



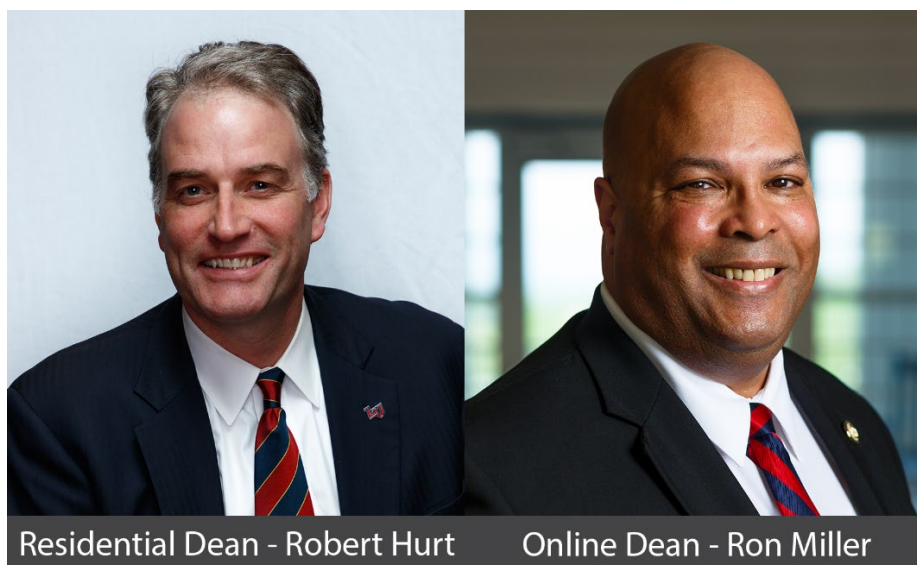
Helms School of Government Newsletter Spring 2020

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For more information visit our [Website](#), [Facebook](#), & [Instagram](#)

Welcome from the Deans



Residential Dean - Robert Hurt

Online Dean - Ron Miller

Once again, greetings from the Helms School of Government!

Now that the semester has drawn to a close, we are pleased to share with you the newest Helms School newsletter – for Spring 2020.

First and foremost, we hope that you will join us in congratulating Liberty University's Class of 2020! Our Helms graduates have worked hard under trying conditions to earn their degrees and we are proud of them. And we are expecting great things from them. And we hope that each of you will join us on Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12 here at Liberty when we will properly honor the Class of 2020.

Needless to say, this was a semester unlike any other. However, despite the challenges, we are pleased to report that our faculty went above and beyond to maximize the academic experience for our students in our new virtual classrooms. Thank you Helms faculty!

We hope that you will enjoy reviewing a sample of some the programs that we hosted during the semester – including visits from former Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell and former White House advisor Tim Goeglein. We also hope that you will enjoy reading about some of our successes – including an amazing run for our Moot Court team to the national finals in Baton Rouge.

As we seek to better engage with our entire Helms family, please do your part and join the conversation on Facebook and Instagram!

We hope that you have an excellent and safe summer, and we look forward to seeing you back on campus in August.

Congratulations Class of 2020!



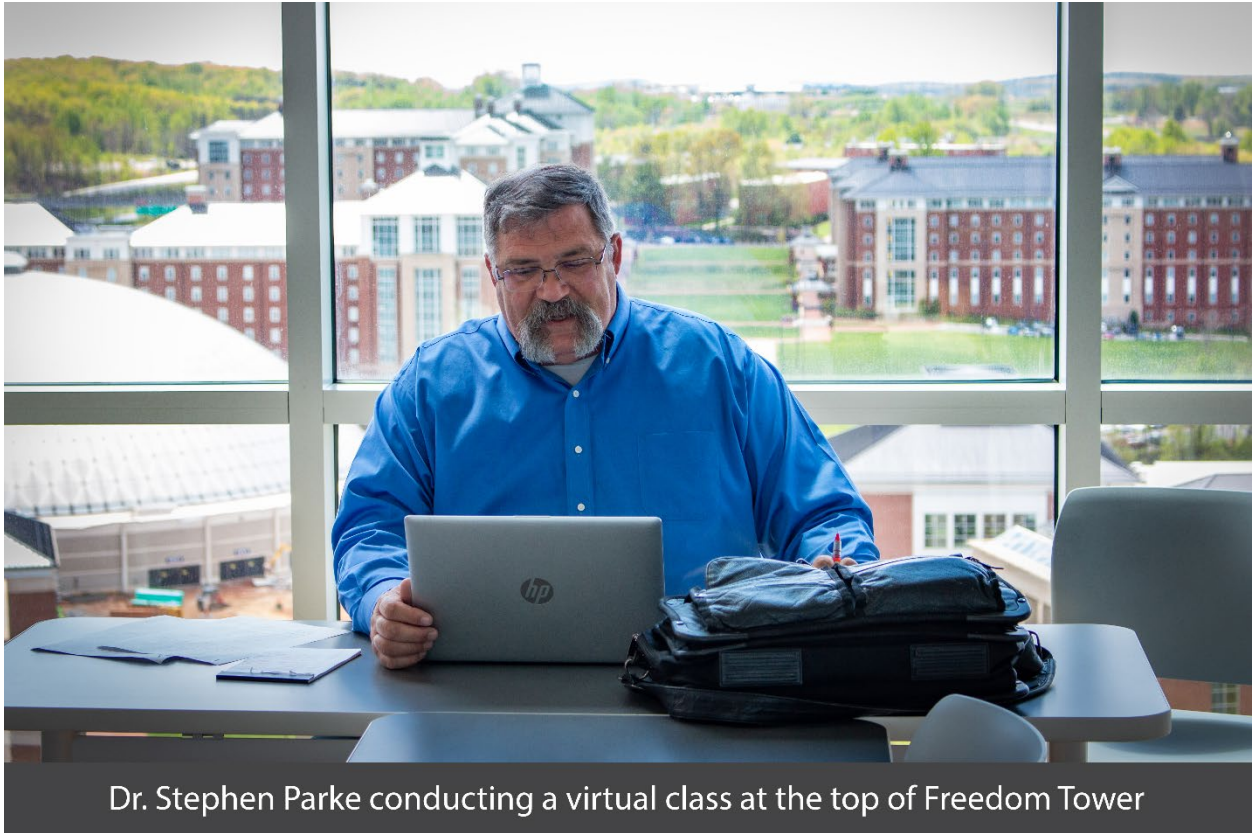
Congratulations to the outstanding Class of 2020! While we were sad not to have our traditional graduation ceremony in May, we are excited that we will be able to see all of our graduates back on campus on Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12 – with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Despite the fact that we were not able to get together in person, in May we hosted a virtual Graduation Award Ceremony for our outstanding 2020 graduates. Each one of the awards not only reflects the hard work and dedication displayed by the award recipient but also reflects the unanimous approbation of the student's work by our Helms faculty and staff. We believe that these award recipients embody the highest ideals of our work at Liberty University and the Helms School of Government in preparing our graduates to go forth into the world and be Champions for Christ.

We look forward to recognizing these award recipients again at our graduation ceremony at Liberty on Friday, September 11.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Residential to Virtual



Dr. Stephen Parke conducting a virtual class at the top of Freedom Tower

What a semester! The Helms School is thankful to each and every one of our professors for how quickly they stepped up to build successful virtual classrooms for all of our students. In order to faithfully serve our students, our Helms faculty worked feverishly through Spring Break to prepare courses on Blackboard and new Microsoft Teams classrooms so our students could hit the ground running upon their return to our virtual campus.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Guests – Governor Bob McDonnell and Tim Goeglein



Former Governor of Virginia Bob McDonnell Speaking at the Law School

In February, we were delighted to welcome former Governor of Virginia, Bob McDonnell to the Helms School of Government as a visiting professor. While on campus, Governor McDonnell spoke to students in courses on American Constitutional Law, Free Enterprise, and American Government. He also hosted office hours in the Helms Suite, and met with students to offer advice from his years of experience as an attorney and public servant.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).



Once again, we were delighted to visit with our old Helms friend, Tim Goeglein. We are thankful that it was possible for him to join several of our classes virtually in April and speak about the Constitution.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Meet New Pre-Law Program Director



This semester we welcomed a new faculty member. Professor Benjamin Rathsam is a graduate of both our Helms School of Government and the Liberty University School of Law and is our new Director for the Pre-Law program. Dr. Tony Robertson, the former Director is now the Online Dean for the Liberty University School of Law. We look forward to the future of both our Helms School and Liberty law school programs under their leadership!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Moot Court/Mock Trial



Dr. Robertson with 2019-2020 Moot Court Team

The Helms School of Government had a highly successful season this past year. The team traveled across the continent to participate in four separate regional tournaments. This included trips to [Regent University](#), [Fitchburg State University](#), and a tournament in [New Brunswick, Canada](#). The season concluded with five teams qualifying for the [national tournament](#) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Out of 80 teams from across the United States, Liberty sent one of our teams – featuring Dalton Davis and Kayla Sargent -- to the Sweet 16 and another – featuring Alyssa Rumbuc and Corey Jones – to the Final Four. In addition to this great team success, Corey Jones received an award for All-American Speaker and Alyssa Rumbuc received the highest award among all 160 participants for Best Speaker. [Our congratulations](#) to our Moot Court team for a successful season.

Virginia State Police Visit



Dr. Cox with criminal justice students at the Virginia State Police

In March, a select group of Helms School students along with Criminal Justice Professor Dr. Joel Cox and Dean Hurt visited the Virginia State Police Fusion Center and were given the opportunity to brief top State Police decision makers on national security threats facing Virginia today. These students worked hard to research and present their findings during this national security briefing.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Clubs

This semester, the [Criminal Justice Club](#) held its annual Federal Law Enforcement Panel where their members had the opportunity to talk to members of the U.S. Marshall Service, the FBI, and the DEA and ask questions about their units.



The [Alexander Hamilton Society](#) hosted several panels with experts throughout the semester. One was with Dr. Ryan Berg, who is a research fellow on Latin America at American Enterprise Institute (AEI). Dr. Berg was joined by our own Dr. Thomas Metallo and Dr. Mary Prentice to discuss Venezuela's impact on the global economy. The panel was moderated by Dr. Mary Prentice.

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Faculty Spotlight



As a part of our social media program, we unveiled a new Featured Faculty post, and we started with Dr. Metallo, who has been at the Helms School of Government for 15 years. Dr. Metallo teaches courses in International Law, Political Economy & Public Policy, and Politics of Latin America to name a few. Also, for a short time he was a coach for the Liberty Lacrosse Team!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Be sure to read all of our Featured Faculty posts. [Dr. Parke](#), [Dr. Ferdon](#), [Dr. Fischer](#), [Dr. Cox](#), [Professor Waddell](#), [Professor Presley](#), [Dr. Prentice](#), [Professor Udobong](#), [Professor Cooper](#), and [Dr. Rathsam](#).

Alumni Spotlight



Maxwell Phillips graduation from Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy

Likewise, we have begun to include an Alumni Spotlight feature. Meet Maxwell Phillips. Maxwell graduated from Liberty in May of 2019. In June, he moved to Nashville, TN with his wife Hailey after accepting a position as a Police Officer for the Brentwood Police Department just south of Nashville. He then went on to attend the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy and graduated just before the end of 2019. He now works as a certified Police Officer in the Field Training Program!

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

Student Spotlight



Jordan Haley in DC during her White House internship

In addition, we began a Student Spotlight feature. Meet Jordan Hayley. At the beginning of the spring semester, Jordan was accepted into the White House internship program. She started interning in the Office of Political Affairs, but after three weeks she was asked to join the White House as a presidential appointee. She is currently the External Relations Coordinator for the Office of Presidential Personnel. Jordan's role is to assist senior leadership of various executive-branch agencies including the Department of Defense, the State Department, and others, to support the Presidential appointment process. Jordan graduated in May 2020 and received the [Jesse Helms Award](#).

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Fulbright Program



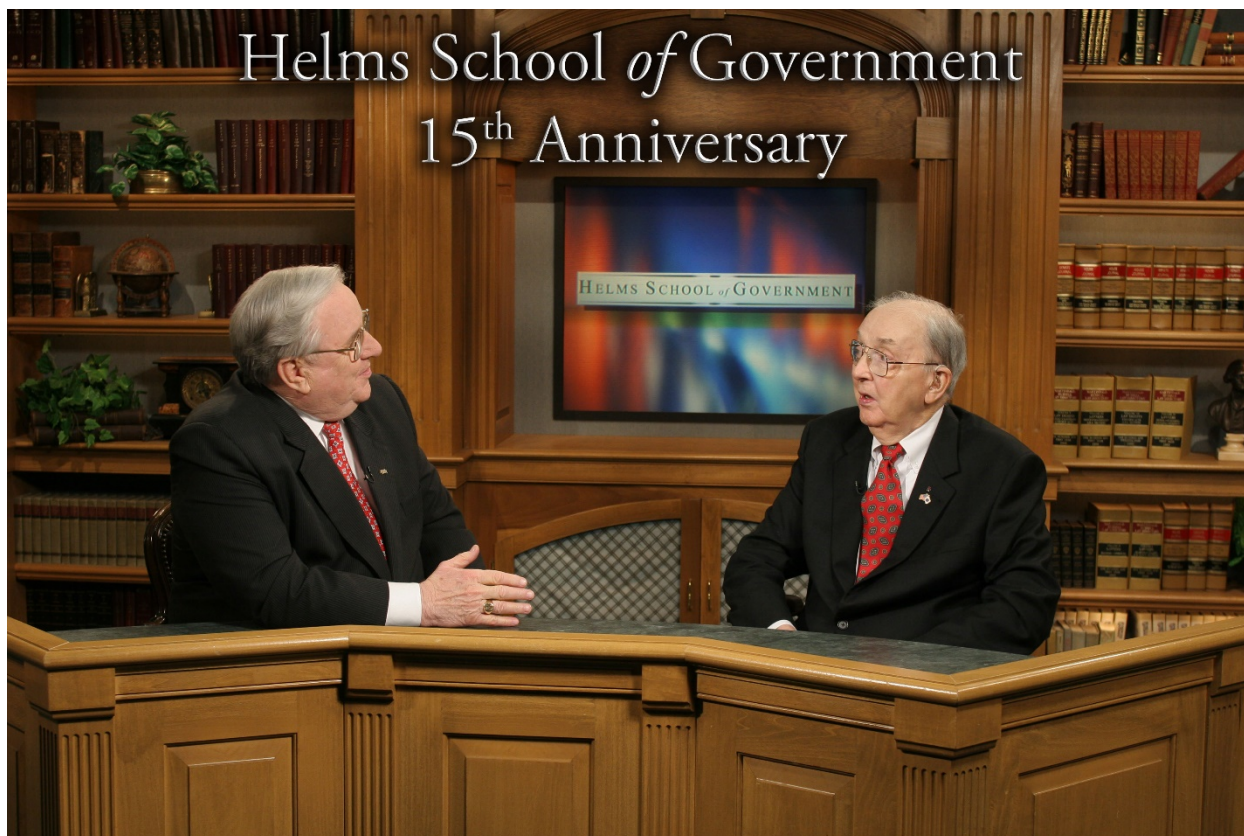
The Helms School of Government is proud to announce that the Fulbright Program has now completed its most successful year thus far. We are excited to see how these awardees will take the light from our mountain and shine it for good across the world. Follow the link below to learn more about our five Liberty University Fulbright finalists.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

In addition, this year, the Fulbright Scholar program was able to bestow the Provost's Award for Research Excellence (PARE) to several bright young Liberty scholars. This year's recipients were Bessie Blackburn, Lauren Dymmel, Camila Hernandez, Gabriel Hooper, and Emily Parrow. This award gives these students the opportunity to travel and conduct research with experts in their field.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).

HSOG 15th Anniversary



Finally, as we concluded the 2019-2020 academic year, the Helms School of Government tipped its hat on the occasion of the 15th anniversary since its founding in 2004. Please enjoy these photographs of Dr. Falwell and Senator Jesse Helms and friends at the dedication ceremony 15 years ago. We give thanks for all of the students and faculty and staff that have passed through our doors during this time, and we renew our commitment to training Champions for Christ for many more years to come. In addition, take two minutes and watch Senator Helms' [brief address to Convocation](#) where he charges our Liberty students to always fight for freedom and truth.

READ MORE on our [Facebook page](#).