THE

FALL 2009

## Mercerian



# Young Alumni Making a Difference

Celebrate the Legends: Homecoming '09

Revitalizing Macon's Historic Neighborhoods

**Mercer Libraries: Changing Old Notions** 

**University Sets New Enrollment Record** 

## CONTENTS

#### **Departments**

4 VIEWPOINT

5 ON THE QUAD

**36 HEALTH SCIENCES UPDA** 

**42 BEARS ROUNDUP** 

**48 CLASS NOTES** 

53 GIVING

#### **Features**

Young Mercerians Making a Difference

Five recent graduates are going places.

22 Revitalizing Macon's First Neighborhoods
College Hill Corridor accelerates

Mercer's investments.

31 Mercer Libraries
Changing Old Notions
This isn't your grandfather's
(or grandmother's) library.

40 Celebrate the Legen Mercer Homecomin

New fall tradition is bigger and better.

ON THE COVER: Mercer's young alumni are making a difference in their professions and their communities. Left to right: Rajesh Pandey, '93; Mackenzie Eaglen, '99; Olu Menjay, '95; Matt Trevathan, '98; and Tom Abbott, '04.



## **View**point

## Institutional Quality is Measured by Alumni Achievement

It has become quite popular in recent years for magazines and college guidebooks to rank universities. In their evaluations, these publications cite a range of criteria from perceived academic quality to starting salaries for graduates. While we certainly are proud of Mercer University's excellent performance in these rankings, I believe the true measure of an institution's quality is found in the accomplishments of its alumni. On that score, Mercer truly has a story to tell.

Since its founding in 1833, "The Mercer Experience" has transformed and empowered the lives of tens of thousands of young men and women, who in turn have transformed communities throughout the world. Generations of young men and women have left Mercer to become leaders of great deeds and influence including 10 governors, three United States constore and



William D. Underwood
President

influence, including 10 governors, three United States senators, an attorney general of the United States and numerous leaders in a wide range of fields.

In this issue of *The Mercerian* you will read about a new generation of alumni who are making a difference in the world. These five graduates — all under the age of 40 — are exceptional leaders who have achieved early success in their professional fields and are making valuable contributions in their communities. They all talk about how their experiences at Mercer — in the classrooms and laboratories and through extracurricular activities — helped prepare them for the work they are doing and the lives they are living today.

There are many more Mercer alumni who can tell similar stories. Collectively, these graduates are the manifestation of the University's mission and reflect the attributes that have earned Mercer the outstanding reputation that it currently enjoys in the world of higher education.

Be proud, Mercerians. The value of your degree increases with every graduating class.

- Bill Underwood

#### OBLICATION OF WERCER UNIVERSITY

#### \*\*Mercerian

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 2

\_\_\_\_

#### PRESIDENT

William D. Underwood, J.D.

#### CHANCELLOR

R. Kirby Godsey, Th.D., Ph.D.

#### PROVOST

Wallace L. Daniel, Ph.D.

#### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

James S. Netherton, Ph.D.

#### SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS AND CHIEF OF STAFF

Larry D. Brumley

#### SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Brian F. Dalton

#### SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

William G. Solomon IV, J.D.

#### SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT AND ATLANTA CAMPUS

Richard V. Swindle, Ph.D.

#### EDITORIAL STAFF

#### **EDITOR**

Richard L. Cameron

#### **DESIGN EDITOR**

Steve Mosley

#### **DESIGN ASSISTANT**

Matt Smith

#### STAFF WRITER, EDITORIAL ASSISTANCE

Mark Vanderhoek, BUS '08, Janet Crocker, CCPS '09

#### PHOTOGRAPHY, ILLUSTRATION

Peggy Cozart, Hilsdon Photography, Roger Idenden, Krista Lee, John Knight, NuVision Photography, Saldivia-Jones Photography, Maria Rabinky, Bruce Radcliffe, Les Todd, Leah Yetter

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Jamie Dickson, CLA '05, Susan Frazier, Rachel Garza, David Hefner, Susan Long, Rob Marus, Laura Raines, Stephen Werk, Richard F. Wilson

#### **EDITORIAL OFFICE**

The Mercerian, 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31207

PHONE • (478) 301-4024 FAX • (478) 301-2684

**WEB SITE** • www.mercer.edu

 $\textbf{E-MAIL} \bullet \textit{mercerian@mercer.edu}$ 

#### TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS AND TO SUPPORT MERCER UNIVERSITY, CALL:

(478) 301-2715 or 1-800-MERCER-U, x2715

THE MERCERIAN is published by the Office of Marketing Communications at Mercer University. ©2009 Mercer University. The views and opinions presented in this publication are not necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of the University.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to THE MERCERIAN, 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, GA 31207.





### **Fall Enrollment at All-Time High**

s fall classes got under way for Macon undergraduates on Aug. 25, Mercer's first-day enrollment figures topped the 8,000 mark, a 6.8 percent increase over opening day numbers last fall and an all-time record for the 176-year-old institution. Final, official enrollment figures will not be completed until later in the fall, but the opening day tally stood at 8,044, compared with 7,533 on the first day of classes

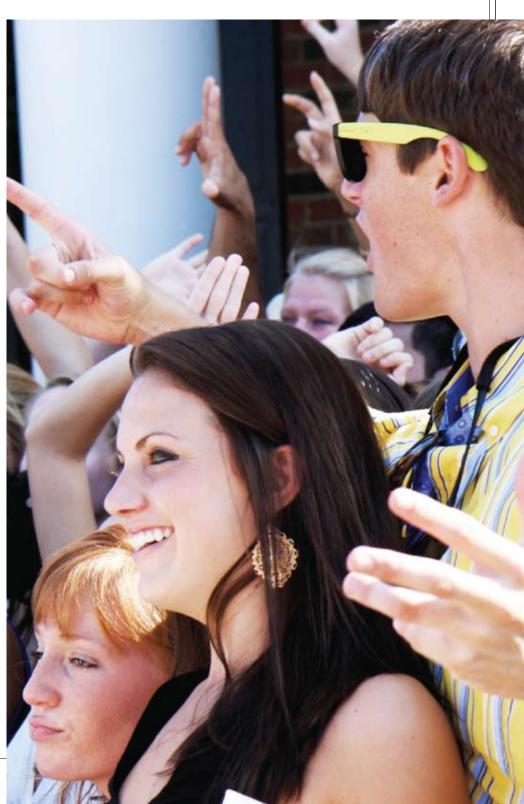
last year — a 511-student increase.

Record retention rates and the largest freshman class in almost a decade — 618 first-year students — helped contribute to the significant enrollment increase. Units with the largest percentage increases include the School of Medicine, up 29.5 percent; College of Continuing and Professional Studies, up 23.5 percent; Tift College of Education, up 10.1 percent; and College of Liberal Arts, up 7.3 percent. The School of Medicine enrolled its second class of first-year medical students in Savannah and saw strong growth in its master's-level degree programs in public health and family therapy that are offered in Macon and Atlanta. The College of Continuing and Professional Studies experienced significant increases in its graduate and undergraduate programs on the Atlanta and Macon campuses. The Tift College of Education — Mercer's largest school with more than 1,900 students — continues to realize increased enrollments in its Ph.D. and other graduate-level programs.

"The University's healthy enrollment increase is the result of a lot of hard work by our faculty and staff," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "New degree programs, a strong recruiting year for our Macon undergraduate programs, and higher retention rates all contributed to our record enrollment."

By location, enrollment in all programs on the Atlanta campus is up 12 percent over this time last year and Macon campus enrollment is up 5.8 percent. Enrollments at the Henry County, Douglas County and Eastman Regional Academic Centers and the Savannah campus were up slightly over last year.





#### **Shields Appointed Dean of Stetson School of Business**

avid Shields, Ph.D., CPA, assumed duties as dean of Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics on July 1. Dr. Shields was previously dean of the Haworth College of Business and professor of accounting at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich.

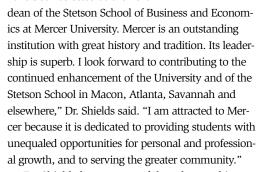
"Dr. Shields is an experienced, energetic, visionary dean who has served in a wide variety of business leadership capacities. His understanding of business education and its opportunities at Mercer closely fit the University's mission and the 10-Year Plan," said Provost Wallace L. Daniel. "At all the schools he has served and especially at Western Michigan, Dr. Shields has led by consensus, and he is skilled at building innovative programs, at fundraising, and at reaching out to the community. Dr. Shields will provide strong, creative leadership to one of Mercer's key academic units, and I am looking forward to working with him."

An award-winning teacher and active scholar, Dr. Shields prior to being named dean at Western Michigan in 2006 served as associate dean for graduate and professional programs at the University of Houston. He also has served as associate dean and MBA director at Louisiana State University and professor of accounting at Thunderbird, the American Graduate School of International Management. Dr. Shields has served on the accounting faculties at the University of Houston, Texas A&M University, the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Administration at Rice University, the University of Michigan and the University of Florida. He began his career as a staff accountant

for Coopers & Lybrand.

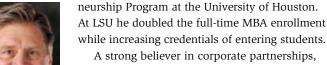
Dr. Shields earned his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He received an MBA and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from The Ohio State University.

"I am extremely honored to have been selected as the next



Dr. Shields has a successful track record in fund-raising, having secured more than \$6 million in gifts and pledges to Western Michigan over the past two years, as well as more than \$600,000 in government grants. Western Michigan's Haworth College of Business enrolls more than 4,500 undergraduate students and 400 graduate students, and has an operating budget of \$18 million.

He also has experience establishing new academic programs at the institutions where he has served, including the Center for Sustainable Business, the Global Business Center and the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Western Michigan, and the Global Energy MBA, a Texas Medical Center MBA and the Entrepre-



A strong believer in corporate partnerships, Dr. Shields actively engaged the business community in advisory capacities at his current and previous institutions. He also has served as a consultant to more than 25 companies during his academic career.

Dr. Shields is active in AACSB — The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business — from which the Stetson School of Business and Economics holds accreditation. He has served on several AACSB accreditation visitation teams.

He has written numerous articles for academic journals and has engaged in externally funded research, primarily in the area of environmental accounting. Dr. Shields has served on the editorial boards of *Accounting Horizons*, the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, the *Journal of Cost and Managerial Decision Making*, *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory*, and *Advances in Accounting*. He has been an ad hoc reviewer for *The Accounting Review* and *The Southern Economic Journal*.

He was a finalist for the Phi Beta Kappa Teaching Prize at Rice, received Teacher of the Year honors at the University of Florida, and was recipient of the Halliburton Faculty Teaching Award and was named Melcher Faculty Teaching Fellow at the University of Houston. Dr. Shields also received the MidCon Corporation Award for Teaching Excellence (Executive MBA) at the University of Houston.



Dr. David Shields

#### **New Mercer Web Site Launched**

Mercer launched a new web site (www.mercer.edu) in early October, its first major redesign in three years. In addition to a new look and feel, the Mercer home page will be updated regularly to highlight programs, achievements and initiatives that demonstrate the distinctives that contribute to Mercer's uniqueness — liberal learning, professional knowledge, discovery, service to humankind and community. Visitors to the site will be able to control which feature stories are highlighted on the home page by selecting from embedded thumbnail photos.

Mercer's 11 schools and colleges are also more prominently featured on the new home page, navigation has been improved and a new "spotlight" feature has been introduced to showcase major upcoming events and other announcements.

A task force of more than 30 faculty and staff members

from across the University worked for nine months under the leadership of Daniel Manson, director of online communications, and Rob Saxon, director of web management, to design and launch the new site.

Significant changes were made to the
Academics, Admissions, About Mercer,
News and Features, Alumni, Campus Life
and Gifts to Mercer sections of the web
site. In conjunction with the launch of the
new web site, the University also unveiled
its own Mercer-branded YouTube channel
(www.youtube.com/merceruniversity)
where videos of events, lectures,
programs, campus activities and basketball coaches'
shows will be posted for viewing.



More changes to www.mercer.edu will be coming in the months ahead, as attention turns to revamping web sites for schools and colleges and administrative departments.

#### Master's Degrees Aimed at Environmental Challenges

ercer's School of Engineering launched two new degree programs this fall to help meet the nation's mounting environmental challenges. The School welcomed its first classes for the Master of Science in Engineering in environmental engineering — for students with engineering degrees — and the Master of Science in environmental systems — aimed at practicing professionals with degrees in other science disciplines.

The degrees are timely, according to their designers, because the curricula not only provide training in sustainability, green engineering and ecology, but also address the nation's most pressing environmental challenges: emerging contaminants and aging environmental infrastructure. The American Society of Civil Engineers, in its most recent report card, gave an overall grade of "D" for the infrastructure in the United States, and the country's drinking water, wastewater, energy and hazardous waste systems all received either a "D" or "D minus."

"These new environmental graduate programs will train environmental engineers and scientists to replace the aging infrastructure with sustainable designs and develop innovative approaches to treat emerging contaminants associated with personal care products, endocrine-disrupting compounds and pharmaceutical drugs, as well as conventional pollutants," said Dr. Richard O. Mines, professor of environmental engineering and director of the School of Engineering's graduate programs.

Both programs are designed for working professionals, with most courses offered once a week in the evenings. The programs have four major areas of study, where students will study the most advanced techniques and models in biotechnology and remediation, water quality,

solid and hazardous waste and air quality issues. A number of the courses include an emphasis on green engineering and sustainable design. The programs also emphasize management, adding skills in leadership and project management while also upgrading each student's scientific and engineering skills.

The Master of Science in Engineering in environmental engineering is designed for students with an undergraduate degree in any area of engineering. Earning an environmental engineering degree will allow the graduate to be eligible for registration as a professional engineer after passing the fundamentals of engineering examination. In addition, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying has approved new rules that will eventually require

applicants for the professional engineer certification to obtain a master's degree or equivalent to be eligible for the exam.

The Master of Science in environmental systems offers practicing professionals with backgrounds in biology, chemistry and environmental science the opportunity to take advanced courses related to environmental engineering and science, which will extend their knowledge and enable them to effectively work on multidisciplinary teams to solve challenging environmental problems. The degree is available to students with an undergraduate degree in any area of science. Earning the Master of Science in environmental systems also makes the graduate eligible for registration on the National Registry of Environmental Professionals.



#### The Princeton Review Features Mercer In 'Best 371 Colleges'

For the seventh consecutive year, The Princeton Review named Mercer to its list of America's best colleges in the 2010 edition of the book, "Best 371 Colleges." Only about 15 percent of the four-year colleges in America and two Canadian colleges were chosen for the book.

In its two-page profile on Mercer, The Princeton Review reported that Mercer is a "school on the rise" and that Mercer's strong majors and pre-professional programs "are supported by a solid liberal arts curriculum grounded in the classics." The profile goes on to quote extensively from Mercer students that The Princeton Review surveyed for the book. Among their comments on the University are: "The professors and staff offer exceptional outreach to students, and the relationship between professors and students is unparalleled," and Mercer creates "the perfect college experience complete with friendly professors, helpful staff, easy accessibility and student activities to maintain interest."



#### Grace, Collins Headline 20th Authors Luncheon

ancy Grace, Mercer University alumnae and trustee, will join a lineup of celebrated writers at the 20th Annual Authors Luncheon in Atlanta.

Grace, who earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Mercer and her Juris Doctorate from the Walter F. George School of Law, will sign copies of her first novel, *The 11th Victim* — a *New York Times* bestseller.

Grace's appearance is sure to draw crowds. Last year, hundreds of book lovers gathered at the Intercontinental Buckhead Atlanta to meet and greet with some of the country's most notable authors. The Dec. 12 event, which is a fundraiser for Mercer Press, is expected to grow to more than 400 guests this year and will feature 13 authors who will sign their books.

Mercer law graduate and trustee Doc Schneider, master of ceremonies for the luncheon and chairman of the Mercer Press Board of Directors, expects this year's event to be the best yet.

"Mercer's 20th Annual Authors Luncheon will be a bell ringer by any standard," he said. Schneider has been involved with the Authors Luncheon since its founding and was recruited to serve as master of ceremonies three years ago.

Schneider said he's excited to see Grace join the lineup of renowned authors. "Nancy Grace — our very own Mercer trustee — continues to astonish everyone with her abilities and energy,"

he said. "Her book is already sailing up the *New York Times* bestseller list."

Grace will join many noteworthy writers at the Authors Luncheon, including Billy Collins, a United States poet laureate who will read a number of his poems. Schneider compared Collins to Robert Frost. "He is a supremely entertaining speaker. This rare opportunity to meet Mr. Collins in person, get him to sign one or more of his poetry collections and hear him speak is worth the price of admission alone."

Other featured authors will include Kathryn Stockett, author of *The Help;* Russell S. Bonds, who wrote *War Like the Thunderbolt: The Battle and Burning of Atlanta;* and Virginia Willis, author of Bon Appétit, Ya'll: Recipes and Stories from Three Generations of Southern Cooking. Philip Lee Williams, whose book *The Campfire Boys*, was published by Mercer University Press, will also be in attendance.

"This luncheon is a signature Mercer event," Schneider said. "It is a wonderful way to showcase the University, Mercer Press and the books and authors Mercer has published. It's also a great opportunity to buy personalized gifts for the holidays."

Mercer University Press, established in 1979, has published more than 1,200 books. Operated by a nine-member staff, the press publishes more than 35 books annually. Admission to the Authors Luncheon is \$125, a portion of which is tax deductible. For more information about the Author's

Luncheon or to receive an invitation, call (678) 547-6419 or (800) 547-6400.

#### The 20th Annual Mercer University Authors Luncheon

Dec. 12, 2009, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta 3315 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta Admission: \$125

#### **Confirmed Authors**

**Russell S. Bonds,** War Like the Thunderbolt: The Battle and Burning of Atlanta

Billy Collins, Ballistics

Melissa Conroy, Poppy's Pants

William S. Duffey Jr. and Richard A. Schneider, A Life in the Law

**John Ferling,** The Ascent of George Washington: The Hidden Political Genius of an American Icon

Nancy Grace, The 11th Victim

**Lauretta Hannon,** The Cracker Queen: A Memoir of a Jagged, Joyful Life

James L. Hunt, Relationship Banker: Eugene W. Stetson, Wall Street and American Business, 1916-1959

Kathryn Stockett, The Help

**Barbara Brown Taylor**, An Alter in the World: A Geography of Faith

Philip Lee Williams, The Campfire Boys

**Virginia Willis,** Bon Appétit, Y'all: Recipes and Stories from Three Generations of Southern Cooking

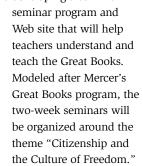
#### **New Grants Boost Summer Scholarship for High School Teachers**

wo interdisciplinary programs in the College of Liberal Arts have received significant grants to fund summer education

programs for high school teachers in 2010. The grants will fund a summer seminar series by Mercer's Center for the Teaching of America's Western Foundations, through a grant by the Wal-Mart Foundation, and a summer institute by faculty from Mercer's

Southern Studies Program, with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Wal-Mart Foundation awarded its grant to develop summer seminars for 40 high school teachers in Georgia to learn how to include the Great Books in their curriculum. Through the grant, the Center for the Teaching of America's Western Foundations is developing a summer



"We are very grateful

to the Wal-Mart Foundation for allowing us to share one of Mercer's most distinctive programs with some of Georgia's best teachers," said Dr. Will Jordan, associate professor of political science and Center co-director. The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Mercer a \$215,000 grant for a five-week institute for high school teachers on Southern history, titled "Cotton Culture in the South from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement."

Directed by Dr. Sarah E. Gardner, associate professor and chair of history and director of Mercer's Southern Studies Program, the institute will begin in June 2010. Dr. Douglas Thompson, associate professor of interdisciplinary studies and Southern studies, and Dr. David A. Davis, assistant professor of English, will serve as the institute's faculty.

"The institute will create an engaged learning community of high school teachers, Mercer faculty and visiting experts who will share ideas about an extremely complex and often poorly understood aspect of Southern history and culture," said Dr. Davis.

#### First Education Ph.D. Graduates Receive Degrees

he Tift College of Education held a special commencement honoring the achievements of its first Ph.D. graduates on Aug. 15 on the Atlanta campus. The 31 graduates received their Ph.D. degrees in educational leadership through a program launched in 2006 on Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses.

Among the graduates were four school system executives and 10 principals and assistant principals, as well as several teachers. Many of the graduates were already accomplished leaders when they entered the program. They have earned promotions as they completed their degrees, including Phillip D. Lanoue, who was recently named superintendent of Clarke County Schools; and Terry Watlington, now chief of staff for Fulton County Schools. Of the first cohort of graduates, 10 completed their coursework in Macon, while 21 worked from the Atlanta campus.

"We are extremely proud of this group. They have worked tirelessly to learn and apply sound leadership and research skills and their leadership distinguishes them, our college and the University," said Dr. Carl Martray, dean of the college. "The state of Georgia faces many challenges in educating its young people, and highly qualified school leaders are essential to that effort. We designed our program to educate leaders to meet these challenges. These graduates have answered the call to leadership and are already accomplishing those goals in their work as leaders for their schools and school systems."



#### U.S. News Ranks Mercer Among Top 10 in the South for 11th Consecutive Year

For the 11th consecutive year, Mercer has made the Top 10 in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual ranking of comprehensive universities in the South. Mercer is ranked No. 8 in the South in the 2010 "Best Universities-Master's" category. The University has for 20 consecutive years been ranked in the top 15 in that category, which includes institutions that provide a full range of undergraduate and master's programs, and few, if any, doctoral programs. More than 500 universities are ranked within four geographic areas – North, South, Midwest and West.

In a new category this year, *U.S. News* ranked institutions based on their commitment to strong undergraduate teaching. Mercer came in at No. 7 in the South. According to the magazine, "These are schools whose faculty and administrators have placed

a special emphasis on teaching undergraduate students and are committed to teaching undergraduate students in a quality

manner."

Mercer maintained the No. 6 spot in the South for "Great Schools, Great Prices," and the School of Engineering also repeated its national ranking among the top 50 schools focused on undergraduate engineering.

The "Great Schools, Great

Prices" ranking reflects the
magazine's selection of institutions based
on a number of criteria, including academic

quality and the net cost of attendance for students receiving need-based aid. The ranking is also

based on the premise that "the higher the quality of the program and the lower

the cost, the better the deal."

In the ranking for "Best
Undergraduate Engineering
Programs," Mercer's School of
Engineering placed 42nd nationally,
tied with six other engineering
schools. Since its establishment in
1986, Mercer School of Engineering
has developed a strong reputation
among employers in the state and is the

single largest source of engineers for Robins
Air Force Base in Warner Robins.

#### **Laffer Center for Global Economic Growth Arrives**

oted economist and Distinguished University Professor of Economics Dr. Arthur B. Laffer is launching the Laffer Center for Global Economic Growth at Mercer. The Center will conduct research into public policy and will aim to become the leading international center for the study of entrepreneurial capitalism. The Center will have offices at both the Macon and Atlanta campuses and will include a staff of researchers and economists.

The Center's mission will be to promote a rigorous examination of the role of freedom

and market incentives in public policy and the effect of market incentives in encouraging global economic growth and prosperity. The work of the Center will be addressed to government officials and legislators, undergraduate and graduate students, academics and business executives. The staff of economists will conduct research on the incentives produced by various public policies, conduct the Center's educational programs and serve as faculty members for Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics.

"I'm very pleased to be bringing this new tions and want to thank President William D. Underwood for his work in helping me to develop a Center that will have an impact on the world's public policy and its future." The Center will be an independent nonprofit housed at Mercer through a long-

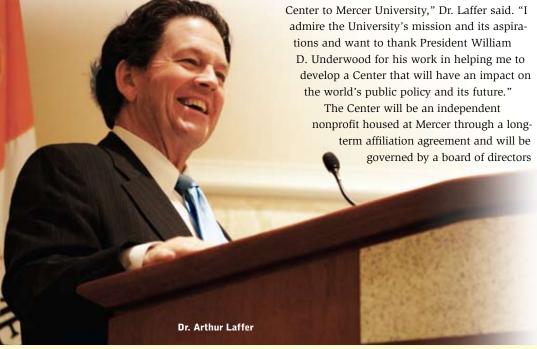
Dr. Laffer serves as chairman of the board in addition to his role as Distinguished University Professor of Economics at Mercer. The initial board includes Richard Fink, president of the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation, who will serve as vice-chairman, and President Underwood, who will serve as treasurer.

and administered by an executive director.

Dr. Wayne Gable, an economist with 20 years of experience in executive-level management, public policy analysis and legislative advocacy, will serve as interim executive director and will oversee implementation of the Center.

The Center's work will build in part on Dr. Laffer's long experience as a free market economist. Dr. Laffer helped trigger a worldwide tax cutting movement through his expression of the Laffer Curve and he is currently chairman of Laffer Associates, a 30-year-old economic research and consulting firm that provides investment-research services to institutional asset managers. Dr. Laffer has held faculty appointments at Pepperdine University, the University of Southern California and the University of Chicago.

Dr. Laffer received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Yale University in 1963 and a Master of Business Administration degree and Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University in 1965 and 1971, respectively. Prior to his appointment as a Distinguished Professor, Mercer awarded Dr. Laffer an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 2008.



#### Mercer Begins Participation in Yellow Ribbon Program for Veterans

Mercer has committed to fund as many as 200 spots for veterans or their children over the next four years through a new program for U.S. military veterans called the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program. Under the program, Mercer will fund half of the tuition for up to 50 veterans each year over their four years, with the Veterans Administration matching that amount.

"We are proud to participate in this program, which allows us to recognize and acknowledge the veterans who have given so much in service to our country," said President William D. Underwood.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, which allows institutions of degree-granting institutions in the United States to voluntarily enter into an agreement with the VA to fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate. Veterans or their dependents

are eligible for the program if the veteran has served in the armed forces on active duty for at least 36 months after Sept. 10, 2001, or was honorably discharged from active duty for a service-connected disability having served 30 continuous days after

Sept. 10, 2001. Among the University units participating are the Macon campus undergraduate program, as well the graduate programs

for the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics, the School of Engineering, the Tift College of Education, the Townsend School of Music and the Walter F. George School of Law. The undergraduate business program in Atlanta will also admit students under the program.

The University admitted 40 students through the program for the fall semester. The program will remain open throughout the year, said Brian Dalton, senior vice president for enrollment management.

"We are proud to participate in this program, which allows us to recognize and acknowledge the veterans who have given so much in service to our country."

"The Yellow Ribbon program fits nicely within President Underwood's vision for growth and the diversification of our programs and populations over the next decade," Dalton said. "Veterans have long been a part

of the Mercer story, at all levels — undergraduate, graduate and our professional schools. This wonderful program makes it all the more possible for those who have served our country to take advantage of all that Mercer has to offer."

For more information on the program, visit www.mercer.edu/yellowribbon.

**EAHYETTER PHOTO** 

#### **Fallis Announces Retirement as Dean of Liberal Arts**

r. Richard Fallis, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, has announced his retirement from the post at the end of this academic year. Dr. Fallis has served as dean of the college for eight years and holds a faculty appointment in English in the College. Following a sabbatical, he plans to return to full-time teaching.

"Since 2001, more than 40 new faculty members have joined us. In terms of preparation and ability, our students have improved substantially. Our efforts in service-learning, undergraduate research and study abroad have all grown and become richer and the results from the National Survey of Student Engagement — and the fact that we have our highest retention rate ever tell me that CLA does many things well," Dr. Fallis said. "I think the most important things a dean can do are build and support faculty and press for the richest learning environment possible for students. Both of those really depend so much on faculty members and students that no dean should take too much credit. But even with some growing pains, CLA seems to me even better now than it was in 2001, so I'm satisfied."

"Mercer University is indebted to Rich Fallis for the wise, collaborative and effective leadership he has provided the College of Liberal Arts over the past eight years," said President William D. Underwood. "I am grateful that he will continue to serve Mercer and its students in the classroom, which is the highest calling for an academic."

Under Dr. Fallis' leadership, the College augmented its mission to provide engaged



Dr. Richard Fallis

learning experiences for its students. He also worked to support new and established faculty members to develop innovative teaching methods and significant research. Dr. Fallis also supported new initiatives in service-learning, undergraduate research and study abroad, enhancing Mercer's reputation as a national leader in the liberal arts. The College restructured and expanded its Honors Program and added honor societies in several academic disciplines, including a chapter of Sigma Xi, the faculty honor society for engineering and science researchers. The College also added new majors and concentrations in such areas as biochemistry/microbiology, computational science, journalism, media studies and southern studies. In addition, the College built cooperative relationships with Mercer's schools and colleges to enhance student research opportunities.

"It has been a privilege to serve with Dean Fallis," said Provost Wallace L. Daniel. "He is

person of indisputably high character and great integrity, who has been a wonderful colleague and who will continue to serve the Mercer community in various special ways. His tenure as dean is marked by many accomplishments, including his consistent support for undergraduate research, for strong classroom teaching and for encouragement of dialogue about major academic issues. A gifted teacher and writer himself, he leads by example, and his advocacy of the liberal arts and sciences is very much needed and appreciated."

Dr. Fallis earned a Bachelor of Arts from Wake Forest University and a Ph.D. in English from Princeton. He began his professional career at Syracuse University and taught there for 24 years. In 1995, he went to Belmont University as professor of English and dean of the School of Humanities/Education. In 1999, he became the founding dean of Belmont's College of Arts and Sciences. The author of a history of modern Irish literature, he is founding editor of the "Irish Studies Series" from the Syracuse University Press and more than 60 books were published under his direction.

Dr. Fallis noted that he is eager to return to the classroom. "Teaching is the heart of our work in the College, and I look forward to being back in the classroom full-time," he said.

#### MERCER LIFE TRUSTEE Remer Crum DIES AT AGE 96

Mercer Life Trustee Dr. Remer Crum, a dedicated and loyal friend of the University, died Aug. 8 at the age of 96. He, along with his wife Emily, was a longtime supporter of higher education in Georgia. The couple generously gave both their time and financial support to Mercer and LaGrange College, his wife's alma mater. His funeral was held Aug. 10 at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta.

Educated at Middle Georgia College and the Georgia Institute of Technology, Dr. Crum was trained as a civil engineer. He graduated from Cordele High School in 1928 where he excelled in baseball and football. He was a member of the Cordele Southeast Semi-Pro Baseball League.

"Remer Crum's life was characterized by integrity, hard work, a dedication to excellence, and generosity to the causes he held dear," Mercer President William D. Underwood said. "He was an inspiration to so many, and he will be greatly missed. We offer our deepest sympathy to Emily and the Crum family."

Dr. Crum was employed by the State of Georgia Highway

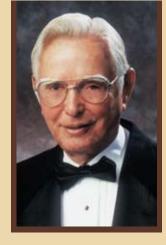
Department in the mid 1930s in LaGrange. He spent the bulk of his professional career as an investor and real estate manager. He was also president of the Fisher-Crum Foundation.

In his early career as an engineer, Dr. Crum was employed by the Callaway Family to start the design and planning of the Callaway Gardens facility in Pine Mountain. Following the Dec. 7, 1941, bombing of Pearl Harbor, he received a telegram from the Department of the Navy requesting that he go to Honolulu as a civil engineer to help in the rebuilding of Pearl Harbor. He was joined by his wife, Emily, who also worked for the Department of the Navy. Dr. and Mrs. Crum returned to Atlanta in 1950, where he joined the engineering firm of Robert Construction Company. He later worked for the U.S. Forestry Service as Southern road engineer until he retired in the 1970s.

In 2000, the Crums announced their intent to deed an 83-acre Atlanta office park known as Century Center Park to Mercer and LaGrange College as part of their estate plan. This planned gift is the largest the University has recorded in its 176-year history. The Crums also endowed

the Bessie Ayers Fisher Scholarship Fund at Tift College. The fund continues to provide scholarships at Mercer for gifted women.

A former trustee of Tift College, Dr. Crum served as a member of Mercer's Board of Trustees from 1986 until 1991. Dr. Crum was one of only seven members of the Board of



Trustees in Mercer's history elected as a Life Trustee. In 1988, the Crums were awarded lifetime membership in the President's Club. Dr. Crum received an honorary doctorate of laws from Mercer on May 13, 2001. A portrait of the Crums is displayed in Mercer's University Center.

## Young Alumni Making A Difference

## Mackenzie Eaglen '99

#### From Anthill to Pentagon and U.S. National Security

By Rob Marus

hat started in an anthill in Macon has led, for Mackenzie Eaglen '99, to the Pentagon and the highest echelons of the United

States national security apparatus. And she credits her Mercer experience for preparing her to advise the nation's top policymakers — even if her Mercer experience is what landed her in that anthill in the first place.

Eaglen, research fellow for national security studies at The Heritage Foundation in Washington, now regularly rubs elbows with high-ranking generals and admirals. Originally, though, she wanted to do more than work with them; she wanted to be one of them.

"The plan after Mercer always was I wanted to join the Army," Eaglen said. She went to Mercer on a partial Army Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship. "I was looking at medical service," she said. "That way you can fly helicopters."

ROTC presented some challenges to Eaglen, who was active in many areas of student life while at Mercer. "It was very hard for me to be in a sorority and student government and wear my battle-dress uniform to class on Wednesdays," she said with a laugh.

Nonetheless, Eaglen enjoyed her ROTC service and looked forward to her Army career once she graduated. But all that changed the summer between her junior and senior years.

While at what ROTC calls "basic camp" for officers, she went through what she described as "extensive medical screening." That's where her would-be military career came to an end before it even began. A test made Army officials aware of Eaglen's severe allergy to ants — an allergy she discovered herself only a couple of years earlier, during her sophomore year, while doing physical training on campus with her ROTC unit.

"It was a cool October morning, so we trained outside," she said. "And I was doing sit-ups and I had on full sweats, but my hair was up and I was in

an anthill. And I didn't know it because it was kind of dark out." The ant bites caused an anaphylactic reaction so extreme that Eaglen stopped breathing, landing her in intensive care for three days.

But things were fine until the medical evaluation in the summer of 1998. When they discovered her allergies, Army officials summoned Eaglen before a board of colonels. They asked her if she really wanted to be in ROTC. "Of course!" she responded. However, she quickly realized what they were actually saying: "We aren't asking you; you're done. You're booked on the next flight home," Eaglen said. "I was devastated. And, by the way, I really didn't have an alternate plan beyond college."

With the help of her adviser, Dr. Eimad Houry, director of Mercer's International Affairs Program and chair of political science, she had earlier cobbled together a foreign-relations-focused course of study from Spanish, international business and political science. It became the forerunner of Mercer's current International Affairs Program.

But, as Eaglen said she and her Mercer friends had joked, "at a liberal-arts college and in a liberalarts major, you know, everybody else goes on and makes money and the liberal-arts major says, 'Do you want fries with that?'"

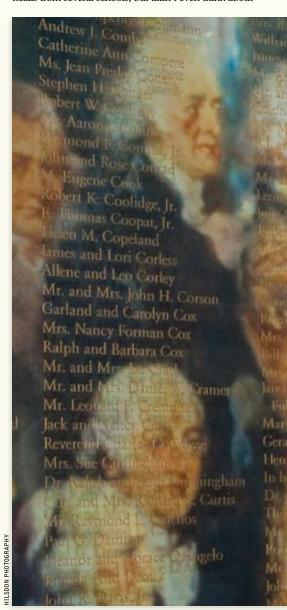
Now that her long-planned Army career had evaporated, Eaglen didn't have any idea what she could do with her degree that would lead to gainful employment. More immediately, she didn't know how she was even going to pay for her senior year.

But Mercer officials helped her figure out both pretty quickly. The admissions staff with whom she worked as a Student Advisory Board member and summer intern, she said, went to bat for her to replace her scholarship money. While all of the aid had already been disbursed for the year, Eaglen said, the officials helped her stitch together a patchwork of aid sources, from loans to obscure scholarship funds. The director of admissions, she said, "just really came through for me."

The next goal, Eaglen noted, was to figure out what the heck to do with the international affairs degree she'd be earning in less than a year.

Dr. Houry helped with that. "He said I need to go to Washington and graduate school," Eaglen said. "And I didn't know where to go to school and I didn't know what to get a degree in. I just knew I wanted to do defense policy."

She went to a graduate school fair and visited officials from several schools, but didn't even think about



stopping at the Georgetown University table. "I thought I'd never get in" to one of their prestigious graduate programs, she said. But the Georgetown representative grabbed Eaglen's arm on her way out of the fair and asked her why she hadn't stopped at his table. She was persuaded to apply to the National Security Studies program. Much to her surprise, she got in.

The Georgetown experience led to a fellowship to work in several of the top offices at the Pentagon studying how the military works at its highest levels. Her first day on the job ended up being Sept. 11, 2001. "Obviously that will shape your world view," she said.

That experience and her training led her to become an expert on national security issues, including military readiness, reforms and modernization. Her current work at The Heritage Foundation involves not only research on those subjects, but educating both military and civilian officials about them — and about each other.

"I kind of joke that my job is a translator for the executive branch to the legislative and back," she said. "They don't talk to each other as much as you might think, and they don't understand each other."

While Heritage is the nation's most prominent conservative think tank, Eaglen said her job is less ideological than that of many of her colleagues, because having a strong defense is, by definition, a non-partisan issue. Her work, she said, is focused on increasing policymakers' knowledge base about military issues so they make better decisions.

While previous Capitol Hill experience working for moderate Republican members of Congress has helped prepare her for her current bipartisan work, Eaglen said, her liberal arts experience at Mercer prepared her as well.

For one, it taught her research and critical-thinking skills. "This might sound like a given, but it's not at think tanks in Washington: I let the research drive the recommendations rather than just saying I

know what the military needs to do and fitting my research into that," Eaglen said.

Also, knowing how to write effectively — she notes her many essay-based exams at Mercer — is another aspect of "what gives you critical-thinking sills and what separates, basically, the men from the boys when it comes to analysis," she said.

And her out-of-classroom experience also helped. Besides ROTC, student government and Greek life in her Mercer days, Eaglen also served as a student leader in residence life.

In her current job, she said, Eaglen has a similar dynamic — working with diverse "stakeholders" in various agencies, with widely different interests and institutional cultures. "There's nobody I don't work with," she said. "I have to put on a different hat every single day. One day it's the Army, the next day it's the Navy. It's about being an interdisciplinary person; that's what you're taught. And that's what an education at Mercer is; it's interdisciplinary."



## Young Alumni Making A Difference

## Tom Abbott '04

#### For the Love of Golf and Broadcasting

By Richard L. Cameron

ondon native Tom Abbott, early in his collegiate golfing career at Mercer, was becoming familiar with his new Mercer teammates. One of his first introductions was to Riley Johnson, from whom Abbott asked his hometown. "Viiii-dellllll-yuh," was the quick response. "Where?" Abbott responded. "You know, where they grow the onions," Johnson replied. "Where?" Abbott responded again. So began the transformation of the young English lad who came to Mercer and the Deep South.

Abbott quickly picked up on the Southern accents of his golf teammates and other Mercer students and faculty, but it was his British accent that won over the hearts of those with whom he came into contact.

"How could anyone forget Tom Abbott?" said Professor Tammy Crutchfield in the Stetson School of Business and Economies (SSBE). "He was one of those students who just stood out in a crowd, not because he had the best GPA or always made the highest grade on an exam. That was not always the case. He was in the middle of whatever topic was being studied. He was full of life and personality.

"I did not know that Tom was on Golf Channel until I was channel surfing one day. It wasn't his face that caught my attention, but his distinctive British voice. I immediately turned back and was not surprised at all. Excited, yes. Surprised, no," she said.

Abbott said his first career choice as a young man growing up in Cheam, England, a suburb of London, was to become a professional golfer. However, having been raised in a home where his mother, Carol, worked with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for 27 years, broadcasting was his other natural love.

"In my choosing to come to Mercer, I learned it was a name-brand school with quality academics, a small school with a great environment," he said. His initial contact with Mercer was an introduction to the Morris Purcell family

from Macon while on an American vacation during his high school days. "They kept talking about this great school in Macon, where they lived, although, until I drove by the university later, I thought they said it was in Bacon."

Eventually offered a scholarship to play for Mercer, Abbott realized the level of collegiate golf was really quite good. He left the Mercer golf team and turned to his other love — broadcasting.

Abbott went through the MAPS (Managed Academic Path to Success) program in the Business School. "The MAPS program was perfect for Tom," Dr. Crutchfield said, "and he was one of our earliest graduates — one of our guinea pigs. Let's just say that he passed the test. He had vision and focus. He told me and anyone else willing to listen that he was going to be on television. He took the courses that supported his vision — many of which were communication courses — and he interned in his field. Tom was one of the early MAPS students who helped us to understand how we should work with a student's life calling and support them in this most critical leg of their life journey."

"I incorporated some communications classes, public speaking, theater, PR, with business classes, marketing, sales, advertising and then added the practical experience with internships and extracurricular activities based around television production," Abbott said. "I did an unofficial internship with European Tour Productions working on their live golf coverage for three weeks. Believe it or not, I deal with some of those same people on a regular basis through my work with European golf on Golf Channel."

The success of the men's basketball team in 2003 motivated Abbott to explore media capabilities. Among his inaugural projects was a 60-second wrap-up of Mercer sports — called "Mercer in a Minute" — on a local TV station. Abbott was the segment producer and host.

Becki Sandifer, new media designer in Mercer's Office of Marketing Communications, was

among the first to appreciate and realize Abbott's broadcast potential. "He inquired as to how to go about the task of covering athletic events, and we discussed some ideas," she said. "I was quite taken by his knowledge of the television

business and his desire to provide the University with a biweekly sports show that students could watch on campus. I later learned that he grew up watching his mother work as a producer and technical director for the BBC in London, so he came by it honestly."

Abbott also worked with fellow students on a weekly news show, contributing his sports segments, which became a regular viewing event. "When we began working on the 'Mercer 99' channel, as it was called then, and producing sports content for the network, it was, I would say, the most realistic preparation for the real world one could get," he said. "We were effectively doing exactly what sports broadcasters and reporters do in small markets all over America. Be-



ing at a small school, we were able to get right in. At large schools, it is often a battle just to be involved with college productions."

Following his graduation from Mercer in 2004, Abbott interned with CBS-46 in Atlanta, WGCL-TV. He became a sports anchor and reporter for WCAV-TV in Charlottesville, Va., and was part of the anchor team for the CBS affiliate's first-ever newscast in November 2004.

Abbott joined Golf Channel in November 2005. He anchored the network's nightly news show, Golf Central, for Golf Channel UK until the UK operation went off the air on Dec. 31, 2007. He also hosted Golf Channel UK's LPGA Tour coverage alongside Laura Baugh.

In January 2008, Abbott moved over to anchor full-time for Golf Channel in the United States. His duties include reporting for Golf

Central, hosting the network's coverage of the PGA European Tour and holes commentating for live coverage of the LPGA Tour. Golf Central airs nightly at 6 and 11:30 p.m. and is broadcast into more than 82 million homes in the United States, and more than 40 million additional homes around the world.

"When I first came to the Golf Channel," Abbott said, "I was initially working as an associate producer, producing stories for our news show, Golf Central, and occasionally doing some on-air work for Golf Central UK. I was pushing to be on-air in more of a full-time role and, about five months later, I got a call one morning from my boss. I was still in bed at the time, and he was telling me they had changed some plans for the Golf Channel UK's broadcasting of the LPGA Tour, and they wanted me

as a studio host, beginning in three hours. From that moment on, my life changed into an on-air role and the rest, as they say, is history."

"Tom possesses tenacity and a willingness to strive for what he wants," Sandifer said. "He never asks why he can't do something. He simply asks if he can try it differently. Sometimes we had to examine those other ways together when he covered sports here on campus. Tom has great wisdom, is willing to work hard and is always ready to step in at a moment's notice.

"I never imagined Tom would walk off campus with diploma in hand and land on the desk as sports anchor for a CBS affiliate right out of school. Tom is on a great journey, and I am thrilled to know he made it to Golf Channel. After all, it was a golf scholarship that brought him to Macon in the first place."



### Young Alumni Making A Difference

## Rajesh Pandey '93

#### A Leader in Medical Device Development

By Stephen Werk

ajesh Pandey's career has always been on the fast track.

In 1996, at his first job out of graduate school — a time when most new graduates are just getting their feet wet — Pandey was appointed technical project leader at Stryker Instruments, where he was charged with designing a new high-speed surgical drill.

The specialized surgical drill, devised for intricate orthopaedic, spinal, craniofacial and neurological applications, was the first Stryker product ever to be released before its target date, and became one of the company's best-selling products.

Over the next 12 years, Pandey would lead medical device development at three other companies, designing and bringing to market innovative new products such as a fully implantable heart pump and the tools to implant the pump, and an intravascular implantable defibrillator.

Today, at age 36, Pandey directs advanced product development at SurgiVision, a company at the vanguard of a new wave of medical devices for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)-assisted procedures.

"With the MRI-guided products we are developing at SurgiVision, we can improve people's lives quite significantly," said Pandey, who graduated from Mercer in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering, specializing in biomedical engineering. He earned a Master of Science degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1995.

MRI is the best available technology for gaining high-resolution images of soft tissue, such as the brain, heart, liver and other organs. It provides the clarity and detail needed to guide the surgeon and implement highly selective surgical procedures, such as removing tumors while leaving healthy tissue undisturbed, delivering drugs and other biologic agents to very targeted, localized areas and improving neurological function through deep brain stimulation (DBS).

"Currently, however, most surgical devices are not compatible with MRIs," Pandey explains. "They can move uncontrollably due to the forces created by magnetic fields or can heat up dramatically. In either case, healthy tissue can be seriously damaged."

At SurgiVision, Pandey and his colleagues are developing MRI-safe components and devices.

"What we have done is develop configurations that make medical devices safe and compatible in virtually all MRI procedures," he said. "All the MRI procedures that couldn't have been done before now can be done safely."

The company's advances in MRI-assisted surgical safety have forged the way for a prominent partnership with Boston Scientific, the world's largest medical device company dedicated to less-invasive medicine.

Among the newest SurgiVision technologies that Pandey is developing are MRI-compatible "leads" or wires for pacemakers, defibrillators and neurological devices that generate electric pulses. A lead is the conduit for carrying electrical signals. In a pacemaker, for instance, a lead delivers electrical signals directly to the heart to steady heart rhythm.

"These new MRI-compatible leads have the potential to significantly improve safety and expand healthcare treatment for many people," Pandey said. "Currently, people with pacemakers and defibrillators are generally not allowed to receive MRI-assisted treatment because their devices can negatively react to the magnetic fields of the MRI."

This same MRI-safe lead technology SurgiVision is developing can be used to send electrical signals to areas of the nervous system, such as the spinal cord, to alleviate pain and achieve other clinical benefits.

"Our focus is to enable all patients to safely get the full diagnostic and surgical benefits from today's advanced MRI technology," Pandey said. "And because we're developing minimally invasive devices that deliver very targeted treatment, our technologies have great promise for reducing hospital stays and costs, increasing patient satisfaction and improving overall healthcare quality."

Pandey's work in medical device development involves considerable interaction with physicians, nurses and other medical staff to learn what they need and how medical devices could

best suit them and meet their specific requirements.

"It's essential that each product meets very stringent technical requirements as well as the real-world needs of healthcare professionals," he said. "To be effective, a medical device must be practical and cost-efficient to use. We want to get to the point where patients can have a wide range of surgical procedures done quickly and economically, with the greatest clinical benefit."

At Stryker Instruments in Kalamazoo, Mich., Pandey said he received valuable skills in all areas of product development and product management, from operations and quality assurance to manufacturing and field support. During



his four years at the company, he directed the release of 14 products, including the highly successful surgical drill.

"As a device designer, it is particularly gratifying to hear how a product you designed directly improved a surgical procedure and benefited patient care," Pandey said. "One instance that comes to mind occurred with the Stryker micodrill. I received feedback from a surgeon who said the device was instrumental in removing an eight-year-old girl's ear tumor and implanting a device that saved her hearing."

In late 2000, he left Stryker to join Z-KAT, a Fort Lauderdale-based developer of computer-assisted surgery technologies to build the company's infrastructure and serve as project manager for a product release in the fall of 2001.

By 2002, Pandey was eager to embark on a new challenge. In the spring of that year he moved to Kriton Medical, which was later renamed HeartWare, in Miramar, Fla. While at HeartWare, Pandey designed the subsystems for a fully implantable heart pump and the tools to implant the pump. As director of product development, he helped HeartWare complete a successful human trial of its heart pump in March of 2006.

"The development of this heart pump was very rewarding," Pandey said. "It dramatically reduces surgical time and enables heart patients to enjoy more active, normal lives."

Pandey left HeartWare in May of 2006 to serve as principal engineer at InnerPulse, a Durham, N.C.-based developer of intravascular implantable defibrillators. Through Pandey's direction, InnerPulse created its first fully functional prototype in September of 2008.

Later that year, the lure of a new career challenge drew him to SurgiVision and his current position in Raleigh, N.C.

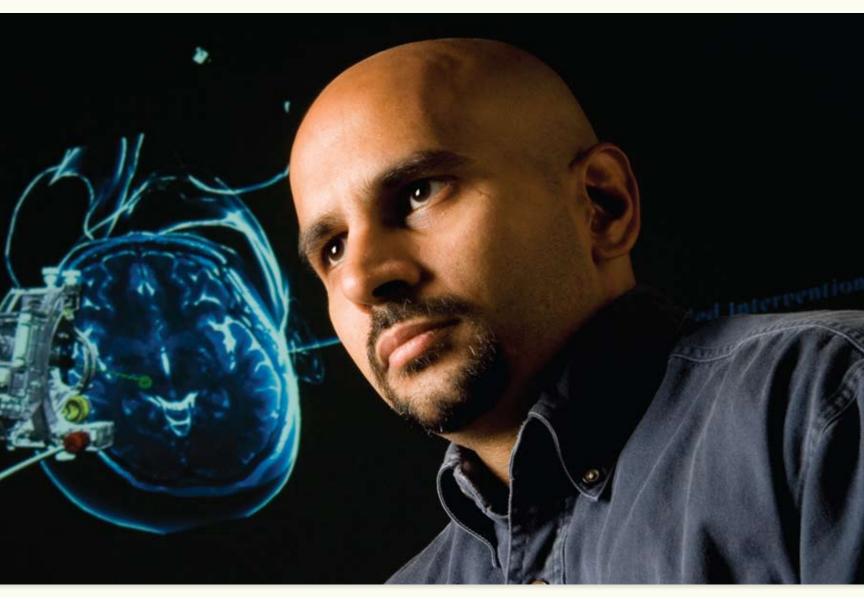
"At the time I graduated high school, Mercer was one of the very few colleges out there that

had biomedical engineering at the undergraduate level," Pandey said. "The curriculum at Mercer was outstanding. Particularly fascinating to me were the courses in orthopaedic biomechanics and biofluid mechanics, and when we examined the core physics and science of how things work in the body."

Pandey says the University's emphasis on product development played a pivotal role in determining his career interest and direction.

"I always had a leaning toward building and creating things, but my studies at Mercer, especially in the area of product development, really drove home the fact that I wanted to pursue a career in medical device design and development," he recalls.

"Mercer prepared me so well to move ahead. Once I had that foundational knowledge in science and engineering, I was intent on going into industry to design devices that could be used in actual clinical settings and make a difference in healthcare."



## Young Alumni Making A Difference

## Matt Trevathan '98

#### **Master Inventor from Childhood**

By Laura Raines

hen Matt Trevathan received his first IBM PC Junior at age 9 or 10, he promptly took it apart and put it back together again. "I needed to see how it worked," he said. He was soon programming and by age 14 or 15, building his own PCs.

Any wonder that this 1998 Mercer computer science graduate holds the title of Master Inventor and Senior Solutions Architect at IBM? Trevathan is a thought leader in cloud computing and the next generation (4G) of wireless technology. He already holds 15-20 patents and has almost 100 pending. But if his mind is in the 'clouds,' his feet are firmly on the ground.

Sure, he sometimes wakes up in the middle of the night to pursue a fresh idea, and will forget his work badge in absent-minded professor fashion, but he's no mad scientist in a basement laboratory. He lives in Atlanta with his wife, Bobby, and three daughters whom he considers his proudest accomplishment. He plays with his kids, teaches Sunday School, serves as a judge for Georgia science fairs and coaches 3- and 4-year-old girls in soccer. "It takes amazing rigor to instruct 4-year-olds, to set goals and deal with the meltdowns, but from a managerial point of view, it's great experience," he said.

For Trevathan, inventing is a natural part of his life. It's about being inquisitive and problem-solving — whether the problem is how to keep your child from straying too far at the park (he invented a wireless leash) or designing the technology grids and systems that allow text messages to be sent and received instantaneously. "Inventors rarely find something entirely new," he said. "What they do is take existing things and add to them, combine them in different ways, find new applications and improve them."

Trevathan grew up in Brunswick, Ga., with his mom, a nurse, and dad, a Navy aviator. "I always loved Legos and building things.

I built a lot of model rockets as a kid, and anything electrical fascinated me," he said. His grandmother encouraged his interest in science. He was an International Science and Engineering Fair Finalist twice in high school for his work with magneto-hydrodynamics, and the state winner at the 1993 National Science and Humanities Symposium.

Trevathan considered MIT for college, but his older brother was at Mercer, so he visited there as well. He chose Mercer believing it would give him a well-rounded education. Starting out as an electrical engineering major, he soon found his computer science classes to be more handson. "The first day of a programming class, we were building things and that was very gratifying, so I switched majors," he said.

He was able to major in computer science as part of a liberal arts degree. While he took lots of math and physics, he also remembers fondly his courses in English, great books, music appreciation, Western civilization and U.S. History. "Mercer was a great choice. To have that breadth of education has been

invaluable," Trevathan said. "It's what allows me to bridge the gap between technology and business. I can lay out the framework for a new solution to a client in everyday language, then turn around and tell my team 'this is how we're going to do it,' using technical terms."

Besides serving as president of the local chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery in college, he worked as a resident assistant and ran a computer network on his hall before anyone else on the campus was interconnected. He was also a member of the Baptist Student Union and played flag football for fun. "Mercer was, overall, a good college experience," he noted.

IBM called Trevathan with a job offer after he graduated in 1998 — and he jumped at it. "It was the middle of the Internet boom and IBM was on the cutting edge of inventing new technology. The work environment was very start-up-like," he said. "IBM has been in the innovation business for years, and leads the world in patent inventions." Trevathan lost no time making his contribution. Asked to





come up with a few ideas the first month, "I submitted about 75 invention ideas, 35 looked promising and about 20 went to the patent office," he said. His ratio of ideas to patent applications is even better today.

Trevathan's work focuses on the telecommunications industry and the technology that allows complex computing devices to communicate with each other. He works often in the realm of cloud computing — taking technology applications off the desktop and onto the Internet so that — someone can share video, send e-mail or retrieve work files from a computer at work using a mobile device.

One of his first inventions was for a Myers-Briggs Personality Engine, which would help retailers learn your personality as you shop so they could market to you more effectively. "If you buy a lot of sporting goods, they might offer you game tickets, for instance. If you're detail-oriented, they'd describe the products differently," he said.

At present, he's working on location-based services and the contextual building blocks needed for telecommunications. "With location-based services provided by your wireless carrier and cell-tower triangulation, you could find the nearest gas station or the best restaurant to meet a friend for lunch using your mobile device," he said.

When not working on the next generation of mobile technology, Trevathan's mind often turns to everyday problems. He has a patent pending for system to allow him to selectively block calls when he's in a meeting. Those on a 'white' list, like his wife, can override the block

with an emergency code and ring through. Those on a 'gray' list can text a message. The 'black' list automatically goes to voice mail.

Trevathan has won many awards for his inventions, including IBM's Outstanding Technical Achievement Award in 2008 for helping to integrate Google's cloud-based applications into Sprint's 4G portal.

Knowing that ideas can come at any time, he keeps a notebook handy and a running list of ideas on his mobile. "Being an inventor is like being a writer. If you like an idea, you turn it into a project. The initial thought is the hardest part. After that it's looking at where things stand and taking the next logical step. When stuck, you walk away. Usually a solution will present itself when you're not thinking about it," he said.

### Young Alumni Making A Difference

## Olu Menjay'95

#### A Life of Courage, Hope and Providence

By Richard F. Wilson

t is a long way from the outskirts of Monrovia, Liberia, in West Africa to Mercer University's campus on the southern edge of downtown Macon. On the wing of a commercial airliner the distance is about12,000 miles, including a stop in Europe. On the wing and a prayer of a teenaged refugee from the beginnings of a brutal civil war the distance is immeasurable.

It is a long way, too, from downtown Boston back to the outskirts of Monrovia to the campus of a once-prestigious boarding school, now ravaged by a brutal civil war that dragged on for 14 years. On the wing of a commercial airliner the distance remains about 12,000 miles. On the wing and a prayer of a courageous thirtysomething who spent fifteen years exiled from his homeland, the distance is unfathomable.

The story of Olu Quaity Menjay is a story of courage, hope, persistence and providence. Born in 1972, one of five children that blessed the union of a Baptist minister and school teacher and his wife, Olu Menjay grew up in the afterglow of the glory days of Liberia. William V.S. Tubman's 27-year presidency ended the year before Olu was born. Tubman was succeeded by William R. Tolbert, an international Baptist statesman and influential Liberian politician.

Tubman's Liberia was hobbled by a burgeoning system of patronage that created unrest in the country. World politics had become suspicious as the Cold War advanced. Tolbert assumed the Liberian presidency in dire days that only got worse.

In 1980 the simmering pot of Liberian politics boiled over. Tolbert was assassinated on April 12. Liberia began a long and painful slide into disarray followed by the mire of 14 years of civil war. Samuel Doe, Tolbert's assassin, ruled Liberia until his own murder on September 9, 1990. At the time of Doe's death, the Liberian civil war already was in full throat,

crying out for diplomatic, military and humanitarian assistance from the global community.

Officially the Liberian civil war began on Christmas Eve 1989 when Charles Taylor and his rebels launched an assault upon Liberia from Côte d'Ivoire. Although Charles Taylor assumed the presidency of Liberia in 1997 and held that position until 2003, the civil war continued throughout the Taylor administration. Fourteen years of war, destruction and fear postponed hope for a people with a rich heritage and a bright future.

Menjay grew up in the afterglow of the glory days of Liberia. His family struggled to make do when times got grim. By the time civil war erupted on a large scale, making do was not an option. "My only hope for survival was to leave Liberia. I chose exile and hoped for a better day for my country," Olu remembers.

Self-exile included a harrowing escape to Côte d'Ivoire. At the border Menjay was nearly executed, only spared death when a guard heard him pronounce his family name, "Menjay," and asked if Olu were the son of Harrison Menjay. "Yes," he replied. The guard released Olu, gave him some money, and told him that his father was good man who could be trusted. The good name "Menjay" and the reputation of his father saved Olu's life and set his feet toward freedom.

In Côte d'Ivoire Olu worked for a while as a farmer before being befriended by Rev. John Mark Carpenter, a Mercer graduate and a Baptist missionary. Just before the 1991 winter quarter began at Truett McConnell College, Olu found himself in Cleveland, Ga., with only the clothes on his back. "I had nothing but my name and the providential support of a Mercerian and Georgia Baptists," Menjay recalls.

After a successful two years at Truett McConnell Menjay was again without a place to go until another Mercerian, David Hinson, then-pastor of First Baptist Church of Tubmanburg Gbanga Kle

Monrovia

Buchanan

Cleveland, Ga. and now pastor of First Baptist Church in Frankfort, Ky., arranged with then-Mercer President Kirby Godsey for Menjay to take the first steps toward becoming an outstanding Mercerian in his own right.

Menjay entered Mercer in the fall of 1993 and, over the next two years, distinguished himself as an outstanding sociology and Christianity major and a Mercer Ambassador. "Mercer changed my life," Menjay says. "Through Mercerians like John Mark Carpenter and David Hinson, and through the models of my professors, I came to understand that high standards of excellence and deep commitments to service were calling my life. For a Mercerian neither excellence nor service are options; they are obligations."

From Mercer Menjay went on to complete the Master of Divinity at Duke University. While in North Carolina he also served as assistant to the pastor for administration at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church in Fayetteville. Following Duke, Menjay entered a Master of Sacred Theology program in practical theology/missions at Boston University.

About the time he finished his coursework at BU, the dark clouds over Liberia began to lift. The civil war ended and the postponed



hope for a brighter future broke like a stunning dawn. Menjay wanted to return home to Liberia and teach missions and theology at the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary. His convention leaders had a different idea. They invited Menjay to take on the task of rebuilding Ricks Institute, a K-12 school that once was Liberia's brightest light in primary and secondary education.

Menjay accepted the challenge and returned home to Liberia, full of the hope that had sustained him through his long personal exile.

After only four years, Ricks
Institute is, again, the brightest light
in primary and secondary education
in Liberia. More than that, Dr. Olu
Menjay — who recently earned his
Ph.D. in church history from the
University of Wales — has become
the model for a new day in Liberia.
What he learned at Mercer about
excellence and service now are the
by-words for Ricks Institute and also
for a growing number of Liberians
who see hope personified in Menjay.



### MERCER'S COMMITMENT TO MACON

## Steadfast Steadf

By Susan Long | ILLUSTRATED MAP BY MARIA RABINKY

r. Patrick Roche was tired of his 40-minute roundtrip commute each day from the North Macon suburbs to teach at the Mercer University School of Medicine. Environmentally conscious, he also wanted to live closer to work and use less fuel. And, he and his wife, Kathy, liked the sense of community that Macon's Intown neighborhoods offer, finding it similar to the small North Carolina town where they lived prior to moving to Macon.

When their youngest child went off to college, they became serious about a different option. After looking at various Intown neighborhoods, they settled on Huguenin Heights adjacent to the Mercer campus. Dr. Roche could walk to work. Other faculty lived nearby. They got to know everybody on their street and enjoyed porch parties. Kathy Roche imagined she would enjoy living Intown, but found that she liked it even more than she thought she would.

But one of their children quickly put everything in the proper perspective.

"Dad, you're going where the coolest faculty live," Roche said he recalled his son exclaiming.

Cool is a word increasingly being used to describe the historic, revitalized neighborhoods surrounding the Mercer campus. Twenty years ago the words dilapidated and dangerous were more likely to come to mind when talking about the neighborhoods at Mercer's front door.

"The housing was worse than Third World countries," said Maryel Battin, former director of the Macon Heritage Foundation (now Historic Macon Foundation), which began a complete neighborhood revitalization project in Huguenin Heights in 1994. "Apartments were renting for \$50 to \$75 a month and there was no maintenance. A nearby bar had "Drink and Drown" nights two nights a week and





#### **\$5 Million Knight Grant to Help Revitalize College Hill Corridor**

Great things have happened, but even greater things can happen. That was Mercer President William D. Underwood's prediction in June 2008 when he announced a \$250,000 grant to the University from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to create a College Hill Alliance and develop a master plan for revitalizing the corridor between the campus and downtown Macon.

After a year of planning by Interface Studio, awardwinning urban designers from Philadelphia, that involved

hundreds of Macon leaders and residents along the College Hill Corridor, a business

Knight Foundation securing additional grant

plan and comprehensive master land use plan have been developed that Underwood said will form the basis for "a showcase for the City of Macon."

Underwood's prediction at the June 2008 announcement was realized almost a year to the day later when a \$5 million Knight Foundation grant — its largest ever for Macon — was announced at a Mercer Village news

"Today marks a very important milestone for this city," Underwood said at the news conference. The Knight grant will serve "as the major catalyst for leveraging millions more in private and pubic financing that will create

an even more attractive, livable, lively and sustainable residential, recreational and commercial area in the historical and cultural heart of our city."

The Knight grant includes \$3 million for the Community Foundation of Central Georgia to fund residents' best ideas for reshaping the historic and unique area between Mercer and downtown Macon. The other \$2 million was granted to Mercer to form and staff the College Hill Alliance, which will be charged

> with implementing the corridor master plan, funding, attracting private

investment to develop residential and commercial space along the corridor, and creating and marketing events to create a vibe and sense of community in the area. The \$2 million portion of the Knight grant also will fund a continuation of the successful Mercer-Knight down payment assistance program, which helps Mercer faculty and staff purchase eligible homes in the surrounding historic districts.

More information about the College Hill Corridor, including video from the June 22 news conference and a downloadable copy of the entire 208-page master plan can be viewed at www.collegehillcorridor.com.



During the past 15 years, Mercer has played a central role, along with a number of other public and private partners, in rehabilitating the three neighborhoods surrounding the Mercer campus. The University's investment in recent years has totaled well over \$5 million, including more than \$1 million spent during the past three years to redevelop the retail area of Mercer Village, a commercial center adjacent

to Huguenin Heights that was underutilized. If Mercer's investment in Downtown Macon is added, the total is closer to \$10 million, according to University officials. And Mercer's partnership has helped leverage millions more.

MERCER LAW SCHOOL

WASHINGTON **TEMORIAL LIBRARY** 

WASHINGTON

PARK

One of Mercer's most important contributions has been its down payment assistance to full-time faculty and staff for the purchase of a home in the historic Intown neighborhoods.







several crack houses were open."

"Kirby (Godsey) recognized Mercer could

never achieve its potential in the presence of

decaying neighborhoods," said Mercer Presi-

dent William D. Underwood. "He knew Mercer

couldn't put a fence around the campus," said

town versus gown and that both can work to-

Battin. "Godsey knew that you can't have

gether to mutually benefit one another."



Funded jointly by the University and through a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the assistance provides up to \$20,000 toward a down payment. Since 1997, a total of 41 down payment assistance grants have been made to faculty and staff. A fourth of those have come in the last two years.

Now, building on previous neighborhood revitalization projects, Mercer, in partnership

with the City of Macon, is embarking on a major new endeavor to enhance the infrastructure and increase the amenities in the two-mile College Hill Corridor from the campus to downtown. The goal is to create a vibrant "college town" area that is connected to the city's downtown via tree-lined streets, improved sidewalks and bike lanes, and teeming with attractive entertainment, business and housing choices. The

payoff promises to be tremendous for Mercer and Macon.

In interviews with University and community leaders, the words "tipping point" came up repeatedly in reference to the work of the College Hill Corridor Commission and the new College Hill Alliance.

"When Macon Mall opened in 1975, there was a giant sucking sound as businesses



moved out of downtown," said Macon Mayor Robert Reichert, a graduate of Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law. "For the past 20 years we've been trying to reverse that process and get people to move back in."

Reichert said the College Hill Corridor project has the potential to get Macon over the tipping point to where the ball will start rolling on its own. "Yesterday's young professionals wanted a house on a two-acre lot in suburbia. Today they're more interested in living in loft apartments within walking distance of shopping, theatre and other amenities."

The corridor represents "an opportunity to connect the dots and build a culture of reinvestment that honors the past, but looks toward a bright and progressive future," according to the master plan developed by Philadelphia-based Interface Studios with input from community and university leaders,

residents, business owners and other stakeholders. The public was informed and shared their ideas through interviews, a bicycle tour, walking tours, cocktail hours, focus group meetings, public meetings, a community mapping exercise and online web distribution of work in progress.

A \$5 million grant from Knight Foundation — announced at a June 22 news conference in Mercer Village — will assist with implementation of the plan. U.S. Rep. Jim Marshall, who represents Macon in Congress, also has applied for \$5.7 million in federal funds to enhance streetscapes, add bike lanes and improve Tattnall Square Park. Mercer will contribute a match of \$1.4 million. A decision about the funding is expected in the fall.

"The College Hill Alliance can help create an exciting, vibrant, central city area with parks and recreation," Reichert said. "It can

encourage commercial structures such as the former Milady's Cleaners on College Street and the vacant filling station at the corner of College and Forsyth Streets to be reoccupied. I'm excited about the potential and appreciate the Knight Foundation for making a grant available. The challenge is to maximize use of the grant to get the most bang for the buck. We must be wise in the way we leverage investment dollars with it.

"Macon's success lies in large part with the success of its downtown," Reichert noted. "The connection between the Mercer campus and downtown is key. Connectivity is not just bricks and mortar. It's about re-energizing, attracting and invigorating."

Underwood agrees. "I want to see Macon become the kind of city that is attractive to bright, creative, entrepreneurial young people. It's important to Mercer because these are the kinds of people we are trying to attract as students and faculty and staff."

Among the improvements being considered in the College Hill Corridor are loft-style, historically compatible residences to accommodate 400-500 undergraduate students. One option on the table are residential lofts on top of new college-friendly retail space in Mercer Village. Underwood wants to increase the percentage of undergraduates living on campus from the current 70 percent to more than 90 percent. Studies show that students who live on campus perform better academically and graduate sooner, he explained. They're more involved in student life and derive more from the student experience than commuters.

And Mercer hopes within the next year to attract faculty and staff to build on seven vacant lots it owns in Beall's Hill, another adjacent historic neighborhood that has been a focus of revitalization efforts in recent years. The University is willing to provide the lots free and offer its down payment assistance incentive for new home construction.

Josh Rogers, a 2005 Mercer College of Liberal Arts graduate and former student body president, was brought on board in 2007 to provide staff support to the College Hill Corridor Commission. Rogers played a key role in development of the College Hill master plan, working closely with urban planners and architects at Interface Studios and the Commission to generate ideas and community input. His graduate studies in historic preservation and his knowledge of the community served him well in that capacity and in his current role as executive director of the Historic Macon Foundation, which buys and restores historic homes in the neighborhoods around the Mercer campus.

"The College Hill Corridor project has the potential to give students the college town experience they are missing and provide economic benefits to Macon businesses," Rogers said. "It also can help students form a more lasting connection to the city and create the quality of life that will make Mercer gradu-

and Eliot on the porch of their Huguenin Heights home.

ates want to remain in Macon."

Underwood said one of the best decisions he's made since assuming the Mercer presidency in 2006 was to nominate Sarah Gerwig-Moore, a Macon native and 1997 College of Liberal Arts graduate, to co-chair the College Hill Corridor Commission, a task force formed in 2007 by the City of Macon and Mercer to coordinate revitalization efforts in the target area.

"We couldn't have better leadership," he said. She took a \$250,000 Knight Foundation



planning grant and worked with hundreds of people in the community to develop "an exciting, compelling master plan."

Gerwig-Moore clearly recalls the moment her involvement began. She was in an aisle at Publix when Underwood called her on her cell phone to ask how she liked her neighborhood.

Although she had grown up in Macon and attended Mercer, Gerwig-Moore candidly admits that she swore she would never come back. She was living in Atlanta when a faculty position opened up at Mercer's law school.

"I came back for the job in spite of it being in Macon. When President Underwood asked if I would co-chair the commission, a press conference was scheduled in two days. I thought a lot of people must have turned him down," said Gerwig-Moore with a laugh.

But, Underwood was looking for a young faculty member in a neighborhood near Mercer.

Gerwig- Moore and her two sons live in Huguenin Heights, and her oldest, Dean, attends Alexander II Elementary School on College Street.



She spent the entire summer of 2007 reading about new urbanism and sustainable neighborhoods and thought about the amenities of other places where she had lived that would attract people to live in an urban community.

Gerwig-Moore said she learned a lot from Kevin DuBose, former director of economic and community development for the City of Macon, who co-chaired the commission with her at that time, and Mercer Senior Vice Pro-

#### Well Goes the Neighborhood

Mercer University Senior Vice Provost Peter Brown knew a major hurdle had been overcome the day he saw three coeds jogging from the main campus across the railroad tracks into Beall's Hill — the former site of the 1940s-era Oglethorpe Homes public housing project. Freshmen were once told during orientation to never turn right from the campus.

Today, the neighborhoods adjacent to Mercer's Macon campus are safe, desirable, racially diverse locations filled with Mercer faculty and staff, employees at the nearby Medical Center of Central Georgia, and a variety of other young professionals, families and older residents.

Beall's Hill, which is the largest neighborhood adjacent to campus, is considered the most significant community redevelopment in Macon in the past 50 years. In 1998, Mercer and the City of Macon agreed to partner to spark the revitalization of the Victorian-era neighborhood, which had been in serious decline for 30 years. In 2001, Mercer, the City of Macon and the Knight Program in Community Building at the University of Miami School of

Architecture sponsored a pubic design process for the neighborhood, which became the basis for an ambitious revitalization plan. Two years later, Mercer, the City of Macon and the Macon Housing Authority formed the Beall's Hill Development Corporation to implement the plan and were joined by the Land Bank Authority and the Historic Macon Foundation.

More than \$50 million has been invested in the project to date by the partnership in the Beall's Hill/Central South Neighborhood, leveraging \$70.2 million in economic development. Included in the investment is Beall's Hill; new home construction in Tindall Heights, immediately south of the Mercer campus; the rebuilt Alexander II Elementary School; Mercer physical improvements such as Mercer Village and Coleman Avenue; and other infrastructure improvements in the Central South area including sewer systems, roads, lighting and landscaping.

Specific outcomes of the redevelopment include:

 45 severely dilapidated structures have been demolished, removing the worst of the blight in the neighborhood

- 22 new historically compatible homes have been constructed
- 8 historic homes have been rehabilitated for sale
- 12 owner-occupied, low-income homes have received extensive façade improvements
- 188 units of obsolete public housing have been demolished and replaced with 97 mixed-income units of new, historically compatible townhouses
- The historic, award-winning magnet Alexander II Elementary School has been rebuilt and expanded
- A new bridge connecting Tattnall Square Park, Alexander II and the Beall's Hill neighborhood has been added

In 2002, Mercer and its neighborhood partners won the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Campus-Community Collaboration Award for the work performed in Beall's Hill. Three years later, the Beall's Hill Design Guidelines won the prestigious international Charter Award from the Congress for New Urbanism, one of the nation's leading organizations in promoting sound urban design and walkable, mixed-use cities and towns.



## **Campus Compact Names Peter Brown** as Finalist for National Faculty Award

Campus Compact, a national coalition committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education, has selected Mercer University Senior Vice Provost Dr. Peter C. Brown as a finalist for the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award. Dr. Brown, who is also a professor of philosophy and interdisciplinary studies in the College of Liberal Arts, is one of only seven finalists from a group of 53 distinguished nominees for this national award.

"It is entirely fitting that Dr. Brown has received this national recognition, as he has devoted most of his long tenure at Mercer to civic engagement," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "He not only practices it personally, he effectively transmits his passion and energy for community enrichment to students, who multiply the impact here in Macon and, after they graduate, into the communities where they live and serve. Both Mercer and Macon have greatly benefitted from his contributions inthis arena."

The Ehrlich Award recognizes faculty members who integrate civic and community engagement in their teaching and research, develop and sustain reciprocal community partnerships for positive change, and demonstrate leadership in fostering institutional commitment to meaningful engagement. Campus Compact recognized Dr. Brown for his "exceptional service-learning, engaged scholarship, and contributions to institutional and community change."

For nearly 30 years, Dr. Brown has been an integral part of Mercer's widely celebrated service-learning, community engagement and community partnerships. The impact of Mercer's initiatives has been recognized by the Wingspread Conference for "Exemplary Campus-Community Partnerships" sponsored by Campus Compact in 2005, inclusion by the Princeton Review and Campus Compact in Colleges with a Conscience in 2005, and listing on the President's Honor Roll for Community Service in 2006 and 2008.

"This recognition really honors the generations of students and many facul-

ty and staff colleagues who have worked so hard with me to positively impact our community and serve our neighbors," Dr. Brown said. "This work would not have been successful without the contributions of community partners like the City of Macon and the Macon Housing Authority and the generous support of organizations like the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation."

An external panel of experts comprising campus and community representatives selected the finalists and the award winner, Thomas Dutton, professor of architecture and interior design and director of the Center for Community Engagement in Over-the-Rhine at Miami University of Ohio. In addition to Dr. Brown, other finalists for the award are Buzz Alexander of the University of Michigan, Doug Brugge of Tufts University, Andrew Furco of the University of Minnesota, Joy Hammel of the University of Illinois Chicago and Carol Reese of Tulane University.

Campus Compact will present the Ehrlich Award at the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, Jan. 20-23, 2010, in Washington, D.C., where Dutton will also facilitate a featured session. Dr. Brown and the other finalists have been invited to present at the session and highlight their work and their institutions' commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

"Campus Compact is always amazed and delighted by the diverse and inspiring work we are introduced to through the nomination process. The external reviewers were also impressed with this year's strong array of 53 candidates," said Maureen F. Curley, president of Campus Compact, in a letter to Dr. Brown. "We appreciate the time and energy each application represented, and we thank you for the extraordinary efforts put forth in this process and in your ongoing contributions to the civic and intellectual development of your students, to efforts addressing important public issues, and to the national movement towards deeper civic engagement in higher education."

vost Peter Brown who, as head of Mercer's Center for Community Development, had been actively involved in the Beall's Hill redevelopment. She discussed ideas with New Town Macon, the Intown and Beall's Hill Neighborhood Associations and did a lot of listening.

The vision that Gerwig-Moore helped develop in the master plan includes attracting more residents to nearby neighborhoods, filling empty retail spots with the right kinds of businesses, improving Tattnall Square Park as a centerpiece of College Hill, adding shade trees and historic lighting along streets, burying utility lines, enhancing walkability and slowing traffic to make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

The next key step for success, said Gerwig-Moore, will be to hire an executive director for the College Hill Alliance — the entity that will coordinate work in the College Hill Corridor — who sees the value and vision and has the tools to carry on what we're doing. Another key step will be holding onto partnerships, developing a volunteer base and engaging more students in the work of the Corridor.

"I am most excited about the portion of the Knight grant that will fund ideas of our community members because we have relied extensively on their ideas to get us to this point, and their continued involvement will be vital to our future successes," said Mercer law student and College Hill Corridor Commission member Matt Wetherington. He is one of four former undergraduate students who in 2006-07 took a senior capstone class, taught by Dr. Brown, that focused on Macon's economic development efforts. They studied ways to connect the University to the city in order to attract and retain young, college-educated professionals. The efforts of Wetherington and the other three students led to the formation of the College Hill Corridor Commission by the City of Macon and Mercer.

The number one priority in the master plan, Gerwig-Moore said, is upgrading Tattnall Square Park, located directly across the street from the oldest buildings on Mercer's campus. Created in 1850, the square has an important role as civic space and as a symbol for the surrounding community. The design approach is to recognize and intensify the best of what the square has to offer. To ensure connectivity through the park, an improved path system will be created and new sidewalks and streetscapes will be added along the square's perimeter.

The master plan also calls for the creation of a formal plaza entrance at College and Oglethorpe Streets with new trees and landscaping, benches, lighting, signage and public art. Other changes will include redesigning the parking so it takes up less green space, extending the natural areas of the park, improving the street curbs, encouraging the continued use of the park for outdoor movies and neighborhood events and improving the recreational uses.

"Tattnall Square can be one of the most special parks in Georgia and can help us market the homes in the area," Underwood said. "This area ought to be widely perceived as the best place to live in Middle Georgia, where you never see a sale sign on a house."

Gerwig-Moore said the other two top priorities will be creating bike lanes along the corridor and adding street trees. The lush landscape that once defined the corridor a century ago has diminished. Goals are to re-plant and reseed the corridor to bring back the "City within a Park" ideal. Other plan recommendations include creation of a College Hill Corridor Business Improvement District, converting vacant storefront space into artist live/work space until the retail market improves, and expanding recycling and composting.

The College Hill Corridor Commission also will continue to host fun, free events such as a scavenger hunt for incoming Mercer freshmen, a back-to-school concert, outdoor summer movies and familyoriented "Second Sunday" brunches in the park with live music.

"We have a long way to go, but there's a real energy and excitement here. People want to see change happen and want to be a part of it," Gerwig-Moore said.

"Only the community can make it happen," said Beverly Blake, Knight Foundation program director for Macon, Milledgeville

and Columbus. "If you look at any vibrant city, it has been driven by the private sector," said Blake, who has served as a vital resource in the planning efforts.

Craig Byron, a 34-year-old Mercer biology professor who lives with his wife and two young children in a two-story circa 1920s house in Beall's Hill, hopes the

College Hill Corridor project will spark more awareness of the benefits of living in his neighborhood. The Byrons also hope to see



a grocery store open and more pedestrianoriented areas and bike lanes created in the corridor.

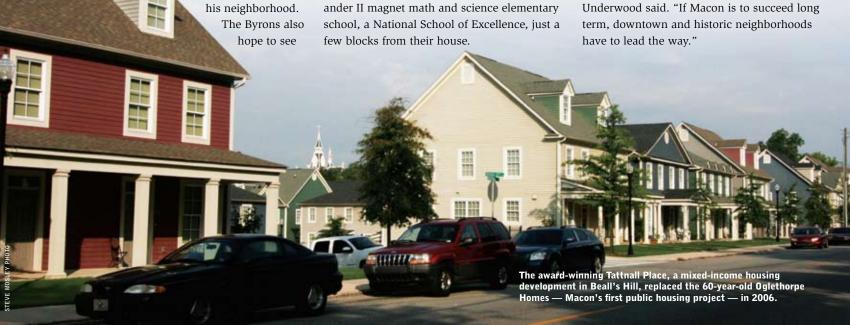
When he and his family moved to Macon three years ago for his first faculty assignment, Dr. Byron wanted to live where he could walk or bike to work.

"Beall's Hill is a great historic neighborhood next to campus, and the additional enticement was Mercer's down payment assistance program," Dr. Byron said. "It was an opportunity we couldn't pass up." Dr. Byron said another plus was the proximity of Alexfew blocks from their house.

The Byrons sold their second car and Craig Byron comes home for lunch. "It allows us a certain lifestyle that you can't get in the suburbs," said Dr. Byron, who helped start a Beall's Hill neighborhood association and serves as its president.

"Mercer and a broad coalition of key institutional players earned their stripes with the Beall's Hill revitalization project," Dr. Brown said. "Now they've got a good run coming up with the College Hill Corridor plan."

"Other cities have done so much with less than what we have to work with in Macon," term, downtown and historic neighborhoods have to lead the way."



CHANGING CONVENTIONAL WISDOM VICET'S

Libraries
Reshaping
Old
Notions

by Susan Frazier

he librarian fixed another intense glare on the couple at the table. Sometimes, the sheer force of harsh staring would be enough to stop any breach of silence in his shelved domain. If that didn't work, the jailer of the books would take things up a notch to shooshing. These particular whisperers, however, were oblivious to any warnings.

As Dr. Drayton Sanders, CLA '59, recently described the scene, he and Mary Etta Clark, CLA '58, were too busy discussing why they should, versus why they should not, get married. The next thing they knew, the librarian was at their table, rapping the two on their heads, and commanding, "Outside! Outside NOW!"

"Mary Etta and I had to resume our conversation on the steps," said Dr. Sanders, who obediently exited Hardman Library with his date and promptly proposed to her.

That was more than 50 years ago. According to Elizabeth Hammond, associate professor and dean of University libraries, a lot has changed since then. "Today, they could hold their wedding ceremony here. I think it would be great!" laughed Hammond. As her spirited attitude suggests, she and



As partners in the academic
enterprise, all of the libraries are
dedicated to advancing
Mercer's reputation as a
research university.

her staff are refreshingly sharp contrasts to librarians of the past. There's not a bun hairdo or pair of bad glasses among them — nor the slightest tendency to judge. Instead, library patrons find helpful supporters with a passion for service and a penchant for embracing new concepts.

The new breed of library faculty and staff thinks it's more important to be answering patrons' instant messages than wagging a finger at talkers. If old taboos don't add value for students and faculty, they go by the wayside. Just like the card catalog.

In this age of digitization, with information available in an instant 24/7,

Mercer is constantly expanding the notion of what a library should be. The result is a dynamic information commons, an inviting environment where populations can come together either physically or electronically for knowledge and assistance.

Actually, there are seven such environments within the University. The Medical Library and the Furman Smith Law Library serve the distinct needs of their two respective schools. Five more Mercer libraries serve a wide variety

of undergraduate, graduate and working adult students: the Jack Tarver Library in Macon, the Monroe F. Swilley Jr. Library in Atlanta, and the libraries at Mercer's Regional Academic Centers in Douglas County, Eastman and Henry County.

As partners in the academic enterprise, all of the libraries are dedicated to advancing Mercer's reputation as a research university. Librarians hold faculty status and are strongly committed to teaching research skills. The instruction isn't limited to the classroom. Every academic discipline has a subject expert in the library whom students can go to for personal one-on-one support sessions.



"We want the students to know that we're an ally in their academic success," said Hammond, who sees the library as a service industry within the campus. "What we focus on is delivering the best information as quickly as we can, helping students and faculty negotiate the enormous amount of resources that exist." Librarians serve as liaisons to schools and colleges within the University, and collaborate with faculty to satisfy their course and research requirements.

The staff is always questioning how best to serve all of the libraries' populations. Achieving the right balance among needs, budgets, space and time is not an easy task. "If someone needs something, I want us to sit back and figure out how we can accomplish that task — not why it can't be done," said Theresa Rhodes, assistant professor and associate director for public services and collections at Tarver Library. Rhodes is responsible for the delivery of services wherever students, or faculty members or the public interact with the library.

Today services and innovation are synonymous, from laptop checkouts to document binding, as well as private study rooms for individuals and groups. Blogs, tweets, emails, instant messages and other electronic communications push information outward to library patrons. A great deal of energy also goes into making the libraries a comfortable place to be. Depending on the facility, students may be catching the latest news in a TV lounge area or eating a take-in pizza at the study table.

At times the library can seem a like a union of Barnes and Noble, Starbucks and Kinko's. In Rhodes' words, it's a matter of library faculty

and staff asking what they can do to help, rather than saying, "Kiss my ring and jump through these hoops, and shame on you for waiting till the last minute when you knew this was due."

It's interesting to watch alumni encountering these developments for the first time. "We see this a lot at the circulation desk," said Janet Van Bibber, circulation manager at Tarver. "They stop,

look around for a minute, and think, "This is not my library. What happened?"

One of the most noticeable differences — and one of the libraries' biggest challenges — is the tremendous emphasis on electronic information. This year significant funds will be shifted from printed books to electronic resources. "Our goal is to have most electronic resources available to all students," explained Susan Broome, associate professor and associate



#### Former U.S. Attorney General's Papers Housed at Tarver

Among Tarver Library's special collections are a significant number of personal papers that distinguished alumnus and former U.S. Attorney General Griffin B. Bell donated to the University prior to his death in 2009.

The collection ranges from 1946-1982, including material from his early career as an attorney, his service as judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, and his active involvement in the presidential campaigns of both John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter. The collection also includes papers from his tenure as 72nd Attorney General of the United States and head of the American delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The papers from his years on the 5th Circuit

provide insights into the court's involvement in desegregation and other social issues, and the Justice Department papers include extensive correspondence, travel itineraries, daily logs, and daily news reports. In addition, copies of speeches, transcripts of news conferences, and publications cover the 1940s-1980s. Clippings, photographs, citations, plaques, and other mementoes complete the collection, which total 56 cubic feet and are held in 12 oversized boxes.

Judge Bell divided his papers between Mercer's Tarver Library and the Georgia Historical Society. For more information about accessing Mercer's special collections, call (478) 301-2968.



director for technical services. "As much as we possibly can, we want to allow people access to the most knowledge they can receive."

The libraries serve the public as well as Mercer constituents. As participants in the Federal Depository Library Program, the Macon and Atlanta libraries also provide free public access to United States government publications, as well as selected Georgia state publications. Computers reserved for the public allow them to take advantage of a wide range of information and government services.

The Tarver Library is also a rich source of archival materials, with collections on University history and Georgia Baptist life. Mercer University holds the state's largest collection of records from Georgia Baptist churches and associations. Every book published by the Mercer University Press is also available there. So are alumnus Griffin Bell's papers from his years as the U.S. Attorney General (see sidebar on page 27).

## Swilley [Library] offered one of the first CD-ROM reference libraries in Atlanta, and innovations such as voice recognition technology will no doubt follow.

"History is so much more exciting when it's tangible," said Laura Botts, assistant professor and head of Special Collections. "To see the handwritten story makes it all come to life. I love it when a student's eyes light up and they 'get' it," Botts added.

The Swilley Library in Atlanta also houses archival collections related to the history of the Atlanta campus and its academic programs. Swilley serves the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, the McAfee School of Theology, the Atlanta programs of Business and Economics, Education and the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, the English Language Institute, and the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing.

In a recent survey, 83 percent of student respondents indicated they use Swilley Library at least once a week, sometimes more. It's not

surprising; a lot of hard work goes on there. This is why Swilley Library Director Judith Brook and her staff make Swilley such a soft place to land. Literally. Cushy, movable sofas and chairs dot a lounge area with an appealing large-screen television. At the beverage bar, morning coffee is free from 10 a.m. to Noon. There's even an engaging art gallery, with changing displays of artists' works.

"We like to remind our students that there's a humanity side of the world," said Brook, who also serves as associate professor and associate dean of University libraries. Nevertheless, staying current with technology — a feat that she says students have a right to expect — is always top of mind. Brook and her staff endorse and embrace the newest developments. Swilley offered one of the first CD-ROM reference libraries in Atlanta, and innovations such as voice recognition technology will no doubt follow.

Swilley Library serves students from all

#### The Tarver Gifts: A Lasting Legacy By Jamie Dickson

he Jack Tarver Library currently has more than 320,000 titles in its expansive collection. Students, faculty and community members come through its doors regularly to study, research or utilize its state-of-the-art technology. However, the library would not have many of its resources without the generous support of Jack and Margaret Tarver.

Jack Tarver, a 1938 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, had a passion for the written word. He practiced journalism at every level, rising from editor of a country weekly to publisher of a metro daily to chairman of the Associated Press.

The Tarvers consistently gave to the University and, after Jack Tarver's death in 1999, his wife Margaret wanted to continue to financially support the University while also paying tribute to her husband and his love of Mercer. The library, built in 1989, was still unnamed, and former Mercer President Dr. R. Kirby Godsey suggested honoring the generous alumnus by naming the library for him.

The Board of Trustees voted to name the library after Jack Tarver on Dec. 2, 1999, and a dedication ceremony was held on April 20, 2000. Six years after the ceremony, Ms. Tarver returned to Mercer to make another gift — this time to support the library's book collection.

Beth Hammond, dean of university libraries, said that supporting the book collection was Margaret Tarver's first priority. "Margaret wanted to help the library in a way that was meaningful to her," she said.

Through the Tarver Book Endowment, the library has tripled its book acquisition budget. "We've been able to order many more titles for the collection across all of the disciplines we support," Hammond said.

Hammond said meeting and getting to know Margaret Tarver, who died in 2008, is one of the highlights of her career. "She was a delightful, unassuming woman with a great love of Mercer," she said.

The Tarvers and their gifts continue to have a profound influence on current students and will

for many years to come, Hammond said. "Mercer students, now more than ever, are engaged in exciting research projects throughout their academic careers. A strong collection of best-published scholarship is an invaluable resource for their discovery of the rich heritage of their disciplines and for stimulating exploration of ideas," she said. "The Tarver Book Endowment is integral to providing these resources for student scholars in their intellectual growth."



over the world. Libraries at the Regional
Academic Centers serve students living right
in the community. These working adult
students who attend mostly night and weekend
classes are the University's fastest-growing
population. "We are doing a huge community
service by educating the people who live near
the Centers," said Julie Poole, instructor and
coordinator for Regional Academic Centers
libraries. "They work in the schools and
companies nearby, and when they leave
Mercer, they stay in the communities."

The University has been a leader in the highly competitive working adult market. For example, Mercer was the first institution in Georgia to receive accreditation for the early care in education program, which certifies pre-K teachers. This cutting-edge program is just one of the many areas of focus at the

Centers. As a result, Poole and her staff must be knowledgeable about subjects ranging from public safety to human resources. Short eightweek sessions add even more pressure to get the right information, fast.

By design, the Center libraries maintain limited physical book collections, but provide equal access to all of the electronic material that Macon and Atlanta campus students have. These time-saving resources are invaluable to these dedicated students who work all day, manage families, and attend classes till 10 o'clock at night.

"The last time they were in an academic library, our students may have used the card catalog. They might have a little trepidation at first about using all the technology, but once they realize the options they have, they dive in head first," Poole said.

Dr. and Mrs. Sanders also appreciate the many transitions that have occurred since they first started whispering together over books.

Loyal friends of the library, they furnished a conference room at Tarver in memory of their grandmothers, whose portraits hold a place of honor there. It's almost impossible not to wonder what changes will surround these ladies in years to come. Smartphones as information delivery systems, electronic book readers to accommodate audible learners, new advances in information on demand — all are feasible developments. Beyond

that, who knows?

One thing, at least, is certain. Mercer's libraries will maintain their places at the curve of progress, passionately delivering service in whatever form required.





## Health Sciences Update







#### Six Mercer Health Science Researchers **Awarded \$7.8 Million in NIH Grants**

ore than \$7.8 million in National Institutes of Health grants were awarded last year to faculty in Mercer's School of Medicine and College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, a record total for the University.

"This recent funding success with proposals submitted to the National Institutes of Health speaks volumes to the hard work of our researchers at Mercer," said Dr. Scott Davis, senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies. "These funding mechanisms are very competitive, with success rates of less than 10 percent. We are at the beginning of a period of growth at Mercer where our faculty are routinely recognized by external funders for their highquality intellectual contributions to both science and health."

In addition to the \$3.3 million in funding previously announced for a diabetes study being conducted by Dr. John Boltri, professor of family medicine, the following awards were made to Mercer faculty last fiscal year:

• Dr. Richard Ackermann, School of Medicine, Mercer Geriatrics/Pallative Medicine Initiative, \$871,979.

- Dr. Himangshu Bose, School of Medicine, Mechanism of Action of Steroidogenic Acute Regulatory Protein, \$1,607,349.
- Dr. Kristen Horner, School of Medicine, The Role of Mu Opioid Receptor Activation in Psychostimulant-Induced Gene Expression in the Patch Compartment of Dorsal Striatum and Repetitive Behaviors, \$226,815.
- **Dr. Diance Matesic**, College of Pharmacv and Health Sciences, Biochemical Mechanisms of PBA and ChK in Turmorgenic Cells, \$226,815.
- Dr. Dayle Daines, School of Medicine,

Metabolic Regulation in Otitis Media, \$1,345,804.

Dr. Susan Cline, School of Medicine, Reactive Aldehyde DNA Damage in Mitochondrial Mutagenesis and Disease Pathophysiology, \$226,815.



#### **Alumna and Faculty Member Honored by Physician Assistants**

t the annual July conference of the Georgia Association of Physician Assistants (GAPA), Dr. Jean Sumner was named the Physician of the Year, in recognition of her exemplary service to the PA profession as a mentor, preceptor and teacher. Dr. Sumner, a 1986 graduate of the Mercer School of Medicine, is immediate past-president of the Composite Medical Board, and is well-known for her passionate advocacy for quality health care for all Georgians. Dr. Sumner practices in Wrightsville.

A member of the Family Medicine faculty, Kathy Kemle, PA-C, received the Circle of Honor Award in recognition of her years of service to GAPA and impact on the delivery of health care in the state, as well as her mentoring role for physician assistant students. Kemle is the third PA to receive this award, which was begun in 2007.



### Alliance Awards Major Grant to Mercer Professor

he Georgia Research Alliance has funded a new collaborative research project, led by Mercer pharmacy professor Dr. Martin D'Souza, to explore using nanotechnology to deliver a pneumonia vaccine. Dr. D'Souza, professor in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, will collaborate on the \$100,000 grant with researchers from Emory University and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Dr. D'Souza is director of Mercer's Center for Drug Delivery Research and will partner on the grant with Emory's Dr. Nadine Rhouphael and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Dr. Gowrisankar Rajam, Dr. Edwin Ades, Dr. Sandra Romero-Steiner, Dr. Jacquelyn Sampson and Dr. George Carlone.

"We're very pleased that Dr. D'Souza's research has garnered the attention of such a prestigious grant program, and it serves as a testament to the high-quality research we're doing here at the College and at Mercer," said Dr. Hewitt W. "Ted" Matthews, dean of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. "Of the 36 proposals submitted from institutions in the state, to be one of only 14 selected is quite an honor. In addition, Dr. D'Souza's proposal was funded at the maximum level allowed under the grant program and is indicative of the promise of his research."

The research will focus on developing a vaccine for streptococcus pneumonia, a respiratory pathogen that claims a large number of lives in young children and the elderly in the United States. The disease affects people of all ages around the world and is often fatal among the elderly and the very young. Mercer's patented nanotechnology, which can deliver micro doses of vaccines, has proven to provide a more effective immune response than

traditional injected vaccines in several other formulations. The grant will be used to do the initial testing of whether this nanotechnology can be applied to create a nasal vaccine for the streptococ-

cus pneumonia virus that is more effective than the current injected vaccines.

The grant is part of the Alliance's Next-Generation Vaccines and Therapeutics Initiative, which funds collaborative planning grants for projects among the eight universities in the state doing significant research, including Mercer. The program supports joint university-based research and development projects related to next-generation vaccines and therapeutics that have the potential to attract significant non-state funding. The goal of the program is to attract national research and development centers and other high-level research and development awards to make Georgia a destination in the area of next-generation vaccines and therapeutics. The program aims to create long-term, productive research and development partnerships among researchers in Georgia and develop new technologies that will accelerate the growth of the life sciences industry in the state.

This is the second award for

Dr. D'Souza from the Georgia Research Alliance, which also awarded a grant in 2008 along with fellow College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences faculty member Dr. Ravi Palaniappan.



### **Alumnus Receives Georgia Young Surgeon of the Year Award**

liver C. Whipple, M.D., a 1999 Mercer School of Medicine graduate, received the 2009 Young Surgeon of the Year Award from the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Whipple, who practices at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, was chosen from among surgeons 45 years old and younger in the state of Georgia.

Dr. Whipple is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a member of the



Dr. Oliver Whipple

American College of Surgeons. He is specially trained to perform the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass procedure and the adjustable gastric band laparoscopically. Dr. Whipple has earned numerous teaching awards

and presented many lectures about surgery. The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational association of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to improve the quality of care for the surgical patient by setting high standards for surgical education and practice.

The Georgia Chapter of the American College of Surgeons advocates for its members and the patients they serve, encourages the highest standards of ethical surgical practice in the state of Georgia, and provides educational opportunities for its members as well as surgery residents and medical students.







#### **Physician Assistant Student Chosen for National Office**

INDSAY WATTERS, a second-year physician assistant student in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, was elected as the junior director of external affairs for the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the national organization for physician assistants. Watters' election marks the first national office for a student in the program, which began less than two years ago.

"This is one of the most prolific and sought-after positions in the academy, and this is a great honor for Lindsay and for our new program," said Bradford Schwarz, founding director of the Physician Assistant Program. "She will be representing our University and the P.A. profession at a number of leadership and health profession conferences nationwide. This is a great accomplishment, and I am confident that Lindsay will embody the Mercer example of excellence in every setting."

In her position with the Student Academy, Watters is responsible — along with the president and senior director — for serving as the official liaison to external health

professional student groups and representing the Student Academy at conferences and meetings of these organizations. Watters will also be responsible for creating new relationships outside the Academy and the P.A. profession.

#### Nursing's New Ph.D. in **Nursing Program** Commences

■ EORGIA BAPTIST College of Nursing's first six Ph.D. students began their coursework on Aug. 13-14, arriving on campus for computer training and orientation.

The program features a distance-learning delivery method for much of the coursework, allowing the students to continue in their positions as nurses and nursing educators. Students in the program will meet on campus several times per semester and will also work in virtual classrooms and via specialized Internet-based educational software. The program can be completed in 24 months, depending on the length of time taken on dissertation research.



**Lindsay Watters** 

The program is only the fourth Ph.D. in nursing to be offered in Georgia, which is facing a critical shortage of nurse educators. Because the nursing and nurse educator shortages in this area are so great, the program is designed to be flexible enough to allow the students to remain at their jobs.

#### **Pharmacy Students Earn National Fellowships**

WO MERCER PHARMACY students have been awarded pre-doctoral fellowships from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education. Both students are candidates in the dual Doctor of Pharmacy/ Ph.D. program. The candidates, Delaram Moshkelani, of Duluth, and Rebecca L. Neal, of Marietta, will each receive stipends to continue their studies at Mercer's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

"I am quite pleased that two of our graduate students were appointed as 2009 AFPE Pre-Doctoral Fellows in the Pharmaceutical Sciences," said Dean H.W. "Ted" Matthews. "These prestigious awards are a testimony to the high quality of our graduate program and students."

Moshkelani and Neal were among 43 awardees of AFPE fellowships nationwide.

Moshkelani is studying in the area of oncology, and her research is titled "Targeted Nanoparticle Delivery of a Drug-Inhibitor Conjugate for Reversal of Multidrug Resistance in Cancer Therapy." Prior to entering the College, Moshkelani earned her Bachelor of Arts in chemistry at Mercer. She has been a member of the American



Students in the first cohort of Mercer's nursing Ph.D. program receive training on the distance learning software they will use to complete part of their coursework.

Chemical Society, Mercer's International Student Association and Mercer's Pre-Medical Student Association. Moshkelani is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Epsilon and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies and was also named to the National Dean's List.

Neal's research is focused in the area of diabetes, and her research is titled "Desensitization Characteristics of Long Verses Short Variants of GPR120 Including Internalization, Phosphorlyation and Beta-Arrestin Involvement." Neal earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Berry College. Neal has been nominated for "Who's Who," has received the Pharmacy Dean's Award and a number of scholarships while a student at Berry and Mercer. She was co-chair of the American Pharmacy Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists chapter's Operation Diabetes this past year.

Fellowships in the Pharmaceutical Sciences help advanced pharmaceutical science Ph.D. candidates to complete the research and dissertation phase of their Ph.D. programs. The AFPE fellowships are designed to support the education of select Ph.D. students at schools and colleges of pharmacy who show exceptional potential for leadership in pharmacy college teaching, pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical research, development, manufacturing and other pharmacy career areas. Recipients of the AFPE awards often move into professional positions in the pharmaceutical industry and into academic positions to train tomorrow's pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists.

#### Pharmacy to Launch New Physical Therapy Degree Program

HE COLLEGE of Pharmacy and Health Sciences plans to launch a doctoral-level program in physical therapy next fall and has appointed Leslie F. Taylor, PT, Ph.D., former division head of the physical therapy program at Georgia State University, to develop and implement the new program on the Atlanta campus.

"As the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences seeks to develop an extremely promising addition in physical therapy, it has engaged a talented and experienced director to work with faculty in planning the program," said Mercer Provost Wallace L. Daniel. "Physical therapy fits well with the mission of the University and, when it is planned and developed, should enhance the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, as well as contribute in a significant way to the health sciences at Mercer."

Dr. Taylor, who led Georgia State's physical therapy program for four years, has over 25 years of clinical experience as a physical therapist, working in a variety of clinical settings. In 1986, she began her private practice with an emphasis on treating individuals with chronic illnesses, and later earned a Master of Science in Community Counseling while completing an internship in Boston. After returning to her native Atlanta to pursue a position in physical therapist education, she earned her Ph.D. in Sociology in 1997 with an emphasis in medical sociology. She also holds a graduate certificate in gerontology.

"The addition of a doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences is a natural next step for us as we expand our commitment to provide health care practitioners for the state and region," Dr. Matthews said. "In particular, this program will enable Mercer to satisfy the growing demand for physical therapists who work with our aging population."

Dr. Taylor's current research addresses physical function in older adults, specifically on developing and evaluating physical activity interventions to maximize the independence, quality of life, and quality of care of those who are frail and chronically ill. Her research is presented and published nationally. Her teaching interests include rheumatology, geriatrics/gerontology, psychosocial aspects of disease and disability, ethics, communication, and evidence-based research.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to develop a premier physical therapy program that will be aligned with Mercer's vision of excellence in clinical education, research, and community engagement," Dr. Taylor said.

#### Jim Bartling Receives Georgia Pharmacy Association Award

AMES W. BARTLING, Pharm.D., associate dean of student affairs and admissions in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences,



Dr. Jim Bartling, left, was presented the Bowl of Hygeia award at the Georgia Pharmacy Association's convention in Ponte Vedra, Fla.

is the 2009 recipient of the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia, an award presented annually by the Georgia Pharmacy Association. The award was presented at GPhA's 2009 annual convention in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

For nearly 50 years, the Bowl of Hygeia award program has recognized outstanding achievements in community service by pharmacy professionals. The award is presented on behalf of Wyeth to one individual from each of the 50 states at the conclusion of each state's annual pharmacy association meeting.

"We are proud to honor Jim with this award," said Jim Bracewell, GPhA executive vice president/CEO. "He has exemplified the highest standard of community service and represents pharmacy in a manner that illustrates good citizenship and pharmacy practice."

Bartling graduated in 1977 from Mercer's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and is a past president of the Georgia Pharmacy Association. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Georgia Pharmacy Foundation and is statewide intervention coordinator for the PharmAssist Committee. He has served on GPhA's board of directors and in other leadership capacities for many years. He is also a long-standing member of AACP, APhA, GPhA, Phi Delta Chi, Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi.

Professional leadership and community service are the hallmarks of Bowl of Hygeia recipients. Bartling's community service includes serving on the Georgia DARE Board, the Governor's Commission on Drug Awareness and Prevention, MARR Board, Metropolitan Atlanta Crime Commission, MACAD President, among others.



MERCER UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2009



# 2009 Homecoming Schedule

#### MERCER.EDU/HOMECOMING

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

5 p.m. Homecoming Banner Competition, Connell Student Center Lobby

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

5 p.m. Departmental/Residence Hall/House Decorating, Campuswide
 8 p.m. Picture on the Patch, Porter Patch (Join our students and catch a free pre-release flick on Porter Patch. Bring seating and a blanket! Rain location is Willingham Auditorium.)

#### ■ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

8 p.m. Justin Kredible, *Willingham Auditorium* (A comedy and magic show. Students and alumni welcome. Free admission.)

#### ■ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Homecoming Court Voting, *Online* (Voting open to Mercer students all day.)

7 p.m. Spirit Night at Men's Basketball v. Fisk, *University Center Arena* (Purchase tickets at door. University Center Box Office: \$10/adult, \$5/children 6-12, children under 6 free.)

#### ■ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8 p.m. "Improvable Cause," *Willingham Auditorium* (Improvisation troupe. Students and alumni welcome. Free admission.)

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Athletic Foundation Golf Tournament, Idle Hour Country Club

8:30 a.m. Flight One Tee Time 1:00 p.m. Flight Two Tee Time

(For more information, contact Jim Cole at (478) 301-4003 or cole\_im@Mercer.edu)

4:30 p.m. Student Stationary Floats Set-Up, Bear Hill

6:30 p.m. Stationary Floats Judging, Bear Hill

7 p.m. Townsend School of Music Wind Ensemble, Zuver Performing Arts

Center, Mt de Sales Academy (Free admission)

Skit Competition/Showcase, Willingham Auditorium (Student skit competition. Students and alumni welcome. Free admission.)

Pep Parade to Bear Hill, *Willingham Auditorium* (March from the Skit Competition to the Bonfire with Toby, Mercer Cheerleaders and Pep Band)

8:30 p.m. Pep Rally, Bonfire and Fireworks, Bear Hill

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7 a.m. 5K Road Run Registration, *Porter Patch* (Pre-registration \$10 per person. Late registration \$15 per person. Includes t-shirt, refreshments, and pancake breakfast. Pre-register online at mercer.edu/homecoming.)

8 a.m. 5K Road Run Begins

8:30 a.m. Charity Pancake Breakfast, *Porter Patch* (Orange pancakes courtesy of the Macon Fire Department. \$5 per person, purchase plates on-site. All proceeds benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.)

11 a.m. Alumni Baseball Game, *Claude D. Smith Field* (For more information, contact Jim Cole: (478) 301-4003; cole\_jm@mercer.edu.)

10 a.m. Lacrosse Meet vs. Georgia State, TBD

10 a.m.- Merchandise Sales, Bear Market, University Center

5 p.m.

10 a.m.- Anniversary Classes Meeting Place, *Porter Patch* (Tent and seating pro-1 p.m. vided for Anniversary Classes of 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, 2004) 11 a.m.- Alumni Information Table (Schedule of events, campus maps and 4 p.m. information available.) Concessions available for purchase, *Porter Patch* 

(Hamburgers, corn dogs, cotton candy and more!)

Bear Bonanza! *Porter Patch* (Bring your family! Facepainting, student t-shirt distribution, orange hair spraying, caricature artist, carnival games, inflatables, train rides around campus and more! Winners of the Mercer's Got Talent competition will provide live music beginning at 11 a.m. Concessions available for purchase. Hamburgers, Frito chili pie, corn dogs, cotton candy, funnel cakes and more!)

1 p.m. Athletic Hall of Fame Luncheon/Induction, *Presidents Dining Room, University Center* (\$15/person. Pre-registration by Nov. 2 required to Stephanie McKleroy, Alumni Services, [478] 301-5675.)

ROTC Alumni Reunion Reception, Military Science Building, Penfield Hall (Chair: Matt Miller, CLA '02)

2 p.m.- Mercer Ticket Sales Box Office Hours, Box Office, University Center

5 p.m. (Pick-up will-call tickets.)

 $2{:}30~\mathrm{p.m.}$  Pre-Game SSBE Alumni Reception (Details will be added to website

later this fall.)

'85 Men's & Women's Basketball Teams Reunion, Bear Rock Café,

University Center

3 p.m. Faculty Meet & Greet, University Center (Visit with your favorite faculty

nembers.)

3:35 p.m. Spirit March, *From Porter Patch to University Center* (Wave your pom-poms and cheer on the Bears as Mercer's own Pep Band and Cheerleaders lead the way to the game.)

Pregame Recognition of '85 Men's & Women's NCAA Tournament Teams, University Center Arena

4:30 p.m. Mercer Bears vs Florida State University Seminoles, *University Center Arena* (Broadcast by Fox Sports Net.)

Student Overflow Viewing, Bear Rock Café, University Center

Halftime Introduction of 2009 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees Crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen

7 p.m. Class of 1969 Dinner, *Presidents Dining Room, University Center*, Co-Chairs: Mike Crook and John Winkle (Reservations required. \$20 per person. Register with Stephanie McKleroy in Alumni Services: [478] 301-5675; mckleroy\_sj@mercer.edu; 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, GA 31207. Please include your full name (including maiden name), the name(s) of your guest(s), and make checks in the appropriate amount payable to Mercer University.)

8 p.m. Class of 1989 Reception, Mercer I, Hilton Garden Inn, Co-Chairs: Jan Horton Spence, John Henley, Charlotte "Charlie" Smith Thomas (Reservations required. \$25 per person. Register with Stephanie McKleroy in Alumni Services: (478) 301-5675; mckleroy\_sj@mercer. edu; 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, GA 31207. Please include your full name (including maiden name), the name(s) of your guest(s), and make checks in the appropriate amount payable to Mercer University.)

10 p.m. Mercer Campus Legends Lantern Tour, Connell Student Center Breezeway (Take a haunted tour of campus! Free admission.)

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

 a.m. Chapel Service, Newton Chapel, Dr. Scott Walker, CLA '73, Preaching, followed by brunch.

#### BASKETBALL TICKETS FOR ALUMNI

\$10 Each for Alumni How to purchase:

Walk up: at UC, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Phone: (478) 301-5470, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Online: www.mercerbears.com, click on "Tickets"

\*Ticket sale code is GOBEARS09

\*\* Limit: four tickets per alumnus



### Athletics Adds Lacrosse to its Division I Program

ercer will add men's NCAA Division I lacrosse to its intercollegiate athletic program during the 2010-2011 academic year and will add a Division I women's team in 2011-2012. Mercer is the first NCAA Division I institution in the state to announce the addition of lacrosse to its athletic program.

The sport, which originated among Native American tribes in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic before the United States was colonized, has long been popular in those regions and is now the fastest-growing high school sport in Georgia and one of the fastest growing in the country. According to the latest participation survey by U.S. Lacrosse, the sport's governing body, lacrosse is the fastest-growing high school sport for girls over the last 10 years and the second-fastest growing sport among boys. At the collegiate level, men's lacrosse has been the fastest-growing sport over the past decade, while women's has been the second-fastest-growing sport.

"Lacrosse is becoming a very popular sport in the Southeast," Director of Athletics Bobby Pope said. "We will be the first NCAA Division I program in Georgia, so this will be a great opportunity for Mercer to set the bar high for this sport in our state."

The University added men's lacrosse as a club



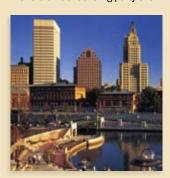
sport in 2007-2008 and plans to add women's club lacrosse for 2010-2011. The teams will then make the transition to Division I status in 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, respectively. The men's club lacrosse team has participated as a probationary member of the Southeastern Lacrosse Conference, a club league. The team has played games against the University of Alabama, Southern Virginia University, Emory University, Palm Beach

Atlantic and Kennesaw State University.

Mercer will also be one of the few programs in the Southeast, joining Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and newly established programs at Presbyterian College and fellow Atlantic Sun Conference member Jacksonville University. Currently, there are 64 NCAA Division I men's lacrosse programs and 89 Division I women's programs in the nation.

#### **Charter Plane to Take Team and Fans to Providence**

For those who have always wanted to be included with the official traveling party of a Division I athletics



team headed to a major tournament, here is the opportunity of a lifetime. The past two seasons, fans and supporters of the men's basketball team have joined President William D. Underwood for trips to Boston and Nashville to watch the Bears play the likes of Boston College, Harvard, Belmont and Lipscomb. In addition, the travelling support group enjoyed sightseeing and entertainment at, among other points of interest, the Heritage Trail in Boston and the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

This year, a trip to Providence, R.I., and the World Vision Invitational Basketball Tournament is planned for Nov. 12-15. The Bears will play games at The Dunkin' Donuts Center three consecutive days: against the Bucknell Bison on Friday, Nov. 13, at 5 p.m., with a dinner and reception to follow at 8 p.m.; against the Bryant Bulldogs on Saturday, Nov. 14,

at 4 p.m.; and against the host Providence Friars on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 2:30 p.m.

Package price for the trip is \$800 each for double occupancy, \$900 for single occupancy and includes all bus transportation, charter air services, three nights at the Providence Downtown Renaissance Hotel and the Friday night dinner and reception. The package is limited to the first 90 people who sign up.

At the publication deadline for *The Mercerian*, a few openings remained for reservations. Those interested should contact Myra Cameron in the Mercer Athletic Department at *cameron\_m@mercer.edu* or (478) 301-2733.



### **Another ACC Foe Comes to UC for Homecoming**

#### **Activities for Week Greatly Expanded to Accommodate All Ages**

ercer fans packed out the University Center when Georgia Tech came calling for last year's Homecoming game. The Bears led from start to finish in regulation, at one time owning an 18-point lead, before the Yellow Jackets rallied to win in overtime.

This year, the Bears welcome Florida State, one of the Atlantic Coast Conference's most improved teams. The Seminoles return three starters and eight letter winners from its 2009 NCAA Tournament team. The Seminoles appeared in the NCAA Tournament and advanced to the championship game of the ACC Tournament for the first time in school history in 2009. The 25 wins the Seminoles recorded were tied for the second-highest single season total in school history.

Among the Seminoles' returners are All-American candidate Solomon Alabi and All-ACC candidate Chris Singleton.

This year's Homecoming game will again be televised into millions of households on Fox Sports Net with tip set for 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21.

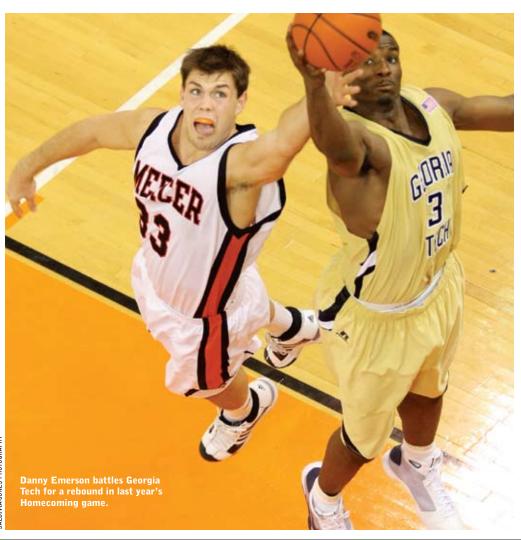
Scores of Homecoming activities have been scheduled for alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends. One of the most popular events last season was the Friday night bonfire and pep rally. This year, the annual student skit competition has been moved to Friday night to allow more alumni an opportunity to attend. The gigantic fireworks display will culminate the evening's activities.

Other expanded Homecoming Week activities, incorporating events for all ages, include:

- **Sunday, Nov. 15:** Banner competition, lobby of the Connell Student Center
- Monday, Nov. 16: Departmental/residence hall/house decorating; Picture on the Patch (free CD/DVD pre-release movie to be determined), 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17: Comedian and magician Justin Kredible in Willingham Auditorium, 8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18: Homecoming Court voting; Spirit Night at the men's basketball game vs. Fisk, 7 p.m., UC Arena
- Thursday, Nov. 19: Jittery James
  featuring Derek James at Jittery Joe's;
  "Improvable Cause" (improvisation troupe)
  at Willingham Auditorium, 8 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 20: Athletic Foundation Golf Tournament at Idle Hour Country Club, 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.; Stationary float building/

- judging at Bear Hill; Skit Competition/ Showcase at Willingham Auditorium, 7 p.m.; Townsend School of Music Wind Ensemble at Mt. de Sales Academy, 7 p.m.; Pep Parade to Bear Hill; Pep Rally/Bonfire/Fireworks on Bear Hill, 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 21: 5K road race, 8 a.m.;
  Charity Pancake Breakfast, Porter Patch, 8:30
  a.m.; Anniversary Classes Meeting, Porter
  Patch, 10 a.m. 1 p.m.; Alumni Baseball
  Game, Claude Smith Field, 12 p.m.; Athletic
  Hall of Fame Luncheon/Induction, Presidents
  Dining Room, University Center, 1 p.m.; ROTC
  Alumni Reunion Reception, Military Science
  Building, 1 p.m.; Pre-Game SSBE Alumni
  Reception, Stetson Hall Conference Room,
  2:30 p.m.; '85 Men's and Women's Basketball Teams Reunion, Bear Rock Café, Univer-
- sity Center, 2:30 p.m.; Faculty Meet & Greet, Porter Patch, 3 p.m.; Bear Bonanza! (face-painting, carnival games, concessions), Porter Patch, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Spirit March from Porter Patch to the UC Arena, 3:35 p.m.; Bears vs. Florida State men's basketball game, 4:30 p.m., broadcast by Fox Sports Net; Class of 1969 dinner, Presidents Dining Room, University Center, 7 p.m.; Class of 1989 Reception, Hilton Garden Inn, 7 p.m.; Mercer Campus Legends Lantern Tour, 10 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 22: Chapel Service, Newton Chapel, 10 a.m.; President's Brunch,
   President's Home, 11 a.m.; Women's Chamber Choir concert, Fickling Hall, 3 p.m.

Complete coverage of Homecoming 2009 is available at www.mercer.edu/homecoming.



### Women's Soccer Looks to Defend '08 Title

t is often said that the distance between winning and losing in sports is little more than a matter of inches.

Arguably, that axiom rang truer for the Mercer women's soccer team than anyone else in 2008, as the Bears saw their dreams of a first-ever NCAA tournament appearance thwarted by little more than a flip of a coin. Despite storming into the title match of the Atlantic Sun Championship and outshooting Belmont 28-9 in the final, the Bears could not find the goal that would see them past the Bruins and, ultimately, fell on penalty kicks.

While the team may have fallen just short of its ultimate goal, Mercer has plenty to build on as it looks ahead to this season. For starters, the team made program history by claiming its first-ever Atlan-

tic Sun regular season title. In addition to an impressive 7-2-1 mark in conference play, the Bears equaled a single season program record with 11 overall wins.

Though he may have lost some key players among the six seniors who graduated last season, two-time Atlantic Sun Coach of the Year Grant Serafy believes he still has the pieces in place to make this campaign a success as well.

For the most part, the Bears' rock-solid defensive unit has remained intact, though they do face the unenviable task of replacing Heather Manting, the A-Sun Defensive Player of the Year. A maturing Kacie Hudson will help ease that loss. The center-half claimed her second First Team All A-Sun honor in as many years last season. The junior will likely partner with either Jenny Niemeier

or newcomer P.A. Upson at the heart of the Bears' backline.

"It is difficult to lose the seniors that we lost," Mercer head coach Grant Serafy said, "but I think talent-wise and work-rate wise, we will be fine. The biggest question mark will be leadership. We will need someone to step up — and there are a good four or five candidates already — and assume a leadership role within this team."

Serafy's preferred 4-3-3 system requires all-action performances from its fullbacks, as they provide both width and service in attack in addition to their defensive responsibilities, and returning juniors Raschelle Riley and Lizzy Shaughnessy were exceptional in those roles last season.

Though Serafy would prefer to keep the outside back duo of Riley and Shaughnessy intact, he still has plenty of cover if one of the two end up filling a center-back spot. Vanessa Breslin, Natalie Clarke, Jessie Kupstas, Kate Alderman and Stacie Marsh are all capable options at fullback as well.

Goalkeeper Jean Worts returns for her senior campaign after backstopping the team's stellar defensive performance in 2008. Of the Bears' program-record 12 shutouts a year ago, Worts claimed sole responsibility for six of those, pushing her to a Mercerrecord 14 shutouts for her career.

Protecting the backline will be a collection of pair of proven ball-winners in



Coach of the Year Grant Serafy

midfield: Kaelyn Horton and Olivia Tucker. Tucker earned A-Sun Freshman of the Year honors in 2008.

Among the candidates to replace All-Conference first-teamer Meghan Castaldo is junior Sara Elliot. Elliot plays with her heart on her sleeve: a determined, competitive player with plenty of energy and hustle.

Out on the wings, the Bears possess two genuine threats at the forward position in sophomore Ali Meek and junior Lauren Johnson. Deceptively quick, never afraid to shoot and perhaps the team's best with the ball at her feet, Meek fired in five goals — second only to Tucker — and three assists in a sparkling freshman campaign last season. And like her fellow A-Sun All-Freshman team compatriot Tucker, Meek also seems to have a knack for the big occasion: four of those five goals last season proved to be game-winners.

Johnson, meanwhile, found her best form at the end of last season, giving opposing fullbacks a torrid time with her pace and dribbling skill up and down the right flank. The addition of Danielle Hesse gives the Bears further options at the wide positions.

Fronting the Mercer attack this season, however, will likely fall on the shoulders of sophomore Emerald Phillips. The Carrollton native has been banging in the goals this spring, lashing home four goals in six games in the offseason.

With a schedule boasting the likes of Indiana, Georgia and Vanderbilt, in addition to a challenging list of improving A-Sun foes, such as ETSU and Kennesaw State, repeating their success from last season will not be easy.

"The thinking is that if you play tough non-conference schedules, you will get better and be ready for conference play." Serafy said. "Besides that, our girls like the challenge of playing the better teams. The goal we have set for ourselves is to be a national contender each year and, hopefully, we can continue to build and move forward."



TO COURTESY MERCER SPORTS INFORMATION



### Ruzzo Determined to Guide Men's Soccer Back to Success

ast season, head coach Brad Ruzzo inherited a tradition-rich program that had endured struggles in the previous two seasons and the native of Cincinnati, Ohio, is determined to guide the Bears back to success.

The Bears established themselves as a perennial Atlantic Sun Conference contender in the late 1990s and, early in this decade, won three consecutive A-Sun regular season

championships (2000, 2001 and 2002) in addition to A-Sun Tournament Championships in 1999 and 2001.

Ruzzo, a star defender at Cincinnati, pays special attention to keeping opposing teams off the scoreboard and places a strong emphasis on keeping the ball out of the net. Besides basing a team identity on defense, Ruzzo wants opposing teams to know four things about the Bears: they have a strong work ethic, they are

organized, they are very role-defined and they are a committed team.

Ruzzo came to
Mercer from Bradley
University, where he
spent eight seasons as
the top assistant for the
Braves — the last five
as the associate head
coach. In 2003, Ruzzo
claimed the title as
one of the nation's top
assistant coaches by
College Soccer News.

Four seniors are among the eight returners, with nearly 70 percent of the offensive firepower coming back for the Bears, led by Arkenson Neckles' four goals. The native of St. George's, Grenada, also notched an assist and posted the game-winning score in Mercer's 1-0 shutout win past in-state rival Georgia Southern.

Ruzzo is looking to 13 newcomers to the 2009 edition of the Bears to fill key spots.

Among the newcomers is Peachtree City, Ga., native Bryson Jones, a forward who played his prep soccer at McIntosh High School. Richie Edmondson, a

prolific goal-scorer as a prep athlete, should give a Mercer team that ranked eighth in the A-Sun in goals a needed boost.

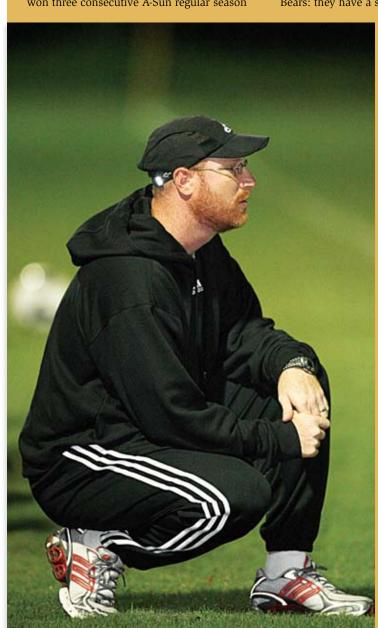
With the departure of David Bird, there will be a new face in goal for the Bears in 2009 and Brett Petricek of Woodridge, Ill., will be one of the candidates for the spot. A 2008 Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun Times First-Team All-State selection in 2008, Petricek holds Downer Grove's career shutout record after blanking opponents 31 times throughout his career.

An accomplished goal-scorer and local product from Macon, Jon Adams tallied a AAA Region State record 109 goals in his career at First Presbyterian Day, including 34 goals and 10 assists in his senior year. A 2008 All-Star and team captain in 2008, Adams led the Vikings to a 20-4-0 record in his senior campaign and a No. 12 national ranking. He is the GISA's all-time scoring leader, a five-time letterwinner and three-time all-state and all-region selection.

At 6-5, Louisiana-native Ian Hanlon adds some size in addition to sound technical skills in goal for the Bears. Hanlon, a two-time first-team all-district selection and 2008-09 First-Team All-Louisiana goalkeeper, posted 18 shutouts in his senior year. Shawn Meek is a versatile player who will fit well into Ruzzo's scheme at Mercer. Meek scored 11 goals and contributed 21 assists in his final two years for the Eagles, landing a spot on the Florida State Senior All-Star Team in 2009.

The sixth and final seed in last year's A-Sun Championship chosen from a field of seven eligible teams, Mercer has less room for error in 2009. Both UNF and USC Upstate are eligible for the postseason after the expiration of their NCAA reclassifying periods, bringing the number of teams eligible for the tournament to nine.

The format for the postseason tournament has also changed. Rather than being held at one venue over four days, the tournament will be split up into two weekends (Nov. 6-7 and 12-14), where the No. 3 seed will face the No. 6 seed and the No. 4 seed will take on the No. 5 seed at the higher seed's home field on the first weekend. The top-seeded team will host the final weekend, which includes the semifinals and the finals.



Coach Brad Ruzzo

HOTO COURTESY MERCER SPORTS INFORMATION



### **Volleyball Seeks to Continue Success of 2008 Season**

he 2008 season was one of "firsts" for head coach Noelle Rooke and the volleyball program. Rooke moved into first place among the program's coaches with the most wins. In her sixth season, Rooke became the first Mercer volleyball coach to be named Atlantic Sun Coach of the Year. The Bears tallied a program-best conference win total (13) and highest win total in 12 seasons (18). In 2009, Rooke and her staff are on a mission to mark another Mercer first: a conference championship and bid to the NCAA Championship bracket.

Capturing the league title will be a challenge as the Bears seek to replace two departed all-conference seniors and the program's all-time assist leader.

**Setter** — The 2009 Bears are be led by a lone senior, Chelsea Gebben. Gebben adds valuable experience to the roster with 832 career assists at the setter position. Gebben has been a part of 37 wins over the past three seasons and is the clear leader of the young squad. Also returning at the setter position is sophomore Nickie Halbert, who joined the Bears in 2008, dishing out 72 assists in just 26 sets played.

Middle blockers — One of the strengths of the 2009 team is the duo of juniors at the middle blocker position. Libby Hansch and Krista Hurley provide a one-two punch that is among the league's best at the net. A year ago, the two combined for more than 400 kills and 232 regular season blocks. Behind the strength of the combo, Mercer ranked second among conference teams in blocks per set. This season, the Bears have welcomed the arrival of sophomore newcomer Charlayna Braxton.

Outside hitter — As a freshman last season, Amiee Frutchey asserted herself as one of the conference's top outside hitters. Frutchey garnered a conference all-freshman team selection after amassing 165 kills. Rachel Urbelis is another sophomore at the outside hitter position who had an impact on Mercer's 2008 success. The 6-1 outside hitter piled up 80 kills a season ago, including a personal best 12 kills in the Bears' win over Auburn. Joining Mercer's rotation at outside hitter is Jamie Duffy, the most experienced newcomer on the roster.

**Rightside hitter** — Erica Vrvilo is back for her third season, after tallying 157 kills and 66 total blocks in her sophomore campaign. One returner that the coaching staff was impressed with a year ago is sophomore Anna Coursey, a gifted lefty who uses her 6-2 frame to her advan-

tage. Look for Coursey to have an increased role in the offensive attack.

**Libero/defensive specialist** — This season marks a transition year for the Bears, who are playing for the first time in four seasons without second-team all-conference libero Claire Tucker. Sophomore Ashley Skidmore is expected to step

into the role of defensive stopper. Claire Patten is a newcomer who will see time in the backcourt.

Although Rooke's 2009 team may lack the leadership that made 2008 so successful, the coaching staff believes the talent on the roster will get the squad to Fort Myers, Fla., for a sixth consecutive chance to compete for a conference title.





### **Clear Channel New Broadcast Home to Mercer Athletics**

lear Channel Broadcasting will serve as the flagship radio network for the Mercer men's basketball games in 2009-2010. The broadcaster's Fox Sports Radio 1670 AM, WFSM, will carry all of the Bears' games

live this season, while sister FM stations, WPCH 96.5 and WZCH 102.5, will also simulcast games that tip off at 6 p.m. or later. In addition, the games will be available on the World Wide Web on the Fox Sports Radio 1670 site at <a href="https://www.foxsports1670.com">www.foxsports1670.com</a> and the Mercer web site at <a href="https://www.mercerbears.com">www.mercerbears.com</a>.

"We are extremely pleased with the contract with Clear Channel," said Athletic Director Bobby Pope. "It truly

gives us a network with the games being carried on three stations along with the World Wide Web. We also have the opportunity to broadcast other Mercer athletic events as well, and we will explore those options to get more recognition for sports other than men's basketball."

Last year, under first-year head coach Bob Hoffman, the Bears played one of the most eye-opening non-conference schedules in the

country, taking on such established programs as UCLA, Iowa State, Oklahoma State, Dayton, Georgia Tech, Alabama and Auburn. The Bears upset Alabama and Auburn backto-back, went on to win the most games since the 2003 season and Hoffman was

named the collegeinsider. com "coach of the year."

Among nonconference games that highlight this year's schedule are return games at Georgia Tech

and Alabama, a trip to Nashville to take on Vanderbilt, plus a Homecoming game against Florida State on Nov. 21 at the University Center. Mercer's Atlantic Sun Conference games will also be among the broadcasts, including the 2010 A-Sun Basketball Championships, to be played this year for the first time on the Mercer campus at the University Center. Three A-Sun teams — East Tennessee State University, Jacksonville and Belmont — advanced to post-season play last season.

Bill Clark, market manager for the radio network, said, "Clear Channel is very pleased that the Mercer Athletic Department has chosen Fox Sports 1670 and The Peach 96.5/102.5 to be the radio and internet home of Mercer University basketball. It is clear that Mercer's basketball program is the premier athletic event in Middle Georgia and our stations are proud to be affiliated with such a great program."

Rick Cameron, "voice of the Bears" for the past three seasons, will continue to call the play-by-play. He is Mercer's senior assistant vice president for marketing communications and was the men's and women's basketball public address announcer for six years before moving over to the radio broadcast.

Other Clear Channel radio stations in the Macon market include V101.7, Q 106.3, 97.9 WIBB-FM and 1280 WIBB-AM.

### Mitchell, Everett Selected for Georgia Hall of Fame

wo Mercerians, former basketball great Sam Mitchell and golfer Edward Everett, were among the seven individuals selected in the 2010 induction class of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame. The seven individuals were chosen from an eligible pool of 252 nominees who best exemplify the tradition of sports excellence in the State of Georgia.

"Georgia is truly blessed to have such a wide array of talented people in the world of sports," said GSHF Executive Director Jacquelyn Decell. "It is our privilege each year to be able to give voice to the citizens of our state in congratulating our inductees on a job well done."

The 2010 Induction Class highlights the broad range of sports in which Georgia's athletes excel. The class includes two broadcasters, a golfer, a basketball player, a multi-sport athlete, a football player, and a gymnastics coach. The combined careers of those selected span six decades.

Sam Mitchell was a two-year starter on the basketball team at Columbus High School where he earned All-City honors. From there, he went on to lead Mercer to the Trans-America

Conference (forerunner to the Atlantic Sun Conference) championship and a berth in the NCAA Tournament in 1985, and he remains Mercer's all-time leading scorer with 1,986 points. In addition to being named an honorable mention All-American, he was the TAAC Player of the Year as a senior and was a two-time, firstteam selection. He was inducted into the Mercer Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. Mitchell played professionally in Canada and France before joining the NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves in 1989. He is second only to Kevin Garnett in alltime scoring and rebounding in Timberwolves franchise history. As head coach of the Toronto Raptors, Mitchell was named NBA Coach of the Year in 2007. Mitchell is a current member of the Mercer Board of Trustees.

Edward Everett is a native of Macon where he attended both Lanier High School and Mercer. Everett began winning golf tournaments at the age of 11 in 1955 at the Macon Junior Tournament and continued to win tournaments as an amateur and professional for more than 40 years. Among his many tournament victories

are the Rose City Open in 1973, 1975, and 1976; the Perry Classic in 1990; the Georgia Senior Open in 1997 and 2000; and the National PGA Senior Club Professional Championship in 1997. Everett was inducted into the Mercer Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005

Others to be honored in the 2010 induction class include: former Georgia Tech play-by-play announcer Al Ciraldo; former Atlanta Braves announcer Ernie Johnson; former Georgia and NFL quarterback Larry 3 (S)

Sam Mitchell

Edward Everett

Rakestraw; former Florida State lineman Ronald Simmons; and former Georgia gymnastic coach Suzanne Yoculan.

The 2010 Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held in Macon in February.

Key to the Schools and Colleges — BUS — Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics; CAS — College of Arts and Sciences; CLA — College of Liberal Arts;

CCPS — College of Continuing and Professional Studies; DIV — McAfee School of Theology; EDU — Tift College of Education; EGR — School of Engineering; LAW — Walter F. George School of Law;

MED — School of Medicine; MUS — Townsend School of Music; NUR — Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; PHA — College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; TCS — Tift College Scholars; Tift — Tift College

#### **Achievements**

#### 1950s

**Elliott E. Brack,** CLA '57, published the book, *Gwinnett: A Little Above Atlanta,* which details Gwinnett County's fast-paced growth, colorful past and hopeful future.

**Dr. William G. Cagle,** COPHS '59, received the 50 Year Pharmacist Award from the Georgia Pharmacy Association. Cagle owned MidCity Pharmacy in Canton in 1987 and has practiced there since. Before he purchased MidCity Pharmacy, he worked at Canton Drug and Fincher Pharmacy.

**Dr. Kenneth S. Thompson**, COPHS '59, received the 50 Year Pharmacist Award from the Georgia Pharmacy Association. Thompson is a partner in Chichesters' Town and Country Pharmacy and Chichesters' Harrison's Pharmacy. He was also the original owner of Colonial Park Pharmacy, all in Macon.

#### 1960s

**Dr. Carol Ann Holcomb**, CLA '66, was named a 2009 Outstanding Faculty Member at Kansas State University during its Excellence in Public

Health at K-State 2009 program. Dr. Holcomb is the founding director of the K-State Master of Public Health program.

**The Rev. Stephen N. Johnson,** CLA '69, is the founder and president of Reformation Ministries — a ministry dedicated to the proclamation of the grace of God.

**Deborah A. Mills,** CLA '82, created the cover and illustrations for her husband's novel, *The* 

*Choir Boats*, by Daniel A. Rabuzzi, forthcoming from ChiZine Publishing in Toranto.

**Toni V. Sweeny,** CLA '65, has published 13 novels, including new releases *Blood Sin* and *Jericho Road*, written under the pseudonym Icy Snow Blackstone.

**George T. Williams,** LAW '69, has joined the firm of Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando, Fla., as counsel attorney.

#### 1970s

James W. Bartling, COPHS '77, is the 2009 recipient of the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia, an award presented at the Georgia Pharmacy Association's 2009 Annual Convention. The award recognizes the outstanding achievements in community service by pharmacy professionals.

Judge Ann Shannon Jackson, LAW '79, was elected Fayette County Probate Judge in 2008

#### Bill Shirley, Member of Last Mercer Football Team, Dies at 87

r. William C. Shirley, CLA '43, beloved alumnus and former trustee and faculty member, died June 21. He was 87.

A native of Pickensville, Ala., Dr. Shirley transferred to Mercer from Clemson University in 1940 and was a center on the Bears' last football team.

After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Dr. Shirley went on to graduate from the Medical College of Georgia in 1951. He practiced medicine for more than 50 years and was also a clinical instructor at MCG and Mercer's School of Medicine.

Dr. Shirley served as a member of the Mercer Board of Trustees from 1978 until 1988 and was also a member of the President's Council and the President's Club. He was an active member of Highland Hills Baptist Church in Macon, where he served three different terms as a deacon.

Dr. Shirley is survived by his wife

of 58 years, Bess Baxter Shirley; his children, Mary Anne Shirley Watters, William C. Shirley Jr. and Susan Shirley Eaker; and his grand-



Dr. Bill Shirley

children, William Watters, Robert Watters, Katie Eaker and Caroline Eaker.



our stories of experience, growth, and success as a Mercerian are priceless to young students who are considering Mercer as their college choice.

The Offices of University Admissions and Alumni Relations are establishing a New Admissions Alumni Team. We are seeking alumni partnerships to spread the word about Mercer to prospective students by:

- Representing Mercer at regional college fairs;
- Hosting receptions for local students and their families;
- Making personal contact with students in their area.

This is a fantastic opportunity to share your excitement about your alma mater with eager students who want to learn more about Mercer, from your unique point of view.

Join our Alumni Admissions Team today! Provide us with your information at **gomercer.com/alumni.html** or contact Nick Wolfe or Tyler Wolfe at (800) 840-8577 to learn more.



(800) 840-8577 | Toll-Free mercer.edu/admissions



and assumed office in January.

**R. Howard Jump,** CLA '76, LAW '79, was installed as second vice president of the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel for 2009-2010.

R. Andy Rogers, COPHS '74, is the 2009 recipient of the prestigious Academy of Employee Pharmacists' Pharmacist of the Year Award, presented at the Georgia Pharmacy Association's 2009 Annual Convention in Ponte Vedra Beach. Fla.

**Debroah D. Willingham,** CLA '77, completed her PhD in Educational Leadership and now works as an educational consultant in Greenville, S.C.

#### 1980s

Margaret C. Johnson, LAW '80, went on active duty orders with the U.S Army after 22 years in the Georgia Army National Guard and was assigned as deputy staff judge advocate of the Office for the Administrative Review of the Dentition of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC), headquartered in Washington, D.C., with forward operations in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. She served there for 20 months and retired from the Army in March at the rank of lieutenant colonial. Johnson is currently employed with the Department of Defense of General Council in the Pentagon. She was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service at OARDEC.

Ernest W. Lee II, CLA '82, has taken a position as director of outreach and programs at Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church in Savannah after having a successful career as an attorney.

Dr. John Pittman, MED '86, was awarded the 2009 Health Care Heroes Award by Triangle Business Journal Magazine.

The Hon. Robert V. Rodatus, LAW '76, was recently elected president of the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges.

Jacquelyn H. Saylor, LAW '83, has been named a 2009 Georgia Super Lawyer by Atlanta Magazine for her work in estate planning and probate law.

Carter L. Stout, LAW '85, partner with Stout Walling Atwood LLC., was elected chairperson of the Real Estate Section of the Atlanta Bar Association Inc.

**Dr. Jean R. Sumner,** MED '86, was elected the 2008-09 president of the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners.

**Brian T. Wilson,** LAW '87, has been reappointed to the statewide Federal Judicial Nominating Commission. He was named by the *Florida* Super Lawyers Magazine as one of 2009's top attorneys in the state.

#### 1990

**Dr. Crystal Brown**, MED '90, was named to the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce by Gov. Sonny Perdue.

**Dr. J. Blake Couey,** CLA '99, earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton Theological Seminary at the school's 197th commencement exercises on May 23.

**Carla G. Crider,** NUR '95, graduated May 9 from Texas Christian University's Harris

### Ivey Merits National Recognition with Award-Winning Music Production Company

he next time you tune into The Weather Channel, you will probably hear music produced by Mercer alumnus Steve Ivey, who took what he learned from Mercer's Townsend School of Music and from Macon's music scene to create Ivey Music International — an award-winning music production and publishing company located on Music Row in Nashville, Tenn.

Ivey graduated from Mercer in 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music voice performance and communications. He began writing and performing songs at Mercer and got his first taste in music production when Dr. Lowen Marshall, former head of the music department, allowed him to do an unprecedented internship at Macon's Muscadine Recording Studio.

"Dr. Marshall was very nice in allow-

ing me to do my internship at the studio and learn the ins and outs of commercial music, especially in the confines of a very classical music department," Ivey said.

Ivey incorporated his company one year before he earned his diploma, and he credits Mercer and the skills he learned during his internship to his success. "Without Mercer's classical base, general music theory and the experience I got at Muscadine, I wouldn't have been able to do it," he said.

Since its founding in 1983, IMI has

produced more than 1,000 songs and has reached the top of many charts from the United States to Canada to Europe. IMI has written and produced music for many media and consumer brands, including E! Network, PBS, NBC, ESPN2, Ford Motor Company, Nissan, and Bath and Body Works. He has also created music for TV shows, commercials and films.

In May, TWC, which earned a reputation for featuring smooth jazz during its "Local on the 8s" segment, broadened its musical taste to showcase music produced by IMI, which not only expanded the channel's smooth jazz catalog, but also brought pop rock, country, traditional jazz and urban music into the mix as well.

The TWC-branded music is available for international distribution on more than 100 internet-based music

stores, including iTunes, Starbucks, Amazon and MyspaceMusic. IMI is also responsible for *TheWeatherChannelMusic.com*, which will allow visitors to not only find weather information, but also stream and download music by new and well-known artists.

"The music we are creating at *TheWeatherChannelMusic.com* will present a fresh sound and look while still offering the great music experience that has been a part of (TWC) for a long time," Ivey said in a new release announcing the project.

Ivey met and proposed to his wife, Sandy George Ivey (CLA '85), at Mercer. The couple lives in Brentwood, Tenn., with their children, Simon, 13, and Sid, 12. "I use the skills I learned from Mercer literally every single day," he said, "but the greatest gift Mercer ever gave me was my great wife."



College of Nursing and Health Sciences with a Master of Science in Nursing degree.

**Dr. Michael E. Greene**, MED '90, received the Joseph P. Bailey Jr., M.D., Physician Distinguished Service Award from the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG). Greene, a Macon-based family physician, is the chair of the MAG's Council on Legislation.

**Auden L. Grumet**, LAW '97, was named the only 2009 Rising Star in the area of consumer law in the March issue of *Atlanta Magazine*. Auden operates a solo practice in Buckhead.

**Delynn Keeton,** NUR '92, serves as the president of the Georgia Board of Nursing. She was appointed to the Board of Nursing in 2004 by Gov. Sonny Perdue and was reappointed in February

2008. Her term will end in September 2010. **Maj. Lee Kemp**, CLA '99, has been promoted to the Inspector General's Office, 3rd Sustainment Command, Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

Maj. John T. Newman, BUS '99, was recently promoted as executive support officer to the secretary of defense at The Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

#### CIASSNOTES

Charles L. Odom, BUS '91, was appointed chief financial officer of Cox Radio Inc. in January.

Chrissy Pearson, CLA '97, was named press secretary for North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue.

Luna Phillips, LAW '95, was accredited as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional by the U.S.

Green Building Council. Phillips practices environmental and land use law, as well as administrative and governmental law, at Gunster in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

**Brian S. Regienczuk,** CLA '97, was named group director of Global Design for The Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta. He was previously employed at Phillips Design as a senior program manager.

R. Matthew Reeves, CLA '99, has been selected to serve on the Georgia General Assembly's Evidence Code Study committee. Reeves is a senior litigation associate at Anderson, Tate & Carr in Atlanta.

David Thatcher, LAW '91, joined the Atlanta office of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C. in July as a shareholder.

Matt Trevathan, CLA '98, gave a presentation Feb. 12 titled "Exploring the Future of Enterprise Software" at the MIT Enterprise Forum in Atlanta.

#### 2000s

Matthew A. Drury, CLA '06, LAW '09, was selected for a direct commission into the United States Army Staff Advocate General Corps. James Paul Ferguson, LAW '00, was appointed partner in the law firm Duane Morris LLP in Atlanta. **Gina Ginn Greenwood**, LAW '01, has joined the firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC.

Carmelia C. Lowman, CLA '03, has completed

her Master of Psychology degree.

Mary Frances McMahon, BUS '07,
incorporated and instituted Nurses for Nations,
a non-profit nursing humanitarian organization
serving the global needs of underserved people.

#### Russell Instrumental in Support of Mercer On Mission

oy E. Russell, CLA '53, died June 5 in Nashville, Tenn. He was 86 years old.

Russell was an active Mercer alumnus and served as president of the Ministers Chapter of the Alumni Association in 1961. He was also a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

He served as a minister for 60 years in churches in Kentucky, Georgia and South Carolina. Russell served as secretary of missions for Southeast Georgia for the Georgia Baptist Convention in the late 1950s where he was responsible for promoting all phases of Georgia Baptist work in Southeast Georgia.

Russel established The First Baptist Church of Westgate Endowed Fund at Mercer in 2008 to support Mercer On Mission as well as graduates of McAfee School of the Theology who are entering the field of ministry.

When asked, before he died, what he wanted Mercerians to learn about him and his mission, Russell said, "I hope they learn that I am a man who has strived to live my life faithfully and in service of the Lord and community. I feel if we invest in young people who have demonstrated

a desire and commitment to serve God's will, that all our communities will be richer."

Russell, a native of North Carolina, is survived by



Roy Russell

his wife of 63 years, Elizabeth Prince Russell, his daughter, Barbara Cragg, CLA '73, and his granddaughter, Shannon Cragg. His daughter, Becky, preceded him in death.

President William D. Underwood and Provost Wallace L. Daniel invite

Mercer University Alumni and Friends to join the

Russia History and Cultural Heritage Tour
Moscow and St. Petersburg
June 3-12, 2010

Dr. Daniel, Mercer Provost and Russian scholar, will be the tour host and will provide commentary as participants explore Russian church architecture, art, music and history. The cost of this deluxe trip is \$6,989 and includes airfare, 5-star accommodations, Aurora train fare between Moscow and St. Petersburg, most meals, and admission to selected museums and performances. For more information, call Melissa McCants at (678) 547-6397 or e-mail her at mccants\_ma@mercer.edu. Space is limited, so call today!

Farooq B. Mughal, CLA '00, received an honorable mention in the world-renowned political magazine *Campaigns and Elections*. Mughal is the managing partner of Mughal Strategies GP LLC.

Thomas Patrick Ruo, ENG '08, graduated in the top four percent of US Army Cadets nationwide

for the 2008-09 academic year. **Fabricio A. Silva,** CLA '06, won first prize for

Best Report of Community Interest 2008 from the Brazilian International Press for his article titled "A Diaspora Brazilian nos EUA." Silva is currently working toward a Master's Degree in journalism from New York University.

**The Rev. Phillip W. Smith,** THEO '02, was promoted to associate university chaplain and director of religious life at Elon University in Elon, N.C.

# Former Provost Dr. Horace Fleming Honored in Memorial Following His Death in May

r. Horace W. Fleming Jr., long-time Mercer administrator and former president of the University of Southern Mississippi, was honored in a memorial service in Willingham Auditorium on May 8. Dr. Fleming, who served as Mercer provost until July 1, 2008, when he was named Distinguished University Professor of Educational Leadership, died on May 1 at the age of 65.

"The Mercer family mourned the loss of a great Mercerian, but we also remembered and celebrated the remarkable life of our friend and loved one," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "Horace Fleming was an insightful and deeply principled academic leader, an accomplished scholar and educator, and a true gentleman."

A native of Elbert County, Dr. Fleming twice served as a senior officer of the University. From 1992 to 1997, he was executive vice president and provost at Mercer, before being elected president of the University of Southern Mississippi. He returned to the Mercer administration in 2002 as executive vice president and served as provost from July 1, 2006, to July 1, 2008.

"In my years of leading Mercer, I had no better or more thoughtful colleague and friend than Horace Fleming," said Mercer Chancellor Dr. R. Kirby Godsey, who was University president during Dr. Fleming's two terms of service at Mercer. "A principled leader, he combined high expectations of himself and others with a gentle and caring spirit. We worked together, played together and laughed together. I loved the pleasure of his company."

Prior to coming to Mercer in 1992, Dr. Fleming was executive vice president at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., from 1990 to 1992. He began his teaching career in 1971 as a member of the faculty at Clemson University. During his 19-year tenure at Clemson, he served as president of the Faculty Senate and was chosen Alumni Master Teacher in 1979 by the Clemson student body.



**Dr. Horace Fleming** 

He was also founding director of the Strom Thurmond Institute of Government and Public Affairs.

Dr. Fleming took leave from Clemson from 1980 to 1982 to serve as chief economist for the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate. He also was staff director of the Office of President Pro Tem of the Senate, Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Georgia and received his doctorate in political science from Vanderbilt University. A highly decorated veteran of the U.S. Army, he served as a captain from 1969 to 1970 in Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star and Regimental Cross of Gallantry.

Active in numerous national higher education organizations, Dr. Fleming also devoted much of his time to community service. He was a member of the Salvation Army of Macon Advisory Board and the local American Cancer Society Advisory Board. He was a member of Macon's First Baptist Church of Christ.

Dr. Fleming is survived by his wife, Orene "Steve" Fleming of Macon; daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Timothy Snowden of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; a son, Capt. Patrick W. Fleming of Columbia, S.C.; a sister and brother-in-law, Connie and Boyce Dunn of Anderson, S.C.; and a brother, Gerald G. Fleming of Macon.

# Marriages, Births & Anniversaries

#### 1930s

**Quenelle Collins,** NUR '39, recently celebrated her 91st birthday. She has nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

#### 1940s

**Martha Alinor Price Thompson,** TIFT '48, celebrated her 60th career anniversary as a professional florist.

#### 1950s

**Dr. Edwin L. Cliburn,** CLA '50, married Dorothy "Dot" Crowder of Barnesville on Jan. 24.

#### 1960s

**Carol D. Gavin,** CLA '69, will celebrate her 40th wedding anniversary on Oct. 11. She has two grandchildren: Amelia, 8, and William, 5.

#### 1980s

**Linda T. Marra**, BUS '83, and Steven Marra celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in April. She earned her Master of Education in School Guidance Counseling degree in January.

#### 1990s

D. Bryant Chitwood, CLA '91, and Shannon Edwards Chitwood announce the birth of their daughter, Katherine Grace, on April 15.

Theresa Light Critchfield, LAW '05, and John B. Critchfield, announce the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Grace, in July 2008. Their oldest daughter, Anna Catherine, was born June 2007.

Lee W. Folsom. BUS '93. and his wife. Christie

M. Folsom, announce the birth of their son,
Thad Conner Folsom, on June 3, 2008. **Ruth D. Kleinpeter,** CLA '98, and Michael
Kleinpeter announce the birth of their second

Kleinpeter announce the birth of their second son, Bennet Samuel Kleinpeter, June 6, 2008.

Angela F. Fox, CLA '96, and her husband, Jerry

### www.OurCollegeTown.net

#### Mercer Fans,

Our College Town is an online Mercer fan shop owned by Mercer alumni. Our mission is to increase support for and awareness of Mercer University and its NCAA Division I Athletic Program by offering high quality memorabilia and apparel at a reasonable price. We have over 100 items to choose from and are the exclusive seller of the Mercer Spires Clothing Collection. Please come visit us today!

Watt Wetheriestow CLA 2007, LAW 2010



www.OurCollegeTown.net

#### CLASSNOTES

Fox, announce the birth of their son, Emerson Bryant Fox, on Dec. 18, 2008.

#### 2000s

Jamie Caraway Dickson, CLA '05, married Jake Lee Dickson, EGR '07, on Jan. 20. 2008.

Christopher D. Hall, LAW '02, and Virginia Noble Hall, LAW '02, announce the birth of their first child, Lauren Elizabeth, on Feb. 21, 2008. Angela Wood Facey, ENG '01, and John "Jason" Facey, ENG '00, announce the birth of their daughter, Julia Kaitlyn Facey, on Feb. 10, 2009. Amy Griswold Martin, TCO '05, married Josh Martin on April 18, 2009.

**Shafon R. Shelton Scott,** CLA '04, married Derrick Scott on October 19, 2008.

Laura Ann Smith, EDU '06, and

Albert Smith announce the birth of their daughter, Jessica Smith, on July 18, 2008.

#### In Sympathy

#### Friends

Virginia 'Gini' Ellen Barr Braden, wife of former Mercer Trustee Dr. Larry L. Braden, of Powder Springs, died May 2, 2009.

**Gary M. Hipps** of Anderson, S.C., died April 22, 2009.

**John W. McIntyre** of Atlanta died July 15, 2009.

#### 1930s

Janet M. Balcom, TIFT '33, of Pensacola, Fla., died July 9, 2009. Ruth Cheves, EDU '39, of Macon died July 1, 2009.

#### **National Alumni Association Board of Directors**

Officers.

E. Michele Deriso, DIV '99, Sugarhill, President G. Faye Dumke, BUS '92, Duluth, Immediate Past President

Board Members:

College of Liberal Arts Representatives Mike Crook, CLA '69, Stuart, Fla., President Tony Calloway, CLA '82, Columbus, President-Elect

Walter F. George School of Law Representatives Dennis C. Sanders, CLA '69, LAW '72, Thompson, President

Dennis C. Sanders, CLA '69, LAW '72, Thompson, President William B. Shearer III, LAW '67, Atlanta, President-Elect

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Representatives
Herbert W. Hatton, PHA '67, Carrollton, President
Sharon F. Clackum, PHA '80, '81, Atlanta, President-Elect

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics Representatives

D. Kevin Wyckoff, BUS '88, Atlanta, President Carrie Sagel Burns, BUS '96, '99, Atlanta, President-Elect

School of Medicine Representatives

Dr. Alan D. Justice, CLA '83, MED '88, Macon, President Dr. C. Martin Christian, MED '92, Dublin, President-Elect

**School of Engineering Representatives** 

Josh Brookshire, EGR '00, Hoschton, President Jennifer O'Neal Tribble, EGR '03, Warner Robins, President-Elect

College of Arts and Sciences

Ron Jones, CAS '85, LAW '90, Lawrenceville, President John C. Branan, CAS '86, Decatur, President-Elect

Tift College Alumnae Representatives

Carey Allmon Russell, Tift '65, Forsyth, President Julie Lee Love, Tift '75, Thomaston, President-Elect

Tift College of Education Representative

Mary Teel Mantiply, CLA '67, EDU '73, Warner Robins, President

McAfee School of Theology Representatives

R. Scott Ford, DIV '01, Macon, President Brian Wright, DIV '03, Decatur, President-Elect

Georgia Baptist College of Nursing Representatives

Jo Scott-Petty, NUR '71, '76, Conyers, President Shirley Rogers Rawlins, NUR '69, '73, '77, '89, Douglasville, President-Elect

**Townsend School of Music Representatives** 

Janet Jarriel, CLA '89, Macon, President Ann-Marie Spalinger, CLA '89, Duluth, President-Elect

College of Continuing and Professional Studies Representatives

Nancy R. Bache, CCPS '06, Norcross, President David W. Van Asselberg, CCPS '02, Roswell, President-Elect

Thailand Alumni Association Representatives

Sarayud Tinakorn, BUS '96, Bangkok, Thailand, President Masant "May" Nakornsri, BUS '96, Bangkok, Thailand, President-Elect **Dr. Clyde A. Wilson,** CLA '39, of Las Vegas, Nev., died June 25, 2009.

#### 1940s

William A. Newsom Sr., CLA '49, of Southaven, Miss., died May 9, 2009. Dr. William C. Shirley, CLA '43, of Macon died June 21, 2009. Bolyne L. Truax, TIFT '44, of Indepen-

dence, Mo., died April 24, 2009.

George M. Bird, COPHS '51, of

Metter died May 20, 2009.

#### 1950s

Keith W. Benning, LAW '53, of Augusta died April 24, 2009. Marguerite W. Ezell, TIFT '58, of Macon died April 15, 2009. John C. Garvin Jr., CLA '55, of Huntsville, Ala., died Nov. 22, 2008. The Rev. Charles C. Harper, CLA '56, of Gainesville died June 14, 2009. Kenneth S. Hunt Jr., CLA '50, of Palm Springs, Calif., died May 21, 2009. Ellen W. Scholz, CLA '51, of Quincy,

Ill., died April 23, 2009. **The Rev. Wallace L. Smarr,** CLA '57, of Forsyth died June 27, 2009.

**Dr. Oscar H. Stembridge,** TIFT '55, of Hawkinsville died June 30, 2009. **Fayes F. Thomas Jr.,** LAW '55, of

Miami, Fla., died July 4, 2009. **Henry A. Toole**, CLA '51, of Warner Robins died April 28, 2009. **Barbara B. Williams**, TIFT '52, of Newnan died July 3, 2009. **Mildred Dean K. Willis**, CLA '51, of Macon died June 13, 2009.

#### 1960s

David T. Coleman, CLA '61, of Suwanee died July 7, 2009. Patricia F. Hickman, TIFT '63, of Wilmington, N.C., died June 29, 2009 Nellie I. Middlebrooks, TIFT '63, of Thomaston died May 14, 2009. Warner S. Olds, LAW '67, of Cordele died March 24, 2009.

Carey S. Renfroe, CLA '64, of Pensacola, Fla., died May 17, 2009. Jimmie B. Webb, CLA '61, of Milledgeville died July 22, 2009.

Donald L Browning III, BUS '77, of

#### 1970s

Dalton died May 8, 2009.

David B. Higdon Sr., LAW '71, of Macon died June 24, 2009.

Susan S. Steger, LAW '70, of Macon died May 27, 2009.

Joanna M. Torbert, NUR '75, of

**Joanna M. Torbert**, NUR '75, of Augusta died Jan. 23, 2008.

**Nancy Tribble,** TIFT '76, of Macon died July 23, 2009.

Mary Kathryn Williams, LAW '77, of Fernandina Beach, Fla., died June 12, 2009.

#### 1980s

Mary Anne Aldrich, CAS '81, of Tucker died May 22, 2009. David H. Durden, CLA '84, of East Dublin died April 23, 2009. Daniel N. Sessions, TIFT '84, of Macon died July 19, 2009. Carolyn D. Marbut, EDU '81, of Macon died June 20, 2009.

#### 1990s

David Bertuccini, CLA '96, of Atlanta died April 24, 2009.

Joyce A. Castronova, TIFT '96, of Conyers died July 14, 2009. John M. Marchman, BUS '91, of Macon died June 13, 2009.

**Leigh C. Reeves**, LAW '99, of Marietta died May 11, 2009.

Submit class notes to Jamie C. Dickson, CLA '05, director of advancement communications, at dickson\_jc@mercer.edu.

#### Law Professor Jim Rehberg Dies at 91

ames C. Rehberg, professor emeritus at Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law, died Aug. 5 at the age of 91. A 1940 Mercer University graduate and 1948 Mercer Law School graduate, Rehberg joined the Law School staff in 1949 as the law librarian. After completing his Master of Law degree in 1951 from Duke University, he began teaching full-time at Mercer Law School in 1954, serving a one-year stint as assistant dean from 1976-77. Among other things, Rehberg taught real estate and property law. He formally retired from Mercer Law School in 1988 but continued to teach part-time until 2003.

"Jim Rehberg was my colleague at Mercer for over 30 years, and he was my friend," said Mercer Law School professor Joe Claxton. "Jim was a truly great law teacher, and he achieved that greatness by applying a simple formula. First, he demanded the best of his students every single day. Second, he always gave the students his best in return. The formula really is simple, but the application of it is not. To make that formula work year-after-year for more than five decades, as Jim Rehberg did, is an extraordinary achievement."

Born in Grady County, Rehberg was a World War II veteran, serving with the U.S.

Navy three years as a radio telegraph operator. His tours carried him to Iceland, North Africa and throughout the Mediterranean. Upon discharge from the Navy, he immediately entered Mercer Law School as a student in 1945.



Jim Rehberg

A longtime member of First Baptist Church in Macon, Rehberg taught Sunday School for college students and served as a deacon. His wife of 25 years, Leda, preceded him in death in 1975. His five brothers also preceded him in death. He is survived by his daughter, Jeanne Rehberg (Gary Greenman) and his son, Ches Rehberg (Alisa); grandchildren, Gracie and James Rehberg; and his close friend, Dixie Gordon.

In 1983, the James C. Rehberg Award was established at Mercer Law School by the Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund. The award is given to the Law School graduating senior who best exemplifies the standards of professionalism and expertise in real estate law set by professor Rehberg.

### Gift Honors School of Music Pioneer By Jamie C. Dickson

r. Arthur Lowndes Rich and his wife, Helen Rich, moved to Macon from North Carolina in 1944 to develop a music department for Mercer. Under their leadership, the music program — especially the choir — flourished.

Last academic year, Dr. Stanley Roberts, associate dean of the Townsend School of Music, was appointed to the Arthur Lowndes Rich Endowed Professorship in Choral Conducting. The professorship was established to honor the Richs' memory through a gift made by their daughter and son-in-law, world-renowned pianist Dr. Ruth Anne Rich and her husband, Fred Humphrey.

Dr. Arthur Rich, who is considered the founder of Mercer's music program, chaired the Music Department for 30 years before retiring from teaching in 1974. During his tenure, the number of faculty and students steadily increased. He continued as director of Mercer's Concert Series and Cultural Affairs until 1980.

Helen Rich died in 1989, and Dr. Arthur Rich died in 1997. Soon after Dr. Arthur Rich's death, his daughter, son-in-law and son, Col. Arthur "Art" Lowndes Rich Jr., established the Helen and Arthur Rich Endowed Music Scholarship. The professorship grew from additional gifts to the scholarship made by Dr. Ruth Anne Rich and Humphrey.

"The Arthur Lowndes Rich Endowed Professorship in Choral Conducting honors not only Mercer's first two professors of music, but also the great tradition of choral music that has been a significant part of Mercer's heritage," said Dr. John Dickson, dean of the Townsend School of Music.

Dr. Roberts, CLA '84, is in his 13th year of teaching at Mercer, in what is now the Townsend School of Music. Through the professorship, he will continue to conduct the Mercer Singers and the Mercer Women's Choir, while also teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting, choral literature and techniques.

"As a Mercerian, I have been keenly aware of the legacy of Arthur and Helen Rich and the profound influence they had on the Mercer and Macon communities," Dr. Roberts said. "As director of choral studies, I have had the

unique opportunity to meet many Mercerians who sang with Dr. Rich during his tenure here and, inevitably, they ask if I knew him. Regretfully, I have to say no. But when they speak of Dr. Rich, I see the twinkle in their eye and realize that he still retains their highest and best admiration."

The professorship was announced at the Mercer Singers Farewell Concert held in April. University Organist Dr. Robert Parris presented Dr. Ruth Anne Rich with a print of Sterling Everett's "The Beauty of Strong Foundations," which also included a plaque that thanked the family for their gift.

For more information about making a gift to the Arthur Lowndes Rich Endowed Professorship in Choral Conducting, contact Erin Lones at (478) 301-5548 or *lones\_ep@mercer.edu*. For information about making a gift to Mercer, visit www.mercer.edu/gifts.

### President's Club Events Move to Spring

or the first time in several years, the Mercer President's Club reception and brunch will be held in Atlanta during the spring rather than the fall. The President's Club reception will be held on the evening of April 16, 2010, in Atlanta, and the brunch will be held the following day, April 17, 2010, at the

St. Regis Atlanta in Buckhead. The President's Club is a donor group of University alumni and friends who give at least \$1,000 annually to the Mercer Fund. For more information about the President's Club reception and brunch, contact Sharon Lim Harle (678) 547-6420 or e-mail her at *lim s@mercer.edu*.

#### Advancement Hires New Staff By Jamie C. Dickson

In order to better serve its constituents, the Office of University Advancement has recently added six development officers to coordinate fundraising and alumni activities and to build relationships between Mercer and its alumni and friends. Additionally, a director of advancement communications, coordinator of annual giving, and a vice president for external relations also joined the advancement team.

J. Ron Wilson, director of development for the McAfee School of Theology and the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, came to Mercer in the fall of 2008. Wilson, who pastored churches in Georgia, Texas and Alabama for 21 years, most recently served Samford University, his alma mater, as a director of development. Wilson earned his Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and his Master of Theology and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Columbia Theological Seminary.

Virginia "Jenny" McCurdy returned to the advancement staff in late 2008 as director of development for the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing. McCurdy, a graduate of the University of Georgia, served the College of Nursing for 25 years before retiring in 2005, and from 2005 until 2008 worked for Metro Atlanta Recovery Residences as director of fund development.

**B. Todd Smith**, BUS '93, '97, joined the advancement team in February. Smith serves as director of development for the College of Liberal Arts and came to Mercer from IKON Office Solutions

as a manager of invoice operations. Prior to his service at IKON, Smith spent 11 years in the wireless communications industry.

Mike Mattox, director of development for the Walter F.
George School of Law, joined the advancement staff in July. Mattox earned his bachelor's degree from Stetson University and his Juris Doctorate from Emory University Law School. He practiced technology and intellectual property law for 25 years before coming to Mercer.

**Donavan Eason,** a graduate of the University of Georgia, joined advancement in July and serves as director of development for the School of Medicine. Eason brings to the office experience as a fundraiser and aide for several political campaigns, and most recently worked as a policy adviser in the office of Georgia Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle.

Janet Jarriel, MUS '89, was hired in August and serves as a development consultant for the Townsend School of Music. Jarriel earned her master's degree in arts administration from Indiana University and in 1996 formed JEJ Artists, which provides personal representation for a select roster of musicians. She has performed as a vocal soloist on international television programs and during live concerts, and also served on the staff of the School of Music at Indiana University.

**Andy Carter,** CLA '07, was hired in September and is coordinator of annual giving. Carter is responsible for planning and executing the day-to-day operation of the Mercer Fund Phonathon.

He also cultivates relationships with Mercer's younger alumni. Before becoming a member of the advancement staff, Carter worked for Unalisys, LLC as a credit analyst. As an undergraduate, Carter was a Phonathon caller for three years, one of which he served as a student supervisor.

**Hugh D. Sosebee Jr.,** LAW '83, vice president for external relations, came to Mercer in 2008. Sosebee represents Mercer at the State Capitol. He is responsible for coordinating the relationship between Mercer's School of Medicine and the State of Georgia. Sosebee earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia. Active in politics, Sosebee practiced law and real estate development for 25 years before joining the advancement staff.

Jamie Caraway Dickson, CLA '05, came to Mercer in January. As director of advancement communications, Dickson coordinates all development and alumni communication efforts, including printed materials, e-mails and social networking initiatives. She was most recently employed at Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia as an event planner and volunteer coordinator, and spent two years as an editor and writer for several Macon-based publications.

**Dr. Richard V. Swindle** serves as senior vice president for University Advancement and **John A. Patterson** is vice president for University Development. For more information about the Office of University Advancement, visit <a href="https://www.mercer.edu/gifts.">www.mercer.edu/gifts.</a>

# For the Love of Learning By Jamie C. Dickson

To recognize Mary Gailmard Davis' legacy at the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics in Atlanta, her family established a scholarship fund in her memory.

ary Gailmard Davis loved learning. A nurse by profession, she had learned that the solution to some of life's biggest dilemmas was education. So when her husband, Dr. Floyd Davis, asked her to be financial manager for his ophthalmology practice in Fayetteville, the 51-year-old mother of two enrolled at Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics in Atlanta.

Mary, a graduate of St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Atlanta, went back to school to learn accounting. While some might find returning to school and working fulltime overwhelming, Mary's family said she took on this challenge like any other she'd come across: with open arms. She worked 12-hour days at her husband's practice, taking breaks to study and do assignments. After work, she would drive nearly an hour to Mercer's Atlanta campus, spend four hours in class, then drive back to her home in Fayetteville to complete her class assignments.

Dr. Davis fondly remembers meeting his wife, with her bathrobe and slippers in his hands, at their farmhouse doorstep each night she came home from class. "I think you can appreciate how dedicated she was to accomplishing her goals in the practice and with her studies at Mercer," he said.

The challenges went beyond juggling work and school. Mary also had to contend with some minor family resistance. When Mary and her son, Tim Davis, learned they would be taking an accounting class together, Tim remembers one thing: "As a college kid it wasn't too cool to be sitting in class with your mom," he said. Throughout the course, Mary and Tim sat on opposite sides of the classroom. "But, if I had to do it all over again, I'd be sitting right next to her."

In the Davis family, learning was truly a family affair. Mary and her daughter, Dany

Davis Weer, attended a language school in France in 1984 and also took an art history class together. In the summer of 1987 Mary enrolled in the accounting class with Tim, who was entering his junior year as a history major at George Washington University and who needed to take additional courses over the summer. Tim, who later earned his Master of Business Administration from Mercer, got a first-row seat to his mom's classroom achievements. Mary's desire to reach her goals was apparent to everyone in the classroom, including her professor and adviser, Jim Westbrook, who is now coordinator of academic affairs for the Business School.

"She was the one who always knew what she was talking about, and at a class break or during study sessions she would be the leader," Westbrook said. "She would help anyone who was struggling."

In 1991, Mary graduated summa cum laude from Mercer with a 4.0 grade point average. She received the Aprile M. Holland Award for Academic Excellence and the Major Field Award in Accounting, which is presented to the student with the highest GPA overall and the highest GPA in accounting, respectively. She was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and, as an alumna, served on the Business School's Alumni Association Board of Directors. She was also an honorary member of the President's Club.

Westbrook said the decision to give Mary the highest honors at graduation was unanimous. "It's usually a faculty vote," he said. "But for Mary Davis, the vote was hardly necessary."

Her family had no doubt she would graduate with honors. "Mom was an extraordinary woman," Weer said. "She strived for that 4.0 and she was determined to get it. It was just part of her work ethic — it was engrained in her personality."

Tim, who later served as the president of the School of Business' Alumni Association Board of Directors, said that along with her innate intelligence and love of learning was a profound humility. "She was a dynamic person," he said. "She was petite, but she had such a



**Mary Davis** 

strong presence. She was always humble."

In 2007, during Mary's final days after a long struggle with her illness, the Davis family brainstormed ways to honor her memory.

Dr. Davis remembered a conversation he had with one of the nurses who cared for Mary and immediately knew how to pay tribute to his wife of 46 years. The nurse, a graduate of Mercer's Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, said she valued her education, but had a large amount of debt that she was still paying off. "That was the stimulus for us wanting to honor Mary's memory and also help a deserving student," Dr. Davis said.

The family established the Mary Gailmard Davis Endowed Scholarship to assist a non-traditional student at the Atlanta campus. Students eligible for the scholarship must have a 3.75 GPA and must be in a program of study in accounting, either as an undergraduate senior or as a student enrolled in the MBA or Master of Accountancy program. Due to Mary's nursing background, candidates can also be enrolled as a dual-degree student at the Stetson School of Business and Economics and the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing.

"Mary always wanted to help people, and that is the motivation of this scholarship," Dr. Davis said. "She would have hoped, if she were here today, to have helped a deserving student. That's what it's all about."

#### Phonathon Allows Students and Alumni to Share Connections

Mercer's Phonathon kicked off on Sept. 14 when approximately 30 student callers began connecting with some of the more than 60,000 alumni across the country.

The Phonathon allows student callers to share Mercer news and to obtain accurate alumni contact information. Alumni also have the opportunity to tell stories about their time at Mercer to the student callers, and are often inspired to give to the Mercer Fund, the base for unrestricted giving that benefits all colleges and schools at the University.

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, student callers reached

nearly 11,000 alumni, and more than 2,800 alumni made the decision to pledge because of a call from a Phonathon student.

Shawna Dooley, CLA '97, associate vice president of advancement, directed the Phonathon from 2002 until this fall and said one of the many benefits of the program is the ability to connect students and alumni. "Phonathon is important for more than the amount of money or number of donors it generates for Mercer," she said. "It matters because it may be the only personal interaction our alumni have with the University during the year."

Last year, student callers attempted to reach as many of the alumni as possible and, in doing so, heard countless stories from graduates. "When student callers speak with alumni, they learn how Mercer was in the past and share their own experiences of how it is now," Dooley said. "Hopefully, wisdom and understanding are gained in the process by both participants."

Student callers will connect with alumni through the fall, winter and early spring. For more information about the Phonathon, or to make a gift online, visit www.mercer.edu/gifts.

# The Gift of Love

Jennifer Ross was a bright and free-spirited sophomore at Mercer University at the age of 19. She was a member of Chi Omega Fraternity and was majoring in international business. Unfortunately, her life was tragically cut short on Jan. 1, 2006, in her hometown of Savannah.

Later that year, the family and friends of Jennifer established the **Jennifer Liscomb Ross Memorial** Endowed Scholarship, It is awarded annually to a sophomore member of the Mercer chapter of Chi Omega who is currently enrolled in the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business & Economics. Lauren Kritsas, the 2009-2010 president of Chi Omega and the first recipient of the scholarship, said through the scholarship Jennifer will not be forgotten. "The selection of the recipient every year is what keeps Jen's memory alive, because the recipients embody Jen's spirit."

Jennifer's caring nature and positive outlook were an inspiration to her peers, and her death motivated her family and friends to create a lasting legacy to the memory of this exceptional young woman. "Attending Mercer was one of the happiest periods in her life," Coren Ross, Jennifer's mother, said. "We hope the scholarship provides the opportunity for other young women, especially members of the Chi Omega Fraternity, to experience Mercer like Jennifer did."





Gifts to Mercer have the power to change the lives of current students while honoring the lives of those we have loved. For more information about contributing to the Jennifer Liscomb Ross Memorial Endowed Scholarship or to establish a scholarship in honor or in memory of someone,

contact the Office of University Advancement at (800) 837-2911.



Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Atlanta, GA Permit No. 2281

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# 2009-10 Bears Basketball Middle Georgia's Only NCAA Division I Basketball

November 5

November 13

November 20

November 21

November 28

December 3

December 5

December 11

December 19

#### GC&SU (exhibition) November 5 November 13 ^Bucknell November 14 November 15 November 18 November 21 November 27 December 3 December 5 December 10 December 21 December 23 December 29 January 2 January 4 January 7 January 9 January 15 January 22 January 24 January 27 January 30 February 1 February 4 February 8 February 12 February 14 February 18

February 20

February 25

February 27

March 3-6

^Bryant ^Providence Florida State (HC) at Georgia Tech \*Lipscomb (DH) \*Belmont (DH) Piedmont at Vanderbilt at Alabama at UNC Charlotte \*at Jacksonville (DH) \*at UNF (DH) \*Campbell (DH) \*ETSU (DH) \*at USC Upstate \*at Stetson \*at FGCU \*Kennesaw State (DH) \*Stetson (DH) \*FGCU (DH) \*at Kennesaw State (DH) \*USC Upstate (DH) \*at Campbell \*at ETSU \*UNF (DH) \*Jacksonville (DH) \*at Belmont (DH) \*at Lipscomb (DH) A-Sun Tournament

Home games are in BOLD | DH - Doubleheader | \*- Atlantic Sun Conference Game ^World Vision Invitational | All Times Eastern | Schedule is subject to change

7:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

TBA

ТВА

TBA

TBA

TBA

TBA

TRA

7:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

7:15 p.m.

4:15 p.m.

TRA

December 21 December 28 December 30 January 2 January 4 January 7 January 9 January 14 January 21 January 23 January 27 January 30 February 1 February 4 February 8 February 11 February 13 February 18 February 20 February 25 March 3-6

at College of Charleston at Charleston Southern at Furman \*Lipscomb (DH) \*Belmont (DH) Georgia Southern at Oklahoma State at Texas Tech at High Point at Winthrop \*at Jacksonville (DH) \*at UNF (DH) \*Campbell (DH) \*ETSU (DH) \*at USC Upstate \*at Stetson \*at FGCU \*Kennesaw State (DH) \*Stetson (DH) \*FGCU (DH) \*at Kennesaw State (DH) \*USC Upstate (DH) \*at ETSU \*at Campbell \*UNF (DH) \*Jacksonville (DH) \*at Belmont (DH) \*at Lipscomb (DH) **A-Sun Tournament** 

GC&SU (exhibition)

at Oklahoma

5:00 p.m. TBA TBA TBA TBA 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. TRA TBA TBA TBA TBA TBA 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. TBA TBA TBA 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. TBA 5:00 p.m. TBA TBA 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. TBA TBA

Home games are in BOLD | DH - Doubleheader | \*- Atlantic Sun Conference Game All Times Eastern | Schedule is subject to change

Call (478) 301-5470 for Season Tickets \$150 each for all home games except exhibitions