



## **Mary Sue Terry, Former Va. Attorney General, to Speak at 165<sup>th</sup> Commencement**

Roanoke, Va. – Mary Sue Terry, Attorney General of Virginia from 1986 to 1993, will be the guest speaker at Hollins University’s 165<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercises, which will be held Sunday, May 20 at 10 a.m. on Hollins’ historic Front Quadrangle.

Terry was a pioneer in Virginia politics as the first woman elected to statewide office and the first elected official in state history to receive more than a million votes in a general election. She was only the second woman in U.S. history elected to the office of state Attorney General.

During her years as Virginia Attorney General, Terry’s office successfully proposed more than 80 different measures before the state General Assembly, including legislation reforming the insurance rate setting system, strengthening Virginia’s laws related to drunk driving, drug abuse and family violence, and rewriting Virginia’s waste management and clean water laws. She also negotiated a nationwide recall of 13,000 defective ambulances. She received the Wyman Award, the highest honor bestowed by the National Association of Attorneys General, in 1992.

Terry was the Democratic Party’s nominee for Governor in 1993. Subsequently, she served as visiting professor at the University of Richmond’s Jepson School of Leadership Studies from 1995 to 2001. She now resides in Critz, Virginia, where maintains a private law practice and works as a corporate consultant.

Terry holds a B.A. degree from the University of Richmond and earned M.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Virginia. She was elected to the Virginia Women's Hall of Fame in 1993 and was named the Outstanding Woman in Politics/Government by the Richmond YWCA that same year.

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