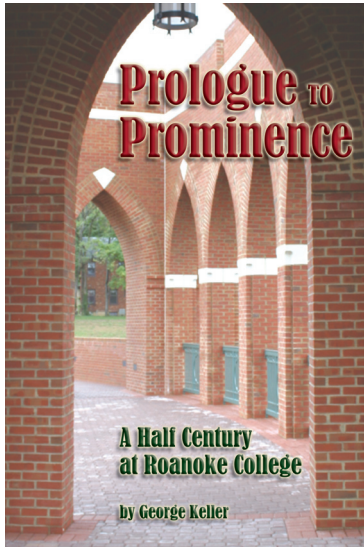




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# Prologue to Prominence

A Half Century at  
Roanoke College

By George Keller

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**SUMMARY:** Roanoke College, located in the scenic foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, emerged by 2003 as one of the solid and distinguished educational institutions in the nation. Professors, long known for their devoted teaching, were publishing more scholarly papers, reviews, and books. The Phi Beta Kappa Council placed the college among the finest academic houses of inquiry in awarding Roanoke College a chapter. With a successful \$65 million capital campaign the college tripled its endowment of ten years earlier. This fifty-year history of the school highlights the accomplishments of those leaders who helped shape the school.

**REVIEW:** *“George Keller nimbly takes us inside the personalities, problems and possibilities of Roanoke College over the past fifty years. In ways that may seem implausible to those who do not know small colleges, he pulls together several seemingly disparate threads to tell Roanoke’s story.”*

—Richard L. Maorrill, Chancellor of University of Richmond

**THE AUTHOR:** George Keller is an award-winning writer and editor and one of nation’s leading experts on higher education. He has been described as one of the most brilliant strategists in the field of higher education. His book *Academic Strategy: The Management Revolution in American Higher Education* is an influential and informative study of higher education management practices. He is the former editor of the journal *Planning for Higher Education* and he chaired the program in higher education studies at the University of Pennsylvania’s Graduate School of Education.