



November 30, 2020

The Honorable Ralph S. Northam  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Virginia  
Post Office Box 1475  
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Louise Lucas  
Post Office Box 700  
Portsmouth, VA. 23705-0700

The Honorable Roslyn C. Tyler  
25359 Blue Star Highway  
Jarratt, VA 23867

Dear Governor Northam, Senator Lucas, and Delegate Tyler:

In accordance with §23.1-401.1(D) of the *Code of Virginia*, Christopher Newport University provides this Annual Report on Free Speech.

Christopher Newport has developed and published materials and policies regarding constitutionally protected speech under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Our Statement on Free Speech and Expression and the process to report incidents of disruption of constitutionally protected speech may be viewed at <http://cnu.edu/public/freespeech/>. The University's statement on academic freedom and responsibility is included in the University Handbook (<http://cnu.edu/public/handbooks/>) and students' rights and responsibilities regarding freedom of expression are included in the Student Handbook (<http://cnu.edu/studenthandbook/pdf/studenthandbook.pdf>).

Additional University policies related to discrimination and harassment and the use of campus facilities can be found on the University's website at <http://cnu.edu/policies/>.

Employees who are responsible for the discipline or education of enrolled students have been notified of policies and rights stated in the Student Handbook regarding speech that is constitutionally protected under the First Amendment.

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No complaints have been filed in a court of law since December 1, 2019, to initiate a lawsuit against the institution or an employee of the institution for an alleged violation of the First Amendment.

A copy of this report may be found on the Free Speech and Expression website.

Sincerely,

*Cynthia R Perry*

Cynthia R. Perry  
Senior Counselor to the President

Cc: President Paul Tribble