

Bridging the divide

Kirk Cox ('79), the new speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, urges his colleagues to practice 'integrity, civility and grace'

In his remarks to the House delivered immediately following his election as speaker, Cox, a Republican, urged his fellow legislators to practice "integrity, civility and grace" in their service to the people of the commonwealth. "For the past several weeks, the 5-foot wide center aisle that symbolically separates the two parties of this chamber has sometimes felt 5 miles wide," he said. "The first and foremost task of this body is to bridge that divide. We are not two parties, we are one House tasked with the responsibility of governing one Commonwealth, improving the lives of one group – the citizens we serve." Look for more on Cox in upcoming issues of *Madison*.