This year marks the 50th anniversary of desegregation at Furman. A wide range of events is planned, including those to honor the first African American student to attend and graduate from the university: Joseph Allen Vaughn ’68 (pictured here). You can read about the yearlong commemoration on page 12 of this issue. You can also visit the website: furman.edu/50years.
Furman’s class of 2018 boasts more than high test scores and stellar GPAs (average of 1281 and 4.5, in case you were wondering). They’re creative, athletic, driven, and destined to make their mark around the Furman Lake and beyond.

- 1 International Gold Medalist cyclist
- 244 Captains of an athletic team
- 182 Two-sport varsity athletes
- 21 Eagle Scouts or Girl Scout Gold Award winners
- 11 Academic researchers
- 1 Lead designer of a robotics club
- 1 Holder of a private pilot’s license
- 43 Artists
- 1 Drum Corps International World Champion
- 119 Community service leaders
- 80 Religious group officers
- 265 National Honor Society members
- 27 Student body presidents
- 1 Certified SCUBA diver

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## Table of Contents

**Volume 57**

**Number 2**

**Features**

**The Mindful Builder**
By John Roberts

The first woman, the 12th president, a new era: Elizabeth Davis begins at Furman. *pg. 24*

---

**Around the Lake**
Headlines and highlights in Furman news, including a look at the new campus restaurant; the mind of Kristina Pardo ’14; our “On the Quad” fashion strip; and the dynamic duo behind the controversial app Yik Yak. *pg. 5*

**Then, Now, Next**
Reflections on what was important, is, and will be at Furman. *pgs. 7-12*

**The Comeback**
Returning to campus for the weekend? Here’s how to spend your time. *pg. 38*

**Q&A**
Marvin Hardy ’91. *pg. 16*

**From the Vault**
What you may not have known about Furman. *pg. 13*

**Shelf Life**
What books are inspiring physics professor Susan D’Amato ’77. *pg. 44*

**Dispatch**
In class with Classics professor Christopher Blackwell. *pg. 15*

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**Furman’s class of 2018 boasts more than high test scores and stellar GPAs (average of 1281 and 4.5, in case you were wondering). They’re creative, athletic, driven, and destined to make their mark around the Furman Lake and beyond.**

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| Certified SCUBA diver | 1 |
TOUGH ENOUGH?
By Martha Anne Tudor
New studies are showing that the next generation of thinkers, leaders, and difference-makers may not be learning how to persevere in the face of adversity. pg. 32

NOTES FROM THE FIELD
Bruce Fowler ‘81 on Paladin football; Doug Allison and George Quarles ‘89 on lessons from long careers in coaching; and the state of Furman pro sports. pg. 18

PERSPECTIVE
David Shi ’73 on the loneliness of the long-distance country. pg. 46

CLASS NOTES
Where you’ve been; where you’re going—with quotables from Ryan Boblett ’00, Josh Tutero ’08, Chuck Meisel ’84, and Karen Parks ’83. Plus, we get up close with Derek Snook ’08, Martha Wicks Mueller ’04, and Katy Winn ’09. pg. 48

STILL
Gil Allen and Terri Bright. pg. 74

FURMAN MAGAZINE
Furman magazine is published for alumni and friends of the University by the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina 29613. Correspondence may be directed to magazine@furman.edu.

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Photo by Cig Harvey
The Bell Tower
on graduation
day 2014.

Photo by Peter Frank Edwards
I'm sitting on the outdoor terrace of the Paddock restaurant—one of the many features that makes Furman's new pub-style restaurant the best thing to hit this campus since engaged learning and coed housing.

This afternoon, I’m eating the falafel salad. The combination of the crispy fried shell with the creamy falafel center is a refreshing addition to crumbled feta, tomatoes, red onions, and cucumber, all atop a bed of fresh greens seasoned with a Greek vinaigrette.

"Every week our chefs head back to the kitchen, and they’re like mad scientists in a lab, excited to come up with the next variety."

—SCOTT DORRIETY, senior food service director of Furman Food Services
“Oh, the milk shakes,” laughs Dorriety. “Those are a hit. We have a weekly shake, and we’re always trying something new. We had a Peeps® shake at Easter. We’ve also tried combos like a chocolate bacon shake, a glazed doughnut shake, and an orange dream Creamsicle® version. Every week our chefs head back to the kitchen, and they’re like mad scientists in a lab, excited to come up with the next variety.”

In addition to a full menu, which includes vegetarian and gluten-free options, appetizers, and “late night” snacks, the Paddock also offers a selection of beer and wine, many of the local variety. Anyone who orders an alcoholic beverage must show a valid ID, and only one drink per person at a time is permitted.

Though some may raise their eyebrows at the idea of a restaurant serving alcohol on Furman’s campus, Dorriety attests that this has not been an issue. “Furman students are responsible,” he says. “We’ve had no problems connected to alcohol.”

Says Vuksta, “We wanted to provide an environment for students and faculty to gather in an informal setting on campus, as well as a place for the community to experience the wonderful food and views of Furman.”

“It’s a great gathering place,” says Danner Washburn ’16. “I’ve had many conversations and discussions with friends and classmates over a meal at the Paddock. It serves as a nice getaway that’s still on campus.”

The Paddock has proven to be the perfect hangout. In fact, patrons can also enjoy weekly entertainment featuring singer/songwriters, jazz trios, and other student performers. Or, they can do as I am, and appreciate the scenery while enjoying a milk shake—banana Nutella®, of course.

— Lindsay Niedringhaus ’07

### A Paladin Favorite

**THE PALADIN MILK SHAKE**

- 2 oz. acai puree
- 2 oz. fresh blueberries
- 1 oz. agave nectar
- 1 cup vanilla ice cream
- 1/4 cup milk

Add all ingredients to your blender, set to medium-high for approximately 20 seconds to a minute, or until all ingredients are combined.

Lactose intolerant or vegan? Substitute dairy milk with soy or almond milk, as well as lactose free ice cream (Breyer’s makes a good version).

—Preston Agnew

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### THEN

Reflection on the Importance of Furman as It Was

I think we tend to focus on the positive, happy-go-lucky moments when we reflect, but it is probably those harder moments that actually meant the most. When I was a sophomore, I was accepted on the Scotland study abroad trip and was planning to intern with a museum or historical site. Then I found out my scholarships would not apply to my study abroad, and my parents could not afford the cost of the trip. I decided to stay on campus and I added secondary education to my list of studies.

I loved my student teaching. I had an amazing mentor, 150 seniors to teach, and more stories than I could possibly remember at the end of every day. But I realized during the fall term that I had been listening to everyone else. They told me I would be a good teacher, and thus that is what I should do. But I wanted to work in museums.

My memory is of a sunny, beautiful afternoon in the fall of my senior year when I was walking back to North Village from Hipp Hall after an education class had let out. I was passing Duke Library when I had a full-on panic attack. I couldn’t breathe, my vision went blurry, my heart was racing. I sat down and started to cry. I knew I was not cut out to be a high school history teacher. I knew I was putting my dreams on hold and listening to other people.

It was there, sitting on the steps of James B. Duke Library, that I did one of the bravest things I had done in my young life: I called my parents and told them I was not going to be a history teacher. I then marched back to Hipp Hall and withdrew from the ed class and the program.

To me college is about those contrary emotions. Furman was the place that allowed me to feel safe enough to go toward the unknown.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Elizabeth McSherry graduated from Furman in 2007, after which she completed her master’s degree in museum studies at The Johns Hopkins University. She now serves as director of programs and marketing for the Upcountry History Museum.
Kristina Pardo Earns a Graduate Research Fellowship

Furman mathematics professor Liz Bouzarth is aware of multiple people who have applied for a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, but she’s known exactly one to receive the prestigious award—Kristina Pardo ’14.

“She beat out some graduate students for this award. It’s very impressive.”

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program “recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees.” More than 14,000 applied for the 2014 competition, but only 2,000 were offered awards that come with a $32,000 annual stipend for three years as well as a $12,000 cost-of-education allowance and XSEDE supercomputer access.

Pardo, a double math and physics major, got the news on April 1 and initially didn’t believe her good fortune. “No!” the Fort Lauderdale native said when asked if she thought she had a chance to win. “I honestly applied thinking this is going to be good practice for me and I’ll try again next year because I’ll have a better chance. I wasn’t expecting anything … I really didn’t think it was real for a second. It was April Fool’s Day.”

Applicants’ hopes rest largely on their proposed research plan, which is something undergraduate students generally haven’t formulated. Pardo, however, spent last summer in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Summer Research Program studying black hole theory. She hopes to continue her studies as part of her PhD program in astrophysics at Princeton.

“I’ve never worked so hard on something,” said Pardo. “I never thought I could work so hard. It showed me that grad school is the right option for me and I am in the right field.”

That kind of focus is rare, Bouzarth says. “If you’re an undergraduate sitting in college thinking about graduate school it’s hard enough to pick a graduate school and decide what field to start studying, let alone pick a research project.”

Award Winner

More than 14,000 apply but only 2,000 are awarded fellowships from the National Science Foundation. Kristina Pardo ’14 was one of them.

Now

Reflection on the Importance of Furman as It Is Now

After graduating in May, I placed all the books I read at Furman on a shelf. The significance of these books could be located in the signs of their use: the bent spine of an anthology of film theory, the underlined passages in Plato’s Dialogues, the marginalia in one of Faulkner’s novels. To see these traces was to be reminded how these texts were central to what it meant to be at Furman. These were books that were lived with, books with coffee stains from studying them over breakfast, and with crumpled pages from tossing them into a backpack in the rush to class.

Though debated in classrooms, they gave shape to interactions outside them, informing everything from politics to career...
The Furman Scholars program coupled with a music scholarship lured Pardo to South Carolina, but she discovered she did not like music as much as she thought right around the time she found out math wasn’t so bad after all. “I liked math a lot when I was little, and I stopped liking it kind of around middle school because of really bad teachers,” Pardo said. “I was in Dr. (John) Harris’s 160 class, which is a class you need for your physics major, and I realized that I actually did like math. He was just so good and he’s such a nice person and he was so happy to teach this stuff.”

“I’ve known her since she came as a freshman, and she was special from the beginning,” Harris says. “She has always been the kind of student that you really like to have in class because she’s engaged in the classroom and outside of the classroom, too. She’s bright and she’s motivated and she’s interested in lots of different things.”

“I’m interested in cosmology, the history of the universe, but I don’t know what I’m going to end up doing,” she said. “I definitely want to do theoretical work, work with math and computers basically. Not too much actual practical stuff. I tend to break things.”

—Ron Wagner ’93

THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF YIK YAK

In The Republic, Plato argues that a utopian society emerges out of specialization: The producers create the goods, the warriors protect the society, and the rulers are the well-educated, thoughtful philosophers whose voices are heard above all others. But Brooks Buffington ’13 and Tyler Droll ’13 created Yik Yak, a new social media app, because they believe just the opposite.

“When we were at Furman, there were those few students on campus whose voices were always heard,” says Buffington. “They were the popular ones—usually athletes or students who were involved in a lot. They had the most followers on Facebook and Twitter, so their postings got the most views.”

“We wanted to create something that would allow an equal playing field for everyone,” explains Droll. “We realized the only way to do this was if the users were all anonymous. That’s the whole idea behind the app.”

With Yik Yak, users post up to 200 characters without signing in or creating any sort of profile or avatar. Their observations are viewable within a 1.5-mile radius of the reader, making the app function as a hyper-local “bulletin board.” But it has also been criticized for acting as a hyper-local gossip mill where anonymity fosters hostility.

At Boston College, Yik Yak was taken to task for racist comments posted by users. A student group at the college protested the app and drew national attention.

At another school, a student sent a bomb threat through the app.

These types of controversies are not exclusive to Yik Yak. With an increase in social media outlets, the possibilities for more unfiltered—and faceless—speech increase as well.

In many ways, social media is reframing old debates about human nature: Does anonymity allow for greater candor or greater incivility; does it produce more authenticity or more misinformation? And does the inventor bear responsibility for how the invention is used?

“Anonymity is good in that it provides protection, which hopefully fosters honesty in social discourse,” says Furman associate professor of philosophy Aaron Simmons. “Yet social repercussion is a valuable tool for promoting good social behavior, as it leads to moral self-transformation in line with community expectations. Anonymity might, then, work against the very discourse one is trying to encourage.”

According to Simmons, in a successful society, everyone—from the user to the inventor—shares responsibility for discourse and the media from which it emanates.

“With innovation, responsibility trickles down through a community,” he says. “In the effort to be a responsible citizen of a global community, I would hope that inventors often return to the technology to assess its usage and continually improve it for its users.”

With Yik Yak, Buffington and Droll have never stopped trying to improve it. Since its launch in January, the two have blocked the use of Yik Yak on high school and middle school grounds through geo-fencing techniques.

And now users may “upvote” or “downvote” posts to mark approval or disapproval. When a post has many more downvotes than upvotes, it is automatically removed.
On the Quad

A glimpse at Furman fashion
—WILLIAM CROOKS ’14

Fall signals the beginning of a new semester at Furman, and with it comes a newfound sense of curiosity and vital questions in need of answering. Why is it so hot? What is a Moodle? What should I wear to class today? Although students may well be struggling with the first two questions, they seem to have the last one figured out.
When the late summer heat makes layering impossible, prints can be your style savior. They inject visual interest into the most basic summertime looks.

If prints aren’t your thing, then nailing the details of your look with well-chosen accessories can be your best bet.
A MILESTONE MATRICULATION

During the 2014–2015 academic year, Furman University will commemorate a milestone in its history: the admission of the first African American student and, therefore, the establishment of desegregation at a school that was founded, by its own 1826 charter, as an “academy-seminary” for young white men to train for the ministry.

Desegregation at Furman was a microcosm of its time—a controversial and embattled departure that ultimately was the result of many pioneers, though none more trailblazing than Joseph Allen Vaughn ’68, who embodied the historical moment when he stepped onto Furman’s campus as its first black student in February of 1965.

Vaughn—who was chosen by Francis Bonner (then Furman’s vice president and dean) and Sapp Funderburk ’39 (a Greenville businessman) to attend Furman from Sterling High School in Greenville—had been president of his senior class, a member of the school’s honor society, and a Baptist. He distinguished himself at Furman as an English major and minor; a member of the Baptist Student Union and the Collegiate Educational Service Corps, for which he helped develop a support program for high school dropouts; and a cheerleader.

He also belonged to the Furman chapter of the South Carolina Student Organizing Committee, a politically active group that demonstrated for civil rights at a time when such convictions incited dangerous reactions. After Furman, Vaughn went on to become a beloved teacher in Greenville County. He served as president of the South Carolina Education Association and participated in a gubernatorial task force on educational improvement. He died in 1991.

Plans are under way to pay tribute to Vaughn’s legacy and to explore the larger, and still relevant, implications it represents. Events this fall and next spring include keynote speeches by thought leaders on race in America; a black alumni reunion gathering at Homecoming; a fundraising gala for the Joseph Vaughn Scholarship; and the commission of an original music piece, photographic exhibit, website, and booklet. Furman also awarded honorary doctorates to Lillian Brock Flemming ’71 and Sarah Reece ’71, two of the first African-American women to graduate from the University. Learn more about the year by visiting: furman.edu/50years.

NEXT

Reflection on the Importance of Furman Going Forward

Fifty-eight years ago, my Furman education began. In the ensuing years, of course, many things have changed. Some have even remained the same. But what I’ve realized, from the vantage of having become a Furman professor, is that there is one thing that should never change: the innate love for learning that permeates a Furman education.

I realize that the notion of love of learning can be a trite and corny concept to use, but it is such a compelling and powerful concept that I use it in spite of the danger of not being taken seriously. I’m talking about a love driven not by the flow of hormones but the firing of synapses, by the encoding of understanding in memory molecules.

It may surprise people to know that those of us who spend our lives at Furman have a deep and abiding love for those who “pass through” in four short years. We often disguise this feeling so well that we ourselves fail to recognize it.

But one understanding of this love is that as parental love ensures the survival of its DNA by the care and nurturing of its offspring, we professors at Furman are also investing in the future DNA of our collective intellectual gene pool by nurturing our students.

We care deeply about those who will do the things we have not done. We aim to inspire all those who will take the treasures that a love of learning unearths to the marketplace, the classroom, the stage, the laboratory, the legislature, the pulpit, the battlefield, the hospital, the mountain trail, the city slum—anywhere those ideas and insights and passions will enrich life in a way that transcends physical and biological constraints.

Civilization began when this intellectual gene investment took hold as a driving force in society. The future of Furman—the future of everything an education touches beyond Furman—resides in the creative elaboration of this type of love.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Tony Arrington graduated from Furman in 1960 with a major in chemistry; he received his PhD from Harvard in 1964. Following postdoctoral study, Arrington returned to Furman as a faculty member in the chemistry department. He has conducted research at the University of British Columbia, the University of Utah, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Oak Ridge. He also served as chair of the department for six years.

Illustration by Jack Dylan
A BRIDGE TO THE WHITE HOUSE

In late June, Furman University’s Bridges to a Brighter Future was one of 20 programs nationwide invited to participate in the National Summer Learning Day Fair at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. First Lady Michelle Obama, as part of her Reach Higher initiative, was at the fair to tour student demonstrations and deliver remarks.

Tobi Kinsell, director of Bridges to a Brighter Future, accompanied three of the program’s students to Washington—Christian Monsolve, a Mauldin High School graduate who will attend Clemson University; Daniel Arnold, a Wade Hampton High graduate who will attend Erskine College; and Nevonne Burrell, a rising senior at Hillcrest High School. Each presented work they had completed through the program.

Bridges is a college access and pre-college enrichment program for Greenville County high school students whose potential outdistances their circumstances. It engages students in a seven-year program that is year-round and begins after ninth grade and ends at college graduation.

As part of the program, students attend a four-week residential program on the Furman campus for three consecutive summers beginning in ninth grade. A college transition and retention program, “Crossing the Bridge,” helps students enroll in college, stay in college, and graduate.

Since Bridges began in 1997, 100 percent of the students have graduated from high school and 95 percent have enrolled in postsecondary education or the military. The program has been recognized in a 2012 national independent study, “A Blueprint for Success: Case Studies of Successful Pre-College Outreach Programs.” Bridges also received the 2009 Excellence in Summer Learning Award from the National Center for Summer Learning.

FROM THE VAULT

A Duel
What you may not have known, remembered, or thought possible at Furman

A duel between two students resulted in the first expulsions from Furman. The incident was described in a September 3, 1860, letter from President James C. Furman to his wife. The sound of pistols that followed the morning bell brought Furman to the veranda to find two students being restrained by classmates, one with a bullet in his shoulder. At a party the night before, the wounded student, John C. Davanel, had insulted his classmate, the son of Colonel Scafie of Unionville, South Carolina. Davanel had refused to apologize, which resulted in the early morning duel. In his letter, Furman notes that dueling had been banned at the school only six years before, in 1854. The university promptly sent both parties home.
THE FINN IS IN

Alexander Stubb ’93 became his country’s prime minister in June. A member of the country’s ruling conservative party, Stubb won his party’s leadership and will oversee the nation’s five-party coalition. He succeeds Jyrki Katainen, who stepped down to pursue one of the European Union’s top jobs.

Stubb was minister for foreign affairs of Finland from 2008 to 2011 and a member of the European parliament from 2004 to 2008. He is often described as a fiscal conservative but social liberal, and has advocated for Finland to become a part of NATO, a controversial stance given Russia’s opposition toward any Scandinavian country aligning itself with NATO (Finland shares a nearly 800-mile border with the country).

Arriving at Furman on a golf scholarship, Stubb left with a degree in political science and was awarded the Bradshaw-Feaster Medal for General Excellence as the top male graduate in the class.

In addition to earning a PhD in international politics from the London School of Economics, he has a master’s degree in political science from the College of Europe, Bruges, and a diploma on French language and society from the Sorbonne in Paris.

He has also earned a reputation as a sportsman who enjoys competing in triathlons.

“Furman was a game-changer in my life. I came in with a small golf scholarship and came out an enthusiastic political scientist.”

— ALEXANDER STUBB ’93

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Alexander Stubb ’93, Finland’s new leader

Lavery, who brought me to Furman; to Professor Brent Nelsen for introducing me to the European Union; and to Professor Ty Tessitore for planting a seed of philosophy in my brain.

“I always speak warmly of Furman, and always with a heavy Southern accent. I owe a lot to Furman for what I am today.”

STAT

There are 187,888 lakes and 179,584 islands within the territory of Finland. Both are world records.
Grecian Formula

Dead language, dead subject? Don’t tell the 37 students assembled for Christopher Blackwell. The first in our series where we “embed” in the classrooms at Furman.

BY BRENDAN TAPLEY

He points out Gallipoli. He points out Macedonia and the Balkans. He points out the Black Sea and a fishlike promontory jutting into it. “You know what that is?” he smiles. “Russia,” offers one student. “Are you a Putin booster?” he teases. “Depending on your sympathies, it could be Russia. It’s the Crimean Peninsula.”

“He” is professor Christopher Blackwell and on this crystalline August day, the first of the new academic year, he is teaching a field that some deride as pointless: Classics. In particular, a class on Greek Civilization.

“I want to be clear,” Blackwell says to the students, none of whom is covertly texting or tweeting. “This course is not about ancient history; what we’re talking about is ancient civilization.” By this, Blackwell means that which ultimately comes of history—and what ultimately determines our shared now.

As he is hopscotching around his map, denoting the Ukraine and Istanbul and Alexandria, he makes a sobering point, “You’ll notice that history tends to happen over and over again in the same places.”

All these places, he goes on, were once “Hellas,” which was not merely Greece but the idea of Greece—like the idea of America—and throughout time they have continued to reassert themselves as places of war, places of religion, places that pivot on the greed, pride, ego, beauty, and grace that make up the crucible of human nature.

Even if you know nothing about Greek civilization, or care not at all for it, consider the concept of culture. Not just culture as we know it in terms of a nationality or a people, but culture that is even less abstract: the culture, for example, of your workplace. Or the culture of your family. The origins of cultures and how they come to be cultures shape all their descendant versions.

In other words, that underlyng force you’re struggling with at the office? That immovable tension in your family? That is culture, and it started somewhere.

Widen the aperture now and it becomes clear that Greek civilization is more than just the origin of Western culture. What we are dealing with now—church, state, inequality, plagues, political upheavings—is, in effect, what we have always dealt with. What Greek civilization dealt with first; what it set in motion.

Looking at this way, it’s arguable that there may be no more important course happening this fall on the Furman campus than Christopher Blackwell’s Greek Civilization. Because if we can unlock, much less unpack, the dilemmas of Classical culture, there is a better than middling shot that we could understand, even resolve, the dilemmas that vex our civilization today.

“In this class,” says Blackwell, “we are going to take on classical Athenian democracy. We here in America talk about democracy all the time. We use it as a concept, even a rallying cry. Which isn’t to say I would want to live under Athenian democracy—that I even love it. Which isn’t to say the idea of ‘Hellas’ was universally the same. In Sparta, for example, the women exercised nude with the men, but in Athens, society was only slightly less liberal than the Taliban. But in analyzing how the business of how Greek politics worked, how the concept of democracy works, my hope is that we in this class will collectively make contributions to the amount of knowledge in this world.”

This world.

That’s the power of Herodotus, Thucydides, and Aristotle—the very dead and yet very-much-alive voices these 37 young men and women will be studying this semester.

That’s the power of the map Blackwell is pointing to, where the civilizations may have changed but where the concepts are still at play nearly 2,500 years later.

And that’s the point of all the hours they’ll be spending together in Furman Hall 128: to think like a Greek in order to think through the America they’re about to inherit.
What prompted your founding of Grace Medical Home?
MH: It was the simple idea that people who are created in the image of God were not getting the same quality of health care as those who had insurance. A quarter of our county is uninsured here in Orlando. These people are going to the ER for their care or taking their mother’s medicine.

Grace serves people who earn less than 200 percent of the poverty line, which, for a family of four is $47,700.
MH: Most of the people we see are below the poverty line. And in our state, it’s hard to get Medicaid unless you’re a kid or pregnant. When moms come in with their kids, they have the same interests as a mom would who has insurance. Many have given up. They’re tired of fighting the system. What we tell people is we’re all poor in some way; theirs is just financial.

Are the afflictions you’re dealing with the same or different from families with normal health care?
MH: We do see poverty-specific illnesses: the lack of nutrition, lack of education they’ve received, the prevalence of diabetes, high cholesterol. It’s so different from my other practice, where I would ask folks what they did this summer, and they would talk about their trips and camps. When I ask a kid or teenager here at Grace, they kinda look at me like, what do you think I did? I stayed home. We’re trying to jump into these people’s lives and break this cycle of poverty, health, poor nutrition. There’s such a misperception: When we explain to folks things about their diet, they’ve never heard that and they’re very willing to change. But poverty affects a lot of things. If you tell someone to eat nutritiously, a fresh apple is more expensive than a dollar burger at Wendy’s®, so what do you think they’re going to go for? They’re mostly thinking about surviving.

Why is the health care system a system of inequality?
MH: It used to be there was a doctor-patient relationship and now you have employers involved and insurance companies are involved. Not everybody has a job; not everybody has a job that provides insurance. At our place, we’re trying to get rid of all that, create zero barriers.

Are there lessons about health care for the impoverished that could be applied to healthcare for anyone?
MH: Well, we thought from the beginning that this was a community problem that required a community effort. So, getting as many people involved as possible was key. That could help our health care system. We’ve migrated from that to more of a business.

Grace is less business-oriented.
MH: We track value. And we have great stats on how we’ve cut down hospital visits, trips to the ER, how we’ve helped our diabetic patients. That saves our community, saves
Q&A

Do you worry that those who may not believe in Jesus Christ or in God at all would feel alienated at Grace?

MH: Not by how we run things and we watch that very closely. About 50 percent of our patients write down that they don’t go to any church. We’re open to anyone who comes. Nobody should feel alienated or I want to know about it. We don’t force anything on anyone; Jesus never did that. We have Muslim doctors, we have Jewish doctors, we have agnostic nurses. Something draws them here.

But sometimes religion is used to deny medical services for people, with things like contraception, euthanasia, abortion; or because of opinions around sexual orientation?

MH: I don’t have an opinion on that other than I don’t agree with it. We don’t force anything on anyone; Jesus never did that. We have Muslim doctors, we have Jewish doctors, we have agnostic nurses. Something draws them here.

That should be your motto.

MH: We’ve prayed about this, to try to stay apolitical. We stay focused on what’s best for the patient.

Do you think a person can live a principled life without religion?

MH: I’m sure. I think so. You know, I love to think about things and contemplate, but I’m more someone who sees a problem and wants to fix it.

At the Furman Alumni Awards dinner, your classmate Jonathan Rogers called you Furman’s best-kept secret and mentioned that at an intramural track meet you outsprinted a Furman wide receiver? Which is the truer story?

MH: [Laughs] I don’t know. I think Furman is the best-kept secret.

When you were a student, you heard the words of World Vision founder Bob Pierce: “Let my heart be broken with the things that break the heart of God.” How do we stay attuned to what breaks our hearts?

MH: I would encourage anyone to listen to where your heart is being tugged, where your stomach feels upset. Where you say, ‘That’s not right; that’s gotta be changed.’ Listen to that.

What still breaks your heart?

MH: I think I’m right where it breaks my heart.

IN THEORY AND IN PRACTICE

Marvin Hardy chats with colleagues at Grace Medical Home, his clinic for those who can’t afford health care.
Notes from the FIELD

Perseverance Furthers

In the hype-driven world of college sports, Bruce Fowler ’81 relies on a quieter philosophy to produce attention-getting results.

BY VINCEN MOORE
PHOTOS BY JEREMY FLEMING
Coach Fowler celebrates in purple style.

There was nothing about the start of the 2013 Furman football season that would have lifted the hopes of anybody but the most optimistic and delusional Paladin fans.

The team started 0-2 with losses to Gardner-Webb and Coastal Carolina, and it would have been 0-3 if the Paladins hadn’t blocked a potential game-winning field goal at home against Presbyterian College in the game’s waning seconds. Halfway through the season, Furman stood 2-4 with the toughest part of the Southern Conference schedule still to come.

The Paladins had experienced only four losing seasons in the past 33 years, but two of those had occurred since 2010, and there seemed to be a very good chance that another lost season was on the docket.

But then things changed.

The Paladins won five of their next six games—a 48-16 loss to SEC power Louisiana State being the only blemish—which included victories over league rivals Appalachian State, Georgia Southern, and Wofford. Furman would ultimately win the conference championship, its first since 2004, and qualify for the FCS playoffs. The Paladins beat South Carolina State, 30-20, in the first round before falling to eventual national champion North Dakota State, 38-7, one week later.

So, how does a team that was fortunate to beat Presbyterian at home in September go to LSU six weeks later and trail by only four at halftime?

Furman head coach Bruce Fowler would like to tell you that the team’s fortunes were reversed by a single season-altering play or an inspiring halftime speech, but there wasn’t anything that dramatic. The second half of the season was simply a culmination of everything Fowler
“THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS...YOU WORK HARD EVERY DAY, YOU PAY ATTENTION TO DETAIL, AND YOU DO YOUR BEST AT ALL TIMES, BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD. THAT’S THE TRADITION OF FURMAN FOOTBALL.” — COACH FOWLER

had been teaching since he took over the program in 2011. “There are no shortcuts,” Fowler says. “You work hard every day, you pay attention to detail, and you do your best at all times in all areas, both on and off the field. That’s the tradition of Furman football. It was gratifying to see the players keep working in that direction and stay with the plan.”

Of course, that is exactly what Fowler was hired to do. Not to provide a quick fix or merely win a few more football games, but to revive a storied football tradition known for producing champions both on the field and in the classroom. Furman has not only been the conference’s most winning football program over the past three decades, it also has an NCAA Division I graduation success rate that routinely ranks among the top-10 schools in the nation and rivals that of the Ivy League universities. Fowler says it’s important to understand the program doesn’t prosper despite the academic rigor of the university, but rather because of it. Prospective football players and their parents are drawn to Furman’s strong
academic reputation and the football program’s outstanding graduation rate. “We have a rare combination of athletics and academics that attracts high-achieving student-athletes who want to be challenged to be the very best,” says Fowler, who spent nine seasons as defensive coordinator and assistant head coach at Vanderbilt University before returning to Furman. “They know they’ll receive a tremendous education, they’ll have a solid opportunity to win championships on the field, and they’ll have an opportunity to make an impact in the community. They will be prepared for life after graduation, and that is the main objective of their college experience.”

Fowler is certainly familiar with the Furman football tradition. A 1981 Furman graduate, he played defensive back on the Paladins’ first conference championship team in 1978, and he spent 16 years as an assistant coach for Furman teams that produced eight league championships, made nine playoff appearances, and won the 1988 Division I-AA national championship. He says there is no reason Furman can’t be that dominant again, especially since the last few recruiting classes have been strong and the Paladins’ new home, the 44,000-square-foot Pearce-Horton Football Complex, is the “best facility in FCS football.”

“It’s very up-to-date technologically, and it provides a perfect setup for teaching and coaching. It has had a huge impact on the morale of the coaches and players, and it’s given us a boost in recruiting.”

For 2014, the team returns a majority of the starters from last year’s conference champions, and Fowler fully expects some of the younger players to become valuable contributors. Furman will be one of the favorites to win the Southern Conference, which will have a new look as Elon, Appalachian State, and Georgia Southern depart the league, and East Tennessee, Mercer, and VMI come onboard.

“I’ve seen many different teams come and go,” Fowler says. “But the league is always one of the toughest in the country.”

As for making specific predictions about this season, Fowler will take the head coach’s often used oath of silence. What good would it do after all? The experts picked the Paladins to finish fifth in the conference last season, and that was a bit off the mark.

“I am optimistic. I always am coming into the season,” Fowler says. “But our success will be based on the kind of work we do on a daily basis leading up to and throughout the season. It will be about more than just what happens on the field on Saturdays. As long as we worry more about process and less about outcome, then we’ll be successful.”

PREPARED
A tremendous education, a competitive chance to win championships, and an opportunity to make an impact in the community—that is the Paladin athletic experience.
From the beautiful game to the beautiful powerlift, Furman athletes are going pro and breaking records at an impressive pace. This summer, of course, saw former Furman star Clint Dempsey ’03, whom Sports Illustrated called “The Talisman,” lead the U.S. men in the World Cup in Brazil. Earlier, in April at the NFL draft, Dakota Dozier ’13 became the 137th pick by the New York Jets. No word yet on how the Jets will position Dozier—whose draft scouting report praised his ability to “play with vinegar”—but many believe he will switch from the offensive tackle position he played at Furman to guard. And Andrew “Tank” Phillips ’14 (a teammate of Dozier’s) made headlines himself last February when he competed in the 300-pound division of the World Powerlifting Federation All Raw Tournament of Champions. Phillips broke the record of the deadlift in the Junior Division by heaving 605 pounds on his second attempt.

**FOOTBALL**

Philip Kreidler ’87, Scout, Pittsburgh Steelers (NFL)
1. Jerome Felton ’08, FB, Minnesota Vikings (NFL)
Ryan Steed ’12, CB, Calgary Stampeders (CFL)
Jerodis Williams ’13, RB, Denver Broncos (NFL)
Colin Anderson ’13, TE, New York Jets (NFL)

**BASEBALL**

Jay Jackson ’08, RHP, Indianapolis Indians (International, AAA)
Pittsburgh Pirates
Nate Smith ’13, LHP, Arkansas Travelers (Texas, AA)

**MEN’S GOLF**

Betsy King ’77, LPGA Tour (Hall of Fame)
3. Beth Daniel ’78, LPGA Tour (Hall of Fame)
Dottie Pepper ’87, LPGA Tour (NBC Sports)
Ashli Bunch ’97, Futures Tour
Laura Wearn ’13, Futures Tour

**WOMEN’S GOLF**

Jacques de Gruy ’14, Philadelphia Phillies

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

Stanislav Makshantsev ’00, F, BC Novosibirsk (Russia SuperLeague)
Karim Souchu ’03, F, Union Poitiers (France-ProB)
3. Maleye N'Doye ’04, F, Paris-Levallois (France-ProA)
Marjan Pajatina ’04, F, Rudes (Croata-A2)
Robby Boytain ’07, G, Irveni Nes-Ziona

**MEN’S SOCCER**

Ricardo Clark ’02, MF, Houston Dynamo (MLS)
4. Clint Dempsey ’03, MF/Forward, Seattle Sounders FC (MLS)
Jon Leathers ’08, D, Charlotte Eagles (USL)
7. See Salinas ’08, MF, San Jose Earthquakes (MLS)
Alec Kann ’11, GK, Chicago Fire (MLS), on loan to Charlotte Eagles (USL)
Walker Zimmerman ’13, D, FC Dallas (MLS)

**Notes from the Field**
Notes from the Field

LIFE COACHING

We asked Furman soccer coach Doug Allison and Furman alum George Quarles ’89, the winningest high school football coach of the last 10 years (he resides in Maryville, Tennessee), which lessons work in life as well as in coaching.

Coach Quarles

1. Relationships: “It’s always about relationships. It has to be. That and trust. In sports, I try to ask players what they think about a certain play, or game plan, or our off-season conditioning program. If you want to build a relationship based on trust, ask what other people think about an issue you’re facing.”

2. Servant Leadership: “It’s not about what you can do to help me. It’s about what I can do to help you. If you’re the boss, try to be as helpful as possible to the people beneath you.”

3. Talent: “Sometimes a parent thinks they know what position their son or daughter should play, but figuring out the talents of people—in sports or at work or anywhere—is how you make a team work. You may have someone who believes they are something they may not be. That may mean some hard decisions, but often those can make the difference. We had a student who we tried at quarterback who was just not a quarterback. As soon as he became a wide receiver, he and the team thrived. I’d also say be willing to experiment and try people out in places, then be willing to change if need be.”

Coach Allison

1. Have the ability to adjust.

2. Surround yourself with good people that care and don’t keep a personal score.

3. Let someone hold your ladder; in other words, it’s okay to ask for help.

4. Be yourself and tell the people you love that you love them.

5. Anything worthwhile requires effort.

Photo by Peter Frank Edwards
THE MINDFUL BUILDER

In a society that often appears to prefer outsized egos and undersized results, Elizabeth Davis embodies the opposite. She became Furman’s 12th president in July.

By John Roberts
During a time when many private colleges and universities continue to struggle in a recovering American economy, Baylor is thriving. Applications, department budgets, and salaries are all on the upswing. The university recently launched a College of Health and Human Sciences, and a gleaming new $250 million football stadium has risen along the banks of the Brazos River.

There is an air of optimism, drive, and cheerfulness across the windswept 1,000-acre campus that is still basking in the glow of Robert Griffin III’s Heisman Trophy. Faculty and staff say morale has never been higher. Ask them about the Baptist-affiliated university’s mission, identity, and goals and—to a person—you receive the same answer: Life is good at Baylor.

The mood is a sea change from the internal bickering and controversies that gripped the university community and alumni just five years ago. There were fights over Baylor’s religious identity, faculty tenure, financial debt, and direction. Even the school’s logo was a point of contention. One president resigned and another was fired. Like a fast-moving storm rolling across the Texas plains, however, those dark days are a distant memory. And a lion’s share of the credit, say faculty, staff, and alumni, belongs to Elizabeth Boozer Davis.

Davis, who took over as Furman’s 12th president on July 1, graduated from Baylor in 1984 and joined the university’s faculty in 1992 after receiving a PhD from Duke University. She assumed administrative duties as associate dean for undergraduate business programs in 2003 at a low point in Baylor history.

Stories about Patrick Dennehy, a basketball player who had been murdered by a former teammate, were making national headlines. The scandal led to the resignation of Baylor’s athletic director and head basketball coach.

On the academic front, an adopted strategic plan, *Baylor 2012*, had cut deep divisions in the university community with some alumni calling on then-president Robert Sloan to step down. During the next seven years, a cascade of controversies would follow. But through the calamity and musical chairs rotation of top leaders, Davis observed and took notes. Through the shortcomings—and successes—of others she came to understand the importance of listening, and honed a leadership style that is both self-deprecating and directive.

When newly appointed Baylor President Ken Starr promoted Davis to the university’s number two position (executive vice president and provost) in 2010, she was ready to help lead her alma mater in a direction that would unite the university and alumni behind a shared vision of what Baylor is and what it is striving to be.

“All of that stuff is like a bad dream now,” says Stephen Heyde, a longtime music professor at Baylor. “There was so much stress and fear on campus. Elizabeth has alleviated that with transparency. She is an extraordinary leader, a person who engenders trust.”
A natural teacher and problem-solver

The older of two children, Davis grew up in New Orleans where she attended an all-girls public high school. Her father was a practicing dentist and a professor at Louisiana State University’s School of Dentistry; her mother, a homemaker.

When it came time to choose a college, Davis gravitated toward Baylor, a Baptist-affiliated institution located in Waco, Texas, that she had learned about through family friends at church.

The campus Davis roamed was about 400 acres, roughly half the size of the university today. In the 1980s about half of the students identified themselves as Baptist, and 10 percent of the 10,000-member student body was represented by minorities. Tuition was approximately $1,500 per semester.

Delton Chesser, now a retired accounting professor, met Davis on the second day of class in the fall of 1983 and was drawn to her “warm and engaging smile.”

“As the semester progressed, I found out an incredible brain was behind that smile. Elizabeth and EJ Bird—another exceptionally bright student—made the highest grades on every test. Their remarkably high grades led to my coining the Boozer-Bird Phenomenon.”

Even before Davis, who played trombone in the Baylor marching band, was appointed acting chair of the accounting department (about 13 years later), Chesser recognized her extraordinary potential. Davis was focused, had a quick mind, and a knack for boiling down and explaining difficult concepts. She was well-liked, unassuming, and moved easily among all faculty circles.

“I urged her to consider going into administration,” he says. “I remember commenting ‘Someday you might...
SHE IS AN EXTREMELY HARD WORKER, ALWAYS WILLING TO TAKE ON SIGNIFICANT NEW TASKS.

—TIFFANY HOUGE, DAVIS’S FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF

Even be a university president.’ Her response was modest. ‘Ah, I don’t know. I better just stick to teaching accounting.’”

After graduating from Baylor (cum laude) and passing the CPA examination, Davis moved back to New Orleans where she joined Arthur Anderson & Co., then a Big Eight accounting firm, as an auditor. Davis found she delighted in becoming immersed in processes and complex financial issues. She took great joy in asking questions, figuring out how all the parts fit together, and developing a solution for the client. Even more satisfying, though, was the role she relished as teacher and manager.

“One of the things I realized was that many of the staff did not understand why they were doing the things they were doing. I had more fun teaching them how to put it all together than anything else,” she says.

Davis decided to earn a PhD and return to teaching. During her graduate studies at Duke University, she met Charles Davis during a seminar on decision theory. A native of Farmville, North Carolina, Charles had graduated from the College of William and Mary, earned an MBA from the University of Richmond, and was working toward his PhD at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill when he met his future bride.

The couple dated for a year before they were married in 1989. The Davises have two children: Chad, 21, a student at Wake Forest; and Claire, 17, a student at Christ Church Episcopal School.

Charles joined the Baylor faculty in the fall of 1991; Elizabeth in January, 1992. Like many Baptist universities at the time, Baylor wassmarting from struggles with the state’s Baptist Convention. While church–university strains resulted in severed ties at Wake Forest (1986) and Furman (1992), Baylor found middle ground that allowed the Baptist General Convention of Texas to appoint 25 percent of the university’s regents.

Many conservative evangelicals and alumni felt the move would lead the university down the path to secularization. But the opposite happened when in 1995 Robert Sloan, a Baptist minister, was named president and reaffirmed the school’s religious roots. Moderates and some Baylor faculty were critical. Sloan stoked even more controversy in late 1995 when Baylor 2012 was unveiled.

The strategic plan aimed to transform Baylor, then a primarily undergraduate university with an enrollment of 12,000, into a top-notch research institution with highly ranked graduate programs. Faculty candidates with terminal degrees who published would be favored over others lacking prominent academic credentials. On Christianity, Baylor would buck the trend. The university would embrace its faith as distinctive and strive to become a world-class Christian university—a Notre Dame of sorts for Protestants.

Tuition, university spending, and debt rose after the plan was approved. So did the number of critics. Older faculty, who had focused on teaching instead of publishing, felt alienated by the research expectations for new faculty. Battles broke out over tenure. Alumni berated the administration for changing the character and mission of Baylor. Passionate and heated arguments grew on campus.

“There was a lot of bickering,” says Heyde. “Lies were spread from both sides. There were negative stories in the paper. We lost a lot of things during the time, including any sense of unity.”

The Baylor faculty senate approved two “no confidence” votes on Sloan and he resigned in 2005. The next president, John Lilley—who presided over the Dennehy scandal and failed to heal the rifts in the Baylor community—was forced out of office after three years.

“All photos, except family photo by Jeremy Green
to resist the practice of embarking on a national search.” Starr’s appointment lifted the campus community.

“When she was named, it was an incredible morale boost for everyone on campus because Elizabeth was so respected,” says Hogue. “Because she rose through the ranks of the faculty and had been here through the hard times, I think she had a good sense of what we needed to turn the ship around. For the university, I think, she was the center of a healing process.”

“There existed a comfort level when she was named executive vice president,” agrees Tom Hibbs, dean of Baylor’s Honors College. “People knew and trusted her.”

Davis and Starr were the elixir Baylor needed. Both were optimistic, disarming, and approachable. They, too, shared religious convictions that were in harmony with many in the Baylor community.

Starr won back disenchanted alumni and donors with his personal warmth, boundless energy, and engaging personality. While Starr was on the road, Davis built trust on campus with quiet competency and transparency.

As both settled into their roles, the campus mood lightened and the university began to realize the benefits of Baylor 2012. More top-flight faculty began calling the university home. Graduate programs flourished and student interest in Baylor grew. Undergraduate applications rose from 15,485 in 2005 to 29,249 last fall.

With the sun setting on the last strategic plan, Starr and Davis quickly set their sights on a new one. And Davis, who witnessed the shortfalls of Baylor 2012, was determined to get the next one right.

“The process for developing it (Baylor 2012) was less inclusive,” says Davis. “There are times when you need bottom up and there are times when you need top down. If you are going to change a university, it is going to have to be from the top down. But you can have top down without creating rancor.”

Starr and Davis wanted to unite faculty, staff, and alumni with a shared vision. From Los Angeles to New York, Baylor officials made 16 trips to hear alumni out. A website was developed to collect input online. On campus, all academic and administrative departments submitted a document in response to a call for feedback. Everyone who wanted a voice was heard.
“John Barry (Baylor's senior vice president for marketing and communications) and I locked arms,” says Davis. “We knew that every step of the way we had to have very clear communication. And once we set a timeline we had to stick to it.”

In 2012, the university unveiled Pro Futuris: A Strategic Vision for Baylor University. The document, which will guide the university through the next decade, calls for Baylor to grow in five aspirational areas: transformational education, compelling scholarship, informed engagement, committed constituents, and judicious stewardship.

Pro Futuris did not have a single author. It was a collective project, thoroughly vetted and endorsed unilaterally. “After it was released, I don’t remember getting a single nasty-gram,” says Barry. “That is really remarkable.”

While many had a hand in crafting Pro Futuris, staff and faculty say it was largely Davis’s project. It was her clarion achievement. Says Davis, “When people ask me what has been the most important achievement in my career, Pro Futuris is it. It shapes the future of the university, and it has a lot of clarity for people on campus.”

After 22 years at Baylor, Davis “gave herself permission” to explore leadership opportunities outside of Waco. “I’ve had people suggest to me that I should be a candidate for the Furman presidency, I took a look and liked what I saw. I continue to like what I see.”

What kind of leader will Davis be? Those who know her best say Davis is intensely driven but disarming and funny. She asks a lot questions and sets action items and deadlines after most meetings. She has a skill for saying no in a disarming way. Davis performs well in the limelight but does not seek it. She listens well, communicates clearly, and thinks broadly.

Davis, who puts her role as a mom and wife before all others, is known for sending handwritten notes and is unflagging in her faith, having served as deacon at her church in Waco and tweeting “May God continue to bless Baylor” on her last day there.

Moreover, they say, Davis gets the big picture. She thinks strategically and understands the challenges that higher-cost, higher-attention universities face during an environment when students and families are anxious about rising tuition and debt.

Throughout the summer, President Davis met with alumni, faculty, on-campus groups, and students. She has listened and, as part of that, fended off commenting specifically on changes she’ll push. From her time at Baylor, Davis knows clear communication, transparent leadership, and shared goals and identity can pave the way for future successes. Furman trustee Robert Hill ’82, who chaired the university’s president search committee and spent ample time with Davis and her family, says, “She will certainly look at opportunities and do some things differently.”

Former Interim President Carl Kohrt ’65 expects Davis to be thoughtful about rising tuition costs and to look for different ways to tell the Furman story. “For someone who is data-driven, she has a good sense of what it takes to sell,” he says. “She has in her mind that we are underselling ourselves. She’s going to be in a sale mode.”

Kohrt has come to realize what Davis’s colleagues have long known: Behind Davis’s calm demeanor and analytical mind is a restless desire to excel and innovate, to propel people and processes to reach their potential. And that she won’t be afraid to shake up the status quo.

“The faster the world and our economy changes, skill sets become obsolete,” Davis says. “A liberal arts education can help you to reason through ambiguous situations and adapt to new circumstances. It keeps you from viewing the world in a narrow way. It’s all the more relevant today.”

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**Pop Quiz**

We asked President Davis a few (more offbeat) questions to understand what moves and motivates her.

**Q:** When you were a student, was there an unexpected course you loved?
**A:** Geology—I found different rock formations and the reasons for those formations fascinating.

**Q:** As a parent and university president, what do you feel parents should want for their children in their college years?
**A:** Among other things, I want our students to understand themselves and the world around them so that they might use their gifts and abilities to live a fulfilling life.

**Q:** Where in Greenville have you already made a regular stop or part of your routine?
**A:** We go downtown as much as we can, and we make sure all our visitors see Falls Park.

**Q:** Song that’s most played on your iPod?
**A:** Anything by Aretha Franklin.

**Q:** Favorite hobby you enjoy during your down time?
**A:** The New York Times Sunday crossword puzzle.

**Q:** Is there a quality you would recommend students cultivate during their four years at Furman?
**A:** Curiosity.

**Q:** What sport do you most like to play?
**A:** Racquetball.
“Academic culture shock” is how Plicca Watt, a 19-year-old sophomore at Furman, describes her entry to college.

Rolling into her freshman year with a high school GPA of 4.3, Watt was used to a tight schedule of golf practices, band performances, club meetings, French lessons, and tutoring (she was the one being tutored: for college readiness tests). She began receiving treatment for anxiety in the eleventh grade.

“I was trying to be perfect, to do what’s not humanly possible,” she says. “It would’ve helped if someone explained to me you don’t have to win [it] all. That it’s okay to not be okay all the time.”

Watt made her first appointment with a Furman counselor her freshman year—before classes had even started.

Briana Jackson, 19, a junior at Duke University, was besieged with self-doubt when her college experience dismantled her identity as an academic standout.

“The things you thought you were good at, you find out you’re not that good at,” she says. “It’s kind of a shock. I didn’t know I was going to have to compete this way.”

Jackson describes how she had a knack for science. “It was always something I’d known about myself. I made a perfect score on the (Florida) state science exam. I haven’t made an A in any science class [at Duke] yet. I knew college would be harder, but not this much harder. You can spiral here from the competition and feelings of inadequacy.”

Over-programmed since preschool yet underprepared for life’s realities, college students are reeling from a mix of brutal pressures and overinvolved parents that experts say impairs mental health and creativity.

Jackson’s experience confirms increasing fears on the part of educators that college—where adulthood is first encountered—has become a pressure cooker not conducive to real achievement, but rather to undermining the creativity that fosters achievement both in and beyond it.

“It’s not a system set up for exploring,” Jackson says. A biology major, she regrets taking classes in Roman history and engineering. “We’re destroying young people’s souls,” says Dr. Corey Keyes, a leader in the field of positive psychology and professor of sociology at Emory University. “From the time they enter middle school, it’s all about getting into college. They come into college with the idea they’re only loved and accepted if they get perfect grades.”

Parents too ready to step in, heavily scheduled growing years, and the every-child-gets-a-trophy movement can produce young adults scared to make independent decisions, unclear how to use unstructured time, unrealistic about their own abilities, and ill-equipped for competition in the world beyond high school, say educators and researchers.

“Larger numbers of students are coming to us having never experienced failure and expecting perfection,” says Connie Carson, vice president of Furman University Student Life. “These students have performed well academically, but at college everyone has...
ENOUGH?
performed well. You're going to hit a wall.”

Thrust early on into a results-focused process that defies the grade point average and undervalues time for self-reflection, character development, and exploring new interests, students areflooding counseling centers in surprising numbers.

“I’ve had enough of it,” says Mary Dorine Roehre, 21, who left Davidson College last spring after her junior year. “Everyone’s trying to be number one. We’re all used to being the smartest person in our class. I just want to be an average person,” says Roehre, who was salutatorian of her private prep school and hopes to be a nurse.

Anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and self-harm behaviors are at record levels at colleges and universities across the country. The number of students seeking counseling has tripled in the last 10 years, after doubling in the 10 years before that, and that trend continues to increase at a rate that has educators stopping to take notice. What’s more, many freshmen arrive at college already in poor emotional health, according to the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors.

Some of the increase may be the result of fewer stigmas around mental health issues. There’s also the factor of convenience, but of those seeking counseling at college, 37.4 percent have severe psychological problems, a remarkable increase from just 16 percent in 2000, according to a study by the American College Counseling Association. Three out of four counselors surveyed reported a rise in the last five years in crises requiring immediate action; 42 percent noted increase in self-injury; and 24 percent saw an increase in eating disorders.

At Furman, the counseling center has doubled its staff in the last 10 years, from two to five counselors, and added nine to 12 hours a week of contracted services by board-certified psychiatrists to accommodate a surge in student visits mirroring the national trend. Twelve to 15 sessions of counseling at the university are free, but if a student requires more than that, the counseling center will refer him/her to practicing psychiatrists in the Greenville area.

“Our students are starting to break down because they’re the canaries in the coal mine,” says Keyes, whose work has helped prompt a Duke Endowment-funded $3.4 million study into college student resiliency. Starting with freshmen entering college this fall, the study—named The Resiliency Project—will initially canvas thousands of students and parents before narrowing the focus over the next three to four years to 400 selected students at Furman and approximately 1,200 total from the three other schools supported by the endowment: Duke University, Davidson College, and Johnson C. Smith University.

The study is also unusual in its pairing of research and application. At Furman, the faculty researchers and student affairs staff members are working side by side on all aspects of research and intervention strategies so that what emerges will create a seamless in-class/out-of-class model for well-being, self-care, and resiliency building.

Susan McConnell, director of higher education for The Duke Endowment, believes the study will lead to “interventions [that] will hopefully change campus cultures so that healthy responses to adversity and stress, rather than unhealthy responses, become the norm.”

Researchers for The Resiliency Project—and specifically Furman’s branch of it, named “The Fourtitude Project: Four Universities, Four Years, For You”—will look at everything from student sleep patterns and relationships with parents, to life values and types of personalities. The goal, according to Dr. Beth Pontari, is to better understand this generation’s needs and behaviors, including why some handle stress better than others. Pontari is an associate professor and department chair of psychology at Furman, and a researcher for the study.

Pontari says the grant that funds the study provides latitude for researchers at each school to zero in on trends or issues as they become apparent. Five areas of focus in the project have already been established, with the goal of determining:

1. How students make choices as to which careers, colleges, and relationships to enter
2. What expectations and assumptions influence students’ personal choices and reactions to events
3. Which goal-directed behaviors increase or decrease student self-regulation
4. How students use available resources—personal, social, and institutional—to promote healthy overall adjustment
5. How students cope with threats and challenges emotionally and behaviorally

Pontari says the findings will be shared with other educational institutions across the United States and will ultimately result in the development of new campus services and changes in existing ones to help students not only avoid mental illness setbacks but also to flourish.

“It’s incredibly satisfying, it’s exciting and rare to do research that will result directly in services that benefit our actual students,” Pontari says, noting a lot of research ends up in journals and not in the kind of real help this project’s findings will launch.

At Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, there’s also been an increase in counseling need, but the struggles are different from those experienced through privilege. The predominately minority student body at Johnson C. Smith are often the first in their families to study beyond high school, and many students have grown up in the trauma and chaos of poverty, homelessness, and substance abuse. It is a world that can be drastically different from their overly protected peers at other institutions.

“It can be tough on both ends. To have been spoon-fed and to grow up without even the basics,” says Frederick Murphy, who has seen a 45 percent increase in students seeking mental health services in the four years he’s been director of the counseling center at Johnson C. Smith.

Many of the students Murphy sees are suffering from serious mental illnesses and other conditions undiagnosed and unrecognized due to lack of education and stigmas prevalent among African Americans and Hispanics.

He has worked to increase awareness of the center’s services on campus. Students seen at the center often do not have insurance, and he says finding mental health providers willing to treat them on a sliding scale is not easy.

On top of that, years of struggling to simply survive can make it difficult for students to find the motivation to succeed. But Murphy says those struggles can also be
the very force that pushes some individuals past otherwise hopeless situations.

“These students have a no-quit attitude. A lot of our students look at [college] as an opportunity to change their circumstances, to show resiliency, to show how great they can be,” he says.

Keyes says that no matter the background or the nature of the struggles a student may face, prevention is the answer, as the lack of resiliency is too pervasive to address only after troubles develop. “We can’t treat this problem away,” he says, stressing the importance of boosting overarching mental health so that students don’t get to the point of needing professional help when they do encounter setbacks and stress.

“Higher ed needs to look at itself. We’ve created unsustainable expectations and a system that reflects our preoccupation with success.”

Part of the problem may be that since toddlerhood, today’s students are heralded for achievements previous generations deemed average. Now, students are stunned to find themselves in the middle of the pack at college, where previously award-winning efforts are now barely enough to stay afloat.

Says Watt, the Furman sophomore who experienced culture shock: “My counselor helped me see that trying to get all A’s isn’t the healthiest thing. Classes are so difficult here. If I’d held on to that high school standard, I wouldn’t know what to do with myself.”

Jeremy Lee, 20, a junior at Duke and valedictorian of his high school class, changed his mind about pursuing a minor in computer science when his roommate described the classes as time-consuming and difficult. “I was scared that I wouldn’t be able to perform good enough and that the effect on my grades might hurt my future.”

According to Keyes, it is this type of preemptive performance anxiety that is at the heart of what’s wrong with college today. There’s no room for reflection, practicing a thing until it’s mastered, or exploring interests and pondering what makes a meaningful life.

“In order to succeed you have to be depressed, stressed, and anxious? That wasn’t the deal. A liberal arts education was meant to include the ingredients of flourishing,” Keyes says. “Kids ought to be asking, ‘How can I lead a meaningful life?’ rather than, ‘How can I be successful?’ In the way happiness has been inextricably linked to money in our society, success has been linked to GPA and the ranking of the college you get into.”

Keyes says it’s the system that is to blame. “Everyone is saying the kids are the problem. They’re vulnerable, they’re weak, they’re narcissistic. Well, they reflect the society they are in and they are trying to achieve what is valued. It’s our fault—the adults in the system.”

Says Carson: “Parenting practices have changed. Society has changed. Technology has changed. All have both positive results and in many cases some unintentional and negative consequences when taken to an extreme. In our move to be more engaged in our parenting styles and to help our children experience so much of what the world has to offer in sports, the arts, academics, and recreation, we have sometimes overstructured their lives and not given them the freedom to just play with peers, make up their own rules, fail—even not to fill up their schedules. The result when taken to the extreme is that students come to college less able to manage their own care, to recover from failures, or to problem-solve around obstacles.”
"Creativity takes time. It requires reflection. Creativity means you make lots of mistakes before you do something brilliant."

Excessively sheltered childhoods can make the transition from home to college more difficult than it used to be, says Margaret Praytor, associate director of Furman’s Counseling Center. Parents who are overly involved in their children’s lives—intervening in roommate squabbles and course selections, calling deans and teachers to complain about grades and assignments, and even negotiating employment packages after graduation—short-circuit the kinds of experiences that build resiliency. “Parents are sometimes too quick to fix things,” she says.

“There’s so much freedom at college,” adds Watt, “when, just one year before, as a senior in high school, I still had to ask permission to use the bathroom.”

The 2012 book Generation on a Tightrope: A Portrait of Today’s College Student by Illinois State University professor Diane R. Dean makes the case that parents shielding their children from all struggles and consequences are actually setting them up for trouble. “The message to students from their parents is, ‘You’re not capable. I will do it for you.’ They’re not developing appropriate social skills or coping mechanisms. This is the generation that was never allowed to skin their knees…and nobody ever fails,” writes Dean.

Parents seem to expect that their children will become independent naturally, not realizing that their over-involvement and doting hamstring that process, says Praytor. She is now working with students at Furman to build experiences that foster independent decision-making, hoping to bolster self-confidence and the ability to meet obstacles in life with resourcefulness and skill.

A goal of The Resiliency Project is to glean insight into better ways students can master self-management and healthy methods of coping with stress, competition, and the inevitability of mistakes. “Students will face stress in the unstructured environment of college,” says Carson. “It is important they develop resilience to handle the independence it provides. At a place like Furman, there are many talented students who were at the top of their high school class. A Furman education is challenging, and these students will likely learn some new letters of the alphabet when it comes to grades, but it does not mean they are not learning. [Learning resilience] will prepare them for life after Furman where they may not have the resources to see them through the tough times.”

Noting perfectionism and a hurried education process destroy creativity and contemplation, educators agree today’s system leaves no room for students to try new things and explore their strengths.

“I don’t think students 20 years ago felt as many obligations to be successful as they do today. We keep heaping things on their plates—that’s not enough, here’s another thing, here’s another,” observes Dr. Cole Barton, who has taught 31 years at Davidson College, where he is chairman of the department of psychology. “Back in the day, people followed Plato and Socrates around to learn something. We no longer have a reflective environment. I don’t know who’s talking to students about priorities. How thin can you spread yourself?” he asks.

“Creativity takes time,” Barton continues. “It requires some reflection. Creativity means you make lots of mistakes before you do something brilliant.”

Instead of discovering pursuits they are passionate about, experts say students today are locked in a pace going too fast to recognize the value of taking time.

“Things take as long as they take,” Barton asserts. “Calculus, a foreign language…there’s a lot of variability in people regarding how they learn. Much learning, much creating, conducting an experiment, these things don’t happen on a fine schedule.” Barton is worried that the essential values of hard work, grit, and persistence are being squeezed out of the education process.

“Somehow, students are getting the message that if they have to practice to get good, then they’re stupid,” he says.

Technology plays a role. Students agree with Barton’s observation that they have more information coming at them more rapidly than ever.

“The demands of technology literacy have gone up. And having to sort out all that information and its quality is more and more challenging,” Barton says.
With email, texting, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, and more, students say nonstop technology adds to their stress. Watt notes the pressure to document events on social media can create insecurity and isolation, especially for girls.

“If I go to a mixer or other function and I don’t look or feel my best, it’s broadcast on social media,” Watt says. “I have friends who won’t go if it’s a rainy day because their pictures wouldn’t look good on Instagram.”

And with the modern obsession with technology, interpersonal skills can become stunted.

“We’ve kind of become cowards and hide behind the text,” says Watt. “I wish we had more face-to-face interaction. I feel like older generations went through different situations that made them stronger and gave them better people skills.”

“They handle conflict electronically,” says Carson. “As bright as they are, they often do not have much experience in how to resolve conflict. We see roommate conflicts where students are sitting four feet apart and texting each other because they have difficulty with the face-to-face conflict communications.” Carson is quick to add college students today have good minds, good hearts, and the desire to be leaders. “They’re some of the best we’ve ever seen.”

Take 19-year-old twins Brian and Reagan Gillette of Amarillo, Texas.

In 2010, one day before they began high school in the ninth grade, their father murdered their mother in their home. They discovered the scene, were involved in their father’s trial, and somehow missed only one day of high school. They were wedged between the dual pressures of helping to raise their two younger sisters and helping their aging grandparents care for them.

Throughout, Brian and Reagan never lost focus on the importance of grades and sports, a value ingrained by their mother. They graduated high school last May—Brian, valedictorian, and Reagan, salutatorian—amid a sea of academic and athletic accolades.

“When Mom died, I wasn’t going to let that get in the way of things,” Brian says. He and Reagan attribute their motivation to the sense their mom is watching and the desire to make her proud. Brian begins Texas A&M this fall and Reagan will attend the University of Oklahoma. Both say they’ve become stronger and more determined because of their struggles and loss.

“Life’s significant challenges may discourage some individuals, but others may feel like they have to work harder,” says Stephen Dawes, director of Furman’s Counseling Center. “Just as you have to put the muscle under stress if it’s going to grow, it makes sense to me a certain amount of adversity may be beneficial to increasing the ability to adapt and problem solve and never give up.”

Briana Jackson’s family also suffered loss and setbacks during her high school years, though not as tragic as the Gillettes’. She too kept focused through adversity; nevertheless, she is advising her younger sister to pick a less competitive college.

“Duke has prestige, but at what price? It’s a lot of stress—even the people making better grades than me feel the same way. You have self-doubt. And fear—fear of disappointing your parents, fear of disappointing people from your high school, fear of not getting where you thought you would, fear of not succeeding, fear of not getting a good job.”

Jackson says her struggle with anxiety continues, but she’s used her college experience to redefine her identity, emphasizing a kind of resiliency that may be a better life skill than perfect grades.

“When you lose the idea you’re the best, you realize it’s not the only thing defining you or your worth as a person. Your character grows,” she says. “I used to think my GPA was a window into my character. But since I don’t have that anymore, how I come across face-to-face is more important. I have to show my character in how I talk to people, in being a better person.”

**THE HOW TO’S OF RESILIENCY**

*How can parents—and young adults themselves—build resiliency? A few ways, says Dr. Doug Coatsworth, professor at Colorado State University and a research psychologist specializing in programs to build resilience in children, youth, and families.*

**TEACH EMPATHY**.... “Kids who are empathic create warmer, deeper relationships with others and those relationships are going to come back to them when they experience trauma,” says Coatsworth.

**TAKE TIME TO PLAY**.... No matter the age, we all need unstructured time, which teaches self-regulation, self-organization, and self-management—skills that help smooth transitions from one environment to another. Avoid cramming your life and the lives of young people with too many scheduled activities.

**TURN OFF THE NOISE**.... “It’s overwhelming, the amount of information we’re exposed to constantly these days,” Coatsworth says. “Unplugging is important. We get back to basics, to what truly matters.”

**LIMIT EXPOSURE TO DISTURBING NEWS**.... Too much upsetting news can be traumatizing and paralyzing for anyone, but especially for children. “Don’t avoid negative things altogether, but be sure to address them in a developmentally appropriate way.”

**GIVE EVERY CHILD A DUTY**.... Whether it’s household chores or responsibilities for younger siblings, assigning roles to kids across age spectrums creates the sense they are valuable members of the family or classroom, while building purpose.

**PROMOTE A MALLEABLE PERSPECTIVE**.... The fixed mindset sees abilities as unchangeable, whereas the malleable mindset sees natural ability as only one factor in success. “Kids with malleable mindsets understand that with effort and persistence they’ll improve,” Coatsworth says. The fixed mindset crushes creativity and holds children and adults back from trying new things. Coatsworth suggests adding the word “yet” to statements of inadequacy. “So ‘I can’t do that’ becomes ‘I can’t do that yet.’ It changes the mindset for kids and helps them think, ‘If I keep working on this, I’ll be able to dribble the ball or do these math problems or play the piano.’”

**DON’T OVERPROTECT**.... Disappointment isn’t all that bad, Coatsworth says. “We do kids a disservice by solving their problems too quickly and by trying to make sure they avoid consequences. By confronting difficult things and coming out on the other side, they know they can adapt and handle difficult things. It is important to build opportunities for kids to overcome challenges and for them to build emotional skills to deal with disappointments.”
Above: Hotel Domestique. From left: Gallery Seventeen; tins of gourmet tea at Tealoha; enjoying NOMA Square; Pettigru Place; a performance at Centre Stage; and outdoor biking around the Greenville area.
Of course there are advantages and disadvantages to all phases in life, and that includes the four years that comprise a college education. Advantage: You immerse in the heady combination of learning and extracurricular activity that will determine your life. Disadvantage: You know little about life beyond those ivory gates. For universities that don’t inspire many return visits, this is not a problem, but for a place like Furman, comeback trips are frequent. Each issue of this magazine, we’ll provide in this space an itinerary that you might want to follow next time you’re in the neighborhood. And we invite you to submit your own favorite “comeback” to these pages. After all, the Greenville area is growing so rapidly, and so dynamically, you may know about that great café (or tattoo parlor) before we do.

BY BRENDAN TAPLEY
The Comeback

FRIDAY

AFTERNOON
If you’ve just landed at Greenville-Spartanburg Airport, most likely you’ll want to get right to your hotel so you can free yourself of luggage and make the most out of the weekend. The Westin Poinsett is a classic choice (with a fantastic breakfast—more on that later), but if an elegant, romantic bed and breakfast is your goal, we would also suggest Pettigru Place or Park House.

Pettigru Place is in the heart of downtown Greenville and offers a Furman Family special package, along with a “bottomless” cookie jar of homemade oatmeal chocolate chip cookies. Pettigru Place will also supply its guests with wine, cheese, and grapes in your room or in the English garden. Park Place, which was recently featured in Southern Living, offers newly restored 100-year-old charm with a three-course gourmet breakfast at a time of your choosing.

Looking to treat yourselves to something close to Furman but a little out of the way? Try Hotel Domestique in Travelers Rest, which offers views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and Restaurant 17, a dining experience that emphasizes local ingredients to reinvent classic gourmet dishes. Restaurant 17 also offers events for guests if you’re a foodie or mixologist.

EVENING
If your Furman plans allow, start your evening with Main Street Fridays, which feature live music at NOMA Square. There’s even a “kids’ zone” that provides activities for the little ones. NOMA Square is a fairly new development in Greenville and you can listen to the music there as you explore the shops, including Oil & Vinegar, which sells exotic pastas, marinades, rubs, and features a wall of “on tap” exotic oils and vinegars like blood-orange grapeseed. For dinner, you don’t need to go far: Try Roost, located by the Hyatt and one of Greenville’s newer establishments that is all about reinventing Southern cuisine for the urban palate.

For a taste of culture after dinner, there are always the current shows at The Peace Center and Bon Secours Arena, but don’t overlook Greenville’s other offerings, including Centre Stage (which puts on contemporary dramas, comedies, and histories); Greenville Little Theatre, which this fall presents the Southern classic, Steel Magnolias; or the Greenville Symphony Orchestra, which draws renowned performers and features compelling classical programs. In October, the Symphony presents a one-night engagement with Yo-Yo Ma.
SATURDAY

MORNING
If you’re near Furman, grab a creative coffee (like a “snow leopard” or “dirty black cat chai”), pourover, smoothie, and/or breakfast sandwich at The Forest Coffeehouse in Travelers Rest. If you’re downtown, stop in at Tealoha, which specializes in creative tea combinations like the Carolina Lemon Honey (jasmine green tea mixed with local wildflower honey and freshly squeezed lemon juice) or the London Fog (Earl Grey black tea steamed with milk and organic cane sugar).

From there, head into nature for an invigorating zip-lining experience. You can go farther afield near Asheville to Navitat, which winds you through the Blue Ridge Mountains, or closer to Greenville in Saluda at The Gorge Zipline Canopy Tour, for stunning views of the Green River.

Afterward, reward yourself for your effort by taking lunch at Everyday Organics, started by Furman grads Breighanna (Faugl) Newnham ’08 and William Newnham ’08, in the Cherrydale Plaza. EO’s chicken salad is a perfect blend of savory and creamy; and if it’s on the menu, don’t hesitate to order the quinoa pad thai.

AFTERNOON
It might be time to relax. Get in some reflection time at the Greenville County Museum of Art, or get a glimpse of local artists at Gallery Seventeen or the Art Guild. If you’re looking for an old-time menswear store, look no further than Kostas Custom Tailors and Clothiers, where you can find Italian suits, shirts, and retro cuff links. After, you may want to recharge with a famed slice of cake from Brick Street Café near Fluor Field in the West End. If you enjoy used books, you can peruse the shelves while enjoying the wine bar at Joe’s Place.

EVENING
Get your laughs in at tje Alchemy Comedy Theater, which is a weekly improv show that spotlights local talent with two shows on Friday and Saturday nights at Coffee Underground Theater. Music lovers can head over to Smiley’s Acoustic Cafe for moving open mic performances. For something a bit stronger, belly up to the bar at Dark Corner Distillery for the “water of life” or local, small batches of Appalachian moonshine, aged whiskey, gin, absinthe, and other spirits.

Photos by Jeremy Fleming

Bridge Street’s famous cakes; a work of art at Gallery Seventeen; ties at Kostas Custom Tailors and Clothiers; and a jasmine green tea at Tealoha
**The Comeback**

**SUNDAY**

**MORNING**

For a large brunch, enjoy the Westin Poinsett’s **Spoonbread** restaurant and its large spread of granolas, fresh fruit, pastries, Belgian waffles, and an omelet bar. If you want something simpler, head back to Travelers Rest and **Upcountry Provisions**. The bakery is another venture by Furman graduate Cheryl (Boles) Kraus ’09 and her husband, Steve, and all the deliciousness is baked on the premises. Upcountry Provisions is also known for its peanut butter diablo cookies (which you might want to grab for the road).

Before getting on the plane, take a nice half-mile saunter on the **Fernwood Nature Trail**, which was developed by the Greenville Parks and Recreation Department along with Sierra Club. The trail is known to birdwatchers, but you can also spy other wildlife while generally enjoying the peace and calm.

**AFTERNOON**

If you have time at the airport, stop and take some nourishment at **Windows**, the restaurant and lounge, which offers a peaceful spot to enjoy lunch (many tout the peach cobbler) before you fly home. While there, consider when to come back!

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**The Checklist**

- **Artists Guild Gallery**
  - 864.239.3882
  - www.artistsguildgalleryofgreenville.com

- **Bon Secours**
  - 864.241.3800
  - www.bonsecoursarena.com

- **Brick Street Cafe**
  - 864.421.0111
  - www.brickstreetcafe.com

- **Centre Stage**
  - 864.233.6733
  - www.centrestage.org

- **Coffee Underground**
  - 864.298.0494
  - www.coffeeunderground.biz

- **Alchemy Comedy Theater**
  - 864.256.1467
  - www.alchemycomedy.com

- **Dark Corner Distillery**
  - 864.631.1144
  - www.darkcornerdistillery.com

- **Everyday Organics**
  - 864.498.9194
  - www.eorestaurants.com

- **The Forest Coffeehouse**
  - 864.631.1144
  - www.darkcornerdistillery.com

- **Gallery Seventeen**
  - 864.235.6799
  - www.gallery-seventeen.com

- **Gorge Zipline Canopy Tour**
  - 855.749.2500
  - www.thegorgezipline.com

- **Greenville County Museum of Art**
  - 864.271.7570
  - www.gcma.org

- **Greenville Little Theatre**
  - 864.233.6238
  - www.greenvilletatetheatre.org

- **Greenville Symphony Orchestra**
  - 864.232.0344
  - www.greenvillesymphony.org

- **Hotel Domestique**
  - 864.516.1715
  - www.hoteldomestique.com

- **Joe’s Place**
  - 864.558.0828

- **Kostas Custom Tailors and Clothiers**
  - 864.271.3214

- **NOMA Square**
  - 864.248.1568
  - www.nomasquare.com

- **Oil & Vinegar**
  - 864.241.6689
  - www.greenvillesc.oilandvinegarusa.com

- **Park House**
  - 855.221.7275
  - www.parkhousebedandbreakfast.com

- **Pettigru Place**
  - 864.242.4529
  - www.pettigruplace.com

- **Restaurant 17**
  - 864.516.1254
  - www.hoteldomestique.com/restaurant-17

- **Roost**
  - 864.298.2424
  - www.roostrestaurant.com

- **Smiley’s Acoustic Café**
  - 864.282.8988
  - www.smileysacousticcafe.com

- **Tealoha**
  - 864.509.1899
  - www.tealoha.com

- **Upcountry Provisions**
  - 864.834.8433
  - www.upcountryprovisions.com

- **The Westin Poinsett**
  - 864.421.9700
  - www.westinpoinsettgreenville.com

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Left photo by Jeremy Fleming
THE GAP:
The Science of What Separates Us from Other Animals
By Thomas Suddendorf

In this book loaned to me by my English department colleague Bill Aarnes, Suddendorf raises this question: Since humans and other animals share a common ancestor, why does there seem to be an enormous gap between the capabilities of human minds and those of even our closest evolutionary relatives, the great apes? Citing a number of studies on human and animal cognition and emotion, he concludes that two uniquely human characteristics are the drivers that evolve animal capabilities for memory, communication, and empathy, as well as foresight, language, and morality. They are: “the ability to imagine and reflect on different situations and our deep-seated drive to link our scenario-building minds together [with the minds of fellow humans].” I’ve enjoyed this book immensely, not only for its content but also because, to quote one reviewer, Suddendorf writes “with the sure-handedness of a leading scientist and the love of a true humanist.”

DEATH AND THE AFTERLIFE
By Samuel Scheffler

In January, I joined an ongoing philosophy reading group coordinated by Jim Edwards, one of Furman’s emeriti professors of philosophy. Jim proposed...
Scheffler’s book for summer reading and discussion. Scheffler defines “afterlife” as the collective life experience of the humans that will come after us. He asks: If we knew that all human life would cease a short time after our personal death, or if we knew that, at some near future date, no more human children would be born, how would that knowledge affect us in the here and now? If it affects us profoundly, in what particular ways does it affect us, and why? The philosophers in our reading group say that this is an entirely new angle from which to consider the issue of what we value in our individual and collective lives.

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO STUDENT UNDERSTANDING:
Threshold Concepts and Troublesome Knowledge
by Jan H. F. Meyer and Ray Land, editors

I added this book to my summer reading list after Diane Boyd in the Center for Teaching and Learning introduced me to the notion of threshold concepts (the ideas in each discipline that are both challenging and central to students’ understanding of a body of material). In physics, quantum mechanics is a subject that plays just such a “challenging and central” role, so I am hoping that this book will provide some insights that will help when I teach that topic in two physics courses this fall.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE
By Arthur Stanley Eddington

Eddington was a British astrophysicist of the early 20th century. A brilliant mathematician, he was quick to understand Einstein’s theory of relativity, and his speaking and writing talents were such that he was able to help others understand it, as well. A lifelong Quaker, Eddington took a pacifist stance in World War I, and after that war, he worked to help mend the rift in the science community caused by allegiances to opposing sides during the war. I became interested in Eddington because he seemed to be equally at home in the scientific worldview of his academic profession and in the mystical worldview of his religious community. Scholar, mystic, writer, educator, and philosopher of science—he is a fascinating person to study and learn from.

THE ART OF PILGRIMAGE:
The Seeker’s Guide to Making Travel Sacred
by Phil Cousineau

The idea of pilgrimage has received a lot of interest in popular culture in recent years, such as in Emilio Estevez’s movie The Way, which stars Martin Sheen as a father who decides to walk the Camino de Santiago in Spain in honor of his deceased son. The concept of a purposeful journey that has a definite goal in mind but is open to unexpected detours (and events) along the way is appealing to me. That the journey is made partly alone and partly in the company of fellow travelers—and that a pilgrimage promises the traveler a chance to better understand oneself, others, and the world—make it a rich experience for college students and for reflective adults of any age. Furman has connections to pilgrimage: the Cothran Center for Vocational Reflection has sponsored alumni pilgrimages in Spain, Ireland, Scotland, and it is considering a May Experience pilgrimage course targeted at graduating seniors.
In 2012, a down-and-out Manhattan actor posted flyers around the city asking people to phone him if they were lonely and wanted to talk. He expected to get a dozen or so calls. He received 65,000.

Today, more than a third of Americans describe themselves as “chronically lonely.” When asked what the greatest problem in modern life was, Billy Graham answered: “Loneliness. It is loneliness that plagues millions of people—the absence of meaningful relationships.”

Along with grief, loneliness is perhaps the most painful human emotion. Humans are the most social of God’s creatures; we crave the vital daily interactions of companionship and intimacy. Loneliness separates us from others and corrodes our happiness. It is the dark side of the “rugged individualism” and “self-sufficiency” long celebrated in American culture.

Being lonely is not the same as being alone. Solitude is a healthy condition. It can provide time for rest, renewal, reflection. By seeking solitude, as the poet May Sarton wrote, we explore “the richness of self.” People choose solitude but fight loneliness, for it is neither satisfying nor redemptive. It is, in fact, the poverty of self. Over time, loneliness can imprison us in a suffocating cocoon of self-pity and self-doubt.

Prolonged loneliness can even cause health problems. It contributes to obesity, smoking, alcoholism, as well as...
diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, high blood pressure, heart disease, and higher stress levels. Pathological loneliness can lead some people to kill others. Elliot Rodger, the 22-year-old Californian who killed six and wounded 13 in a frenzied rampage in May, said in a blog that he had experienced nothing in his young life but “loneliness and misery.”

As a cultural historian, I am less interested in studying the clinical dimensions of loneliness than I am in analyzing why disconnectedness has become such a powerful theme in American literature and the arts since the end of the Second World War, when loneliness first emerged as a major societal concern.

Think about the aching loneliness that animates the stories of John Cheever, the poetry of Sylvia Plath (“God, but life is loneliness”), and the novels of Saul Bellow, Carson McCullers, J.D. Salinger, Raymond Chandler, Richard Yates, Joyce Carol Oates, and David Foster Wallace (“lonely on a level that cannot be conveyed”). Loneliness also populates the songs of Frank Sinatra, Hank Williams (I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry), Elvis Presley (Are You Lonely Tonight?), and Paul Simon (Sounds of Silence—“Take my arms that I might reach you”); iconic movies like Rear Window and Taxi Driver; and powerful plays such as Tennessee Williams’s The Glass Menagerie and Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman.

Loneliness is not unique to the United States, but it has become the defining emotion in modern American culture. As the comédienne Lily Tomlin acknowledged, “We’re all in this together—by ourselves.”

Since 1945, American culture has experienced both a decline in the power of traditional religious belief and dramatic increases in the scale and pace of how we live. The transition from rural and small-town America to the anonymity of big cities and sprawling suburbs has heightened rootlessness, isolation, and estrangement. In small-town America, people sought out neighbors as a defense against loneliness; in urban America, people more often view their neighbors as threatening to their privacy and security.

The novelist E.B. White noted in 1949 that New York City, where more than a third of the population lives alone and residents move on average once every five years, bestows “the gift of loneliness and the gift of privacy” on its millions of residents who clog the work-day sidewalks but often remain self-absorbed, solitary souls.

In postwar decades, people who moved to the fast-growing suburbs for privacy, mobility, and home ownership instead found loneliness. Men spent mornings and afternoons commuting to city offices in a bubble of isolation; many suburban wives became displaced persons, left each morning to fend for themselves in a sea of strangers. As one suburban housewife said in 1946, “There are so many new people around that I do not feel at home.”

After the Second World War, Americans became more mobile than ever before as 16 million veterans made the transition from the intense camaraderie of warfare to the competitive individualism of civilian life, and scattered themselves around the nation. A fifth of American households moved each year during the 1950s and 60s. Executives for IBM moaned that the company’s initials stood for “I’ve Moved.”

With the advent of the commercial airline industry and the interstate highway system, workers were forced to travel more than ever before. In 1980, the Sun Company’s 6,000 employees spent 120,000 work nights in hotels far from home. During the 1950s, the emergence of television as the most popular form of entertainment aggrivated loneliness by luring couples and families away from interacting with each other or their neighbors. The poet T.S. Eliot explained in 1963 that television was a new “medium of entertainment which permits millions of people to listen to the same joke at the same time, and yet remain lonesome.”

Now, with people living longer on average, there are more widows and widowers, and the number of divorced people and young adults living as singles has been increasing for years. In 1950, only 22 percent of adults were single. Today, more than half of adults are single.

Of course, every person living alone doesn’t necessarily feel lonely, just as every couple living together is not well connected. But living or working alone makes it more likely to be lonely.

Some 30 percent of American adults now work at least one day at home alone. And 60 percent of them complain of loneliness. Loneliness is not simply the absence of people; it involves the absence of caring and a loss of intimacy.

In the 1980s, the New York Telephone Company urged people to fight loneliness by dialing someone: “Don’t be lonely, pick up the phone.” Today, many people prefer texting to talking. Some like the anonymity of Internet communications because they are afraid of intimacy. The painful irony, however, is that prolonged use of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter often worsens loneliness by promoting superficial contact and reducing face-to-face interactions. Few purely electronic “friendships” are very substantial. In 2009, psychologists reported that loneliness is a contagious malaise, and new forms of electronic communication serve to spread the contagion rather than cure it.

In 1967, when the Beatles were singing, “I get by with a little help from my friends,” Americans on average had at least three good friends to lean on. Now, despite Facebook networks numbering in the hundreds or even thousands, almost half of Americans report that they only have one close friend with whom they feel comfortable discussing important matters.

Loneliness is hard to cure but easy to recognize. More than any other 20th-century writer or artist, the New York painter Edward Hopper was a connoisseur of modern loneliness. In Office in a Small City (1953), Hopper depicts a man sitting alone in his bleak office, physically and emotionally detached from his surroundings. Lost in thought, he stares into the distance. The stark portrait brings to mind the old AT&T commercial: “Reach out and touch someone.” That advice remains even more relevant today.

Loneliness is not unique to the United States, but it has become the defining emotion in modern American culture.
1933 M.O. Owens has had a lifetime of golf memories, but he made another one—a pretty big one—when he turned 100 years old. He celebrated in the grandest of ways with a visit to Pinehurst (NC) No. 2 golf course for a round of golf with three friends. The Gastonia, NC, pastor received the round as a birthday gift from the members of his church.

1956 Former Furman president and Travelers Rest (SC) native J.L. Plyler, Jr., was honored in May with the naming of a highway interchange in his honor. This recognition was spearheaded by the Travelers Rest Historical Society. The ceremony unveiling the sign designating the Dr. John Laney Plyler Interchange south of downtown where highways U.S. 276 and U.S. 25 come together was held at the History Museum of Travelers Rest. After graduating from Furman, President Plyler served in the U.S. Army during World War II; practiced law in Greenville and was named a Greenville County Court judge; and taught law at Furman, becoming dean of the Furman law school. Ten years later, he became president of the university, where he remains in history as the tenured president who served the longest at the school.

1959 Christopher J. Kapetanakos of Greenville retired June 17, 2013. After Furman, he graduated from the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy and was in practice for approximately 48 years.

1960 Alice Dean Pugh is serving as the 2014 president of the Atlanta Botanical Garden docent volunteer group, a 500-strong organization. Alice is a master gardener.

Have news and information for us? Be sure to submit your notes to Furman by writing alumni@furman.edu.

PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE
White House staffer Maurice Owens ’01 mentions the “My Brother’s Keeper” initiative in his Class Notes entry (pg. 56); the program has received support from President Obama.
1961 Tom Lynch was appointed by the Roswell, GA, mayor and city council as a member of the Roswell Historical Preservation Commission. The six-member commission is responsible for the design review of projects proposed for the 760-acre Roswell Historic District.

1963 Pat Wylie has decided to hang up his baton, and in June was recognized by the Camden (SC) City Council for 34 years of service as conductor of the Camden Community Concert Band. He was presented a certificate and a key to the city. He has been a band director at Camden High School in Transylvania County, NC, where he taught mainly senior English and journalism from 1964 to 1994. He is the second teacher in the school’s history to be so inducted.

Sam B. Phillips, Jr., along with his son, Blanton Phillips, were profiled by “Greenville Online” last fall. They own the 45-year-old Phillips Staffing in Greenville. They also own Meridian Resources, an outplacement group; the Eagle Zone Golf Center; the Carolina Springs golf course in Fountain Inn, SC; and Graniteville-based SubAir Systems Technology, which controls moisture on golf courses and sports fields. Other father/son ventures include real estate projects and restaurant franchises.

1964 James L. Looper of Pickens, SC, has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of Roman High School in Transylvania County, NC, where he taught mainly senior English and journalism from 1964 to 1994. He is the second teacher in the school’s history to be so inducted.

1966 David Roberts is in his fourth year of part-time teaching in the English department at the University of Georgia. He most often teaches ENGL 4005/6005, History of the English Language.

1969 Kathryn L. Kellar retired in November 2013 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta after a career that spanned 35 years. She managed research laboratories and then moved into upper management positions, retiring as a senior advisor for science in the Division of Scientific Resources. She has moved to Cocoa Beach, FL, to work in real estate, which has been a family business in that area for more than 30 years.

1970 Maria Hooper Dunham retired in May after teaching for almost four decades, 21 years of which was spent in teaching composition and literature at Alamance Community College in Graham, NC. The school’s English department has established a scholarship in her name for future university transfer students.

Ben Hawkins of Raleigh, NC, retired January 1 as dean of the Campbell University School of Business after 37 years in higher education.

1973 James Steve Johnson is chief executive officer of CreatiVasc Medical, a Greenville company that has developed an innovative Hemoaccess Valve System®, which is currently undergoing clinical trials at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Maryland. The device, invented by Dr. David Cull, a vascular surgeon in the Greenville Health System, will be very important and valuable in improving the quality of life for dialysis patients. According to an Atlanta-based medical device company, “Steve, Dr. Cull, and the entire CreatiVasc team have done an outstanding job in developing this important new technology that will bring innovation to a field that has had very little over the last 30 years.”

1974 Beth Harris Brandes of Hickory, NC, retired July 31, 2013, as assistant director of Catawba County Social Services. She was hired by the organization in 1988, where she developed the Teen Up adolescent pregnancy prevention program. She left the agency in 1992 to work for the North Carolina Division of Maternal and Child Health but returned in 1994. In 1997, she became a program manager and in 1998 she was promoted to assistant director.


Ken W. Head, CLU, of Greenville received the 2013 Carroll H. Jones Award from the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors—South Carolina. The award, designated as the NAIFA-SC Person of the Year Award, is to honor the outstanding insurance and financial advisor in South Carolina who has made, and is currently making, the most outstanding contribution to the industry. Ken is owner of Head Financial Group, Inc., specializing in life and health insurance and financial products for small business and individuals since 1985. He serves with the Better Business Bureau in Upstate South Carolina, the Fountain Inn Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau, the National Association of Health Underwriters, and the board of the Furman Paladin Club.

Lucinda Secrest McDowell has been honored at the Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford, CT, for the launch of her 11th book, Live These Words—An Active Response to God. In addition to her writing, Cindy is an international conference speaker. See her author page on Amazon and her blog at EncouragingWords.net.

Pamela Ridge Moran, superintendent of Albemarle County, VA, Schools since 2006, was appointed in August 2013 by Governor Bob McDonnell to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. She lives in Keswick, VA.

Tim Powers, who was chief financial officer and interim CEO of North Canyon Medical Center in Gooding, ID, has become the permanent CEO of the company. Tim has more than 20 years of experience in
health care along with an extensive background in finance. Through the years he has served in a variety of health care positions.

1975 Nancy Cox became dean of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment effective January 1. She had been the college’s associate dean for research for the past 12 years. Cox has served on several national policy boards and organizations. She has close ties to civic and agricultural leaders throughout the commonwealth. She came to the University of Kentucky from Mississippi State University, where she taught and researched.

1976 Andrea Behrman, physical therapist and member of the American Physical Therapy Association, received APTA’s John H. P. Maley Lecture Award during the APTA Conference & Exposition held in Salt Lake City, UT, in June 2013. She was nominated for this prestigious award by the Florida Chapter of APTA before moving to the University of Louisville, KY, department of neurological surgery and spinal cord injury research center. She is also codirector of the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation NeuroRecovery Network. In 2009, Andrea was honored as a Catherine Worthingham Fellow of APTA, and she also received the first annual J. Brooks Brown Research Award from the Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital in Jacksonville, FL. Other honors and awards include the Furman Distinguished Alumni Award, the neurology section of APTA’s Research Award, first recipient of the Duke University Physical Therapy Program Alumni Award for Clinical Practice, the doctoral research award given by the Foundation for Physical Therapy, and the Marylou Barnes Doctoral Scholarship Award given by APTA’s Neurology Section. She cofounded the neurology section’s spinal cord injury special interest group and served as the secretary from 2002–2004 and as secretary of the neurology section from 1990–1994. She is a member of APTA’s neurology, pediatrics, and research sections; the Society for Neuroscience; the American Spinal Injury Association; the Association of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals; and the International Society for Posture and Gait Research.

Robert Harris has written a new book, Murders by the Book, a mystery/suspense novel in which a college librarian finds herself tangled in a curious plan to end the lives of three seemingly unrelated individuals. The book has been published as an eBook and is available exclusively on Amazon.

Carol Locher Ransone of Charlotte, NC, has been awarded a PhD in leadership and change from Antioch University. Her dissertation, titled “The Nature and Influence of Relationship on Success in a Virtual Work Environment,” explores the importance of relationships that foster individual growth and group cohesion in virtual ways. Ransone, who earned her MBA from Queen’s University, is founder and principal of The Ransone Group, LLC, in Charlotte.

1977 Jeffery Deal, director of health studies at Water Missions International, is sole patent holder for superbug-slaying Robot TRU-D SmartUVC, a 5-foot-5 germ-killing ultraviolet robot. TRU-D is short for Total Room Ultraviolet Disinfector, the only portable UV disinfection system with Sensor360 technology, which precisely measures reflected UV emissions and automatically calculates the pathogen-lethal UV dose required for disinfecting health care environments. The TRU-D has been deployed to hospitals across the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Tommy Hays, director of the Great Smokies Writing Program at the University of North Carolina–Asheville, has written his fourth novel, What I Came to Tell You. Hays writes about Southern people, about family, and each of his four novels is set in the Upstate or in western North Carolina. This is his first book written specifically for middle-grade readers.

Bradley L. Jolliff has been named the inaugural Scott Rudolph professor of earth and planetary sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. He joined the university in 1988, took a leave to serve in the Persian Gulf War, then returned in 1992. His lab team studies surfaces of the moon, Mars, and other terrestrial planets, and he is involved with such NASA initiatives as the Mars exploration rovers, the MoonRise New Frontiers project, and the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission.

Thomas E. Reynolds was recently selected by his peers at Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, for inclusion in the 2014 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He was selected for the Bankruptcy and Creditor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation–Bankruptcy categories.

1978 James Coggins is working at ViaSat, Inc., as senior data scientist solving problems related to future Internet media services for Exede satellite Internet service.

1979 Madeline Rogero, the first female mayor of Knoxville, TN, gave the keynote address in February at the University of Tennessee College of Communication and Information’s Experience Diversity banquet. She was the recipient of the 2013 CCI Diversity Award. She has made diversity a hallmark of her administration, and has carried through on her commitment to diversity through the staff hires she has made. In her address, she encouraged attendees to take advantage of opportunities to expand their horizons by focusing on the options at hand; “to bloom where you are planted.” Rogero worked in the 70s with Cesar Chavez’s United Farm Workers to seek better pay for migrant farm workers. After moving to Knoxville, she was elected to the Knox County Commission in 1990 and served as head of Dolly Parton’s Dollywood Foundation. Later she was executive director of Knoxville’s Promise–Alliance for Youth. She traveled to Turkey at the end of January at the request of the U.S. State Department and its International Information Program to speak on the importance of women participating in politics and public life.
1980

*The Intangibles*, the latest novel by Monte Dutton, debuted in October 2013. Also a singer/songwriter, Dutton is from Clinton, SC, and has had a far-reaching and varied writing career. He has been a feature columnist for the *Gastonia* (NC) Gazette and has covered NASCAR for more than 16 years. His NASCAR writing has been syndicated by King Feature Syndicate. He was named writer of the year by the Eastern Motorsports Press Association (Frank Blunk Award) in 2003, and writer of the year by the National Motorsports Press Association (George Cunningham Award) in 2008. Dutton is working on a third novel, *Crazy by Natural Causes*.

Edward L. Kinman has been promoted to professor of geography and earth science at Longwood University in Farmville, VA. He also serves as assistant dean for assessment and program improvement for the Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences at Longwood, and in January assumed the role of coordinator for the Virginia Geographic Alliance.

David A. Merline, Jr., a shareholder in the firm of Merline & Meacham, PA, in Greenville, was recently elected by his professional peers for inclusion in the 2014 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in several practice areas. He has also been named as family business law “Lawyer of the Year.”

In May, Georgia senator Cecil Staton (R-Macon) resigned from the State Senate to accept the position of vice chancellor for extended education with the university system of Georgia effective June 1. Staton was elected in 2004 to serve the 18th district. Prior to his political involvement, he was a college and university faculty member and administrator for nearly 15 years. During his Senate tenure, he served as vice-chairman of the Senate Republican Caucus and as Majority Whip, a position he held for four of his 10 years in the Senate.

1981

Jack N. Brown has joined the Greenville office of M.B. Kahn Construction as vice president of sales. Brown has more than 30 years of experience in sales and marketing for the real estate and construction industries, primarily in the Upstate of South Carolina. He is an active member of the South Carolina Economic Developer’s Association, and for the past 20 years has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer driver and route coordinator through Greer Community Ministries.

1982

Elizabeth Baker has been promoted to the rank of professor in the department of learning, teaching, and curriculum at the University of Missouri (Columbia) School of Education. Baker was one of five faculty members recently named a Kemper Fellow, an endowed fellowship considered the most prestigious at the university. In 2012, she received the President’s Award for Innovative Teaching, the highest teaching recognition among the four campuses in the Missouri system; and in 2011, she received the Award for Innovation Excellence in teaching, learning, and technology and the Ernest L. Boyer International Award for Excellence in teaching, learning, and technology at the International Conference on College Teaching and Learning. She also received the university’s Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award and has been recognized by the International Reading Association as a preeminent researcher in the integration of literacy and technology.
Karen Parks ’83, PhD

“Academically, Furman prepared me for a master’s degree, a PhD, and a Fulbright scholarship at La Scala, the world’s most prestigious opera house. In performance, it prepared me to sing in 12 languages in 15 countries. It also prepared me to teach at a university in Atlanta, then in Greenville’s performing arts high school, which I attended from age 13, and now at New York University. The entrepreneurship I learned at Furman enabled me to found my own business, Ottimavoce, Inc., which provides master-classes in six genres of music. I am thrilled to see my students succeed on Broadway in The Lion King, in opera, in film, and in venues throughout the country.”

Tricia Morgan Carswell was the subject of an interview last fall for FACE of Nashville by Style Blueprint. She talked about her family and her time as a Furman student; her busy career as a professional fundraiser; her volunteer role as president of The Women’s Fund; what she likes about living in Nashville; and her favorite restaurants, vacation spots, books on her bedside table, beauty products, and fashions. The South Carolina State Library’s Center for the Book selected How I Became a Pirate, a children’s book published in 2003 by Melinda Brown Long of Greenville, to represent the state at the 2013 National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., in September 2013. The book is the state’s selection for the National Book Festival’s “Discover Great Places Through Reading Map.” Each state selects one book about the state or by an author from the state that is a good read for children or young adults.

Mike Phillips has the “largest collection of telephones,” according to the Guinness Book of World Records. Guinness shows that his collection, housed in Greenville, had consisted of 1,135 telephones in 2011. Phillips and his wife, Mary, started the collection in the early 1980s with a Superman statue telephone produced in a limited number. The collection includes race cars, musical instruments, candlesticks, animals, cartoon characters, one-of-a-kind, recognized business brand novelty phones, and others. Some of the phones have special ringers and movements, with the potential for hands-on interaction by children.

FALL

Class Notes

Quotable

Karen Parks ’83, PhD

“Academically, Furman prepared me for a master’s degree, a PhD, and a Fulbright scholarship at La Scala, the world’s most prestigious opera house. In performance, it prepared me to sing in 12 languages in 15 countries. It also prepared me to teach at a university in Atlanta, then in Greenville’s performing arts high school, which I attended from age 13, and now at New York University. The entrepreneurship I learned at Furman enabled me to found my own business, Ottimavoce, Inc., which provides master-classes in six genres of music. I am thrilled to see my students succeed on Broadway in The Lion King, in opera, in film, and in venues throughout the country.”

Karen Parks is a professional soprano and professor of voice at New York University. She received her doctorate from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship for voice to study with Maestro Gabriele Pisani at La Scala in Italy.

1983 University of Central Missouri President Chuck Ambrose was honored last September by Missouri Governor Jay Nixon for his contributions to what the governor has termed a “national model for strengthening the ties between what students learn in the classroom and the skills they will need in the workforce.” He received the Governor’s Economic Development Advancement Award. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated significant leadership in the implementation of an innovative and highly effective action designed to address critical economic needs within local, regional, and state business. Ambrose was honored for his leadership in the creation and implementation of the Missouri Innovation Campus, an initiative that attracted the attention of President Obama and resulted in him visiting UCM in 2013.

Gregory Butler of Las Cruces, NM, has been promoted to full professor in the department of government at New Mexico State University.

J. Ligon Duncan III has been named chancellor and chief executive officer of Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. He had been the John E. Richards professor of systematic and historical theology at the school and the senior minister of First Presbyterian Church. He is the president of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood, and was president of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals from 2004–12. He will continue to serve as senior minister at First Presbyterian Church until the end of the year.

Karen Parks is a professional soprano and professor of voice at New York University. She received her doctorate from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship for voice to study with Maestro Gabriele Pisani at La Scala in Italy.
David E. Loving became chief executive officer at Central Carolina Hospital, a 137-bed facility located in Sanford, NC, on March 3. He came to the hospital with more than 24 years in executive positions at various hospitals throughout the Southeast, most recently at Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital in Elkin, NC. Loving earned his master’s degree in business administration from Indiana State University and he is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Rep. Mark Sanford’s (R-SC) climb back up the political ladder was the subject of a feature in the Miami Herald in June. He answered questions about his life, the events of the past five years, his rise from the political dead, emerging from a crowded Republican primary last year, easily winning the general election, and returning to Washington. However, the self-described skinflint of the past did admit in the story that he has bought at least one new suit since his return but he still has his futon in his office.

1984 In October 2013, Phyllis Parlier Graydon was named a managing partner in Scott and Company, LLC, a Greenville accounting, tax, and consulting firm. She is a CPA, a member of the firm’s tax and advisory services group, and has more than 25 years experience serving both closely held and publicly traded organizations. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the South Carolina Association of Public Accountants and is licensed in the state of South Carolina. Her civic involvements include volunteer with Brandon Hall School (Atlanta) and J.L. Mann Academy, the Mauldin Recreation Department, and the United Way of Greenville County.

Steve Harmon is professor and chair of the learning technologies division of Georgia State University. He is also president of the Association of Educational Communications and Technology.

On July 1, Cathy Jamieson-Ogg was appointed as Columbia District Superintendent (United Methodist). She is senior pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Blythewood, SC, where she has served since 2001.

1986 Randy Johnson of Charlotte, NC, is now practicing dentistry at Smile Starters, and recently became a licensed massage therapist.

Lisa Wheeler, a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve, is stationed with the 80th Training Command, serving as human resources sergeant and as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Personnel Actions Center. She previously served as a human resources officer in another assignment and was a member of the 380th Army Band for 15 years. She was recently awarded an Army Achievement Medal for excelling in her human resources reclassification training course last summer, earning her a place on the Commandant’s List in both phases. And she received the Achievement Medal for civilian service for her work as a unit administrative technician.

1987 Peter Chesney earned a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business in March.


In March, Robin Lee Howell published her first book, I Remember, a book to help children understand Alzheimer’s disease and create memories with ones they love. She wrote the book in honor of her father, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s in 2006.

Jennifer D. Malinovsky has been elected to Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP’s executive committee, the governing body of seven partners who oversee standing committees, strategic initiatives and firm operations for the law firm. She practices in the areas of health care, finance, and corporate law, and also assists commercial lenders and investors with various types of financing transactions.

Lance Richey was recently named dean of the school of liberal arts and sciences at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, IN.

1989 Elizabeth Bishop’s opera career has taken her far from her hometown to perform with top opera companies such as the Metropolitan Opera and the Atlanta and San Francisco operas, but she occasionally returns to perform locally. One such performance came last fall, when Bishop was a featured soloist in Greenville Chorale’s concert From Broadway with Love at the Peace Center under the direction of her former teacher and chorale director, Bingham Vick.

Lisa Elliott Grose was scheduled to travel to Uganda in June as a community health technical advisor for the Pallisa Community Development Trust, an NGO operating in Northeast Uganda. Since 2009 she has been an online volunteer for the group through the United Nations volunteers program, working for the organization as a grants writer and project developer. She will be in Uganda for seven months and will be leading a small business project for women with HIV/AIDS.

George W. Quarles III of Maryville, TN, who coaches the Maryville High School football team, has been recognized for winning more games in the past 10 years than any coach in the country, with a record of 143 wins in 10 seasons.

In 2013, Robert Moody made his European debut with the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra in Ljubljana, and in recent months he has had two significant orchestra conducting debuts. He conducted the Los Angeles Philharmonic in an all-Tchaikovsky concert at the Hollywood Bowl last August, and in February he conducted the Chicago Symphony’s Music Now! series. In July he is scheduled to lead the Chicago Symphony in their summer home, the Ravinia Festival. Moody is the artistic director of the Arizona Musicfest and music director of both the Portland Symphony Orchestra and the Winston-Salem Symphony.

Rand Wallis was appointed last year by the governor of Florida to the position of district judge of the Fifth District Court of Appeals. Prior to this appointment, he served as a circuit judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Florida from 2008 to 2013.
1990

The 2013-2014 chair of the 1,800 member Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar handed the gavel to Jana Henry McConnaughy on July 1. She will serve as chair for 2014-2015.

In September 2013, Leif Murphy was appointed chief financial officer of LifePoint Hospitals, Inc., in Brentwood, TN. Murphy previously served as president and chief executive officer of DSI Renal, Inc., and senior vice president and treasurer at Caremark, Inc. He has also held leadership roles at Renal Care Group, Inc.; National Nephrology Associates, Inc.; and HealthSouth Corporation.

Michael Todd White was one of the five men named to the U.S. Walker Cup squad last fall on the final day of the U.S. Amateur at the Country Club in Brookline, MA. The squad joined four others on the U.S. team slated to try and regain the title at National Golf Links in Southampton, NY. In Furman record books, White’s 73.85 career stroke average ranks fifth; he was inducted into Furman’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003.

1991

Randall David Cook returned to Furman in the 1991-1992 academic year for a semester as an artist-in-residence. He taught a course on playwriting and also developed a new work, Pomp and Circumstance, which received its world premiere on November 13, 2013. The play centers on a group of students at a liberal arts college, and is based loosely on Randall’s Furman experiences.

When the InnoVision Awards Program held its annual dinner in Greenville last December, Braddock Cunningham’s company, Network Controls & Electric, Inc., was recognized as one of the top 25 fastest growing companies in South Carolina for the fourth time in the past five years. The company was also selected as a finalist for the 2013 InnoVision Awards in the Community Service category.

After five years as general manager of the Golden Corral Restaurant in Rocky Mount, NC, Kyle Eickhoff walked into the restaurant as a franchise owner. He did this under Golden Corral’s Operating Partner Program, which helps managers become owners, thus giving them a vested interest in the success of their business. After Furman, Eickhoff gained 28 years of experience in the food service industry, most of which was with Ryan’s Family Steakhouse in Tennessee, where he stayed for 17 years before being recruited by Golden Corral. At the Golden Corral convention and trade show in 2013, he was honored as the “best of the best” when he was named the top company manager for the second time.

Industry veteran Christy Carter Swink was welcomed to AT&T’s mid-Atlantic market last fall to manage mobility and consumer markets in the states of North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. Before being named vice president and general manager for the mid-Atlantic market, Swink was AT&T’s assistant vice president of sales operations for the southeast region.

1992

Senior vice president of Southeast Mortgage of Georgia, Inc., John David Crowe, has been promoted to president of the full-service Atlanta mortgage company. Crowe will also assume the position of president of the Mortgage Bankers Association of Georgia later this year.

Kathryn Tyson Petralia is co-founder and chief operating officer of Kabbage Inc., an online lending company based in Atlanta. Kabbage advances cash to eBay, Amazon, and Yahoo! sellers so they can buy inventory and grow.

Michael Osborne, founder of North Carolina-based Ship Transportal, was recently honored by CIO Review magazine. The transportation logistics company was recognized as one of the 20 most promising logistics consultancy companies of 2013. It has also been designated as a “supplier of excellence” by the nation’s largest phone media company.

1993

Alexander Stubb, who has been serving as Finland’s minister for European affairs and foreign trade, won his party’s leadership to succeed Finland’s current prime minister. He had held his former position in the Finnish government since 2011, and has been a member of the Finnish parliament since March 2011. He was minister for foreign affairs of Finland from 2008 to 2011. Prior to his political career, Stubb was adviser to the president of the European Commission, visiting professor of the College of Europe in Belgium, and counselor and researcher at the permanent representation of Finland to the European Union.

Fred Sturgis has joined Accele-KKR as a managing director based in the firm’s Atlanta office. Accel-KKR is a leading technology-focused private equity firm, and Fred’s focus will be on the firm’s investment efforts at the lower end of its historical majority investment size range.

1994

Kelly Jackson Davis has joined Riggs Partners, a creative marketing consultancy in Columbia, SC, as director of public relations. She is the former principal of Davis Public Relations and Marketing.

Millicent Weldon Ruffin, program manager for Corning Product and Process Development, received Women of Color magazine’s Outstanding Technical Contribution-Industry Award at the 18th Annual Women of Color Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Conference in Dallas. Ruffin has also served as vice president of the Corning Society of Black Professionals. The Women of Color STEM conference is a multicultural event for women in scientific and technical careers.

1995

Jeff Montgomery has been appointed as the public information officer for the Athens-Clarke County, GA, Unified Government.

1996

Nicole Mazzoni James is the new senior vice president of Multi-Bank Securities. Her experience includes working at Incapital LLC as vice president, and she spent 11 years at LaSalle’s Broker Dealer Services Division.

Amy Love, an employee of the South Carolina Department of Commerce, has been named to launch and direct
A collective anxiety for today's graduates—who for the past six years have been leaving the Ivory Tower only to enter the Great Recession—usually distills to a single image: sleeping on their parents' couch mired in existential crisis. But what if the new graduate chooses something even more unsettling than a return to his childhood home? What if he chooses no home at all?

Shortly after graduation in 2008, Derek Snook spent a year living at the Star Gospel Mission—transitional housing for the homeless population in Charleston, South Carolina. “I had just spent a few months in Kenya teaching orphans and made a promise to God that if He gave me something purposeful to do, I wouldn’t quit,” he says.

“I began to realize there is this disconnect between people who want to help and the people they are actually helping. You can’t understand what they are going through until you walk in their shoes.

“All I can say is that living at the mission, brushing my teeth at night, climbing in my top bunk and listening to the other men snore—I realized I would never feel more successful in my entire life than I did in that moment.”

Snook worked day labor with the men from the Mission, and the experience inspired him to create a social enterprise called In Every Story (IES) Labor Services. The name derives from one of Snook's favorite sayings: “In every story there is conflict, but also God’s hope, love, and redemption.”

IES adapts the temp agency model for those who are homeless. It focuses on providing labor opportunities, but it also guides the homeless toward self-sufficiency “by providing laborers with competitive wages, as well as opportunities to save money and develop life disciplines.”

The “competitive wages” aspect of IES’s mission is key. Minimum wage in Charleston County is $7.25 per hour, but thanks to IES’s Rewards Program, Snook can supplement incomes beyond minimum wage to $8.75 per hour. The long-term goal is $9.74 an hour, which according to an MIT study is the living wage for the county.

During the year Snook spent living in the Star Gospel Mission, fellow alumnus, Stanford Law graduate, and best friend Peter DeMarco ‘08 joined him.

“We weighed out the options of buying bus tickets and going home or buying a car and continuing on. We realized that while going home would be the reasonable and even responsible thing to do, we just couldn’t. If we did, we’d be setting a pattern for our lives where every time the car broke down we’d go home. Neither of us wanted our future children to have fathers who told stories like that.”

Instead, Snook and DeMarco bought a new car and allowed their travels to show them what was possible and what was not working among nonprofits for the homeless.

Snook started IES in 2011 with $3,000 and a single job assignment: hiring three workers for trash pick-up at the local fair. Today, IES places up to 110 workers each day and has added more than $100,000 to workers’ wages through the Rewards Program.

“We plan to start our second branch in 2015, and then all across the country. We also intend to start other services and products that benefit those who are marginalized, to use this as a platform to talk about living your best story.”

In spite of his success, Snook remains humble and focused on improvements. “We are not going to pretend we’re turning homeless people into attorneys, but we are making a marginal difference that is noticeable. And it takes time. We’ll see what God does.”

—Kate Dabbs ’09
the department’s new Office of Innovation. She will lead South Carolina’s state effort to support and further grow an innovative, technology-based, and entrepreneurial business environment. Previously, Amy was a marketing and communications director at the department, and was part of a start-up team that launched New Carolina-South Carolina’s Council on Competitiveness, serving as deputy executive director. She is a graduate of Leadership South Carolina (LSC) class of 2007, served on the LSC Board of Trustees, and is a fellow of the seventh class of the Liberty Fellowship.

Sara Mays Nastopoulos has been promoted to executive director of the Ernst & Young accounting firm in Atlanta. She has more than 11 years of experience with the firm.

1997 A. Parrish Clark, Jr., executive vice president, Guardian Bank, Valdosta, GA, has been elected by his peers as president-elect of the Leadership GBA Executive Committee of the Georgia Bankers Association, an organization created in 1958 and committed to developing the future leaders of the banking industry.

Jason W. Searl, an attorney with GrayRobinson in Orlando, FL, has been reappointed to the City of Orlando Municipal Planning Board.

Richard Sizemore has returned to Macon, GA, to join the Sell & Melton law firm as a partner. He began his career at King & Spalding LLP.

1998 Last November, Michael Hix was presented the Thomas Hampson Award by the American Musicological Society. Provided by the Hampson Foundation, the award supports research in the area of art song. He also received a grant given by the German Academic Exchange Club. The award and the grant will assist him in his research on DDR composer Paul Dessau and his residency at the music archives of the Akademie der Kuenste in Berlin. He made his Carnegie Hall solo debut singing the baritone solos in Rutter’s Mass of the Children, followed by operetta performances. Recent performances included solo appearances with the New Mexico Philharmonic, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Canticum Novum, and Tucson Chamber Artists.

J. Austin Hood has been named managing member of the Columbia, SC, office of the Clawson & Staubes law firm.

1999 Daniel Carter has been named a principal at Ascendient Healthcare Advisors, with offices in Durham, NC, and Washington, D.C. He has been a managing consultant at Ascendient, one of the nation’s 50 largest firms in health care management consulting, since 2001.

Wayne Gregory, Jr., is economic development director for the city of Columbia, SC, after having served in a similar capacity in Georgetown County, SC, since 2005. He also worked in Greenville County’s development corporation.

2000 Ellen Culbertson Abramo of Gilbertsville, PA, released a new single, “Rise (Above the Flood),” in July 2013. The song was also performed as a choreographed ballet dance by Premiere Dance Studio in Pennsylvania.

Walter L. Booth, Jr., has joined the Atlanta office of Stites & Harbison, PLLC. Booth earned his J.D. from Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law in 2013, where he was a member of the mock trial team and student government, and was southern region director of corporate relations of the National Black Law Students Association. Prior to joining Stites & Harbison, he worked in the financial services industry.

Greenville businessman and athlete Drew Parker completed two iron-distance triathlons over the weekend of October 10–12, 2013. Donations for the challenge through his charitable organization, YouthOutpost, were in support of the Frazee Dream Center, a free preschool, after-school and summer program serving Greenville’s underprivileged youth ranging in age from 3-16.

2001 Dodd Caldwell has partnered with his friend Ryan Wood to launch MoonClerk, an all-in-one solution to accepting recurring and one-time online payments via the payment processor Stripe. Their concept allows small-business owners, not just developers and technically gifted people, to work with Stripe. Caldwell also serves as president of his family’s faith-based nonprofit Rice Bowls, which helps organizations collect money to feed the hungry around the world.

When Barack Obama spoke at the White House in February to announce the “My Brother’s Keeper” initiative, he spoke of Maurice Owens, who works...
in Chicago and Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace Council in Bloomington, IN. Before transitioning into the field of fundraising, she trained as a singer, pianist, and performer, and participated with Opera Theatre St. Louis as a Gerdine Young Artist.

The board of the Greenville County Schools approved the hiring of G. Bryan Skipper to take over as principal at Hillcrest High School in Simpsonville, SC. He assumed his duties on July 1.

Allison Paige Sullivan, a partner with Bluestein Nichols Thompson and Delgado, LLC, was named “Young Lawyer of the Year” by the South Carolina Bar Association’s Young Lawyers’ Division (YLD) in April. She has been selected as a 2013 South Carolina Rising Star by Super Lawyers and was named one of the 2014 “Top 40 Under 40 Litigation Lawyers in South Carolina” by the American Society of Legal Advocates. She is an active volunteer with the South Carolina Bar and Special Olympics South Carolina.

2002 Allison Aiken was recently hired as a research scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in the earth and environmental sciences division. Her expertise is in ambient aerosol measurement for pollution and climate change research. At LANL she is now running the Mobile Aerosol Observing System (MAOS) and is currently deployed in Brazil for two years. She has been named to “The World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds 2014,” a report released by Thomson Reuters (of Impact Factor fame), spotlighting some of the standout scientific researchers of the last decade.

Erin Kelley Sammis, executive director for the Pensacola (FL) Opera, has been named a certified fundraising executive by CFRE International. CFRE is an independent organization dedicated to the certification of fundraising executives by setting standards in philanthropic practice. Sammis previously worked at Chicago Opera Theatre.

Ellen Abramo ’00 recently released a new single, “Rise (Above the Flood).”

Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank once again recognized local talent at their “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards event on September 24. Lauren Killey Briles and Melanie Masten Gearhart were among those
FAILURES IS NOT AN OPTION
Katy Wynn ’09 found magic in Hollywood but “invincibility” at Furman.

“At Furman, I always had a love for the outdoors. I explored the Swamp Rabbit Trail with the Outdoors Club when it was still a railroad, and I completed a summer research project related to business and sustainability when ‘sustainability’ was still a buzz word. I also loved Conan—O’Brien, that is. Well, really, I loved all late-night television, but Conan was always my favorite.

“My senior year, I still wasn’t 100 percent sure what I wanted to do with my life. This was right when the economy tanked and jobs were few and far between, so I thought, ‘Why not just go for it? Why don’t I try to work for Conan?’

“Maybe it was the confidence that being a Furman student had given me. Maybe it was my 22-year-old mentality. Whatever it was, I knew I wouldn’t fail, and I knew this was the time to take risks. Thankfully, Furman also had connections, and I found a great one through Career Services.

“So after graduation, I was off to Reveille Productions in L.A., where Chad Bennett ’03 was the vice president of brand development. There, I began as a production coordinator at the studio responsible for shows like The Office and The Biggest Loser.

“I got the initial knowledge that I needed to work in this industry at Reveille. Conveniently, the studio was also on the same lot as Conan O’Brien’s show, so I made contacts there and applied for a position as Conan’s production coordinator when it became available. Before I knew it, I had landed my dream job—just like that.

“Working for Conan was amazing. But soon I realized I wanted to learn more and wanted the experience of working on a network show, learning the macrobusiness side of things. I was also at a position in my life where I could ask myself honestly, ‘What do I care about?’ My answer was the outdoors. This led me to my current job as associate producer for National Geographic Television.

“Now I’m combining the two worlds I loved at Furman—marketing/business and sustainability—and enjoying the best career I could imagine.

“What’s funny is I never once doubted myself or my capabilities. I never considered failing. Furman made me feel invincible.”

—As told to Lindsay Niedringhaus ’07
'03, are living and working in Greenville. Anne Marie is an attorney in the Upstate and also a USAF Reserve Judge Advocate General, and has been selected for promotion to the rank of major. Eugene earned his doctor of dental medicine degree in May and is a general dentist with Greer (SC) Dental Care.

**Brian W. Ticknor** has become an R&D staff scientist in the chemical sciences division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and lives in Knoxville, TN.

**Andrew Valkanoff** is among those winners earning a place on the *Triangle Business Journal*'s 2014 class of 40 Under 40 Leadership Awards, which recognizes outstanding professionals for their contributions to their organizations and to the community.

2003

**Yendelela Neely Anderson** of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton law firm in Atlanta has been selected as a member of the 2014 class of fellows to participate in a landmark program created by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity to identify and advance the next generation of leaders in the legal profession.

**Monica Bell** is a Climenko fellow and lecturer on law at Harvard Law School, where she will teach legal research and writing from 2014-2016. She is also working toward a PhD in sociology and social policy at Harvard, writing criminal law, family law, and social welfare policy.

**Colleen Carson** became a partner in the Florida trusts and estates law firm of Baskin Fleece on January 1. She has been practicing at the firm in the areas of estate planning, corporate law, probate and trust administration, and guardianship administration since 2007. In February, she joined the board for Lighthouse of Pinellas, a non-profit organization providing rehabilitation and training to blind and visually impaired individuals with the county. She is a trustee for the Clearwater Bar Foundation.

**Nathan Hanna** received the director’s choice award at the Benefitfocus Engineering Summit held in Charleston, SC, last fall. Hanna joined Benefitfocus in 2011 as a senior interaction engineer and currently holds the position of user experience (UX) engineering manager. Benefitfocus is a leading provider of cloud-based benefits software solutions for consumers, employers, insurance carriers, and brokers.

**Amy Schiera**, assistant vice president of operations/administration at SANLAPPER Securities was among those selected for “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards from *Greenville Business Magazine* and Southern First Bank. At SANLAPPER she serves as the head of investor processing and service operations, and provides management and oversight of investment fund operations for affiliate Sandlapper Capital Investments, LLC.

**Natalie The** received a $2.6 million, four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to advance research in diabetes among children and young adults. The project, SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth, is the largest study of youth with diabetes in the United States and is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

**Ryan Boblett ’00**

“I found my love for design during my last quarter at Furman in a .5-hour elective class called ‘Introduction to the Macintosh.’ I looked forward to that class every week, to sitting at the computer and creating. After a few weeks, my professor (Ross McClain) gave me his keys so I could come back after hours and work at night. I couldn’t get enough. He saw my passion and told me to check out the Portfolio Center, a finishing school for design, where I went for two years after Furman. I never got to thank Ross for changing the course of my life. So, Ross, if you’re reading this, thank you. Your guidance opened the door to a new career. You also unknowingly introduced me to my future wife, whom I met at Portfolio Center. Our two kids thank you.”

Ryan Boblett ’00 is art director at FITZCO, an advertising agency, where he is currently developing the new campaign for Coke Zero and ESPN College Gameday. At his previous agency, Boblett helped create the campaign for the 2013 NFL sponsorship for McDonald’s®. The campaign produced three national TV spots, which aired throughout the NFL season—including in the Super Bowl.
Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. The, who joined the Furman faculty in 2011 and is a member of the health sciences staff, has continued her work on childhood obesity by examining how policies have influenced obesity levels in elementary school students. Her research has been featured in USA Today, TIME, and on NPR.

2004 Sean Atkinson has accepted a position as assistant professor of music at Texas Christian University, which he began in February. He had previously been on the music faculty at the University of Texas-Arlington since 2009.

Jon Crane has had his first book published. The book, a Charleston ghost story, is titled The Crying Truth.

Upstate pianist and composer Robby Davis was nominated for the 2013 Album of the Year Award by SoloPiano.com for his instrumental album Hymns of Our Fathers. This is Davis’s second nomination from SoloPiano. A Love So Divine, his debut, was nominated in 2012.

David M. Johnson graduated with Alpha Omega Alpha honors from Emory University School of Medicine, and is currently a resident in otolaryngology (head and neck surgery) at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Sarah E. Klapman has joined Miller & Martin’s Atlanta office as an associate in the litigation department. As a student in law school at the University of Virginia, Klapman was the business and development editor for the Virginia Journal of Law & Technology. Prior to joining Miller & Martin, she was a staff attorney with the Federal Defender Program, Inc.

Jeremiah Van Dora has joined his father in the Van Dora Law Firm, LLC, in Hartwell, GA. The Van Dora firm specializes in workers’ compensation, employment law, personal injury, and business formation.

2005 Bert Beard has been named the first-ever chief operating officer at the Wilson (NC) Medical Center. He served as associate administrator at Manatee Memorial Hospital in Bradenton, FL, before joining Wilson in April.

Jessica Cochran is pursuing a master’s degree in international development with a concentration in humanitarian assistance at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. On a Monday in June when the World Cup soccer games began in Brazil, Clint Dempsey captained a 2-1 U.S. victory against Ghana with a goal in the game’s first 32 seconds, making him the first American to score in three consecutive World Cups. After his junior season at Furman in 2004, Clint was drafted eighth overall by the New England Revolution. He went to the English club Fulham in 2006, where he experienced the greatest success in the English Premier League of any American soccer player. That same year he was named the 2006 Player of the Year, an award given to the best American soccer play.

Augusta, GA, lawyer Keith B. Johnson became a juvenile court judge for the Augusta judicial circuit in December. He will serve part time on the juvenile court bench. Johnson is an associate at the Trotter Jones law firm and from 2009 until this year, he worked as an assistant district attorney.

Allen Mendenhall has published the book Literature & Liberty: Essays in Libertarian Literary Criticism (Rowman & Littlefield / Lexington Books, 2014). He is a staff attorney to Chief Justice Roy S. Moore of the Supreme Court of Alabama. He is also managing editor of Southern Literary Review and is a doctoral candidate in English at Auburn University.

Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank recognized local talent at their “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards event; Joseph P. Waters was among those selected. Waters is vice president of policy and communications for the Institute for Child Success for which he oversees and implements all advocacy, public policy, and communications programs and leads their research efforts in social impact finance.

2006 Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank once again recognized local talent at their “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards event; Nalisha Henry and Kimberly Witherspoon were among those selected. Henry is Upstate community outreach manager for Girl Scouts of South Carolina, Mountains and Midlands. She promotes and enhances awareness of Girl Scouting and its programs in low-income, rural, and Hispanic communities across the Upstate, and develops community partnerships with government officials to create more Girl Scouting opportunities. Witherspoon is an attorney with Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, where she represents municipalities, counties, nonprofits, and others as bond counsel, underwriter’s counsel, credit enhancer’s counsel, and corporate counsel in financial structures.

Tracy O’Brien Mainieri is an assistant professor at Illinois State University in the recreation and parks administration program. She received her PhD in parks, recreation, and tourism management from Clemson University where she received the Marge Scanlin Outstanding Research Award from the American Camp Association, two outstanding graduate student awards from the PRTM department, and the Dr. Fran A. McGuire Excellence in Teaching Award.

2007 Abigail L. Gaddis has earned her PhD in civil engineering with a concentration in environmental engineering and an interdisciplinary graduate minor in computational science from the University of Tennessee. She is a postdoctoral research associate at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where she is continuing her research in climate modeling.

Laura Godfrey Morris is the choral director at Blue Ridge High School in Greer, SC. In March, the Blue Ridge Honors Men’s Chorus, under her direction, won the AAA State Choral Championship. The Honors Concert Choir won the state championship in 2004 and 2009.

Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank once again recognized local talent at their “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards event; Erika Grace Powell was among those selected. Erika is owner of The Grace Project LLC. She is self-employed as an entertainer, singer, actor, model,
it was her senior year at Furman, and Martha “Marty” Wicks Müller ’04 had her career mapped out. Except her plan didn’t excite her. In fact, the more she thought about it, the more burdened she felt.

“I was going to get my master’s in chemistry, and then work in the pharmaceutical field for a couple of years before I applied to med school,” she explains.

Her advisor, Dr. Laura Wright, called a meeting.

When Wicks Müller recited her plan, Wright sensed something was off. Wright looked at her, said, “Okay, well, ideally, what would you like to do?”

In truth, Wicks Müller couldn’t imagine working in a lab. It didn’t suit her laid-back personality. Growing up, family friends had been wine importers, so she knew something about the industry. She asked Wright if a person could study the chemistry of wine—never believing it was possible.

“Absolutely, you can,” Wright said. At that moment, a “huge weight” lifted from Wicks Müller’s shoulders.

“I had another direction,” she says.

Following graduation, Wicks Müller worked in a clinical lab at the University of North Carolina as she took the biology courses she needed for grad school. She earned her master’s degree at the University of California-Davis, world-renowned for its viticulture program.

In June of this year, she finished a two-year stint as winemaker for Barren Ridge Vineyards in Virginia, where she used her science background year-round.

“Wine pH is really low,” she says. “You want to go to vinegar. You’re trying to prevent that. You want a solid pH between 3.2 and 3.6 before you start fermentation because your pH will go up. You’re monitoring your fermentation using chemistry. Not just chemistry, but biochemistry and microbiology. There are a lot of corrections you can make to lower or adjust the pH and to help the taste and mouthfeel of the wine later on.”

This year, several of Wicks Mueller’s wines earned silvers and bronzes in the Governor’s Cup competition for Virginia wines. And much as she hoped, she feels at home in the field (and fields) of wine.

“The whole industry is very grounding because when it comes down to it, we’re farmers,” says her husband, Jonas Mueller. “We’re dependent on the weather. This is what Marty likes about it, what suits her personality well. You can do all the science you want, but it’s a very humbling, very grounding thing.”

The Müellers recently moved to Germany so that Jonas, a native of that country, can pursue a PhD in winemaking. While in Germany, Wicks Müller plans on learning about biodynamic winemaking, which is more stringent than certified organic farming. The game plan is for husband and wife to run a winery together someday.

“I really hope that chemistry majors and microbiology majors can see that there are many fields out there that don’t necessarily have to be in a lab,” she says.

—Lynn Tryba
and host. She works nationally and locally with the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. She is active in the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and she serves on the South Carolina Board of the campaign.

2008 Blair Barton has graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and has started an otolaryngology residency at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans.

Mason Freeman has joined Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice in Raleigh, NC, as a litigation associate.

Kimberly Hoover is employed by Smoak Public Relations in Greenville. Among her duties are writing articles for publications, distributing press releases, managing social media accounts, and organizing special events.

Justin Lowe earned his medical degree from the University of South Carolina in May 2013, finished an adult neurology residency program at the University of Cincinnati, and is currently a PGY1 resident neurologist with interest in neurooncology and neurocritical care.

Megan Slemons earned a master’s degree in library science from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and is employed as a research library fellow at Emory University in Atlanta. She provides geographic information systems services as part of the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship, which works with faculty, staff, and students to incorporate digital technologies into projects, teaching, publishing, and research.

In late 2013, Pi Kappa Phi put into motion a new initiative to recognize young alumni for their achievements after their undergraduate careers have come to an end. All alumni of 25 different Pi Kappa Phi chapters were included in the initial class, and after a Herculean effort to review all nominations, the first class of “Thirty Under 30” honorees have been selected. Josh Tutterow was among those nominated. Josh works for Benefitfocus in Charleston, SC, as a release manager, responsible for coordinating all deployments of new software. He is a regular volunteer and coach in a number of area programs, and was named South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Volunteer of the Year. He has also been recognized by South Carolina Special Olympics as the Adult Volunteer of the Year.

Xavier Woods (aka Austin Watson) has become a World Wrestling Entertainment performer, working for the largest wrestling promotion in the world. He has launched a show titled “Xavier Woods WWE 2K14 World Tour,” featuring himself traveling to various electronic stores around the world and competing against fans on the WWE 2K14 video game. He is currently continuing his education at Walden University and working on his dissertation. His passion in education is based on his focus on children with autism, and his goal is to use his degrees to work with autism-affected youth.

Kyle Wilkins was appointed in November 2013 by Governor Pat McCrory to serve on the North Carolina Historical Records Advisory Board.
**2009**

Christopher Becker is working as a senior investment banking analyst and team leader with National Corporate Banking-Southeast in Atlanta. His responsibilities include capital market origination for middle market clients in the southeastern United States.

Evan Bohnenblust has graduated from Temple University School of Medicine and became an anesthesiology resident at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles.

Jessie Bowers graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina in May, and will complete her internal medicine residency at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Casey Crisp recently accepted a position at George Washington University as the coordinator for leadership and training at the Center for Student Engagement.

Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank recognized local talent at their “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards event. John Gabbard was among those selected. Gabbard is a senior tax advisor with Ernst & Young, where he is responsible for planning and managing tax compliance engagements with an emphasis on international, state, and local tax returns.

Jaycelyn Holland received her doctor of medicine degree from Vanderbilt Medical School in May, and begun a residency in pediatrics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Lily Mallory House reports she was the subject of a feature in BlueRidgeNow.com Hendersonville (NC) Times-

**2010**

Emily Bone presented research about neurofeedback therapy as a treatment option for veterans with PTSD, depression, and anxiety at the annual European-Branch of the American Counseling Association conference in Bad-Herrenalb, Germany, last fall. She was also accepted to present at the American Counseling Association’s 2013 conference. Bone is pursuing her master’s degree in school counseling at the University of Central Florida.

Brian Gardner has passed the Georgia Bar exam, and works as an associate with the Asbury Law Firm, with a focus on tax controversy, business tax planning, and estate planning. He earned his law degree from Villanova University, and won the Federal Tax Clinic Award for his work in the law school’s federal tax clinic.

**2011**

Shannon Cantwell finished her master’s degree and took a position on the Washington, D.C., staff of Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL). In April, Cantwell was promoted to work as the senator’s military legislative assistant.

Brann Fowler graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in May and is applying for clerkships with judges in the Upstate.

Claire Garst received a master’s degree in higher education administration from Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College, and now works as a counselor in Furman’s Office of Admission.

Monty Turner was promoted to consultant with Global Location Strategies (GLS), a site selection and economic development firm. He joined the Greenville office of GLS in 2010 as a business analyst providing research, analysis, and support services to GLS’s portfolio of international site selection and incentive negotiation clients.

Patrick Wallace was promoted to assistant vice president with McGuireWoods Consulting in February. He joined the firm in June 2011 as a research assistant in the Virginia State Government Relations group.

Dan Weidenbenner is director of Mill Village Farms, a rooftop farm that has been in the development stage for the past several months. The half-acre farm will be located above the old Windstream building at 2 N. Main Street, and a variety of produce will be grown to sell to local restaurants and used for Mill Village Farms’ Good to Go Mobile Market.

**2012**

Alexandra Bimonte is now director of social media for The Buzz Agency in Delray Beach, FL. She has also attended and graduated from the prestigious Leadership Boca program run by the Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce.

Drew Dezen has joined Jeff Dezen Public Relations (JDPR) in Greenville as an account executive. He will work primarily with IRWIN Tools and JDPR’s sports/lifestyle clients. Dezen most recently served as marketing and communications coordinator at Baseball Australia in Queensland. Before that, he was marketing and communications assistant for the Australian Baseball League in Sydney.

Alec Kann, former Furman men’s soccer standout, has signed a contract to join Major League Soccer’s Chicago Fire. He joins the Fire from USL-Pro side Charleston Battery, where he spent the 2012 season.

Summer 2013 was a busy and exciting time for Brooke Mosteller. As Miss Mount Pleasant, she competed and was named Miss South Carolina 2013, then moved on to compete with 52 other women in the five-day one-shot Miss America Pageant. She also worked as an intern in Attorney General Alan Wilson’s office. When all her obligations to the two pageants have been met, she plans to return to her pursuit of a law degree at the University of South Carolina.
For a small school, Furman has had a striking record of military service—and at the highest levels. We list below the generals across the generations who once called Furman home:

Brigadier General
Christopher S. Ballard ’84

Lieutenant General
Daniel G. Brown ’68

Brigadier General
C. David Estes ’78

Major General
William A. Gantt, Jr. ’59

Brigadier General
George W. Goldsmith, Jr. MA’71

Major General
Richard C. Longo ’80

Rear Admiral
Steven W. Maas ’72

Brigadier General
James H. Mason ’86

Vice Admiral
J. Michael McConnell ’66

Major General
John F. Mulholland, Jr. ’78

Major General
James F. Pasquarette ’83

Brigadier General
Steve Scott ’82

Major General
David L. Stanford ’50

Major General
Joseph G. Webb, Jr. ’67

Major General
Kevin R. Wendel ’79

2013
Rachel Donaldson is a medical student pursuing a career in emergency medicine. She is part of a new partnership between Furman and the Greenville Health System (GHS) that designates Furman as GHS’s primary undergraduate partner for health care education in the Upstate.

Julie Jarriel teaches English at Wade Hampton High School’s Freshman Academy. She was recently named the secondary school winner of the 2013 Alfred and Marybeth Bunting Childers Foundation Teaching Excellence Award, presented by Furman to two promising recent graduates who teach in local schools.

2014
In June, Furman All-America offensive lineman Dakota Dozier was selected by the New York Jets in the fourth round of the National Football League draft. He was the 37th pick of the fourth round, the 137th overall selection in this year’s draft, and the 31st player in Furman history to be drafted. Dakota received the Southern Conference Jacobs Blocking Award this past year, played in the East-West Shrine Game in January, participated in the NFL Combine in February, and was named Furman Male Athlete of the Year in April.

Having completed her softball playing career at Furman in May, Hannah Pace is already about to begin her coaching career. In early June, she was introduced to the players she will be coaching at Greenville’s Berea High School. Hannah started 174 games at Furman, most as the Paladins’ catcher. She has also been offered a fourth-grade teaching position at Welcome Elementary School.
BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

Jonathan ‘92 and Kathryn Wooten ‘91 Sobel, a son, Christopher Roby Wooten, May 21, 2013

Ligon and Julie Ann Stuart ‘91 Williams, a son, James Ligon V, January 23, 2013

David and Catherine L. Myers ‘93, a son, Keaton Russell, February 21, 2013

Claude and Jewel Giesy ‘94 McRoberts, a son, Edgars, June 25, 2013

Ernest and Lidia Abisellan ‘95, a son, Eduardo, February 6, 2013

Glenn and Heather Willis Allen ‘95, twins, a daughter, Nina Celeste, and a son, James Heath, May 5, 2013

Todd and Kim Kramer ‘95, a daughter, Kathryn Mary, August 11, 2013

Mark and Emily Ellis ‘97 Richardson, a daughter, Lynda Elaine, January 9

Chris and Alison Cunnold ‘99 Boivin, a son, Ryan Derek, April 22

Charles and Sarah Thomas ‘99 Clemons, a son, Andrew John, August 30, 2013

Reagan and Suzanna Wellman ‘99 Combs, a daughter, Elliot Kate, April 28

Christopher and Heather Coffey ‘99 Farmer, a daughter, Lillian Grace, May 7, 2013

Michael and Emily Smith White ‘00, a daughter, Nora Elaine, June 1, 2013

Jason and Mary Beth Wilson ‘00, a son, Bradley Thomas, April 5

Jeff and Emily Roberts ‘00 Wilson, a daughter, Mattie Reynolds Wilson, November 13, 2013

Dan ‘01 and Amanda Moseley ‘04 Atkinson, a son, Charles, September 23, 2013

Chris and Carlyn Bale ‘01, a daughter, Hadley Beryl, October 23, 2013

Bill and Jennifer Kemph Booth ‘01, a daughter, Ansley Brooke, July 21, 2013

Morgan and Megan Palmer ‘01 Camp, a son, Harrison Palmer Camp, March 17

Kevin ‘01 and Amanda Ballard ‘02 Crean, a son, John Henry, August 12, 2013

Chris and Jeny Bishop ‘01 Kerscher, a son, Noah Andrew, November 4, 2013

Ben and Anne-Leigh Gaylord ‘01 Moe, a son, Wilder Gaylord Moe, May 30, 2013

Brent and Meghan Scoggins ‘01, a daughter, Abbott Georgia, October 1, 2013

Ashley and Danielle Summer ‘01, a daughter, Arabella Rose, March 8

Justin and Crystal Streuber Garrick ‘02, a son, Connor

Justin, March 18, 2013

Bradley ‘04 and Elizabeth Coker ‘02 Hamlett, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, October 10, 2013

Joe and Teresa Leerse ‘02 Hoover, a son, Joseph Porter, March 18

Kevin and Megan Dunigan Klein ‘02, a son, Parker Thomas, February 28

Jeffrey and Karen Jones ‘02 Kung, a son, Benjamin James Shiang Kung, November 30, 2012

Matt and Lauren White ‘02 Steele, a son, Marshall William, June 17, 2013

Joshua and Sara Mayfield ‘02 Tiegren, a son, Simon Warner, May 30, 2013

Jonathan and Jessica Brown ‘03, a son, Maxwell Jon, July 14, 2013

Jon and Katie Dumitru ‘03, a daughter, Julia Elizabeth, August 22, 2013

Anthony ‘03 and Olivia de Castro ‘06 Esquivel, a son, Luca Andrés Esquivel, December 8, 2013

Eric and Heidi Hill Fisher ‘03, a daughter, Grace Taylor Fisher, February 26, 2013

James ‘04 and Sara Burnett ‘03 Granberry, a daughter, Eleanor Nell, February 18


Wes and Elizabeth Snipes ‘03 Rochester, a daughter, Margaret Anne, April 1, 2013

Peter and Stephanie Whitener ‘03 Tecklenburg, twin daughters, Catherine Frances Estelle

FURMAN | FALL 2014

65

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and Charlotte Mary Elizabeth, April 28, 2013
John and Courtney Schinke ’04 Cashman, a son, Mark Aidan, May 31, 2013
Jason and Erica Sutton ’04 Culbertson, a daughter, Sutton Ella, March 31
Richard and Lauren Monk ’04, a daughter, Kathryn Ellis Monk, February 3
Derek ’04 and Rebecca Bulkeley ’05 Norman, a daughter, Claire Evelyn, June 10
Samuel M. III and Katie Grubbs ’04 Price, a son, William Carey, May 9
Thomas ’05 and Dorothy Freeman ’04 Self, a son, Freeman Cuthbert Self, March 9, 2014
Barrett ’04 and Meghan Giles ’05 Tullis, a daughter, Sadie Elizabeth, September 10, 2013
Kenneth and Kristen Fischer ’05 Anthony, a son, James Fischer Anthony, January 30
Frederick L., Jr. ’05 and Erin Sigmon ’06 Henderson, a daughter, Eliana Leigh Henderson, September 3, 2013
Peter and Heather Wilson ’05 Morash, a son, Grant Thomas, October 3, 2013
Mark and Erin Fortenberry ’05 Presley, a daughter, Caroline Elizabeth, July 7, 2013
Sam ’06 and April Raymer ’05 Tooker, a son, Samuel Hobbes, April 1
Wes ’06 and Claire Wilson ’07 Bray, a daughter, Marley Lillian, October 29, 2013
Jeremy and Jessica Bolden Spencer ’06, a son, Garrison
Rhys, May 23, 2013
Tom and Lauren Ourt ’06 Wieme, a daughter, Anna Katherine, July 2, 2013
Paris and Jennifer Ward ’07 Cornwell, a son, Bennett Asher, October 29, 2013
Matthew and Amy McKinney ’07 Luff, a son, Boone McMillan Luff, December 15, 2013
Bartley and Katie Carlson Sides ’07, a daughter, Lowry Camille, July 22, 2013
Sam and Linda Ketsche Williamson ’07, a daughter, Clara Aven, April 16
Matt and Melanie Anderson ’08 Goehle, a daughter, Norah Mae, August 15, 2013
Daniel and Melissa Mabry ’09 Cline, a son, Andrew David, June 12
David and Heather Wooten Edison ’09, a daughter, Kaitlyn Marie, November 1, 2013
Nicholas J. and Hart Milam ’09, a son, Wesley, March 4
Jeff Vitkun and Rachael Parrish ’09, a daughter, Ava Nguyen Vitkun, June 23, 2013
Corey and Kelsey Salava Ghesling ’10, a son, Parks Duvall, November 2, 2013

George Short ’54 and Catherine Hunter ’55 Hightower, Jr. January 11, 2014
Rivanna Hill Barrow ’58 and W.F. Ward, Jr., February 16, 2013
Donald Spencer ’73 and David Warren, May 17
James Casteel ’75 and William Hopkins, October 22, 2013
Lauren Cobb ’84 and Alfred Paul Joseph, Jr., December 28, 2013
Fred D. Grove ’87 and Robin Spiller, September 3, 2013
Rachel MacNabb ’97 and Charles “Chip” Davis, December 21, 2013

Brian Greene and Virginia Van Skiver Wallace ’98, September 14, 2013
Meg Calnon ’99 and Jonathan Peavey, April 27, 2013
Meredith Crowell ’02 and David Strange, May 10
Wesley Keele ’02 and Holly Towle ’03, October 11, 2013
Kelly Frances Davidson ’04 and Jerry Devall, December 28, 2013
Lindsey Michelle Perkins ’05 and Chris Landon, November 2, 2013
Kenneth Surkin ’05 and Lyndy

COURTESY PHOTOS
CLASS NOTES

Chad Boring and Kelly Stevens ’11, April 20, 2013
Meghan Christine Kelly ’11 and Jordan Daniel Robinson, September 20, 2013
Andrea Claire Triplitt ’11 and James Lancaster Bridgeman III ’12, October 12, 2013
Christian Baker ’12 and Rose Murrell Senn, May 26, 2013
Heather Basehoar ’12 and David Wynn ’13, October 19, 2013
Daniel Dixon and Kirsty Ubermuth ’12, May 19, 2012
Kelly Kirby ’12 and Robert Picardi ’13, July 6, 2013
Whitney McGreevy ’12 and Mary Patricia Bradshaw ’13, June 15, 2013
Joseph Hall and Perrin Thompson ’13, September 22, 2013
Sarah Rebecca Prickett ’13 and Charles Pate, Jr., December 21, 2013

Wilcox ’07, February 8, 2013
Dan Ennis ’06 and Frances Flowers ’09, July 13, 2013
Penn Garvich ’06 and Marissa Coffers ’10, April 12
Margaret Elizabeth Meeker ’06 and Michael Allen Murphy, September 21, 2013
Eric Helms ’07 and Emily Villemaire, August 11, 2013
Amanda Keating ’07 and William Taylor, March 22
Holly Wegman ’07 and Nick Karakos, July 6, 2013
Elizabeth Britton Wetmore ’07 and Scott Trenor, October 26, 2013
Kylie Kotowski ’09 and Justin Felker, May 18, 2013
Robert Layton Wells ’09 and Melissa Kristin Summer ’09, MA ’10, June 14
Andrew Arrendale ’10 and Cherise Quamme ’12, January 4
Jonathan Britt ’10 and Allison Davis ’10, June 15, 2013

Retired Faculty

Kenneth Abernethy (Computer Science)
Charles Brewer (Psychology)
Jane Chew (Modern Languages and Literatures)
Mary Jean Horney (Economics)
Patricia Pecoy (Modern Languages and Literatures)
Shirley Ritter (Education)
David Rutledge (Religion)
OBITUARIES

Mildred Pollard Holcomb ’35, August 21, 2013, Simpsonville, SC

Dwight A. Smith, Jr. ’36, October 25, 2013, Fort Pierce, FL

James Haynesworth Boyd ’37, July 3, 2013, Pendleton, SC

Evaline Nash Smith ’37, October 19, 2013, Greenville, SC

Dorothy Ann Bobo Adams ’38, February 22, Hartsville, SC

William Joseph Nunnery, Sr. ’38, April 8, Houston, TX

Charles Walters Whitworth, Sr. ’38, February 1, Rome, GA

Lucille Smith Clayton ’39, November 22, Clemson, SC

Catherine Loadholt Copeland ’39, April 1, Bamberg, SC

Ruth Ellison Davis ’39, August 9, 2013, Easley, SC

Maude Ives Douglass ’39, June 17, 2013, Winnsboro, SC

Frederick D. Kesler ’39, December 31, 2013, Nashville, TN

William Adolph Klauber, Jr. ’39, March 3, Greenwood, SC

Georgina Rabb Powell ’39, August 11, 2013, Columbia, SC

Billie Little-Tedars Austin ’40, December 28, 2013, Tucson, AZ

Evlyn Sandel Boyd ’40, MA ’41, May 6, Greenville, SC

Dave Crosby Gunter, Sr. ’40, September 20, Greenville, SC

Ruth Cochran Wilkins ’40, December 10, 2013, Greenville, SC

Julia May Taylor Burr ’41, April 14, Columbia, SC

Joyce Towles Barnwell Cave ’41, August 8, 2013, Hollywood, SC

Eliza M. Hicks, Jr. ’41, December 25, 2013, Marietta, GA

Oscar J. Small ’41, June 15, 2013, Charleston, SC

Frances Jones Ashmore ’42, August 16, 2013, Lyman, SC

Thomas Edward Burgess, Jr. ’42, November 7, 2013, Belle Glade, FL

Jinie Ballenger Davis ’42, April 1, Spartanburg, SC

Richard Morgan Gaffney ’42, December 20, 2013, Greenville, SC

James Marshall Gardner ’42, November 6, 2013, Greenwood, SC

Jean Bauer Benney Jones ’42, October 21, 2013, Springfield, MA

Elvin Shuford Sandel, Jr. ’42, February 19, Greenwood, SC

Dora Pennington Carpenter ’43, December 21, 2013, Greenville, SC

Dorothy Chiles Foral ’43

In Focus

Johnnie Mac Walters ’43, June 24, Greenville, SC

After serving in the Army Air Force as a navigator on more than 50 combat missions in Europe and winning the Purple Heart, among other medals, Walters enrolled in the University of Michigan Law School. Following law school, he worked briefly for the IRS, then joined the tax department of Texaco of New York. In 1961, he returned to Greenville to practice tax law, and in 1969 was appointed an assistant attorney general.

Walters was a commissioner of the IRS under President Richard M. Nixon, and he left office after refusing to prosecute people on Nixon’s notorious “enemies list.” When he became an IRS commissioner, he was handed the “enemies list” for the purposes of investigation, but several days later Walters took it to his immediate boss and recommended that the IRS do nothing.

The report was locked in a safe until Walters was told to give it to the chief of staff of Congress’s Joint Committee on Taxation, who wrote in a 2011 book that this was the most important thing Walters did, “because then it could be said with absolute certainty that the IRS never began any audit or investigation of any name on that list.”

September 14, 2013, Greenville, SC

Roy C. McCall, Jr. ’43, August 16, 2013, Easley, SC

James Ervin Payne ’43, October 4, 2013, Greenville, SC

Paul Edmond Seaman ’43, October 13, 2013, Greenville, SC

Mildred Virginia Long Wages ’43, May 27, Merritt Island, FL

Kathleen DeLoris Wilson Crooks ’44, October 28, 2013, Sierra Vista, AZ

Betty Jeanne Elletson ’44, November 21, 2013, Greenville, SC

Mabel Doggett Lindholm ’44, June 23, Madison, WI

Lillie Fuller Simonsen ’44, April 6, Greenwood, SC

Carolyn Auld Greyard ’46, January 12, Tryon, NC

Helen Ruth Jordan Craine ’46, February 9, Greenville, SC

Catherine Foxworth Griggs ’46, June 13, 2013, Holly Hill, SC

Nancy Lillie Reeves ’46, May 20, Vero Beach, FL

William Adolph Klauber, Jr. ’39, March 3, Greenwood, SC

Georgina Rabb Powell ’39, August 11, 2013, Columbia, SC

Billie Little-Tedars Austin ’40, December 28, 2013, Tucson, AZ

Evlyn Sandel Boyd ’40, MA ’41, May 6, Greenville, SC

Dave Crosby Gunter, Sr. ’40, September 20, Greenville, SC

Ruth Cochran Wilkins ’40, December 10, 2013, Greenville, SC

Julia May Taylor Burr ’41, April 14, Columbia, SC

Joyce Towles Barnwell Cave ’41, August 8, 2013, Hollywood, SC

Eliza M. Hicks, Jr. ’41, December 25, 2013, Marietta, GA

Oscar J. Small ’41, June 15, 2013, Charleston, SC

Frances Jones Ashmore ’42, August 16, 2013, Lyman, SC

Thomas Edward Burgess, Jr. ’42, November 7, 2013, Belle Glade, FL

Jinie Ballenger Davis ’42, April 1, Spartanburg, SC

Richard Morgan Gaffney ’42, December 20, 2013, Greenville, SC

James Marshall Gardner ’42, November 6, 2013, Greenwood, SC

Jean Bauer Benney Jones ’42, October 21, 2013, Springfield, MA

Elvin Shuford Sandel, Jr. ’42, February 19, Greenwood, SC

Dora Pennington Carpenter ’43, December 21, 2013, Greenville, SC

Dorothy Chiles Foral ’43

Evlyn Sandel Boyd ’40, MA ’41
### In Focus

**Ernest Q. Campbell ’45**, July 28, 2013, Nashville, TN. Campbell was professor emeritus of sociology, former chair of the department of sociology and anthropology, and dean emeritus of the graduate school of Vanderbilt University. He began his teaching career at Berea College in Kentucky, then took a position at Mississippi Southern and later at the College of Wooster in Ohio. He earned his PhD at Vanderbilt in 1956, taught at Florida State University, pursued postdoctoral studies at Harvard, and accepted a faculty position with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He returned to teach at Vanderbilt and in 1973, he became dean of the Vanderbilt graduate school until 1983 when he returned to teaching. Campbell retired from Vanderbilt in 1993.

One of the most pivotal experiences of his personal and professional life came in 1968, when the Rockefeller Foundation invited him to travel to what was then the University of East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, as visiting chair in sociology. Campbell was also president of the Southern Sociological Society at the time of Martin Luther King’s assassination and in charge of rearranging the group’s agenda in response to King’s death. He also served as president of the Association of Graduate School Deans, and on the Council of the American Sociological Association.

In 1964, he co-authored *Equality of Educational Opportunity*—often called the Coleman Report—alongside head researcher James S. Coleman and others, commissioned by the U.S. Office of Education as part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He remained active in social, political, and environmental causes in retirement.

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### Class Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Ross Montague ’49</td>
<td>May 20, Columbia, SC</td>
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<td>Carla Lynn Revis, Jr. ’49</td>
<td>June 5, Greenville, SC</td>
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<td>Bobbie Jeanne Stewart ’49</td>
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<td>Willie Love McMinn White ’49</td>
<td>November 16, 2013, Tunnel Hill, GA</td>
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<td>Lynn Mays Backus ’50</td>
<td>December 28, 2013, Jacksonville, FL</td>
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<td>David Lawrence Berry ’50</td>
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<td>Ed Blakeney ’50</td>
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<td>Owen Moore Evans ’50</td>
<td>March 23, Georgetown, SC</td>
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<td>Jenelle Brannon Gallman ’50</td>
<td>April 22, Mount Holly, NC</td>
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<td>Blanche Garner Hall ’50</td>
<td>April 29, Snellville, GA</td>
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<td>Wendell Martin Houston ’50</td>
<td>August 2, 2013, Hanahan, SC</td>
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<td>Betty Jane Shirley Howie ’50</td>
<td>April 6, Rock Hill, SC</td>
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<td>Faye Nix Jay ’50</td>
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<td>Bill Jordon ’50</td>
<td>February 10, Greenville, SC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Oliver Kay ’50</td>
<td>June 24, Pawleys Island, SC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walter H. Kneece, Jr. ’50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**In Focus**

**Johannah Elizabeth King Bell ’46**, April 3, Greenville, SC. Bell began her professional career at S.D. Leidesdorf (now Ernst & Young). She served in leadership positions and on the boards for numerous Greenville charities, including the YWCA, Child Abuse and Neglect Committee, Pendleton Place, and Rosewood House of Recovery. She was a chair and founding board member of Greenville’s Child. In 1998, Bell was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Palmetto State, for contributions to local and state communities. She had an eight-year appointment to the South Carolina Juvenile Parole Board by Governor Dick Riley ’54. She was named one of the most influential people in Greenville by *The Greenville News* and received the AAUW Leader of the 21st Century Award.

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**In Focus**

**Margaret Ann Smith Lista ’50**, August 10, 2013, Aiken, SC

**Marion Patricia Roberts May ’50**, January 6, Fort Mill, SC

**Mary Jane Smith Peden ’50**, February 7, Greenville, SC

**Bette Bain Bush ’51**, September 6, 2013, Isle of Palms, SC

**John Canada Cosby, Jr. ’51**, September 29, 2013, Roanoke, VA

**Eugene E. Johns ’51**, July 26, 2013, Belmont, NC

**Arthur Talmadge Mason ’51**, September 9, 2013, Mauldin, SC

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**In Focus**

**Ernst Q. Campbell ’45**, July 28, 2013, Nashville, TN. Campbell was professor emeritus of sociology, former chair of the department of sociology and anthropology, and dean emeritus of the graduate school of Vanderbilt University. He began his teaching career at Berea College in Kentucky, then took a position at Mississippi Southern and later at the College of Wooster in Ohio. He earned his PhD at Vanderbilt in 1956, taught at Florida State University, pursued postdoctoral studies at Harvard, and accepted a faculty position with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He returned to teach at Vanderbilt and in 1973, he became dean of the Vanderbilt graduate school until 1983 when he returned to teaching. Campbell retired from Vanderbilt in 1993.

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In 1964, he co-authored *Equality of Educational Opportunity*—often called the Coleman Report—alongside head researcher James S. Coleman and others, commissioned by the U.S. Office of Education as part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He remained active in social, political, and environmental causes in retirement.
### In Focus

*BJ. Townes* ’54, October 9, 2013, Greenville, SC. Townes earned master’s degrees in banking from the Rutgers School of Banking and the American Banking Institute, followed by a long and distinguished professional career with Peoples National Bank, Community Bank, Piedmont Travel, Townes Properties, Piedco Associates, and Long Beach Properties. He also helped develop the concept and implemented the first project in the revitalization of downtown Greenville with Bergamo Plaza and the Bank of America Tower. He served on the boards of numerous organizations in Greenville, such as the American Red Cross, Greenville Cancer Society, Greenville Heart Association, United Way of Greenville, and Greenville Little Theatre. And he received many business awards: Junior Chamber of Commerce of America “Outstanding Young Men of America,” and Eastern Airlines “The Leaders Award,” to name two. He was listed in *Who’s Who in America* and *Who’s Who in Business and Industry*, named Carolina’s Ernst & Young “Entrepreneur of the Year,” and Mars Hill College’s “Fundraiser of the Year.”

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melvin Eugene Mullikin</td>
<td>June 23, 2013</td>
<td>Columbia, SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Porter</td>
<td>March 19,</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
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<td>Edith Hatchell Rogers</td>
<td>June 29,</td>
<td>North Augusta, SC</td>
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<td>Caroline Arrington Tompkins</td>
<td>June 18,</td>
<td>Greenville, SC</td>
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<td>Esma Shelton Ussery</td>
<td>August 21,</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant, SC</td>
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<td>Frank Buxton, Jr.</td>
<td>December 10,</td>
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<td>William Eldridge Donald</td>
<td>August 11,</td>
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<td>Ernest Milton Horton</td>
<td>February 21,</td>
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<td>Perry Cooper Outz</td>
<td>May 21,</td>
<td>Woodruff, SC</td>
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<td>Gene Dillard Phillips</td>
<td>October 9,</td>
<td>Laurens, SC</td>
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<td>Arthur R. Schiffer</td>
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<td>Robert H. Cowan</td>
<td>January 24,</td>
<td>Rogers, AR</td>
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<td>Mona Ruth Looper Davis</td>
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<td>Betty Galloway Eklund</td>
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<td>April 26,</td>
<td>Milford, CT</td>
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<td>Charles Donald Harrell</td>
<td>February 19,</td>
<td>Roanoke, TX</td>
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<td>David W. Johnson, Jr.</td>
<td>July 1,</td>
<td>Encinitas, CA</td>
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<td>Gaylord L. Lehman</td>
<td>November 15,</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>Hampton Irvin Perry</td>
<td>February 13,</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>Lucius Henry Weeks, Jr.</td>
<td>July 4,</td>
<td>Travelers Rest, SC</td>
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<td>William Albert Boyd, Jr.</td>
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<td>Lynn Crook</td>
<td>July 17,</td>
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<td>Nancy Ross Goldsmith</td>
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<td>Lurinburg, NC</td>
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<td>Abraham G. Ferris</td>
<td>June 15,</td>
<td>Concord, NC</td>
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<td>Billy Milan Hendrix, Sr.</td>
<td>June 19,</td>
<td>Chickamauga, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eugene McElhannon</td>
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<td>Sara Frances Jones McGowen</td>
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<td>Barbara Ann Eskew Murphy</td>
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<td>Mickey Walker</td>
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<td>Carolyn Martha Corley Aurich</td>
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<td>Andy Bielecki</td>
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<td>James C. Britton, Jr.</td>
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<td>Manning, SC</td>
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<td>J. William Burnett</td>
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<td>Hugh Hawkins Donnan</td>
<td>June 10,</td>
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<td>John E. Elliott</td>
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<td>Jacquelyn Todd Waldrop Herndon</td>
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<td>Wardlaw Mardre Warnock</td>
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<td>Yorktown, VA</td>
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<td>Robert Lawton Arnette, Sr.</td>
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<td>Alex H. Hancock</td>
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<td>NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Blacknall Weaver</td>
<td>December 21,</td>
<td>Lansing, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William F. Bishop, Jr.</td>
<td>April 30,</td>
<td>Charleston, SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Johnson</td>
<td>September 4,</td>
<td>Lake View, SC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
George Wallace Kilpatrick ’58, June 28, 2013, Mableton, GA
Benjamin Franklin Lowe, Jr. ’58, April 26, Murfreesboro, NC
Marvin Willie Murphree ’58, August 2, 2013, Winston-Salem, NC
John D. Penell II ’58, June 9, 2013, Charlotte, NC
Jerry David Penland ’58, April 15, Easley, SC
Ann Howard Moretz ’60, April 15, 2013, Columbia, SC
Gail Lollis Edge ’60, September 28, 2013, Laurens County, SC
Jo Bolding Kay ’60, April 15, Summerville, SC
Ann Murphy Johns ’62, October 15, 2013, Columbia, SC
Jack Earl Neal ’62, April 15, Seattle, WA

James D. Brooks ’61, February 2, Duluth, GA
Christine Jeffords Conrad ’61, May 18, Winston-Salem, NC
Donald Paul Davis ’61, December 17, 2013, West Columbia, SC
Nancy Hughes Hagan ’61, December 13, 2013, Greenville, SC
Gail Martin Mayfield ’61, December 17, 2013, Grayson, SC
Edwin D. Moore, Sr. ’61, March 3, Columbia, SC
Derrick W. Brown ’62, August 10, 2013, Ellenton, FL
Martha Joan Hartness Guinn ’62, April 13, Greenville, SC
Ann Murphy Johns ’62, August 13, 2013, Simpsonville, SC
James E. Kelly ’62, July 23, 2013, Williamson, SC
Carol Cole Kennedy ’62, October 15, 2013, Columbia, SC
Edward John Flynn, Jr. ’64, June 8, 2013, Cary, NC

H.T. Shearin ’63, February 26, Johnson City, TN
Susan Parris Sheffield ’63, April 13, 2013, Durham, NC
Edward John Flynn, Jr. ’64, June 23, 2013, Raleigh, NC

William Marion Gilfillin ’65, August 13, 2013, Waco, TX
Jeri Ann Prestwich Crain ’65, April 21, Greenville, SC

George Wallace Kilpatrick ’58, June 28, 2013, Mableton, GA
Benjamin Franklin Lowe, Jr. ’58, April 26, Murfreesboro, NC
Marvin Willie Murphree ’58, August 2, 2013, Winston-Salem, NC
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James E. Kelly ’62, July 23, 2013, Williamson, SC
Carol Cole Kennedy ’62, October 15, 2013, Columbia, SC
Edward John Flynn, Jr. ’64, June 8, 2013, Cary, NC

In Focus

Gerald Ray Glur ’63, February 3, Greenville, SC. Glur excelled in basketball in high school and at Furman, and was inducted into the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006. He was drafted by the New York Knicks but chose instead to serve his country in the Army Corps of Engineers in Vietnam, and then was a successful realtor for more than four decades.

Renee Miller Scheil ’62, June 22, 2013, Mission Viejo, CA
Joe R. Babb ’63, April 25, Arden, NC
Sally Harbin Long ’63, November 27, 2013, Westminster, SC
H.T. Shearin ’63, February 26, Johnson City, TN
Susan Parris Sheffield ’63, April 13, 2013, Durham, NC
Edward John Flynn, Jr. ’64, June 8, 2013, Cary, NC

William Eugene Chandler, Jr. ’65, November 20, 2013, Greenville, SC

Floyd Marion Gilfillin ’65, April 21, Greenville, SC

Dana Janet Beck Barrett ’66, June 27, 2013, Louisville, KY

Mary Elizabeth Fox Hall ’67, July 23, 2013, Raleigh, NC

Jeri Ann Prestwich Crain ’65, August 9, 2013, Mableton, GA

Elizabeth Huffman McConnell ’66, September 5, 2013, Easley, SC

Martha Jean Hogg Allen ’67, September 5, 2013, Easley, SC

Lloyd Watson Willingham ’69, November 21, 2013, Crawfordville, FL
Edward Dudley Allen, MA ’70, July 3, 2013, Chesnee, SC
Wilma Rodgers Gault, MA ’71, April 23, Greenville, SC
William Samuel Trakas ’71, September 27, 2013, Danville, VA

In Focus

Gene Funderburk ’67, November 10, 2013, Taylors, SC. Funderburk was a research physicist for 32 years at what is now Mitsubishi Polyester Film. He retired from the plastics industry in 2001. He was chair of balloon events for Greenville’s Freedom Weekend Aloft from 1985 to 2003 and 2007 to 2008, considered to be the “weather guru” for the event, and he acted as the “weather prognosticator” for the Christopher Columbus Rediscover American Balloon Quest, which featured hot-air ballooning events from Washington to Florida in 1992. Ballooning adventures led him across the globe, to Italy and India, and his expertise was such that an American balloon team, “The Wild Bunch”—who aimed to be the first Americans to fly a balloon over the North Pole in 1997—commissioned Funderburk to design a special basket that could handle the freezing arctic temperatures and could collapse to be transported cheaply and efficiently.

Lloyd Watson Willingham ’69, November 21, 2013, Crawfordville, FL
Edward Dudley Allen, MA ’70, July 3, 2013, Chesnee, SC

Barbara Ann Watrous ’71, August 5, 2013, Yakima, WA
Leona Moses Brooks, MA '72, August 7, 2013, Mauldin, SC

John Steven Warren '72, September 22, 2013, Greenville, SC

Millie Hearn Dillard, MA '73, August 29, 2013, Denver, NC

Billy C. DuRant, MA '73, April 7, Hartwell, GA

Larry Bradford Lane '73, October 23, 2013, Charlotte, NC

David Harrison Williamson '73, December 29, 2013, Walterboro, SC

Loretta Shuler Barker '74, November 18, 2013, Columbia, SC

Jane Hawkins Dover Bondurant, MA '74, May 14, Greenville, SC

Rebecca L. Coggins '74, MA '81, May 16, Greenville, SC

Furman Eugene Richards, Jr. '74, December 2013, Atlanta, GA

Margaret Albenesius Bryant '75, February 1, Greenville, SC

Martha Farmer Beard '76, March 22, Inkom, ID

Nathan Kenneth Gilstrap '76, May 7, Simpsonville, SC

Daryll R. Purvis, MBA '76, January 30, Anderson, SC

Reba Green Keller, MA '77, November 18, 2013, Travelers Rest, SC

Patrick Louis Patten '77, September 8, 2013, Las Vegas, NV

James Paul Rogers '77, February 7, Greenville, SC

Ellen Cabaniss Jones Donkle '78, MA '81, July 16, 2013, Charleston County, SC

Larry Pittman '78, August 14, 2013, Taylors, SC

Cynthia Jamieson Hall Ploof '78, September 22, 2013, Greenville, SC

Brenda Gail Hale Snyder, MA '78, September 24, 2013, Greenville, SC

Rebecca Corbitt Baker '79, July 28, 2013, Pennington, NJ

Linda Faye Landers Barnett, MA '80, June 22, Greenville, SC

Douglas Edward Ford, BGS '80, November 11, 2013, Anderson, SC

Jeffrey Craig Hamic '80, September 19, 2013, Houston, TX

Loretta Mae Johnson Padgett, MA '80, January 12, Charlotte, NC

Eugene Huddleston Howe, Jr. '81, July 15, 2013, Clemson, SC

Cynthia Knight Bowen Page '81, February 5, Columbia, SC

Samuel Michael Ogbum '82, December 8, 2013, Camden, SC

John Frederick Shuford '82, April 24, Columbia, SC

Charles W. Morris, Jr. '83, January 11, Greenville, SC

Suzan Marie Brookhardt McKinney, MA '84, March 4, Chattanooga, TN

Harold Jerry Breazeale, Jr. '85, October 1, 2013, Greenville, SC

Carol Stapleton Sylvester '87, October 9, 2013, Duluth, GA

Ethlyn Sims Byrd, MA '88, March 21, Hendersonville, NC

Jerrene Robertson Verdin '88, September 19, 2013, Little River, SC

Kathy Irwin Hamilton, MA '90, August 9, 2013, Greenville, SC

Michelle Bonacci Marks '95, November 11, 2013, Southern Pines, NC

Erin Crittenden Shook '04, July 6, 2013, Greer, SC

Erin Cranford Williams '04, July 10, 2013, Fernandina Beach, FL

Nicholas Anthony MacKain '13, March 15, Suwanee, GA

Eugene Milton Johnson. November 11, 2013, Greenville, SC. Johnson taught at Furman from 1966 to 1993, serving as chair of the sociology department and director of urban studies. He was also active in the Baltic studies travel abroad program, a program in which he focused on urban design and architecture. He was active in the life of his community, serving on the boards of Greenville County Social Services and Furman-Greenville Fine Arts. He taught in the Greenville Literacy Program, especially ESL and GED courses, and he volunteered with Meals on Wheels. Johnson received his undergraduate degree in music from Louisiana College, with an emphasis on playing the organ, and prepared for the ministry at Southern Seminary. He served as a chaplain in the Navy Reserve. He had a great variety of interests, as expressed in his academic degrees: bachelor’s in music, bachelor’s of divinity in theology, and an MA and PhD in sociology. Before joining Furman, he taught at Punahou School in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Georgetown College in Kentucky.
F YOU’VE NOTICED something different about this issue, we’re pleased. Last year, Furman began to rethink its magazine. Knowing how special it was to people, but wanting to conceive ways it could become even more special, we did what most do when seeking innovation: We questioned everything. The type of storytelling, the look and feel, how we presented the university’s news, how to share your news, and of course how we can break news. In other words, what issues, ideas, and debates would benefit from in-depth, rigorous, trustworthy, and evocative writing, imagery, and presentation?

One of the most exciting aspects to higher education is just how many fields—how many ways of knowing—it touches. It seemed a shame not to aspire to create a magazine that should, and could, reflect that, and in so doing sit alongside any hallowed, newsstand publication.

After a lot of conversation and work and imagination, we landed on this sentence as our charge: Our vision is to create a publication whose substance and dynamism emanate from Furman, but whose value and insights extend beyond it.

Here is the first manifestation of that vision. And we’ve only just begun. While our charge will remain the same, how we fulfill it will be as colorful, creative, and thoughtful as we can make it.

As any alumnus knows, sometimes you have to go far afield to understand just how meaningful home can be. Welcome home.
Late Garden

Long since cleared and mulched with leaves from Bradford pears, the garden still grieves—

or seems to grieve from our upstairs window this Christmas Eve. Why should sorrow

fill this fallow, rain-soaked place and time, to harrow mere empty space?

Only to trace right there, below, on barren grace, imagined snow.

—GILBERT ALLEN

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Gilbert Allen, the Bennette E. Geer professor of literature, has been teaching at Furman since 1977. His sixth collection of poems, Catma, was published in January by Measure Press. In April, he was inducted into the South Carolina Academy of Authors. ABOUT THE ARTIST Terri Bright has been teaching at Furman since 1999. She is a graduate of Connecticut College and received her MFA in photography from the University of Texas at Austin. She has received a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and has had solo exhibitions at the Abrons Arts Center in New York, The Performing Arts Center at the University of Texas, and the Metropolitan Arts Council in Greenville, among others.
Furman’s class of 2018 boasts more than high test scores and stellar GPAs (average of 1281 and 4.5, in case you were wondering). They’re creative, athletic, driven, and destined to make their mark around the Furman Lake and beyond.

1. International Gold Medalist cyclist
2. Captain of an athletic team
3. Two-sport varsity athletes
4. Eagle Scouts or Girl Scout Gold Award winners
5. Academic researchers
6. Lead designer of a robotics club
7. Holder of a private pilot’s license
8. Artists
9. Drum Corps International World Champion
10. Community service leaders
11. Religious group officers
12. National Honor Society members
13. Student body presidents
14. Certified SCUBA diver
15. 43 Artists
16. 1 Drum Corps International World Champion
17. 119 Community service leaders
18. 90 Religious group officers
19. 265 National Honor Society members
20. 27 Student body presidents
21. 1 Certified SCUBA diver

Furman is where it began for you.
Keep it that way for them.

One of the most convenient and effective ways to sustain the Furman experience for generations to come is by setting up a recurring monthly gift of any amount.

MAKE YOUR MONTHLY GIFT
Visit furman.edu/recurring-gifts or contact Phil Howard, Director of Donor Marketing phil.howard@furman.edu or 864.294.1475
This year marks the 50th anniversary of desegregation at Furman. A wide range of events is planned, including those to honor the first African American student to attend and graduate from the university: Joseph Allen Vaughn ’68 (pictured here). You can read about the yearlong commemoration on page 12 of this issue. You can also visit the website: furman.edu/50years.