

**Faith in the System:
Rebuilding Trust in Government in a Time a Complex Governing Challenges**

Ridenour Faculty Fellowship Conference & High Table Celebration

Presented by: Virginia Tech's School of Public and International Affairs and the Center for Public Administration and Policy

Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center

March 24-25, 2017

We are pleased to welcome you to an event that combines two great traditions: the Ridenour Faculty Fellowship and the long standing High Table Celebration in the Center for Public Administration and Policy. The event will span two days, March 24th and 25th, and will focus on the central theme of trust in government. The headlines in 2016 were dominated by major political events such 'Brexit' and the United States presidential election that highlighted polarized and frustrated national electorates. In addition, local and state governments faced complex issues from lead poisoning in the Flint, Michigan water supply, to confrontations between police and communities across the country, to protests on the indigenous grounds of Standing Rock in North Dakota. Over the past few years, the Gallop Poll has shown trust in our elected officials and public institutions at historic lows. What is next for governments at home and abroad coping with limited capacity to deliver services, protect citizens, and respond to economic and social crises?

Ridenour Faculty Fellowship

The Minnis E. Ridenour Faculty Fellowship is supported by an endowment gift from the Strickler Family of Harrisonburg, Virginia to honor Mr. Ridenour's service to Virginia Tech and the Commonwealth of Virginia and to foster the creative advancement of faculty and students in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) in public administration and policy, urban and regional planning, and government and international affairs. To further this goal, SPIA has initiated an annual program in the Ridenour name. The objective of this programming is to promote interdisciplinary discussion in order to overcome the disciplinary limitations in understanding social phenomena and in suggesting solutions to problems. The conference format features a combination of structured and free flowing conversation that allows new explorations of empirical research and conceptual ideas to emerge across disciplines. SPIA scholars strive to integrate scholarship and practice to continuously inform, question, and advance knowledge in the public sphere. The Ridenour Faculty Fellowship Conference provides a forum to advance this core mission.

CPAP's High Table Celebration

In 1986, the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP) adopted a tradition originating centuries ago at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, which brought together faculty and students in ceremonious fashion to share a meal together and listen to a lecture by a distinguished scholar. CPAP's High Table gathers faculty, students, alumni, and invited guests to hear, reflect upon, and discuss the work of a distinguished scholar whose work speaks to critically important dimensions of public administration and policy. We see High Table as a celebration of the life of the mind: an occasion for reflecting on the special nature of scholarly thought and a life dedicated to the pursuit and sharing of knowledge. At the same time, High Table evokes CPAP's commitment to praxis; our mission is to promote good governance and the advancement of capable and ethical public service. The roster of our past High Table speakers evinces this:

1986 Dwight Waldo	1994 James G. March	2002 H. George Frederickson	2010 Christopher Hood
1987 Norton Long	1995 Martha Derthick	2003 David Rosenbloom	2011 Barry Rabe
1988 Harold Seidman	1996 Patricia Ingraham	2004 Deborah Stone	2012 James C. Scott
1989 Philip Selznick	1997 Donald F. Kettl	2005 Gary Wamsley	2013 Dvora Yanow
1990 Aaron Wildavsky	1998 Paul Light	2006 Phillip Cooper	2014 Kenneth J. Meier
1991 Louis Gawthrop	1999 Theda Skocpol	2007 Richard Box	2015 Frances S. Berry
1992 Charles Lindblom	2000 Laurence E. Lynn	2008 Melvin Dubnick	2016 David Van Slyke
1993 James Q. Wilson	2001 Samuel Myers	2009 Rosemary O'Leary	

Program

Friday, March 24

9:00-9:30 AM: Registration/Check In

Location: Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center Lobby

Refreshment Service - available throughout the day

9:30-10:00 AM: Opening Remarks

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

Dr. Anne Khademian, Director, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

Mr. Minnis Ridenour, Senior Fellow for Resource Development, Virginia Tech

10:00-11:00 AM: Keynote: Once Burned Forever Distrustful? Flint and Public Trust in Government

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

Keynote speaker: Dr. Marc Edwards, Charles P. Lunsford Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Virginia Tech

11:00-11:45 AM: Follow-up Discussant Panel: Where Are the Public Intellectuals? Discussing the Role of Academics and Scientists in the Public Arena

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

Following Dr. Edwards's keynote presentation about his experiences with the Flint Water Crisis, this discussion will focus on different types of knowledge, the notion of public intellectuality, and the role of academic and government scientists in addressing public problems. A central question will be whether academics, scholars, and scientists can use their work to advocate for certain outcomes and whether the public is inclined to place trust in those actors. Finally, we will explore the ways in which certain types of knowledge and expertise can be framed as political or debatable, and how that impacts the public's trust in the experts that present it.

Moderator: Dr. Steve Hankey, Assistant Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

Panelists:

Dr. Marc Edwards, Charles P. Lunsford Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Virginia Tech

Dr. Jonah Fogel, Adjunct Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy; Director, Land Use Education Program, Virginia Tech

Dr. Max Stephenson, Professor, School of Public and International Affairs; Director, Institute for Policy and Governance, Virginia Tech

Dr. Susan Sterett, Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy, Virginia Tech

12:00-1:15 PM: Lunch and a Discussion with Dr. Christopher Foreman

Location: Latham Ballroom A, Inn at Virginia Tech

Moderator: Dr. Laura Jensen, Associate Professor and Chair, Center for Public Administration and Policy, Virginia Tech

Lunch Speaker: Dr. Christopher Foreman, Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland; Non-resident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

1:15-2:30 PM: Breakout Session for Washington Semester Students

Location: Solitude Room, Inn at Virginia Tech

1:30-2:30 PM: Trust and New Technology in Governance: How the Age of Big Data, E-governance and Smart Cities Impact Trust in Government

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

In a day and age when governance at all levels seems to be inextricably linked to technology, and technology is advancing at an unprecedented pace, there must be consideration of how this all impacts trust in government. The era of smart cities, e-governance, and big data holds many promises, but what are the risks also posed to the public by these new technologies? This panel discussion will explore the implications of these new systems, as well as how dependence on technology impacts trust in government.

Moderator: Dr. Todd Schenk, Assistant Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

Panelists:

Dr. Sara Jordan, Assistant Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy, Virginia Tech

Dr. Saul Halfon, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Science and Technology Studies, Virginia Tech

Dr. Tom Skuzinski, Assistant Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

2:45-3:45 PM: The Future of Work and Income in an Era of Economic Inequality

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

Forces of globalization and rapid technological change, along with an overall decline in pay and wages have resulted in the perception of a stagnant post-recession economic recovery. Emphasis on economic inequality was persistent in the 2016 presidential election along with promises to bring back jobs and industries that once supported the American Dream. This panel will examine these major socio-economic and political shifts, and discuss what could be done to reduce economic inequality and reestablish trust in government.

Moderator: Dr. Ralph Hall, Associate Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

Panelists:

Dr. Virgil A. Wood, Pastor Emeritus, Pond Street Baptist Church; Former Dean, Northeastern University; Former ten-year working associate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Joyce Rothschild, Professor, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

Dr. Christian Matheis, Visiting Assistant Professor, Government and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

4:00-5:00 PM: Closing Panel Discussion - A Time of Complex Governing Challenges

This concluding panel will explore the question of how we restore and retain trust in government and public institutions in a time of such complex challenges and wicked problems. Panelists will discuss the roles of both government and the public in a functional democracy, and explore the question, “what makes the good society?”

Location: Alumni Assembly Hall, Inn at Virginia Tech

Moderator: Dr. Joseph Rees, Associate Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy; Coordinator, CPAP Richmond, Virginia Tech

Panelists:

Dr. David Bieri, Associate Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

Dr. Matthew Dull, Associate Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy, Virginia Tech

Dr. Karen Hult, Professor, Center for Public Administration and Policy; Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science, Virginia Tech

Dr. Ralph Buehler, Associate Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech

Saturday March 25

9:00-10:00 AM: Continental Breakfast Honoring CPAP Alumni

Location: Thomas-Conner House

10:00-10:30 AM: Pi Alpha Alpha Induction Ceremony

Location: Thomas-Conner House

10:30-11:45 AM: Roundtable: “Deconstructing the Administrative State”? Views on the Transition and American Governance

Location: Thomas-Conner House

This session will explore issues related to the state of the American state under the new presidential administration. Participants will each offer short comments (maximum five minutes), then open the discussion to all attendees.

11:45 AM-12:15 PM: High Table Procession to Owens Banquet Hall

12:30-2:15 PM: High Table Luncheon and Keynote Address: Scholarship for Citizenship: A Public Affairs Research Odyssey

Location: Owens Banquet Hall

Keynote speaker: Dr. Christopher Foreman, Professor, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland; Non-resident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

Dr. Marc Edwards



Marc Edwards is the Charles Lunsford Professor of Civil Engineering at Virginia Tech, where he teaches courses in environmental engineering, applied aquatic chemistry and engineering ethics. His research group aspires to pursue science as a public good, through laboratory work on practically important but underfunded topics such as corrosion in buildings and opportunistic premise-plumbing pathogens—that work laid the groundwork for investigative science uncovering the 2001-2004 D.C. Lead Crisis and the 2014-2016 Flint Water Disaster. Time Magazine dubbed Edwards “The Plumbing Professor” in 2004, and listed him amongst the 4 most important “Innovators” in water from around the world. The White House awarded him a Presidential Faculty Fellowship in 1996 and he won a MacArthur Fellowship in 2007. His paper on lead poisoning of children in Washington D.C., due to elevated lead in drinking water, was judged the outstanding science paper in Environmental Science and Technology in 2010.

In 2013 Edwards was the 9th recipient (in a quarter century) of the IEEE Barus Award for “*courageously defending the public interest at great personal risk.*” In 2016 he was named amongst TIME Magazine’s 100 Most Influential people in the World, the World’s 50 Greatest Leaders by Fortune Magazine, Politico Magazine’s Top 50 visionaries who have transformed American politics, and Foreign Policy Magazines 100 World’s Greatest Thinkers. He was short-listed for Time Person(s) of the Year 2016.

Dr. Christopher Foreman



Chris Foreman is professor and director of the social policy program at the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy, where he teaches courses on political institutions and the politics of inequality. Professor Foreman came to the school in 2000 after more than a decade at the Brookings Institution, where he continues as a non-resident senior fellow in the governance studies program.

His book *Signals from the Hill: Congressional Oversight and the Challenge of Social Regulation* (Yale University Press, 1988) won the 1989 D.B. Hardeman Prize for the best book on Congress. Dr. Foreman is also the author of *Plagues, Products and Politics: Emergent Public Health Hazards and National Policymaking* (Brookings, 1994). In *The Promise and Peril of Environmental Justice* (Brookings, 1998), Professor Foreman addresses the opportunities and constraints facing advocates and policymakers in the search for environmental equity. He is also the editor of *The African American Predicament* (Brookings, 1999). His interests include the politics of health, race, regulation, and government reform. Professor Foreman taught previously at American University. He served on the board of governors of *The Nature Conservancy* from 1999 to 2005, and was a Fulbright Scholar in Armenia in 2008-2009.

Dr. Virgil A. Wood



Picture: Dr. Virgil A Wood and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., April 1965

Dr. Virgil Wood, church leader, educator, and civil rights activist has committed much of his life's work to the struggle for economic and spiritual development among the nation's disadvantaged. Ordained as a Baptist Minister in his late teens, Wood has served churches for over 50 years, in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Virginia. During his Pastorate in Lynchburg, Virginia, he became actively involved with the Civil Rights movement, setting up the Martin Luther King work there as the Lynchburg Improvement Association, a local unit of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. From 1963 to 1970, Wood led the Blue Hill Christian Center, of Boston's Roxbury community, as its Pastoral Director, and head of the Mass. Unit, SCLC. He served with Martin Luther King, Jr., as a member of his National Executive Board of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for the last ten years of Dr. King's life and work, and coordinated the State of Virginia in the Historic March on Washington April 28, 1963. A 1956 graduate of Andover Newton Theological School with a Master of Divinity degree, he received his Doctorate in Education from Harvard University, in 1973, where two of his major Professors were Organization Development Expert Dr. Chris Argyris, and Achievement Motivation Expert Dr. David McClellan. As an educator, he served as Dean and Director, the African American Institute, and Associate Professor of Northeastern University at Boston, and had been a Professor at Virginia Seminary and College, in Lynchburg, and a visiting Lecturer, Research and Teaching Fellow at Harvard University.

Dr. Wood has many notable accomplishments. As an administrator for Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, founded by Dr. Leon H. Sullivan, a job training organization serving disadvantaged and under skilled Americans of all races, he assisted in founding and establishing 13 OIC centers in eight southern states, and in Boston, Massachusetts. Wood also served as a panelist and member of three White House Conferences under the Johnson, Nixon, and Carter Administrations. Among Wood's publications are *Introduction to Black Church Economic Studies*, (Sparks Press: Raleigh, N. C., 1974), *Originator* and contributing editor, *The Jubilee Bible*, (American Bible Society, New York, 1999, and 2012); and author, *In Love We Trust: Lessons I Learned From Martin Luther King*, published by (Beckham House, Silver Spring, Maryland, February, 2005). He has combined his dual career in Church Leadership and Education with a life-long commitment to community development as economic and spiritual transformation. A former member of the Economic Development Task Force of the National Conference of Black Mayors, he also has served his national denomination as the first Chairman of its Economic Development Commission, the Progressive National Baptist Convention, and as a consultant to the National Business League during the presidency of Dr. Berkley Burrell. He is currently working to shape functional and substantial Faith Inspired Initiatives. Dr. Wood is Pastor Emeritus of the Pond Street Baptist Church, which he served from 1983 to 2005, and previously from 1955 to 1958. He concluded his Pastoral Ministry there December 31, 2005, having served Pond Street for 25 years. He is joyfully married to the former Lillian Walker, and they are the parents of Deborah and David, and grandparents of Christopher and Jordan.