Five years of Engaged!

After five years, John Kaup no longer has to educate people about Furman Engaged! Like the fountains, stationary floats along the mall during homecoming, and the FU cheer, the event is understood. It is part of the campus tapestry.

When Furman Engaged! debuted in 2009, about 350 students participated. As the day-long event concluded April 12, nearly 600 students, over twenty percent of the student population, had put the wraps on a poster or oral presentation or performance.

“Faculty are embracing it more,” says Kaup, who coordinates the event. “We are getting to the point where it is streamlined. People know it is coming and professors are incorporating it into their courses.”

Kaup says all universities recognize and celebrate the research, scholarship, and creative endeavors of their students, but few devote an entire day and have this level of student participation for the event.

John Beckford, vice president of Academic Affairs, says Furman Engaged! is distinctly Furman. It builds community while encouraging students to become immersed in active forms of learning.

“It’s important to showcase one of the things we do best at Furman, which is engaging students in projects that allow them to apply what they learn in their classrooms to working applications. It’s one thing to be in a passive setting and receiving information about a topic, but it’s entirely different to be engaged in that process. We’re really proud to illustrate that.”

All the student presentations had one thing common: presenters had to do the work to defend and communicate their work. This interactive component, says Beckford, fosters a deeper, richer understanding of the subject matter.

And it helps develop skills that will prove valuable after Furman, says Seth Greenstein ’14. “If you’re planning to do research as a career, you’ll have to do presentations like this,” he said. “I did an oral presentation last year, and it helped me understand the material because chemistry faculty were there asking questions. I needed to be able to explain why I did what I did.”

Though Furman Engaged! provides a forum where the university’s most experienced undergraduates can share their work, it still creates room for students to get involved early in their academic careers.

Several freshmen had an opportunity to participate in the event thanks the school’s first Year Seminars, a unique set of courses that allows first-year students to examine a topic of special interest.

Lloyd Benson, a history professor at Furman, encouraged his First Year Seminar students to present their research on Civil War battles. Joseph Paulson took up the challenge by developing a poster that compared U.S. fighting in the Battle of Antietam.

But when he wasn’t describing his work to interested onlookers, Paulson explored the work of his classmates. He had plenty of options. The Physical Activities Center housed more than 200 poster displays at Furman Engaged!

“It’s pretty cool to stroll around and check out other people’s posters,” said Paulson. “On the opposite side of campus, Furman’s art, music, and theatre arts students showed off their own creativity. Art major Sidney Vlass ’13 got a taste of the marketing world by creating packaging for a fictional organic food brand. She designed the boxes to appeal to children by including colorful text and images.”

—continued on page 7—

Furman awarded Hillel affiliation

In a sign of growing religious diversity, Furman was named a Hillel campus this month. Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life is the largest Jewish campus organization in the world and provides opportunities for Jewish students at more than 500 colleges and universities to explore and celebrate their Jewish identity.

The recognition comes eight months after Alana Wasserman joined the chaplain’s office in a part-time position as the university’s first rabbi.

University Chaplain Vaughn CroweTipton said the recognition helps to raise the stature of the small Jewish campus community.

“All of our religious groups, with the exception of our Jewish and Muslim communities, are affiliated with a national organization or convention,” he said. “This will bring our Jewish group up to that level.”

CroweTipton said about eighteen Furman students are Jewish.

Brad Pochard, associate vice president for Admission, said the Hillel designation signals that Furman is welcoming to students of all faiths.

“For many Jewish students, the Hillel affiliation is affirming,” he said. “This inclusion is a significant step forward in our goal for religious diversity.”
The woman was hugging Mackenzie Beam ’14 with tears running down her face. The two hadn’t met before that day, but in a single hour, Beam had made a significant difference by crunching a few numbers on the woman’s tax return.

“She doesn’t make much money and has a mentally disabled adult daughter who still lives with her,” says Beam, who is from Harrisonburg, Va. “I told her she was getting $1,000 more back than last year, and she started crying and hugging me. She said she had been praying for help because she couldn’t afford to pay to have someone look out for her daughter while she was at work.”

The goal is to provide parking spaces for employees and business owners within reasonable walking distances of their offices, Bousarzh says.

“Parking is an essential element to a successful downtown, and we want our businesses, visitors, and residents to have easy experiences parking here,” says Mary Douglas Hirsch, Greenville’s Downtown Development manager. “The city views an effective parking system as part of our overall downtown package, and having enough parking offered at reasonable rates is critical to our business recruitment and retention efforts.”

The project is a pilot independent study course, but if all goes well it could become a formal math course in the future, Bousarzh says.

The students have eagerly tackled the project by gathering information, building databases of downtown businesses, and turning addresses into latitudes and longitudes. It’s meant lots of data-crunching, correspondence come at a hefty price. Usually ten percent of their deduction would go to a paid tax service.

Not only was the program a chance for students to give back to the community, it was a way for them to gain technical, organizational, and communication skills, and to experience working in a professional environment. These skills are critical to students who want a career in accounting, but are also important to other students on campus. In fact, students outside the business and accounting department have volunteered with the program.

“It’s a great resume builder,” says MacGiudwin ’13 of Washington, D.C.

“I got an internship in Atlanta with a public accounting firm and got into seven graduate schools, including my number one choice. Furman’s accounting majors are very well rounded because the professors emphasize programs like this,”

MacGiudwin is in his second year of volunteering with the program. He’s one of many students who have continued to volunteer even though it’s no longer required. But it’s not the resume building or even the real-world skills that keep students coming back. It’s the feeling they get when they help someone in need.

Just ask Beam. “The last woman I helped said she didn’t know what she would do without this program. She’s always gone there and had a Furman student do her return.”

— by Kylee Perez

Math in the city
Students, professors partner with city to plot future parking

With ten city-owned garages and more than 7,000 spaces, the logistics of parking in Greenville can be tricky.

“Downtown Greenville is roomy and rollin’,” says Mike Murphy, Greenville’s director of public works for the past nine years. “It’s a constant chess game.”

But the city now has a new partner in finding-parking solutions for downtown businesses: a trio of Furman math majors.

Beth Bled ’13, Elise Prete ’13, and Kelly Cercy ’15 got their inspiration from a conference they attended with professor Liz Bousarzh in January of 2012. While attending the Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics in Lincoln, they heard about a University of Nebraska course, “Math in the City,” which put students to work to analyze the best location for building a new police station in the city.

The course got the Furman students thinking about what they could do to take math out of the classroom and, at the same time, provide a service to the Greenville community. So they sat down with local officials, including city manager John Castille ’88, to brainstorm ideas.

The student-driven effort resulted in a new applied mathematics course, the first of its kind at Furman, taught by Bousarzh and professors Kevin Hutson, Sarah Frick, and John Harris. With the help of Geographic Information System mapping software and integer programming software, students are analyzing the efficiency of parking downtown and looking at possible ways to optimize use of available space.

The goal is to provide parking spaces for employees and business owners within reasonable walking distances of their offices, Bousarzh says.

“Parking is an essential element to a successful downtown, and we want our businesses, visitors, and residents to have easy experiences parking here,” says Mary Douglas Hirsch, Greenville’s Downtown Development manager. “The city views an effective parking system as part of our overall downtown package, and having enough parking offered at reasonable rates is critical to our business recruitment and retention efforts.”

The project is a pilot independent study course, but if all goes well it could become a formal math course in the future, Bousarzh says.

The students have eagerly tackled the project by gathering information, building databases of downtown businesses, and turning addresses into latitudes and longitudes. It’s meant lots of data-crunching, correspondence...
Blowing the doors open
Thorpe to bring change, new energy to Upcountry History Museum

These are challenging times for museums. Pinched by shrinking government support and competing against a growing number of entertainment options, many are struggling. “Too many are struggling,” says Dana Thorpe, who took over in April as executive director of the Upcountry History Museum-Furman University. “So many museums are closing daily due to declining attendance and declining sources of revenue. People are not as connected to their community’s history as they once were.”

The museums that have thrived, she says, have done so through innovation, forming creative partnerships and taking occasional risks. “At times history museums have been insular. We need to find engaging ways to make history relevant and more readily accessible to the communities that we serve. We need to blow the doors open and rethink how we do things, how we communicate and interact with people,” says the Wisconsin native. Though hiring brings to a close a year-long search for the museum’s new leader. Furman assumed operation of the museum early last year under a three-year agreement reached by the university and the museum’s board of directors. The museum opened in 2007 and is located on Heritage Green, the former site of the Greenville Woman’s College, which merged with Furman in the 1930s. The building’s features include a prominent clock tower that is reminiscent of Greenville’s old city hall. It also includes a 100-seat theatre, four display areas, meeting rooms, and offices.

During a work career that has spanned twenty-eight years, Thorpe has an earned reputation for being creative, crafting partnerships and developing new revenue streams. And she likes to shake things up. “I do things differently,” she says. “That’s my forte.”

As director of the Western Reserve Historical Society 2002, she leveraged the society’s extensive costume and textile collection to develop a relationship with Academy Award-winning costume designer John Bright. They established a traveling exhibition program that continues to provide funding for the society. There was also the time Thorpe developed an exhibit on the history of the apron. A reception to launch the exhibit’s opening, titled “Tie One On,” was wildly popular, as it cultivated new donors and helped renew interest in cultural history.

Thorpe, who has worked for four historical societies, one foundation, three museums and an aquarium, has seemingly done it all. She’s reorganized staffs, oversaw capital campaigns, developed exhibits, and worked with budgets large and small. She’s even swept the floors at night.

Her interest in history and museums was sparked by Ms. Goecke, her ninth-grade history teacher. “We did not just learn and memorize dates,” says Thorpe. “We learned about people. She was young and exciting and made a point to bring the stories to life.”

Thorpe attended the University of Wisconsin where she earned a B.A. in history and an M.S. in museology. Although she and her husband, Dan, a teacher and coach, have lived in Maryland, Virginia, and California, they have spent the bulk of their professional lives in the Midwest.

And they are both looking forward to opening a new chapter in Greenville.

“Before my interview I had never been to Greenville. I was just blown away. The community celebrates its downtown, embodies collaboration, and values its sense of place. The newly formed partnership between the museum and Furman also intrigued me. The opportunities for the museum’s continued growth and sustainability are incredible. This has been so refreshing,” she says.

In the coming months, Thorpe plans to make the rounds in the community, meeting donors and civic leaders and making connections. In the short term she will focus on revamping the museum’s marketing, programming, and exhibit plans and finding new ways to take history into the community.

“People are both looking forward to opening a new chapter in Greenville. Before my interview I had never been to Greenville. I was just blown away. The community celebrates its downtown, embodies collaboration, and values its sense of place. The newly formed partnership between the museum and Furman also intrigued me. The opportunities for the museum’s continued growth and sustainability are incredible. This has been so refreshing,” she says.

In the coming months, Thorpe plans to make the rounds in the community, meeting donors and civic leaders and making connections. In the short term she will focus on revamping the museum’s marketing, programming, and exhibit plans and finding new ways to take history into the community.

“People are both looking forward to opening a new chapter in Greenville. Before my interview I had never been to Greenville. I was just blown away. The community celebrates its downtown, embodies collaboration, and values its sense of place. The newly formed partnership between the museum and Furman also intrigued me. The opportunities for the museum’s continued growth and sustainability are incredible. This has been so refreshing,” she says.

“People are both looking forward to opening a new chapter in Greenville. Before my interview I had never been to Greenville. I was just blown away. The community celebrates its downtown, embodies collaboration, and values its sense of place. The newly formed partnership between the museum and Furman also intrigued me. The opportunities for the museum’s continued growth and sustainability are incredible. This has been so refreshing,” she says.

“But we are all in agreement that it needs to be stronger and more vibrant.”

–by John Roberts
Asian Studies


Business and Accounting

Jeannie Stratton was a reviewer for the Journal for Organizational Behavior Management and authored a manuscript with Michelle Horhota, Angela Halpern, and Jennifer Asmus titled “Identifying Behavioral Barriers to campus sustainability: A multi-method approach.” It has been accepted for publication in the International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education. Stratton served as a panelist with Brandon Inabinet and Haley Jones in a CIP event on greenhousing, and she was a recipient of a 2013 Shi Center Faculty Grant Research.

Chemistry

Brian Goess, while on sabatical this year, has given research seminars at Loyola University, DePaul University, Eastern Michigan University, Villanova University, Merck Pharmaceuticals and the American Chemical Society national meeting in New Orleans. Goess has also presented a seminar titled “Strategies for Launching a Successful Research Career in the Natural Sciences at a Primarily Undergraduate Institution” at Northwestern University, the University of Notre Dame and Princeton University. Tim Hanks has been awarded one of two inaugural Furman Standard faculty research grants to support his work.

Classics


Earth and Environmental Sciences

Betsy Boyemer-Farris was an invited lecturer and panelist for the International Society of Tropical Forests “Food and Forests: Cultivating Resilient Landscapes” annual meeting at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in New Haven, Conn.

Economics

Jason Jones’s paper “Cross-bordering in the expanded EU” was accepted for publication by the journal Eastern European Economics.

Education

Shirley A. Ritter presented “Changes in Teacher Preparation at One University, Both Big and Small,” at the annual meeting of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children in Michigan in November. Ritter, as one of three presenters in the Small Special Education Programs symposium on “Embracing Change in Higher Education,” gave a presentation entitled, “Dubbing Your ‘Barg for your Buck”: Weaving ‘Special Education’ into ‘General Education’ Courses.” Katie Stover’s article, “Using digital VoiceThreads to promote 21st Century Learning,” co-authored with Karen Wood and Brian Kissel from the University of North Carolina, was published in the Middle School Journal in March. Stover presented a research poster session on “21st Century Literacies: An Investigation of ‘Teachers’ Perceptions and Use of Voicethread in K-12 Classrooms” at the International Reading Association Conference in San Antonio, Tex., in April.

Earth and Environmental Sciences

Lorraine Dejong, with Teaching Assistants Hannah Pace and Whitney Becker, discussed “Why Become a Teacher?” with three groups of sixth-grade students in February 14 at Northwest Middle School in Travelers Rest. Hannah and Whitney led the students in a lively Wheel of Fortune game based around reasons for becoming a teacher.

Lorraine Dejong, with Teaching Assistants Hannah Pace and Whitney Becker, discussed “Why Become a Teacher?” with three groups of sixth-grade students in February 14 at Northwest Middle School in Travelers Rest. Hannah and Whitney led the students in a lively Wheel of Fortune game based around reasons for becoming a teacher.

Library

Andrea Wright’s essay “Giving Back to get Ahead: Adapting as Continuing Education” appeared in Continuing Education for Librarians, edited by Carol Smallwood, Kerol Harrod, and Vera Gubinskiene.

Math


Modern Languages and Literatures

Marianne Bessy presented “Furman University Students and the Greenville Hispanic Community: From Interviews to Documentary Films” at the Winthrop-King Institute and an encyclopedia entry about author Vasillis Aisialis in The Literary Encyclopedia. Jeremy Cest’s article “Imagining Cuba in Hijoelos A Simple Habana Melody” was published in Lasa-Leon’s Journal of Twentieth and Twenty First Centuries Latin American Literary Production.

Bessy also presented a paper titled “Portfolio Development and Assignment Design” at the annual Furman Student Teaching Conference at North Carolina State University in January. George Lipscomb made a presentation in connection with “Finding One’s Place in the World: Current Events in the K-12 Social Studies Classroom,” a gathering upon the recent publication of his book. He also facilitated a meeting of small college and university social studies faculty. Lipscomb’s recent research “How Small Colleges and Universities Prepare Future Teachers for the Multicultural Classroom” appeared in Theory and Research in Social Education, 41 (1), 179-182. The National Council for Teacher Education’s executive committee has invited Paul Thomas to serve as AECT council historian, a three-year, renewable position. Paul Thomas’ article “Police in the Hallways” has been published in the Journal of Educational Controversy.

English


History


Biology

Resilience: Eco-pedagogies for Homero Aridjis’ ‘En quieros piedras and Anestesia Roussis’ ‘La loca,” which appeared in Review 85: Eco-Literature and Arts in Latin America, Vol. 45:2. Stephanie Knouse gave a presentation on “Enriching the Student Learning Experience through Web 2.0 Technologies” with Francesco Salgado-Ribbes from the University of Kentucky at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages convention held in Philadelphia in November. Knouse’s article “The Acquisition of Dialectal Phonemes in a Study Abroad Context: The Case of the Casrtián Theta” was featured in Foreign Languages Annals in January. Knouse was recently recognized as an honoree for Mentor of the Year, an event sponsored by the United Way Young Philanthropists of Greenville. Bill Prince was chosen by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages to be one of two trainees at the national level for training teachers and administrators to rate the “AAPP” (ACTFL Assessment of Performance Level) for Proficiency in Languages. The project is a national initiative to evaluate performance in a variety of languages at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In March, Prince conducted a two-day workshop in Charlotte, N.C., on assessing foreign-language speaking proficiency at the Charlotte County Day School.

Music
David Gross (piano), Deirdre Hutton (violin), and Christopher Hutton (cellos) were featured soloists for Beethoven’s Triple Concerto with the Greater Anderson Metropolitan Arts Council orchestra. They also performed a series of recitals in Virginia and South Carolina playing music by Mozart, Brahms, Faure, and American composer Paul Schoeffler. Daniel Koppelman performed a solo recital, including two of his own compositions, as part of the Guest Artist Series at the University of Westminster-Metro North-March. Koppelman also gave a lecture, “Utilizing the Yamaha Disklavier for Improvisation and Composition,” during his residency in Madison. Mark Kistofa introduced his “Four Hopkins Settings” to audiences during St. Petri Köndager, a three-day festival of choral music held in Malmö, Sweden. Kistofa has been awarded two inaugural Furman Standard faculty research grants to support work on a full-length opera. His “Sanophone Sonata” and his clarinet solo “Four Postcards to Batto” were performed in East Lansing, Michigan, and in St. Louis, respectively. Lindsey Warren ‘09 and Ensemble Zephyrus presented “Gazing Up at Stars” in three northeast concerts, and professor emeritus Bingham Vick led the Greenville Chorale in a performance of “To Music” this spring. Matt Olson was a guest artist and adjudicator for the North Dakota State University Jazz Festival and was a guest soloist with the Spartanburg High School Percussion Ensemble at the South Carolina Music Educators Association In-Service Conference in February. Olson was a pit orchestra musician for the Broadway touring show “Billy Ellsworth” at the Peace Center. With Keith Davis, Olson presented a guest recital and master class at Methodist University, in Fayetteville, N.C., in March. Olson was scheduled to be a guest artist and adulator for the Highland Jazz Festival in Gilbert, Ariz., in April. Charles Tompkins performed organ recitals in Pittsburgh in February and at the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul in Washington, D.C., in March.

Philosophy

Physics
David Moffett collaborated with Estela Reynoso from the University of Buenos Aires and Jack Hughes from Rutgers University on a paper titled “On the Radio Polarization Signature of Efficient and Inefficent Particle Acceleration in Supernova Remnant SN 1006,” published in The Astronomical Journal. Moffett and Reynoso conducted simultaneous radio telescope observations of the supernova remnant using the Very Large Array in New Mexico and the Australia Telescope Compact Array in New South Wales, Australia.

Religion

Political Science

Sociology
Allison Hurst’s article “Student types as reflection of class habits: An application of Bourdieus’ scholastic fallacy” was published in the March edition of Theory and Research in Education.

Theatre Arts
Maegan Azar’s movement direction was seen in The Warehouse Theatre’s production of Eurydice in January. Azar and Kevin Otos of Elon University presented a workshop on “Building Your Own Lazi: The Comic Interruption Made Modern” at the Southeastern Theatre Conference in March.

I n the future of food?” my student asked in his email. Included in his message was a news story about a twenty-four-year-old software engineer from Atlanta who was just too busy to eat. So he read a physiological chemistry textbook and designed a meal replacement beverage in his home kitchen. The beverage was beige and odorless and contained forty essential nutrients for human health. He replaced three meals per day with his new concoction and boasted that it was less expensive and time-consuming than preparing real food.

My heart sank. Never mind that whole foods contain more than forty nutrients that are biologically active in the human body. Is the pace of life so daunting that we can’t take the time to prepare a simple meal with real food? Will he ever experience the joy of sharing a satisfying meal with friends and loved ones?

After spending eleven years working with many students who were frustrated and overwhelmed with the idea of preparing a wholesome meal, I finally came to a revelation—it was time to revive the foodies. If they could practice preparing simple meals and have the chance to sample delicious new foods, I was convinced that they would be hooked.

The Department of Health Sciences then partnered with the Furman Culinary Club to offer three healthy cooking workshops for students during the spring semester. Each featured a different aspect of a healthy plate: 1) vegetables and fruits, 2) whole grains, and 3) lean proteins. Students divided into eleven different stations that each featured a new recipe. They practiced knife skills, roasting, steaming, and sautéing. Then each group proudly brought their dish to the table and shared an incredible feast together. The response was overwhelming. Each forty-person workshop was booked beyond capacity. Students prepared familiar foods such as whole grain vegetable pizza, homemade hummus, and fruit and yogurt parfaits. They enjoyed new favorites such as wheat berry salad, sautéed Brussels sprouts, kale chips, and green monster smoothies. Many reported that they practiced their new skills in their apartment kitchens or at home for their astonished families over Easter break.

Is this the new home economics class? Perhaps. But it is vastly different from the class that my grandmother taught decades ago. Plans are currently being developed to expand the student workshops next year and also to provide several events for faculty and staff. Many workshop recipes and other resources for healthy living can be found at the recipe corner at Live Well Furman: http://www2.furman.edu/sites/liveWell/EatWellPage/RecipeCorner.aspx.

Kelly’s Corner

Kelly’s Corner
FACILITIES SERVICES

There is a construction boom in Facilities Services with Planning and Construction. We have demolished, broken ground, and begun erecting the steel on the new football press box and field house. The new facility will be state of the art, and something that we all can be proud of. This has been a long awaited and anticipated project, and is fresh on the heels of the soft press box for the baseball field house projects. Our athletic facilities have needed sprucing up and expansion for some time. The development and athletics departments have worked hard securing donors for these projects. We have already started on the refreshment of the Herring Welcome Center for admission. The room is getting some cleaning up and new furniture. We hope these changes will make a positive and welcoming first impression.

Work continues on the renovation and improvement of Stone Soccer Stadium. We are again working to put the grounds and the stadium in first-class shape for May Commencement. We said goodbye to Tony Daniels, who has been a courier for about ten years, moving into the job from the grounds department. He has left to pursue a new career in an unrelated field. We wish him well. Julie Williams has stepped into the courier position from the stockroom. If you haven’t been over to the Herring Center for Continuation Education, please pay it a visit. This is a beautiful facility, financed by gifts, featuring state of the art technology and areas which provide wonderful opportunities for both continuing education and lifelong learning. We are very proud of the quality of the building and the great improvement it brings to the south campus.

— Michael Hawley

LIBRARY

The Library Student Advisory Group (LSAG) was established this spring to serve as a focus group for discussion of library issues and to identify more effective approaches in promoting library resources and services. Student members include representatives from each of the academic divisions—the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Other representatives include students from the Student Government Association (SGA), the Library Committee, and International Education. The group will be meeting regularly throughout the school year. First-year students have been engaged in a QR-code scavenger hunt which helps them to learn about different areas in the library and teaches them about information services in a fun and interactive way. Successful participants receive a T-shirt saying: “I cracked the code at the Furman Library.” Outreach librarians have been holding faculty workshops designed to spread awareness of resources that can be used for research and teaching. Class topics include: the use of Twitter in the classroom, citation tools, e-books, and the use of plagiarism prevention software. The Digicenter has embarked on a collaborative digital project with theatre set designer and artist, Peter Wexler. Contents of the collection include set models, stage designs, artwork, and more. When complete, this will be the first known digital collection of its kind, and will attract users from around the world.

The assistant director for Discovery Services, a position created after the Library’s reorganization in 2012, was filled in January, by Christy Allen. Allen has eight years of professional library experience, and a background in web design, digital project management, and metadata. The library was the recipient of an extensive collection of sports books from the estate of Furman Bisher, the legendary sports editor of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The donated books cover every category of sport genre and sports reporting. A selection of books from the Bisher collection is on display on the first floor of Duke Library.

We are in the process of acquiring more non-English resources in support of the growing international student population. This includes the acquisition of an eighty-eight-volume anthology of classical Japanese literature purchased in conjunction with a generous grant provided by U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission. Furman is the only institution in South Carolina offering access to this resource. Special Collections and Archives created an exhibit titled, “F.U. All The Time,” which features Furman University memorabilia from 1826-2013. The exhibit, located on the second floor, is open through May 6.

— Janis Randell

MARKETING

AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Since joining our group late last year, Creative Services director Elizabeth Geer has hit the ground running. She played a leading role in developing the Edge promotion, a creative online slideshow played against the backdrop of a Jimmy Hendrix song. Too, she is also working with her staff to develop a new job intake system that should improve efficiency and customer service. Elizabeth has nearly two decades of experience in advertising, brand strategy, creative development, broadcast and print production, and client management. A graduate of Ohio University’s Scripps School of Journalism, her career includes working six years as senior director of Advertising and Brand Communications with Denny’s Restaurants, where she was instrumental in the Grand Slam giveaway and the critically acclaimed Super Bowl commercials that launched the program. She has also worked on other national brands such as Wendy’s (Dave Thomas campaign), McDonald’s, Moonrise, and Tabasco brand Pepper Sauce. Many of our staff resources have been funneled to Edge, Furman’s digital magazine. Nearly everyone in our office has played a role in its launching. Furman magazine editor Jim Stewart and editor Carol Anne Winchester helped to lead this effort by developing a digital format of Furman magazine that is innovative and cutting edge. The digital Furman includes video, stories, and photos that compliment popular print version. Since Edge was launched earlier this year, more than 5,000 have visited. Lastly, our office congratulates Community Relations director Chandra Dillard for being named 2013 Legislator of the year by the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU). Chandra, first elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 2008, has been a leading advocate for higher education. She was presented her award April 17 on the steps of the State Capitol.

— John Roberts

New Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christy Allen</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Lollis</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Long</td>
<td>Custodial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niko Medved</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anadilia Miralda</td>
<td>Facilities Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Riley</td>
<td>Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Roberson</td>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Seman</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Spradling</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Thorpe</td>
<td>Upcountry History Museum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anniversaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Employee</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Danny Crain</td>
<td>Facilities Services</td>
<td>Facility Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Richard Jones</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Facilities Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Scott Johnson</td>
<td>Camps and Conferences</td>
<td>Golf Course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Employee</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Brett Barclay</td>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>Physical Therapy Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Amy Cox</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Donations and Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Don Batson</td>
<td>University Police</td>
<td>Concession Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Connie Carson</td>
<td>Student Life</td>
<td>Golf Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Daniel Epps</td>
<td>Golf Course</td>
<td>Facility Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bryan Watson</td>
<td>Golf Course</td>
<td>Facility Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Donna Rogers</td>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>Facility Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scot Sherman</td>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>Facility Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Five years of Engaged!

continued from page 1

along with fun games and facts about local and organic foods. She got the idea after taking a May Experience course focused on sustainable food practices. “I never thought to question where my food came from and what was in it,” said Vlass.

During her presentation, Vlass’s professors challenged her to think beyond her design. She was asked about price points, product testing, and other barriers she may face when selling the product. “It’s important for young artists to be able to communicate ideas about their work artfully and clearly,” said art professor Bob Chance. “This is an opportunity for them to think about and present their work.”

— by Kylee Perez and John Roberts

I n last fall’s column I introduced the idea that seeking out good, clean, and fair food can have social and environmental benefits reaching well beyond our own plates and health. Last winter we looked at specific strategies that we can pursue in Greenville to get more local foods on our plates. In this column, I’d like to share some exciting food-related campus initiatives. The production and consumption of food can be explored from many perspectives, a fact that is bringing together faculty from diverse departments and helping students to connect their lived experience with what they are learning in classrooms across campus.

Furman has partnered with our three sister Duke Endowment schools (Davidson College, Duke University and Johnson C. Smith) to collaborate on initiatives related to food and farming in the Carolinas. The Shi Center for Sustainability has led the effort for the university and secured a generous grant from the Endowment to support faculty-student research teams. During the past year, teams have investigated a host of diverse topics, including:

- Food deserts (neighborhoods with limited or no access to fresh foods) in Greenville County
- Content of food-related courses taught at Furman.
- The soils, land-use history, and environmental benefits of local farms.
- Perceptions of area farmers around their land and their work.
- Profiles of consumers in community-supported agriculture programs.
- The prevalence of “greenwashing” of local food products.
- Organic gardening techniques best suited to this area.

The research conducted by these teams carries potential for real impact on the well-being of our local community. On campus, activities around food and farming bring together diverse individuals while imparting tangible life skills. Under the auspices of farm and composting manager Bruce Adams, the Furman Farm serves as a sandbox for students to learn and apply organic gardening techniques. Groups ranging from residence halls and student organizations to local elementary schools and retired adults volunteer their time, and some seek out the rewards of their labor by supporting the Furman Farm’s produce stand or community-supported agriculture programs.

Anyone eating in the dining hall is invited to reduce food waste by composting their table scraps. The end product of these scraps is compost to enrich the soil at the Furman Farm. The student group Furman in the Garden (FIG) builds community around food by hosting speakers, skills workshops and potluck dinners. Many others are finding their own ways to connect food to their Furman experience, whether seeking out a relevant first-year seminar or experimenting with new recipes in their North Village kitchen.

I hope that you will support the research projects and programs in ways that make sense for you. Get involved and spread the word about the many ways that Furman is contributing to a more sustainable food economy in South Carolina.

— by Yancey Fauché

A s you may recall, our winter issue featured an article about Furman Christmas traditions. Former Furman First Lady Martha Johns and Bingham Vick, Jr., professor emeritus of music and past conductor of the Furman Singers, gently chided us for missing a few.

DuPre Rhome, founder and director of the Furman Singers from 1946 to 1970, conducted an annual performance of Handel’s Messiah each December. Rhome would combine the Singers with the adult choir from Greenville’s First Baptist Church, and would also invite Singers alumni to join in. “McAlister was always packed, usually several hours before concert time,” says Vick, who succeeded Rhome. The annual Messiah performances eventually became every-other-year events to allow music students to perform other Christmas oratorios. Hugh Floyd, current director of the Singers, continues this tradition.

Furman President John E. Johns and his wife, Martha, led an annual “lighting of the yule log” ceremony throughout Johns’ tenure from 1976 to 1994. Following a Christmas-themed dinner in the dining hall, faculty, staff, students, and friends would gather lakeside for carols led by the Singers. Standing in front of a great bonfire, President Johns would recite the story of the yule log and invite participants to toss a sprig of greenery into the fire for good luck.

Also, each year since the early 1990s, the Furman Chamber Choir, led by Bill Thomas, has presented “Lessons and Carols,” a popular music-and-worship service held in Daniel Chapel.
A seven-member Tobacco Free Campus Committee has recommended to President Rod Smolla that Furman adopt a tobacco free policy for the 2014–15 academic year. The proposal, if approved by the president, would prohibit the use of all forms of tobacco, including smokeless products, on university property.

The group, chaired by associate vice president for Facilities Services Jeff Redderson, began to study the issue earlier this year after some members of the university community complained to the President’s Office about being exposed to second-hand smoke. Other members of the committee are Bill Pierce (Health Sciences), Ron Thompson (Housing), Giselle Williams (Human Resources), Boyd Yarbrough (Special Projects), and students Reston Hartsell ’13 and Ben Saul ’13.

Redderson said that roughly fifteen percent of faculty and staff and five percent of students self-reported using tobacco products more than three times per week.

The university banned smoking in all campus buildings in 1993. In 2007 Furman banned smoking within twenty-five feet of building entrances but allowed students to light up on the balconies of residence halls.

A series of forums will likely be held during the fall to gather input on the proposed policy change, says Redderson. The discussions could be held in large groups or small gatherings. “We really want our community to weigh in on this issue,” says Redderson adding that President Smolla could reject, approve or revise the proposal after hearing input and receiving counsel from the twelve-member President’s Cabinet.

If the tobacco ban is approved, Redderson says the university would likely sponsor free cessation classes for students, faculty and staff.

In South Carolina, Charleston Southern, Converse, Lander, Medical University of South Carolina, Southern Wesleyan, USC-Upstate, York Technical College, and Piedmont Technical College have banned all forms of tobacco use on their campuses. Clemson University has formed a committee to study the matter. More than 825 U.S. colleges and universities are tobacco free.

Redderson says research gathered by the committee concludes that healthcare costs are forty percent higher for smokers, and smoke-free policies on campuses help decrease tobacco consumption. “There are many health, economic, and environmental benefits from having a tobacco-free environment,” states the recommendation. “The committee recognizes that it is Furman’s responsibility to actively engage our campus community in accepting responsibility for improving our environment, beginning with our campus.”

— John Roberts

There are eight university campuses in S.C. that are tobacco-free. Should Furman join them?

Yes, that would be wonderful, but I don’t think it’s going to happen. I’m a non-smoker. I grew up with parents who smoked — I’ve inhaled my share of second-hand smoke.

— Martha Davis ’14 Communication Studies

Yes, I have a lot of family members who are dealing with that addiction, and I’ve seen how bad it can turn — especially now that I’m taking Wellness.

— Daniel Hoilett ‘15 Elementary Education

I don’t use tobacco, so I personally don’t have a problem with Furman going tobacco-free. I definitely support the case for no smoking, but I don’t really see it for chewing tobacco since I don’t see what kind of harm that does to others if you keep that to yourself.

— Fred Dilworth ’15 Religion and Health Science

I think it wouldn’t be a bad thing to have Furman become tobacco-free on the physical campus like where the library and class buildings are. But I don’t think tobacco should be banned from, say, North Village or The Vining.

— Bruce Fox Horticulturalist, Grounds Maintenance

Yes, I’m in favor of a tobacco-free campus. But I would feel bad for the people who smoke because they’re addicted and they’ll have nowhere to go. It would be hard, they’re addicted and they’ll have

— Katherine Kransteuber Shi Center for Sustainability

the people who smoke because

nowhere to go. It would be hard,

but I’m all for it.

— Katherine Kransteuber Shi Center for Sustainability

I think it wouldn’t be a bad thing to have Furman become tobacco-free on the physical campus like where the library and class buildings are. But I don’t think tobacco should be banned from, say, North Village or The Vining.

— Bruce Fox Horticulturalist, Grounds Maintenance

the people who smoke because

nowhere to go. It would be hard,

but I’m all for it.

— Katherine Kransteuber Shi Center for Sustainability

the people who smoke because

nowhere to go. It would be hard,

but I’m all for it.

— Katherine Kransteuber Shi Center for Sustainability

I think it wouldn’t be a bad thing to have Furman become tobacco-free on the physical campus like where the library and class buildings are. But I don’t think tobacco should be banned from, say, North Village or The Vining.

— Bruce Fox Horticulturalist, Grounds Maintenance

the people who smoke because

nowhere to go. It would be hard,