

# THE CAVALIER DAILY

Vol. 133, Issue 11

Thursday, February 23, 2023

ADAIRE BURNSED, KEN MICHAEL FABIA, AVA PROEHL & ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

## DECADES IN THE MAKING



Students to vote on historic multi-sanction constitution,  
contested race for Student Council president

ADVERTISEMENT

**Stream on a school night.**

Get Showtime for \$0.99  
with Prime Student.

Redeem Now

prime student

SHOWTIME



[amazon.com/joinstudent](https://amazon.com/joinstudent)

# NEWS

## This week in-brief

CD News Staff

### Charlottesville property values pose continued threat to affordable student housing

Since 2021, housing costs in Charlottesville have increased 25 percent, per a report from the City Assessor's Office released at the end of January. In 2023 alone, residential properties increased by an average of 11.5 percent. The costs reflect an increase in home market value which could lead to increases in property taxes for homeowners.

For students searching for off-Grounds housing in an already competitive housing market, the increase in taxes might affect rent values, per City Assessor Jeffrey Davis.

"If rents increase to offset these tax increases, it certainly would have an impact on anyone — not just U.Va. students," Davis said, "Anyone who rents would see higher rent payments due to these increased [property value] assessments."

A major factor of the increase, Davis said, is the low supply but high demand in the residential market. As of 2022, roughly 74 percent of University students choose to live off-Grounds after their first year — just under 12,500 students who must find housing in Charlottesville.

Second-year College student Tyler Kennedy moved out of dorms after her first year and said she chose to live off-Grounds in an apartment because she wanted to be close to the Corner. According to Kennedy, the high demand has complicated the process.

Kennedy said she wished the City of Charlottesville and the University would do more to help make housing affordable for students in the wake of the increasing cost of living, such as implementing price ceilings.

### Leah Puryear selected to fill vacant Charlottesville City Council seat in unanimous vote

Charlottesville City Council announced current Charlottesville School Board member Leah Puryear will fill the seat that was left vacant after previous Council member Sena McGill resigned in January for family reasons. Puryear's term will begin Feb. 27 and end Dec. 31.

Puryear was one of 20 applicants and six finalists considered for the position. She currently serves as a member of the Charlottesville School Board and has worked in higher education administration for over 40 years, including at the University.

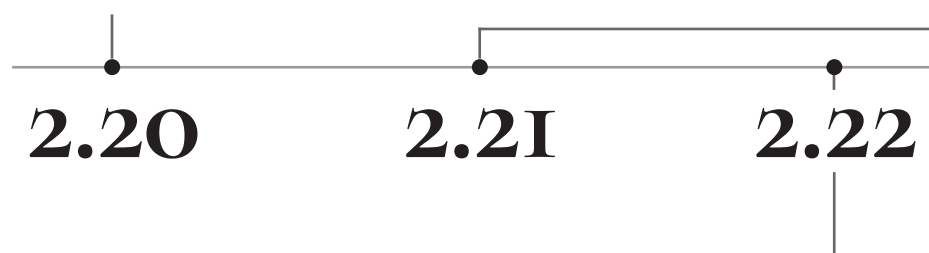
In a City Council meeting Feb. 6, Puryear said that through her work with Uplift, she gained experience coordinating with Council.

"I've worked with you on budgets, not only for the city schools, but also for some of the nonprofit organizations that I have worked with," Puryear. "I have developed relationships and these relationships will carry over."

The vote to elect Puryear to the Council seat, conducted in open session, passed unanimously. In preparation for the vote, there was a closed session meeting Monday during which all finalists were given an individual interview.

Council member Brian Pinkston said the final selection was difficult.

"I appreciate the people that did spend the time and the effort to put in an application to come and sit down with us," said Pinkston. "It was a challenging decision because there were so many good people, but I'm grateful to have Ms. Puryear up here with us for the rest of the term."



### UVa. Law alumnus Jennifer McClellan to be first Black woman to represent Virginia in Congress

Democrat Jennifer McClellan, a Class of 1997 Law alumna, was elected to represent Virginia's fourth district — comprising Richmond and surrounding counties — in U.S. Congress Tuesday. McClellan will be the first Black woman and fourth Black person in history to represent Virginia in Congress.

McClellan defeated Republican nominee Leon Benjamin with 74.3 percent of the popular vote in a special election to fill the seat vacated after the death of Rep. and Law alumnus A. Donald McEachin in November.

In her victory speech, McClellan called for bipartisan action towards improving not only Virginia, but the United States as a whole.

"Together, we can prove that when we come together and we care more about doing the work and solving problems than the sound bites, we can help people," McClellan said. "We will make this commonwealth and this country a better place."

Prior to her appointment to U.S. Congress, McClellan served as vice chair of the Virginia Legislature's Black Caucus and Senator for district nine in the Virginia House of Delegates. Her election platform emphasized the economy, voting rights, abortion access and environmental action.



SCOTT MILES | THE CAVALIER DAILY

McClellan was appointed in a special election Tuesday in the wake of Representative and Law alumnus A. Donald McEachin's Nov. 21 death

# Student Council Candidate Survey

Student Council	In light of spring budget being passed recently, do you feel that the money is being allocated in ways that best support students?	Do you think that Student Council was successful in supporting students following the events of Nov. 13th?	Do you feel that students are adequately aware of Student Council's initiatives and opportunities?
Holly Sims	YES	YES	NO
Imane Akhanous	YES	YES	NO
Andreas Masiakos	YES	YES	NO
Charles Liu	NO	YES	NO
Makana Brooks	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tichara Roberston	YES	YES	YES
Lillian Rojas	YES	YES	NO
Vidar Hageman	NO	NO	NO
Chistopher Joseph	YES	YES	NO
Jason Almas	YES	YES	NO
Ryan Bowers	YES	YES	NO
Tenzin Lodoe	YES	NO	NO
Maryam Virk	NO	YES	NO
Violette Cadet	YES	YES	NO

## Honor Committee

Are you in favor of the referenda put forth by the current Honor Committee?

YES	NO
Kasra Lekan	Alexandra Church
Laura Howard	
Lukas Lehman	
Kellen Narke	
Jonathan Swap	
Hamza Aziz	
Brianna Kamdoun	
Rachel Liesegang	
Scott Durkin	Did not answer:
Nishita Ghanate	Max Baskin

Are you in favor of expulsion as a sanction?

YES	NO
Kasra Lekan	Alexandra Church
Lukas Lehman	Laura Howard
Kellen Narke	Jonathan Swap
Hamza Aziz	
Brianna Kamdoun	
Rachel Liesegang	
Scott Durkin	Did not answer:
Nishita Ghanate	Max Baskin

Do you believe that the Constitutional Convention did an adequate job providing members from the University community a chance to participate in drafting a multi-sanction system?

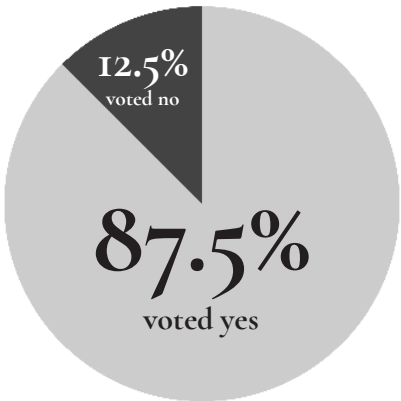
YES	NO
Laura Howard	Alexandra Church
Jonathan Swap	Kasra Lekan
Brianna Kamdoun	Lukas Lehman
Scott Durkin	Hamza Aziz
	Rachel Liesegang
	Nishita Ghanate

Did not answer: Max Baskin, Kellen Narke

## University Judiciary Committee

- Melinda Wong
- Ronith Ranjan
- Ineke La Fleur
- Lisa Kopelnik
- Benjamin Summers
- Anna Prillaman
- Allison McVey
- Jason Almas

Do you think that students' trust in UJC has improved following recent hazing cases?



Do you feel that the sanctions for recent cases have been effective?



Do you believe that students are well informed about the role of UJC at the University?



# Student Council presidential candidates share campaigns

Voting opens Feb. 28 and closes March 2

Thomas Baxter, Merrill Hart, Eleanor Jenkins & Avery Donmoyer | CD News Staff

Three candidates are running for Student Council president this year — third-year College students Vidar Hageman, Tenzin Lodoe and Tichara Robertson. The candidates will begin campaigning Friday, bringing distinct perspectives to key issues including minority representation, policing and gun-control, the Board of Visitors and engagement between students and administration.

All candidates must reach a minimum of 100 campaign signatures by Thursday in order to appear on the ballot. Prior to elections opening Feb. 28, The Cavalier Daily and the University Board of Elections will host a debate between the candidates Monday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In addition to Student Council positions, representatives to the Honor Committee and University Judiciary Committee will appear on the ballot. The Honor Committee is also putting forth a historic multi-sanction constitution.

Voting will run until March 2 and results will be announced March 3. The election will be conducted online using voting service BigPulse. A more detailed calendar is available on the UBE website.

**“Clear communication and understanding” — Vidar Hageman**

Safety and community engagement are at the heart of Hageman’s campaign. Hageman said he hopes to remedy what he sees as a lack of cohesion within the University fueled by partisanship and extremism.

“I don’t think this is political when it comes to making things more transparent, more equitable, more and more accessible,” Hageman said. “[I want to] parse those divides and keep out the interest groups and extremism that try to sow discord.”

**Transparency:** Hageman said he hopes to increase student engagement with law enforcement. He plans to work with Timothy Longo, associate vice president for safety and security and chief of police, to increase student trust in the police. Hageman plans to connect the Student Police Accountability Board and Chief Longo through regular town hall meetings. By building a more transparent system, Hageman aims to create a more equitable police department while maintaining student safety.

“I met with Chief Longo and he said he hadn’t had any contact with students,” Hageman said. “So on day one, I’ll bring in Chief Longo for accountability so students can face him, ask questions [and] grill as necessary on what he’s doing to have an equitable police department but also keep people safe.”

Hageman also hopes to implement a working syllabus bank into SIS so students can get a better idea of potential course loads and costs prior to signing up for classes. He aims to establish greater transparency around endowment funds

and tuition fees, which he wants to be publicly projected three years in advance.

“No student should be priced out in the middle of their education,” Hageman said.

**Student Council leadership:** To increase student engagement with Student Council, Hageman said he hopes to take a hands-on approach by visiting multiple student organizations each week and attending as many community service events as possible.

Hageman also wants to “be at the forefront of pushing the Department’s Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) efforts” and provide direct discussions and safety training for students and student groups.

Within Student Council, Hageman said he would push for monthly updates and statistics on the progress of the University’s 2030 Strategic Plan, which includes outlines for mandatory second-year housing, talent retention and facility renovations.

For Hageman, success for Student Council involves better attendance at general body meetings, stronger relationships between faculty and students and a student body that is proud of their Student Council, not apathetic.

“If we’re able to bring just a couple of new ideas to the table that hadn’t gotten brought up or haven’t gotten pushed for, that’s something that I would like to do,” Hageman said. “That would be a success for me, and for the rest of the University.”

**Fix the advising system:** In response to widespread complaints over the University’s advising system — which does not pair students with advisors in a relevant department until they declare their major — Hageman said he would look to pair students with specialized advisors earlier on and would consider adding advisors who are not professors.

Hageman believes professors’ teaching and research duties can distract them from their advisees, and that expanding the pool of advisors for undeclared students would provide students with higher quality guidance.

“Even if it’s a TA or a fourth-year — someone who has some knowledge of this process can help guide the first and second years along when they’re selecting their majors and I think that’s really important,” Hageman said.

**“A new perspective” — Tenzin Lodoe**

As a fall transfer student from Northern Virginia Community College, Lodoe hopes to use his experience as Student Body President at NVCC to be successful as University Student Council President. He plans to prioritize relationships with University administration and local government to tackle goals such as securing a voting position for the student member of the BOV and passing campus safety legislation. Additionally, he promises to interact with the student body through collaboration,

communication and compassion.

“I’ve talked to many first-generation college students, talked to a lot of my friends who are transfer or international students,” Lodoe said. “Sometimes they feel like an outsider. By voting a transfer student as president, I think they could have a sense of feeling ‘I too, can be successful here.’”

Lodoe’s ticket includes Christopher Joseph, Class of 2025 President and second-year College student, as Vice President for Administration and Ryan Bowers, second-year College student and Student Council Appropriations Committee member, as Vice President for Organizations.

**Support:** Lodoe hopes to increase student engagement with Student Council through monthly town halls, more advertisements and mid-term polls. For Lodoe, success will be measured by these polls and any increases in voter turnout in the next Student Council elections.

“I think if I’m able to take one step, one large step forward towards getting student votes, or introducing policy or passing policy for Grounds safety, that will inspire students,” Lodoe said. “My true report card if elected as Student Council President will be the following year and whether or not voter turnout has increased substantially.”

Another support initiative is implementing the use of the Headspace meditation app as a pilot program to improve holistic wellness on Grounds. Timely-Care and CAPS already offer mental health services, which Lodoe says are effective, but he sees Headspace as a way to offer preventive care. He aims to offer Headspace appointments at a reduced cost through a test program in order to test if demand is high enough to offer the service to all students.

**Connect:** Lodoe wants to focus on cooperation with state legislators to push for a student vote on the Board of Visitors. Currently, the student representative to the Board offers advice and communicates the student perspective, but is a nonvoting member.

“I think bringing the vote to the student member of the [Board] is the solution to many issues that the student body faces,” Lodoe said. “If we truly want true self governance we need as students a voice on the most powerful authorizing body at the college.”

Lodoe said his plans would require a great deal of trust and communication with administration, which he hopes to make a top priority through frequent meetings and conversations.

He would also look to implement a PILOT program — like the one recently called for by Student Council — that requires the University to pay the Charlottesville government in lieu of taxes. He said such a program would help to improve local education and housing options.

**Engage:** As state legislators move to create gun legislation — such as SB 1484, an attempt to ban firearms at Virginia higher education institutions before being tabled in the House — Lodoe hopes to see more minority groups being included in these conversations over legislation.

Lodoe reaffirmed safety as a central priority and said he will continue to advocate for student groups to have a voice in gun regulations on Grounds as a key part of his platform.

“I want to collaborate with state legislators and with minority CIOs to introduce a policy that has the consent and all the viewpoints of all stakeholders involved,” Lodoe said.

Echoing recurring calls from student environmental advocacy groups for the University to divest from fossil fuels, Lodoe voiced support for the movement and promised to use his stakeholder connections to take action against such companies.

**“Working with and for everyone at UVA.” — Tichara Robertson**

Robertson is running for president to further the work she has done as Student Council Chief of Support and Access Services — an executive board position charged with providing student services — and representative for the College of Arts and Sciences. Robertson cited financial accessibility and minority experiences as key platform points, and she hopes to improve accountability and engagement between Student Council and the student body.

Robertson will be running on a ticket with Holly Sims, Chief of Cabinet and Lead Policy Advocate and fourth-year Batten student, as Vice President for Administration and Violette Cadet, Chair pro tempore and third-year Batten student, as Vice President for Organizations.

**Uplift:** With experience as the president of the Minority Rights Coalition — an umbrella group which oversees ten other minority community organizations such as the Asian Student Union, the Black Student Alliance and the Cultural Organization for Latin Americans — Robertson hopes to create more identity-based communities, including a first-year dorm option specific to Black students.

“First year is really critical to developing one’s sense of belonging... and I think for Black students this is especially hard because their communities aren’t always within immediate spaces of residence,” Robertson said. “I think bringing that opportunity for Black students to create community with each other in the first year is really important.”

Robertson also plans to lobby for increased in-person racial minority and LGBTQ+ mental health services through the University’s Counseling and Psychological Services. She said TimelyCare has helped provide students with diverse

healthcare providers but noted that virtual appointments can be a deterrent for some students.

“Community, especially of recent times, has been vital to making UVA a safe and welcoming space, and Student Council needs to advocate for and on behalf of these ongoing initiatives,” Robertson said.

**Accessibility:** Student Financial Services covers 100 percent of demonstrated need, calculating expected family contribution through federal guidelines and University policies. Robertson, however, will demand that SFS recalculate the existing definition of EFC in order to make evaluations more comprehensive. She said she will also work towards supporting UVA Mutual Aid — an organization working to create a more equitable University — and its ongoing initiative to create a store with free food, as well as implement classes teaching financial skills such as tax filing and obtaining food stamps.

“We’re seeing sort of a shift in what students can pay for and there are just more financial barriers to students now,” Robertson said. “It’s time to finally address what demonstrated needs [are] and change the standards to best fit students.”

Robertson also proposed investigating the sustainability of the Support and Access Services Branch. The SAS Branch is a collection of services offered through Student Council which aid low-income students through free legal aid, low-cost transportation, loaner textbooks, outpatient mental health grants and more.

“As we work to institutionalize the SAS Branch as an integral function of Student Council and at the University, it is important to us that it remains in the hands of students,” Robertson said. “In the spirit of self-governance, the SAS Branch should continue to exist under the philosophy of community support — students must always support students.”

**Solidarity:** Besides diversity and financial accessibility initiatives, Robertson plans to create a new representative leadership position on Student Council to facilitate communication between the representative body and University faculty members and ensure that representatives hold regular office hours with the student body.

“As opposed to absolving these responsibilities to other leadership positions, this new position will allow for an intense focus on Representative accountability to the community,” Robertson said. “The Representative Body will always work best when it is directly working with and for everyone at UVA.”

*Questions for these candidates on their policy positions or goals? Submit a question for The Cavalier Daily and University Board of Elections debate between presidential candidates and VPA and VPO candidates online.*



# Decades in the making: the multi-sanction system

A new constitution reintroduces expulsion to the Honor system as well as other new sanctions

Ashley Mosby | Staff Writer

When the University opened their doors to the first class of students March 7, 1825, the first group of young men on Grounds signed their names in a matriculation book — while the ink dried on the page, the men made a pledge not to lie to a professor or cheat on any exams. This basic promise would be the first iteration of the honor system that students pledge to almost 200 years later.

In the decades that followed, the honor system would undergo a number of transformative changes, from the establishment of an official Honor Committee in 1912 to procedural modifications that established two-committee processes, random student juries and investigating panels.

Since 1825, one thing has remained the same — the Committee has always operated under a single-sanction system. Critiques of single sanction and questions about a multi-sanction are not new, though. In 1971, the Committee expelled a student for stealing Coke cans from a vending machine. The next day, the Committee nullified the decision the next day following student uproar.

The notorious “Coke Case” sparked debates about single-sanction that resulted in the formation of “Hoos Against Single Sanction” in 2005 and culminated with the constitution on the ballot today.

This referenda marks the closest the Committee has come to a multi-sanction system in history. Voting on the Committee’s referendum opens Tuesday and closes Thursday.

If passed in the student body vote, the new constitution will be the first successful multi-sanction legislation since the Honor system’s induction in 1842.

In order for the new constitution to take effect, at least three-fifths of students must vote in favor, provided that at least ten percent of the entire eligible

voting population votes in favor of such an amendment.

The new constitution outlines a number of changes, the largest of which is an expansion of possible sanctions which includes but is not limited to a two-semester leave of absence, expulsion, education and amends. These new sanctions will be applied on a case-by-case basis — there is currently no framework for what qualifies for each of these sanctions.

## Laying the groundwork

Last spring, a student referendum was passed in the student body elections which reduced the single sanction from expulsion to a two-semester leave of absence. After unsuccessful attempts to pass the referendum within the Committee because of low attendance at Committee meetings, third-year Law student Rep. Christopher Benos authored the referendum separately from the Committee and submitted it to the UBE.

Benos created a working group and ultimately gathered more than 1,600 signatures in order to get the proposal on the ballot.

Prior to this, no efforts to alter the sanction of expulsion had been successful, even after nearly a dozen attempts since the Honor Committee’s adoption of a formal constitution in 1977.

Gabrielle Bray, chair of the Committee and fourth-year College student, said last spring’s referendum was a stepping stone to the multi-sanction system.

“It was always seen as the compromise and not the final endpoint for the Honor system,” Bray said. “I felt coming into this role like the political momentum was finally there.”

## The Convention

In September, Bray announced plans for an Honor Constitutional Convention. Her aim was to solicit feedback from students in drafting official language for a multi-sanction

system. Bray sent an email inviting Contracted Independent Organizations to respond if they were interested in partaking in the Convention. Ultimately, 30 CIOs out of over 600 sent delegates to the Convention.

The original plan for the Convention was to hold nine sessions in which delegates would discuss the Community of Trust, sanctions and the equity of the Constitution. In October, the Convention was postponed after Committee members raised concerns about representation — specifically from graduate schools — and said they felt the planning for the Convention had been rushed. Committee members also critiqued the exclusion of Special Status Organizations like the University Judiciary Committee and Student Council.

The Convention was pushed back again in December after the shooting in November. After winter break, roughly 20 of the 30 original delegates met before classes started and drafted four possible proposals for a multi-sanction system. The Committee discussed each proposal in the Jan. 29 meeting but ultimately landed on a referendum of their own creation.

## Expulsion on the table again

Bray said she sees a multi-sanction system — with case outcomes tailored to the individual offenses — as more conducive to rehabilitation and honorable behavior than the previous system.

According to Bray, this is especially important in light of the disproportionate sanctioning of international students over domestic students. On average, international students were 18 percent more likely to be sanctioned by Honor compared to domestic students as of 2017 — and low-income students.

“You want a system based on people, making them into a Community of Trust,” Bray said. “People who wanted something like multi-sanction probably shouldn’t be the biggest fan of the current single sanction [of a two semes-

ter leave of absence] either, especially because [of] the way it disproportionately harms international students and lower income students.”

Bray said that the University is currently the only higher institution in the country that lacks expulsion as an outcome of an Honor violation. The decision to bring back expulsion, though, has been a source of contention during Committee discussions.

Bray also said that, while expulsion is sometimes necessary, she envisions the sanction being used only in extreme circumstances.

“I understand why people are concerned about expulsion coming back, but I think I ask that they recognize that expulsion is all about the minority of cases where a student has done something truly heinous and has no desire to make amends,” Bray said.

In last year’s vote, 80.5 percent of student voters supported the Honor amendment that reduced the single sanction of expulsion to a two-semester leave of absence. Second-year College student Ben Wieland said he questions the Committee’s choice to bring back expulsion following last year’s historic vote to remove it as a sanction.

“I felt like the student body pretty definitively voted that they did not want expulsion to be an option as a penalty... which I thought sent a pretty clear message to those on our Committee and just generally to the community about how the student body felt,” Wieland said.

On the other hand, some students see expulsion as an integral aspect of the University’s historic honor system. Expulsion has been the sanction since the first recorded Honor trial in 1851 and the system’s inception in 1842.

Second-year College student Ryland Wilson said he feels that many students feel too comfortable cheating, and a system with consequential outcomes is necessary to curtail this behavior.

“I think the UVa. Honor system, until last year, had been this very strong tradition,” Wilson said. “And it feels like now if we start rolling back elements of the UVa. Honor code, it’s something that’s less special and that’s no longer the model for other universities and even high schools to look up to.”

## Guilt and sanctioning panels

In addition to including expulsion as a sanction, the constitution also implements a panel that will decide guilt and a panel that will decide sanctions. On the panel for guilt — made up of five Committee members and seven randomly selected students — five-sevenths of the student portion of the panel would have to decide that the offense calls for expulsion and other “permanent sanctions.”

The five Committee members on the panel for guilt will decide sanctions

in the sanctioning panel. Currently, there is only a panel for guilt made up solely of students, solely of Committee members or both at the accused student’s discretion. The panel for guilt determines guilt and sanctioning under the current system.

Fourth-year College student Rep. Hannah Shapiro said that including expulsion and requiring five-sevenths of students to vote for permanent sanction improves the integrity of student self-governance.

“I do think that students should reserve the right to determine the individuals that they want to have in the community,” Shapiro said. “It’s in the student’s best interest to have the most expansive use of student self-governance possible.”

Cici Liu, delegate of the Platypus Society and fourth-year College student, was surprised to see that the sanctioning panel would not include students. Liu was a delegate at the Honor Constitutional Convention and played a role in the drafting of the new constitution.

“I suppose I was still operating under the assumption that a trial by jury of your peers would still stand as a principle for both panels,” Liu said. “I was surprised by that.”

In addition to debating the inclusion of expulsion as a sanction, Committee members chose to maintain “beyond a reasonable doubt” as the standard of evidence for guilt.

The standard of evidence used in Honor offenses was a source of debate amongst Committee members. Some Committee members, including second-year Law Rep. Daniel Elliott, lobbied for a lower standard of evidence, citing that evidence “beyond a reasonable doubt” would affect the efficiency of trials.

Fourth-year College student Rep. Sullivan McDowell — a co-author for the new constitution — felt that the standard of evidence should be beyond a reasonable doubt as it will be more reflective of what the students want. McDowell was previously in favor of a “clear and convincing” standard, which dictates that evidence should be clear and explicit without substantial doubt.

“This new system and [evidence] beyond a reasonable doubt was what I thought would make students more comfortable,” McDowell said.

Through the recent debate, Bray ultimately hopes the new constitution will prioritize the rebuilding of the Community of Trust, and restore integrity and pride in the Honor system.

“We’ve always prided UVa. on having a unique and historic honor system,” Bray said. “It is something we can be beyond proud of because of what it does for our community.”



ADAIRE BURNSED | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Voting will take place through the online voting service BigPulse and results will be announced March 3.

# LIFE

## Top 10 ways to connect with Grounds and Charlottesville

As the cold weather begins to subside, it's time to get outside and immerse yourself in everything Charlottesville.

Sam Saks | Top 10 Writer

### 1. Explore Shenandoah's Skyline

At the heart of Virginia lies the Blue Ridge Mountains of Shenandoah National Park, a true beauty that's sure to have everyone, not just the nature enthusiasts, in awe. Take a step away from Grounds and watch the rolling hills from the comfort of your — or a friend's — car along the Skyline Drive. You can also step out from behind the wheel and explore the park's hiking trails. The Outdoors Club features hiking experiences in Shenandoah and provides transportation to and from the park for members. We all know that the University is gorgeous, but this is a gem you don't want to miss — the views I saw the summer when I toured the University were unforgettable.



ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

### 2. Enjoy a night on the town — the Downtown

Let's face it, we could all use a few meals away from the dining halls or your college house kitchen every now and then. If you're looking to spice things up, head to the Downtown Mall — just a trolley ride away — for a bite outside. Kick back and enjoy some good grub with some good company. One of my favorite restaurants there is The Whiskey Jar — make sure to order their delicious hushpuppies to kickstart your meal with a tasty Southern delight.

### 3. Chill on the Lawn

We all know the Lawn — we have been there, we have seen it as the University's top Google image result, and if you are a fourth-year, you are probably itching to walk it soon. Even though the Lawn is central to Grounds, how often do we actually spend time hanging out there? Roll out a blanket and spend an afternoon on the Lawn by yourself or with friends — I personally enjoy some downtime listening to music on my AirPods and unwinding after a long week of classes. Read a book, catch up on some work or just be.

### 4. Check out a farmer's market

Bring your appetite and artistic eye off-Grounds. Only a five-minute drive from us, the Farmer's Market at IX Art Park features locally-made produce, baked goods and hand-crafted art. From pottery to beads and from pie to bread, there's something for everyone in this vibrant community of farmers and local artisans. The market is just a 10-minute walk from the Downtown Mall, which you can visit via the Charlottesville Area Transit trolley. Go to browse or buy Saturday mornings between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., enjoy the fresh air and see just how innovative the local Charlottesville community is.

### 5. Immerse yourself in Monticello's nature

Virginia isn't just home to Thomas Jefferson's university — it also features his architectural wonder of Monticello. Perhaps less well-known are the gardens of Monticello that Jefferson himself designed. Take a quick drive up and view the beautiful, expansive landscape, filled with flowers and vegetable gardens. Explore on a self-guided tour or register for a guided tour. A new pilot program during the 2022-2023 academic year allows each University student one free ticket, giving students access to several different locations and experiences onsite, including exploring the gardens. At Monticello, you can connect with both blooming history and nature — visiting the gardens is at the top of my bucket list.

### 6. Root for the Hoos during outdoor sporting events

Thankfully, basketball isn't the only thing we're good at. The University's outdoor athletics are starting up for the spring season, with sports like baseball at Davenport Field at Disharoon Park, softball at Palmer Park, and lacrosse out in Klöckner Stadium. Grab some friends for an afternoon clad in blue and orange. Get into the game, support our student-athletes and spend some time outside.

### 7. Go on a historical tour of the University

History is at the core of this school, and it manifests itself through the colonial architecture incorporated all throughout Grounds. Besides some general facts about Jefferson, though, most of us aren't aware of all the layers and complexities of this president and this place. Take some time to learn more by going on a historical tour with the University Guide Service. Any day of the week at 11 a.m., get outside and venture through the Academical Village while learning about the University's beginnings and its evolution to where it is today.

### 8. Walk through the Memorial to Enslaved Laborers

Most students recognize the University's Memorial to Enslaved Laborers situated across from the Corner, but not everyone knows about its unique history. Taking a moment to walk through the ring of the memorial, especially more than once, is always a moving experience — I always find myself getting lost in this history. Take some time to read the writing of each stone underneath the flowing water and to look at the names along the ring. Seeing this history, and at the same time hearing the sounds of nature in the present, makes for a reflective afternoon.

### 9. Eat lunch outside at the Amphitheater

Every Friday, students can use meal exchanges or pay regularly at any of the on-Grounds food trucks usually located by the amphitheater. Grab your favorite food truck meal — mine is El Tako Nako's chicken tacos doused in their red hot sauce — and sit on the steps of the amphitheater to take in the fresh air and enjoy a tasty lunch at the same time. Whether hanging with friends or going solo, eating in the amphitheater is a great way to hit pause on the day, bask in the sun and decompress in this unique outdoor space.



ADAIRE BURNS | THE CAVALIER DAILY

### 10. Visit Observatory Hill — no, not to eat

Observatory Hill, or O'Hill, is widely known by students as one of the University's dining halls. However, its name teases something more than this — Observatory Hill is, in fact, home to the Leander McCormick Observatory. Open every first and third Friday of each month, the Observatory includes opportunities to see celestial bodies through telescopes, hear from an astronomer and tour the facility. Gaze beyond our atmosphere and connect with nature above.



# {in}Visible Magazine: the first APISAA publication at U.Va.

The magazine's creation aims to highlight and uplift APISAA voices across Grounds like never before

Carolina Aronhime | Features Writer

The University's newest literary publication, {in}Visible Magazine, joins the storied literary arts scene on Grounds. What sets {in}Visible Magazine apart from other student-led publications is that it is the first literary magazine to center around Asian Pacific Islander South Asian/American identities.

Jasmine Wang, co-founder of {in}Visible Magazine and second-year College student, expressed her desire for the magazine to help forge bonds between people of similar identities.

"We started {in}Visible Magazine kind of as a way to build community but also where you can explore your Asian identity and APISAA identity," Wang said. "But also to kind of expand what it means to be APISAA."

The founding of {in}Visible Magazine began with an email that Wang found in her inbox in January. As a writer for Iris Magazine, a publication at the Maxine Platzer Lynn's Women's Center, Wang had written a piece centered around her mother and APISAA identity. Wendy Gao, co-founder and third-year College student stumbled upon the article and contacted Wang about starting an APISAA literary publication for University students.

Wang was thrilled to hear from an-

other student like herself who shares a passion for writing and uplifting APISAA voices around Grounds. When she saw the email from Gao, a spark ignited inside of her.

"I immediately said yes," Wang said. "I remember running to my parents and [saying], 'Look how cool this is!' I was so immediately excited about it. We started texting about it — I feel like we hit the ground running very quickly."

Gao described how she aims to create a space at the University for people of APISAA identities to creatively express themselves. Wang and Gao seek to fill a void for students like themselves to write since there are no publications at the University that specifically highlight APISAA stories and experiences.

Gao and Wang's vision for the magazine prizes the written word as its primary form of expression as opposed to other methods of celebrating APISAA culture because they find writing to be a powerful way of exploring oneself and understanding one's identity.

"It really is to offer creative space for APISAA-identifying students at U.Va. to explore their APISAA identities through written and creative pieces," Gao said. "I think writing is

such an important medium for thinking through identity issues, and there really isn't a place for APISAA students to do that yet."

Second-year College student Ploi Sripoom is one of those students seeking an avenue to make her voice heard and connect with her community. Sripoom knows Gao and Wang personally and decided to become a writer once she heard about the magazine they were launching.

As a passionate writer and self-proclaimed advocate for her community, Sripoom had been disappointed at the lack of places for her to express her identity through writing. Sripoom acknowledged the valuable work some other APISAA organizations have provided, such as the Asian Student Union, but had been seeking to participate in deeper, more meaningful discussions rather than attending events put on by ASU. As such, Sripoom hopes to shed light on the APISAA experience to the greater University community through writing for {in}Visible Magazine.

"I also love writing and sharing my stories," Sripoom said. "[I hope] there will be more people from other communities reading it and we could help spread some awareness on some problems or issues that the Asian

community is facing."

Like Sripoom, Gao envisions the magazine as more than just a space for writers to exhibit their work. Instead of it being only a creative outlet, she emphasized the importance of having a publication that is solely dedicated to supporting APISAA identities — highlighting common experiences among people belonging to this group. Each issue of the magazine will have a guiding theme for writers to focus on when they submit their work for publication.

"So many APISAA identities and experiences share very common themes like diaspora — and, for example, memory figures very heavily in a lot of identity building for APISAA individuals," Gao said. "I think it's really useful to have a central place for people to submit their work and explore these issues through writing."

In the future, the organization wants to expand in order to do more for the APISAA community as well as enrich the existing literary culture on Grounds with their publication. Gao stressed the significance of not only spotlighting one group like APISAA but of strengthening connections between different parts of the University community as a whole.

"There's so much that can be ex-

plored, and so much connection occurs through writing," Gao said. "I think it would be really cool for {in}Visible to do collaboration events that would really help build coalition and community across student groups on Grounds."

Wang and Gao have started going through student submissions and plan to release their first issue March 13. As they establish their Executive Board and release more issues throughout the semester, they hope to gain CIO status next fall. For the time being, the publication is solely digital, but they have discussed expanding with print issues later on. Nevertheless, its presence still provides a space for the APISAA community, and Wang expressed her excitement around publishing creative work in this setting.

"There's such a joy in sharing your work and gushing over each other's work and being like, 'I love this line,'" Wang said. "There's this kind of love between writers that's so exciting to me, and it's so warm, and I'm really excited to build that with {in}Visible."

## Tavern & Grocery serves upscale American cuisine

A cozy evening at this historic tavern, which is traditionally known to be a Charlottesville staple, has something for everyone

Katherine Schwartz | Food Writer

Like the farm-to-table menu it boasts, Tavern & Grocery, located at 333 West Main Street, is considered a classic among Charlottesville residents and University students alike. This year, the tried and true restaurant participated in Charlottesville's Restaurant Week. I stopped by during the week to experience Tavern & Grocery's special menu for the occasion, which comes with the choice of an appetizer, entree and dessert for a set price of \$45. Needless to say, I found the restaurant, service and meal to be wonderfully satisfying and a jewel of the Charlottesville restaurant scene — no matter your taste, they have something for everyone.

Although I have dined at the restaurant on numerous occasions, I was not aware of its rich history until recently, which explains its antique Virginian character. Built in 1820, the restaurant is named after its original purpose as a grocery, tavern

and boarding house. It was also the first African American business in Charlottesville and was owned by free enslaved laborers. One of the upstairs dining rooms is named the "Booker Room," after Booker T. Washington who stayed as a guest there. Their website details more of this fascinating and noble history.

Once seated at a cozy table in the corner, framed by exposed brick walls, my date and I were greeted with a substantial wine list. Although the restaurant is typically busy on any given night of the week, it has ample room for seating, with a main floor, private rooms, an upstairs area and a downstairs speakeasy. The downstairs operation is complete with a cellar cocktail bar, as well as a full dining menu and kitchen that remains open later, something night owls or last-minute diners can appreciate.

For my first course, I chose the beet salad complete with a tart yogurt sauce, sprouts and

crushed pistachios. If you are looking for a lighter choice, then I recommend this salad over the other options, which are richer. However, it is not for the faint of heart — beets are an acquired taste. Only order this dish if you are enthusiastic about the root vegetable, otherwise, you will have difficulty with the bitterness. My date ordered the lobster bisque, which he commented was creamy without being too thick.

I landed on the salmon for my entree, which was served crispy over sauteed spinach and caramelized onions. It also came with a side of thin, shoe-string garlic parmesan fries, which I typically do not see paired with salmon — I appreciated this pleasant surprise. The crunchy, garlic fries alongside the savory and smooth salmon was a delectable combination.

My boyfriend opted for the butternut risotto. The dish was served in a sizable bowl and prepared with brown butter

and parmesan fonduta. Creamy, cheesy and garnished with sage, it proved to be a large and filling portion, and he could only get through half of it. The bite I had was rich, flavorful and delicious, but not something you can consume in excess. Order this dish when you desire an extremely filling meal and plan to sleep after — not if your night's agenda is drinking and dancing.

For dessert, I indulged in the chocolate tart, which was elevated with a chocolate graham cracker-esque crust and a layer of caramel. I appreciated that it was not too sweet or too bitter and was rounded with a salty flavor. My boyfriend had the "financier cake," similar to a pineapple upside-down cake, complete with a scoop of vanilla ice cream, a restaurant week special.

Although I prefer chocolate to fruity desserts, I think this was the right order. Spongy, moist and sweet yet tangy, it was a unique dessert that you do

not see often. With the third option being a honey-thyme creme brulee, there was something for every sweet tooth.

Given that our order was from a set of options on their restaurant week menu, the courses were prepared fast. The service was friendly, efficient, and attentive, and the overall atmosphere was warm, inviting and laid-back. And although my boyfriend and I ended up ordering completely different dishes, we both enjoyed our meals immensely and were satisfied with the selection.

I'd highly recommend paying Tavern & Grocery a visit when you're looking for a classic, elevated dining experience in the local Charlottesville community.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## X-Tasee dance crew fosters community through hip-hop

Built on inclusivity and passion, the University's first hip-hop dance group is still evolving after eighteen years

Olivia Garrone | Arts & Entertainment Editor



ALBERT TANG | THE CAVALIER DAILY

X-Tasee dance crew's rigorous practice schedule showcases their immense dedication to the craft.

There's a reason the crowd roars as soon as X-Tasee steps on stage at a University showcase — they command the room with moves that ooze passion, personality and dedication, and that reputation precedes them. X-Tasee dance crew has not only been a community staple since their founding but have been evolving ever since.

The crew was started in 2005 as the University's first hip-hop dance group. Fourth-year College student Alexis Stokes, X-Tasee's current social coordinator, described the group's style as "dynamic."

"The foundation of X-Tasee is hardcore street hip-hop," Stokes said. "[The crew has] gradually transitioned into being more accepting of different dance styles."

This is most clear in the flair each individual member brings to their choreography and performance.

"We have flowing, we have hard-hitting, hip-hop, jazz," Stokes said.

Along with hip-hop, diversity and inclusivity have always been fundamental to X-Tasee's mission. Although the crew is audi-

tion-based, they welcome anyone from the Charlottesville community to try out, regardless of University affiliation or prior dance experience. While practices and performances are reserved for official crew members, their dance workshops remain open to the public.

Third-year Education student Isaac Henderson had no prior dance experience before trying out in Spring 2021 — now he is the group's vice president. He encourages everyone interested to go for it.

"Take a chance," Henderson said. "Go full out. Go as hard as you can. Try out."

The crew fine-tunes their skills through hard work and dedication, practicing at least three times a week — often more when there's a showcase in sight — and sometimes learns multiple dances in one night.

Each dance is an original piece choreographed by crew members and chosen at boot camp a week before the semester begins. The group opts for a democratic decision-making approach — after

each crew member choreographs two dances, the team votes on which ones to perform.

These extensive efforts to prepare for performances pay off for the public. X-Tasee's work is showcased at local events throughout the year, including Lighting of the Lawn and various a cappella concerts. The crew has strong ties to Black student association groups on Grounds and performs at many of their events as well such as last semester's "For The Culture Cook-out."

According to Lani Saxena, fifth-year Medical student and X-Tasee crew member, the crew's affinity for performing at competitions was stunted by COVID-19, as X-Tasee was forced to withdraw from in-person events.

"We're starting to slowly get more into the competitive aspect," Saxena said.

Though they do not yet plan to compete this semester, crew members have remained busy traveling to showcase opportunities off-grounds. This past weekend, the crew performed at the 13th Annual Coalescence Hip-Hop Show-

case at James Madison University, sporting varying shades of purple to show off their latest set.

While COVID-19 may have changed their performance schedule, their pre-show ritual has remained the same throughout the years.

"We do a little prayer circle before every performance," Saxena said. "Then we have a song that we like to sing or chant before they go on stage."

Rich traditions like this are central to the group's spirit, in the same vein of many other long-standing clubs and organizations. Older members of the group enduringly refer to new members as "babies" before they grow into "toddlers" and beyond with time spent on the team.

Perhaps one of the most special gems of tradition X-Tasee is known for are the nicknames they bestow upon each "baby" their first semester, some of which include "Quiet Storm" and "Poetics." Referred to as "X-names," each nickname is inspired by the "X-factor" each individual has.

"Your X-factor is what pres-

ence you bring to the stage," Stokes said. "What do you bring to the team that's different from everything, everyone else?"

Whether it's their "X-factors" or the hours at practice that bond them, it's clear that the X-Tasee environment creates something special.

"[Our bond] transcends outside of the dance floor and practice," Stokes said, emphasizing the strong relationships and genuine friendships formed between crew members.

The bonds extend to their alumni, who are forever welcome to join the team on stage when X-Tasee bring out their "x-dance" — a routine that has been passed down through the years, taught to each member past and present.

"The team is definitely like a family," Saxena said. "It's a very sappy sentiment. But I definitely believe that."

Don't miss a beat — follow the group on Instagram @xtaseedancecrew to be notified of future performances, audition cycles, and dance workshops open to the public.



# Charlottesville Black Arts Collective celebrates excellence

The group hosts exhibitions and events to showcase local Black artists

Delaney Hammond | Senior Writer

This Black History Month, the Charlottesville Black Arts Collective has several special events on the roster, each aimed at fostering conversations that showcase local Black artists, expressing their individuality and shedding light on the Black experience. From compelling exhibitions to a celebration of Black cinema, these events are sure to convey Black excellence in all its forms — both in Charlottesville and beyond.

The Charlottesville Black Arts Collective, or CBAC, is a group of Black artists striving to support the local Black arts scene by providing a platform for artists on social media, at local exhibitions and more.

According to founding member and artist Kori Price, CBAC hopes to generate opportunities for Black artists through their work.

“Our mission really is to be a connector and a touch point for Black artists to the community in Charlottesville,” Price said.

Founded in 2020, CBAC was born when a group of local artists were tasked with curating an exhibition on Black art for the McGuffey Art Center in Char-

lottesville.

“While we were focused on making the exhibition happen, we realized we had something special,” Price said.

The exhibit received immensely positive feedback from community members. Realizing the necessity of their work, the group decided on a name for the organization and formalized their efforts.

“It felt special to us — the group felt special, and the purpose of exhibiting Black art and having a focus on Black art felt special,” Price said.

CBAC routinely partners with local galleries, hosting exhibitions at the McGuffey Art Center and Studio IX. Most recently, the collective hosted a show entitled “About Face: Pt. 1 Siren Eyes,” which featured digital art created by 13-year-old Charlottesville native Samari Jones.

Currently, several CBAC members are showcasing artwork in “Black Joy Is: Ferocious, Fearless, Forever, Female, For Me”. Curated by CBAC member Veronica Jackson, the exhibit features works from nine women, each of which

explores how Black women experience joy. Open now until March 25, the exhibit is located in the Piedmont Virginia Community College Gallery.

Although its exhibits most often feature traditional visual art, CBAC is now showcasing Black creatives in film as well. This Black History Month, CBAC has teamed up with Alamo Drafthouse in Charlottesville to present “Black Voices,” a film series celebrating movies made by or starring Black creators.

“A lot of our Collective members want to find ways to embrace all types of art, even if most of us are more on the visual art side, and that includes film,” Price said. “While we love and embrace all types of art... film just feels like such a natural way to celebrate Black history.”

A variety of genres and forms make up the series, from the 1994 basketball documentary “Hoop Dreams” to Denzel Washington’s stellar performance in the biopic “Malcolm X.” Saturday at 1:15 p.m., the theater will be showing “Wattstax,” a documentary of a music festival featuring legendary performers like The Staple Singers,

followed by a showing of “Training Day” on Feb. 28 at 7:45 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds from ticket sales for “Black Voices” will go towards the Collective.

Next month, CBAC plans on hosting “Blackity Black Black,” another show at the McGuffey Art Center. It will comprise works from 35 artists working with a variety of mediums, including paintings by Ayah Davis-Karim, photography by Robert Scott and spoken word poetry by Christopher Sims.

According to a statement from McGuffey Art Center’s Instagram profile, the exhibition will celebrate Blackness, culture and heritage in all of its many forms.

“We are here to celebrate everything that is Blackness,” the statement said. “This exhibition will be a statement of our people, presence and pride. It will be all Blackity Black Black everything.”

“I’m incredibly excited for this one,” Price said, revealing that the exhibition will be the Collective’s biggest one yet, featuring more artists than ever before.

“It’s just a really unapologetic celebration of Blackness,” Price

said. “I think it’s gonna be really great to just feel that energy as you’re walking through the hallways in the McGuffey Art Center.”

When CBAC is not hosting exhibitions, the group uses social media to provide a platform to promote Black artists in Charlottesville and beyond, decorating their Instagram profile with shoutouts to local artists and upcoming exhibitions.

As CBAC continues to expand its horizons, its members hope to not only give Black creatives a space to share their work but also to give them tools and opportunities that will encourage them to prosper.

“I don’t want any artists to just survive — I want us to thrive,” Price said. “I want there to be a constant conversation about the value of art, and I also want to support Black artists in attaining what they want to attain... and [in making] money while they do that.”

Thanks to the efforts of the Charlottesville Black Arts Collective, which has cemented itself as a leading force in the Charlottesville arts scene, Black art continues to spread, flourish and be celebrated.

## “Mother Tongue” contextualizes language through art

Poet and visual artist Valencia Robin visualizes the power and complexity of language in this multimedia exhibit

Delores Cyrus | Staff Writer

Vibrant brushstrokes have depth underneath at Second Street Gallery’s “Mother Tongue” exhibit, on display from Feb. 3 through March 24. Showcasing the work of Class of 2018 alumna Valencia Robin — who graduated with an MFA in Creative Writing — the solo exhibition explores language with abstract paintings and mixed media art.

An award-winning Charlottesville-based poet and artist, Robin has been both harnessing and pondering the power of language for years. Specifically, she enjoys exploring “its joys, its limits and its relationship to history.”

“I take great pleasure in language’s ability to give expression to my imagination and experiences,” Robin wrote in a statement accompanying the exhibit. “While words can never be the things they’re meant to represent, the work of trying to capture a particular moment — to place the words in the right order

— can be extremely satisfying.”

The exhibit features 18 pieces and two poems. Each plays a role in depicting the complexities of verbal and written expression and Robin’s relationship with the latter. Each canvas is vivid and full of color, with pieces like “Research” and “Memory is a Strange Thing” layering acrylic paint over pencil to convey multiple themes simultaneously.

“I like acrylic paint because it dries quickly, which allows me to try one idea after another without waiting,” Robin said in an interview with The Cavalier Daily. “There are often dozens of other paintings underneath my finished work. I like the thick surfaces that layering produces. I also love the idea of all that hidden history.”

The trio of canvases that make up “Always Elsewhere” and “Poem for 17 Fingers” are some of the exhibit’s assemblages — artwork consisting of three-dimensional elements on canvas — which mix

media. The combination of different textures and materials in these pieces shows another side of Robin’s aesthetic, a side that enjoys “arranging, shaping and building.”

In addition to visualizing language as a tool for self-expression, Robin’s work simultaneously touches on how language can be used as a tool for oppression.

“As an African-American woman from the working class, I’m all too aware of how the words I use and the way I speak [are] intricately bound up with power, how social spaces and institutions — schools, work, government — control the use of language, how language allows certain groups to gain credibility and access while marking others as unworthy of those things,” Robin said in her exhibition statement.

When asked if she taps into the same headspace when creating visual art that she does when creating poetry, Robin explained

that while the two forms require different things — skills, processes and mindsets — they both come from the same urge to create. For her, her poetry and her paintings inspire and support each other.

“They’re like two rooms in the same house and the doors are always open,” Robin said.

“Mother Tongue” is an insightful collection of art conveying that language is not merely words, but a way to build community and preserve culture and history. Like poetry, Robin sees visual art as its own form of language — one that can sometimes communicate what cannot be verbalized.

“Everything I do creatively is about language in a sense, about trying to turn what I’m thinking and feeling into something I can actually see and touch,” Robin said.

Robin is currently working on getting the exhibit into other gallery spaces. At the same time,

Robin is engaged in new and exciting creative projects. She is in the process of creating a series of collages, as well as getting into video — a combination that she believes will allow her to bring poetry and visuals together “organically.”

Before the exhibit closes at Second Street Gallery, opportunities and activities have been arranged to give the community chances to interact with the art and Robin. Second Street Gallery is inviting writers of all ages to submit pieces of writing — poems, essays or short stories — in response to the feelings or thoughts that the pieces in the exhibit elicit. All submissions are due March 10. Robin will be returning to the gallery for a hands-on art workshop March 18.

Robin is also a teacher and an arts administrator. She leads young people and adults in writing workshops and travels around the country to do readings at colleges and universities.

# OPINION

## LEAD EDITORIAL

# EDITORIAL: Vote “yes” for a step in the right direction

*History is here — students should vote in favor of the upcoming referendum to create a multi-sanction Honor system*

Last week, the Honor Committee passed a new constitution that outlines a multi-sanction system. For it to take effect, the student body must vote to ratify the constitution in the upcoming spring elections. Decades of attempts have led us to this pivotal moment. This Editorial Board thinks the proposed multi-sanction constitution is a step in the right direction — a step towards a more rehabilitative Honor system. Students must rise to the occasion and vote in favor of Honor's new constitution this March. But this is not the end of the conversation — Committee members have work left to do to ensure the successful evolution of our Honor system.

Under the proposed system, students will be tried before a panel for guilt that consists of five Committee members and seven randomly selected students. The five Committee members who serve on the panel that

determines guilt will also be the individuals who comprise the panel that determines sanctions. Available sanctions include, but are not limited to, amends, education, suspension and expulsion. Importantly, for first time offenders, five-sevenths of the non-Committee panelists must vote to allow the panel for sanctions to consider permanent measures like expulsion.

These changes are a big deal. Allowing the Committee's panelists to consider aggravating and mitigating circumstances when crafting sanctions will help the Committee minimize the disproportionate impacts it has on various minority communities. Where a student's international status was previously ruled out of scope, there is now space for this information to be taken into consideration so any chosen sanction doesn't unduly affect a student's F-1 visa. A vote in favor of this constitution is a vote which rec-

ognizes that not all situations should be treated the same.

Any worthwhile discussion of this new constitution must also consider its stance on expulsion. While the Committee has reintroduced expulsion as a potential sanction, the power remains largely in the hands of the student body — since, for first offenses, five-sevenths of the student panelists must vote to give the Committee the power to impose permanent sanctions. If instituted correctly, this requirement makes it clear that permanent, punitive measures should be utilized with caution — and never as a primary means to protect the Community of Trust.

There are specific steps that Honor must take to facilitate the success of their new constitution. If the referendum passes, the Committee will have to undertake a by-law amendment process to determine exactly how internal processes will be changed to

comply with the new constitution. The student body should be invited into the by-law amendment process. Since students were not directly included in the drafting of this new constitution, the Committee must seize any opportunity it gets to involve us in the shaping of this new system.

Additionally, those elected to be Honor Representatives must educate themselves on the nuances that come with multi-sanctioning. A system that lacks precedent can allow biases to seep in, but this can be avoided with a commitment to rehabilitative sanctions which address the context and subtleties of every particular case. Implementation of this system may not be easy — radically transforming institutions to work on behalf of people they were not originally designed to work for never is.

It may be naive, but this Editorial Board has faith that this new constitution — and the

students tasked with leading its implementation — will begin the arduous process of creating a real Community of Trust, not one that is built on simplistic ideals or punitive measures but one that is grounded in the reality that trust is built through care and compassion. These are the values that we hope underpin all the work the Committee does moving forward, and these are the values that the seven of us will have in mind when we vote “yes” on the upcoming Honor referendum.

*The Cavalier Daily Editorial Board is composed of the Executive Editor, the Editor-in-Chief, the two Opinion Editors, their Senior Associate and an Opinion Columnist. The board can be reached at eb@cavalierdaily.com.*

## THE CAVALIER DAILY

The Cavalier Daily is a financially and editorially independent news organization staffed and managed entirely by students of the University of Virginia.

The opinions expressed in The Cavalier Daily are not necessarily those of the students, faculty, staff or administration of the University of Virginia. Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board. Cartoons and columns represent the views of the authors. The managing board of The Cavalier Daily has sole authority over and responsibility for all content.

No part of The Cavalier Daily or The Cavalier Daily online edition may be reproduced in any form, in whole or in part, without the written consent of the editor-in-chief.

The Cavalier Daily is published Thursdays in print and daily online at cavalierdaily.com. It is printed on at least 40 percent recycled paper. 2022 The Cavalier Daily Inc.

## HAVE AN OPINION?

The Cavalier Daily welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns. Writers must provide full name, telephone number and University affiliation, if appropriate. Letters should not exceed 250 words in length and columns should not exceed 700. The Cavalier Daily does not guarantee publication of submissions and may edit all material for content and grammar. Submit to opinion@cavalierdaily.com or P.O. Box 400703, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4703

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

To better serve readers, The Cavalier Daily has a public editor to respond to questions and concerns regarding its practices. The public editor writes a column published every week on the opinion pages based on reader feedback and his independent observations. He also welcomes queries pertaining to journalism and the newspaper industry in general. The public editor is available at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com.



FOLLOW US @CAVALIERDAILY

WWW.CAVALLIERDAILY.COM



## Want to respond?

Submit a letter to the editor to [opinion@cavalierdaily.com](mailto:opinion@cavalierdaily.com)



## THE CAVALIER DAILY

### MANAGING BOARD

**Editor-in-Chief**

Ava MacBlane

**Managing Editor**

Lexi Baker

**Executive Editor**

Nathan Onibudo

**Operations Manager**

Ava Proehl

**Chief Financial Officer**

Charlie Healy

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Grace Duregger

Ava MacBlane

Ford McCracken

Leila Mohajer

Nathan Onibudo

Songhan Pang

Shaleah Tolliver

### JUNIOR BOARD

**Assistant Managing Editors**

Claire DiLorenzo

Alexandra Holmes

(SA) Ella Dailey

(SA) Isabella Gattuso

(SA) Kate Jensen

(SA) Sahil Patel

(SA) Karen Shin

**Assistant Operations Manager**

Honor Wood

(SA) Mary Kurbanov

(SA) Alexa Mosley

### News Editors

Avery Donmoyer

Merrill Hart

(SA) Eleanor Jenkins

**Life Editors**

Miriella Jiffar

Cecy Juárez

(SA) Elizabeth Parsons

**Sports Editors**

Ben Anderson

Jacob Tisdale

(SA) Ben Istvan

(SA) Alexa Mosley

**Arts & Entertainment Editors**

Olivia Garrone

Tanner Rowe

(SA) Jamie Jeong

**Health & Science Editors**

Oluwamisayo Ologun

Haylee Ressa

**Podcast Editors**

Jake Adler

Katie Pile

**Opinion Editors**

Grace Durreger

Shaleah Tolliver

(SA) Ford McCracken

(SA) Songhan Pang

**Humor Editors**

Camila Cohen Suárez

(SA) Kate McCarty

(SA) Wardah Kamran

**Cartoon Editor**

Kaileigh Proctor

### Photo Editor

Adaire Burnsed

Albert Tang

(SA) Proud Chandragholica

(SA) Kate MacArthur

(SA) Alison Pike

**Design Editors**

Lexie Gagnon

Mix Rudolph

Avery Suriano

**Video Editor**

Olivia Winesett

**Social Media Managers**

Covonna Bynum

Ceili Canning

(SA) Halle McCormack

(SA) Taylor Goodman

**Analytics Manager**

Melinda Wong

**Translation Editors**

Marina Peebles

Shuqi Ye

(SA) Alejandro Erazo

**Finance Manager**

Wilson Simmons

**Advertising Manager**

Mason Lewis

**Archivist**

Grace Franklin



# Transformative change calls for transformative leadership

*The Editorial Board endorses five candidates running for Honor Committee representative*

This year, The Cavalier Daily Editorial Board endorses four candidates running for College of Arts and Sciences Honor representative — third-years Hamza Aziz and Nishita Ghanate, second-year Laura Howard and third-year Rachel Liesegang — and one candidate for School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Honor representative, first-year Alexander Church. Each of these candidates expressed strong support for the proposed multi-sanction system and they all incorporated transparency and rehabilitation into their platforms — ideals that will guide the Honor Committee as it looks to create a robust sanctioning system.

Aziz, current Vice Chair for Investigations, was endorsed by the previous Editorial Board, in part, for his desire to help the Committee implement a multi-sanction system. Sure enough, Aziz played a role in helping the Committee pass the multi-sanction constitution that is on the ballot this spring. Aziz made it clear that, as a member with executive experience on the Committee, he wants to leverage his new work to help ensure the successful implementation of the newly proposed system. On the issue of transparency,

Aziz is committed to finding ways to release information from the Committee directly to students. Aziz cited decreasing buy-in from students as a major challenge for the Committee and hopes that the new multi-sanction constitution will be a turning point. We in turn hope that Aziz will capitalize on his experience and clear ideas to steer the Committee in the right direction.

Ghanate wants to ensure that the implementation of the multi-sanction Honor system will improve the efficacy and efficiency of the Committee. Ghanate understands the importance of utilizing the by-law amendment process to accomplish this goal. On the issues of transparency and student buy-in to the Honor system, Ghanate gave tangible solutions — she wants to expand the role of educators to inform all students about what the Committee does and hold an assembly each semester that all students may attend to give the Committee their opinions. Ghanate is confident she can help transform the Committee into a body that prioritizes restoration and rehabilitation, and we're holding her to this vision.

Howard proposes bringing

character evidence not only into the hearing to determine sanctioning but also into the hearing for guilt, ensuring students are recognized as people first. This is part of her larger mission to ensure that the Committee is primarily a rehabilitative body under the proposed multi-sanction system. Her views on ways to engage student buy-in are admirable, with proposals to bring traditionally marginalized students to the table through targeted partnerships and by encouraging underrepresented student groups to come to Committee meetings. Howard also aspires to increase transparency with students by hosting popular assemblies and conducting polling to solicit feedback on the Committee's processes. We were heartened by the humanistic perspective she will bring to the Committee by advocating to ensure that stories are placed before sanctions — if elected, we'll be watching to make sure she sticks to this commitment.

Current Honor Support Officer Liesegang proposed a practical plan for increasing student buy-in to the Honor system, including public sessions that students are encouraged to attend, admitting that the Committee currently does

a poor job marketing existing forums to students. Her experience as a support officer gives her the hands-on experience interacting with accused students that will strengthen her ability to help implement the proposed multi-sanction constitution. Liesegang has plans to more actively incorporate marginalized students into Committee discussions by conducting more targeted outreach and creating informational booklets that disseminate important information. She hopes to emphasize the role that the Committee can play in including all students through targeted outreach and education. We agree that the Committee can be more transparent, and we'll be watching to ensure Liesegang sticks to this plan.

Church also understands the issues surrounding the Committee's lack of transparency and offered a fresh perspective that we think will be useful should the Committee's proposed multi-sanction system pass. For starters, he has stated that first-years' feedback should be solicited separately from that of the Contracted Independent Organizations — groups whose leadership roles are typically held by upperclassmen. Additionally, he

also realizes that Engineering has higher rates of Honor offenses than most other schools. Instead of only reforming the sanctioning process, Church wants to focus on the reasons why Engineering students are more likely to commit Honor offenses and how the systemic issue can be addressed by working proactively within the community with professors and students. If elected to this position, Church would bring a much needed sense of creativity to an institution that is all too often stuck in its ways — we're looking forward to seeing where that creativity takes him, if elected.

---

*The Cavalier Daily Editorial Board is composed of the Executive Editor, the Editor-in-Chief, the two Opinion Editors, their Senior Associate and an Opinion Columnist.*

# Elect representatives devoted to educating students

*The Editorial Board endorses five candidates running for University Judiciary Committee representative*

This year, The Cavalier Daily Editorial Board endorses five candidates running for College of Arts and Sciences representative for the University Judiciary Committee — second-year Lisa Kopelnik, third-year Ineke La Fleur, first-year Allison McVey, third-year Ronith Ranjan and second-year Melinda Wong. Each of these individuals demonstrates dedication to improving UJC, a strong platform that prioritizes the safety and well-being of students on Grounds and the desire to maintain the UJC's commitment to education and rehabilitation.

Current Vice Chair for Sanctions Kopelnik is tasked with ensuring the UJC's sanctions are fair and proportional. During her tenure, she recognized that the UJC is not representative of the larger University community and specifically wants to work to address the current socioeconomic and diversity gaps that are present. Kopelnik also feels strongly about ensuring students believe in the system that the UJC has to offer. This involves increasing transparency, prioritizing rehabilitation over punitive measures and making students' rights known to them so they can present their best case. The UJC, Kopelnik said, is con-

stantly trying to navigate how to balance the University community's need for transparency with the accused student's need for confidentiality. She supports releasing facts and sanctions of organizational cases. Kopelnik is also a strong advocate for the UJC's cooperation with other branches of student self-governance and feels they can work together to proactively fix a variety of issues facing the student body — we agree, and will be holding her to her promises.

La Fleur, senior investigator on the Executive Committee, has served as a UJC investigator for three years now. This role has informed the work she intends to do if elected to serve the UJC as a representative. Community engagement is a strong value of hers, as she has significant experience directly interacting with students through her current executive position. One idea she presented for accomplishing this goal was increasing targeted community outreach and collecting feedback from students so they know their voices are heard. She feels as though trust is a foundational key to establishing a relationship between the UJC and the student body. La Fleur would like to reform some aspects of the UJC's

recruitment as well, by providing more clarity in regards to the admissions process and increasing outreach to multicultural organizations on Grounds — these are admirable goals, and we want to see her stick to them.

McVey, chair of the First-Year Judiciary Committee, will bring a unique perspective to the pool of representatives. Her work on the UJC is underpinned by her desire to ensure that all students are treated with certain dignity. She aspires to create a sanctioning system that is not only rehabilitative but also avoids making students feel guilt or shame. She sees the UJC as a system that promotes good behaviors and a safe environment, as opposed to one that dominates and punishes others — something she believes to be a common misconception. She wants to rectify this misconception by increasing access to information about what the UJC sanctions consist of and how frequently specific sanctions are used. She also wants to ensure the mental well-being of both students and judges a part of the UJC by cutting down case processing times.

Ranjan holds three years of experience within the UJC, presently serving as a counselor. He feels that

the UJC's values and missions strongly align with his own, working to create a community of safety, respect and freedom. His two-fold plan for the betterment of the UJC is both a substantial and practical approach — he intends to start the ambitious conversation of re-evaluating the standards of conduct to ensure they meet students' needs in addition to making the UJC more demographically representative. Ranjan understands the gravity of hazing, as he serves as a resident advisor and is familiar with the perspective of first-year students who are pledging. He is confident in the UJC's ability to address the issue of hazing by finding ways to leverage the unique student perspective that the University administration lacks. Ranjan's plan is certainly ambitious, and we want to see him deliver on his promises.

Wong, senior data manager on the Executive Committee, is responsible for managing the budget, collecting reports on demographics and observing case statistics. Wong's experience on the UJC has allowed her to witness how the UJC interacts with the student body, as well as give her insight into areas in which the organization can improve. Wong believes one of

the biggest challenges the UJC is facing is its visibility on and around Grounds. Wong proposed two solutions to help combat this issue — the first was returning to the practice of providing first-years with the UJC's presentations within their dorms and the second was creating a module for incoming students to complete, similar to the one already deployed about the Honor Committee. Wong's ideas for sanctioning were primarily educational, as she believes education is at the center of the UJC's mission and is more effective at preventing future wrongdoings.

The Editorial Board is confident in each of these candidates' ability to help the UJC promote safety, respect and freedom on Grounds. Given their experience, dedication and values, we firmly believe they will make the UJC more diverse, accountable and restorative.

---

*The Cavalier Daily Editorial Board is composed of the Executive Editor, the Editor-in-Chief, the two Opinion Editors, their Senior Associate and an Opinion Columnist.*





SPORTS

The comeback of Virginia women’s basketball

After an abysmal 2021-22 season, the Cavaliers now find themselves on an upward trajectory

Caroline Connor | Sports Columnist

While Virginia women’s basketball is not expected to make March Madness this season, the buzz and excitement for the team are the highest it has been in recent memory. Now, all eyes are on Coach Amaka Agugua-Hamilton in her first year.

The last time Virginia played a game in the NCAA Women’s Tournament was March 18, 2018. After defeating the seventh-ranked Cal Berkeley in the first round, the Cavaliers were knocked out by South Carolina in the second round. Ironically, the Gamecocks were led by Virginia basketball legend Dawn Staley, whose number is retired in John Paul Jones Arena.

While the Cavaliers made the Tournament 24 times between 1984-2010, the program has only returned once in the past 14 seasons, and former coach Joane Boyle retired just two days after the team bowed out in the 2018 Round of 32. The Cavaliers have not made an appearance in the Tournament since.

Tina Thompson was named as the head coach of the women’s basketball team entering the 2018-19 season. Being one of the best players in WNBA history, expectations were high as Cavalier fans hoped to reach heights experienced under Debbie Ryan.

The partnership was not meant to be, though. Thompson finished with a 30-63 record as Virginia’s head coach and was fired following the 2021-2022 season. In addition to her lack of success in the win column, Jocelyn Wiloughby was the lone player drafted into the WNBA during Thompson’s tenure, something fans were disappointed about considering the coach’s professional experience. The life of the program seemed to be a thing of the past.

For their new head coach, Virginia turned to Missouri State to poach Agugua-Hamilton. Her credentials made her an obvious candidate, as she

won the Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year award in both 2020 and 2021. She also had experience in Virginia, coaching at Virginia Commonwealth University as a graduate assistant and assistant.

Despite all of her experience, Agugua-Hamilton was inheriting a difficult job in attempts to revive a Virginia team that finished with a 5-22 record last season and that had to forfeit two games. But you would not be able to tell last season’s results based on the basketball the team is playing now.

Virginia finds themselves sitting at 15-12 in Agugua-Hamilton’s first season as head coach — an increase in winning percentage from 18 percent to just under 58 percent. There seems to be a renewed energy around the women’s basketball team on the Virginia campus that had been missing since 2018. So, how did she do it?

The most obvious difference in the seasons is the addition of one player — senior forward Sam Brunelle. Brunelle transferred to Virginia from Notre Dame after the 2022 season. From the start, it was clear that the homecoming was going to be a success for the Ruckersville, Va. native. She dropped 21 points and seven rebounds in her second game with the Cavaliers, and has been a force on the court ever since.

On the season, Brunelle averaged 11 points, third on the team, and led the team in minutes played per game. Unfortunately, she suffered a foot injury and announced Feb. 11 that she will miss the rest of the season because of surgery — she will be returning to Virginia for her final season of eligibility. For a team that is not deep in the front court, the loss of the six-foot-two Brunelle will be difficult to overcome.

Brunelle is not the only reason for the Cavaliers’ success, though. Senior forward Camryn Taylor and junior guard Mir McLean are currently first

and second in points per game for the Cavaliers, with 13.6 points and 12.2 points, respectively. Taylor also leads the team in rebounds. Both players increased their points per game by nearly a point from last season, indicating the upward trend in the team’s production since the introduction of Agugua-Hamilton to the program. What the new coach has done is most evident on the offensive side of the floor, where the Cavaliers are scoring over 14 points per game more than last year’s squad.

Virginia started out hot, winning their first 12 games, but started to struggle as conference play began. The Cavaliers lost 11 out of their next 13 games, with the defense struggling in particular. After allowing only four opponents to score more than 60 points in the first 12 games, a 70-56 loss against Duke signaled a downturn in fortune for the program. The de-

fense would then give up more than 60 points more often than not, which is partially because of the increase in competition, with Virginia going against ranked teams such as Virginia Tech, Notre Dame and North Carolina.

Things may be looking up for the Cavaliers, though. After numerous close losses to ranked teams, Virginia finally got over the hump with a 71-59 victory over then-No. 22 NC State. The victory snapped a seven-game losing streak for the team, and — arguably more importantly — proved the Cavaliers could overcome the frontcourt depth hit and win without Brunelle. Senior guard Taylor Vallady stepped up and dropped 22 against the Wolfpack, and could be an X-factor for the team as the regular season comes to a close.

While Agugua-Hamilton’s first

season already should be considered a success, the future seems even more promising. The rookie head coach has already managed to land the commitments of two top 50 players in the 2023 recruiting class. Five-star recruit Kymora Johnson chose to stay home for college, with the St. Anne’s-Belfield product committing to Virginia on Sept. 11. When Paired with Olivia McGhee — the 45th ranked player in the class according to ESPN — it is clear that Agugua-Hamilton intends to also build a successful program in the long-term.

A new life has been injected into John Paul Jones Arena. While replicating the success the Virginia Women’s Basketball Team had in the ‘90s is probably impossible, Agugua-Hamilton is taking the team in the right direction. It is clear to everyone on Grounds that this is a very different team than what they saw last season.

ADVERTISEMENT

THANK YOU TO THE  
**UVA PARENTS PROGRAM**  
FOR YOUR GENEROUS GRANT THAT ALLOWED THE CAVALIER DAILY TO PURCHASE NEW COMPUTERS



ON THE DOWNTOWN MALL





JEFFERSONTHEATER.COM

02-24	JORMA KAUKONEN SEATED GA SHOW
03-03	DONNA THE BUFFALO WITH THE JUDY CHOPS
03-10	KINGS OF THRASH WITH HATRIOT
03-12	BODEANS
03-17	CHAMOMILE & WHISKEY WITH THE CURRYS
03-18	CARBON LEAF
03-22	MOE.
03-25	COREY SMITH
04-05	MARC BROUSSARD WITH NICOTINE DOLLS
04-16	“SWING INTO SPRING” JAZZ BENEFIT WITH ALBEMARLE HIGH JAZZ ENSEMBLE FEATURING JOHN D’EARTH, CHARLES OWEN, AND MANY MORE
05-09	JOSH RITTER & THE ROYAL CITY BAND
09-13	ERIC JOHNSON: THE TREASURE TOUR 2023

RENT THE JEFFERSON FOR YOUR EVENT!  
RENTALS@JEFFERSONTHEATER.COM • 434-245-4917



THESOUTHERNCVILLE.COM

02-23	KENDALL STREET COMPANY RESIDENCY EVERY THURSDAY IN FEBRUARY
02-24	DISCO RISQUÉ WITH CHESTNUT GROVE
02-25	SAM BURCHFIELD & THE SCOUNDRELS WITH SPECIAL GUEST VIRGINIA MAN
03-01	BUMPIN UGLIES WITH SIERRA LANE
03-02	BAILEN WITH ELIZABETH MOEN
03-03	AN EVENING WITH MARTIN SEXTON
03-07	SAM GRISMAN PROJECT PRESENTS THE MUSIC OF GARCIA/GRISMAN
03-09	JOSLYN & THE SWEET COMPRESSION
03-11	DAMN TALL BUILDINGS
03-12	DARLINGSIDE PRESENTED BY WNRN
03-16	JOSH TEED WITH TERRACHROME
03-17	DREW PACE WITH SAM LOWE
03-19	HIGHWAY TO ROCK PRESENTED BY STACY’S MUSIC
03-19	BAKED SHRIMP
03-21	TALISK

EAT AT THE SOUTHERN CAFÉ  
CAFÉ OPENS 2 HOURS PRIOR TO PERFORMANCES



# Stephen Schoch: College baseball media pioneer

How Virginia men's baseball alumni Stephen Schoch is still using his vibrant personality to impact the sport for good

Harry Farley | Sports Columnist



COURTESY VIRGINIA ATHLETICS

Schoch may cover college baseball as an analyst now, but he was a force in his own right as a player, totaling 13 saves in his Virginia career.

With a 3-2 lead and a spot in the 2021 NCAA regional finals on the line, Virginia baseball had forced South Carolina to two outs left in the top of the seventh inning. As runners stood on first and third base, the Cavaliers needed one more out to get out of the jam after the Gamecocks had already notched a solo home run in the seventh inning to make it a one-run game.

Enter then-graduate student right-hander Stephen Schoch — known to many as BigDonkey47, his Twitter account handle. The outgoing, unique closer from Laurel, Md. struck out a batter to end the seventh, then proceeded to strike out four more runners over the last two innings, punching himself in the temple in the process of securing the victory.

After striking out the last Gamecock to seal the win, Schoch launched his glove toward the Virginia dugout and let out a ferocious roar. But Schoch's inadvertent histrionics did not stop there. The interview following the win was where Schoch would become a household name overnight in the world of college baseball.

"I heard a fan offer free Dippin' Dots if I blew [the game]," Schoch said. "The price of Dippin' Dots with inflation is just unreal. For a brief moment, I was like, 'd—n, Dippin' Dots sound good.'"

Other tidbits from the post-

game interview included Schoch's confession that caves make him nervous and that he repeats three words to himself on the mound — "f—k," "attack" and "win".

Schoch would also go on to rave about his defense and comment on how "awesome" the rest of his Virginia teammates were. His gleeful personality shone through and the video exploded on social media, also garnering the attention of USA Today and The Washington Post among other news outlets.

Schoch's interview came in between a double-header for the Cavaliers, so he did not see what was taking place on social media until five hours later.

"I had no idea any of it was happening," Schoch said in an interview with The Cavalier Daily.

Even a month after the College World Series had ended, he again gained thousands of more followers overnight.

"I had all these followers and I had no idea what to talk about or what to tweet about," Schoch said.

Schoch quickly realized that as a former player, he might as well start tweeting about college baseball — while viral sensations can come and go, his true passion for the game kept his followers growing and engaged.

His fervent presence on Twitter has now become a staple of the college baseball community, as he

has amassed over 85,000 followers on the platform. He also hosts a college baseball podcast called "The Schoch Factor", where he discusses everything college baseball. From previewing the conference landscapes to debating just how many ACC players have never seen the Atlantic Ocean, the podcast has it all.

Schoch now juggles his love for baseball with a nine-to-five real estate job. After moving from Charlottesville to North Carolina post-graduation, Schoch now lives in Delaware but has continued to stay active on Twitter in the college baseball community.

His tweets come from every corner of the college baseball universe — if it is unique, Schoch is likely to post it and try to share it with a wider audience. From posting seven-foot-two umpires to dazzling highlights of teams you have never heard of like Northeast Mississippi Community College, Schoch has it covered.

He specifically wants to bring attention to the discrepancies in college baseball in hopes of growing the sport — he said college baseball is often overshadowed by other mainstream college sports like football and basketball.

"As long as we put a little bit of money into [baseball] and a little bit more effort, more people will see it," Schoch said. "More people will want to be involved with it,

and it's just going to be better as a whole."

Schoch does not use Twitter for his own gains, though — in fact, it is the opposite. As the transfer portal heated up in the college sports world this past summer, Schoch would consistently post videos of player highlights in efforts to expose them to coaches and scouts on the platform in hopes of helping their transfer efforts.

"I know how hard it is to get seen by college coaches," Schoch said. "It's not easy. I had to spend three years at two different schools just to get seen by the college coaches I wanted to be seen by... My initial thought was just get these guys seen, help them out."

Much to Schoch's surprise, around 15 of the players whose videos he posted on his account followed up, sending him direct messages on Twitter and explaining how they ended up being recruited after coaches saw their videos.

"I did not expect anything like that major, but it really just inspired me...people might charge for this service but I can do it for free. It's free to do and it's a good thing to do so why not?"

Schoch also often posts when teams' travel plans go awry — take for example Iowa Central, whose bus broke down. Schoch posted a

video about how they borrowed a high school wrestling team's bus to make it to their game. Through this sort of content, Schoch shows that the joy of college baseball is not only found in home runs and walk-offs, but also in the everyday events that define smaller college sports.

Schoch has plans to return to Charlottesville this spring, as the Cavalier baseball team has drawn national preseason attention. He recently predicted Virginia as one of the schools that will make a trip to Omaha come College World Series time on his podcast. Additionally, Schoch placed junior catcher Kyle Teel at the top of his preseason rankings at the position. However, he does not exactly know when fans should expect his return to Charlottesville.

"I'll be there at some point," Schoch said. "It's just very spur of the moment."

Whether or not this year's squad will be able to recapture the magic of that 2021 run — or even top it — it can be assured that Schoch will be emphatically supporting and promoting Virginia's baseball team along the way from the stands or online in his quest to legitimize college baseball on a national level.

# WISHENGRAD: Coaching staffs matter in college football

Tony Elliott's staff composition could be instrumental to Virginia's program taking a leap

Daniel Wishengrad | Sports Columnist



AVA PROEHL | THE CAVALIER DAILY

Tony Elliott enters the 2023-24 season having handpicked all but one member of the Cavaliers' coaching staff.

Throughout the 2022 season, Virginia football's coaching staff seemed like it was in a transitional state. The staff was composed of a mix of longtime Virginia veteran staff members and new blood brought in by first-time head coach Tony Elliott. The amalgamation of different staff members and visions failed to gel as the team went a dismal 3-7, winning just a single conference game before the season was tragically cut short. Now, in an offseason that is bringing about change to the program in many forms, Virginia's sidelines will have a few new faces — and lose a few familiar ones.

From 2016 to 2021, former head coach Bronco Mendenhall installed a loyal coaching staff that adhered to his strategy and football philosophy. Former Virginia offensive coordinator Robert Anae held the same role under Mendenhall for nine years prior at Brigham Young University, totaling 15 years working side-by-side on the offensive scheme until both coaches departed. Similarly, former defensive coordinator Nick Howell joined Mendenhall at BYU back in 2007. The group had its ups and downs, but they ultimately left Virginia in 2021 having reached the heights of an NY6 bowl game and a win over

Virginia Tech in 2019.

Following their departure and Elliott's hiring, there was a large amount of turnover, with only three holdovers from the previous staff going into his first year. For NFL teams, switches in positional coaches are common and do not often impact the fundamental makeup of a roster. However, on the college level, the relationships between recruits, players and coaches are much deeper and more hands-on than seen in the pros. When a new set of coaches take the reins of north of 100 college-aged athletes, many of whom remember the culture and requirements of past coaches, one of the toughest tasks is getting every player to buy in.

Ultimately, the replacements yielded mixed results. Elliott was able to secure Air Force Academy defensive coordinator John Rudzinski, who elevated the Cavaliers and got the most out of a unit that had struggled under Howell a year prior. His presence was felt particularly in the play and development of junior cornerback Fentrell Cypress II and senior safety Antonio Clary. Meanwhile, on the offensive side of the ball, Elliott brought in talent from the NFL coaching level in new offensive coordinator Des

Kitchings. The offense regressed massively as Elliott and Kitchings' systems seemed to clash with the strengths of the personnel who had thrived a year prior under Mendenhall and Anae.

After 2022's largely disappointing results and the tragic and untimely halt, this offseason brought about the departure of two of the final three remaining coaches from just two years ago. These two coaches, Marques Hagans and Garrett Tujague, were impactful on not only the day-to-day workings of the team but instrumental in Virginia's recent success on the recruiting trail and player development.

Hagans was named associate head coach in addition to his duties as wide receivers coach, and Tujague was the only coach listed before Elliott on the team's roster website, holding the title of recruiting coordinator as well as offensive line coach. Now, Hagans will head to Penn State to continue coaching wide receivers, and Tujague will continue as offensive line coach under Anae at NC State.

Although multiple coaching departures in a single offseason have become the norm in college football, Virginia will still be affected by the losses of Hagans and Tujague. Cavalier fans can

only hope the culture of the team does not decline as any players left who were recruited during Mendenhall's tenure now see an entirely different staff at the helm. This also means that Elliott has now hand-picked the majority of the coaches on staff. So long as Elliott is able to right the ship, perhaps coaching turnover will not be such a concern in the coming years.

To fill these positions, Virginia has internally promoted senior offensive analyst Adam Mims to the position of wide receivers coach. Meanwhile, Elliott was able to bring in Stanford's offensive line coach Terry Heffernan to take on the same role for the Cavaliers.

These two coaching positions can determine the direction of a program. Hagans and Tujague will also be missed on the recruiting trail and for their ability to retain talent. With the correct hires, however, Virginia can be just as — if not more — successful under Elliott than previously.

Regardless of past results, Elliott's job remains the same as when he was given the keys to Scott Stadium only 14 months ago — to build a culture of excellence and cement Virginia as one of the best football programs in the country. Rebounding from

a season marred by tragedy and hardship both on and off the field is a difficult task for any head coach, and requires a strong and experienced group of positional coaches to forge bonds with players. A cohesive staff can make it seamless for everyone involved to buy into the culture that Elliott is charged with creating.

The collegiate athletic world is changing quicker than ever before, with NIL deals and the newly-strengthened transfer portal requiring coaches to go above and beyond to recruit and maintain players. Relationships, culture and stability are key components of building a program that can not be underestimated entering next season.



ACT JUSTLY  
LOVE MERCY

EXPLORING  
THE HEART



OF EQUAL  
JUSTICE

*featuring*

**BRYAN STEVENSON**

*in conversation with UVA President Jim Ryan*

March 28, 2023 | 7:00 PM  
John Paul Jones Arena



The 2023 Scoper Lecture  
in Christian Thought

co-hosted by



THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS