The University of Richmond Honorary Degree Committee met this past Fall to vote on nominations submitted by faculty members, alumni, administration, and friends of the University regarding persons the Committee felt were deserving of an Honorary Degree bestowed by the University of Richmond, and normally presented during the University’s graduation ceremonies. Professor Peter N. Swisher will step down as Committee Chair after his two-year tenure, and will be succeeded by Professor Jon Wight of the Business School, for 2007-08.

The University of Richmond Honorary Degree Committee is a recommending committee, and is not an action committee. The Committee normally votes on honorary degree nominees within one of three categories: (1) Not Yet Worthy; (2) Worthy; and (3) Exceptionally Worthy. The final decision on Honorary Degrees is made by the University President and the University of Richmond Board of Trustees.

This year, the University will recognize the following individuals with Honorary Degrees at Commencement Exercises on May 13, 2007: Alfred H. Bloom, Ph.D., President of Swarthmore College (Doctor of Laws); John Fahey, President and Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of the National Geographic Society; and William E. Cooper, Ph.D., President of the University of Richmond (Doctor of Science); Brian Lamb, President and Chief Executive Officer of C-Span; and Jorge Ramos, News Anchor of Noticiero Univision, Univision Communications (Doctor of Letters); and Lila Harnett, Founder and Art Critic of ArtTable and Benefactor of the University of Richmond’s Joel and Lila Harnett Museum (Doctor of Fine Arts).

Otis D. Coston Jr, President of Stonemark Corporation and University Trustee and former Rector, will receive the Trustee’s Distinguished Service Award; and five University of Richmond Korean and Vietnam Veterans whose education was interrupted by war, and who did not return to complete their education, will receive Honorary Bachelor of Letters Degrees.

The University of Richmond Honorary Degree Committee encourages alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the University to nominate exceptional individuals for a University of Richmond Honorary Degree. The Committee requests that each nomination be adequately supported by substantial background information to assist the Honorary Degree Committee in its deliberations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter N. Swisher, Committee Chair

March 29, 2007