

2009 Gala

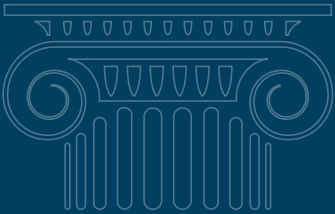
Virginia's Congressional Delegation



The delegation of the government, in a republic, to a small number of citizens elected by the rest . . . is to refine and enlarge the public views by passing them through the medium of a chosen body of citizens, whose wisdom may best discern the true interest of their country and whose patriotism and love of justice will be least likely to sacrifice it to temporary or partial considerations."

- James Madison

Sorensen Institute
for Political Leadership
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA



From the Chairman

If the word “partisan” conjures up a vision of men and women fighting in forests and mountains against invaders of their country, then “non-partisan” or even “bi-partisan” hardly has an appealing ring. The popular meaning of bipartisanship is cooperation, agreement, and compromise between two major political parties. However, as Professor James Morone of Brown University recently reminded us in an op-ed piece in the *NY Times*, there never was a golden bipartisan era. Nor, given this rarefied, emotionless, bloodless definition of bipartisanship as sweet reason, should there be.



When we at the Sorensen Institute proudly tout bipartisanship among very partisan people, what do we mean? We mean not viewing everything through the lens of partisanship, listening with an open ear, and responding in a civil manner. We mean using all of the powers of intellect, passion, emotion, wit, rhetoric, and persuasion one can muster without denigrating the opposition.

We are proud that our graduates of very disparate backgrounds and beliefs talk to and work with each other in the real political world to grapple with the issues confronting our great Commonwealth. Your support and commitment have and continue to make Sorensen style bipartisanship possible.

Barbara J. Fried

Barbara J. Fried

From the Executive Director

Spring is a season of renewal and a time to celebrate the rebirth of things that matter in our lives.



At our Gala each spring, the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership is proud to celebrate what is best about civic life, the process that engages Virginians in improving lives and safeguarding freedoms. At Sorensen we value ethical, informed leadership and the benefits that come from bipartisanship.

Bipartisanship is much broader a concept than agreements on votes. It involves discussions of issues across party lines, the inclusion of parties at the tables where decisions are being made and the spirit of open and fair participation in government.

This spring we honor the entire Virginia Congressional Delegation now serving our nation in Washington. These thirteen Virginians from across the Commonwealth represent both political parties and provide leadership and constituent services for millions of Virginians. We owe them each a great debt for their commitment to public life.

I want to thank you for your continued support of the Sorensen Institute. We are so proud that our alumni work hard each day to be the principled, visionary leaders that Virginia needs.

Bob Gibson

Bob Gibson

2009 Gala Schedule of Events

Friday, March 20, 2009
The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City

Reception

6:00 – 7:00PM The Plaza Ballroom

Dinner

7:00 – 8:00PM The Grand Ballroom

Program

8:00 – 9:30PM

Honoring

Virginia's Congressional Delegation

Sharon Bulova
Vivek Kundra
Sean Connaughton
Tom Davis

Presentation of Awards

"Expression of Ideals"

"Service to Sorensen"

2009 Gala Honorees
Virginia's Congressional Delegation



Senator Mark Warner



Senator Jim Webb



Congressman Rob Wittman
The 1st District



Congressman Glenn Nye
The 2nd District



Congressman Bobby Scott
The 3rd District



Congressman Randy Forbes
The 4th District



Congressman Jim Moran
The 8th District



Congressman Tom Perriello
The 5th District



Congressman Rick Boucher
The 9th District



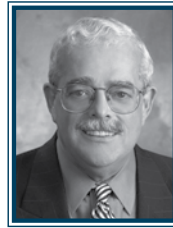
Congressman Bob Goodlatte
The 6th District



Congressman Frank Wolf
The 10th District



Congressman Eric Cantor
The 7th District



Congressman Gerry Connolly
The 11th District

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Speaker Biographies



Sharon Bulova

Sharon Bulova, originally elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to represent the Braddock District in 1987, is

currently serving her first term as the Board's Chairman. Mrs. Bulova is a founder of the VRE (Virginia Railway Express) and has served on the VRE Operations Board since its inception in 1989. In 2004, She was appointed by Governor Warner to chair the Governor's Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century and is a member and past chair of the Rail Advisory Board, which recommends funding for freight and passenger rail projects throughout the Commonwealth that provide a significant public benefit.

Mrs. Bulova was appointed by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) to chair the Greater Washington 2050 Initiative, which promotes better regional planning and smart growth strategies. She is a member of the MWCOG's Air Quality Committee and Development Planning Committee. Mrs. Bulova is a member and past chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Northern Virginia Regional Commission and is chair of the Fairfax County/City of Fairfax Committee as well as Fairfax County's representative on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.



Sean Connaughton

Sean Connaughton is currently Corporate Vice President - Government Affairs for the American Bureau of Shipping, one of the world's largest marine classification societies.

Prior to this, he served as the U.S. Maritime Administrator. He was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 3, 2006.

Mr. Connaughton was elected Chairman At-large of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors in 1999. He was re-elected to a second four-year term in 2003 and resigned that position upon becoming Maritime Administrator.

He attended law school at night at George Mason University School of Law and graduated in 1992. Mr. Connaughton was in private practice specializing in maritime and international law. He and a colleague appeared before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1999 to argue a case involving the constitutionality of laws imposed on the marine transportation industry. They won that case in a unanimous decision.

Mr. Connaughton served in the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Naval Reserve for 21 years. He retired in 2006.

He holds degrees from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Naval War College, and Georgetown University.

He is a Political Leaders Program ('95) graduate.

Speaker Biographies



Tom Davis

Congressman Tom Davis is a director of Deloitte's Federal Government Services where he advises Deloitte's clients on major trends, opportunities and challenges facing the federal

government, with a focus on technology innovation and government transformation.

Prior to joining Deloitte, he represented Virginia's 11th Congressional District for seven terms and was the chief sponsor of over 100 bills signed into law. He served with distinction as the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, and in 2000 and 2002, he was recognized as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Before obtaining full committee chairmanship, he led several subcommittees, including the Subcommittee on Technology and Procurement Policy. There, he sponsored legislation on e-government, information security and critical infrastructure. Notably, he was the first freshman Congressman in 50 years to be chosen for a subcommittee chairmanship.

Congressman Davis has also served as a co-chair of the Information Technology Working Group, which promotes a better understanding among members of Congress of important issues in the computer and technology industries.

He served on the Fairfax, Virginia Board of Supervisors for 15 years, including three as chairman, when Fairfax was recognized as the nation's best financially managed county.



Vivek Kundra

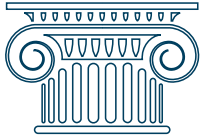
Vivek Kundra is a graduate of the Sorensen Institute's Political Leaders Program Class of 2007. He was recently named by President Obama to the newly created post of

Federal Chief Information Officer. According to the Washington Post, in his new position, he will "oversee how government agencies purchase and use information technology and will be in charge of all federal technology spending. He also will be responsible for ensuring agencies' networks and systems work together and share information while maintaining privacy and security standards." Vivek served as a technology advisor on the Obama transition team.

He previously served as the Chief Technology Officer for the District of Columbia as well as Virginia's Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Trade in the Kaine administration.

In 2008 Mr. Kundra was recognized as among the "outstanding IT innovators who use leadership skills, business-technology acumen, and out-of-the-box thinking to address ever-increasing challenges facing their organizations."

The technology publisher InfoWorld Magazine also named him to its annual list of the top 25 CTOs serving in government, nonprofits, or private industry.



The Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership

Founded in 1993 to identify, educate, and train emerging leaders from throughout the Commonwealth, the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership is a non-partisan organization dedicated to improving political leadership in Virginia thereby strengthening the quality of governance at all levels of government.

Through a variety of programs the Sorensen Institute has established itself as a powerful and effective force for restoring public confidence in our political system.

The Sorensen Institute's flagship Political Leaders Program is a leadership development program for residents of Virginia interested in becoming more active in public service, whether as community leaders or as elected officials. Participation in this program has become a traditional "first step" for future political leaders in the Commonwealth.

The Candidate Training Program is an intensive, four-day program focused on the fundamentals of a winning campaign for office. Participants learn the nuts and bolts of building a strong campaign from the ground up, all within the context of ethical and principled public service. The curriculum does not prescribe a particular set of campaign guidelines or rules, but does provide candidates with a framework for developing their own code of conduct to run a winning and ethical campaign.

The Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership offers a pair of advanced programs on public service and leadership for high school and college students. These programs are based on a firm belief that young people not only can make a positive difference in their communities, but that they should be encouraged strongly to do so. Our College Leaders Program and High School Leaders Program give students the practical skills and political knowledge to become effective advocates in government. These residential programs are held each summer on the grounds of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

The Sorensen Institute has more than 1,100 graduates of its programs. Seventeen alumni now serve in the Virginia General Assembly: two in the Senate and 15 in the House. Dozens more have been appointed to boards and commissions, while nearly 100 have been elected to local office. In the November 2007 elections alone, a record 48 Sorensen graduates won elections: 18 Republicans, 18 Democrats, and 12 independents. Other alumni are serving in critical positions of leadership in nonprofits, local governments and in the private sector.

Though it is housed at the University of Virginia as part of the Cooper Center for Public Service, the Sorensen Institute relies on donations and grants from individuals, corporations, and foundations to fund its programs.

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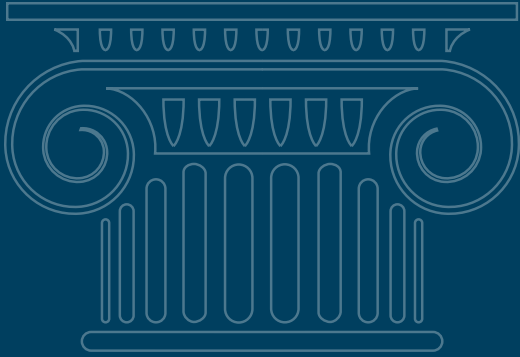
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Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

P.O. Box 400206

2400 Old Ivy Road

Charlottesville, VA 22904-4206

434-982-4943

www.sorenseninstitute.org

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