decisions and practices.

**Tom Shields**, SPCS associate dean, education & leadership studies professor and chair of graduate education, presented "The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Leadership of Congressman Bobby Scott" at the Oxford Education Research Symposium held July 17-19 at St. Hilda's College of Oxford University.

**Jamelle S. Wilson**, dean of the School of Professional & Continuing Studies, has been elected board secretary of the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation. She joined the VECF board in 2020.

**Daniel L. Hocutt**, Adjunct Professor of Liberal Arts, has received the Frank R. Smith Distinguished Article Award for 2023 from the Society for Technical Communication. The award-winning article, co-written with professors from George Mason University and Central Michigan University, was published in November 2022.



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024!

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