Hampton University is continuing to be recognized by well-respected publications across the world, including The Princeton Review, U.S. News & World Report, MONEY Magazine, and many others.

The Princeton Review has once again named Hampton University as a “Best College” in their 2019 book – The Best 384 Colleges: 2019 Edition, as well as a “Best Regional College.” The Princeton Review has been a trusted resource for parents and students in choosing the best college for over 25 years. The Best 384 Colleges rankings are based on surveys of 138,000 students at 384 top colleges that includes a wide representation by region, size, selectivity and character.

U.S. News & World Report ranked Hampton University as a top school in several categories in the 2019 U.S. News Best Colleges rankings list. As a historically black college and university, the publication ranked Hampton University as #3. Hampton University was also ranked high in the southern region, as one of the best colleges for veterans, and best value schools. Hampton University was also recognized by U.S. News & World Report for its engineering programs.

U.S. News & World Report provides nearly 50 different types of numerical rankings and lists to help students narrow their college search.

“At Hampton University, we strive to uphold THE Standard of Excellence. We are driven, hardworking and resolute in upholding our founder’s ideals of outstanding academics and character building,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey. “The Princeton Review’s and U.S. News & World Report’s designations only reinforces their values and standards.”

Hampton University was named one of the “Best Colleges” by MONEY Magazine—a longtime trusted leader in financial preparedness. “MONEY Magazine releases this year’s rankings with a fresh and focused approach on what matters most to students and parents: Where will they get the best return on their investment after graduation? Your school was chosen for its high marks,” they stated.

The Black EOE Journal’s 2018 “Innovators” issue recognizes Hampton University as a Top HBCU. The Journal, known for being America’s leading African American business and career magazine, reviewed the nation’s Best of the Best HBCUs and Colleges & Universities and named Hampton University as one of the Best of the Best HBCUs. Black EOE Journal, now celebrating its 27th year of diversity, polled hundreds of nationwide institutions for its Best of the Best evaluations. BEOEJ is one of the nation’s fastest-growing magazines, promoting the advancement of African Americans in all aspects of business and employment to ensure equal opportunity.

College Consensus, a unique new college review aggregator, has recognized Hampton University in their survey as one of the Best Colleges and Universities in Virginia for 2018. Consensus rankings are based on a comprehensive aggregate of published rankings and verified student reviews. It honors the best colleges in Virginia for their commitment to excellence.

NTU Ranking, released by National Taiwan University, is also known as the “Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities.” Hampton University demonstrated outstanding performance in the 2018 NTU Ranking, specifically based on production and impact of scientific papers and research.

Online programs at Hampton University continue to thrive and are being noticed around the country. The Bachelor’s in Aeronautics and Aviation program was recognized as one of the best online programs on TheBestSchools.org for 2018. Hampton University was ranked No. 5 in Virginia from OnlineColleges.com, as one of the Top Online Colleges of 2018.

Senator Tim Kaine and Corey Stewart Participate in Two Town Halls at Hampton University and Liberty University in Collaboration between the Two Schools

Two Town Hall forums featuring Virginia U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D) and challenger Corey Stewart (R) took place at both Hampton University and Liberty University as part of a partnership between the two schools to inform and engage the Commonwealth of Virginia in this candidate race. Both Town Halls were sponsored by Hampton University’s Center for Public Policy and Liberty University’s Center for Law & Government.

The second, and most recent in the Senate Town Hall series occurred on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 in Hampton University’s Convocation Center, where the focus was on foreign policy and military. The moderators for this event were April Woodard, an award-winning journalist and professor for the Hampton University Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications, and WTKR news anchor Les Smith. Fifty Hampton University students also got the chance to pose questions to the candidates. Candidates discussed issues such as military healthcare, North Korea, military sexual assault, illegal immigrants and more. The forum was live streamed on Hamptonu.edu, Liberty’s Facebook page, C-SPAN and several other networks.

In speaking on immigration, Kaine said, “In my view, if somebody is fleeing persecution and we can vet them well enough to know that they’ll be safe here, the United States shouldn’t be heartless to people who are seeking refuge from countries that are under civil war or disaster.”

One Hampton University student asked Stewart about veteran unemployment. “We have to continue to improve our economy. There’s a tax cut that we’re only nine months into and already we have the lowest unemployment rate in the United States in 52 years. Our economy is booming,” Stewart said.

Hampton University students were highly involved in this Town Hall forum and even wrote and asked their own questions during the student panel portion of the evening. “Our students worked hard to research the issues and (continued next page)
The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) has awarded the Hampton University School of Science with a $4 million grant, specifically aimed to enhance research capabilities and strengthen educational programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

“Thank you to the Department of Defense for this much appreciated grant. Our students continue to prove that they are the best and the brightest. They are receiving a world-class education at our university where we have continually set the bar high. Hampton students are meeting that bar and exceeding it,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey.

The Stem Scholars Program (SSP) has already chosen the cohort, 17 Hampton University students who are also Merit Scholars, and began this past summer when they took English 102 Honors and other courses. The program supplements the Merit Scholarships and ensures the full cost of tuition and fees, and room and board are fully paid for four years. Students in the program can be in any of the following majors: biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, physics, electrical engineering, chemical engineering or computer engineering.

“The SSP program is a unique program that benefits the students and the university. This program provides students with full scholarships and the university gains more students in the trajectory towards STEM careers. So far, it has been a privilege to work with such eager and intellectually budding scientists as we explore the academic, research and STEM education aspects of this program,” said Dr. Isi Ero-Tolliver, assistant professor for the Hampton University School of Science and Co-PI for the Stem Scholars Program.

Dr. Donald Lyons, Endowed Professor of Physics, is the PI of the grant. He also facilitated the physics pre-college enrichment course of the SSP students and continues to teach the physics lectures during the academic year.

Members of the DoD and Hampton University’s School of Science met recently to officially kick off the program. They sat in on a physics class with the students in the cohort to see what they are learning. This group will meet again in Maryland next semester.

“We have an elite program, but we’re not trying to grow elitists. I think if we can use SSP to help others find their way, then we’ve accomplished a tremendous thing,” said Dr. Vallen Emerj, Jr., program manager; HBCU/MI outreach, U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

Stem Scholars are required to spend the summers after their sophomore and junior years conducting research in a DoD laboratory, as interns. The DoD chooses which lab the student will serve their internship. Students must also maintain a 3.30 GPA their entire four years as undergraduate students, which is the same requirement for the Merit Scholarship program.

“This is a great opportunity for a group of high performing undergraduates. I’m excited and am looking forward to them doing great things,” said Dr. Calvin Lowe, Dean of the Hampton University School of Science.
Hampton University officially welcomed the pharmacy class of 2022 during the 17th Annual White Coat Ceremony hosted by the Hampton University School of Pharmacy. Dr. Anand Iyer, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, as well as welcomed family members who came to support their students. “On behalf of Hampton University School of Pharmacy, I’d like to welcome all our guests to the 17th Annual White Coat Ceremony,” said Dr. Anand Iyer, Dean of the Hampton University School of Pharmacy. “It’s really a pleasure, us as a family, to welcome all of you. This is truly a pleasure every year to introduce our new P1 students, and have them go through the White Coat Ceremony, so thank you all for being here.”

The Keynote Address was given by Ellen B. Shinaberry, RPh, PharmD, who is the Deputy Executive Director with the Virginia Board of Pharmacy and is primarily responsible for the Board’s discipline program. She left the students with three tokens of advice. “First, be present in the moment, although it may seem to you at times that pharmacy school will never end, it will pass very quickly. Be present in the moment and don’t be afraid to take on the impossible, the greatest opportunities sit on the other side of impossible. Secondly, make time to have fun while you’re here. Pharmacy school will challenge you mentally, physically, psychologically, and socially, and if there’s any other way to challenge you, it will challenge you in that way too. Lastly, cultivate meaningful relationships. Pharmacy is much more than a profession, it’s a family of pharmacists,” Shinaberry said.

In closing, Shinaberry challenged these future pharmacists. “I challenge you to shift your paradigm and focus not on the patient experience, but rather on the human experience. No one wants to be a patient. You will encounter people in the best of times and more often than not, in the worst of times. Listen carefully to what they have to say and always strive to be compassionate, caring and understanding. Allow your practice to be a reflection of who you are and what you believe. And always do so with the highest regard of the health and safety of the patients you serve,” Shinaberry said.

Family, friends and fellow students then raucously welcomed each of the 35 new students as each white coat was donned, symbolizing the transition from baccalaureate graduate to pharmacist candidate. Each student took a Pledge of Professionalism promising to “stand for ideals while not compromising integrity, [and] to uphold professionalism, loyalty and honesty.”

Hampton University Officially Begins School Year with the 76th Annual Opening Convocation

Hampton University officially welcomed the senior class of 2019 with the 76th Annual Opening Convocation. From the musical sounds of the Hampton University Symphonic Choir to the inspiring words of Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey and the prophetic message from Keynote Speaker, Secretary Frederick M. Lawrence, each attendant of this traditional event walked away with encouragement for a phenomenal year.

Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck, Congressman Bobby Scott, and Dr. and Mrs. Freeman Hrabowski also attended the opening ceremony as honored guests.

Dr. Karen Turner Ward, Chair, Committee on Ceremonial Occasions, presided over the event. She reminisced about the last year of commemoration, celebrating Hampton University’s 150-year legacy and President Dr. William R. Harvey’s 40 years of legendary leadership. “The anniversary celebrated a legacy and a legend of excellence, and permeated the entire campus, creating an atmosphere that was both electrifying and infectious,” said Dr. Ward.

Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey, welcomed each student to the university and officially opened the 151st year of existence of Hampton University. “Let us diligently strive to reach new heights, in academics, in research and service, guided by our commitment for being THE Standard of Excellence,” said Dr. Harvey. “I want you to know that any objective analysis will show that we are at the top of the heap of modest-sized universities in the country. As your President, I want you to know I will continue to push the faculty, the staff, you the students, into dreaming no small dreams. Be sure that Hampton’s history is preserved according to the priorities that General Armstrong set forth and that our future is bright.”

Dr. Harvey also honored Dr. Kelwyn A. D’Souza and Dr. Harvey J. Stokes with Hampton University’s 2017-18 Edward L. Hamm, Sr. Distinguished Teaching Awards. Dr. D’Souza is a professor in the Department of Management, has published numerous articles and served as Principal Investigator on twenty funded projects, totaling four million dollars. Dr. Stokes is professor of composition and 20th Century Music, has written more than 53 compositions and serves as President of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Association of Composers.

Dr. Harvey gave the distinguished class of 2019 a few words of guidance for the school year. “This is your final undergraduate year. This year presents you a prime opportunity here at Hampton to grow and achieve intellectually and spiritually, and this year provides opportunity to prepare and plan for the next phase of your life, life after college. That may be graduate college or a professional career. Whatever path, continue that journey with vigor, focus on the things that matter the most as you travel through this academic year. Remember the lessons that you have learned and use them as a guide. Remember that life is not a game of chance, it’s a game of choice,” said Dr. Harvey.

Hampton University was excited to have Secretary Frederick M. Lawrence give this year’s Convocation Address. Secretary Lawrence is a civil rights scholar and CEO of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation’s first and most prestigious honor society. He is a Distinguished Lecturer at the Georgetown Law Center, and has previously served as president of Brandeis University, Dean of the George Washington University Law School, and Visiting Professor and Senior Research Scholar at Yale Law School. He was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 2018 and the American Law Institute in 1999.

Throughout his address, Secretary Lawrence spoke about education, the powerful role of humor, problem solving, thinking creatively and “turning knowledge into wisdom.” Secretary Lawrence spoke about the promissory note that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. invoked in his 1963 “I Have a Dream” speech, and said the students of today, Hampton University students, need to fulfill the remains of that promissory note.

“That promissory note did not get paid in full so who would have guessed that it now falls to you, the young men and women of Hampton University, to see to it that that promissory note is yet again presented for payment,” said Secretary Lawrence. “If this task seems too great to you and you think too much is being asked of you, then I will remind you that the tools necessary for this work are precisely what you’ve been obtaining here at Hampton University. Your task is not to perfect the world, but it is most definitely to leave it better than how you found it.”
Panelists Speak about Dr. Martin Luther King’s Influence on Fight for Civil Rights in Virginia at Memorial Commission’s Community Conversation

Community members, educators, historians, Hampton University staff, faculty and students came together for the Virginia Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission’s Community Conversation, to discuss Dr. King’s influence on the fight for civil rights in Virginia and asking, as Dr. King did, “Where do we go from here?” This is the eighth Conversation in the series.

Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey, was on hand to open the conversation and welcome the guests to Hampton University. “You have come to our very historic campus at a very exciting time in our history. Last year, Hampton celebrated its 150th anniversary and my 40th service to this outstanding institution,” Dr. Harvey said. “Hampton clearly has a rich and deep history. One part of the history is the many noteworthy visitors to our campus, including ten United States Presidents, and abolitionist Frederick Douglass who mitigated that he had been all over the world, but now that he had seen Hampton, he has seen the world.”

Dr. Harvey went on to name a few other famous individuals who visited Hampton University, including Dr. King. “One of the most internationally recognized visits to Hampton was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who spoke twice during the Civil Rights Movement, once in 1956 and once in 1962. It is only fitting that Hampton University hosts tonight’s King in Virginia Community Roundtable.”

The discussion was moderated by Senator Jennifer McClellan, who is also the Chair of the Virginia Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission. “The King Commission was created in 1992 to help keep Dr. King’s legacy and his work alive through programming that examines the issues that he was working on, and how his work is still relevant in contemporary issues today,” McClellan said.

Panelists for the discussion included Gaylene Kaynoton, President, Hampton Branch NAACP; Carter Phillips, Hampton University Commission; Rev. Dr. Calvin Syndor, III, African Methodist Episcopal Church; Aman Tune, political science student at Hampton University; Dr. Sharon Campbell Waters, member of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church during Dr. King’s tenure; and Robert Watson, assistant professor of History for Hampton University.

Robert Watson, Hampton University assistant professor of history, had the chance to shoot pool with Dr. King when he was attending college. “Tomorrow, the 27th of September, it would be 62 years ago that he came and spoke at the Memorial Chapel here at Hampton,” said Watson. “Dr. King was familiar with Hampton before he came in 1956, and one of the major reasons is that his mother went to school here. His mother, Alberta Williams King, attended Hampton and was in the class of 1925 so he knew something about Hampton. He knew it was a great institution, so he understood the importance of this institution and what we all are striving to be.”

Dr. Sharon Campbell Waters shared a story about the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955 that was sparked by the arrest of Rosa Parks, and which her parents were involved in. Dr. King was asked to be President of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), which led to the boycott. WPC President, Jo Ann Robinson, “said we need someone to chair the Transportation Committee and so my mother said, ‘he will,’ pointing to my father,” Waters said. Her father was the one who secured the vehicles that would give people a means to get to work since they would not be taking the bus for this prepared one-day boycott. “The bus boycott lasted for 381 days,” Waters said.

Gaylene Kaynoton, President, Hampton Branch NAACP spoke about where Hampton is at today. “Everyone is doing something now, and they’re coming together. You think about what went on in the 1960s, that’s what’s going on right now, this is your civil rights, to all the young folks in here, we’re just here to push you along,” Kaynoton said. “Now, no one is afraid, everyone is empowered and in Hampton we are empowered. I see good things going forward for our next generation, and I see great things happening right now.”

Hampton University Honors Two Alumni with Naming Ceremony of The Freeman & Jacqueline Hrabowski Student Success Center

On Sunday, September 30, 2018, Hampton University recognized the generosity of Hampton University alums Dr. and Mrs. Freeman Hrabowski with the naming and dedication ceremony of The Freeman and Jacqueline Hrabowski Student Success Center. The Hrabowskis’ recently donated $100,000 to their alma mater in tribute to Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey and First Lady Norma B. Harvey’s 40 years of service.

“The Hrabowskis have given a seven figure gift to this university and most recently a $100,000 gift. They truly believe in giving back to their alma mater and I am just as pleased as I can be that I could be in a position to recommend to the board of trustees that we name this building in their honor,” said President Dr. William R. Harvey. “I want to let Freeman and Jacqueline know that the board voted unanimously and once again we are honored.”

Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, President of UMBC since 1992, is a consultant on science and math education to national agencies, universities, and school systems. He was named by President Obama to chair the President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans. He also chaired the National Academies’ Committee that produced the report, Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America’s Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads (2011). His 2013 TED talk highlights the “Four Pillars of College Success in Science.”

“I give you words about choice from philosopher Aristotle. He said, ‘Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives.’ Then he said, and students I want you to know something, ‘Choice not chance determines destiny.’ Hampton, you have chosen well because you always choose excellence and for that, we will be forever grateful,” said Dr. Hrabowski.

Mrs. Jacqueline C. Hrabowski retired in 2009 as Vice President of Corporate Community Involvement at T. Rowe Price. Mrs. Hrabowski is currently an active community volunteer and advocate of mentoring and child development initiatives. A trustee of the Abell Foundation, she is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Inc. She has received numerous awards, including being named one of Maryland’s Top 100 Women.

“The Hampton experience made us feel very special. It prepared us to work hard, to give back and to let our lives do the singing. For that, we are eternally grateful, I want to thank you for this fantastic honor,” said Mrs. Hrabowski.

The Hampton University Student Success Center helps new students navigate through their first year of college and beyond with an Individual Plan for Academic Success (I-PASS). In addition to academic support, the center provides counseling, tutoring services and encourages fruitful engagement between students and faculty. A $600,000 grant from The Mellon Foundation funded the center.