Turning 50

Founded as CESC, Heller Service Corps celebrates milestone

Turning 50 is a pretty good excuse for throwing a party, and that’s exactly what Furman will do this year in honor of Heller Service Corps reaching its half-century birthday.

The truth is, though, the University doesn’t need to find a reason to celebrate its nationally renowned student volunteer service organization because the work done by thousands of Paladins, past and present, helping others over the past five decades has been a constant celebration of the best humanity has to offer.

“Service was just something college students felt they should do, and once they got into it they enjoyed it,” he says. “It was something they’d never thought of.”

Cooper says, Heller, who was Jewish, escaped the Nazi invasion of his Austrian homeland thanks in no small part to the aid of Greenville native Mary Mills, whom he had met at a Vienna café. Mills and her father helped him get to America and secure a job in the Redmont Shirt Factory, and he spent the rest of his days trying to repay the debt by devoting his life to racial equality, substandard housing, the environment, domestic violence, I think those boys were like, wow. It was something they’d never thought of.”

CESC was renamed the Max and Trude Heller Service Corps in 2002 after Max Heller’s many friends in the Greenville community honored his years of tireless dedication to his adopted home by endowing the program. “They came up with the one thing he loved, which was service … and that was huge for us,” Cooper says.

“For the students I have had the joy of working alongside just have a natural desire … to make (the world) better for somebody else, and that means giving up their time, which is a precious commodity around this place,” says Nancy Cooper, Furman’s coordinator for volunteer services.

“Service was just something college students felt they should do, and once they got into it they enjoyed it.”

Heller Service Corps is a program that is always looking for new volunteers. “We are the bridge between the Furman community and the Greenville community, and our goal is to bring them together,” says Blake Reid ’17, Heller’s student director. “I guarantee you everybody in our leadership team wants to be there and has a passion for some kind of service.”

In addition to its constant community presence, Heller sponsors four annual events on campus: The Fall Festival, Halloween celebration for elementary-age kids, a Dance Marathon for the children’s hospital, a Holiday Giving Tree, and a Valentine’s Dance for exceptional adults.

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In addition to its constant community presence, Heller sponsors four annual events on campus: The Fall Festival, Halloween celebration for elementary-age kids, a Dance Marathon for the children’s hospital, a Holiday Giving Tree, and a Valentine’s Dance for exceptional adults. There is never a shortage of students willing to take time out of their demanding academic schedules to participate.

“I say, do a buffet. Sample. Just because you signed up, we don’t want to own your soul.” Cooper says. “We want it to be a good experience for you.”

As part of Heller’s 50th anniversary, Furman has set a goal of 50,000 service hours from current students and alumni, and homeowners on October 24 will feature a celebration tied in with the national “Make A Difference Day.”

“Heller is an extremely important part of engaged learning at Furman,” says Connie Carson, Furman’s vice president for student life. “It’s not just a program about service learning. It’s really about volunteerism … The fact that there’s been a volunteer program at Furman for 50 years is amazing in itself. You’re going to be hard-pressed to find many other institutions that have had a volunteer program for that long.”

—Ron Wagner ’93

fall 2015

INSIDE FURMAN

Turning 50
Founded as CESC, Heller Service Corps celebrates milestone
For Hendricks, enrollment management is in the numbers

Hendricks embraced the opportunity, often nothing to make his sales calls in the morning and racing back to the office. When Lehrig offered him a dual position as football coach and assistant director of admission and financial the next year, he took a pay cut and jumped into higher education.

“It was the greatest job of my life,” says Hendricks. “It allowed me to really get into admission and athletics. It helped me to see how all the pieces fit together and it was fun.”

In 1997, Hendricks was promoted to university director of admissions at Furman Dickinson, given responsibility for a staff of 26, and charged with both enrollment and student recruiting for the university’s two campuses. He helped increase the size of the freshman class by 55 percent at the Furman-Anderson campus and by 28 percent at the Taupe-Ikessack campus while boosting the average SAT score 140 points. In 1999, he was named dean of admission at Widener University, a private multi-campus university in Chester, Pennsylvania, which then had a total enrollment of 6,500. During a five-year period at Widener Hendricks increased applications by 45 percent and enrollment by 30 percent while creating a comprehensive a-recruitment program, based on market analysis and leading-edge experimentation in basic recruitment concepts at the time. More importantly, at Widener Hendricks became immersed in the burgeoning field of enrollment management while earning his doctoral degree in Education. It was a field that brought a discipline and coordination to the process of achieving enrollment goals for the entire university. During his four-year research project, Hendricks explored the history of higher education and the changing dynamics of student recruitment through the lens of past and current college business models.

“At the time enrollment management was really moribund. It was an emerging discipline. Enrollment management is a data-driven, research-dependent process that is inherently broad with consideration to an institution’s market position, reputation, and brand positioning, price parity, and academic value. That was new to a lot of people,” he said. “So much of the academic work I did back then informs the enrollment management work I do today.”

After earning a doctorate in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from Widener in 2004, Hendricks was selected Vice President for Enrollment Management at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Founded in 1887, CUA is a research university enrolling approximately 6,700 students. The president of Catholic University at that time wanted to significantly increase the size of the undergraduate student population to help support the significant number of graduate students and programs at the university. In the Baltimore-Washington-Thurgood Marshall International Airport, Hendricks sold the search committee on his vision of enrollment management. Enrollment management, he said, transcended student recruiting. It was about establishing a framework for understanding institutional needs and developing comprehensive action plans to make a lasting impact on the life and future of the university. The philosophy was a grand departure from past practices at Catholic.

At Catholic, Hendricks was given a wide leeway to make big changes and he went to work. He created and implemented a strategic enrollment plan to increase the size of the undergraduate student population, combined the Registrar’s Office and Office of Student Services, which included the university’s revenue generating operations such as the bookstore, housing services, and dining services, he was responsible to report to him. Moreover, Hendricks led an effort to develop a portfolio of strategies to optimize the university’s enrollment that helped upgrade the university’s brand, raise tuition revenue, and grow undergraduate enrollment by 83 percent over a 10-year period.

“His enrollment plan transformed our campus,” says Dr. Mike Allen, Catholic’s Vice President for Student Affairs. “Across the board, Mike professionalized our enrollment division. He brings data, market analysis and market position into the everyday decision making.”

Allen, who formerly reported to Hendricks as Catholic’s Athletic Director, described his old boss as direct and honest.

“He knows how to get things done and does not get rattled,” said Allen. “He is really smart, studies hard and has a tremendous analytical mind. Now settled into his corner, first-floor office in the Furman Administration Building, Hendricks says Furman, which has not had a Vice President for Enrollment since 2010, presents a new challenge.

“At Catholic we were trying to double undergraduate enrollment. At Widener, we were trying to increase resources, and at FDU we were looking to keep pace with a changing market and financial constraints. Each place is different,” says Hendricks. “At Furman it’s about increasing demand and improving our market position. We are a great school but we could become an exceptional school if we had greater student demand.”

While he’s still making the rounds on campus, the old football coach is beginning to craft a new game plan for Furman. And it has no Xs and Os. It has maps, graphs, and charts. Some of the charts have circles that represent potential students. The big circles are in population centers in the mid-Atlantic, Midwest and Northeast. Pointing to the small circles in the Carolinas, Hendricks says, “This is where we are.”

“But there’s lots of opportunity here,” he says Jabbing a meaty finger at the large circles.

Speaking of new markets and his vision of enrollment management at Furman, Hendricks seems restless and anxious to get to work. He rises from his chair, gestures, and taps his hand on his desk to emphasize Furman’s potential and possible strategies for outflanking competitors.

“One of the most important pre-game speeches before the upcoming season begins, Hendricks will be delivering a new strategic plan to his team. A new game plan is called for. The old plan is no longer effective.”

—John Roberts
From the major league baseball diamond to the AD's desk, persistence and planning have helped permeate Buddie Mike's life.

A native of Berea, Ohio, Buddie spent six years in the minors when he was the last person cut in the New York Yankees spring training camp for two years. But his plugging persistence paid off as he was finally called up to the big leagues to share in a World Series Championship.

Despite having no athletic administration experience, Buddie and Wake Forest Athletic Director Ron Wellman mapped out a five-year plan for him to be a university athletic director. That was in 2010.

On July 29, right on time, Buddie and his family celebrated that completed plan before a packed media room in the Pearce-Horton Football Complex when he was introduced as Furman's Athletic Director.

"I have always been a bit of a planner," says Buddie. "Like I like to write things down." 

Furman, in fact, was on a written list of prospective schools Buddie sketched out with his wife, Traci, in 2013. 

"When you're in this business you hear things," says Buddie. "And what I heard about Furman was extraordinary. Wake Forest and Furman are very similar in many ways. The people working at both places are similar, and the universities share a common mission. I knew I would be comfortable here."

Buddie's posture, bearing and appearance are formal and he speaks in a measured, directed voice. Like many mid-westeners, he is friendly, straightforward, modest; the seldom wears his World Series ring and depreshar-"A college's"

"Colleag"s" is beneath that calm demeanor, though, is a drive, competitive spirit and unrelenting work ethic that enabled him to reach the majors and achieve success in NCAA Div. I athletic administration.

"I remember hoping that I would have the same third grade teacher as my brothers so I could show her I was a better student than both of them," says Buddie. "And I learned from a real early age that I better be competitive or I would never get the last brownie."

Raised by two high school teachers, the Buddie boys were standouts in every way. They were excellent in the classroom, on the wrestling mat and athletic field. Buddie's fate took a different turn - Pitching in a summer league championship game, he tossed a two.

"I was always a little bit too good to let go but not good enough to lock up," said Buddie. "I was good at raising money but I was not passionate about it."

In 2010, he flew to Cleveland to interview for a position as the director of player development for the Indians. Wellman, Wake's Athletic Director, sensed Buddie was restless and invited him to attend a home women's soccer game.

"That was a conversation that changed the course of my career," he said.

Wellman said Buddie was his co-captain and confidant. The two would take on-campus walks to discuss personnel changes and perplexing issues. When Wellman was out for an extended time, his number two stepped in a role Buddie described as "pretend vice president."

"I shared my innermost thoughts with him," said Wellman, who has held the AD post for 22 years. "He has all the characteristics of an excellent AD. He is intelligent, communicates well, relates to coaches and athletes because he was one of them. Mike is goal oriented, knows how to prioritize and is not afraid of work."

With Furman, Buddie said he is inheriting a solid athletic department. And he plans to spend the fall and spring learning and networking.

"What former Furman Athletic Director Gary Clark is handing me is a good ship. We are not involved in a scandal and there is no daunting task," he said. "Our facilities are the best in the Southern Conference and our coaches and student athletes are fantastic."

Buddie's stay in the minors was far from short-lived. He pitched in eight seasons with the Single A, AA and AAA teams in New York, Florida, Ohio, Connecticut and North Carolina.

"This was a month before I was to pack my bags and move to Chicago," said Buddie. "I called the (Northwestern) coach to see if he would release from my letter. And he said it was okay as long as I wasn't going to wrestle in Iowa."

"The next spring, Buddie led the Demon Deacons in wins and innings pitched as a freshman. Two years later, he was taken in the fourth round of the MLB draft by the New York Yankees.

"The Yankees took Derek Jeter for the first pick and I was their second," he chuckles.

"My job is go out there and find some resources to help these coaches and student athletes."
Art
In June, Terri Bright was selected for the Flash Powder Projects Retreat, an artist residency program. Bright’s solo exhibition took place at the Metropolitan Arts Council in July and August.

Biology
Paul Hippenmeyer, with Katie Bingham ‘14 and Megan Lee ‘15, published a paper in Journal of Visualized Experiments titled “The use of live cell cytometry to assay the state of chromatin in T cells.” Rawlings won a award to attend an Immundiscs 2015, the national meeting of the American Association of Immunologists. This award allowed him and two students, Sarah Elbenbuch 16 and Molly Shields’ 16, to present their paper titled “Calcium-dependent PKC is required for chromatin decondensation during the activation of peripheral T cells.”

Chemistry
Paul Hippenmeyer and Michael Turlington ‘16 delivered a paper titled “Bottom-Up Metal Charge Transfer in Alkynyl Bridged Metallic Conductor” at the 21st International Symposium on the Photochemistry and Photochemistry of Coordination Compounds in Krakow, Poland, in July.

Communication Studies
Brandon Inabinet completed a one-month grant in Thailand studying civil society and political protest rhetoric against the military coup. The grant was sponsored by ASIANetwork. Inabinet reviewed a book, Burmese Peace and Pedagogy, in Rhetorical Criticism, in The Southern Communication Journal. In July, Inabinet traveled to Tubingen, Germany, to present his work on Cicero’s De Divinatine and De Natura Deorum exploring sacred rhetoric, worked with a Furman Advantage and Humanities Board Self-Funding grant. Sean O’Rourke presented two papers, one on (inside) and on social movement rhetoric, to the Southern States Communication Association and another paper on public engagement to the Midwest Political Science Association. O’Rourke also directed 13 undergraduate papers presented to the SCSE Undergraduate Honors Conference two of which were named top papers in their divisions. They also earned three comments published in volume 12 of Young Scholars in Writing 2015.

Earth and Environmental Sciences
Brannon Andersen has published two articles with student co-authors. The first, “Atmospheric deposition in a rapidly urbanizing area,” appeared in Atmospheric and Environ Mental Pollution (2011 volume 26; p. 266- 281) and was co-authored by Tim Moloney, T. Greg Lewis, and A. D. C. The second, titled “Human appropriation of net primary production in an agriculturally dominated watershed, southern Texas,” appeared in Land (volume 4 p. 513-540) and was co-authored by J.J. L. Ainsworth and A. D. C. 

English
Jeanne Provost delivered papers titled “War and the Ecological Impact of Broken Time in Geoffray of Monmouth’s Life of Richard II” at the Southeastern Medieval Colloquium in Savannah, Tennessee, and “Theophilos and the Wild Woman’s Grief” in Geoffrey of Monmouth’s Vita Merlini” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in May. Michelle Speltz authored an article titled “The Wordsworthian Acoustic Imagination, Sonic Recursions, and ‘That dying murmur’” in SEL Studies in English Literature: 1950-1900: Restoration and Eighteenth Century. Speltz also invited to speak at the annual gathering of the Samuel Johnson Society, hosted this year by Arizona State University, where she delivered the following talk: “Technological Thought and the Postnatural Sublime.”

History
Lane Harris’s co-translation of Luiz’s Historia’s within Rapin’s biblical Scholarship in Early Seventeenth- Century France was published. He also wrote an article titled “The ‘Armenies and Veins’ of the Imperial Body: the Relay and Post Station System in the New World from 1386-1644.” In the Journal of Modern History. Harris’ presented the “Post Office and State Formation in World-Historical Time” at the workshop “Communications and the State: Toward A Neo- International History” in Puerto Rico and “Moving in the Frontier: The Relay System and Ming Empire in the Borderlands, 1668-1449.” at the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Chicago. David Spear authored two articles: “Lanfranc and Guillaume Bonne-Arcie: Villes Parallèles de cancalon (1015- 2010)” Reformes et reformateurs dans l’Empire du nord-Est” and “Le mot dans tous ses états” (Classem: Editions Calliope). In addition, he published a paper titled “Partir loin pour mieux rentrer. Vassilis Alakous, le sargo et Barigu dans Les Mots étrangers” at the several successful collaborative efforts as a member of the Ambassador Dup, Derek Parsons has released his first solo CD. The disc, titled “Lizis: The Poet Hunter” was recorded at the Studio in July and August for the summer of 2014 and released through the Equilibrium label. It consists of various piano works inspired by Lizis’s travels and residences in

Philosophy
Aaron Simmons was guest editor of a special issue of The Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory dealing with the idea of “Machup Picchu Philosophy.” Simmons organized the Presidential Address to the South Carolina Society for Philosophy, and also gave an invited keynote address titled “Whose Postmodernism Which Christanity” at Vilanova University.

Political Science
Jim Guth presented papers at two prominent meetings, including “The Impact of Religions of the Moderns: A Selection of Concerning Foreign Affairs: The Case of Religious Freedom,” at the German Marshall Fund Conference on “Religion in EU and US Foreign Policy,” in Washington DC, in April, “Religion, Political Alignments and Social Movement,” at the Henry Institute Symposium on Religion and Public Life, Calvin College, in May, and “Religion in the Creation of European and National Identities,” co-authored with Brent Nelson, at the meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association for the Sociology of Religion, Belgium, in July. Guth served as chair and discussant on two panels, “Religion and Social Movements” at the Institute meeting and “The Role of Religion in Internal Affairs,” at the Council for European Studies conference. Angela Hallafere, author of “Mortis” as a Catalyst for Conservation in the Carolina Lowcountry was published in the May 2015 Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences. Hallafere’s, by Jeanne Provost (ES) and John Quint (Biology), and a Case Study of Farmer Conceptualization of Ecosystem Services. Guth, in “Environmental Management of American South,” in Environmental Management, co-authored his third book, “Partir loin pour mieux rentrer. Vassilis Alakous, le sargo and Barigu dans Les Mots étrangers” at the several successful collaborative efforts as a member of the Ambassador Dup, Derek Parsons has released his first solo CD. The disc, titled “Lizis: The Poet Hunter” was recorded at the Studio in July and August for the summer of 2014 and released through the Equilibrium label. It consists of various piano works inspired by Lizis’s travels and residences in...
of Europeanists of the Council for European Studies, in July at Sciences Po, Paris, France. Liz Smith and Sean O’Rourke (Communication Studies) co-directed and hosted an AALAC-sponsored seminar on Furman’s campus. The three-day workshop explored the public engagement of liberal arts college faculty and invited colleagues from Smith, Denison, Wesleyan, Rhodes, Middlebury, Carleton, Penn State, and Furman, plus several students with Furman Advantage Research Fellowships. Aristide Tsepistes: essay “Alexis de Tocqueville on Science, Statesmanship, and Political Philosophy” was published as a chapter in Scientific Statesmanship, Governance, and the History of Political Philosophy. The book was edited by Kyriakos Demetriou and Arts Laskos and published by Routledge in 2015 as part of their series on Innovations in Political Theory. Tsepistes was invited to present a paper titled “Tocqueville and Lincoln on Modern Republicanism” at a conference on Republics Ancient and Modern hosted by Mercer University in March.

Religion
Claudia Stulting presented a paper titled “Sovereign and Priest of Creation: A Greek Pantheistic Reading of Eve in Book 5 of Paradise Lost” at the 11th International Milton Symposium held in July at the University of Exeter in Exeter, England. Stulting also chaired the session, “Millon and the Natural World.”

Sociology

Theatre Arts
In June, Maegan Azar played “Lucilia” in Two Rooms at Carroff Stage South Carolina’s Fringe Series. Will Lowry designed scenery for Dancing At Lughnaigh at Lafayette College, costumes for The Wo and The Hot Mikado with Gowl Lyric Theatre (Univille), and the event management for the Be the Change conference in Orlando. As Creative Partner with Flux Theatre Ensemble, Lowry co-produced and designed the scenic for the world premiere of Savage this past May in residency with the Loslandia Center in New York City.

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Sarah Archino, Assistant Professor of Art
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M.A., Hartter College, City University of New York
M.F.A., The Graduate Center, City University of New York
Ph.D., The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Bryan Betancur, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages and Literature
B.A., Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island
A.M., Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island
Ph.D., Brown University

Silvio O. Ciulei, Lecturer in Music
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M.M., Florida State University, Tallahassee
Florida
D.M.A., Florida State University, Tallahassee
Florida

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M.Ed., University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
M.S., Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona
Ph.D., Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

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M.S., University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
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B.A., University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
M.A., University of Tokyo
M.A., Keio University, Tokyo
Ph.D., University of Hawaii
Ph.D., Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho
New employees

Michael Brown — Sports Medicine
Andrew Bargues — Facilities Services
Trent Caldwell — Strength Training
Mary Stephal — Riley Institute
Joseph Espinosa — Sustainability
David Engleborn — Institutional Effectiveness
Courtney Firmin — Housing
Courtney Fraser — Golf Course Grounds
Leah Gremek — Financial Services
Kelly Gregory — Mary Institute
Kathleen Hamlin — Library
Taylor Hartin — Baseball
John Hart — Men’s Lacrosse
Mike Hendricks — Enrollment
Virginia Hendrix — Registrar
Irene Hurcall — HAC
Jen Jackson — Diversity & Inclusion

Anniversaries

40 Years
Janice Knighton — Cancer Services
35 Years
Mickey Fray — Mathematics
30 Years
Elaine Baker — Sports Medicine
Clatworthy Layton — Facilities Services
Linda Sullie — Housing
25 Years
Terry Cloose — Facilities Services
Shawn Dilworth — Religion
Lee Edmonds — Facilities Services
Mark Nabors — Golf Course Grounds
Tony Ragan — Facilities Services
20 Years
Doug Allison — Men’s Soccer
Tammy Curreton — Office of Integrative Research
Steven Dawes — Counseling Center
Mickie Spencer — Theatre Arts
15 Years
Mary Haselden — Student Health Services
Ryan Lazar — Library
Jason Martinez — Facilities Services
Mary McCan — Student Health Services

Catalyzing community

Chemistry alum energizes CCC

Forging mutually beneficial partnerships with the Greenville community has long been one of Furman’s primary strategic goals. The Swamp Rabbit Trail and the Bridges to a Brighter Future program are two of the most visible examples of such tangible collaborations.

A more recent example of such collaboration is the Community Conservation Corps (CCC), a first of its kind home weatherization program that has been improving the quality of life for low-income homeowners in underserved neighborhoods for five years. The program, coordinated by Furman’s Shi Center for Sustainability, represents sustainability in action—promoting the welfare of people and the planet while fostering prosperity.

The CCC collaborates with student and staff as well as community partners to improve the energy efficiency of Greenville homes, thus lowering utility bills and improving indoor air quality. CCC home weatherizations are provided at no cost to eligible homeowners. Since 2010, the CCC has weatherized 193 homes, and each homeowner is saving an average of 25% on energy bills.

The CCC partners with student for Humanity of Greenville County, which provides leaders with hands-on experience in home weatherization work. This partner helps the CCC reach upcountry residents while educating Furman students, homeowners, and community volunteers about strategies to save energy in residential buildings.

As one former Shi Center CCC student fellow reflected in 2014, her work with the CCC has “helped me collaborate more effectively with low-income communities and gain more understanding of issues surrounding poverty...my experience with our clients has helped to fulfill my desire to live as a well-informed citizen and servant in the community.”

Are you interested in improving your eating or exercise habits? This fall, the departments of Health Sciences and Human Resources are offering two free programs to help employees and family members meet those goals.

FUEL: Improve your health—one plate at a time.

Furman University Eating Lean (FUEL) is a healthy eating initiative that is designed to help improve nutrient intake, facilitate weight management, and improve health outcomes associated with obesity, such as cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. Participants are encouraged to follow meal patterns that include at least a variety of fruits and vegetables in each meal. Participants will be provided with tools and tips to create recipes and food preparation ideas to achieve their goals.

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The new CCC Program Coordinator, Joey Espinosa, has brought renewed energy to the effort. Joey, a native of Swansea, South Carolina, graduated from Furman with two degrees in chemistry (B.S., 1998; M.S., 1999). At Furman, he was a four-year letterman with the football team and also ran on the track team. He served as a FUEL program facilitator for two years, and also provided nutrition and wellness classes. Joey’s exposure to under-resourced neighborhoods led him to join the CCC as a half time employee in July 2015. “When you look at under-resourced communities,” he noted, “there are a lot of needs and opportunities. People need educational opportunities for their children, jobs and financial training, safer neighborhoods, and more. When we’re able to improve the energy efficiency of a house through the CCC, we can save that family money and help improve the health of everyone in the household. Plus, we help community members feel prouder of their home. All of these things work together towards community transformation.”

—Angela Hallfare ’92, Ph.D., David E. Shi Center for Sustainability Director

Sustainable Communities

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University Police

Last year PUPO began training students, staff, and faculty members in how to respond if an act of violence occurred in their classroom or office. The training has been successful and over 2,500 community members have attended this training, Officer O. wrote, “Thank you so very much for the session on violent incidents you led for the faculty in Communication Studies. Although parts were disturbing, the knowledge you shared empower us to save lives. I agree with Sara Worth, chair of the Philosophy Department, who said that training was one of the most important and helpful sessions she’s participated in at Furman.” PUPO went on to conduct the response to violence course for any department or group on campus.

We have 10 trained instructors and now provide instruction for other institutions such as Pedmont Tech and Greenville Tech. This fall, the summer’s campus police officers participated in a community crisis intervention training (CIT) course. The course focuses specifically on training police officers on how to work with mentally ill individuals during a call for service and what resources are available in the community for those with mental illness. Six officers will be attending an advanced CIT course that is 40 hours long this year.

PUPO members also had the opportunity to have a scenario simulator in their office for a week over the summer. The simulator allows officers to engage in interactive simulated situations such as an active shooter incident, domestic violence calls, workplace harassment calls, and more. Officers could choose from over 700 different scenarios to participate in.

We are also privileged to add Officer John Milby to the ranks of the department. John recently retired from the Douglas County Sheriff’s Department in Nevada. He holds a master’s degree in criminology and a graduate of the FBI National Academy. John, his wife, and their three children moved to the Greenville area this summer and are enjoying all that the area has to offer.

—Tom Saccardi

Auxiliary Services

For Summer Programs, it began with competitive bike rides and ended with a huge investment with a bunch of bankers. And in the midst of it all, we celebrated a milestone with our Scopes youth camp.

In a little more than 55 days, Summer Programs hosted over 70 camps and conferences of which 95 percent were returning groups. One of the new groups in the other 5 percent was HOBIR, the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership organization. This leadership conference was open to rising seniors that were invited from high schools across the state. We had the opportunity to host three days of training and service projects to build and enhance their leadership skills. Many of you probably heard them chanting as they traveled across our campus.

While it was exciting to host our returning groups, it was just as exciting to welcome our own SCOPES summer young people and new groups. They traveled across our campus—twenty-five years ago a single camp was started and it has now grown over 150 kids participating—Happy Camp hosted 10 camps over six weeks, is still teaching each summer arts was started and it has now grown.

Information Technology Services

Information Technology Services (ITS) completed a major upgrade to the network in August. The upgrade increased internet performance and enhanced network security. This upgrade will also allow the University to add Internet capacity in the future.

In March, ITS rolled out a new place to get to know your entire electronic services at my.furman.edu. Everyone on campus can now get to the web version of Office 365 directly from the MyFurman portal—no additional login required. All Furman students, faculty, and staff can download Office Professional and Microsoft Office iPad apps at no cost. All shared network storage is also available on OneDrive. The Box file sharing service, accessible from the MyFurman portal, provides every student, faculty, and staff with 100Gb of storage, and advanced sharing capabilities.

Furman provides a wealth of computer resources to the campus community. These include: 366 computers in general and department computer labs, 234 computers in research labs, 164 computers in campus libraries, and 128 classroom teaching stations. By fall 2015, more than 75 teaching spaces will have Apple TV available at the teaching station. The Service Center will also offer a laptop rental program beginning this fall.

In addition to these resources, students can also access computer lab software on their own computer anywhere on campus—even in their dorm rooms. We also provide virtual desktop apps using Furman servers. (i.e. SPSS and STATA statistics software). As part of the Multimedia Commons refresh this fall, ITS will be testing “thin client” stations and virtual desktop apps. These stations will provide quick access to the software students use most.

Sharp will continue to be Furman’s multimedia specialist for the next four years. Since May, 113 machines have been replaced on campus. This fall, students will be able to email attachments to the printer (email-to-print) and swipe their ID card to print their documents. The new system also provides a scan to email solution.

If you would like additional information, please see the 2015 ITS Annual Report located within the Information Technology Services website under Information Services Center at extension 3277.

The Class of 2019

The Office of Admission experienced another successful year with applications. According to Brad Ruchard, associate vice president for Enrollment Management and dean of Admission, applications for the 2015-16 academic year increased 10 percent from the year prior. This August, Furman will welcome 710 new students to campus.

With an average grade point average of 4.4 and SAT score of 1270, the Class of 2019 continues a tradition of excellence, both academic and extracurricular. A third of the group was National Honor Society members, and over a quarter was two-sport varsity athletes. Thirty students were student body presidents, and 39 students were editors of their school’s publication. Forty five of the group are a Junior Olympian, a Model U.N. member, a published photographer, an election poll manager, and a climber who made it to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro (email.to.print) and swipe their ID card to print their documents. The new system also provides a scan to email solution.

If you would like additional information, please see the 2015 ITS Annual Report located within the Information Technology Services website under Information Services Center at extension 3277.

The Class of 2019 represents 39 states and 19 countries, and a diverse set of students are South Carolina residents. Consistent with past years other home states popular with the incoming class were North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The state female ratio was 56 percent female and 44 percent male.
Chemistry and the canine detective

It is a member of the Chemistry Department faculty for 30 years, Laura Wright, Ph.D., has fielded her share of strange phone calls. But a call from Jason Nurmi of the nearby Parker Fire Department took her by surprise.

Nurmi, a fire marshal, wanted her help in training Jag, an arson dog.

He needed gasoline samples evaporated to 50 percent of their original volume, which covers most of the accelerants Jag will encounter in an intentionally set fire. Wright says specialized equipment and expertise are required to produce the training aid.

Nurmi was in the middle of 200 hours of training with Jag in a program led by Maine Specialty Dogs (Alfred, Maine) and sponsored by State Farm Insurance Company when he made the call to Professor Wright. Eager to assist in the cause, Wright agreed to help and tapped research student Nathan Rivers '16 to distill the gasoline.

Using a rotary evaporator, Rivers prepared the samples and dispersed them into vials for Nurmi. “Without the samples, I can’t train Jag properly,” says Nurmi, who will use droplets of the accelerant at dozens of training venues to keep Jag sharp.

Jag is cute and cuddly with his silky, jet black fur and big brown eyes. But he’s an arsonist’s worst nightmare. State Farm, the only insurance company in the United States with an arson dog program, reports that the average prosecution rate in suspicious fires is 12 percent when an arson dog is not part of an investigation. When an accelerant detection canine is present in the investigation, there’s up to a 50 percent prosecution rate.

And here’s why. In a fire, the evidence burns up, but within a matter of minutes on the scene, trained dogs can zero in on the presence of ignitable liquid, a task that can take humans days to do.

An accelerant detection canine’s specialized nose has a sense of smell that is much more acute than humans. Compared to our paltry 5 million olfactory receptors, dogs have up to 300 million.

In fact, some say dogs can pick up scents on a scale of parts per trillion. Put another way, dogs can identify the presence of a teaspoon of sugar dissolved in a million gallons of water, or the amount in two Olympic-size pools.

With trainer in tow, Jag recently visited campus to demonstrate his work. Nurmi planted scant amounts of the training aid concocted by Rivers at selected spots along a hallway outside the lab in Toomers Science Center. With Jag on leash, Nurmi quickly makes rounds up and down the hall calling out, “Seek, seek, seek. It’s Jag!” Body movements that reveal the location of the gas. He stops, lies down, places his nose on the target, then looks up at Nurmi. Naturally, Jag is rewarded with treats for his troubleshooting.

“It’s really cool to see how my actions in the lab can affect something in the outside community, and I can see it happen in real time,” says Rivers.

Nurmi, who never turns down an opportunity to train, says, “I think the chemists don’t realize the number of lives they touch and how they help the community. This training aid is used multiple times every day … arsonists are deterred when they hear about this dog … they know they will be found and they’ll move on.” Jag allows us to make better determinations about the causes of a fire—you can’t put a price on that.” Jag serves not only the Parker Fire Department but will work fires in all of Greenville County, Pickens, and Anderson counties, and wider areas if he’s called upon.

Dr. Wright and her research students are prepared to replenish the gasoline samples periodically to keep Jag on his toes. “We’re glad the public knows we are available,” she says. “This is what we do at Furman. We reach out to the community and solve problems when we can, when it makes sense.”

—Tina Underwood