A series of events exploring higher education’s role in the broader community will culminate in a special Inauguration Convocation in McAlister Auditorium on Thursday, March 19, as the Trustees and the University’s faculty formally install Elizabeth Davis, Ph.D., as Furman’s 12th President. The ceremony, which is open to the Furman community, will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a full procession of the faculty, delegates from other institutions of higher education and learned societies, students, alumni, and Trustees.

Classes have been cancelled from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The event is open to all faculty, staff and students, and invitations by email will be issued later in February. Tickets will be required for entrance into McAlister, and overflow seating with closed-circuit video broadcast will be provided.

Highlighting the theme of “Public Engagement” will be a special guest address by Nancy Cantor, Ph.D., Chancellor of Rutgers University-Newark on Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. in the Younts Conference Center. Dr. Cantor is a nationally known advocate, author, and frequent speaker about the role and responsibility of colleges and universities to serve the communities in which they reside. As the former Chancellor of Syracuse University, she led a widely hailed institutional effort for public engagement in the Syracuse, NY, area.

A panel discussion among Furman faculty at 4 p.m., Monday, March 16, will kick off the Public Engagement series. Titled “A Publicly Engaged University: Furman’s Role in the Community and the World,” the panel in the Watkins Room of the Trone Student Center will explore public research and teaching, public service, and institutional relationships at Furman.

On Wednesday, March 18, the series will conclude in the Watkins Room with the annual American Enterprise Lecture hosted by the Department of Economics. Dani Rodrik, Ph.D., of the Institute for Advanced Studies and an internationally recognized scholar, will address the topic “Economics, Ideas and Interests.”

A Steering Committee co-chaired by Board of Trustees Chair Robert Hill ’82, Professor of Mathematics John Harris ’91, Ph.D., and Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations Mark Kelly has been working since October to plan the events. “You hear a lot about “all in” these days, and that’s certainly the case with the Steering Committee,” Kelly said. “We are confident we will have a celebration that will showcase the very best of Furman for our community and our many friends, alumni, and guests.”

Important information for faculty, staff, students

Faculty, staff, and students are cordially invited to the March 19 Inauguration Convocation in McAlister Auditorium. A ticketing plan has been developed to help manage what are anticipated to be high numbers of guests who want to attend.

FACULTY

Faculty are expected to join the Processional, and will be seated with colleagues in a designated section in McAlister Auditorium. Faculty who indicate to the Dean they will process, will not need at ticket (information about the processional assembly location is forthcoming). Faculty who are unable to process, along with staff and students, will need a ticket for entrance.

STAFF

Tickets will be distributed on a first come-first served basis in Timmons Arena the day that the invitations are issued. The distribution will continue until all available tickets are taken. There will also be closed circuit broadcasts of the ceremony in the Younts Conference Center and in the Watkins Rooms of the Trone Student Center.

continued on p. 7
Mall oaks to be gradually replaced

When the first Furman students arrived on the University’s new campus in fall, 1955 to attend morning classes their initial impression was that “of a lonely, barren, wind-swept terrain, alternately dusty and muddy,” according to Alfred Reid’s Furman University, Toward a New Identity. But University planners envisioned a different scene. In their mind’s eye, Furman would be a lush, green paradise, lined with majestic oaks and shaded by tree canopies. And they were eager to reshape and transform the former pasturage. In 1956 alone, landscapers planted more than 1,400 trees and 1,000 shrubs.

Fast-growing water and pin oaks were stationed 30 or 40 feet apart on the main mall and sprinkled liberally around the main entrance, lake and residence halls. Today, those wooded sentinels are a signature of campus. But they are beyond their proper root development, crowded roots compete for nourishment and they are struggling to survive.

In recent years, workers have marked and removed about 70 unhealthy trees. Most of the cutting occurs when the campus is closed between the Christmas and New Year holidays. The University is working on a plan to gradually replace all of the stately oaks along the mall with more robust and longer living white oak species.

Jeff Redderson, associate vice president for facility services, says about 20 of the trees in the poorest condition were removed this Christmas break. The campus tree renewal plan will be discussed at the February Trustee meeting and if approved, the initial phase will begin over the Christmas break in 2016 (most likely in the Milford Mall area). That plan will take some eight to 12 years to complete and in addition to tree replacements, will include improvements to the exterior lighting and sidewalks. In the end, the mall will have a younger, more open feel.

“Most of the work will be done over Christmas so it will not interfere with classes and other operations,” says Redderson. “It will be done over a period of eight to 12 years, so hopefully folks won’t notice much of a change.”

The Biltmore Estate, a tourist attraction in Asheville that draws nearly one million visitors annually, faced a similar dilemma in the 1990s. Many of the popular trees on the estate grounds had outgrown their 100-year life expectancy. Some were in danger of falling. “I encouraged them to cut them all down,” said Ken Knox, the owner and founder of The Tree Doctor who has done consulting work for Biltmore, Furman, the Masters and more than 200 golf courses during a 57-year career. “The trees were not safe.”

Over the next several years, Biltmore replaced more than 100 trees. The process was completed in 1998.

The typical life expectancy of Furman’s water oak trees is 60-70 years, says Scott Sherman, director of facility services planning, construction, and grounds. Many of the trees along the mall and entrance, he said, were spaced about 35 feet apart which has had a negative impact on their development. Oaks, he said, should be planted at least 50 feet apart to allow for proper root development.

The replacement trees, about 30-40 feet in height, have a life expectancy of 250 years. They are slower growing but will be around when the great-great-great grandchildren of today’s crop of Furman students are of college age.

“We are making decisions now that will last 200 years,” says Redderson. “That’s pretty cool to think about.”
PROFILE

Back on campus

Wilson wants energized, involved alumni

T

oday, there are few things that the town of Iva, S.C., has in common with Furman. One is size. The population of the Anderson County town is roughly the same as Furman’s student body. But during the 1970s and early 1980s, there was an unusually strong tug between Iva and Furman. Crescent High School, which educates the sons and daughters of Iva, was a small school sports giant. The Tigers captured the 2A state championship in basketball in 1982 and 1986 and fielded solid football, baseball, and girls’ softball teams. Furman Football Coach Dick Sheridan and his assistants were a common sight on the Crescent football practice fields. The program had recruited Ricky Higgenbotham in 1977, Dennis “Dinkly” Williams in 1980 and was working on Jerome Norris two years later when Mike Wilson caught Sheridan’s eye.

“Sheridan assistant Coach Steve Robertson was at practice looking at Jerome and I was playing fullback that day and he asked about me,” says Wilson who went on to play defensive back for the Paladins. Today, Wilson ’88 is back on campus full time as the University’s executive director of alumni and parent engagement. During an age of information clutter, his immediate goal will be to elevate and energize Furman’s network of alumni, friends, and parents.

“There are so many things pulling at you nowadays,” he said. “Our challenge will be to find ways to effectively engage our audience in this dynamic. The rate of change in communication and the growing competition for attention can make our job more difficult. But you can use some of these same things as arrows in your quiver.”

A 25-year veteran of communications, networking, and community relations, Wilson’s work quiver is brimming. Joining Duke Energy in 1989 after graduating from Furman, he constructed an enviable work career, serving in the areas of regulatory affairs, marketing, public relations, and, most recently as district manager for Greenville and Spartanburg County. As the chief spokesman and public face for the utility, Wilson has served on a variety of non-profit boards including the Chamber of Commerce (Anderson and Spartanburg), the Greenville Symphony Orchestra, Governor’s School for the Arts Foundation, and Artsphere. He is also an elected member of the Board of Trustees for Anderson School District One.

While Wilson had never worked in a university setting before joining Furman in November, he is no stranger to higher education having served on boards representing Tri-County Technical College and South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities. His emotional ties to Furman are strong. Wilson met his wife, Jill Owens Wilson ’90, at a fraternity function during his junior year and proposed to her during the 1990 Furman-Citadel football game through a booming public announcement that is remembered today.

A self-described country boy who graduated at the head of his high school class, Wilson says his Furman education was transformational. Professors helped him learn to think critically and logically. The study of political science and history broadened his horizons. At Furman, the high school-jock sprouted an interest in the arts.

“I grew up in the country, but Furman exposed me to the ways art can transform. I developed appreciation for its ability to stimulate the economy, to provide well-roundedness, and to strengthen a community,” he said.

“When Wilson learned that Furman was searching for someone to lead alumni and parent programs, he was at a crossroads with his work at Duke. Past the midway point of his work career, he wanted a new challenge. And the opportunity to apply his skills at Furman was too much to pass up.

“This job is going to stretch me both literally and from a geographic point of view. We will be working to engage an audience that is spread over a broad area,” he said. “At Duke, my audience was local.”

For starters, Wilson is planning visits to alumni offices at Georgia Tech, Davidson, Hollins, Richmond, and Washington and Lee, institutions that have well-regarded approaches to alumni and parent relations. Though he is still learning the lay of the land, Wilson says he’d like to bolster university events in regions that include a large number of Furman alumni.

Too, he wants to foster a career mentoring program between established Furman alumni and younger graduates.

“We need to get to a point where Furman people are constantly looking out for other Furman people,” he said. “We can do that by aligning some of our younger alumni who are early in their career with older alumni who are more set. We want to plant the seeds for this involvement so that it will grow into something that eventually becomes organic.”

So, how does he plan to do that?

“Past the midpoint of his work career, he wanted a new challenge. And the opportunity to apply his skills at Furman was too much to pass up.”
Wagenknecht obtained a research grant from the National Science Foundation for $300,000 that will support projects with undergraduate students in the PI’s laboratory through 2017. The grant project is titled “Synthesis and physiological studies of transition metal alkyln complexes for applications in photochemical molecular devices.”

Communication Studies
Sean O’Rourke authored, with Mary Stuckey, “Civility, Democracy, and National Politics” in Rhetoric and Public Affairs and, with Deb Buco, “50 Years After Food Stamps, Why is SC Hungry?” in The Greenville News. O’Rourke also delivered the invited “Keynote Conversation” with Ben Dowens and Dorothy Franks to the Carolinas Communication Association, where he also presented a paper, chaired a panel, and directed eight student papers. O’Rourke delivered a High Noon lecture on “Wayne Morse and the Tonkin Gulf Resolution,” participated in the Southern Colloquium on Rhetoric at UNC-Charlotte, was named to the editorial board of the University of Alabama Press’s “Rhetoric, Law, and the Humanities” series, and appeared on WYFF4 NBC and WHNS Fox Carolina. Brandon Inabinett’s chapter, “Sustainable Advocacy: Voice for and Before an Interregional Audience,” with Jessica M. Prody was published in Voice for and Before an Interregional Audience, which was published this fall in Reading Matters. Paul Thomas presented “Why Everyone (Almost) Is Wrong about Common Core” in September at the High Noon series hosted at the Upcountry History Museum. In the inaugural week of The Conversation US, Thomas published “There is no debate about hitting children – it’s just wrong,” which was reposted at The Answer Sheet blog for The Washington Post. Thomas chaired and presented as part of the panel “Why do we need the things in books?: The Enduring Power of Libraries and Literature” at the 2014 National Council of Teachers of English annual convention in Washington, D.C., where he also delivered the Moment of History as the Council Historian. Lorraine Dejong presented at the South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC) annual conference October 3 in Columbia. Her presentation was titled “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly on Teaching Young Children in the Media Age.”

English
Margaret Oakes presented a paper titled “Boethius’ Consolation of Philosophy and Futing One’s Life into Perspective” in September at the Liberal Arts Institute presented by the Association for Core Texts and Courses. Held at Rhodes College in Memphis and attended by participants from large and small institutions that feature core text curricula, the institute was titled “The Intersection of Religious and Secular Cores.” Michele Spetz authored “Catastrophe and Form; or, an Experiment in Formal Historicism,” in Essays in Romanticism and presented a paper titled “Wordsworth Disorganized” at the 22nd Annual North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by American University, George Mason University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, and The Library of Congress.

Art
Michael Broder’s work spanning his 15 years of residing in Greenville was featured in a solo exhibition at the Pickens County Museum this summer. The exhibition, titled “Looking Back, Looking Forward,” presented a survey of paintings and drawings from several series of works including Of Cubic Proportions, Panises, and Other Fruits and his most recent Blue and Orange Suite. Broder’s work was also the subject of a solo exhibition at ART Gallery in Columbia, South Carolina. Approximately 20 paintings were on view from October 10 through November 1.

Biology
John Quinn wrote an original article for Landscape Ecology, “Identifying opportunities for conservation embedded in cropland anthrosomes.” Jason Rawlings’ article based on research done for Furman students in his lab was published in the journal Molecular Immunology titled “Calcium mobilization is both required and sufficient for initiating chromatin decondensation during activation of peripheral T-cells.” Student authors on this paper were Megan Lee ’15, Kellie Ringleh ’14, Taylor Mitchell ’15, and Jenna Meredith ’15.

Chemistry
Brian Geiss joined the Executive Board of the Beckman Foundation, a philanthropic organization that supports undergraduate research in the sciences, and attended their annual conference in Irvine, Calif. Geiss was named a finalist for a 2014 Innovision Award in Education for his Flipped Classroom Project, featured in his advanced organic chemistry course this year. The research program of Geiss and his student co-workers was chosen to be this year’s featured undergraduate research program on the webpage of the American Chemical Society. Geiss also published a paper in The Journal of Chemical Education describing Furman’s unique bio-inorganic chemistry course and gave a related talk at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco. Tim Hanks delivered a talk titled “Synthesis of Alginite-Poly(40,000 for the project during Furman’s Water Walks.

Health Sciences
Bill Pierce served as the Event Ambassador for the Hyderabad (India) Marathon in August. In addition to participating in the marathon, Pierce gave presentations to the YMCA, sponsored by the National Police Academy, running clubs in Bangalore and Chennai, and the GMR Energy Group in Delhi. Alicia Powers assisted LiveWell Greenville in garnering a $1.15 million grant for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Partnerships to Improve Community Health Grant Program. The grant funding will provide further support for policy and environmental changes necessary to increase access to healthy eating and physical activity opportunities in Greenville County.

Library
Scott Salaman, Rick Jones and Margaret Oakes presented at the annual conference of the South Carolina Library Association in October. Their presentation was titled “All the World’s a Stage: Digitizing Theatre Materials” and focused on the creation of the Peter Wexler Digital Museum at Furman University, a unique museum being developed by the Libraries’ Digital Collections Center. Elaina Franks assisted the museum being developed by the Libraries’ Digital Collections Center. Elaina Franks assisted
SUSTAINABLE NEWS

- lengthening days and floundering New Year's resolutions are great excuses to mix up your daily commute. Walking, biking, carpooling, and bus-riding offer a range of benefits to mental and physical health, your budget, and the natural environment. Bucking South Carolina's car culture can be intimidating, but keep the below tips in mind and give it a try!

DO YOUR HOMEWORK.
If you live far from campuses or on unsafe roads, carpooling is the best option. Talk to colleagues or post a campus announcement to find someone whose location and schedule are similar.

One-third of University employees live within two miles of campus. If you are in The Vinnings or near the Swamp Rabbit Trail (SRT), don your walking shoes or bike helmet. The new trail connecting campus to The Vinnings is safe, accessible, and lighted. SRT info is online at greenvillenrc.com/srmpacman.

Homes in greater downtown or along Poinsett Highway/Rutherford Road are ideal for bike and/or riding Greenlink bus, Route 3. Plan ahead using Google Maps’ bike feature; for the bus use ridegreenlink.com or phone app RouteShut. If the bus stop is a bit far, pedal there and load your bike on the front racks for no extra charge.

MUSIC

- Lisa Barksdale presented a vocal workshop using the McClosky Technique for Trinity Episcopal Church in Asheville, N.C., in October. Barksdale was the featured sopranino soloist in the Greenville Chorale’s concert on October 18, for Dan Farrell’s “Request for the Living.” In August, Barksdale received the Master of Communication Disorders degree from the University of South Carolina after four years of classes and over 400 hours of hands-on experience in speech and language pathology. In September, David Gross (solo), Deidre Hutton (vocals) and Christopher Hutton (violoncello) produced trio recitals on the Chamber Music Series at Enkline College and Coker College, and at Music for a Great Space in Greensboro which features performers from around the country. This performance received a rave review on CVNC, an online arts journal in North Carolina. They also taught a master class at The Music Academy of North Carolina in Greensboro.

- Anna Barbre-Joiner championed the Furman Singers European Tour to Ireland, Wales and London in May. Joiner was viola clinician and conductor of the Middle School String Orchestra at Furman Band and Orchestra camp and completed her sixth year as Director of the South Carolina Suzuki Institute and Camp at Furman this summer, hosting eight nation clinicians and 75 families from eight states and one foreign country. In August, Joiner was guest viola clinician and conductor of the High School String Orchestra at the Hendersonville Summer Music Academy.

DO YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF IT?
You can have a voice in shaping the Mock Trial team and the culture by attending their events and encouraging your friends to do the same. Mock Trial will host an open house on Tuesday, September 27, at 5 p.m. in the basement of the Neubauer, Ph.D., office, the Mock Trial Boardroom. Take a look and see if this is the team for you! We would love to have you there.

Mock Trial milestone
Founded in 1995, program to host national championship

The mock trial team was founded in 1995 at the initiative of then-faculty member Pete Neubauer, Ph.D., who served as the first director of the program. Between 2000 and 2009, no other mock trial program performed better at the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) Regionals than Furman. Teams in 2000, 2001, and 2008 were close. But the grand prize has been elusive. “It’s like the Furman curse,” says Professor Halva-Neubauer. “It drives me crazy.”

In 2016, Furman will get a chance to chase the elusive honor on its home turf. In November, the program announced that it had been selected to host the 2016 AMTA National Championship Tournament. The event, to be hosted this year by the University of Cincinnati, will attract 48 teams.

“While there will be no purple-painted frenzied fans in the courtroom to cheer when a Furman student nails a closing argument, hosting does have some advantages,” he says.

“The student can sleep in their own beds, know the location of competition venues, have an understanding of what files and what doesn’t with the judging pool. Those are small advantages, but not inconsequential ones. We’d like to be the first host school to win a national tournament on its turf.”

AMTA includes more than 550 mock trial teams from approximately 350 universities and colleges spanning the country. The top teams from each regional tournament advance and compete in the super regionals or Opening Round Championship Series (ORCS) held in March. One hundred and ninety two teams battle it out in the ORCS round, then the top six teams from each ORCS tournament advance to AMTA’s National Championship Tournament.

The bid to host nationals is a crowning achievement for Furman Mock Trial and a nod to Halva-Neubauer who has been active in AMTA national circles and a champion of the activity. He currently serves as the organization’s past president, and Furman is hosting the national tournament this fall.

If the bus stop is a bit far, pedal there and load your bike on the front racks for no extra charge.

Craft a Back-up Plan.

- A common barrier to leaving the car at home is lost flexibility in case of illness or emergency – particularly for those with kids. Having a neighbor, colleague, or taxi on speed dial offers peace of mind.

- Yancey Fourcroy is associate director of the SVI Center for Sustainability

Modern Languages and Literatures

Linda Bartlett presented a paper titled “Carn, Space, and the Dynamics of Power in Cuéntame cómo pasó” at the 64th Annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference held at Furman in October. Marianne Berndt was the organizer for “The [Great] Caruso: Tenor’s Personal Papers on archival research into the tenor’s personal papers and attitudes and public taste to illuminate how critical” at the conference. Patricia Bristow taught a master class at The Music Academy of North Carolina in October and presented a two papers, “Enacting Students’ Global Competence Outside the Classroom,” at the American Musicological Society’s Southeast Chapter Meeting at the University of South Carolina in Columbia in October. Sasser’s presentation, “The Critics, the Public, and a Tenor’s Repertoire,” drew on archival research into the tenor’s personal papers to illuminate how critical attitudes and public taste guided Caruso’s choice of repertoire throughout his American career.

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The University Police Department is proud to announce that Chris Hefner was named the 2014 Officer of the Year. Nila Yount and Troy Coleman were named the Civilian Employee of the Year and Sgt. John Divittrico was named the Community Policing Officer of the Year.

Since August, the University Police Department has been rolling out the ALiCE active shooter program. This course is designed to empower those in a classroom or workplace with techniques that they can use in the event they are involved in an active shooter situation.

During the past six months the University Police Department has trained over 1,200 student and faculty members. The course is 45 minutes and can be conducted in any workspace. Please contact Tom Saccanti to schedule a course.

Several other projects of note for ITS include an ongoing redesign of the MyFurman section of the MyFurman portal, working with Academic Affairs to roll out the Starfish Retention System “early alert” system for student success, expanding the Virtual Desktop (VDI) initiative to the Multimedia Commons Lab in the James Duke Library, implementing mobile device management software to protect Furman-owned tablets and mobile devices, and considering a hosted backup solution for the local computers of key administrators.

Advertisement

The Office of Admission wrapped up another successful fall recruitment season visiting 845 high schools, attending 153 college fairs, conducting 177 off-campus interviews and hosting seven receptions across the country. In addition to the off-campus recruitment activities, the Hartness Welcome Center has been very busy hosting 4,668 students and their families this year representing a 16 percent increase in campus visitors compared to last year.

The new “tours trolleys” have been very beneficial to be able to accommodate the increase in campus visitors. Three new staff members joined Admission this fall: Laura Williams ‘08 is the new campus visit manager along with admission counselors Keda DuBard ‘14 and Elizabeth Hawthorne ‘14.

The Faculty Ambassador Program, which was piloted last spring as a strategy to improve yield, continues to have a positive impact as Admission continues to strive to incorporate faculty in the recruitment process. The impact of faculty involvement on yield is undeniable as seen in yield statistics from the Class of 2014. Yield nearly doubled in the Class of 2014 for those students who interacted with a faculty member compared to those who did not.

As of late fall, the time of this writing, applications to Class of 2015 are tracking up 13 percent compared to last year’s entering class. The early decision applicant pool was very similar in size and characteristics, the early action applicant pool increased by 11 percent and encouraging increases exist in the regular decision applicant pool year to date. The application deadline is January 15.

Please remember that “it takes a campus to recruit a student.” And we thank each of you for your continued support in our recruitment and retention initiatives. And sometimes, it’s the little things that make a big difference — saying hello to prospective families, briefly interrupting a tour to introduce yourself, holding doors, and friendly smiles go a long way to display the Furman experience to prospective and admitted students.

– Brad Pochard
Schools of Hendersonville, students from the four high schools of Hendersonville, N.C., joined beginning his 17th season as Music Director of the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra, conducted a TV special to sold-out concerts featuring the bluegrass group The Andy Jackson Band and pianist Jefereke Fosor. Performing Beethoven’s Emperor Concerto: Mark Kostrof’s “Caras” was commissioned to help commemorate the 50th anniversary of desegregation at Furman and was premiered at Opening Convocation by Hugh Floyd and the Furman Singers. It was performed again during Furman’s Fall Festival of Choral Music. Kostrof’s “Gazing at All Stars” was featured by the Pebblebrook High School Chamber Choir under the direction of Katie Woolf ‘02 and his “Peace” was recorded at the Peace Center for broadcast on NPR’s From the Top. Charles Tompkins performed Camille Saint-Saëns’s “Organ” with the Greenville Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Maestro Edward Tchivzhel, in September at the Peace Center in Greenville.

**Political Science**

Jim Guth wrote the chapter “Religious Groups as a Polarizing Force,” in Polarized Politics: The Impact of Disadvantage in the U.S. Political System. A blog entry, co-authored with Brent Nelsen, titled “Europe’s Protestant Problem,” was published in Elspeak.eu in October. Guth also made two presentations on the 2014 election results at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association in Boston in November. Brent Nelsen visited Finland’s Prime Minister Alexander Stubb ‘93 in Helsinki on October 11-13, 2014. Nelsen delivered a congratulatory gift and letter of invitation to the campus from President Elizabeth Davis. Nelsen and Stubb are co-editors of The European Union: Readings on the Theory and Practice of European Integration.

**Psychology**

In November, Gil Einstein presented an invited talk on how to maintain a successful research program at a liberal arts college at the 2014 annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society in Long Beach, Calif. His talk was part of the workshop designed to provide participants with an overview of careers at liberal arts colleges, with specific emphasis on how to develop and maintain an active, productive research career.

**Sociology**

Ken Kohl’s book Moral Wages: The Emotional Disarmament of Victim Advocacy and Counseling, was published by the University of California Press. Kohl also authored “Emotional Subcultures,” in the journal Sociology Compass.

**Physics**

David Moffett and Furman Advancement Fellow Lilly McKinney ‘15 attended the Synthesis Imaging Workshop this summer, hosted by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Socorro, NM. The workshop was a series of lectures and practicums on aperture synthesis theory (how radio telescopes work) and techniques that demonstrated calibration and imaging of various radio sources, including new data from the Very Large Array (VLA, New Mexico) and Atacama Large Millimeter Array (Chile). McKinney and her research team applied these techniques toward observations of the supernova remnant SN1006 taken from the VLA and the Australia Telescope.

**Theatre Arts**

Maegan Azar recently directed John W. Lovell’s The Letters as part of Centre Stage South Carolina’s Fringe Series. Azar is the President of the South Carolina Theatre Association, which held its 48th Convention, “Theatre: Humanity Discovered,” featuring keynote speakers David Harrell and Tyrene Giordano, and SCTA Playwright-in-Residence Randall David Cook ‘91.

**Laws**

The last September, Betty McMillan and Sherry Section—A Fund (Facilities Services) continued to step out of their comfort zone. They wanted to improve their health but weren’t sure where to start. So they signed up for two of Furman’s free programs for employees and spouses—the FUEL healthy eating program and the new FIT Rx individualized exercise training program. Through the FUEL program, Betty and Sherry received comprehensive blood work assessments of cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes markers, and inflammatory markers. They also collaborated on a sophisticated X-ray analysis of their body composition via Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry. They attended a 45 minute weekly class for eight weeks and learned about the relationship between food and health. Betty and Sherry also explored practical ways to improve their eating habits and sampled new healthful foods that were previously unfamiliar.

While they were improving their eating habits through FUEL, Betty and Sherry also began an exercise program through FIT Rx. FIT Rx is an internship for Health Science majors. The students learn how exercise improves various health outcomes associated with chronic disease. Then they work directly with members of the Furman faculty and staff to implement individualized exercise programs. Betty was paired with HSC major and Furman football player Grayson Weber ‘14. Despite his large stature, Grayson’s friendly personality and knowledge of exercise training put Betty at ease. He introduced Betty to the Furman Fitness Center and instructed her how to perform exercises that were appropriate for her. Sherry was paired with HSC major Katie Keith ’16. Katie joined Sherry on regular walks around the Furman campus and introduced her to the resistance training equipment in the Fitness Center.

Over the course of the programs, Betty experienced improvements in her lean muscle mass, blood pressure and diabetes markers. She began to feel more energetic and was amazed at the goals that she was accomplishing.

Sherry became more physically active and improved her diet significantly. “I used to eat anything that I wanted. Now I am more conscious of what I eat. I have changed everything—what vegetables I eat, what potatoes to sweet potatoes. Every day I put spinach or kale in a smoothie because that is one of the only ways that I like them. I also like kale chips. I eat more vegetables and fruits now. I have always liked them but didn’t make the choice to eat them. I am also experimenting with new varieties such as asparagus and yellow squash.”

As a result, Sherry experienced some of our most dramatic improvements of the fall semester. Her total cholesterol decreased by 63 mg/dL and her LDL (bad cholesterol) decreased by 38 mg/dL. A diabetes marker called hemoglobin A1C decreased by 0.3 percent. Finally, C-reactive protein—a marker of inflammation—decreased by 4 mg/L, which moved Sherry from the “high risk” status for a future coronary event to an “average” status. Betty and Sherry have both enrolled to participate in FIT Rx again this spring along with 75 other members of the faculty, staff, and their spouses.

As a supervisor, Betty has encouraged many of her colleagues to join these campus wellness initiatives. She states, “I highly recommend FUEL and FIT Rx to other employees on campus. These programs would be extremely helpful for anyone looking to improve their health no matter how small or large their goals may be. Take advantage of these great benefit programs offered by Furman.”

Sherry agrees, “I would recommend these programs to anybody and everyone who wants to improve their health. They are terrific programs and I am glad that Betty talked me into it. Just give it a try. What do you have to lose?”

To learn more about campus wellness, please visit the Live Well Furman Blog at blogs.furman.edu/wellness.

> Kelly Frazier is a health sciences professor and the University’s wellness coordinator

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**Important information for faculty, staff, students**

Tickets will be distributed on a first-come-first-served basis at the Information Desk in the Trone Student Center the day that the invitations are issued. The distribution will continue until all available tickets are taken.

There will also be closed circuit broadcasts of the ceremony in the Younts Conference Center and in the Watkins Rooms of the Trone Student Center.

CLP credit is being offered for the Convocation itself and for attendance at one of the closed circuit locations. To earn CLP credit, you will need to present your ticket if you are seated in the McAlister Auditorium; if you attend the closed circuit events standard sign-in procedures will be followed.

Please note that everyone is welcome to attend the luncheon at noon following the Inauguration Convocation. The Paladin will be open that day, but no other dining locations for lunch will be available.

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**For more information or to register for Furman Employee Wellness Programs, please contact Kelly Frazier, via email at Kelly.frazier@furman.edu.**
What should Furman’s New Year’s resolution be?

I think we should advertise ourselves as being hard, challenging and rigorous. Overall, I believe we could do a better job of attracting the kinds of students best suited for Furman by focusing on how demanding and rigorous our academics are. That’s one of the values of getting an education here.

– Bruce Schoonmaker, Ph.D., Department of Music

I really think we should work on diversity and inclusion for all types of groups we have on campus.

– Kelly Spencer ’17

I think we should go to four-day work weeks and have more vacation. Students are so stressed and tired. I think they need more rest and breaks.

– Emily Sweezey, Department of Music

I would like to see us increase school spirit. One way we could do this is by having tailgates at lacrosse games in the spring. Tailgating is something students look forward to, and it brings the campus together.

– Kyle Duke ’16

To improve that which we have, instead of building new things.

– Evans Robinson, Facilities Services

I think we have on campus.

– Erikah Haavie

To view the collection online, visiting Furman’s website, visit http://libguides.furman.edu/digital-collections/home.

– Enkahl Naakie

What should Furman’s New Year’s resolution be?

P eeking Into the Past

E arls of scriptural wisdom. Anxiety over the possibility of war. A tale of life over a stolen Confederate mule.

An extensive collection of personal and professional letters, now available in Furman University Library’s Digital Collection Center, offers a glimpse into daily life during the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Richard Furman and James C. Furman collection contains more than 750 letters and 18 sermons of Richard Furman (1755-1825), the namesake of Furman University, and his son, James Clement Furman (1809-1891), the University’s first president who served from 1859 to 1879.

Correspondence from the collection has been available previously online, but a new, user-friendly content management system, CONTENTdm, has enabled the University to digitize even more of the collection, including published addresses and sermons, for the Furman community and the general public, said Christy Allen, Furman’s assistant director for discovery services.

The collection is easily searchable, may be shared through social media, and allows users to comment and tag documents and photos of interest, she said.

Furman’s Digital Collections now contain more than 57,000 items related to a variety of research and personal interests, such as photographs, books, oral histories, sheet music, and original manuscripts.

About 50 collections from the previous digital collections software (LUMA) will be migrated over to CONTENTdm throughout 2015, Allen said.

The Peter Wexler Digital Museum will be the next large-scale project to be added to the system within the coming weeks. The collection spans over 50 years of work by the famous New York theatre designer, producer, painter, sculptor, and photographer, and includes materials related to opera, theatre and concerts developed for clients such as the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera and the Boston Pops.

The Richard Furman Collection was originally donated to Furman in 1965 by Alester G. Furman, Jr. (1895-1980), great-great-grandson of Richard Furman, said Julia Cowart, interim Special Collections librarian and University archivist. Materials in the James C. Furman Collection were donated by several sources, including various members of the Furman family and the University.

The physical collection of Richard Furman and James C. Furman is contained in 29 boxes of letters, sermons, original poetry, and artifacts, including menus, spectacles, a snuff box and leather-bound notebooks with personal sketches and notes. Professional letters included in the digital collection highlight the inner workings of church and social life in the Furmans’ day as well as the thoughts and feelings of families in pre- and post-wartimes.

“We are sorry to find the rumour of war approaches us more nearly, in the event of its taking place, my son the dearest treasure I have must be exposed and having already suffered so severely from its distinctive fury, my heart beats with anxious fears at the idea of what I may still have to endure,” Mrs. M.E. Hush writes in a 1798 letter to Richard Furman and his wife, Dorothea.

“But here again I feel Religion all powerful. I say if the Almighty is for us, who then can be against us,”

More than six decades later, the desperation of war causes anxiety for James Clement Furman in an almost humorous letter written in Greenville in 1865.

“One of his (Brown’s) men went armed into my farm and took from the plow one of my work animals, leaving immediately for Flat Rock, N.C.,” Furman wrote. “I have not heard of my horse since, excepting through some of my neighbors who saw the soldier riding him off.”

Furman also bought a Confederate mule from a soldier for $1,500 in Confederate money. The mule was also later taken by Confederate soldiers. Though he accepted the horse as lost, Furman wrote to a Maj. Gen. Gilmore after the theft, requesting that Gilmore intervene and have the mule returned.

“It speaks a lot to the history of Furman,” Allen said. “Anyone interested in the University’s history, South Carolina Baptist history, or Civil War history will be interested in these letters.”

The collection is now available through the Digital Public Library of America at http://dp.la or through http://dp.la/search?provider=FUran+University+Libraries. To view the collection online through Furman’s website, visit http://libguides.furman.edu/digital-collections/home.

– Enkahl Naakie