What makes Erin run?

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3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613.

Furman also affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination in its employment policies and practices. For information about the university’s compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Educational

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

“NO MAN IS AN ISLAND,” wrote the poet John Donne. Nor is any great university. It is easy, and tempting, to think of Furman as a “bubble.” Indeed, the phrase “the Furman bubble” is part of the lexicon and lore of this place, a phrase sometimes used as a positive — to connote the beauty, tranquility, safety and security of the campus (all wonderful attributes) — but more often uttered as a critique. The time has come to burst the bubble and to do all we can to put Furman out into the world, and invite the world into Furman. As we consider Furman’s past, present and future, we must cipher into the mix the accelerating swells and swirls that surround us. Furman must now think and act globally, politically, culturally and economically.

We recruit students, faculty and staff from around the world. We send students and faculty on study abroad programs to Asia, Africa, Australia, South America and Europe. Furman feels the impacts of political upheaval, such as the Arab Spring of economic uncertainties, such as the sovereign debt crisis in Europe; of natural calamities, such as earthquakes, hurricanes or tsunamis. On the American scene, Furman is affected by national culture, politics and economics. It will matter whether President Obama or Gov. Romney is elected president, or which major party controls the Congress, or who is appointed to the Supreme Court. It will matter whether the economy recovers or regresses. It will matter whether employment figures move for the better or the worse, or whether the economy is one of growth or stagnation. It will matter whether markets ascend or decline.

But all this diamond brilliance, all this value, will dissolve if we are insular, isolated and indifferent to the forces around us. We must find ways to be more efficient, more attentive to the economics and opportunities offered by the Internet and new technologies, more incisive and persuasive in projecting our message into the world that beckons. As higher education. Here, too, the times they are a changin’. We offer at Furman an extraordinary, enchanting, magical educational experience. We nourish the mind and the spirit in a gorgeous setting. We have a brilliant and passionate faculty and staff, dedicated to the growth and development of the whole person. We have a storied and robust Division I educational experience. We nourish the mind and the spirit in a gorgeous setting. We have a brilliant and passionate faculty and staff, dedicated to the growth and development of the whole person. We have a storied and robust Division I educational experience. We nourish the mind and the spirit in a gorgeous setting. We have a brilliant and passionate faculty and staff, dedicated to the growth and development of the whole person. We have a storied and robust Division I educational experience.

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Furman is inextricably intertwined with the future of South Carolina, the Upstate, and Greenville. If our region prospers in education, health care, jobs and the environment, the rising tide will raise our boat. If the region suffers, Furman will suffer as well in attracting the best and brightest students, faculty and staff. Furman is also part of a broader system of American higher education. Here, too, the times they are a changin’.
In the drawing room of White Oaks, the Furman president’s home, a portrait of a woman hangs above the fireplace. With an almost imperceptible expression she gazes upon the room, which is adorned with antique art and furniture.

The painting, Portrait of Lady Impey, is the crown jewel in a collection that was carefully acquired by Charles and Homozel Mickel Daniel, generous Furman supporters who were the original owners of White Oaks. Charles Daniel’s company built many of the original buildings on campus, and the university’s dining hall and chapel are named in his honor. Mrs. Daniel, for whom the music building is named, dedicated much time to collecting 18th- and 19th-century European antiques to furnish their Georgian-style home.

Although she owned many beautiful pieces of art and furniture, Mrs. Daniel seemed intent upon purchasing a “masterpiece” painting for White Oaks. Toward this end, in the fall of 1975 she and several friends took a trip to New York City. Although she and her husband, who died in 1964, had collected many fine paintings, none would be so easily recognized or widely praised as the works by Renoir, Corot and Gainsborough that she and her friends perused during their visit to M. Knoedler & Company.

After some contemplation and correspondence with the gallery, Mrs. Daniel settled on a painting by the acclaimed English artist Thomas Gainsborough — his 1786 half-length portrait of Lady Mary Impey, the wife of an imperial judge in India. Mrs. Daniel proudly displayed the painting in the most prominent room in White Oaks, where it has remained.

When she died in 1992, she bequeathed White Oaks and all of its contents to Furman. The next year, the many fine pieces in the home were appraised by Sotheby’s, the fine art auction house. When the appraisers examined Portrait of Lady Impey, however, they were perplexed. Although Mrs. Daniel had been told the painting was a Gainsborough, they were not convinced.

Many paintings have been falsely attributed to Thomas Gainsborough, and the high prices his works commanded between 1880 and 1930 brought many spurious paintings onto the market. The appraisers felt that this was one of those cases.

The staff at Sotheby’s believed that the portrait was instead painted by Gainsborough’s nephew, Gainsborough Dupont, who often copied or completed his uncle’s works. As if to prove the seriousness of their assessment, they valued the portrait at less than one-sixth of the original 1975 purchase price. While the university accepted the Sotheby’s evaluation, questions remained about the painting and its provenance.

In 2010 the case was reopened when Andrew Impey, great-great-great-grandson of Lady Impey, read an article online about White Oaks that mentioned the portrait. He contacted Furman from his home in the United Kingdom.

Over the next two years he and Elizabeth Coker Hamlett, Furman’s collections manager, corresponded about the painting and its origin. Along the way they learned that there is at least one other painting that is purported to be the Gainsborough portrait of Lady Impey. In doing research on the second painting, however, Hamlett discovered that Furman’s portrait matched exactly the dimensions of the original Gainsborough painting — lending evidence to the idea that Furman owned the real thing.

Given this finding, Andrew Impey asked...
a friend at the National Portrait Gallery in London to review photos of Furman’s painting. The curator confirmed that the painting looked like a Gainsborough, but said the only way to know for certain was for the painting to be examined in person by a Gainsborough expert.

Last fall, Impey contacted the foremost expert on Thomas Gainsborough’s life and works: Hugh Belsey, a senior research fellow at the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art in London who was curator at the Gainsborough House museum in Sudbury for 23 years. Belsey has written extensively about Gainsborough and has probably examined more Gainsborough paintings than anyone. For the past eight years he has been compiling a complete catalog of the artist’s portraits.

Belsey agreed to visit Furman in March to examine the portrait. His one request was that he present a public lecture, which was quickly arranged. Furman’s Decorative and Fine Arts Committee, which oversees the university’s almost 1,000-piece collection of art and antiques, sponsored Belsey’s visit.

During two whirlwind days he examined Portrait of Lady Impey and delivered a lecture on the painting to a full house in Patrick Lecture Hall. At the end of his presentation, he revealed to Mrs. Daniel’s taste. That deserves some respect, and so, in this case, arguably the painting should be left as it is.

As Martha Jolton, wife of former Furman president John Jolton and a resident of White Oaks from 1992 to 1998, said, “It’s not perfect, but it’s our Gainsborough.”

Visit the Events and Exhibitions link at http://library.furman.edu/dfac to see Belsey’s lecture. Elizabeth Color Holland is a 2012 Furman graduate.

Profile

Thomas Gainsborough:

Born in 1727 in Sudbury, Suffolk.

Worked in Suffolk, Bath, and London.

Master of 18th-century portraiture and landscapes.

Credited with more than 400 portraits of English sitters, including commissions from the royal family, and more than 200 landscapes.

Founding member, Royal Academy of Arts.

Inspired by the work of Van Dyck and Rubens.

Influenced noted 18th-century artist John Constable, also a native of Suffolk.

Best known painting: Blue Boy (c. 1770), an homage to Van Dyck.

Died in 1788.
What, in your view, has been the primary cause of the market volatility and the economic ups and downs of recent years?

While there is no one factor that has caused the market volatility of the last four years, there are several that have contributed to our problems. Beginning in 2008 here in the United States, the financial crisis, largely precipitated by the bursting of the housing bubble and the resulting mortgage mess, was and will continue to be a major contributor.

Since then, credit problems in Europe have been a major driver of volatility. This is a new phenomenon for the United States. Historically, crises in this country radiated out to impact others, but the United States was typically insulated (in relative terms) from problems abroad. With the integration of global financial markets, this is no longer true. We are experiencing the effects now as Europe’s banks and sovereign countries struggle.

While both of these factors have been significant, a growing amount of market volatility has also arisen as a result of political stalemates in the United States.

Where does that put us, as of summer 2012?

We have been in a lull politically, but things are about to heat up with the presidential election. However, that’s just the public face of the issues. More importantly, we still have not tackled our country’s growing level of debt.

Recently Standard and Poor’s put the United States on its watch list for what could potentially be another ratings downgrade. Tied up in the debt debate are such issues as the future of Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid, as well as, more broadly, healthcare. These three items are a rapidly growing component of the country’s budget deficit that cannot be sustained. And, as has happened in the past, no one is currently making much of an effort to address these issues.

Can you point to any specific events that illustrate our failure to deal head-on with major issues?

The best examples are the arguments and partisan bickering over whether or not to extend a bailout to the financial sector and, more recently but related, about the national budget and debt levels. Standard and Poor’s cited this ongoing “political brinkmanship” last year when it downgraded the country’s credit rating. Among the smaller issues, which are likely to become bigger, is the debate about Social Security tax cuts and their extension.

Politics has always played a role in markets, and we are at a critical juncture in our country politically. Can we make any decisions at all? The impact has and will be played out in the markets. Unlike in the past, most of “us” are now part of the markets through 401(k) plans. As such the political impasses are affecting most of us economically in ways we have not experienced previously.
Andy K. Smythe graduated from Furman University in 1985, then spent four years in the Army and seven years as a systems and business analyst for Mobil Oil. He earned his doctorate from the University of South Carolina and began his teaching career at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga before joining the faculty at Furman University in 2001. He is frequently asked to comment on financial topics in the media, including in the Chicago Tribune, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, USA Today, Money magazine and the Chicago Tribune.

What do you tell your students about planning for the future?

I remind them that life’s a marathon, not a sprint, and that they should develop a savings plan (retirement and otherwise) and stick to it through thick and thin. Don’t look at CNBC or other “expert” sources for guidance. Out of 100 people, maybe one will hit it big, but most of us are “average.” And the way for average people to get ahead is to learn to spend less than they make — period.

Now that we know what you tell your students, here’s your chance to address the nation. If we concede that there are no magic bullets or quick fixes, what’s your advice for the powers that be? How do we stop kicking the can down the road?

Get over yourselves. While principles are important, if they are extreme in either direction, our problems won’t be addressed. There is more than one path to the solution — we just need solutions. Politicians won’t get the message until we stop electing them. The problems is that while everyone thinks that Congress is doing a really bad job, they believe that their local representative is doing fine. A big part of Congress’ job is being able (and willing) to play in the sandbox. Right now, we have a lot of sand being thrown. If you are in Congress right now, you are part of the problem. Personally, I will not vote for any incumbent in 2012. I realize that has its own consequences, but to not vote is ignoring the problem.
When it comes to Furman’s distance-running royalty, the name “Barker” arguably wears the crown.

The family honor roll starts with Paul ’74 (he now goes by Chris), followed by brothers Phil ’78 and David ’80. The Barker boys brought their athletic talent and Presbyterian work ethic (Dad was a minister) to then-Baptist Furman from Indiana, where track and cross country were popular and the quality of high school competition was strong. All of their names can be found in the university’s record book.

Fast forward a few years to the next generation of Barkers, represented by Phil’s daughters, Lindsey ’09 and Erin ’12. Erin’s breakthrough year in 2011-12, combined with her lineage, provided the inspiration for this article.

But first we should mention one other contributor to the athletic gene pool. Ma Barker — Sue Houck ’79 — was a four-year member of the women’s tennis team.

To be fair, in their younger days the Barker sisters did give Mom’s game a try. “But we also had academics to worry about,” says Erin, “so we made a choice, and Dad’s sport won.”

Lindsey paved the way, racing to all-county and all-region honors at Easley (S.C.) High. Erin built on that legacy and was named all-region and all-state in cross country and track before following her sister to Furman.

Erin also benefited directly from Dad’s guidance her senior year when Phil, who at the time was between jobs, volunteered to help coach the Easley squad. The team finished second in the state.

“It was actually a great thing for me personally, because I’d been working a huge number of hours before,” says Phil. “This gave me a chance to spend quality time with her. I just had to be careful to separate the Dad role from the coach role.

“Erin’s pretty self-motivated. The biggest thing I did was to help her keep the attitude up and build her confidence.”

On occasion he’d even join her during workouts, which Erin doesn’t recall so fondly: “He would beat me all the time,” she says. “It made me so mad for an old man to do that.”

Erin Barker is the latest member of her athletic family to make her mark at Furman.
Phil and Erin both graduated from Furman with several school records. But while they finished in similar places, they took different routes to get there. Phil, who still looks as if he could knock over a wall on the team—"so much so that his teammates joked he would "kill his kids" if they chose to pursue a sport. He was on the last Furman men’s teams to win Southern Conference titles in cross country and indoor track (both in 1976). He holds several school records in individual events and relays, and the league record he established in the outdoor 800-meter run still stands, 35 years later. When he left Furman the last two years, who worked with the distance runners, "Erin just needed to get there. The point where she could train day in and day out, without any injury breaks. She always had the discipline and the desire. What she needed was consistency."

After a solid summer of training Erin took full out. As she gained fitness and confidence, though, she improved steadily, finishing with her best time at the conference meet. She continued to improve through the indoor and outdoor track seasons. Says Laura Caldwell, an assistant coach at Furman the last two years, who worked with the distance runners, "Erin just needed to get to the point where she could train day in and day out, without any injury breaks. She always had the discipline and the desire. What she needed was consistency."

When she returned for cross country her junior year (sophomore eligibility-wise), she was hesitant to go full out. As she gained fitness and confidence, though, she improved steadily, finishing with her best time at the conference meet. She continued to improve through the indoor and outdoor track seasons. Says Laura Caldwell, an assistant coach at Furman the last two years, who worked with the distance runners, "Erin just needed to get to the point where she could train day in and day out, without any injury breaks. She always had the discipline and the desire. What she needed was consistency."

Still, she was back on track. Caldwell says, "I can’t stress enough how gifted an athlete she is — disciplined and dedicated, and one of the hardest workers we had."

When Erin received her degree in health sciences May 5, she was already planning to pursue a doctorate in physical therapy — and to use her final year of athletic eligibility. One problem: Furman didn’t offer the prerequisites she needed for graduate school. So, she looked around for programs that did and that would want her to run. She found one right down the road, at Clemson University. ‘I’d love to stay at Furman,’ says Erin, ‘but I need to get those requirements for physical therapy school, and Clemson has a program with courses geared exactly in that direction. And there are the competitive five-kilometer races. A goal of Clemson that I ran against in high school just went to the Olympic Trials. That says something."

Given the close-knit nature of last year’s team, which Erin clearly treasured, her Furman buddies will likely understand her decision. And as for the probability that at some point buddies will likely understand her decision. And as for the probability that at some point she’d compete against her former teammates, she doesn’t seem too concerned.

“I should be fun,” she says, “and it will be funny to see who my Dad cheers for.”

But there is one thing that has gotten used to Barkers running around campus over the last seven years? About where Mount Katahdin and the lake country of Maine were be dangerous after heavy rain.

At another crossing earlier that morning, I had foolishly crossed the west bank of Maine’s Piscataquis River, and the guidebook warned that this knee-high flooding could be dangerous after heavy rains.

After an odyssey of self-discovery along the Appalachian Trail, an alumnus decides to re-enter the civilized world by hitchhiking home. Here’s his tale of the return trip.

By Jerry Adams

I had left Georgia in the spring of 2011 to hike the Appalachian Trail — through North Carolina and Tennessee as the trees and flowers came alive, and then through Virginia and the mid-Atlantic states in the heat of the summer. Jumping ahead of Hurricane Irene into New England, I hiked above the tree line and through ice and snow in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Mount Katahdin and the lake country of Maine were reaching their autumn frost in late September when I arrived at Baxter Peak and the northern terminus of the trail. Red, silver and gold leaves shimmered across the 100 Mile Wilder-ness and covered the footprint like falling snow. It had been nearly seven months since I had taken the midnight bus from Columbia, S.C., to Atlanta to start
We needed a little time to decompress, and hitchhiking seemed the best option.

While the first part of my journey was over, more occupied lay ahead on my return to the civilized world — a hitchhike from Maine to South Carolina. I had promised “Strider,” my companion on the trail, that I would hitchhike with him to his home in Virginia.

Neither of us was ready for a long bus ride home. We both wanted more adventure, and we liked the challenge of catching rides all the way south. We had seen the date on a hiker who finished the long walk but faced the office, the Internet and cable television. In June, with 40 more miles to go, we decided that my body needed a few days to heal.

We found refuge at the Miss Portland Diner, a converted railroad car, and the local newspaper answered our silent call for shelter from an approaching storm. A young lady in an SUV went 15 miles out of her way to take us to Bingham. After a short wait, an older woman offered to drive us south. He was a hiker and jobless and offered to drive us south. He was a hiker and jobless and

Ten minutes at the on-ramp the next morning brought us to the Pennsylvania turnpike, where we were greeted by a young man who offered to drive us south. He was a hiker and jobless and

The day before, a retired used-book seller in a station wagon saved us from the morning rain and took us 50 miles into New Hampshire. As we looked for shelter from an approaching storm, a man in a Honda offered to drive us south. He was a hiker and jobless and had time to be a trail angel. Accustomed to hitching 10 miles in a day, we quickly covered 200 miles and made it to Connecticut, our memories stoked by a driver who knew where we had come from and what it had been like. Still attuned to a world where 8 p.m. is “hiker midnight” and where hiking starts and ends early, we spent the evening in the Pilot truck stop restaurant and gift shop.

We were in the New York City suburbs — no longer thru-hikers. The protester who welcomed us said ours were the 25th and 26th tents in the park. We never mentioned that we were thru-hikers hitchhiking south, and we happily stayed for a lazy day off in Portland.

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During my trek, I restored my faith in the Lord and“My recent wanderings had been spiritual, professional and personal, but my challenges were no different than those others face. I had weathered layoffs and a broken heart while fighting hard to restart my career in my late 50s, putting my life’s work on the line in search of a paycheck, a challenge, approval and validation. Rejection and disappointment fueled frustration and anger — and doubt. I had something to prove.

During me, I found my faith in the Lord and

The life lesson that sustained me on the trail also helped in Massachusetts asked if we were brothers. Nope, we were hikers hitchhiking who had shared the trail, and plenty of adventure, since meeting in North Carolina many, many miles before.

We had followed a black bear as it rumbled across a Virginia ridge and hiked the sidewalks of Manhattan after taking a train to the city for a day away from the trail. We tracked through ice and snow in New Hampshire. We climbed Mount Katahdin together — and shared champagne at the summit.

Now we were headed home. We started our trip on Highway 201 at Caratunk, near the Kennebec River. A young lady in an SUV was 15 miles out of her way to take us to Bingham. After a short wait, an older woman in a sedan happily carried us 23 miles to Newsgagen and within striking distance of I-95.

On the trail, all we needed was a flat spot big enough for our tents, but this world had other rules — and we knew the authorities might quibble with our choice of campsites. Given the limited options, we slipped into the tall weeds behind a stop sign, parking our tents out of sight of security guards who might be making late-night rounds. After breakfast at Burger King we walked into town looking for thrift shops and bargain clothes more appropriate for the highway than our hiking gear. Ten dollars bought almost-new corduroy jeans, a shirt and a belt — all fit for a man 30 pounds smaller than the one who had left South Carolina in the spring.

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they were just two guys with packs beside me, hardly visible to the families out running around on a sunny Saturday morning.

But the Lord takes care of thru-hikers — and hitch-hikers. Jann and Nicole spotted us and circled back to outdoor relief.

Almost immediately a Maryland state trooper rousted us off the road. He requested my ID and asked the driver for cold running water.

I thanked them for the ride. And laughed. Two men in a pickup stopped and asked if I needed money for lunch. Another gave me $2 and a lift to Summerville in the back of his truck. Two young guys pulled over and handed me a curry-stained chicken dinner.

Eventually I was reunited with a fellow traveler I had met on the trail in Virginia, and we chatted with old friends at a diner in Mount Pleasant. Hiking can make you feel like a homeowner, and having a home — even if it’s just a bed and a shower — makes you feel like a person again.

But the lakes and South Carolina flatlands were tame after the wilds of Maine. By this time the highway was more appealing than the woods — and home was more appealing than the road. After walking 3,000 miles in six months to Maine, and then a 10-day return trip, the journey was over for the through-hiker turned hitchhiker turned hobo. It was time to stow away the pack and lay that burden down, trusting in myself, with faith to guide me as my journey continues.

I would do it all again. And I wouldn’t change a thing. My heart was glad, and I was ready for what was to come next, nourished by a recurring lesson, my mantra from the trail — "Patience, Grasshopper. And trust in the Lord, thy God."
In 2010 Doug Fister had a mediocre season: an average (4.11) and worstful record (6-14) as a starting pitcher for the Seattle Mariners.

Even though his ERA (3.33) improved in 2011, he continued to struggle with a 3-12 record. But when Fister was traded to the Detroit Tigers midway through the season, a dramatic improvement occurred. He finished 8-4 with an ERA of 1.79 for the Tigers.

Who could have known such a transformation? No doubt the Tigers saw Fister’s potential. But so did Jordan Lyerly ’12, a mathematics major at Furman whose computer data showed Fister to be a much better pitcher than his statistics suggested.

In the summer of 2011, Lyerly, along with Furman math professors John Harris and Kevin Hutson and fellow majors Will Decken ’14, Aaron Markham ’13 and Rob Pecora ’13, had used an exhaustive array of sabermetrics to rank 141 starting major league pitchers during the 2010 season. Despite his unspectacular statistics with the Mariners, the Furman system had rated Fister number 48th among all pitchers.

In producing their rankings, the Furman group drilled down to a level well beyond ERA’s and won-loss records and treated each at-bat between pitcher and hitter as a game within a game. Was Fister, for instance, facing a hitter with a .220 batting average or a future Hall of Famer? How did he perform when he faced the top hitters?

“Our system ranked Fister so highly because it was seeing something others couldn’t — the strength of his opponents,” says Lyerly (pictured). “His greatness was masked by a small-market team that couldn’t score runs and by a schedule that had him facing tough hitters day in and day out.”

The Furman group also ranked major league hitters during the 2010 season and found another outlier in Mike Napoli of the Los Angeles Angels. He hit .218 with an on-base percentage of .367 that season, but the Furman system ranked him 39th among 444 batters. In 2011, after being traded to the Texas Rangers, Napoli battled .320 and raised his on-base percentage to .414, making him one of only seven players in the major leagues with at least 350 at-bats to reach base more than 40 percent of the time.

The secret to predicting such an improvement lies in analyzing the individual at-bats. Of the eight pitchers Napoli faced most often when he was with the Angels, four were Cy Young Award nominees.

So how did a group of mathematicians at Furman come to spend their summers ranking baseball players, and what exactly does their work have to do with the academic enterprise?

“They had no idea how they were going to set up such a project, but it sounded interesting and there would certainly be a lot of math involved,” Harris says. “So we committed to doing it.”

The professors and students traveled to the 2011 MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference in Boston, the mecca of such gatherings, where they attended sessions moderated by bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell and ESPN senior writer Peter Keating. Harris and Hutson offered their mathematical assistance to Keating for any sports analytics articles he might be writing, which led to a project where the Furman team helped develop an alternative ranking system to the BCS college football computer rankings.

The resulting article was published on ESPN.com in January.

The team also presented its baseball research at a meeting of the Mathematical Association of America. The results were interesting enough that Tim Chartier, a math professor at Davidson College, wrote an article about the project for the Huffington Post.

“The research may be fun and mathematically rewarding, but it has usefulness beyond sports. The students are gaining experience in the growing field of data mining, which Chartier calls the ‘science of extracting useful information from large sets of data.’ It is the same science that allows Google to provide the most relevant links in response to search requests.”

“Even though our students are focusing on sports, they are learning concepts and techniques that are useful in a variety of industries,” Hutson says. “In the baseball research, we use a pitcher-hitter interaction network that allows pitchers to endorse batters that get a hit off them and allows batters to endorse pitchers that get them out. The batters that are highly endorsed by highly endorsed pitchers bubble up to the top of our rankings.”

Lyerly has graduated and moved to Florida, where he is teaching middle school science and math, but the research continues to grow and expand. Seven math majors comprise two separate teams working on projects this summer. One group looked at how college football teams are ranked in the BCS, and the other attempted to predict the success of college players selected in the National Football League draft.

The NFL project came about when the Furman team met Dallas Cowboys coach Jason Garrett at the 2012 MIT Sloan Sports Conference. He told them he was then to discover anything that might help the Cowboys make more informed choices in the draft. In addition to rating this year’s NFL draft, the Furman team is also taking a historic look at the draft to see how players have performed in comparison to their draft status.

“We decided to study quarterbacks, running backs and receivers,” Hutson says. “It’s a challenge to identify that game within a game that can help us rank them, but all the information we need is there, from the college football statistics to the NFL Combine data.”

Harris and Hutson never intended to use mathematics to determine whether a college quarterback is suited for success in the NFL, but they have become big fans of sports analytics. So have their students.

“A couple of our student researchers this summer were not sports fans, and they wondered if they would enjoy doing this,” Harris says. “But they loved it, and now they’re fans like the rest of us. It’s been exciting and fun, and it’s something people care about.”

The author is director of news and media relations at Furman.

Mathematics students and faculty step into the world of sports analytics.

By Vince Moore
Young donors give soccer fieldhouse project $450,000 boost

GRAHAM SEAGRAVES ’00 was a member of Furman soccer coach Doug Allison’s first recruiting class in the fall of 1996. Allison remembers Seagraves as “the total package — intelligent, motivated, a hard worker and a natural born leader.”

Seagraves, in turn, says he was looking for a school that could challenge him academically and athletically and provide him a well-rounded college experience. He found it at Furman, and received a scholarship that made his education possible. In addition to majoring in business and captaining the Paladins, he was a member of TKE fraternity and was elected to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. He enjoyed similar success on the playing field. Furman won the Southern Conference title each year he played, and the Paladins advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA tournament, defeating the University of North Carolina and Wake Forest before losing in overtime to Connecticut.

Today Graham Seagraves is a regional director with Russell Investment Group in Charlotte, N.C. He and his wife, Jarrell Starnes Seagraves ’00 (most valuable player on the 1999 women’s tennis team), are expecting their third child any day. And together, they have chosen to give back to the athletics program that supported their educations by pledging $450,000 to the $1.5 million fieldhouse project.

At 34, they are among the youngest alumni to make a lead gift to a capital project at Furman. Graham says, “I’ve been very fortunate early in my career and can’t think of a better way to give back than to help a program that means so much to my development as a person, Jarrell and I want to challenge others to think big to help Furman soccer grow and achieve at the very highest level. We see our gift on Furman’s investment in us, and as a chance to support the school that helped shape us.”

When completed, the 5,100-square-foot fieldhouse will include, among other features, locker rooms, an officials’ room, a concession stand and a second-story viewing deck. To date Furman has raised approximately $1 million for the project.

To recognize the Seagraves’ generosity, the pitch at Eugene E. Stone III Soccer Stadium will be dedicated in their honor this fall.

The author, a 2003 graduate, is a development officer at Furman. To learn more, visit www.becausefurmanmatters.com.

Furman United challenge enhances scholarship fund

THE FURMAN UNITED PROGRAM, which provides financial support to students facing unexpected financial hardship, has completed its third year. Since the program’s inception, more than 200 Furman students have received direct support from the fund. For many it has made the difference in their ability to remain at Furman.

Furman United was established by the university’s board of trustees with the help of a generous lead gift from trustee Peace Onslow. The Daniel Mickel Foundation of Greenville announced a challenge: If an alum who had never made a gift to Furman would make a $25 donation to Furman United, the foundation would provide a matching gift of $125. Additionally, if any alum made a gift to the program at the leadership level of $1,000 or more, the foundation would match that gift dollar-for-dollar.

The response to the challenge has been so positive that Furman United, which began as a two-year effort focused solely on scholarship assistance, is now able to support students in such areas as study away, internships and undergraduate research.

The Daniel Mickel Foundation’s history of financial support to Furman also includes grants to the Center for Vocational Reflection (Lilly Center) and the Heller Service Corps.

To learn more, visit www.myfurmangift.com.

The evolution from ‘graduates’ to ‘alumni’

A YOUNG FURMAN GRADUATE approaches the empty wall behind her new work station and eagerly taps the nail into place, then hangs a hard-earned diploma for all to see as a testament to a job well done. Her pride in graduating from one of the finest liberal arts institutions in the country is evident. Is this where the story ends? For some, yes. Their fond memories fade, and connections are lost.

But for others, their new lives outside the Furman bubble mark the beginning of a journey to becoming something more than graduates: alumni.

As alumni, they take on a mantle of pride and support best described by the following actions:

They share their experiences at Furman with other young people who are interested in a liberal arts education. They encourage them to apply, discuss opportunities for scholarship assistance, join the Furman Alumni Network to help interview prospective students as a part of the admission process, and are willing to serve as mentors to students.

They attend Furman-sponsored events and return to campus for a visit when possible. They keep in touch with Furman friends and maintain the ties formed through shared experiences.

They cheer for the Paladins on the field of competition and believe that purple always makes a great fashion statement.

They understand that Furman is bigger than any one idea, policy or personality, and they support the university’s liberal arts tradition.

They make an annual gift to Furman. They understand that participation in annual giving is important, and that current Furman students benefit from their support as much as they enjoyed the benefits alumni gifts afforded them as students.

It doesn’t take much to become an alum. Consider picking up the mantle of “alumni” and wearing it with energy, pride, and the full knowledge that you are part of a place that thrives on — and deserves — active alumni participation and engagement.

The author is director of donor marketing at Furman.
“We believe this program will provide enriching educational experiences for our student leaders while also developing energy efficiency and environmental stewardship programs that can help build truly sustainable communities.”
— GEORGE M. FURGUSON, JR., PRESIDENT OF FURMAN UNIVERSITY

“We understand if a kid is labeled or to, somebody you want to emulate. Some leadership, somebody to relate giving some insight, somebody giving one showing that they care, somebody Sometimes that help just may be some-. "Kids need help. Kids need resources. chemistry and science have done ties into educating students on what companies are doing in their science students to hear firsthand what "This provides an opportunity for best practices and cultures of other nations. matches Upstate resources with the needs of international guests. The center coordinates professional exchange initiative “that seeks to build mutual understanding between the United State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) and other exchanges. Council of International Visitors (NCIV), a network of universities, organizations and institutions that supports citizen diplomacy. THE global Visitors Center The GLOBAL VISITORS CENTER at Furman has been named a member of the National Council of International Visitors (NCIV), a network of universities, organizations and individuals that supports citizen diplomacy. The center, headed by program manager Bianca Walker, was established last October and joins more than 90 IVLPs in 45 states. It is a joint program of Furman’s Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership and the Office for Study Away and International Education. NCIV numbers design and implement professional programs, provide cultural activities, and offer hospitality to foreign leaders, specialists and scholars participating in the U.S. State Department’s International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) and other exchanges. Launched in 1940, the IVLP, according to its website, is the department’s premier professional exchange initiative “that seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed short-term visits to the U.S. for current and emerging foreign leaders.” Serving as a Council for International Visitors, the Furman Global Visitors Center matches Upstate resources with the need of international guests. The center coordinates appointments for visitors with their industry counterparts, sets up meetings with students and faculty from Furman and other Upstate schools, and arranges opportunities for visitors to experience Southern culture and community life. In turn, Upstate community and business leaders learn about best practices and cultures of other nations.

Global Visitors Center joins national network
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Anthropology major, film studies minor added
STUDENTS ARRIVED ON CAMPUS this fall to find new additions to the Furman curriculum: a major in anthropology and an interdisciplinary minor in film studies.

Anthropology is the comparative study of humankind in all times and places. Furman majors will require eight courses from a list of 24 covering the discipline’s subfields cultural, linguistic, archaeological and physical anthropology. Savannah Furr, Furman’s new cultural anthropology major, was inspired to pursue the major by a chance encounter with a graduate student working on cultural anthropology. According to Brian Spiel, professor of anthropology, more than 90 percent of liberal arts institutions offer a major in the subject.

“The courses will be taught by professors in the departments of religion, Asian studies, and modern languages and literatures. Three core courses will be required: cultural anthropology, world prehistory, and anthropological methods and theory. Students may choose from additional courses that touch on such areas as cultures of the non-Western world, classical archaeology, linguistic analysis and cultural ecology.”

With the addition of the interdisciplinary minor (formerly called cross-disciplinary), Furman joins the majority of colleges in the Associated Colleges of the South, a consortium of 16 liberal arts institutions in 12 states, that offer this field of study. To fulfill the requirements for the minor, students must complete “Introduction to Reading Film” and choose three to five additional courses which must come from no fewer than three departments. The courses touch on such areas as Chinese film, media criticism, and Shakespeare.

The new crop of scholars
SEVEN HUNDRED AND FORTY eager students reported to campus August 16 to launch their Furman careers.

This year’s new class was selected from a record pool of 6,203 applicants — an increase of 24 percent over 2011. The jump was spurred by the Admission staff’s efforts to develop new target areas while maintaining a strong foot- hold in existing markets. The staff also made 195 more high school visits than in 2011, thus increasing Furman’s overall visibility and culti- vating stronger relationships with high school counselors across the country.

Another recruiting strategy was tied to the recent arrival of Southwest Airlines to the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport. Admission’s efforts brought significant increases in applications from the major cities — Chicago, Nashville, Houston, Baltimore and Orlando — that have direct Southwest connections to and from Greenville. In all, applications from the Southwest markets (which also include Richmond, Va.) increased 30 percent.

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Class of 2016 by the numbers
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3,906 Average high school GPA
17 Countries represented
21 Percentage of multicultural students (up 5 percent over 2011)
27 Percentage of in-state students
43/57 Male-female percentage (same as 2011)
46 International/exchange students (up from 27 in 2011)
Faculty retirees: Former students offer insights, tributes

STANLEY CROWE

The author, a 2008 graduate, is pursuing a master’s degree in library science to share his time and advice with anyone who asks.

JOHN POOLE’S teaching is meticulous and passionate. He strives to bring the beauty of mathematics to students who are not math or science majors. In this quest, he fights the fear of fear and learning, poor instruction, and basic lameness. But his Great Idea to be a seamless process — was in fact going to be a disaster. His candid opus was funny at the time, but I would learn over the next few years that it was delivered in true Dr. Crowe fashion.

As an academic advisor and English professor at Furman, Dr. Crowe, a native of Scotland who joined the faculty in 1974, offered honest advice on everything from the quality of a paper to career choices. I have always valued his insight and different, but the chorus is the same. He was tough — really tough — but supportive. He expected a lot, but if you had a question or needed help to understand a tough concept, he was always there.

It’s a model I have tried to emulate and pass along to younger faculty in my academic career.

HAYDEN PORTER began his career at Furman in 1979, when time-sharing access to large, expensive mainframe computers was the norm. Furman and its relatively young computer science program were impossibly niche for his decision.

The hallmarks of Hayden’s time at Furman have been rigorous, demanding classroom teaching and constant involvement in undergraduate research mentoring. If you talk to his students, the stories, like the verses of a song, are all.

WAVE KING

WAYNE KING was 23 when he came to Furman in 1982 as area coordinator for men’s housing. After two years he returned to his alma mater, Mars Hill, where he worked for 15 months before Furman hired him back in 1984 as a housing director.

The second time, it took. For the next 15 years King’s calm demeanor, sense of humor and good cheer served him well as he supervised the residence halls and their occasionally rowdy occupants. He prided over a liberalization of the university’s visitation hours, and in the late 1990s he played a key role in the planning and development of the North Village apartments.

In 1999 he made a shift into the development office, where he put the close relationships he established with students to good use while working in animal giving and donor relations and as a regional development officer.

“I have really enjoyed being in contact with alumni I know as students,” he says. Indeed, King has often been the first person alumni contact when letting the school know of a birth, marriage or job change.

Now, after 30 years at Furman — and after overcoming a serious health issue — King has decided to take early retirement.

In a note to Furman friends, he said, “To those of you who have loved me, prayed for me where I needed it, and graciously allowed me to victimize you with my sense of humor, thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

— JIM STEWART
SANDY FREEMAN JONES ’05, Great Expectations. The Pulitzer Prize: The Essential Guide to Year 1-30-Year-Old (Sheridan, 2011). The second book in the Great Expectations series covers the challenges parents face in the transition from baby to toddler, from toilet training and teeth brushing to language skills, healthy deepening and household chores.

FROM FACULTY


Bobby FURMAN

Books featuring: Summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

SAM F. STACK, JR., ’77 and Doug SWOFFORD, School of Education. Essays in John Dewey Scholarship: 1882-2002 (University of South Carolina Press, 2012). The publisher says, “Stack is a professor and associate-department chair in the College of Human Resources and Education at West Virginia University. His co-author teaches at Texas Tech. Both are engaged in research to bring greater accessibility to the work of Dewey, one of the most prominent philosophers and educational thinkers of the 20th century.”

DOUG CAMPBELL, ’84 (M.A. ’90, Discipline Without Anger (Rowman & Littlefield, 2012). The publisher says, “Campbell has taught high school mathematics for the last 15 years and is currently at Polk County High in Columbus, N.C. He says his book is designed to show teachers “how to successfully manage their classes so that they can be free to teach without having to become bullies to keep order.”

ALLISON HURST, College and the Working Class: What It Takes to Make It (Sage Publishers, 2012). The author says in her introduction that the book “is a three percent of working-class kids who say that they are interested in the American dream of upward mobility through education and hard work. It is also about the economic, moral and psychological dilemmas facing working-class people who choose to go to college.”

The book follows the lives of 200 working-class students as they apply to, enter, navigate and complete college. Through in-depth interviews readers learn about the obstacles working-class students face, the cost and effectiveness of higher education as a mechanism of social mobility, and the problems caused on campuses by resistance to meaningful confront the class divide. Hurst, who has taught sociology at Furman since 2009, is continuing her research in this area and is currently exploring how college graduates find meaningful careers.

KYLIE C. LONGEST, Using Stata for Quantitative Analysis (Sage Publications, 2011). This self-teaching resource helps someone who has no experience with statistical software learn to work with data. Longest, who joined the sociology faculty in 2003, teaches the features and capabilities of Stata from an intuitive perspective, furthering students’ overall retention by using screen shots to guide them through the process. The self-teaching style of the text allows novice Stata users to complete a basic quantitative research project from start to finish.

PAUL THOMAS, Ignoring Poverty (Columbia University Press, 2012). Thomas is a professor of political science at the University of South Carolina and author of “The New Middle Class: How the Middle Class Remade America.”

New coaches take the helm(s) of Paladin programs

IN RECENT MONTHS the athletics department welcomed new head coaches to the Furman fold. They are:

LACROSSE: Richie Meade, coach of the U.S. men’s national senior team, and Rachel Shack Whitten has been hired to lead Furman’s new men’s and women’s lacrosse programs, which will begin varsity play in the spring of 2014.

Meade was coach of the U.S. Naval Academy men’s team from 1994-2011, leading the Midshipmen to a 14-97 record and seven NCAA tournament appearances. In his 21 years at a college head coach, including four years at the University of Baltimore, Meade has a 162-120 mark. He was also a tenured professor of physical education and is a Senior Fellow at the Vice Admiral James E. Meade has a 162-120 mark. He was also a tenured professor of physical education and is a Senior Fellow at the Vice Admiral James C. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership at the Naval Academy. He will lead the U.S. senior team at the Federation of International Lacrosse World Championships in Damour, Côte d’Ivoire.

Whitten was most recently associate woman’s coach at the University of Central Florida, where she spent the last six years. During her time there the team compiled a 71-36 record, won four Mountain Pacific Sports Federation regular-season championships, and ranked among the nation’s top-20 three times. Prior to Whitten, her coaching career included serving five years in that same position Furman teams won 33 league titles (regular season and tournament).

Furman ATHLETICS

Athletic shrine taps four standouts

TWO ALL-AMERICANS, a three-sport star, and a longtime administrator comprise Furman’s 2012 Athletic Hall of Fame class. Quarterback Ingle Martin ’06, golfer Brandi Jackson ’03, Ted Yakin ’63, and honorary selection John Block ’63 will be inducted October 13.

Martin passed for 376 yards and 42 touchdowns in 2004-05 after transferring from the University of Florida. Furman posted a 21-6 record under his leadership and made the NCAA I-AA playoff both years. He was All-Southern Conference as a quarterback and All-American as a punter in 2005, when he averaged 43.2 yards per punt. He also shone 16 school records.

Jackson was a three-time all conference player and the league’s player of the year in 2003. She was the runner-up in the 2002 United States Women’s Amateur, was a National Golf Coaches Association All-America in 2003, and twice won the Southern Carolina Women’s Match Play Title. She placed for several teams on the Futures and LPGA tours.

Yakin lettered in football, baseball and track and field. He rushed for 942 yards and five touchdowns in helping lead the 1989 team to an 11-1 record and from 1952-54. A first baseman in baseball, he set a school record with three triples in a 13-9 win over Clemson in 1954, and in track and field he excelled in sprinting and the long jump. Blackstreet basketball as an undergraduate and joined the history faculty in 1968. He was NCAA faculty athletics representative from 1995-96. He became vice president for intercollegiate athletics in 1988, which included serving five years in that position Furman teams won 33 league titles (regular season and tournament).

University in New York. He has also been on the staffs at Toledo, Bowling Green, Syracuse and Arizona, and served as an assistant for the Denver men’s national team.

TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY: Robert Gary was head men’s track and field and cross country coach at Ohio State before coming to Furman this spring. His wife, Rita Arndt Gary, will serve as an assistant coach.

Gary, an Ohio State graduate and two-time U.S. Olympian in the 1,500-meter steeplechase, coached the Buckeyes’ men’s cross country team for 16 years, taking eight teams to the NCAA championships. He coached the track and field squad for the last six years. Rita Gary was head woman’s track and field head coach at Ohio (Columbus) University from 2009-09, where she led the cross country team to its first Mid-American Conference title.

WOMEN’S GOLF: Kelley Hurston comes to Furman to lead the new coaches. Of the last five women’s coaches sported at the University of Georgia, where her teams qualified for the NCAA Regionals each year from 2007-11, third, 10th and 14th, respectively, at the 2009 and 2009 NCAA Championships. In 2009 Hurston was named LPGA National Coach of the Year.

Visit www.furmantalidons.com for more about the new coaches.
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT FLOWS WITH ENERGY, ENTHUSIASM...

This year, Benefactors Circle welcomed current trustee who have contributed $1 million or more to Furman. university administrators, faculty and staff for a gala presentation in the Furman planetarium, and with Furman professors, cooking demonstrations, thoughts about the school’s past, present and future. Those involved to share and exchange their ideas and Summit” April 21–23, it provided an opportunity for what was billed as the university’s first “Leadership Another highlight of the weekend was the induction of the compact disc . . . which is read by a laser . . . and trustee emeritus Charles Townes ‘35, Korht told the CEO of Battelle, also spoke. In a nod to Nobel Laureate this fall when their grandson, Daniel III, enrolls. Sanders; the late Waco Childers ’47 and his wife, Marilyn Mayfield Blackwell ’15 of Greenville, former a corporate sales representative for Allied Payroll Service. William M. Burtles ’04 of Greenville, Eastern regional sales manager for Berry Plastics. Mamie Susan (Suki) Caflfy ’81, visual arts special- and Emilyn were living in Hong Kong inviting them to co-host the Furman Parents Council. He described how their love of Furman, which began with the educational experiences of their children, Daniel ’86 and John ’88, inspired them to return Daniel ’86 and John ’88, inspired them to return forward to strengthening the Sanders-Furman connec- tion this fall when their grandson, Daniel III, enrolls. The board also bids a fond goodbye — and thank you — to Robert to France by persons of services rendered to France by persons of the French government. He flew as a navigator on 53 com- bat missions in the European theatre. The award, established by Napoleonic resolutions “services rendered to France by persons of great merit.”

M itch Carnell was named the 2011-12 Professor of the Year at Webber University’s graduation in Charlotte, S.C. MARRIAGES: Nancy Harris Boughton and Philip Lundy, April 22. They live in Kokomo, Ind.

Brown Bradley was recently invited to sing the Bach-Counsell “Aria Major” at the San Marco Basilica in Venice, Italy. Brown had a 25-year career in New York City as a tenor soloist with major symphony orchestras and opera companies, among them the New York City Opera, Washington Opera and Hong Kong Opera. He also appeared in eight Broadway productions. He now lives in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where he is director of music and fine arts at First Presbyterian Church.

Harry Eskew of Maucon, Ga., was one of 150 alumni of the stars of happyland, a male choir, and orchestra, that performed in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea during its Spring Arts Festival in April. The group also performed in Beijing. China.

Bill Graham celebrated 40 years as musical director of the North Carolina Boys Choir and Chamber Choir and the North Carolina Girls Choir a concert at the Duke University Chapel in Durham June 11. The Boys Choir, which tours nationally and internationally, was founded as the Durham Boys Choir in 1972 when Bill was organist and director of music at First Presbyterian Church. It was designated the North Carolina Boys Choir in 1983.

Maurice Cherry has been appointed senior fiduciary designation. Verno Smith Ligler was elected to the 2012 class of the American Institute for Medical Biological Engineering’s College of Fellows. The College of Fellows is comprised of the top two percent of medical and biological engineers in the country. Francis is the navy’s senior scientist for biosen- sors and biomanufacturing and is a member and past chair of the Bioengineering Section of the National Academy of Engineering. He serves on the organizing committee for the World Biosensor Congress and the permanent steering committee for Europtor, the European Conference on Optical Sensors.

Heddy Strickland of Columbia, S.C., has been promoted to assistant general counsel with Computer Sciences Corporation, where she has worked for 17 years.

THIS YEAR IS REUNION! President Obama has nominated Deborah Maltes as ambassador to the Republic of Liberia. Deborah, a career member of the Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, for 40 years. She is serving as director general of the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa.

Thomas E. Reynolds, an attorney with Frankfurt Koeleman & seamlessead bat, retired in Birmingham, Ala., was included in the 2012 “Alabama Super Lawyers” listing published in Alabama Lawyers magazine and in a special supplement to the May issue of Business Alabama.

H ared Warlick recently retired as dean of the College of Health and Human Performance at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Under his leadership Southern Miss captured 13 Conference USA cham- pionships. In addition, he spearheaded a complete makeover of the school’s athletics facilities and founded two athletics fund- raising programs. The school named a suite at M.M. Roberts Stadium in his honor.

Leslie MacKinnon-Spitzer is now the editor of Crimson World magazine published by Clemson University.

Alumni News

MARRIAGES: Nancy Harris Boughton and Philip Lundy, April 22. They live in Kokomo, Ind.

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Johnnie Mac Walters of Greenville was honored in January when he was among 150 World War II veterans to receive a Legion of Honor award from the nation of France. He flew as a navigator on 53 com- bat missions in the European theatre. The award, established by Napoleonic resolutions “services rendered to France by persons of great merit.”

Mitch Carnell was named the 2011-12 Professor of the Year at Webber University’s graduation in Charlotte, S.C. MARRIAGES: Nancy Harris Boughton and Philip Lundy, April 22. They live in Kokomo, Ind.

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Bill Graham celebrated 40 years as musical director of the North Carolina Boys Choir and Chamber Choir and the North Carolina Girls Choir a concert at the Duke University Chapel in Durham June 11. The Boys Choir, which tours nationally and internationally, was founded as the Durham Boys Choir in 1972 when Bill was organist and director of music at First Presbyterian Church. It was designated the North Carolina Boys Choir in 1983.

Maurice Cherry has been appointed senior fiduciary designation. Verno Smith Ligler was elected to the 2012 class of the American Institute for Medical Biological Engineering’s College of Fellows. The College of Fellows is comprised of the top two percent of medical and biological engineers in the country. Francis is the navy’s senior scientist for biosen- sors and biomanufacturing and is a member and past chair of the Bioengineering Section of the National Academy of Engineering. He serves on the organizing committee for the World Biosensor Congress and the permanent steering committee for Europtor, the European Conference on Optical Sensors.

Heddy Strickland of Columbia, S.C., has been promoted to assistant general counsel with Computer Sciences Corporation, where she has worked for 17 years.

THIS YEAR IS REUNION! President Obama has nominated Deborah Maltes as ambassador to the Republic of Liberia. Deborah, a career member of the Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, for 40 years. She is serving as director general of the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa.

Thomas E. Reynolds, an attorney with Frankfurt Koeleman & seamlessead bat, retired in Birmingham, Ala., was included in the 2012 “Alabama Super Lawyers” listing published in Alabama Lawyers magazine and in a special supplement to the May issue of Business Alabama.

H ared Warlick recently retired as dean of the College of Health and Human Performance at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Under his leadership Southern Miss captured 13 Conference USA cham- pionships. In addition, he spearheaded a complete makeover of the school’s athletics facilities and founded two athletics fund- raising programs. The school named a suite at M.M. Roberts Stadium in his honor.

Leslie MacKinnon-Spitzer is now the editor of Crimson World magazine published by Clemson University.

Alumni News

MARRIAGES: Nancy Harris Boughton and Philip Lundy, April 22. They live in Kokomo, Ind.

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### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Kevin Stevenson of Tallahassee, Fla., an employee-benefits broker at the Earl Bacon Agency, serves as the legislative chair for the Florida Association of Health Underwriters. Additionally, he started a new franchise called Burgoton, a provider of reusable plastic containers.

### RISE: A board-certified psychiatrist, based in Beaufort.

### Wings in May and was scheduled to report to the U.S. Navy, received his flight surgeon promotion, education and behavior from C.D. Hylton High School in Woodbridge, Va. He is also a competitive triathlete and recently completed a half Ironman in Texas. He was scheduled to compete in the Olympic National Triathlon Championships in Burlington, Vt., in August.

### For his 20th year of experience in the healthcare field.

### has been a successful alum of the Bad Popes, and is now a member of the Bad Popes.

### has enjoyed a successful career as a lawyer in South Carolina.

### has joined Park Ridge Medical Associates.

### She is the first African-American woman to become a partner with the Charleston Autism Academy.

### is chief information officer for Aviall, Inc., a subsidiary of The Boeing Company.

### has been promoted to chief operating officer with GE Capital and Kara is a sales banker with GE Capital and Kara is a sales banker with GE Capital.

### has become board certified in music therapy with the American Music Therapy Association and has partnered with the Charleston Autism Academy to begin a music therapy program.

### She is a board-certified psychiatrist, and is now a member of the Bad Popes.

### Möller, a daughter, Caroline Clare, June 28, 2011, Charleston, S.C.

### has been promoted to senior graphic designer at Madison Perfor- mance Group. He lives in New York City.


### has become one of 29 members of the charter class of the Charleston High School.

### have moved to Sumter, S.C., where he is a pursuing a doctorate in pharmacy with the Charleston High School.

### earned an executive MBA degree in phar-maceuticals and healthcare marketing from St. Joseph’s University. Dir., who works with Merck & Co., ranked first in his 48-student class and was inducted into the school’s top 10% of the national Beta Gamma Sigma, the international honor society for collegiate business schools.

### has been promoted to director of sales and marketing with the Charleston Autism Academy.

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**SUMMER 2012**

**PUBLIC SERVICE AS A LIFESTYLE FOR KNOXVILLE MAYOR ROGERO**

TAKING A LOOK around Knoxville’s campus and it’s clear there’s no “typical Furman student.” The student body is a mish-mash of ages, interests, ethnicities, and academic performance, as she graduated from the Hugh White Award on March 2 for outstanding graduating student in the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association. In earning her master’s degree in interior design from Savannah College of Art and Design, Allison West was chosen to be the maidseater at the school’s 2012 graduation ceremony. She was selected for the honor because of her outstanding academic performance, as she graduated with a grade-point average of 4.0.

**MARRIAGES:**

**Matthew David Ligler** and **Diana Estes Ligler**, a daughter, July 27, 2011. They live in Greenville, S.C.

**Derek and Bianca Moseley Atkinson**, a daughter, Moseley Atkinson, May 28, 2011. They live in Greenville, S.C.


**Adam and Diana Estes Ligler**, a daughter, July 27, 2011. They live in Greenville, S.C.

**Erika Grace Powell** represented South Carolina in the 2012 USA magna. She graduated from the University of Georgia in May and began her career at Goizueta Business School.

**Jonathan Anderson** has earned a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School and accepted a position as an assistant pastor at Hamilton Mill United Methodist Church in Duluth, Ga. Eric Chamberlin graduated from the University of Memphis C. E. Haynes School of Law with a Juris Doctor degree. Christopher and Elaine Kelly Wilder are parents of two children, a son, Elliott Brooks, January 27. They live in Washington, D.C.

**Christofer and Elaine Kelly Wilder**, a daughter, Moseley Atkinson, May 28, 2011. They live in Greenville, S.C.

**Lauren Welch Langley** and **Robson Alford**, a son, Luke Adair, March 25, Dallas, Texas.

**Paul and Elaine Kelly Wilder**, a son, Elliott Brooks, January 27. They live in Washington, D.C.


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IN MEMORIAM: FRANK TAYLOR

Taylor, who died July 25 at the age of 68, was a Georgia Tech gradu- ate who earned advanced degrees from the University of North Carolina. He was skilled in computer programming and was instrumental in intro- ducing computers into the physics curriculum. Under his leadership the department acquired high-end computer hardware and software, and he helped develop an award-winning interdisciplinary computer course. During his years at Furman Taylor received the student government's Rosey of the Year Award and the Invitation Award from the Student League for Black Culture.

He was perhaps best known for his commitment to and genuine concern for students, often working late hours to help entire classes understand their assignments. His friend Bill Rogers, now Bennette E. Geer Professor Emeritus of Liberal Arts, once said, “Frank is more devoted to the craft of teaching than almost any college professor I’ve known. He had a laser-like focus.” Furman President Dr. Ed Taylor praised his “dedication to the good of Furman and the larger com- munity, his courage and compassion, and his personal integrity.”

After leaving Furman Taylor taught courses at Greenville Technical College and was active with the Rotary Club of the Foothills. He worked closely with the Minefield Adoption Project, a local program dedicated to understanding children who were adopted. He was active with the Minefield Adoption Project, a local program dedicated to understanding children who were adopted. He was active in church music ministry in the United Times (N.C.) and was active in the Slippery Rock Rotary Club and the Isaqueena Study Club. He taught English at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania for nearly 30 years. He is active in the Slippery Rock Rotary Club and the youth exchange program for the district.
**TRUSTEES NAME JOYNER FIRST RECIPIENT OF RILEY MEDAL**

**THE LATE C. DAN JOYNER is the first recipient of the Richard W. Riley Medal for Promise and Achievement, presented at the spring Commencement.**

The award was established in April by the board of trustees to honor Riley, the 1954 Furman graduate who served as governor of South Carolina and U.S. Secretary of Education. Riley completed his term as chair of the board June 30.

Joyner (left), who died in January, was a 1959 graduate, leading Greenville's Furman football team and an ardent supporter of the university and especially the athletics program. His wife, Katherine Pollio Joyner ’60, and children accepted the award.

In making the presentation, President Rod Smola said, “The board voted unanimously to honor Dan Joyner in recognition of his many contributions to the Greenville community and to his alma mater, both of which he loved so much and supported so faithfully. His devotion and commitment to his family, to his hometown and to Furman were unsurpassed.”

Riley, for whom the computer science and mathematics building and the Riley Institute at Furman are named, has had a long and distinguished career in the nation by Financial News, and in 2008 he was named one of the three most effective governors in the nation by Newsweek magazine, and in 2011 he was named one of the top 10 Cabinet members of the 20th century by Time. Today he is a senior partner in the law firm of Nelson Mullin Riley & Scarborough and its affiliate, Education Counsel.

Edward Baxt Commins Jr., ‘46, June 2, Charleston, S.C. He was in the World War II veteran, seeing in the U.S. Army Air Force for four years. Afterwards, he coached and taught at Walhalla (S.C.) S. Later he coached for nine years for eight years at St. Paul’s High School on Yonges Island, the site of his high school. In 1963 he became athletic director and head basketball and football coach at St. Andrews High in Charleston.

He left teaching briefly to work sales, but returned to work in the school until his retirement.

Eleanor Ashley Devore, ‘47, October 27, North Palm Beach, S.C. She taught in Greenville and Charleston counties and in Anderson County, from which she retired.

Aumilia Avery Edwards, ‘48, April 13, Augusta, Ga. She was an accountant with Fuller, Frost and Associates.

William Bates Hair, Jr., ‘48, May 9, Gastonia, N.C. He served in the Naval Air Corps for three years during World War II, was employed by Brown Thread Company as head of the fiber department and was a director of the company. He was also associated with Avon Bonded Warehouse, the Ambassador Company, Honey Over Company and Durham Cotton Company. He was a member of the American Philatelic Society and the American Logistic.

Lois Odom Loop, ‘48, April 30, Hattiesburg, Miss. She was a teacher at Jeanne Young Martin, ‘48, July 4, 1917, Asheville, N.C.

Ivy Glenn McChesney, ‘48, April 4, Columbus, S.C. She served in the navy, Marines and Army, retiring from the Marines as a major. She was a member of the Fellows Life Management Institute. After retiring from the South Carolina Insurance Department, he worked as an insurance examiner for the states of Georgia and Delaware. He was a Mason and a Shriner and a harley Davidson enthusiast.

Betty Jane Glenn Rowlund, ‘49, April 11, Spartanburg, S.C. She was a co-owner of Rowlund Radiator Service and was a teacher in Spartanburg District 7. She and her husband, Vernon, were benefactors to many churches through the Ross Bible Ministry, which they established.

Malcolm Evans Ward, Jr., ‘49, October 21, Blythewood, S.C. He served in the U.S. Navy before enlisting at Furman, then entered the U.S. General Motors Acceptance Corporation. He was a member of the Yankees and Kings clubs.

Jimmie Walker Warren, Jr., ‘49, February 18, Flippin, Tenn. She was a teacher in Winnsboro, S.C., at St. John’s School, and at the Riley Institute.

Joy Alston Weede, ‘49, February 20, Richmond, Va. He was a member of the two most effective governors in the nation by Newsweek magazine, and in 2008 he was named one of the top 10 Cabinet members of the 20th century by Time. Today he is a senior partner in the law firm of Nelson Mullin Riley & Scarborough and its affiliate, Education Counsel.

Mary Lou Joyce Cooper, ‘50, October 7, Pembroke, Ga. She was in the public schools of North Carolina.

William Harrell Hill, ‘50, April 5, Hendersonville, Tenn. After graduating from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1954, he served his residency at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He went on to establish his family practice, where he practiced until his retirement.

Martha Marie Teague Lewis, ‘51, October 19, Greenville, S.C. She was a graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Nursing.

Clifford Lemuel Rice, ‘50, March 27, Wilmington, N.C. He was a retired insurance agent.

Max McGee Rice, ‘50, March 27, Wilmington, N.C. He was a tenor soloist in the Upstate Carolina Backcountry Studies Group, and was a member of the Carolina Backcountry Studies Group. He was the personnel director for several companies before starting a textile company as a district sales manager.

Jimmie Morris Abernathy, ‘50, January 11, Greenville. He was the personnel director for several companies before starting a textile company as a district sales manager.

Sarah Burch Gregg, ‘50, April 3, Mount Pleasant, S.C. She was a member of the two most effective governors in the nation by Newsweek magazine, and in 2008 he was named one of the top 10 Cabinet members of the 20th century by Time. Today he is a senior partner in the law firm of Nelson Mullin Riley & Scarborough and its affiliate, Education Counsel.

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Louis More Smith, ‘50, June 21, Jefferson, Maine. She was active in the National Audubon Society. She was a member of the Jefferson Chorus and the Bank of Maine Bicentennial Singers. She was a member of the Jefferson Chorus and the Bank of Maine Bicentennial Singers.

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Henry Lawrence Sanderson, Jr., ‘53, May 21, Wilmington, N.C. He was a retired insurance agent.

Dallas Whatley Griffin, Sr., ‘52, November 13, Greenville. He was the Carolina Backcountry Studies Group, and was a member of the Carolina Backcountry Studies Group. He was the personnel director for several companies before starting a textile company as a district sales manager.

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Mary Lou Joyce Cooper, ‘50, October 7, Pembroke, Ga. She was in the public schools of North Carolina.
George Russell Sutton, Sr., ’14, June 1, Greenville. Russ was an outstanding football and baseball player at Furman, serving all-state, all-conference and honorable mention All-American honors. He also played varsity baseball during the summers and was signed by the Cleveland Indians. After graduating he entered the Army, serving as a 2ndLt in the 4th-Army Goatfoot Football team for the European command. He completed military training in a Greenville Supply Company as an industrial salesman. After he left the Army, he and Trustus took a trip to Europe over the summer months, and after 30 years as a teacher, he is starting over with a new career in the city. A decorated Air Force veteran, he was a charter member of the Tigerville Volunteer Fire Department in Greenville and served as an officer and a member of the Auxiliary. At his death he owned American Supply Company as industrial sales manager.

James Cohen Arms ’57, October 22, 1955, May 11, 2011. Russ was an outstanding football and baseball player at Furman, including a year in Vietnam. He soon joined a fraternity (Centaur), met his first wife (Sally Boyd, with whom he remains friendly), and started Furman’s wrestling team, which he captained and coached his sophomore year. That was not to be his only Furman first. A Show of Hands. . . From then on, Jim was either onstage or backstage, directing, acting, playing the Alto saxophone or just drinking beer and hanging around. Jim says being a jock did not endear him to his classmates, but in one sense that’s true, for the other two students who graduated that year, he was the drama and speech department that year were more interested in speech, while Jim was hooked on theater.

The Thigpens say being in a play did not order him to many in the department, but his brother was working as an actor and he wanted to do the same. “I broke the ‘jocks’ type,” he says. “It’s too bad that we don’t bridge that gap between artists and athletes.”

Since 1980 Thigpen and his wife, Kay, have run Trustus Theatre in Columbia, a professional non-profit theatre that specializes in cutting-edge, provocative works that most theaters wouldn’t consider. Under the Thigpens’ reign, Trustus gained a national reputation for excellence and earned the right to be the first in the Southeast to be designated by the state of South Carolina’s ‘Official Theatre Company’ for the city of Columbia. The Thigpens have presented actors, writers and directors for more than 25 years, all of whom have been artists who present fresh and new talents and producing new plays, but very few that are truly important plays and musicals of the past three decades, including Falstaff and Falstaff Prize winner Angels in America. Jim Thigpen says Trustus was created as an answer to a question. “We asked ourselves: ‘What is missing in this town?’ Community theaters had their own missions, but the work they were doing was not really to link your teeth into. So we decided to bring in those shows that are missing from our gallery and have the audience experience . . . to be his only Furman first.

The Thigpens say being in a play did not order him to many in the department, but his brother was working as an actor and he wanted to do the same. “I broke the ‘jocks’ type,” he says. “It’s too bad that we don’t bridge that gap between artists and athletes.”

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IN 1829, THE FURMAN ACADEMY and Theological Institution was in trouble. Just a few years after its establishment in 1826 the school’s enrollment had dwindled to only three students, its principal had resigned, and the South Carolina Baptist Convention had been forced to forfeit the Edgefield property on which the school was located.

Rather than face the prospect of closure, though, the convention placed the remaining students with the Rev. Jesse Hartwell. Hartwell accepted the students into his home outside Stateburg in Sumter County, where he taught, housed and fed them on a salary of $400 per year. The students also practiced preaching at High Hills of Santee Baptist Church, where Hartwell was minister.

Enrollment increased under Hartwell’s direction. He built cabins to house the new students, largely at his own expense. The students occupied so much of his time that in 1830 the Rev. Samuel Furman, son of Richard Furman, joined the institution as a junior professor. The school appeared to be on more solid footing.

Yet by 1834 funding for Furman Academy and Theological Institution was so far in arrears that Hartwell and Furman were forced to resign. The convention was unable to find suitable replacements, and the institution shut its doors in December of 1834.

The closing marked the end of Furman’s years in the High Hills of Santee. The school reopened two years later near Winnsboro, where students could farm the fertile land to help cover the school’s expenses.

In 1930 Furman reacquired the High Hills property, where it placed a historical marker carved of Winnsboro granite. The Sumter County Historical Commission placed another marker nearby in 1978. But the site was allowed to languish and was eventually reclaimed by a pine forest.

Last year, however, members of the commission rediscovered the marker and launched a project to refurbish the area around it — and to ensure its future maintenance. This spring, on April 21, commission members were joined by Furman representatives, descendants of the Furman family, and members of the High Hills of Santee Baptist Church at a ceremony to rededicate the site.

Nearly 200 years ago, students at the Furman Academy and Theological Institution pursued a rigorous, interdisciplinary education, much as today’s students do.

As trees and brush overtook the site, the significance of their efforts and of their place in history — to Furman, to Sumter County and to South Carolina — faded. Today, with the debris cleared and the 1978 marker repainted, the meaning of this historic patch of land is now apparent to anyone who happens upon Dodgen Hill Road in the High Hills of Santee, S.C.

— CELESTE BREWER

A taste of history in the High Hills of Santee

To honor an influential faculty member, contact Shon Herrick, Associate Vice President for Development. Shon.herrick@furman.edu

www.furman.edu/thefurmanstandard

— Kevin Byrne ’91, on Fred Current

Sometimes, it’s the unexpected that changes our lives. For Kevin Byrne, the incisive and supportive mentorship of Fred Current, professor of Business and Accounting, set him on a path to success.

Last year, Byrne joined 17 other alumni in honoring influential teachers and mentors at Furman through The Furman Standard, an endowed fund that supports faculty scholarship, research, and teaching — and ensures that each new generation of Furman students continues to enjoy the benefits of close faculty relationships.

There are many ways to honor an outstanding faculty member who made a difference in your life. From direct gifts to estate planning, we can help you tailor a program that meets your needs. Your support will enable Furman to continue to attract, develop, and retain the outstanding faculty that has distinguished the University for nearly two centuries.

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