

**RETIREMENT OF KATE M. CONLEY
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES**

Kate M. Conley received her B.A. *cum laude* in 1979 from Harvard-Radcliffe University with a major in English. She earned an M.A. in French in 1988 from the University of Colorado and an M.A. in 1990 and Ph.D. in French in 1992 from the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded an honorary M.A. in 2007 from Dartmouth College. Professor Conley joined the faculty of William & Mary as Professor of French and Francophone Studies and Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences in 2012. She served as Dean for eight years and was named Chancellor Professor of Modern Languages & Literatures in 2020. Before joining William & Mary, Professor Conley had a rich career as Professor of French and Comparative Literature at Dartmouth College.

Professor Conley's service to William & Mary has been extensive. Not only did she serve as Dean of Arts & Sciences, she has been on many university and Arts & Sciences committees, including the Chancellor Professorship, Faculty Research, Business Innovation Steering, Strategic Planning Steering and Campus Master Planning Steering committees. As Dean, she also served as a member of the Provost's Executive Team and Threat Assessment group, and was ex officio Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee. In the wider academic community, Professor Conley served as a board member and treasurer of the Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences.

As a scholar, Professor Conley's research interests and publications have focused on the surrealist movement, particularly in terms of literature but also in visual art and audio recordings. She has been incredibly productive throughout her career: her publications include three monographs, three co-edited volumes, and over 60 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. In addition, Professor Conley has served as a peer reviewer for numerous journals, an external reviewer for countless promotion cases, research proposals, dissertations and department reviews, and a member of multiple editorial boards. Her dedication to scholarship and the academic community both within and beyond William & Mary are laudable.

In addition to her significant scholarly and administrative pursuits, Professor Conley has always made time for her students. She has consistently served as a first-year advisor for incoming students at William & Mary, even while fulfilling the duties of Dean. She has contributed to the COLL curriculum with innovative first year seminars, and her commitment to interdisciplinarity is evidenced in the cross-listing of her courses in Art History and Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies. She has truly embodied William & Mary's scholar-teacher model, even while serving in a significant administrative role.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Visitors acknowledges the retirement of Kate Conley; expresses its deep appreciation for her 11 years of service; and approves a change in status from Chancellor Professor of Modern Languages & Literatures to Chancellor Professor of Modern Languages & Literatures, Emerita.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board and a copy delivered to Professor Conley with best wishes from a grateful Board for her years of dedicated service to William & Mary..