The world changed forever on September 11, 2001. This was especially true for those in the military who suddenly faced an enemy without borders, without a single nationality—even without a capitol. Just a year earlier, Admiral Vern Clark became the 27th Chief of Naval Operations. Now his 30-plus years of training and leadership would be put to the test in a way he had never envisioned.

In a distinguished 37-year military career that included serving as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Clark spent the majority of his time working with young people. After the terrorist attacks he shifted his focus to the training of sailors in a post-9/11 world.

In 2002 he charted a course for the future by publishing Sea Power 21, a vision for the training of leaders in the 21st century. This led to a revolution in the training, development and assignment processes within the Navy. The result was the best recruiting and retention in history.

Throughout his time of service, Clark poured himself into molding the lives of the young people who served under him. His commands included three ships, two destroyer squadrons, the Atlantic Fleet’s Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center, a Carrier Battle Group, the Second...
Fleet, NATO’s Striking Fleet, and the Atlantic Fleet.

When he retired from the Navy in 2005, he chose to continue molding the lives of potential leaders at Regent University.

“When I retired from the Navy, the first call I received was from Attorney General John Ashcroft who encouraged me to get involved at Regent,” Clark explains. “John is a friend, and his father was the president of Evangel College when I went there, which is one of the reasons I was drawn to Regent. I’m a product of a faith-based institution, and I believe strongly in the concept.

“I always considered myself to basically be a teacher. I love the joy of watching somebody as the light of learning goes on and you see the twinkle in their eye.”

In 2006, Clark began teaching on campus for two weeks in the spring and the fall. His involvement with students evolved significantly over time. He began as a visiting professor in the Schools of Business & Leadership and Government. In his second year, Clark received a request to speak to Ph.D. students in the School of Education.

“I spent my life as a leader, and my primary lectures are on leadership,” says Clark. “These Ph.D. students want to be superintendents and principals of schools, and they face significant leadership challenges. Adding value to their vital roles sounded like a really positive thing to do.”

Later, the School of Divinity asked him to speak to its students. “My father was a minister and served as the district superintendent in the State of Illinois for the Assemblies of God. So I said, ’Yeah, I’d love to speak to the divinity school students.’ So, now I go to all of the schools!” he says with a laugh.

After only a short time teaching, Clark was invited by Regent’s founder and chancellor, Dr. M.G. “Pat” Robertson, to join the board of trustees. “My involvement now is not just in the classroom, but also in the strategic direction of the university. It’s been a treat to participate in the discussions about what Regent is supposed to become,” he says.

The Regent Distinction

“I’m a believer in lifelong learning,” Clark explains. “In the Navy I learned firsthand...
“If Christianity defines who we are, it certainly ought to manifest itself in how we lead. It’s been a really exciting thing to interface with students from the undergraduate level, all the way to those who are pursuing graduate-level degrees.”

-Admiral Vern Clark (retired)

not just the value, but the absolute necessity to continue to grow and learn. I was particularly taken with the motto of Regent University to build Christian leaders to change the world. The founder of this university understood early on that having academic excellence wasn’t enough. Regent University had to grow leaders.”

Clark says he also deeply respects Regent’s culture of excellence: “I worked in a profession where being second best was a terminal disease. I have a hard time stepping away from excellence and appreciating mediocrity. I so appreciate the fact that the university is committed to growing people, creating leaders, changing the world, and having the persistent quest for excellence. And I think every bit of that is Scriptural,” he declares.

Throughout his military career, Clark had to deal delicately with the faith issue. “Because I had to be guarded, when I retired I wanted people to know that I was associating myself with an institution of faith,” he shares. “Part of this journey has been the fulfillment of this desire to live, walk, breathe, eat, sleep, and grow in a place that has a foundation in faith.”

The Strategic Future

Clark points with excitement to Regent’s expansive message and mission—one that includes the development of the school’s undergraduate capability and the effective marriages of the online and the on-campus components. “Regent was recently named one of the top 10 online universities in the nation. This is the kind of thing that we want to keep pursuing,” he says.

As for his personal message and mission, Clark is clear about his Regent connection: “I’m at a stage in my life where I have a choice to make. I spent my life working in the United States Navy, and I retired. I’ve already been successful. Now, I’m asking, ‘What can I do that can influence other people’s lives in a significant way?’ And Regent University is a place where I get to work toward that personal goal.”

Learn more about the Regent School of Business & Leadership: regent.edu/sbl or The Robertson School of Government at regent.edu/government

See Admiral Clark’s post-9/11 story: vimeo.com/60259619
It’s sweeping the nation, and now the Lego craze has come to Regent University in the form of an exciting Lego Engineering Camp. During the hot days of summer, 28 students, from 1st through 8th grades, played it cool as they learned exciting engineering concepts using the famous multicolored toys.

“The Lego camp caught on very fast through word of mouth,” says Grace Alegre, who oversaw the program for Regent Professional and Continuing Education (PCE). “Because it’s educational and it’s fun for the kids, people gravitate toward it.”

The Lego camp, part of PCE’s Lifelong Learning Program, partnered with another educational organization called All About Learning to provide an expert Lego camp teacher. “The first day we taught about levers, and then about axles,” says Katrina Redifer who taught both classes. “Students also learned about pulleys and built their own cranes, worked on windmills and merry-go-rounds, and immersed themselves in hands-on experiences to see how these concepts relate to engineering.”

Third-grade camper Madison explained, “We made little Lego pliers, because we were learning about levers. Then I made a Lego swing that rocked back and forth. Later, we learned about wheels and axles, and built a rubberband Lego car.”

According to PCE Associate Vice President Julianne Cenac, her division has hosted summer institutes for three years. “We already had classes that focused on high school, college level and adults, so this was a perfect complement to add the younger groups here,” she says. “As a parent, I knew that anything Lego is all the craze, so this was a great way for children to take something that they love in terms of play, and combine it with learning, especially with the engineering aspect.

“I think we have a winning combination, so we are excited to expand it further next year.”

Learn more about Regent’s Professional & Continuing Education division: regent.edu/pce
It started with a simple prayer over breakfast. “Build for me a university to my glory,” God said. With prayer and the counsel of others, Dr. M.G. “Pat” Robertson, launched what would become Regent University. But Regent is just one of several organizations started by Robertson that have had a significant influence on the world. He also founded the Christian Broadcasting Network, Operation Blessing, the American Center for Law and Justice, and the Christian Coalition.

In recognition of his many years of advancing conservative values, Robertson received the Faith & Freedom Coalition’s first Winston Churchill Lifetime Achievement Award during a celebration banquet in Washington, D.C. Faith & Freedom Founder and Chairman Ralph Reed explained that, like Churchill, Robertson saw opportunity where others saw only difficulty, and God’s kingdom where others saw only their ambitions.

“Dr. Robertson is receiving the award in honor of a lifetime of success in speaking out for our conservative values and constitutional principles,” says Gary Marx, the Faith & Freedom executive director. Marx is a 2002 graduate of Regent’s Robertson School of Government (RSG), named in memory of Robertson’s father, U.S. Senator Willis A. Robertson, who represented Virginia in Congress for more than 30 years.

Several members of Regent’s leadership team were on hand for Robertson’s recognition, including President Carlos Campo, Executive Vice President Paul Bonicelli and RSG Dean Eric Patterson.

“There couldn’t have been a more appropriate awardee,” shares Bonicelli.

“Dr. Robertson’s contributions to the resurgence of conservative principles and people in the political life of the United States are myriad. Those principles, at their core, are faith and freedom.”

Of the hundreds of people who attended the ceremony, Bonicelli noted that many have spent more than 30 years giving of their time, talent and treasure to advance individual liberty and to provide a voice for the Christian faith in government and society generally.

“One of the things that impressed me was the impact Chancellor Robertson has had on public servants,” observes Patterson. “Several U.S. Congressman and other significant Americans testified to his positive impact on their lives and the national political landscape.”

The Faith & Freedom Coalition is a non-profit organization committed to educating, equipping and mobilizing people of faith and like-minded individuals to be effective citizens.

“I want to say to you tonight that you and I are not going to give up the fight until this great nation is once again lifted to the place it deserves among the family of nations, where it will be a bright, shining city on a hill, where it will be the hope of the downtrodden throughout the earth and where, indeed, we can say proudly we are one nation under God,” Robertson exhorted the crowd.

Watch Dr. Robertson’s acceptance speech: cbn.com/tv/2484112178001
Explore The Faith & Freedom Coalition: ffcoalition.com
Priscilla Mondt, a student in the Regent University School of Psychology & Counseling, became the first female chaplain in her denomination, the Assemblies of God. She also was the first female chaplain for the 82nd Airborne Division, where she received a combat patch.

As part of a small group of women who were the first in many fields and divisions within the Armed Forces to become chaplains, Mondt was one of only 14 women veterans recently recognized by the White House as a Champion of Change. White House guests included some the nation’s most influential women.

Mondt currently serves as chief chaplain at the Veterans Healthcare Systems of the Ozarks. A veteran herself, she holds those she serves in high regard. “There’s a special place for warriors in the Scripture,” Mondt says.

Please pray for Priscilla Mondt and other Regent students and alumni who serve as chaplains in America’s military and veteran’s hospitals.
Dear Friends,

Every summer, our board of trustees meets together to seek wisdom from God on what Regent University is to become. Our calling is to raise up Christian leaders to change the world, and we are committed to attaining that goal with the highest level of integrity. In addition to our gifted faculty, we are blessed with outstanding visiting professors who generously share their wisdom and expertise with our students in the pursuit of this calling.

Among the list of distinguished professors are former Attorney General John Ashcroft, Admiral Vern Clark (retired), Dr. Jay Sekulow of the American Center for Law and Justice, and Bishop T.D. Jakes, founding pastor of The Potter’s House in Dallas, Texas.

I am honored to say that Regent is a place that resonates with the love and compassion of Jesus through this dedicated group of teachers and leaders. It is also a place exuding excellence in everything we do—both for God’s glory and for the purpose of effective outreach.

The educational environment is constantly changing. So we must strive to adapt to the needs of those seeking to become leaders for Christ. That means staying alert and vigilant to seize the opportunities God brings.

As we move into a new academic year, Regent’s board of trustees, leadership team, and all of our faculty and staff share the determination to sustain this pursuit of excellence. We will continue working to create an environment for lifelong learning and provide resources to enable students to go out and change the world.

That is what Regent University is all about.

Your ongoing prayers and financial support aid us in our pursuit of excellence in the training of tomorrow’s leaders. Thank you.

Grace and peace,

Carlos Campo, Ph.D.
President