STUDENT PROFILE

Elle Cohen

By Ron Wagner ’93, Contributing Writer

Elle Cohen isn’t afraid of hard work, but work alone wasn’t going to advance her career any further. “There are a lot of opportunities that come up at my job, and a great deal of the time, one criteria is that you have a bachelor’s degree,” she said.

Cohen has been a supervisor at BMW Manufacturing in Greer since 2007, holding down her full-time job while raising four kids—Erin, Erianna, Elyssa, and Angelo—now ranging in age from 15 to 21. In November of 2012, she wed and adopted a baby, Kai, born exactly one month later. These responsibilities wouldn’t seem to leave much time for continuing her education, but Elle has been able to pursue this long-held goal thanks to Furman Undergraduate Evening Studies’ flexible scheduling and amenability to her tight schedule.

“Furman wants me to succeed,” she said. “They have always been willing to work with me as long as I show the effort.”

continued on page 3

Mark Your Calendar

Jan 11 .......... Spring Term Begins
Jan 18 .......... Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday* (Furman offices closed/no classes)
Jan 20 .......... Add/Drop Deadline
Mar 2 .......... Midterm/Withdrawal Deadline
Mar 5–13 ......... Spring Break (no classes)
Mar 25–28 .......... Easter Break** (Furman offices closed 25th/no classes)
May 2–5 .......... Final Exams
May 7 .......... Commencement
May 15 .......... Summer Admission Application Deadline
June 13 .......... Summer Term Begins
June 22 .......... Summer Add/Drop Deadline
July 1 .......... Fall Registration Opens
July 4 .......... Independence Day (Furman offices closed/no classes)
July 12 .......... Summer Withdrawal Deadline
July 15 .......... Fall Admission Application Deadline
Aug 6 .......... Summer Final Exams
Aug 8 .......... Fall Registration Deadline
Aug 13 .......... August Commencement
Aug 22 .......... Fall Semester Begins

* ART-205E will meet
** Optional make-up days for weather-related canceled classes
FACULTY IN FOCUS

Meet Stuart G. Anderson, Jr. By Colleen Klatt, Contributing Writer

Stuart Anderson ’66 teaches Business Law at Furman, owns Anderson & Carpenter Attorneys-at-Law in Greenville, collects oriental art, is a hot air balloon enthusiast, and world traveler. And that’s just the beginning.

He has viewed every continent, plus the North Pole, from the gondola of a hot air balloon. Made life-long friends with fellow flying fanatics he met in Beijing, China two decades ago. Spent six days in a tent at the North Pole with crew members while waiting for the weather to clear. Is one of only 10 Furman graduates who belong to the Clemson ΣAE chapter—and proudly wears a Furman ΣAE ring to prove it.

“It tickles me to see my students succeed at something they enjoy. I’ve been unbelievably blessed.”

— Stuart G. Anderson, Jr.

Stuart lights up every time he talks about former students, friends, and family. “People are an important part of everything I do. I have great friends at Furman, in Greenville, in China, and many other parts of the world. I enjoy keeping up with every one of them, especially former students.” shared Anderson. “It tickles me to see my students succeed at something they enjoy. I’ve been unbelievably blessed.”

Thirty-one years ago Anderson started teaching the same business law course his former teacher and mentor, Schaefer Kendrick, taught for 41 years. “It’s still his class,” notes Anderson. “Together we have taught Business Law at Furman for 72 years. He’s the reason I became a lawyer.”

For Anderson, teaching has become a part of his life. “I’m on campus two or three times per week. Teaching keeps me on top of my game because I have to keep up with the changes. A lot of my former students practice law in Greenville, a few are judges, and I’ve hired a few. For me, Furman will always be family.”

His mother had an eighth grade education and worked third shift to help pay for his college education. But even with their encouragement, Anderson admits there were a few years when he wasn’t a very good student.

“I had a wild side when I was at Furman. I was a guard on the football team but spent more time injured than I did on the field. And, I liked to socialize more than study. When I went to law school, I knew things had to change. I had to be a good student or leave. Fortunately, I was good enough to get through, graduate, and pass the bar exam. I never excelled at being a student. My heart is with students who have a hard time.” With a big smile he added, “I think I surprised all of the friends I graduated with at Furman … none of them thought I would ever teach and certainly not teach this long.”

A farm kid from rural South Carolina, Stuart said his parents made education a priority. His father graduated from Furman in 1935.

By Colleen Klatt, Contributing Writer
Cohen, a native of Greenwood, began at BMW nearly 16 years ago. Several years in, she earned an associate degree from Greenville Tech, making her eligible for her current position. “My job is physically demanding, and I knew that the older I got, the more difficult it would be for me to continue that type of work,” she said.

That level of maturity and foresight is exactly what Furman is looking for in prospective students, according to UES director Beth Crews. “Non-traditional adult students are very career-focused, so the majors we offer are in professionally-oriented fields such as accounting, business administration, and information technology,” explained Crews. “The combination of Furman’s admission process and the small size of our program allow us to meet one-on-one with prospective students so that we can make sure UES will be a good fit. We want our students to succeed, to feel equipped to take the academic accomplishments made here far into their careers.”

Cohen fits another demographic Furman is looking for as well. “For us, the local market is our market,” Crews said. “We’re not attracting students from the northeast or California. We serve adults from the Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson area—that’s it.”

For Elle, being a Furman student at this point in her life has provided some fun, unexpected opportunities. With her oldest daughter, Erin, finishing her senior year at Coastal Carolina this year, mother and daughter were able to sit side-by-side as students of rival schools during Coastal’s Sept. 15 trip to Furman to open the 2015 football season. As for her family’s reaction to her going back to school, “They love it,” says Cohen. “They really think a lot of me for pushing myself to do it.”

She won’t have to push for much longer. Cohen is closing in on a degree in business administration and is set to graduate this May. “It’s been a really good journey. It was much more of a smooth transition than I thought it was going to be,” she said. “I’m really, really excited about it because it has been a long time coming.”

Her long journey to graduation may be coming to an end, but if her academic accomplishments at Furman are any indication, Elle will be in the driver’s seat to meet job opportunities head on and propel her career forward.
It took longer than expected, but Jennifer Osorno-Bejarano persevered and earned a BA degree in Business Administration through UES in 2012. Her journey to a degree from Furman started in 2000 when she moved from Colombia, South America, to Greenville, South Carolina. The ninth-grader spoke little English at the time, but she didn’t let that stop her. Still waiting for her residency to be finalized, the high school graduate worked full time to pay out-of-state tuition for college courses.

“I needed [to take classes] in the evening. Furman carried a strong reputation and the evening program is so affordable. I went part time and full time, depending on the semester and how much I could afford.” Osorno-Bejarano shared. “Yes. You go through hard times. Life happens. I had some semesters where I wanted to give up, but Brett Barclay [former UES Director] was my mentor, and he encouraged me not to quit.”

Today, Osorno-Bejarano is putting her Furman degree to work helping to manage the family business. She is also proud of an organization she created with her friends called LatinosUnited. “We go to high schools and speak to students about the importance of graduating from high school, earning a college degree, becoming an entrepreneur, and serving the community.” To learn more about Jennifer’s efforts through LatinosUnited, visit facebook.com/LatinosUnitedUS.

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— Jennifer Osorno-Bejarano
New Courses Offered This Spring

BUS-337E Business Analytics  (Prerequisite: MTH-110, MTH-141, or MTH-150) An introduction to statistical and predictive analytical tools to find patterns in data, identify relationships among operational variables and business outcomes, and to provide insight into complex decision making situations. Taught by Jim Eynon. (Business major elective, Data Analytics Certificate elective)

COM-343 Organizational Communication  This course will focus on the central role of communication in organizations by exploring the way that communication is used in exercising power, authority, and control. We will explore contemporary organizations and the pervasiveness of communication in all aspects of organizational life. It will emphasize the role of communication in making decisions, providing leadership, managing conflict, developing organizational culture, and thinking strategically. Taught by Dr. Colleen Klatt. (Elective)

CSC-122 Data Structures and Algorithms  (Prerequisite: CSC-105 and CSC-121) Emphasis on use of data structures to model and implement algorithms as computer programs. Principles of high-level program analysis and design, including elementary data structures. Students will learn to understand and use Java objects as data structures, design, implement, and test programs using the Java programming language, and implement various searching and sorting algorithms in Java. Taught by William Sims. (IT major course)

EES-200 Spatial Analysis and Visualization In this class you will learn best practices for visually representing spatial data, spatial analysis techniques, and how these techniques can be used to address complex problems and better understand our world. We’ll explore a broad range of topics from a spatial perspective including gerrymandering (drawing map boundaries for political advantage), the spread of infectious diseases, social justice, historical applications, and more. You will use a wide variety of tools for creating maps and visualizing data, including web-based applications. Taught by Mike Winiski. (Elective, Data Analytics Certificate elective)

HST-166 Modern China  Examining major political, social, and cultural transformations of the period from the late Qing dynasty to recent dramatic reforms in mainland China and on Taiwan. Taught by Dr. Lane Harris. (GER: HA/WC)

PSC-273 American Political Thought  Historical survey of the central figures in American political thought. Involves study of original texts from the Founding (Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton), the Civil War (Lincoln, Douglass), and continuing into the Progressive Era (Wilson, FDR). Taught by Vince Bagnulo. (GER: TA)
Digital Photography Exhibit Brings Greenville to Furman

Digital photography students, alumni, and faculty shared their work in an exhibit titled “Personal Narratives of Home: Finding Meaning in Greenville.” One of many activities on campus during homecoming weekend, the exhibit was featured in the Herring Center for Continuing Education’s Baiden Gallery from October 23 through December 7. Exhibit participants Pam Brissey, Lisa Campbell, Ashton Cartee, Jennifer Grissop, Joe Hiltabidel, Bryan Hiott, Mark Loftin, and Chet Whigham displayed works showcasing a variety of styles, processes, and formats. Next year’s exhibit is already being planned to expand art forms to include words and images. Visit Personal Narratives of Home on Facebook to view all exhibit images.

ALUMNI FOCUS GROUP FINDINGS

This fall, Undergraduate Evening Studies and the Department of Development co-sponsored a focus group with several UES alumni to assess how the University can improve and strengthen its relationship with program graduates. Participants shared perceptions regarding a variety of issues; from feelings about campus initiatives, philanthropic motivations, and the importance of staying connected with the University, to their opinions on the types of messages and visuals that best represent their Furman experience. To share your ideas on how we can help keep you connected with Furman, email us at ues@furman.edu.
In an effort to accelerate degree completion, increase convenience and improve flexibility for students scheduling classes around their busy lives, the UES program piloted two innovations during summer 2015: a hybrid delivery model and a compressed semester schedule. While final recommendations are still under review, hybrid courses will continue to be offered and administrators are considering alternate formats for introducing a compressed schedule. Implementation details will be shared in early spring.
Congratulations to our August 2015 UES Graduates

Mark A. Hendrix  
Business Administration

Cathy E. Perry  
Business Administration

Luanne E. Queen  
Business Administration

Lea N. Tunnell  
Business Administration

Luisa F. Valencia  
Business Administration

Joshua D. Sarkela  
Business Administration

Patricia G. Travis  
Magna Cum Laude  
Business Administration

Joe L. Hiltabidel  
Business Administration

Melissa A. Kimm  
Accounting (not pictured)
Congratulations to the UES Dean’s List

The following students were named to the Furman UES Dean’s List. The honor is awarded to students who earn a grade point average of at least 3.4 during a semester in which they are enrolled in 6 or more credit hours.

### Summer 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Jennifer N. Grissop</th>
<th>Richard T. Phelps IV</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catherine C. Avinante</td>
<td>Sarah J. Hanks</td>
<td>Eric W. Rainey</td>
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<td>Dale E. Byers</td>
<td>Mark A. Hendrix</td>
<td>Christopher A. Reynolds</td>
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<td>Ashton N. Cartee</td>
<td>Laura E. Hill</td>
<td>Breana B. Vachon</td>
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<td>Ellen M. Cohen</td>
<td>Lacey Jackson</td>
<td>Michael A. Wactor</td>
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<td>Jonathan D. Cox</td>
<td>Jason N. Mendez</td>
<td>John A. Walsh</td>
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<td>Randy C. Crews</td>
<td>Tiffiny R. Murphy</td>
<td>Nora L. Watson</td>
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<td>Hollie S. Forrester</td>
<td>Raven M. Ostlind</td>
<td>Sonya E. Wheeler</td>
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<td>Anna S. Fountain</td>
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### Fall 2015

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<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Diana K. Godwin</th>
<th>Janice G. Paxton</th>
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<td>Catherine C. Avinante</td>
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<td>Hollie S. Forrester</td>
<td>Freddy A. Munoz</td>
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<td>Anna S. Fountain</td>
<td>Tiffiny R. Murphy</td>
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<td>Radoslav V. Georgiev</td>
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UES Art Exhibit Artist, Mark Loftin ’17
Seeking Your Support

If you are an alumnus of Furman University Undergraduate Evening Studies, you are well aware of the sacrifices a UES student must make in order to successfully complete the rigorous requirements necessary to earn a degree. Now that you are using your Furman education, we hope you will choose to support current students with a gift to Undergraduate Evening Studies.

We are currently seeking to expand our Furman University Career Advancement Program (FUCAP) for UES seniors. This mentor-based program serves to further develop students’ career-related skillsets, preparing them for professional advancement made possible through their Furman degree. Your designated gift in any amount will have an immediate impact by defraying students’ costs of participation. A gift of $150 will fully sponsor a student through FUCAP. For more information about the program, visit furman.edu/fucap.

In addition to FUCAP, you can support our current students through a gift designated to any of the following UES scholarships.

- **The Jack Dickey Scholarship**
  open to juniors and seniors with demonstrated financial need and high academic achievement

- **The Dr. Grace Hill Scholarship**
  an annual award to one UES student with demonstrated financial need and a GPA of 3.0 or higher

- **The Hazel Long Smith ’41 Scholarship**
  awarded to students with demonstrated financial needs

For many students, financial aid scholarships are the single greatest factor in contributing to their ability to attend and graduate from Furman. UES scholarships have helped over 70 students complete their degrees at Furman. Your financial support will expand the resources made available to current students and open doors of opportunity. No matter where you decide to designate your gift, know that your support is greatly appreciated and will have an immediate impact.

Best wishes for the new year!

Elizabeth Crews, M.Ed.
Director,
Undergraduate Evening Studies

If you’d like to make a gift for Furman’s Undergraduate Evening Studies, please mail it in the enclosed envelope, visit https://alumni.furman.edu/donation-form-ues, or call 864.294.3431.

For FURMAN