A wet Furman
Move reverses long-held alcohol ban in North Village, but should have little impact on campus life

On September 21, 2009, more than 300 Furman students gathered in the Watkins Room, sitting in chairs and standing along the back wall, most in the group had come to protest the university’s long-contested alcohol policy.

During the months leading up to the meeting, the issue had galvanized the campus. The students were orderly and polite, but clearly unhappy. They wanted a change.

“I had never seen Furman students get really excited about anything,” said Connie Carson, vice president for student life. “I kinda liked it.”

The on-again, off-again issue of alcohol on campus began percolating the previous spring when Greenville County Council, pressed by Furman-area residents who complained about loud noise and trash, deliberated a zoning resolution that would ban fraternities from owning houses in single-family areas.

Fraternities felt the university’s alcohol policy had pushed drinking off campus. And when students asked Furman to help them negotiate a middle ground with the council and residents that would have saved their houses, school officials declined.

In March of 2009, fraternity members clad in blazers and ties showed up at a County Council meeting and argued their case — to no avail. The governmental body passed the zoning resolution, and four fraternity houses were shut down.

Months later, just as students began settling in for the 2009-10 school year, Greenville County sheriff’s officers began converging on off-campus parties and arresting students for underage drinking. During the first two weeks of classes, 20 students were issued citations.

Unfounded rumors spread among students that Furman was behind the police actions and was waging a surreptitious war on alcohol-drinking students. After all, they said, the school had sat by idly as the off-campus fraternity houses were shuttered. Now, students were claiming that Furman was behind the police actions and arresting students for missing class due to drinking.

The unrest spilled onto the Internet. A Facebook group called “The Furman Alcohol Policy Needs Immediate Reform” was launched. Almost overnight, more than 800 people, most of them current or former students, became members.

With the campus buzzing, the Student Government Association (SGA) scheduled a town hall meeting to address the controversy. When Carson, Jason Cassidy (director of housing and residence life), Carol Daniels (student life coordinator), Eddie Young (assistant director for North Village and Greek life) and Stephanie Boyd (health educator) entered the room, they sensed anger.

The seats weren’t warm when a student put the issue on the table. Furman’s alcohol policy was unfair, he said. Students over 21 should be allowed to drink on campus.

But the response from Carson caught those spoiling for a fight completely off guard. As one observer said, “It completely sucked the anger out of the room.” It also set in motion a chain of events that would alter a long-contested, hotly debated policy.

The on-again, off-again issue of alcohol on campus began percolating the previous spring when Greenville County Council, pressed by Furman-area residents who complained about loud noise and trash, deliberated a zoning resolution that would ban fraternities from owning houses in single-family areas.

Fraternities felt the university’s alcohol policy had pushed drinking off campus. And when students asked Furman to help them negotiate a middle ground with the council and residents that would have saved their houses, school officials declined.

In March of 2009, fraternity members clad in blazers and ties showed up at a County Council meeting and argued their case — to no avail. The governmental body passed the zoning resolution, and four fraternity houses were shut down.

Months later, just as students began settling in for the 2009-10 school year, Greenville County sheriff’s officers began converging on off-campus parties and arresting students for underage drinking. During the first two weeks of classes, 20 students were issued citations.

Unfounded rumors spread among students that Furman was behind the police actions and was waging a surreptitious war on alcohol-drinking students. After all, they said, the school had sat by idly as the off-campus fraternity houses were shuttered. Now, students were claiming that Furman was behind the police actions and arresting students for missing class due to drinking.

The unrest spilled onto the Internet. A Facebook group called “The Furman Alcohol Policy Needs Immediate Reform” was launched. Almost overnight, more than 800 people, most of them current or former students, became members.

With the campus buzzing, the Student Government Association (SGA) scheduled a town hall meeting to address the controversy. When Carson, Jason Cassidy (director of housing and residence life), Carol Daniels (student life coordinator), Eddie Young (assistant director for North Village and Greek life) and Stephanie Boyd (health educator) entered the room, they sensed anger.

The seats weren’t warm when a student put the issue on the table. Furman’s alcohol policy was unfair, he said. Students over 21 should be allowed to drink on campus.

But the response from Carson caught those spoiling for a fight completely off guard. As one observer said, “It completely sucked the anger out of the room.” It also set in motion a chain of events that would alter a long-contested, hotly debated policy.

A growing controversy
Founded in 1826 by the Southern Baptist Convention, Furman’s strict “no-alcohol anywhere” policy was in place for nearly a century and a half. In 1969, the same year the school began permitting beards and extended curfew hours for women, administrators altered the policy to apply to drinking on campus and at university functions.

Although during the ’70s and ’80s many religiously affiliated colleges and universities would adopt more lenient rules about alcohol consumption, Furman remained true to its religious roots — even after severing ties with the Baptists in 1992.

While alcohol continued to be banned on campus, students who wanted to imbibe could usually find a drink at an off-campus party. But circumstances changed in the late 1990s when the university built the North Village apartment complex and began requiring juniors and seniors to live on campus.

With students 21 and over forced to live on campus, alcohol once again became a point of contention between the administration and students, says Harry Shucker, a 1966 Furman graduate who worked at Furman for 40 years, 22 of them as vice president for student services.

“Alcohol was always an issue for some students, but there was never a student-wide effort until [the late ’80s],” says Shucker. “The move for change really crystallized then.”

In 2003, the university softened its stance to allow alcohol to be served at the golf course, Cherrydale Alumni House and the Younts Conference Center. But the “living and learning” area of campus would continue to be alcohol-free.

The policy was revised again in 2008 when, after purchasing the Vinings apartments on Duncan Chapel Road, Furman approved a measure that made it OK for students 21 years and older living in the apartment complex to drink. Shortly after the move, SGA passed a resolution urging the administration to reverse the campus ban on alcohol.

But the measure failed to gain any traction.

So when students, already arroy the county’s actions and Furman’s supposed involvement, turned out in force last fall to press the issue once again, they braced for another battle.

They just didn’t expect to hear what came next.

“If you bring me a reasonable, rational proposal, then I will usher it through,” Carson told the assembly. “I will take it to the trustees.”

She went on to explain that legal counsel had advised the university against becoming embroiled in the county zoning matter. And she added, “To be honest, we are not going to stand up for irresponsible students.” She also said that the police crackdown on fraternity parties was funded through a state grant to combat underage drinking, and that no one at the university had acted as an “informant.”

(continued on page 6)
A lot or a little, depending on the incoming president.

The next morning an academic procession that stretched from the steps of McAlister to the administration building slowly filed into the auditorium for a 90-minute ceremony that included keynote remarks from Douglas Knight, president of Duke University. A medallion and mace, crafted especially for the event, were presented to Blackwell. A luncheon followed, attended by 1,300 people.

In comparison, the inauguration of John E. Johns, held in 1977 during more austere times, reflected the new president’s folksy, unpretentious style. Aside from the formal inauguration ceremony and a luncheon, there were no other major events.

David Shi’s 1994 inauguration foreshadowed the dynamic activity that would follow during his 16 years as the university’s chief executive. Thirteen major events were packed into the four-day inaugural week. From a prayer breakfast to a history symposium to a talent show, there was something for everyone,” wrote Marguerite Hays in Furman Magazine. “More than 3,000 people attended the various luncheons and dinners and the inaugural ceremony, and at least 2,500 others attended the events that were open to the public. As a whole, the week’s activities reflected Shi’s interests and Furman’s strengths.”

Inaugural ceremonies also give presidents a platform to propose new initiatives and galvanize support. During his inaugural address, Shi outlined plans for an expanded student center, library, and residential complexes. He also extolled the virtues of “active forms of learning” that would become a focal point during his tenure.

Visit www.furman.edu/inauguration for the 2010 inauguration event information.
Beyond the classroom
Gandolfo plays active role in student, university life

At the end of his junior year at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, David Gandolfo's career path seemed to be squared away. A pre-med student, he had completed course requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. With those classes behind him, Gandolfo had the luxury of enrolling in courses that interested him his senior year.

Free from science labs, the New Jersey native consumed novels, delved into history and religion, and pondered the works of existentialist philosophers Jean Paul Sartre and Friedrich Nietzsche. In short, Gandolfo ruminated on "the important questions of life."

And he put off applying to medical school. "I felt like I was about to get on a train that was not going to stop for many thousands of miles," he says. "And I realized I wanted to make a lot of stops along the way."

Since then, Gandolfo has taken that train to stops in Africa, Central America and Europe as a Peace Corps volunteer, development worker, teacher, and advocate for the poor and underprivileged. Those experiences have shaped his passionate views on issues of social, economic and environmental justice.

The latest stop landed him at Furman as a valued addition to the philosophy faculty. Since joining the faculty in 2003, Gandolfo has been active as the Emergy Forum, serving on important committees and developing new courses. He is currently pouring his energy into working with students, faculty and administrators to plan the "Year of Global Citizenship," an ambitious program of lectures and forums designed to encourage greater awareness of global issues. He has also been a key contributor in the development of the new Poverty Studies concentration.

The eldest of five children, Gandolfo was raised by parents who instilled in him curiosity and love. His father, a physicist, worked in private business before becoming a Jesuit priest and former president of the University of Central America, Ignacio Ellacuria, and his mother's admiration of the Peace Corps inspired him to join that organization after graduating from St. Joe's.

On to Africa
Assigned to teach health, nutrition and biology in Benin, an impoverished country in West Africa, Gandolfo lived with a large family in a rural village. There was no electricity, and the family's only source of water was a dirty well. The living conditions were far from his comfortable suburban upbringing. "In my first time out of the country, my first time speaking another language, and the first time I was exposed to a non-American press," he says. "It just gave me a whole new perspective."

While teaching in a crowded classroom filled with 60 students and reading philosophy and literature by lantern in the evening, Gandolfo developed a growing interest in the plight of the world's impoverished masses. And he began pondering such questions as: Why do two-thirds of the world's population live in poverty? And what economic and political conditions keep them from thriving?

After he completed his two-year Peace Corps service, Gandolfo moved to Paris and enrolled at the Sorbonne to study literature. To pay the bills, he taught French to American businessmen. But he kept thinking back to his time in Africa, working with the "two-thirds" world.

After a year at the Sorbonne, he left to enroll in graduate studies at Columbia University in economic and political development in the Global South. Upon completing his masters degree, he joined the Near East Foundation, a New York-based philanthropic agency that supports development efforts in the Middle East and Africa. As Africa Program Officer, Gandolfo was based in Lesotho and worked on projects in eight African countries. He helped put together maternal-child healthcare projects, set up accountability measures to ensure that charitable donations were allocated effectively, and participated in a number of self-help initiatives designed to equip individuals with the training and information they needed to improve their lives.

Working at the grassroots level, Gandolfo's concern for the impoverished and interest in political philosophy grew. Eventually, he decided to pursue his questions regarding the ethics of international arrangements in an MA/Ph.D. program in philosophy at Loyola University Chicago.

As part of his doctoral research he spent two years studying Latin American liberation philosophy at the University of Central America, where he also taught. While there Gandolfo explored the works of Oscar Romero, the former archbishop of El Salvador, and Ignacio Ellacuria, a priest and former president of the University of Central America. Both men pushed for government reform on behalf of the poor—and were assassinated.

Life at Furman
Gandolfo came to Furman during the 2003–04 academic year as a visiting professor and immediately impressed colleagues with his energy and passion for teaching. He earned rave reviews from students, too, and developed three new courses: Ethics of Globalization, Latin American Philosophy, and Africana Philosophies.

"I developed good friends here," says Gandolfo. "My department really made an effort to help me develop as a scholar and as a teacher." When a tenure-track position opened at Furman in 2006, he was hired.

Since then he has played leading roles on several committees. During 2008-09, Gandolfo served on the Civil Disagreements Task Force, a group of faculty, staff and students appointed to explore the nature of campus discourse in the wake of the controversy sparked by the appearance of President George W. Bush at Commencement. He was part of a group that developed discussion sessions after a hangman's noose was found in the University Center. And he has just finished a four-year stint as a hands-on faculty advisor to Catholic Campus Ministry.

Whether Gandolfo is riding his bike on campus or attending lectures or student events, colleagues say he seems to be everywhere at once.

"I continue to be amazed at how much energy he has," says religion professor John Shelley, who taught a poverty studies course with Gandolfo. "I wonder if his days and mine have the same number of hours."

Gandolfo is also known for his political edge. His views on social, economic and environmental justice can be challenging. But Gandolfo is admired for his affable manner and knack for bringing people together. "David has strong views, but he unites, not divides," says history professor Erik Ching, his colleague and friend. "He's quite the opposite of an antagonizing presence."

Shelley says Gandolfo's "wonderful intellectual background" and experiences in Central America and Africa create a "rich combination" that produce a unique classroom experience. "David is careful in his role as a teacher. He doesn't demand that students embrace his commitments," says Shelley. "But he certainly does challenge them with issues of injustice and oppression, precisely because injustice depends on the suppression of truth."
Art
Works by Michael Brodeur are included in a group show, “The End of the Line,” at Riverworks Gallery in Greenville. The exhibition runs through October 31. A solo exhibit featuring Brodeur’s painting and drawings from his sabbatical series titled “Of Cubic Proportions” opened September 18 at Trillium Art Center in Travelers Rest. “Of Cubic Proportions” will also be on display in the art gallery at the Greer campus of Greenville Technical College November 8-January 4. Brodeur is scheduled to give a talk at the Greenville County Museum of Art November 11 about Jasper Johns’ works to coincide with the exhibition “Jasper Johns Prints: The First Half-Century.”

Business & Accounting
Bruce Clemens co-authored and presented “The natural environment as a source of competitive advantage in U.S. Agriculture” at the Academy of Management conference in Montreal in August. Clemens was elected for a three-year term to the teaching team of the Organization and Natural Environment Division of the Academy of Management.

Center for Teaching & Learning
In April, the Center for Teaching & Learning hosted its fourth annual Teaching & Learning Forum. The keynote speaker was psychology professor Gil Einstein (“Using Cognitive Principles to Enhance Teaching and Learning”). Faculty presented: Jessica Hennessy, Stephanie Knouse, Ken Korb, Jeanine Straton, Omar Carr menata, Sandy Roberson, Paul Thomas, Lorraine Dejong, Wes Dripps, Lynne Shackelford and Mary Fairbairn. CTS thanks all presenters and participants for making this a vibrant celebration of teaching at Furman.

Chemistry
Greg Springsteen’s laboratory is one of 15 included in a $20 million grant from the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration that supports the exploration of chemical processes that enable the spontaneous formation of functional polymers from simple starting materials. The collaboration, called the Center for Chemical Evolution, includes researchers from Georgia Tech, Emory University, the Scripps Research Institute, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Jackson State University, Spelman College, Furman and the Seton Institute. Laura Wright was an organizer for a June summit in Washington, D.C., titled “Advancement of Senior Women Scientists at Libral Arts Colleges.” Women chemists and physicists from 46 liberal arts colleges spent two days crafting a set of recommendations for individuals, departments, institutions, professional societies and funding agencies to promote the professional development of women in science. Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) faculty at liberal arts colleges.

Earth and Environmental Sciences
Suresh Muthukrishnan has been awarded the Henry Kirth and Ellen Hard Towens Professorship in recognition of his outstanding teaching, scholarship and service to the University. Muthukrishnan made two presentations at the 2010 meeting of the Southeastern Geological Society of America, with Furman students Luke Howerton and Gwyn Fowler as lead authors.

Education

Library
Janis Bandelin is serving on the advisory board for the College Library Directors Mentorship Program, which recently received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to support a transition to new leadership. Bandelin is also a member of the Association of College and Research Libraries’ Budget & Finance Committee. Mary Fairbairn was part of a panel and presented titled “Reaching Kucha Presentations of Marketing Ideas that Worked in Academic Libraries” at the American Library Association’s annual conference in Washington, D.C., in June.

Mathematics
Doug Rall was an invited speaker at the International Conference on Recent Trends in Graph Theory and Combinatorics 2010 (IcrtGtc2010) in Cochín, India, this past summer. IcrtGtc2010 was a satellite conference of the International Congress of Mathematicians, which is held every four years. Rall also gave an invited talk on “The Game Domination Number of Graphs” at the 2010 School on Discrete Mathematics Conference on Discrete Mathematics held in Austin, Texas, in June. Rall co-authored “On the Packing Chromatic Number of Some Lattices” and “Limited Packings in Graphs,” both of which appeared in a recent issue of the journal Discrete Applied Mathematics.

Military Science
Brent Cobb is enrolled at Grantham University, pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in multidisciplinary studies. Once he completes the degree, Cobb will pursue a Master of Science in Youth Development degree at Clemson University. Bill Price has retired from the United States Army Reserve after 31 years, which included service both as an enlisted soldier and commissioned officer. Price served in numerous capacities included service both as an infantry, armor and military intelligence officer and was mobilized for operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Iraq. Price continues to serve our department as a contractor to Cadet Command and the Department of the Army.

Music
Mark Kilstofte’s “String Quartet 1.0” was featured this summer by the Borsos-Rey String Quartet at the Rockport Chamber Music Festival in Massachusetts and the Taos Music Festival in New Mexico. His composition “To Music” recently honored by Boston Metro Opera, will be performed by the organization this fall and later this season by the Pacific Symphony and the San Diego Opera. Daniel Koppelman compiled a recording of music for piano and electronic instruments titled “Rebornant Nocturnes,” which was released in both CD and online formats by the Innova label in December 2010. The recording, titled “Rebornant Nocturnes,” was funded by an Associated Colleges of the South-Mellon Faculty Renewal Grant.

Political Science
Religion
Shelly Matthews’ new monograph, Perfect Martyr: The Stoning of Stephen and the Construction of Christian Identity, is being published in September by Oxford University Press. Matthews presented a paper on James, the brother of Jesus, as part of the Spring 2010 Sundet Lecture Series at the University of Minnesota. Last spring, Matthews also served as a guest panelist for the American Association of University Women American Fellowship, led workshops on early Christian diversity in progressive churches in Tucson, Arizona and Princeton, N.J., sponsored by the Westar Institute’s Seminar on the Road, and was the featured speaker at the United Methodist Dakota School of Ministry. Echel Nix was selected to be an American Academy of Religion/Luce Foundation Summer Fellow in Comparative Theology and Theologies of Religious Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows met June 14–20 in Atlanta. Nix also received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s book The Burden of Academic Success: Loyalists, Renegades and Double Agents was published in March by Rowman & Littlefield (Lexington). The book is based on interviews with working class college students about their experiences at college and their subsequent identity reconstructions. Ken Kolb authored “Sympathy Work: Identity and Emotion Management among Victim-advocates and Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.

Fieldwork on early Christian diversity in progressive churches in Tucson, Arizona and Princeton, N.J., sponsored by the Westar Institute’s Seminar on the Road, and was the featured speaker at the United Methodist Dakota School of Ministry. Echel Nix was selected to be an American Academy of Religion/Luce Foundation Summer Fellow in Comparative Theology and Theologies of Religious Pluralism. The cohort of Fellows met June 14–20 in Atlanta. Nix also received a grant from the Research and Professional Growth Committee, as well as a humanities grant, to support summer research at Harvard University’s Andover Library toward developing a course on 20th-century theologian Paul Tillich. Brian Siegel published his review of the Tribe of Ishmael studies in the June 2010 issue of the Indiana Magazine of History. The Tribe of Ishmael was a famous, but imaginary, group of hereditary charity cheats in Indianapolis who became popular subjects for eugenicists in the 1910s and again with a revisionist historian in the 1960s.
Wet Furman (continued from page 1)

Working together

Encouraged and emboldened by Carson’s comments, students began working on a plan. Throughout the 2009 fall semester, SGA members Spencer Kirkland, Brann Fowler and Ford Riddle worked to flesh out a resolution to present to the trustees. They researched alcohol policies at peer institutions, compiled data on alcohol use at Furman, and explored liability issues.

With guidance from Carson, Cassidy and Boyd, the students drafted a proposal that was vetted and subsequently approved by the Furman University Substance Abuse Coalition (FUSAC), a 41-member group that includes staff, faculty, parents, law enforcement officials, students, local community members, and a trustee.

“When it came up my freshman year, the student government passed a resolution [to allow alcohol consumption on campus by students of legal age], but it got shot down,” says Fowler, a senior political science major. “We heard that one of the main reasons it failed was because they did not do any homework. It did not include any reasoning. Well, this time it was different. We didn’t even write a proposal until we spent six weeks doing research.”

The proposal the group presented to the board’s Student Life Committee in April, with support from the Office of Student Life and approval from FUSAC, asked that students 21 years of age and older be allowed to consume alcohol in North Village. The revised policy did not apply to residence halls, which are populated primarily with underage students.

“We were very impressed with the way the students went about asking for change,” says trustee Baxter Wynn, chair of the board’s Student Life Committee. “They made a very reasonable request in a very deliberate, respectful and thought-ful way. It makes sense, too, to have a policy that is consistent in all of our apartments.”

When the full board passed the measure April 25, Fowler and many other students were away on “Beach weekend,” an unofficial student holiday held before final exams. The word spread quickly.

“Everybody was texting,” says Fowler. “It’s pretty wild to be a part of something that really changed Furman. It’s probably the biggest thing to happen to Furman since we left the Baptist convention.”

The new alcohol policy represents a fundamental shift that many thought would never happen at Furman. But those who played an integral role in lobbying for and writing the new rules say a perfect storm of converging events helped the measure succeed.

Carson, still relatively new to his position (she arrived in early 2008), was willing to be an advocate for the students as long as they acted responsibly and thoughtfully. Trustees and administrators wanted the issue resolved before President Rod Smolla took office. And perhaps most importantly, the students put together a well-reasoned, well-researched argument.

“Everybody was texting,” says Fowler. “It’s pretty wild to be a part of something that really changed Furman. It’s probably the biggest thing to happen to Furman since we left the Baptist convention.”

The new alcohol policy represents a fundamental shift that many thought would never happen at Furman. But those who played an integral role in lobbying for and writing the new rules say a perfect storm of converging events helped the measure succeed.

Carson, still relatively new to his position (she arrived in early 2008), was willing to be an advocate for the students as long as they acted responsibly and thoughtfully. Trustees and administrators wanted the issue resolved before President Rod Smolla took office. And perhaps most importantly, the students put together a well-reasoned, well-researched argument.

“The timing was right on so many levels,” says Carson. “The university officials and most students acknowledge there will be little noticeable change on campus. Everyone conceives that students have been drinking in North Village for years. Now, they won’t have to hide.

But don’t expect any beer bashes. The new policy prohibits bulk quantities of alcohol from being served. And those caught playing games or displaying alcohol paraphernalia will be subject to steep fines.

“We want to give the students what they want, but we are not going to let this place turn into an ‘Animal House,”’ says Cassidy. “That won’t happen.”

To emphasize the point, Carson says that the new alcohol disciplinary sanctions — developed during the summer — are strict compared to those at most colleges.

Furman now requires all freshmen to complete an on-line course on alcohol education. Underage students found in possession of alcohol face a $100 fine, written warning, alcohol education and parental notification. There is a $300 fine for providing alcohol to anyone under 21. If you host a party where bulk alcohol is served, you are fined $300.

“I think putting in those extreme fines is a good idea. No one wants to rack up $1,000 in fines,” says Fowler. “I mean, there will always be a few meatheads who will throw a big party and then get busted. But I don’t think the new policy will change things much.”
**Development**

The week of September 6 marked Furman’s first ever Donor Appreciation Week. A multitude of activities comprised the week in which awareness was raised among the student body about the vital role supportive alumni make on the Furman experience. Kicking the week off was an email sent to last year’s donors that included an aerial photo of all EU marching band members spelling out “THANK YOU.” Donors felt appreciated early on with immediate responses from alumnus like Mary Gilreath Roberts ’64, who said “You have no idea how much a thank you is appreciated…I feel so blessed to be a part of a community that says thank you.”

On Tuesday a special notice was delivered to every student's campus mail box. Word among the student body was that this “invoice,” which provided a line item breakdown of the actual cost per student for a year at Furman, provided the most impactful awareness. The goal of the piece highlighted an eye-opening point: without alumni gifts, tuition would increase by 32 percent per year! Students and staff took a second look at how Furman could have worked if alumni support wasn’t present and set the stage to call on donors and personally thank them for helping contribute to their Furman education. The tailgate event for the week was Wednesday evening’s CLP on philanthropy. The program was thought-provoking and student turnout was tremendous.

On Thursday, a video "confessional" was set up in the UC which recorded student testimonials about their FU experience and expressions of thanks to donors. An online banner was set up on Friday that made way for dozens of student thank you messages to donors, including this from Katie Cockrell ’13: “Thank you for all you have given to Furman, your donations make it possible for many students like me to come to such a wonderful university!” Or this from Carlos Piza-Palma ’12: “Thanks for everything! It is because of people like you that makes Furman the place that it is,” or even this from David Stanley ’14: “As I have moved about campus this week I have come to appreciate Furman more and more. It is because of people like you that makes Furman incredible. Thank you for all you have given to Furman, your donations make it possible for many students like me to come to such a wonderful university!”

In addition, several significant improvements to the campus were completed. The main entrance to campus was enhanced with the installation of new sod, landscaping and exterior lighting. In addition, the Quinn House (located on Duncan Chapel Road across from the back gate) was completely renovated and the Child Development Center (CDC) was relocated from the house it previously occupied on Old Roe Ford Road. An interesting piece of history is that the old CDC was actually the home of the League family. Furman purchased 750 acres of land from the League family in the late 1800s when the campus was relocated from downtown Greenville.

Plans are also progressing on a number of future construction projects, including major renovations to our original residence halls and the U.S. Department of Energy-funded geothermal project for North Village.

Chris Bridwell has joined our staff as warehouse manager. He comes to us from the School District of Greenville County where he served in various capacities in their warehouse over 21 years. In addition, Brandon Barrieux is transferring from the preventative maintenance shop to become our newest electrician. Congratulations to Brandon on this well-deserved promotion.

---Mike Hawxley

**Facilities Services**

The summer was spent in the usual way, with residence hall refurbishments, deferred maintenance projects, and for camp and conferences. In addition, several significant improvements to the campus were completed.

The main entrance to campus was enhanced with the installation of new sod, landscaping and exterior lighting. In addition, the Quinn House (located on Duncan Chapel Road across from the back gate) was completely renovated and the Child Development Center (CDC) was relocated from the house it previously occupied on Old Roe Ford Road. An interesting piece of history is that the old CDC was actually the home of the League family. Furman purchased 750 acres of land from the League family in the late 1800s when the campus was relocated from downtown Greenville.

Plans are also progressing on a number of future construction projects, including major renovations to our original residence halls and the U.S. Department of Energy-funded geothermal project for North Village.

The libraries had a busy summer this year. We are delighted to announce that in August we hired a new science librarian, Andrea Wright. Andrea’s office is in the science library in Flyer Hall. The multimedia collection, formerly located in the basement of the library, has been moved to the main floor. The ongoing shift to electronic journals had made space available on the main floor, where our growing collection of DVDs has found a better home. The reference collection has also been rearranged due to this shift to the electronic medium, resulting in a better space. The music library has new furniture, and its collections now occupy part of the lab. The facilities were ripe for refreshing, and we are delighted to offer more comfortable seating areas.

Many academic publishers are increasing their offers of electronic books, and a number of e-book reading devices have appeared on the market. The Kindle and the iPad are two examples. In the past six months or so, the library has been experimenting with these devices to better understand how they may be used and how the library may adapt to them. Libby Young taught a May Experience course in which both those devices were used, and, in short, the Kindle was a bust while the iPad caught the attention of the students.

The Princeton Review ranked the Duke Library the twelfth best college library this year. The ranking was based on student assessment of library facilities. For more details see http://princetonreview.com/schoollist.aspx?type=f&id=687&RDN=1.

Pongraz Senney, our associate director, was awarded a Fulbright grant and is in Hungary for the fall semester. Pongraz is working on a project to digitize 14th-century documents.

---Janis Bandelin

**Dining Services**

The summer was filled with change for Dining Services. The management team took on a new look with movement at each location. In the DH, DJ Tramontana took over as location manager, Chad Rowland was promoted to production manager, and Leighanna Barr was hired as a supervisor. It has already made a positive impact on the team with his spirited attitude and skills in the kitchen. Chad has revitalized the menu by best hitting local stations on the DH, and Leighanna brings an elevated level of professionalism and customer service to the team.

Adam Fox was promoted to executive chef, and Nikki Aills was hired as the new sous chef. Adam has been with us for five years and was formerly the sous chef. Nikki joins the team with a wealth of experience and a degree from Johnson and Wales University. At the Pala Den, Doerthe Fennell was promoted to assistant location manager. Doerthe was formerly a supervisor and brings with her an unmatched positive energy.

Amid all of the personnel changes, the food court has undergone structural changes. The former Tower Cafe has moved into the food court, not to the newly remodeled Freshens. Both stations brighten the area and offer a new and wider variety of products, as well as the usual Starbucks and smoothie favorites. We hope the changes will bring vitality to the corner of the UC we call home.

---Adam Summer

**Public Safety**

Three new staff members have joined the department. Karey Harrison is the new administrative assistant to the director. Karey previously worked in Continuing Education. Ken Sibley and Sheryl Higgins are new Public Safety officers. Ken formerly served with the Simpsonville Police Department. Sheryl formerly served with the Greer Police Department.

Our emergency notification system is programmed to send messages through e-mail and cell telephones. We obtain this information from WebAdvisor (now called MyFurman) and download it into our system each week. Be sure to check WebAdvisor to see if your contact information is correct or needs updating.

In an effort to control abuses by moped drivers, last year we focused on eliminating moped use on walkways and driving against the flow of traffic. We experimented with parking areas marked on pavement or signs in mulch areas. This summer, we expanded the pavement parking to include Milford Mall. Mulch parking areas are being established at Timmons Arena, Hip-Hop Hall and the University Center. The moped drivers have responded positively to these efforts.

This summer we held our ninth annual mountain bike camp, with 40 youngsters 8-12 attending. Check out www2.furman.edu/sites/publicsafety/Pager/default.aspx, our new website which was activated this summer.

---Bob Miller

**Pump Up the Purple on Fridays**

The Furman Student Advisory Committee (staffFAC) is encouraging everyone to dig through their closet tonight and find something purple to wear each Friday. It could be a shirt, tie, or even a hair ribbon.

The idea, “Purple Pride Friday” was suggested to the staffFAC by Steve Long, a longtime employee in Facilities Services who has made a practice of finding something purple to wear on the last working day of each week for years.

Overhead lights, director of recreational sports and a member of the staffFAC, said Purple Pride Fridays can help foster a sense of community and pride at Furman. He hopes student groups embrace Fridays can help foster a sense of community and pride at Furman.

He hopes student groups embrace Fridays can help foster a sense of community and pride at Furman.

---Dana K. Fennell

---Karey Harrison

---Bob Miller

---Susan Williams
BOD POD and DEXA offer state-of-the-art body-composition assessment

In January 2010, the Department of Health Sciences enthusiastically acquired a Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometer (DEXA) and a BOD POD. DEXA is an established method for measuring bone density and body composition with low-dose x-rays. BOD POD uses air displacement to assess body fat. It is considered the “practical gold standard” for assessing body fat because it is easy to use and provides accurate readings. According to department chair Bill Pierce, “Having the opportunity to use these technologies in our labs and student research is rare not only at undergraduate institutions, but at most graduate programs as well. These two high tech machines provide the campus community a fast, painless method for measuring body composition and bone density.”

Excess body fat may increase the risk for cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and certain cancers, especially if it is located in the abdominal region. Low bone density is a particular concern for individuals over age 35. After this time, bone mass may decrease by one to three percent each year, which increases the susceptibility for osteoporosis and bone fractures. Menopause, smoking, family history, and medications that reduce bone mass can exacerbate this condition.

How you can get involved

To determine the impact of diet and exercise on body fat and bone density, we are recruiting 20 participants full term for a healthy lifestyle intervention. Participants will receive a free BOD POD and DEXA screening before and after the intervention. The healthy lifestyle intervention will include a nutritional analysis, nutrition consultation, exercise assessment, exercise program consultations, and weekly wellness coaching with our staff. Faculty, staff, dependents and students may participate. If you would like more information about participating in the project, please contact me via email at kelly.frazier@furman.edu.

‘Treasures’ Exhibit Reveals Furman’s Rare Artifacts

Want to set your eyes on a 4,000-year-old lamp or see firsthand the work of Rembrandt or Goya? Then you should visit “Treasures: Furman Unveils its Collection of Significant Art,” an exhibit on display at the Duke Library through January 24. About 60 pieces from the university’s collection of rare works of art and artifacts were handpicked for the display. Collections manager Elizabeth Hamlett says Furman owns 2,600 pieces, many of them on display throughout campus. Most of the works were donated to Furman. “‘Treasures’ includes objects from five continents and 46 countries. Recently, a Decorative and Fine Arts Committee was formed to help manage the collection.

The collection belongs to all of us, and the Decorative and Fine Arts Committee wants to make people aware of the important culture in these pieces,” Hamlett said. “A lot of people are really surprised. They have no idea what we have.”

Kelly to lead Marketing and Public Relations

Mark Kelly, executive director of Marketing and Communications at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., has been named vice president for Marketing and Public Relations at Furman. He will begin his duties October 25.

“We welcome Mark Kelly to the Furman family,” said university president Rod Smolla. “He is an accomplished strategist who will bring experience, vision and leadership to our continuing efforts to build relationships that encourage understanding of and engagement with Furman’s mission, nationally and internationally.”

Kelly, a native of Baltimore, has served at Sewanee since 2007, where he was responsible for all communications and marketing activities for the national liberal arts college of 1,500 undergraduates. Prior to that, Kelly spent 19 years at Loyola College in Baltimore, first as director of Public Relations (1988-2003) and then as assistant vice president and director of Public Relations (2003-07). He also served the university as interim director of Alumni Relations on two different occasions, and taught undergraduate courses in public relations writing.

Kelly began his career in higher education as public information director for the University of South Carolina-Aiken (1985-88). Prior to that, he was a reporter for The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle and The Daily Herald in Roanoke Rapids, N.C.

He graduated from the University of Virginia in 1980 with a B.A. degree in English, and earned a master’s degree in Communications Management from The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

Kelly is a member of the Public Relations Society of America, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, and the Rotary Club of Monteagle, Tenn., and serves on the board of the Franklin County (Tenn.) Chamber of Commerce.

“I am honored to have been called to Furman,” Kelly said. “It is an institution with great momentum, built not only on its recent successes but also on an enduring foundation of liberal arts education and service to the broader community. As a new era begins, there is great opportunity to strengthen its role in South Carolina and in the country, and I am excited to be a part of it.”

Furman to host BBC Concert

Tickets are now on sale for a November 13 concert featuring Keith Lockhart and the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Concert Orchestra. The 8 p.m. concert will be held at McAlister Auditorium. Lockhart is a member of the Class of 1981 and also conducts the Boston Pops. The event is part of the BBC Concert Orchestra USA Tour, which includes 15 stops.

Lockhart, a native of upstate New York, is responsible for bringing several shows to Furman. His last concert here was with the Pops in 2008. He is the first American to be named principal conductor of the BBC.

Reserved tickets, now on sale at the Timmons Arena Box Office, range from $45 to $55 with a $5 discount extended to university faculty and staff.
Miller, longtime coach, manager, honored

Willie Miller worked as a coach and manager at the Furman Golf Course nearly 30 years. Now a part of the course will bear his name. Earlier this month the university named the road connecting the course to Roe Ford “Willie Miller Drive” in honor of the recent retiree. Miller joined Furman in 1978 as the director of golf operations after serving as the head professional at the nearby Greenville Country Club. He coached the women’s golf team from 1978 to 1981 and served as the men’s golf coach from 1979 to 1995. In 2006 Miller was inducted into the Golf Coaches Association of America Hall of Fame. He is a six-time Southern Conference Coach of the Year and coached seven All-Americans.

Gift boosts Bridges program

Furman has received a $3.4 million gift from an anonymous donor to support Bridges to a Brighter Future, a nationally recognized college access and academic enrichment program for Greenville County high school students whose potential outdistances their circumstances.

The commitment includes $400,000 to be paid over the next three years and $3 million in the form of a bequest. The gift will allow the Bridges program to expand its support for students beyond high school and provide its graduates with an array of services after they enroll in college.

“While 100 percent of our Bridges students graduate from high school and more than 90 percent enroll in college, our college retention and graduation rates are not as notable,” says Tobi Swartz, director of Bridges to a Brighter Future. “In order to fully realize the program’s mission, we must continue to support these students into their college years. This generous gift will allow us to do that.”

The program’s new emphasis is called “Crossing the Bridge.” Support services will include an intensive, one-week summer program preceding college enrollment and year-round advising and support for the students during the first year of college. Swartz said the Bridges program benefits Greenville high school students who “demonstrate both academic and leadership potential, but are challenged by circumstances that may prevent them from fulfilling their potential.”

The year-round program includes a four-week, summer residential experience on the Furman campus, as well as year-round tutoring and support provided through the Bridges Saturday College.

Selected for the program as ninth-graders, the students are nominated by teachers and counselors. They remain in the program throughout their high school years. Seventy-five students are part of the program this year.

Sustainable Furman

Sustainable Furman, the university’s sustainability master plan (www.furman.edu/sust), was approved last November by the board of trustees. Since then, the Sustainability Planning Council and SHI Center for Sustainability have been developing a strategy for the implementation of this ambitious and comprehensive plan.

Over the summer, the first meeting of the Charter participant in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Ratings System Committee took place. This committee will meet regularly to monitor implementation of Sustainable Furman, and will be co-chair by President Rod Smolla, SHI Center director/associate professor Angela Halfacre, and professor Bill Ranson.

As the university implements the sustainability master plan, we are also moving toward a more comprehensive assessment of our sustainability efforts. In the past several years, we have participated in a range of surveys and rankings for sustainability that identify the ‘greenest’ universities—the Sustainable Endowments Institute, Sierra Magazine, and the Princeton Review, to name a few. While these surveys and rankings have been helpful in measuring ourselves against other universities, it is time for Furman (and other universities) to move toward a more comprehensive method of measuring our own progress toward sustainability. The implementation of Sustainable Furman provides an opportunity to do just that.

At the same time that we here at Furman were developing and beginning to implement our sustainability master plan, colleges and universities across the country were moving toward comprehensively measuring sustainability on campus. Last September, Furman became a charter participant in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Ratings System (STARS; see www.stars.aashe.org). STARS was developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) in collaboration with a number of colleges and universities. Furman’s adoption of the STARS protocol, along with the imperative to effectively track progress on the sustainability master plan implementation, has led to the ongoing development of a holistic strategy for assessing Furman’s sustainability efforts.

As the university has moved toward completion of STARS and implementation of Sustainable Furman, we have focused on streamlining data collection and analysis responsibilities and engaging the university community, especially students. This summer, accounting major Peter Soder ’11 served as a Mellon Student Sustainability Fellow and focused on the university’s completion of STARS as well as a broader assessment strategy. According to Soder, “The opportunity to use the skills I’ve gained in my accounting coursework to help Furman move toward sustainability was very rewarding and reminded me that such a goal requires a diverse skill set of many dedicated people. I was glad to be one of these people.” Completing STARS and implementing the master plan also require assessing Furman’s efforts across a broad spectrum of activities. In addition to monitoring greenhouse gas emissions and student opportunities to engage with sustainability, measures like employee satisfaction and diversity programming are being taken into account to track Furman’s progress toward sustainability.

Over the coming months as we complete the first STARS submission, and over the coming years as we continue to move toward sustainability as a university and successfully implement Sustainable Furman, we will maintain a broad and comprehensive perspective on Furman’s sustainability efforts. By evaluating our sustainability efforts in a comprehensive and inclusive way, we hope to continue to enhance Furman’s distinctive sustainability program.

Three receive Community Fund scholarships

Elaina Griffith, Thomas Batson and Tyler Silvers were selected to receive the Staff Community Scholarship last month. University staff and their dependents are eligible for the three $750 annual scholarships. Griffith, interlibrary loan and document delivery assistant in the library, is enrolled at San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science. Batson, son of Don Batson (Public Safety), attends Georgia Tech. Silvers, son of Sandra Silvers (Student Business Center), is a student at Clemson. The Staff Community Fund was established in 1999 with the first scholarship being awarded in 2002. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please e-mail Phil Howard in development.
What impact will the new alcohol policy have on student life?

“At this time, we haven’t seen much difference (in student behavior) with the new policy.”
—Will Robinson

“I think the students are going to handle it really well. I think they’re going to be responsible with it.”
—Danielle LeFevers

“Right now, people think this is a new freedom, let’s take advantage of it! Hopefully, the novelty will wear off and things will go back to normal. It’s like when Moe’s opened. It was packed for two weeks, then it died down.”
—Eddie Young

“It’s been very quiet. We’ve been waiting, like what’s gonna happen? What’s gonna happen? But not much has.”
—Jean Adams

“I don’t really think that it’s going to change because students had alcohol anyway and were drinking on the campus.”
—Michael Chiu

“At this time, we haven’t seen much difference (in student behavior) with the new policy.”
—Will Robinson

“I think the students are going to handle it really well. I think they’re going to be responsible with it.”
—Danielle LeFevers

“Right now, people think this is a new freedom, let’s take advantage of it! Hopefully, the novelty will wear off and things will go back to normal. It’s like when Moe’s opened. It was packed for two weeks, then it died down.”
—Eddie Young

“It’s been very quiet. We’ve been waiting, like what’s gonna happen? What’s gonna happen? But not much has.”
—Jean Adams

“I don’t really think that it’s going to change because students had alcohol anyway and were drinking on the campus.”
—Michael Chiu

The bus stops here

Beginning October 4, the Greenville Transit Authority will begin making stops at Furman, the first time in recent history the campus has been served by public transportation. The bus route includes several stops on along Poinsett Highway (including Cherrydale Shopping Center), Rutherford Road and North Pleasantburg Drive. According to the transit center schedule, the bus will stop at Furman Monday through Friday hourly from 5:40 a.m to 5:40 p.m. On Saturday, first stop will be 8:40 a.m. The route does not operate Sunday.