

THE

SPRING 2012

Mercerian

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**A New Model
For Journalism**

**Preparing Future
Counseling Leaders**

**Medical School
Expands to Columbus**

Mercer's Championship Season

Bears Take CIT Title

The Bears' lone senior, Justin Cecil, cuts down the net after the Bears claim the CIT championship.

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In Our Lens

Bears Shatter Records

The largest crowds in Mercer basketball history filled the University Center Arena to cheer on the Bears to a record-setting season.



Greenage Village — Hundreds of students and community members turned out for the annual St. Patrick's Day Festival in Mercer Village on March 17.

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THE **Mercerian**

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Davis Succeeds Daniel as Mercer Provost

Dr. D. Scott Davis, senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies and a Mercer faculty member since 1991, succeeded Dr. Wallace L. Daniel as Mercer provost on Jan. 1. Following a sabbatical to complete a biography of Aleksandr Men, one of Russia's leading Orthodox priests of the 20th century, Dr. Daniel will return to the classroom as Distinguished University Professor of History at Mercer.

"Wallace Daniel is among the most thoughtful academic leaders in higher education," President William D. Underwood said. "He has provided principled academic leadership for our University. He has encouraged innovative and entrepreneurial thinking. He has provided a role model for faculty who aspire to be great teacher-scholars. He is a wonderful colleague. Most importantly, he cares deeply about students. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude to Wallace for his decision to join us in 2008, and for the extraordinary service he has provided as provost. I am most grateful that he will continue to serve our students in the years ahead as Distinguished University Professor of History.

"Scott Davis has demonstrated the abilities required to be an outstanding provost through his service as a department chair, associate dean, dean, and senior vice provost," President Underwood said. "He's smart. He makes things happen. He's not afraid of tough challenges. He's a rising star in higher education. We could not have found a better academic leader for Mercer University."

Dr. Daniel, a renowned Russian historian, began his tenure as Mercer's provost on July 1, 2008, following a 30-plus year career at Baylor University, where he served as the Ralph L. and Bessie Mae Lynn Professor of History and editor of the *Journal of Church and State*. From 1996-2005 Dr. Daniel served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Baylor's largest academic unit with more than 400 faculty and 6,500 students. He also chaired Baylor's history department from 1992 to 1996 and directed the honors program from 1991 to 2003. An honors graduate in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Dr. Daniel received his Ph.D. from the same institution, specializing in Russia.

Under Dr. Daniel's leadership as provost, four of Mercer's six Ph.D. programs were established, as well as two of its six professional doctoral programs. Undergraduate research has increased five-fold, seven new interdisciplinary programs have been created, an undergradu-

ate research journal, *Spires*, was launched, and an Office of National and International Scholarships was established. Six of Mercer 11 academic deans were appointed during Dr. Daniel's term as provost.

"It has been my privilege to serve our students, faculty and staff as University provost for the last three and one-half years. In terms of the quality of education students receive here, Mercer is one of this country's finest universities," Dr. Daniel said. "I have especially appreciated Mercer's openness to ideas, its longstanding tradition of service to humanity, and its energetic interest in exploring all questions — religious, social and political."

Dr. Davis joined the Mercer faculty as assistant professor of chemistry in 1991. He was promoted to associate professor in 1996 and served as chair of the department from 2000-2002, when he was named associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He served as associate executive vice president from 2003 to 2006, when he was named senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies. Dr. Davis, who holds the rank of professor of chemistry, also currently serves as dean of Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics. He will continue to serve in that capacity until a permanent dean is appointed.

As senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies, Dr. Davis has led Mercer to expand its profile as a research institution. Externally funded research has grown by 33 percent, and the number of students pursuing Ph.D. degrees has grown from 33 to 241. Overall, enrollment in Mercer's graduate and professional programs has increased by 34 percent, from 2,840 in 2006 to more than 3,800 this fall. During his tenure in the Provost's Office, Mercer also had its first scientists funded as Eminent Scholars by the Georgia Cancer Coalition.

A native of South Carolina, Dr. Davis holds a B.S. from Erskine College and a Ph.D. from Emory University. He completed a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Davis is a member of the American Chemical Society-Organic Divi-



Dr. Scott Davis

sion; Pi Alpha Chemical Fraternity; Council on Undergraduate Research-Chemistry Division; the American Chemical Society-Division of Chemical Education; and the American Council of Academic Deans. He also is a member of Phi Kappa Phi; Sigma Xi Scientific Honor Society; Omicron Delta Kappa Society; and Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society.

"I would like to thank President Underwood for the opportunity to serve as provost at Mercer University, the institution that has been my professional home for 20 years," Dr. Davis said. "The opportunity to work with such a gifted group of deans, faculty and staff on a daily basis to enhance student learning will prove to be the highlight of my academic career. It has also been an honor to work with Dr. Daniel. Words cannot describe my appreciation for the mentorship that he has provided over the last three and one-half years. To have worked for someone who demonstrates both extraordinary leadership skills and humility on a daily basis has been an unbelievably rewarding experience."

Glasgow Appointed Sr. VP, Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Wayne C. Glasgow, associate dean for research at the School of Medicine and chair of biomedical sciences on the Savannah campus, has been named senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies at the University.

Dr. Glasgow will supervise the Office of Sponsored Research and Graduate Studies and the Institutional Review Board and have administrative responsibility for all graduate degree programs and research initiatives across the University, including policies and practices. He will continue to promote the development of undergraduate-graduate collaborations and facilitate the development of interdisciplinary cross-college research projects. Additionally, Dr. Glasgow will serve as chair of the Graduate Council and promote the recruitment, admission and retention of graduate students.

"I am thrilled that Dr. Glasgow has accepted this position," Provost Dr. D. Scott Davis said. "As a practicing scientist, he understands the institutional and administrative commitment required to build a successful

research program. In addition, his experience as a principal in the development of a top-rate laboratory research program on the Savannah campus of the School of Medicine makes him the perfect person for this appointment."

In addition to his duties with the School of Medicine, Dr. Glasgow will continue to serve as director of the Department of Laboratory Oncology Research in the Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Institute of Memorial University Medical Center. Dr. Glasgow joined the faculty of Mercer School of Medicine in 1996 as an assistant professor. He was promoted, with tenure, to associate professor in 2002 and to full professor in 2006. While at Mercer, he has served as chair of the Medical School Curriculum and Instruction Committee and as chair of the University Faculty House of Delegates.

"I am very excited about this opportunity to work with research programs in all 11 schools and colleges and to continue the process of fostering and developing collaborative research across the University," Dr. Glasgow said. "I

am also looking forward to being involved in the further development and enhancement of graduate education at Mercer."

Dr. Glasgow is the author of more than 50 research publications and is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research. His research program is focused on the discovery of new therapeutic approaches in the treatment of breast, prostate and colon cancer. He is also a member of the executive advisory committee for the Distinguished Cancer Clinicians and Scientists program of the Georgia Cancer Coalition.

Dr. Glasgow earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry, graduating with highest honor from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He received his Ph.D. in pharmacology from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health.



Dr. Wayne Glasgow

Trustees Approve New Programs, Elect Board Members

The Board of Trustees approved two new degree programs, a Master of Laws degree and a Bachelor of Musical Arts, during its November 2011 meeting.

The L.L.M. in Federal Criminal Practice and Procedure becomes the Walter F. George School of Law's second degree program, and is the first of its kind in the nation. The one-year

advanced legal degree builds on the School's international reputation in the area of federal criminal law, including its affiliation with the National Criminal Defense College, and takes advantage of significant faculty expertise in both federal criminal prosecution and defense.

The board also approved a new Bachelor of Musical Arts degree in the Townsend School of Music. This degree is a hybrid between the Bachelor of Music in Performance and the Bachelor of Arts in Music degrees. It retains the focus and curriculum of a performance degree while offering a secondary area of study focused on entrepreneurial skills in business, economics, marketing, new media, communications, psychology and arts management.

While not requiring board approval, trustees were informed of two new academic majors that will be offered at the University beginning next year, including an interdisciplinary major in law and public policy in the College of Liberal Arts and a major in sports management in the Stetson School of Business and Economics.

In other action, David Hudson, CLA '68, an attorney from Augusta, was elected chair

of the board. New trustees elected to five-year terms include Curtis G. Anderson, investor/philanthropist from Savannah; William (Bill) Coates, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Ga.; T. Michael Crook, CLA '69, certified public accountant and financial adviser from Stuart, Fla.; Benjamin W. (Benjy) Griffith III, CLA '77, Macon business owner; Frank C. Jones, LAW '50, LLD '96, Macon attorney; J. Curtis Lewis III, attorney and business owner from Savannah; Judge M. Yvette Miller, CLA '77, LAW '80, presiding judge, Georgia Court of Appeals, Atlanta; William Anthony (Tony) Moye, PHA '73, business owner and member of the Georgia Pharmacy Board from McDonough; and Richard A. (Doc) Schneider, LAW '81, Atlanta attorney.

Trustees rotating off the board were recognized at the conclusion of the meeting. They include Barbara (Babs) Baugh of San Antonio, Texas; Roddy J.H. Clark, CLA '68, of Ringgold; Miriam M. (Mimi) Holland, CLA '60, of Jonesboro; Thomas W. (Tommy) Malone, LAW '66, of Sandy Springs; M. Diane Owens, CLA '77, LAW '80, of Lilburn; Judge Hugh P. Thompson, LAW '69, of Milledgeville; and J.T. Turner, CLA '73, of Savannah.

Mercer Sets Enrollment Record, Topping 8,300 for the First Time

FOR THE FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR, Mercer has enrolled a record number of students. The University-wide student population for the 2011 fall term was up 1.2 percent to 8,336 students. This also marks the third year in a row the University's enrollment has exceeded 8,000 students.

This year's enrollment increase is driven in part by a continuing expansion of degree programs, including doctoral programs, new programs in the health sciences and the continued expansion of the Medical School campus in Savannah.

Townsend Dean John Dickson Accepts New Position

Dr. John H. Dickson, dean of Mercer's Townsend School of Music, has accepted the position as director of choral studies at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, effective Aug. 15.

Dr. Dickson has served as dean of the Townsend School of Music and professor of conducting since July 1, 2008, and came to Mercer from Texas Tech University, where he was director of choral studies and chair of the Conducting Division. Prior to his appointment at Texas Tech, Dr. Dickson served as professor of conducting and associate dean for doctoral studies at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's School of Church Music in Louisville, Ky.

"I want to express my deep gratitude for the privilege of serving as dean of the Townsend School of Music. Though four years

is such a brief span of time, I anticipate that the work we have done together will ensure a bright and outstanding future for the music school," Dr. Dickson said.

"Throughout my professional life I have sought to follow the axiom that you leave a place in better shape than when you arrived. I have had tried to do that at Mercer, although I have not done this alone," he said. "Together with the gifted faculty and staff of the Townsend School of Music, a supportive administration, as well as significant donors, we have transformed a small but dedicated department into a vibrant school of music and Center for Strings that are flourishing. In the end, the daily music-making of a collegiate choral conductor and pedagogue is what I have done all my life. Consequently, I am looking for-

ward to my new appointment as director of choral studies at LSU."

"I am grateful for John's many contributions to the Townsend School of Music over the last four years," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "He has not only advanced the school's visibility, talent level and quality of performances, he has been a great ambassador for Mercer in the community and across the country. We will miss John, but wish him the very best as he returns to his real love and highest calling, which is teaching and conducting."

A national search is under way for Dr. Dickson's successor.



Dr. John Dickson

McDuffie Festival Transitions to Annual Concert Event

The Robert McDuffie and Friends Labor Day Festival for Strings began as a way to introduce the best high school string students from across the country to Mercer and the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, a conservatory program of Townsend School of Music. In past years, 12-16 students selected through auditions traveled to the Macon campus for the four-day festival of concerts, workshops and master classes with some of the top string musicians in the world who serve as the center's faculty artists.

As its fifth year comes to a close, the center has reached an important benchmark five years ahead of schedule: it is nearing capacity with an ensemble of 22 of the top string students from throughout the U.S. and four foreign countries. In a short time, the center has earned a reputation for excellence within the music world for the caliber of its students, its rigorous academic program and for its distinguished faculty.

"We're incredibly excited," said center founder, violinist Robert McDuffie, who thought it would take at least 10 years to realize the growth from six students in 2007, to near its goal of 26. "Now, we only have slots for a few new students each year, and we are known for having some of the top teachers from throughout the world."

"I knew the center was going to be something great, so in a way it doesn't surprise me where we are now," remarked Amy Schwartz Moretti, distinguished violinist and director of the center since its inception. "But in another way, it is truly

mind-blowing how quickly we have become a highly sought-after string program."

The Labor Day Festival has always included concerts that were open to the community. This August it will shift from a recruitment-focused festival to a concert for the community. "It will now feature our Center for Strings family," said McDuffie. "Our own students and distinguished faculty artists will perform a free, family friend-

ly concert on Labor Day weekend."

This opportunity for students to perform with professionals is a hallmark of the center and another reason string students from around the world are taking notice. The time and program of the 2012 Labor Day weekend concert had not been announced as of press time, so visit mercer.edu/mcduffie or call (478) 301-5751 for details later this summer.



The McDuffie Center has reached its benchmark five years ahead of schedule, nearing capacity with an ensemble of 22 of the world's top strings students.

STEPHEN SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTO

Daniel Vestal to Head Baugh Leadership Center

Longtime Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Executive Coordinator Dr. Daniel Vestal has been appointed to lead Mercer's new Eula Mae and John Baugh Center for Baptist Leadership, which is being endowed with a \$2.5 million grant from the Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation. Dr. Vestal, who will also serve as Distinguished University Professor, announced last September his intention to retire as leader of the Baptist organization effective June 30. His Mercer appointments are effective July 1.

"I can think of no two names more synonymous with Baptist leadership than John Baugh and Daniel Vestal. John Baugh for many decades provided courageous and principled leadership as a Baptist layperson, and Daniel Vestal for more than 15 years has provided courageous and principled leadership for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship," President William D. Underwood said. "I am pleased that Dr. Vestal will serve in this new capacity as director of the Baugh Center and as Mercer's first Distinguished University Professor of Baptist Leadership. I am deeply grateful to Babs Baugh and her daughters, Jackie and Julie, for making this investment to prepare future Baptist leaders who will champion the principles and embody the character of their late father and mother and grandfather and grandmother."

The Baugh Center will foster research and

learning in Baptist history, theology, ethics and missiology, partnering with Mercer's James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the American Baptist Historical Society, as well as Mercer's Center for Theology and Public Life and other organizations and programs. The Center will initiate a doctoral program in religion focused on Baptist studies. It will be interdepartmental in nature, engaging faculty from across the University and visiting scholars from outside the University. Graduates from the Ph.D. program will become pastor-scholars, teachers in Baptist universities and seminaries, and leaders in denominational and ministry organizations.

"I am honored by this appointment as well as the generosity of the Baugh Foundation and anticipate being a part of such an historic institution as Mercer University," Dr. Vestal said. "Eula Mae and John Baugh embodied integrity and Christian character. This Center will be a lasting legacy to their lives and will foster research, learning and community within the Baptist family. It will pursue excellence for both lay and clergy leaders by combining spiritual formation, academic study and caring collegiality."

In addition to teaching, Dr. Vestal's responsibilities will include fostering academic programs and research that draws students, professors, pastors and leaders into collaborative



STEPHEN SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTO

President William D. Underwood, left, and Dr. Daniel Vestal, right, present former Mercer trustee Babs Baugh with a framed print during a dinner to celebrate the Baugh Foundation's \$2.5 million commitment to establish the Baugh Center for Baptist Leadership, which Dr. Vestal will direct.

relationships and attracts Baptist leaders and emerging leaders from around the world for conferences, sabbatical leaves, and to pursue research and educational programs at Mercer.

"It is with great confidence and anticipation that the Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation entrusts Dr. Daniel Vestal and President Underwood with the very important tasks of working with thoughtful and dedicated Baptist students in the field of leadership, as well as in the areas of Baptist principles, ethics, theology, history and integrity," said Babs Baugh, a former Mercer trustee. "We are honored to be associated with all of those who will participate in the practice and teaching of these ideals and can think of no better way to honor the legacy of John and Eula Mae Baugh. This was their passion."

Prior to being named executive coordinator of the Atlanta-based Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 1996, Dr. Vestal served for five years as pastor of Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston. He also has served as pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in Atlanta; First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas; Southcliff Baptist Church in Fort Worth; and Meadow Lane Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas.

Dr. Vestal served as the first moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 1990-1991. He earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from Baylor University and a master's degree and doctorate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He travels extensively and is in great demand as a preacher. Dr. Vestal has contributed to numerous publications and is the author of four books, including his latest, *Being the Presence of Christ: A Vision for Transformation*.

New Welcome and Admissions Center —
Work got under way in January on the Myers Admissions and Welcome Center, located on the Macon campus, north of the Mercer Police Station on Winship Street. Mercer's first LEED-certified project, the facility will be completed in late 2012.



MATTHEW SMITH PHOTO

Mercer Joins Prestigious Stamps Scholars Program

Mercer has joined 24 institutions across the country as a participant in the prestigious Stamps Schools Program, funded by the Stamps Family Charitable Foundation Inc.

Five entering freshmen will be designated as Stamps Scholars this fall. The scholarship covers the full cost of attendance, including tuition, fees, room, board and books. In addition, Stamps Scholars will each receive a \$16,000 stipend over four years for enrichment activities, such as study abroad or undergraduate research. When the program is fully implemented, 10 members of each Mercer freshman class will be designated as Stamps Scholars.

"Mercer has a well-established reputation for attracting some of the most capable and

talented students in the country," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "The Stamps Scholars Program will allow us to provide further incentives to encourage the brightest students to enroll at the University. I am very grateful to Roe and Penny Stamps and the Stamps Family Charitable Foundation for bringing Mercer into this outstanding program."

More than 200 students are enrolled as Stamps Scholars at institutions such as the University of Chicago, University of Michigan, California Institute of Technology, UCLA, Purdue, the University of Miami, Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia.

"We welcome Mercer University to the Stamps Scholars Program, given its proud tradition, emphasis on learning, discovery

and service and investment in undergraduate education. We look forward to future Bears becoming Stamps Scholars this fall," said E. Roe Stamps IV, who was raised in Macon and is a graduate of Stratford Academy. Stamps, along with his wife, Penelope, established the foundation in part to help exceptional students realize their dream of achieving a college education.

Among the 64 alumni of the Stamps Scholars Program are a Rhodes Scholar; graduate students at Emory, Georgia Tech, Harvard, Kansas, the Manhattan School of Music, Michigan, MIT, Oxford, UC-Berkeley and Vanderbilt; and employees at several top consulting firms, BP, Deutsche Bank, GE, Teach For America and the Department of Homeland Security.

Mercer Receives National Promise Neighborhoods Grant

TWO OF MACON'S POOREST NEIGHBORHOODS could see a major boost following a grant announced last December by the U.S. Department of Education. Macon is one of only 15 communities in the nation to receive a \$500,000 planning grant from the department's Promise Neighborhoods program. In addition, the Peyton Anderson Foundation will contribute \$150,000 to the effort as part of the local matching requirement.

Mercer, which will serve as fiscal agent for the grant, has partnered with 35 local institutions to develop a plan to improve local student achievement in the Unionville and Tindall Heights neighborhoods, focusing on the four school districts in those neighborhoods: Ingram-Pye and Hartley elementary schools, Ballard Hudson Middle School and Southwest High School.

The partners in the group include the City of Macon, Bibb County, Bibb County Schools, the Macon Housing Authority, the Peyton Anderson Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and Central Georgia Technical College, as well as nonprofits, churches and organizations providing support within those neighborhoods.

The planning grant process began with the support of Macon Mayor Robert Reichert two years ago, and County Commission Chair Sam Hart currently serves as chair of the grant advisory board. The goal is to close gaps in services and monitoring, from prenatal care to career placement after college, said Dr. Peter Brown, co-lead investigator on the project and professor of philosophy and director of Mercer's Office

of National Fellowships and Scholarships.

"This will be a birth to career program," Dr. Brown said. "It will be an intensive, all-out commitment to the success of the students in these targeted neighborhoods. It will be coordinated, focused and measured for maximum impact."

"The Promise Neighborhood initiative has been embraced by Mercer because it brings the expertise of many sectors of the University together in order

to meet needs of our neighbors," said Dr. Mary Alice Morgan, co-lead investigator on the grant and Mercer's senior vice provost for service-learning. "For instance, faculty and students from the Tift College of Education are eager to increase opportunities for early childhood education for the neighborhood's youngest residents. Our computer science faculty and students want to get residents excited about becoming more computer literate and help bridge the digital divide."



Mercer student Olivia Croxton tutors Ingram-Pye Elementary School student Dominic McCrory. Ingram-Pye serves one of the neighborhoods adjacent to Mercer's Macon campus that will benefit from the grant.

STEPHEN SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTO

Stare Named Orchestra, Macon Symphony Director

Ward Stare, one of the nation's up-and-coming young conductors, has been named as distinguished artist and conductor of the Mercer University Orchestra and music director and conductor of the Macon Symphony Orchestra. The joint appointment was announced March 12.

Stare currently serves as resident conductor of the St. Louis Symphony. Described by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as "a compelling figure on the podium" and "one of the hottest young conductors in America," he has been named New Artist of the Month by *Musical America Magazine*.

"When starting the search for a new music director three years ago, the MSO board realized that a partnership with Mercer's Townsend School of Music and McDuffie Center for Strings enhanced our ability to attract a dynamic, young conductor whose career is in its ascendancy," said Gene Dunwody Sr., MSO board president. "When I met Ward and saw

him conduct our orchestra, I knew he would be a perfect fit for this position. I believe he is destined for preeminence in his profession."

"I am particularly excited for the Macon and Middle Georgia arts community," added Dr. John H. Dickson, dean of Townsend School of Music. "After a long and intensive search, we have found, in Maestro Stare, a musical artist with the gifts, charisma, and vision to lead the MSO toward a bright and successful future while shaping Mercer's Orchestra into a world-class chamber ensemble."

Following in the path of many great orchestral conductors whose careers began as instrumentalists, Stare was trained as a trombonist at the Juilliard School in Manhattan. At the age of 18, he was appointed principal trombonist of the Lyric Opera of Chicago and has performed as an orchestral musician with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic, among others. Maestro Stare was the recipient of both the Robert J.



SUZY GORMAN PHOTO

Harth Conductor Prize (2006) and the Aspen Conducting Prize (2007) at the Aspen Music Festival, where he returned in the summer of 2008 as assistant conductor to the Festival and its music director, David Zinman. He has also studied with János Fürst and Jorma Panula, and with Michel Merlet in composition and musical analysis.

For more information about the conductor, including a full biography, visit wardstare.com.

Southern Studies Names Gaines Inaugural Lanier Prize Winner

Mercer's Department of Southern Studies has named author Ernest J. Gaines as the inaugural winner of its Sidney Lanier Prize for Southern Literature. The Sidney Lanier Prize honors significant career contributions to Southern writing in drama, fiction or poetry. Gaines will give a public reading in the Presidents Dining Room of the University Center on April 14.

Gaines has published several novels and short stories, including *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, *A Gathering of Old Men* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. His work is set primarily in his native Louisiana and tells stories of Southerners living with dignity in the face of adversity. Gaines has received a MacArthur Foundation grant and the National Humanities Medal of the United States in addition to other honors. The Ernest J. Gaines Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette fosters scholarship on his work.

"Ernest Gaines challenges his readers to recognize their own humanity, because his characters embody the nobility and the fragility that we all share," said Dr. David A. Davis, chair of the selection committee and an assistant professor of English at Mercer. "He has extended the tradition of Southern writing, and we are proud that he has agreed to accept this award."

The Sidney Lanier Prize for Southern Literature is named for Sidney Lanier, the 19th century Southern poet born in Macon. Lanier wrote "The Song of the Chattahoochee" and "The Marshes of the Glynn." The award honors significant career contributions to Southern writing in drama, fiction or poetry and is given to writers who have engaged and extended the tradition of writing about the South.

The selection committee for the Lanier Prize includes Mercer professors, eminent scholars of Southern literature and members of the Macon community. The committee members are James Bodell, president of Macon Arts Alliance; Davis; Dr. Sarah Gardner, professor of history at Mercer; Dr. Minrose Gwin, Kenan Professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Dr. Trudier Harris, professor of English at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa; Dr. Gordon Johnston, professor of English at Mercer; Dr. Michael Kreyling, professor of English at Vanderbilt University; Dr. Matthew Martin, Knox Professor of Humanities at Wesleyan College; and Pam Thomasson, president of Historic Macon.

Gaines will also speak at a luncheon for finalists of Mercer's inaugural Sidney Lanier creative writing scholarship competition. The

competition is open only to high school juniors with high aptitude for writing. Winners will receive up to \$5,000 per year toward the cost of tuition at Mercer.



JASON JOHNSON PHOTO

New Titles from Mercer University Press

Breathing and Walking Around

by Kathy A. Bradley

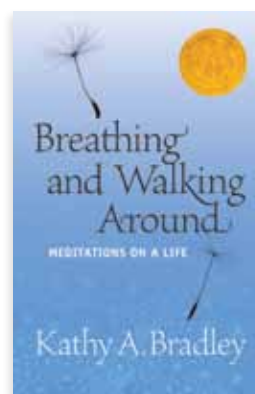
Inaugural Winner of the 2010 Will D. Campbell Award for Creative Nonfiction

Breathing and Walking Around is not a memoir. It is a record of four years' worth of observations of common people, everyday events and the natural world made by Kathy Bradley from her home in the coastal plains of South Georgia. A lawyer by training and a storyteller by nature, she shares with precision and layer upon layer of sensory image, simple tales that emerge, in the end, as parables.

Beginning at Sandhill, the house she built on her family farm, Bradley takes the reader with her as she walks miles of dirt roads with the dogs Lily and Tamar, alert to the details of rural living — the movement of the seasons, the nearness and unpredictability of wildlife, the sights and sounds otherwise drowned out by 21st-century living. The meandering continues down the Atlantic beaches, the shorelines of inland lakes, backroads and

interstates, and we are at her shoulder as she, like a paleontologist, uncovers joy in the magic and mystery of the familiar and the brand new.

But *Breathing and Walking Around* is a true story and, so, along with the joy there are moments of questioning and uncertainty, moments when doubt challenges faith. It is in these moments, when Bradley struggles to bring order to her own life, that she most clearly articulates the universal truths that weave through all our stories, ribbons of continuity and hope.



Kathy A. Bradley lives and writes in Bulloch

County on a farm which, she is quick to point out, "is two miles from the nearest paved road." She is an alumna of Wesleyan College and Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law. She currently serves as an assistant district attorney for the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit.

The Will D. Campbell Award for Creative Nonfiction from Mercer University Press is given to the best manuscript that speaks to the human condition in a Southern context. This category

includes memoir, natural history, essays, and other genres of nonfiction.

A Titanic Love Story: Ida and Isidor Straus

by June Hall McCash

Chronicling the lives and tragic deaths of a remarkable couple devoted to business, family and philanthropy

Filled with 40 pages of photographs and extensive notes, *A Titanic Love Story* traces the lives of Isidor and Ida Straus, both German Jewish immigrants who arrived as children in America in the early 1850s.

Isidor's father, Lazarus, was an itinerate peddler in Georgia, but within one generation the family became the wealthy owners of Macy's Department Store in New York.

"June Hall McCash has written an extraordinarily cogent and deeply moving book about the life of a heroic couple, Ida and Isidor Straus, who chose to perish in each others arms when the RMS Titanic hit an iceberg and sank at sea," says Paul A.

Kurzman, great grandson of Ida and Isidor Straus and chairman of the board of directors of the Straus Historical Society. "With an ever observant eye for poignant detail, McCash has penned a biography that will have both interdisciplinary relevance for the scholar, and a very strong

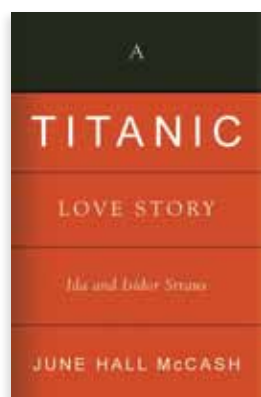
popular appeal."

The book follows the Strauses' life from Talbotton where an anti-Semitic incident caused them to move to nearby Columbus.

The devastation of Columbus at the end of the Civil War brought the family to New York, where Isidor met and eventually married the young Ida Blun. Ida and Isidor balanced the demands of business, family and service to others and carved out their individual roles in those domains.

A Titanic Love Story emphasizes their work together as a couple, focusing not only on Isidor's important roles as businessman, member of

Congress, and philanthropist, but also on Ida's contributions as an intelligent partner, the soul of the household, and matriarch of the family, as well as a stalwart supporter of her husband and one who engaged in philanthropic and creative activities of her own.



The Strauses were wealthy Jews within their New York community, and as people committed to the welfare of their family, their city, their country and those less fortunate than themselves, they dealt with their own grief, illness and occasional brushes with anti-Semitism. Ironically, their final happy days in the south of France led to their unexpected sailing on the Titanic.

Both died as they had lived, with dignity, honor, loyalty to one another, and compassion for others. The public outpouring of grief at their deaths, even by today's standards of over-the-top journalism, was remarkable.

June Hall McCash is the author, co-author or editor of seven books, six nonfiction works and a historical novel, for which she won the 2011 Georgia Author of the Year Award for first novel. She holds Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Emory University and a B.A. from Agnes Scott College. Before becoming a full-time writer, McCash was founding director of the university honors program and chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Middle Tennessee State University. She divides her time between Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Jekyll Island, Ga.

A NEW INITIATIVE funded by \$4.6 million in grants from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation will increase and strengthen local reporting by bringing professional journalists to work together with Mercer students in a unique, joint newsroom in Macon's College Hill Corridor.

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE JOURNALISM

M E R C E R U N I V E R S I T Y

The Center for Collaborative Journalism at Mercer University will bring a medical school model to the University's journalism program. Professionals from *The (Macon) Telegraph* and Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB Media) will work alongside Mercer students to learn and employ digital-age storytelling skills to meet Central Georgia's information needs.

In coming years, the joint newsroom also will launch community engagement projects that will involve Macon residents in choosing important issues to cover, reporting the facts, debating the choices facing them and ultimately creating solutions.

In addition, GPB Macon Radio will expand its staff in Central Georgia over several years and greatly increase the station's coverage of news, business, arts, sports and culture.

Mercer, GPB Media, *The Telegraph* and Knight Foundation announced the project on Dec. 15, 2011, during a news conference and groundbreaking at the site of the new center in Mercer Village.

"Journalism and news delivery must stay relevant to changing communities. To succeed, we need to let the technology take us to new places and experiment with new forms of collaboration," said Alberto Ibarguen, president and CEO of Knight Foundation. "Forging new ties between journalism schools and professional news organizations holds the promise of discovering new ways to inform and engage communities.

"We are not only funding an experiment and a bold idea; we are also funding the leadership of Bill Underwood at Mercer. It is his vision that not only brought us to the table but makes us hopeful," Ibarguen continued.

"We hope Mercer's Center for Collaborative Journalism and GPB Radio Macon will shine as examples of the kinds of journalistic excellence in the digital age that helps citizens build stronger communities," said Beverly Blake, Macon program director for Knight Foundation.

Mercer is receiving \$3.74 million to establish the Center in

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Mercer President William D. Underwood leads representatives from the University, Georgia Public Broadcasting, McClatchy Newspapers, *The Telegraph* and Knight Foundation in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Center for Collaborative Journalism on Dec. 15, 2011.



Phase II of The Lofts at Mercer Village will serve as the Center for Collaborative Journalism's home. The 12,000-square-foot first floor will contain a joint newsroom to be shared by *The Telegraph*, GPB and Mercer's Journalism and Media Studies Department. Student apartments will occupy the top three floors of the building, which is scheduled for completion by July 1.



Knight Foundation Macon Program Director Beverly Blake brings remarks on behalf of the foundation at the Dec. 15 groundbreaking and grant announcement.

"THIS COLLABORATIVE CENTER WILL SERVE not just to benefit Mercer, *The Telegraph* and Georgia Public Broadcasting. It is a gift to undergird democracy in every city, town and county where these journalists will live and work for years to come."

— DAVID HUDSON, Chair, Mercer Board of Trustees, and General Counsel, Georgia Press Association

"WITH THE ROILING TRANSFORMATION going on in our industry, journalists must be instrumental in creating a new future for our business. One way is to find compatible partners, who share our values, to help us engage readers in different ways on multiple platforms. Our goal with this partnership is to harness our collective resources to elevate community and civic journalism, involve and engage more citizens, readers, listeners, web and mobile users, and provide a unique learning environment for both new and seasoned journalists."

— SHERRIE MARSHALL, Executive Editor, *The Telegraph*



Mercer Village, a mixed-use development on campus.

“Through the expansion of our journalism faculty and employment of a clinical education model, graduates of Mercer’s journalism and media studies program will carry forward this progressive agenda, whether in Macon at our partner media, or wherever they end up working,” said Mercer President William D. Underwood. “Just as our medical students train in teaching hospitals with live patients in real situations, Mercer journalism students will learn in a real-life multimedia newsroom through a one-of-a-kind collaboration with *The Telegraph* and GPB Media, on whose websites, pages and airwaves their best work will appear.”

“I believe this venture will serve as a model for the media business by expanding journalism resources for our community at a time when traditional newsrooms are shrinking, and by operating the most innovative, collaborative arrangement in America involving public broadcasting, a local daily newspaper and a private university,” said George McCannless, president and publisher of *The Telegraph*, which is owned by The McClatchy Company, the nation’s third-largest newspaper publisher. “While *The Telegraph* will maintain its editorial independence, we will work closely with the Mercer journalism faculty and students and with our colleagues at GPB Radio Macon to advance the objectives of this collaborative.”

GPB Media will use \$854,000 in Knight Foundation funding to expand its staffing, and through GPB Radio create richer news and local programming at a level not currently available

in Georgia outside Atlanta.

“GPB is a trusted Macon citizen and an active presence in the communities of Central Georgia. Now we have the opportunity and the resources to grow this connection into a robust new media enterprise,” said Teya Ryan, president and executive director of GPB Media. “Combining the talents of *The Telegraph* newsroom with GPB Radio and tapping into the digital DNA of Mercer journalism students, we will create a town hall for Macon and Central Georgia with more enterprise reporting, more storytelling about this community and far greater reach across all media platforms.”

The entire first floor of the mixed-use development — almost 12,000 square feet — will be devoted to the collaborative. Scheduled for completion in July, it will house faculty offices, classrooms and labs for Mercer’s Journalism and Media Studies Department, as well as offices for *The Telegraph*’s editors and an open newsroom that will be shared by the newspaper, the Journalism and Media Studies Department and GPB Media. The public broadcaster’s Macon radio and television studios are steps away from the new facility.

A steering committee, with representatives from all partners and modeled after the successful government structure of the College Hill Alliance, will guide the Center.

Video and photos from the groundbreaking ceremony, as well as floor plans, renderings of the new facility and construction photos are online at ccj.mercer.edu.



“WITH SUPPORT FROM KNIGHT FOUNDATION and our media partners, Mercer will be able to offer the nation’s best preparation for future journalists — one that is both skilled in new media and grounded in the liberal arts. I am also excited because many other Mercer students will be able to take courses through the collaboration and understand the importance of journalism in building community and preserving democratic institutions.”

— DR. LAKE LAMBERT, Dean of Mercer’s College of Liberal Arts

“THE MACON AND CENTRAL GEORGIA community will be the real beneficiary of the Knight grant. GPB Radio Macon will increase our coverage of the people and stories of Central Georgia, allowing listeners to hear more of the voices from their communities.”

— JON HOBAN, Vice President, GPB Radio

Tim Regan-Porter

Director of New Mercer Journalism Collaborative

Digital media innovator Tim Regan-Porter, former president and CEO of Decatur, Ga.-based Paste Media Group, was named the first director of Mercer's Center for Collaborative Journalism in February.

"Mr. Regan-Porter offers unmatched experience as a digital media leader, and we are excited by the skills and vision he will bring to the Center for Collaborative Journalism," said Dr. Lake Lambert, dean of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts. "His reputation for innovation and his experience with the business, editorial, design and technology aspects of media and publishing make him ideally suited to lead this new initiative."

Regan-Porter co-founded *Paste* magazine in 2002 and helped lead the publication to become the third-largest popular music title in the English-speaking world, trailing only *Rolling Stone* and *Spin*. The magazine earned numerous editorial awards, and its annual revenue grew to \$5 million under his leadership.

He developed the strategy and technology that allowed *pastemagazine.com* to build traffic to 2 million unique visitors a month and was also responsible for the company's social media strategy. A 2010 Cornell University study cited *Paste* for having one of the 100 most influential Twitter accounts, ahead of Oprah, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, MSNBC, ABC News and *Vanity Fair*.

"The Center for Collaborative Journalism is an ambitious effort," Regan-Porter said. "The Center's clinical education model, enabled by close partnerships with a statewide public broadcaster and regional daily newspaper; its cross-disciplinary approach, with a focus on new technology and innovative

business models; and its investment in transforming local communities uniquely position it to become a standard for journalism education and practice nationwide. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to help realize the vision set by Mercer, Knight Foundation, Georgia Public Broadcasting and *The Telegraph*."

At *Paste*, Regan-Porter helped build a successful and highly competitive internship program, matching 18 full-time staff members with 16 interns who came from colleges and universities across the country.

"I am proud of the intern program we built at *Paste*," Regan-Porter said. "We attracted some of the best and brightest students from across the country, developed a formal training program, and gave them a wide variety of experiences — from fact-checking to feature writing to multimedia storytelling. Interns left the program well positioned to compete in a tough and constantly evolving field."

In 2010 when *Paste* suspended publication of its print edition and went completely online, Regan-Porter conceived and designed mPlayer, a web-based digital media magazine platform where readers "play" the magazine. The proprietary interface integrates text, audio and video into a dynamic experience for its subscribers.

Prior to co-founding *Paste*, Regan-Porter worked for seven years in the tech industry as lead architect for IBM's e-Business Group and director of development for Enterpulse, whose clients included AT&T, the City of Chicago, Coca-Cola, CNN, T-Mobile and Sprint.

Regan-Porter holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Olivet Nazarene University and has completed graduate work in business and mathematics at Georgia State University and the University of Georgia.

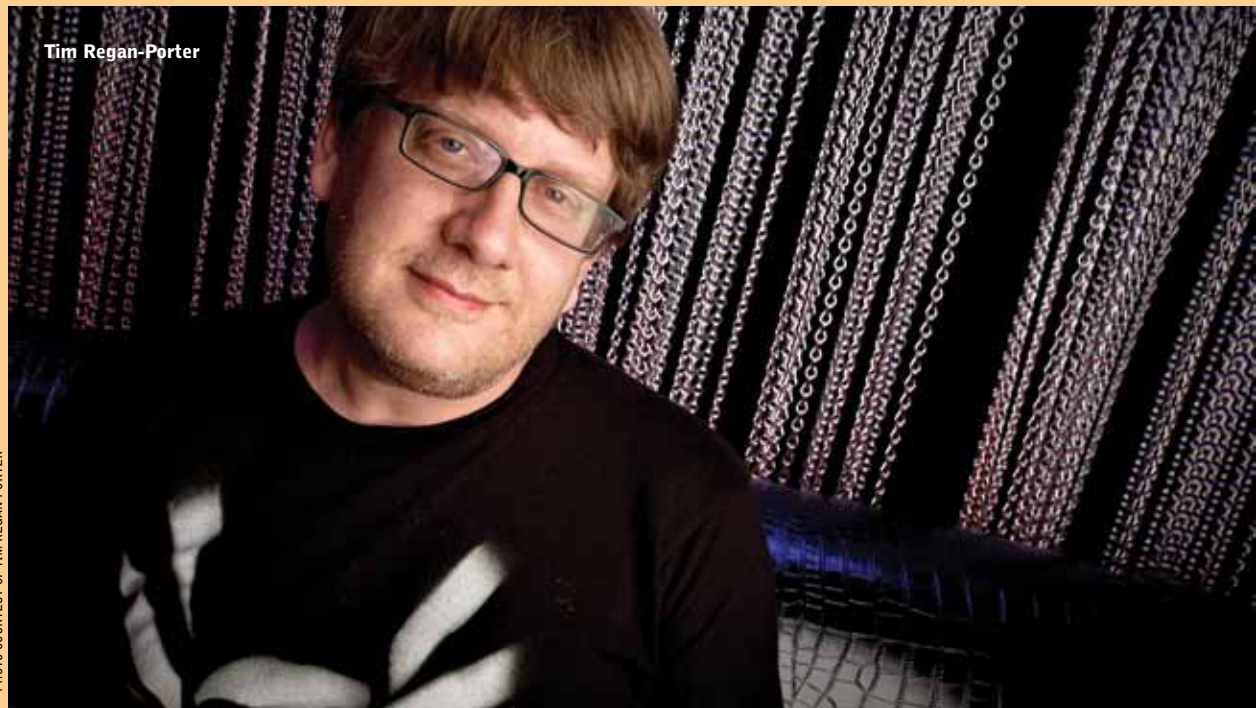


PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM REGAN-PORTER

Mercer Unveils Plans, Breaks Ground for Football/Lacrosse Complex

MERCER BROKE GROUND AND UNVEILED PLANS FOR ITS NEW FOOTBALL AND LACROSSE COMPLEX DURING A 2011 HOMECOMING WEEKEND CEREMONY FOLLOWING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING.

Several hundred faculty, staff, students, trustees and community members were on hand for the ceremonial groundbreaking, which was held adjacent to the construction site. The facility is expected to be completed early this fall, in time to accommodate practices for Mercer's first class of football recruits.

The Board of Trustees in November 2010 unanimously approved the University's return to competition in intercollegiate football in 2013, ending a 70-year hiatus for

the sport at Mercer. The first intercollegiate football game played in the state was between Mercer and the University of Georgia in 1892. Mercer's men's lacrosse team — the only NCAA Division I program in Georgia — began competition last spring. Mercer's women's lacrosse team is scheduled to begin competition in 2013.

In recognition of the lead gifts for the football and lacrosse complex, President William D. Underwood

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LAMB INKS 71 IN FIRST CLASS

THE RETURN TO INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL HAS EXCEEDED INITIAL expectations, according to the architect charged with returning gridiron action to Mercer in 2013. Re-emphasizing the fact that Georgia is one of the leading hotbeds for college football prospects in the nation, Mercer Head Football Coach Bobby Lamb signed 71 high school players to letters of commitment to continue their football careers at the next level. That's 23 more signees than the original goal of 50 players.

Lamb said the goal for him and his two assistants who helped mold this first recruiting class was to depend heavily on the state of Georgia for the framework of the Bears' first team since 1941. Of the 71 signees, 66 are from Georgia, with two from Florida and one each from Alabama, Tennessee and South Carolina.

"There are plenty of young men who play high school football in Georgia, and who may not want to advance to Bowl Championship Series schools, who are craving to play college football at a great academic institution like Mercer," Lamb said.

So in starting a college football team from scratch, how do you go about satisfying your initial needs for a successful team? "If some people are asking, 'where's the beef?,' we've got the beef," Lamb said. "We signed 18 offensive linemen and 10 defensive linemen. That's where it starts."

Lamb said he was also very pleased with the skilled players his staff brought in: four quarterbacks and eight running backs who are very versatile athletes.

The head coach was also scheduled to hold a student body tryout on March 29 and give current Mercer students a chance to make the team. "We don't expect to see any linemen come out of this tryout, but you never know when a skilled player could evolve. We've seen



ERIN SHEPPARD PHOTO

Running back Jake Delany and defensive back Aaron Avant from St. Pius X High School in Atlanta are among the first signees for Mercer's return to intercollegiate football.

some 'athletes' on the intramural basketball courts," he said.

The next signing period, which will start to pull together the second signing class, will be held April 15-May 20.

Coach Lamb will begin the first official day of practice when classes start on Aug. 21. Practices will be open for the public to watch on the new William H. Anderson II Family Field, part of the Tony and Nancy Moye Family Football and Lacrosse Complex that is currently under construction. The new Homer and Ruth Drake Family Field House is scheduled for occupancy on Sept. 1.



President Underwood emcees the groundbreaking ceremony at the site of Mercer's new football and lacrosse complex.

LEAH YETTER PHOTO



2013 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE TAKING SHAPE

Mercer football fans who can't wait for kickoff of the first game in 2013 will be delighted to know that not only is the first game at home, but eight games will be on campus that first season. The Bears will play four Pioneer League games and four non-conference games in the initial season next year at the new football complex. Head coach Bobby Lamb said negotiations are continuing for the non-conference foes in 2013, but the Pioneer League games have been set.

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Aug. 31, 2013	TBD	Home
Sept. 7, 2013	TBD	Home
Sept. 14, 2013	TBD	Home
Sept. 21, 2013	TBD	Home
Sept. 28, 2013	Drake*	Home
Oct. 5, 2013	U. of San Diego *	San Diego
Oct. 12, 2013	Valparaiso*	Home
Oct. 19, 2013	Open	
Oct. 26, 2013	Campbell*	Buies Creek, N.C.
Nov. 2, 2013	Davidson*	Davidson, N.C.
Nov. 9, 2013	Jacksonville*	Home
Nov. 16, 2013	Marist	Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Nov. 23, 2013	Stetson* (Homecoming)	Home

* Pioneer League Game

announced at the groundbreaking the naming of four major components of the project:

- The Homer and Ruth Drake Field House
- The William H. Anderson II Family Field
- The Marshall and Jane Butler Family Plaza
- The Tony and Nancy Moye Family Football and Lacrosse Complex

President Underwood unveiled renderings of the complex showing the initial phase that includes the field house, the playing surface, seating, a press box and plazas on both sides of the field with restrooms and concessions. The facility will accommodate 6,000 spectators.

The Homer and Ruth Drake Field House will also include a sports medicine clinic that will be operated by the Mercer School of Medicine. It will provide physical therapy services and treat student-athletes as well as the general public. Other features of the field house include football and lacrosse coaches' offices, team meeting rooms, a student lounge, locker rooms, a weight room and a training room.

"This facility is a beautiful and well-thought-out design that has taken into consideration both our present needs and potential

future needs. This will truly place Mercer football at the forefront in our recruiting and branding efforts," said Mercer Head Football Coach Bobby Lamb. "Likewise, it will give the entire Macon and Middle Georgia community a facility in which they can have great pride. The stadium complex will be a place we hope is as inviting to the community, faculty, staff and alumni as it will be to young men wishing to continue their football careers as a Mercer Bear."

"This facility not only provides a home to the Mercer lacrosse and football programs, but also demonstrates the University's commitment to making certain that all of its athletic teams have what we need to compete at the highest level," said Head Men's Lacrosse Coach Jason Childs. "A facility like this solidifies your program in the eyes of a recruit and helps send a message that we do things the right way here. It will also, no doubt, become a point of pride for everyone on this campus and beyond."

The stadium complex was designed by McMillan-Pazdan-Smith Architecture of Spartanburg, S.C., and the general contractor is Chris R. Sheridan & Co. of Macon.

Archived video of the groundbreaking ceremony and artist's renderings of the field house and football/lacrosse complex are available at mercer.edu/football.



(Left) A record number of media attended the groundbreaking. (Center) Clarence "Pappy" Boynton, class of '45, was a member of Mercer's last football team. (Right) Head football coach Bobby Lamb autographs footballs at the announcement.

LEAH YETTER PHOTOS; FAR RIGHT, ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

MERCER EXPANDS STUDENT HORIZONS WITH FLIGHT OF ITS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

BY JENNIFER BUCHOLTZ

Engaged learning long has been embedded in Mercer University's culture, positioning students to take hold of their educational potential. Independent discovery through research, scholarship and creative activity is increasingly framing Mercer students' experiences. Translating the process of inquiry across all disciplines, from the natural and social sciences to arts and humanities, Mercer is realiz-

ing its strength in educating today's students for tomorrow's innovative discoveries. In 2011, in order to ensure long-term programmatic success, the University appointed Dr. Kevin Bucholtz, associate professor of chemistry, to the newly created position of director of undergraduate research within the Provost's Office.

Horizons are widening not only for Mercer's future scientists and engineers, but for budding humanists and historians, alike.

"We are fostering an undergraduate community that actively encourages the unearthing of fresh knowledge rooted in critical thinking, analytical abilities and problem-solving skills," Dr. Bucholtz said.

The annual Mercer Undergraduate Research Symposium was established under Dr. Bucholtz's leadership in 2007, later inspiring a conference for the humanities and social sciences.

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Dr. Kevin Bucholtz, associate professor of chemistry and recently appointed director of undergraduate research in the Provost's Office, works with Brittney Francis, CLA '11, in his lab.

ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

“While the sciences share their work through posters, the humanities present papers,” said Dr. Tom Scott, professor of history and co-founder of the 2010 Undergraduate Research Conference. The humanities and social sciences knew they needed a unique conference format, and because of the already established research symposium, they were hesitant about launching a new initiative before it was fully vetted. “Then, we just went for it,” Dr. Scott said. “We took a chance at flying the plane before it was finished.

And, to our delight, it flew!

“The process of undergraduates sharing their research with peers develops a boost in confidence and instills pride,” he said. “Research takes undergraduates out of their chairs as students and engages them as learners, allowing students to take control over their education.”

Culminating five years of collaborative efforts to promote undergraduate research and the development of that culture across the University, the annual Breakthroughs in Engagement, Arts

and Research (BEAR) Day was introduced in Spring 2011. BEAR Day presentations encompassed work from the sciences to humanities, and showcased collaborations across the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLA), School of Engineering and the Mercer School of Medicine.

“BEAR Day highlights the outstanding undergraduate research taking place at Mercer and the momentum built in undergraduate research,” Dr. Bucholtz said.

CLA faculty voted to cancel classes for the annual event, allowing undergraduates and faculty to attend the University’s daylong celebration of undergraduate scholarship. The first annual BEAR Day featured 267 undergraduates presenting their work to fellow Mercer students, faculty and administrators, a six-fold increase in participation from the beginnings in 2007.

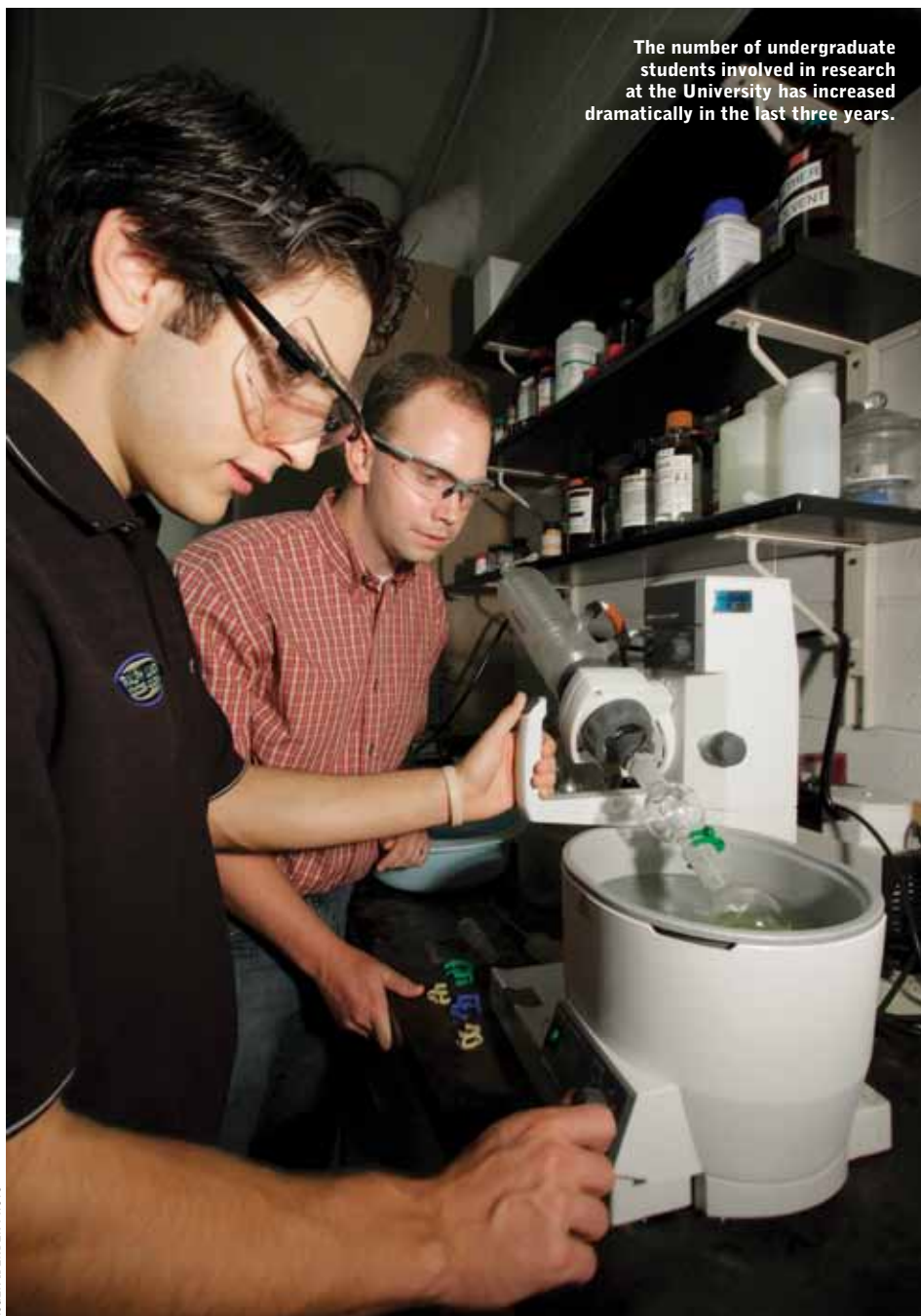
More so now than in previous years, Mercer undergraduates are engaging in summer research and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) funded by the National Science Foundation. Further, the University developed its own intensive 10-week summer program, the Mercer Undergraduate Biomedical Scholar (MUBS) training initiative, providing Mercer undergraduates the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research early in their academic careers. To date, the MUBS initiative has funded 32 students to pursue their career goals in modern biomedical research by working with faculty drawn from the Departments of Biology and Chemistry in CLA, the School of Medicine, and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Institutional support is key to furthering faculty and student research initiatives. Last year, the Provost’s Office funded 12 undergraduate faculty members with seed grants. These internal awards fund preliminary research projects, with the goal of generating data to be used in formulating externally funded grant proposals. Also, in the 2010–2011 academic year alone, 62 undergraduates were sponsored by the Provost’s Office to present research and scholarly activities at regional or national conferences.

“Research is one of the best modes of teaching in terms of application,” said Dr. D. Scott Davis, Mercer’s provost and former senior vice provost for research.

Dr. Davis remembers back to 1991 when he was an assistant professor in Mercer’s chemistry department. “At that time, only a few chemistry students were conducting research with faculty,” he recalls. The number of undergraduates involved in research at Mercer has dramatically increased, compared to the early ‘90s. Over the past three years, Mercer’s Department of Chemistry has averaged 40 students per year receiving

The number of undergraduate students involved in research at the University has increased dramatically in the last three years.



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

academic credit for their research activities. And these numbers are similarly reflected in departments across campus as a result of embedding research into Mercer's curriculum.

"Students are placing as much pressure on Mercer to expand research opportunities as the University's faculty and administration are placing on itself," Dr. Davis said.

"Testing ideas with experiments that never had been run before was exciting," said Dr. David Goode, CLA '02, assistant professor of chemistry and one of Dr. Davis's former undergraduate research students. "I learned appreciation for the difficulty in finding answers to the unknown, and gathered a sense of accomplishment in the process."

Following graduation from Mercer, Dr. Goode earned his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, then rejoined Mercer's chemistry department in 2008. Like many Mercer faculty, Dr. Goode agrees that "engaging students in the process of inquiry is how they gather an appreciation for the body of knowledge conveyed in textbooks."

Mercer senior Samantha Paluck, one of Dr. Goode's students, began conducting research as a sophomore. "I'm in the lab three hours a day just because I love it so much," said Paluck, who is bound for graduate school. As a freshman, however, she admits questioning whether the information learned in class would actually be useful in real-world scenarios. Then, she was introduced to research and started investigating concepts similar to those presented in class. "Research has helped me bring all my classes together and understand how the knowledge intertwines," Paluck adds, "Research has positioned me to think on my own, rather than relying on others for answers. At the same time, it has taught me to consider how my work impacts the team and how I fit into the big picture."

From the natural sciences to humanities, undergraduate research at Mercer is shaping how students contextualize and subsequently apply course materials. Dr. David Davis, assistant professor of English, says, "Undergraduate research in the humanities is a mentoring process. I help students to develop their own critical framework by introducing them to theories and texts, teaching them research methods, modeling criticism, and critiquing their work. I don't teach them to replicate my work; I help them find their own projects."

Senior Stephen Kearsse was introduced to research during his First Year Seminar with Dr. Davis. An English major and anthropology minor, Kearsse was recently honored with the Valerie B. Edmonds Student Research Award for

his undergraduate research project that displayed exceptional information literacy and incorporated use of the University Libraries' collections.

"Through research, I learned the importance of being accountable for what I report. When conducting research for my employer, I will be mindful of what I say, and be accountable to my claims with sources," Kearsse said.

When reflecting on his educational experience at Mercer, Kearsse said, "I view my research project as a culmination of my college career. I believe Mercer faculty hold students accountable for their learning, while at the same time taking fear out of the unknown. Mercer has a unique way of fostering all types of interests and skill sets, and I think this is because of the University's general education requirements."

Reinforcing the importance faculty place on undergraduate research, in Spring 2011 faculty in the College of Liberal Arts approved a general education reform that includes undergraduate research as part of the student engagement component. A student engagement committee advises the general education committee on ways to strengthen students' educational experience by incorporating research into the curriculum.

Long-term outcomes from engaged learning resonate with employers. According to "Raising the Bar," a survey recently conducted on behalf of The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), employers see a positive benefit in educational innovations that foster active learning and research skills. When employers were asked to assess the potential value of emerging educational practices, 84 percent unanimously reported that requiring students to complete a significant project before graduation that demonstrates depth of knowledge and analytical, problem-solving and communications skills will help prepare college students for success. Ensuring that students develop the skills to research questions in their field and develop evidence-based analyses was another factor that employers viewed as necessary in preparing students for the work force.

BEAR DAY DATA

POSTERS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total Students	42	51	85	91	98
Total Posters	27	35	58	47	45
Departments	9	10	14	12	13

ORAL PRESENTATIONS	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total Students				60	134
Total Presentations				60	105
Departments				17	18
Art Students					35

TOTAL DATA	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total Students	42	51	85	151	267
Totals Presentations	27	35	58	107	150

Ask recent Mercer graduates, and many will agree that research has positively impacted their career opportunities post-Mercer.

"Problem-solving, writing peer-reviewed research papers and presenting independent research in an academic setting are three of the most important skills developed in graduate school. Learning these skills as an undergraduate at Mercer provided tremendous advantage that helped me succeed in graduate school," said Leslie Aldrich, CLA '08, who will soon graduate with her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University and is set to complete a post-doctoral fellowship at the Broad Institute of Harvard University and MIT.

As evidenced over the past five years, Mercer has built its framework for undergraduate research, and is "flying the plane."

Dr. Bucholtz said his goal over the coming years is to "partner with faculty, school administrators and outside funding agencies to continue strengthening Mercer's undergraduate research program and bring new collaboratively-leveraged opportunities coupled with external funding." He plans to hold faculty development workshops and offer programming that supports faculty research efforts. These include grant-writing seminars and information sessions addressing best practices when working with undergraduates in research.

As the point-person who interfaces between students, faculty and administrators, Dr. Bucholtz says he also will play a significant role in helping students identify research opportunities that prepare them for competitive fellowships and post-graduate programs.

As Mercer's undergraduate research program continues to fly higher, student horizons brighten with opportunity.

Mercer Training Future Counseling Leaders

BY LAURA RAINES

Jonathan Brogdon could have earned a master's degree in counseling online or at a college near his home in Columbus. Instead, he's been commuting two hours one way to Atlanta three times a week for more than two years, so that his Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling degree will be from Mercer University.

"There are counseling programs closer to home, but the drive is worth it," said Brogdon.

"This program has a great reputation for getting students wholly involved in the counseling profession and the community," he said. "There's a big difference between textbook knowledge and real-world knowledge. My professors not only teach counseling, they practice it, and that makes for very positive learning."

Brogdon has learned research skills at the Army Research Institute and practiced counseling methods at a substance abuse clinic where he sees clients change and grow day-by-day. "To see recovery playing out in their lives is amazing and fulfilling work," he said.

His excitement and enthusiasm for the profession was exactly what Dr. Arthur Williams and Dr. David Lane wanted to create when they founded Mercer's graduate counseling program in 2001. They envisioned an atmosphere where students could learn and practice clinical skill sets in class and real-world settings with faculty who would model all the attributes of the profession. The approach has attracted students from

the region, a diverse faculty and growing state and national recognition.

From an initial 22 students, Mercer's graduate counseling programs have grown to more than 340 students enrolled in master's degrees in clinical mental health counseling, school counseling, a dual degree with the Master of Divinity program in the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology, and an Educational Specialist Degree in School Counseling. Last year, the department launched a Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision. Plans are under way for a M.S. in Certified Rehabilitation Counseling and an M.S. in Substance Abuse Counseling by 2014.

"We knew that there was a high demand for counselors and that job placement wouldn't be an issue," said Dr. Priscilla R. Danheiser, dean of the College of Continuing and Professional Studies. Employment for counselors is expected to rise by 18 percent (faster than average for all occupations) through 2018, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. "The rapid growth of these programs still surprises me, but we're so proud of all that our counseling students and teachers are accomplishing."

"It's been a blur," said Dr. Lane, professor and counseling program coordinator. "It's unusual to have a Ph.D. program within 10 years, but it was part of our long-range planning and we've hit all our benchmarks so far."

All programs have more applicants than spaces and Mercer's graduates hold an 89-90 percent first-time pass rate for the National Counseling Exam. The national average is about 70 percent.

A PERSONAL APPROACH TO TEACHING

"Experiential" is the key word for Mercer's counseling education.

"With counseling, you can't just teach information and have students spit it out on exams. It's a lot more than reading texts and writing papers. You have to challenge your students to personal growth and show them how to use their skills in the classroom and out," said Dr. Williams, chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Sciences and professor of counseling.

Most classes are taught in the evening to accommodate working students. More learning happens in face-to-face classrooms, Dr. Williams believes. "After a lively classroom discussion, I had a professor who said, 'Ah, the things you learn on the way to learning things.' There's great value in students sharing with each other," Dr. Williams said.

Prospective students interview with all 10 faculty in the department. They are asked if they are willing to do the internal work it takes to become aware of their own issues, so that they won't confuse those with their clients' issues later.

"It takes a caring, compassionate individual to be a counselor and we look for that quality, because you can't teach having a heart for people," Dr. Lane said.

Introspection was intense and fun for mental health counseling student Andrew Morse. An accountant for five years, he was looking for a more satisfying career in psychology or counseling. He attended a conference of the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia, where he met some Mercer students. "They blew me away by their willingness to answer my questions, and when I met the faculty, I felt right at home. This department feels like a family," Morse said.

Interning at Mercer's counseling center, Morse has discovered that he likes working with young adults. "High school to college and college to the real world are big transitions, and it feels good to be able to help students with those decisions," he said.

Dr. Williams said that the department deliberately hired professors with a variety of specialties, so that no matter what kind of counseling students wanted to do, they'd find someone who taught and practiced in that field. Our classes and offices are on the same floor and we maintain an open-door policy, so that students can always drop in to talk," he added.

PRACTICING IN THE REAL WORLD

For every two hours students spend in class, they'll spend another 15 in volunteering, research or class projects, said Dr. Diane Clark, assistant professor of counseling and associate counseling program coordinator. Students practice their skills in context through year-long internships in clinics, hospitals, women's shelters, suicide hotlines, state agencies, local charities and schools. About 80 percent get job offers at their internship sites.

"I love hearing from supervisors that our students are so well trained. We believe that comes with giving them lots of opportunities to put theory into practice," she said.

Doctoral candidate and licensed professional counselor Yvette Gates recently was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Health Service Corps. She will receive \$60,000 towards her student loans by working part-time at the DeKalb Addiction Clinic for four years.

Gates initially earned her Master of Divinity degree from Mercer in 2007, thinking she would go into Christian education, but from her first counseling classes, she was hooked. "It's my passion," said Gates. "I see people from all walks of life who want to work on themselves and get clean. It's rewarding and challenging and every day is completely different."

To prepare students to think outside the box, professors take them into different settings.

They might spend a week in a Chinese community or homeless shelter to learn different cultural dynamics.

Dr. Lane has taken students to Haiti several times since the 2010 earthquake through a partnership with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. They've trained local pastors, teachers and community leaders in trauma counseling. "The students say it's an amazing experience. More always want to go than we can take," he said.

Assistant professor Linda Foster took clinical mental health students to Italy to study the mental health system there. "It helps them to see that problems are the same around the world," Dr. Foster said. Assistant professor Dr. Don Redmond is taking a group to Holland this spring to study narrative therapy and lifespan development with elderly Dutch residents. Students and faculty have also helped the displaced refugees of Hurricane Katrina. Assistant professor Dr. Caroline Brackette, a trained disaster relief counselor with the American Red Cross, worked last year with victims of hurricanes that hit North Carolina. She also spent a week in Tuscaloosa working with tornado victims.

Students begin attending and volunteering at professional meetings early in their studies. Dr.



STEPHEN SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTO

Graduate counseling faculty, based on Mercer's Atlanta campus, include, front row, from left: Dr. Linda Foster, Dr. Priscilla Danheiser, Dr. Kathy Robinson, Dr. Caroline Brackette and Dr. Don Redmond. Back row, from left: Dr. Kevin Freeman, Dr. Arthur Williams, Dr. Karen Rowland, Dr. Kenyon Knapp, Dr. Diane Clark and Dr. David Lane.

Clark is president-elect of the Georgia Association of School Counseling and Dr. Williams and Dr. Lane hold offices with the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia. "We're heavily invested politically in the future of counseling, as we want our students to be," Dr. Lane said. "One of the most gratifying things for me is to attend a state conference with 400 to 1,000 participants and realize that we taught half of them."

TRAINING SCIENTIST-PRACTITIONERS

Mercer's personal touch to learning and student research opportunities impressed Dr. Kenyon Knapp several years ago. "Students get the best of both worlds here," said Dr. Knapp, associate professor and assistant dean for graduate programs. He's proud that his students are learning to be scientist-practitioners and that counseling students are contributing to Mercer's reputation as a research university.

The department suggests that doctoral students aim for two presentations and one publication a year, which will put them in the top tier of job candidates when they graduate.

"I'm giving seven presentations this year at state and national conferences, and five of those are with students," Dr. Knapp said. Current student research topics include sexual addictions, female serial murderers, veteran issues, multi-generational trauma, sexual abuse and pastoral

transparency with their congregations.

"Because we all practice, we know what is needed out there. We discuss issues in class and the research just blossoms," Dr. Clark said. "Counseling as a profession is only about a 100 years old, so there's a lack of empirical knowledge. Adding to that pool of knowledge is an important part of being a professional."

So is raising the standards. Mercer faculty and students have helped to train state addiction counselors for certification and MARTA security officers. Mercer's doctoral students will join faculties at colleges across the country. "It's exciting to be developing the next leaders in our field," Dr. Knapp said.

"Thanks to the work of Rosalyn Carter and others there's less of a stigma to seeking counseling, today," Dr. Clark said. "It's more accepted and accessible in the U.S. population."

"The Veterans Administration recently approved licensed professional counselors to work with veterans," said Dr. Don Redmond, assistant professor of counseling. He's developing the master's in clinical rehabilitation counseling program to train counselors to work with veterans and others who have physical and psychological disabilities.

"With a growing demand, counseling has a rich future, and we're very happy that Mercer is a big part of it," Dr. Williams said. "We don't have to wonder if we're making a difference."

UNIVERSITY RETURNS ANCIENT CHALICE

ARTIFACT DISCOVERED IN NEWTON HALL

The University returned an ancient chalice to a representative of Baptists in the Republic of Georgia during a special Eucharist service in Newton Chapel last fall. The chalice, which holds particular significance to Baptists in Georgia and Russia, had been lost to history until a series of fortuitous — and some say miraculous events surfaced the chalice on Mercer's Macon campus in 2010.

President William D. Underwood presented the chalice to Baptist Archbishop Malkhaz Songulashvili from Tbilisi at the November ceremony. Songulashvili traveled to the U.S. to participate in the service and accept the chalice, a gift from the University to Baptists in the Republic of Georgia.

The gold chalice was presented 65 years ago to the late Louie D. Newton, the chapel's namesake and longtime pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta, by the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Moscow during Dr. Newton's 1946 trip to Russia. The chalice, considered an heirloom by Baptists in the Republic of Georgia, was discovered in a Newton Hall memorabilia room by Tarver Library's Susan Broome.

Songulashvili and Broome became friends several years before the chalice mystery began to unfold when she and her husband, Frank, coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, were introduced at a conference simply because they all hailed from "Georgia." Broome is a librarian and former archivist at Tarver, and several years after they met, Songulashvili began doing research into the history of Baptists in his country for his Ph.D. dissertation at Oxford University. He found references to a month-long visit to Russia by a prominent Baptist preacher from America and asked several Baptist archivists about holdings related specifically to this trip. Broome reported that Mercer held Newton's diary from the trip and offered to transcribe it. In retrieving additional materials from Druid Hills Baptist Church, she and the archbishop came across references and photographs of a chalice. Unfortunately, neither she nor the other archivists knew the whereabouts of the vessel.

Then, a Tarver archivist mentioned that she had heard the word chalice used in an interview she was cataloging for the archives. At the time she did not realize that the interview was between then-University President R. Kirby Godsey and Newton, but

she knew that it was an unusual word to use unless the interviewee had seen one.

One night, inspiration struck Broome, she said, when she envisioned a small area that she had never entered in the back of Newton Chapel. When she went to investigate the next day, she opened the door to the room — a forgotten archival room within the chapel — and found the chalice as the centerpiece of the Newton display, dedicated in 1983.

The chalice, which was labeled Russian because Newton had received it in Moscow, was reported to have been moved from Tbilisi to Moscow in 1928, and then to the United States in 1946, and no one now living in the Republic of Georgia knew of its existence.

"It really is a miraculous set of circumstances," Broome said. "There is so much of this story that should never have happened."

Because the archbishop had been invited to speak at the annual meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia, and since he needed to do further research among Dr. Newton's papers and photographs, Songulashvili returned to Macon in November 2010. At the meeting, Susan Broome relayed the story of the chalice, and CBF/GA presented the archbishop with a framed photograph of the chalice to take back with him to Georgia. President Underwood happened to be in the congregation for the meeting and approached Songulashvili with a proposition: "He said, 'I'll exchange that picture for the chalice,'" Frank Broome recalls.

"This was so very important to Malkhaz," Susan Broome said. "The chalice has a lot of significance for the Evangelical Baptist Church, which is a persecuted minority in his country. He knows that the martyrs of his church used it in celebrating Eucharist in times past."

Broome said that the archbishop believes it likely that the pastor who presented it to Newton in 1946 only did so under pressure from the government of dictator Joseph Stalin. That might have been fortuitous in and of itself, Broome said, because it was already lost to Georgian Baptists and might not have survived in the turmoil of the USSR. But now the precious artifact will be returned to the Republic of Georgia where it belongs.

President Underwood returns the chalice to Archbishop Malkhaz Songulashvili of the Republic of Georgia.



MERCER UNIVERSITY PHOTO

REMEMBERING ROBERT PARRIS

THREE DECADES OF MUSIC AND SERVICE

For more than 30 years Dr. Robert Parris served Mercer as University Organist and Charles B. Thompson Professor of Music. “Few people can say that they have given the best of their professional lives to one institution,” said Dr. John H. Dickson, dean of Townsend School of Music, after Parris’ death on Sept. 22, 2011, following a two-year bout with esophageal cancer. “Dr. Parris’ contributions to the music school, to Mercer University and to his students and colleagues have been invaluable.”

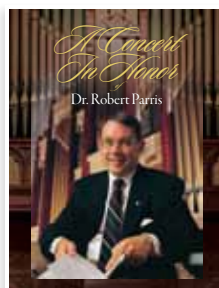
“If Mercer had a Professors Hall of Fame, Bob Parris would certainly be a member,” said Dr. Stanley Roberts, Arthur Lowndes Rich Professor of Choral Conducting and associate dean of Townsend. “He impacted many lives, and we became better people for having studied and worked with him.”

“So many students and former students sat in our living room in my grandmother’s old rocking chair with a cat on their lap asking for advice or just talking about music,” Dr. Parris’ wife, Ellen, recalled. This openness and willingness to advise extended not only to organ and harpsichord students, but to undergraduate and graduate students he taught in music history and music theory.

“Academics informed his playing tremendously,” Mrs. Parris explained. Unusual in the field for his use of 15th- and 16th-century performance and improvisation styles, he received frequent invitations to perform on significant historic instruments in northern Europe, where he was lauded by an enthusiastic and well-educated press.

“His gifts are held in high esteem by colleagues, students and audiences around the world,” wrote Al Travis, an Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, on the occasion of the celebration of Dr. Parris’ 30th anniversary at Mercer.

Over his career Dr. Parris established himself as a player and improviser in both historic and modern styles, performing under the sponsorship of churches, colleges and universities at chapters of the American



Dr. Parris and wife Ellen enjoy the 2010 dedicatory concert presented by Townsend faculty, students, former students and friends in honor of his 30 years of service at Mercer.

Guild of Organists (AGO). At AGO’s 2004 national convention in Los Angeles, Calif., in Walt Disney Hall, he performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Leo Sowerby’s *Concerto for Organ and Orchestra*, a piece so difficult only four people had ever performed it. It was the Hall’s inaugural performance on its Manuel Rosales-designed organ.

Dr. Parris recorded repertoire by Mozart and Reger on the Spectrum label and music of Sowerby in an album titled *Jubilee* on Premier. His 2006 recording, a recital titled *Land of Rest* on the Loft Recordings label, included music of Buxtehude, Bach, Franck, Sowerby and Dupre. In 2005, Dr. Parris began composing preludes on hymn tunes (most of them contemporary) from the Hymnal 1982 of the Episcopal Church.

Unimpressed by his own success, Dr. Parris remained rooted at Mercer and in Macon, where he and Ellen, a professional music educator and performer, raised four children: Lindley, a Mercer graduate who now teaches with the Houston County Public Schools; John, a musician in the United States Navy Band; and Lauren and Leah, both students at Mercer.

When he wasn’t found practicing on Newton Chapel’s Holtkamp organ, which he was instrumental in helping Mercer acquire



ROGER IDEN PHOTO

and install, Dr. Parris could often be found on the organ at Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Macon, where he served as choirmaster and organist from 2004 until his death. He considered musical practice essential to developing technique and the understanding and skills necessary to perform.

“Bob Parris loved and believed in Mercer by showing his constant dedication to teaching and service to the University,” said Alvin R. Blount, a former student and lifelong friend who serves as director of music and worship for St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church in Augusta. “He introduced me to the performance practices one needs to play the literature that I love so much today.”

Mrs. Parris says he would want to be remembered as being “at the very front of his profession as a player and as a teacher who was so dedicated to his students.” His life, his students and his work affirmed this, at Mercer and to all who were touched by his life and music.

For information and to contribute to the Robert Parris Scholarship, please contact Townsend School of Music, at (478) 301-2748 or crocker_pc@mercer.edu.

A LOOK BACK AT HOMECOMING 2011



A record number of alumni and students participated in Homecoming 2011 last November. Class reunions, skit show, pep rally and bonfire, basketball games versus Auburn and Emory, 5K Run and more constituted this year's festivities. Be sure and mark your calendar now for Homecoming 2012 – Nov. 9-10.

BE THE BEAR



Be sure to check gallery.mercer.edu/homecoming for images from the ENTIRE weekend. Also remember to continue sending us your favorite mobile photos to fanphotos@merc.edu. Your photo may be featured on our Facebook page and more!

With Three Consecutive Wins On the Road to Earn CIT Championship Bears Cap Historic Season

Bob Hoffman and his 2011-2012 men's basketball adopted 1 Corinthians 1:10 as their theme this season: "that you all agree, that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose." Throughout the season, the team pledged to remain "in the circle."

The Miracle Bears completed the round trip of the circle on March 28 when, playing their third consecutive road game in the CollegeInsider.com post-season tournament, they defeated a 21-win Utah State team in Logan in what may be one of college basketball's most hostile arenas. The Aggies had won 100 of their last 106 games in Dee Glen Smith Spectrum.

The 70-67 win was Mercer's fifth consecutive victory in the tournament. The Bears defeated Tennessee State and Georgia State at home in the first two rounds, and then at Old Dominion and at Fairfield before the come-from-behind victory at Logan. The Bears — with only one senior on the team and four sophomore starters — trailed by six with 4:35 to play.

Point guard Langston Hall was named the tournament MVP and teammates Justin Cecil and Travis Smith were also named All Tournament.

THE CONCEPTION OF A CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

At the beginning of any new basketball season, there is the unknown of what success stories or failures await on the horizon. Such was the predicament of the Mercer men's basketball season back in October. Gone was 67 percent of the Bears' scoring and 60 percent of their rebounds.

When the initial outings generated a couple of too-close contests against non-Division I opponents — DII Georgia College and State University in an exhibition outing and DIII Emory in the Homecoming game at the UC — doubters were in full force as to how successful this squad could be.

But after falling behind substantially at Missouri — one of the nation's top 10 teams throughout the season and the Big 12 champion — play on the court began to gel as it spread from one player to another.

Thirty-eight games later, Mercer had not only broken several University records, but was one of only 10 teams in the nation still playing the last week of March. Of 344 men's DI teams, only four would finish their seasons on a winning note.

KEY VICTORIES

Prior to the 2011-2012 season, the worst-to-first team of 2002-2003 had marked the most wins in Mercer history at 23. Only seven teams in the 110-year history of men's basketball at Mercer had notched more than 20 wins. On March 4 against Tennessee State, the Bears recorded win No. 23. They would add four more to their total to finish with an historic 27-11 mark.

A nine-game winning streak for the Bears from Jan. 9 to Feb. 10 increased the confidence level of this tight-knit team even higher. The Bears would finish the regular season tied for second in the A-Sun Conference.

In addition to the quantity of victories accomplished, one must also look at the quality

Travis Smith, left, led all scorers in the championship game with 17. Mercer's Langston Hall, center, was named CIT MVP. Coach Bob Hoffman, right, shouts encouragement to his team in the closing minutes of the championship game. Jakob Gollon, Chris Smith and Travis Smith, opposite, hoist the championship trophy after the game.



JEREMY CROSSLEY PHOTOS

wins. In December, it was the road win at the Gwinnett Center over in-state rival and ACC member Georgia Tech. And then there was the come-from-behind 12-point win over Old Dominion in the quarterfinals of the CIT. Then the incredible win at Utah State, one of the loudest environments of any arena in the country.

TOURNAMENTS

Most college basketball teams are thrilled to participate in one, maybe two, tournaments during the course of their season. The Bears were involved in tournament play three times, two at home in the University Center, in the CBE Classic the week before Thanksgiving, and, for the third year in a row, the Atlantic Sun Conference Championship in March. After losing to Florida Gulf Coast in the semifinals, the Bears accepted the CIT invitation.

Thirty-two teams from across the nation started the CIT on March 13, and, on March 28, only Mercer and Utah State remained. The final three games — Old Dominion, Fairfield and Utah State — were all on the road over an eight-day period.

PROGRAM RECORDS

Wins - 27

Points Scored - 2,589

Blocks - 180

Program Individual Single-Season Records

Blocks

Daniel Coursey - 88

Atlantic Sun Records

First Postseason Tournament Championship

Games Played (38)

CIT Wins (5)

Postseason Games Played - T-1st (5)

Program Coaching Records

First Non-Conference Postseason Victory

Home Wins T-1st (15)

Wins in a Four-Year Span - T-1st (75)



Chipper Jones Headlines 2012 First Pitch Classic

Atlanta Braves third baseman Chipper Jones was the featured speaker for the fourth annual First Pitch Classic held on Feb. 7. The event served as a kick-off to the Mercer baseball team's 2012 season and was held in the University Center.

This year's banquet was the third time an Atlanta Braves player came to speak at the Classic. In 2009, former Braves outfielder Jeff Francoeur came to Macon for the inaugural celebration event, and former Braves hurler John Smoltz headlined the 2011 event.

"When you think of the Atlanta Braves organization and all the great players that have come through there over the years, Chipper Jones is one of the first players that comes to mind because of the way he handles himself both on and off the field," Mercer Head Baseball Coach Craig Gibson said. "For us to be able to have him come down to this event and help us open our 2012 season is a very special honor."

A 17-year veteran, all in an Atlanta Braves

uniform, Jones is widely regarded as one of the best all-around hitters, and one of the best switch hitters in the history of the game. A career .304 hitter, Jones currently ranks second on the all-time switch hitters career RBI list (1,561) and third in career home runs by a switch hitter (454). A seven-time All-Star, Jones had his best season back in 1999 on his way to winning the National League Most Valuable Player award. Jones, a native of Deland, Fla., was the first overall pick in the 1990 MLB Draft and made his MLB debut with the Braves on September 11, 1993. Jones helped the Braves to 14-consecutive National League East Division titles and a 1995 World Series Championship.

"Chipper is such an iconic player in the



ROGER IDEN PHOTO

Atlanta Braves star third baseman Chipper Jones takes a moment for a photo with a young fan at the autograph session prior to the banquet in the Presidents Dining Room of Mercer's University Center.

game today and is beloved by every baseball fan in the state of Georgia, I think everyone there was very interested in hearing him talk about his career and his work outside of the game of baseball as well," said Gibson.

Mercer Athletics Names Three New Head Coaches

SOFTBALL — James DeFeo was named Mercer's sixth softball head coach in program history on Sept. 7. DeFeo takes over the program after seven successful seasons as the associate head coach at LSU.

DeFeo inherited a Mercer program that has seen some of its most successful seasons in recent years. The Bears have won 56 percent (129-100) of their games since 2008 and qualified for the Atlantic Sun conference tournament in three of the past four years.

"I view (the Mercer position) as a great opportunity both professionally and for my family," DeFeo said. "Mercer University is an excellent academic institution and Jim's (Cole) vision as an athletic director will make athletics just as good as the academics at the institution. I am going to draw on all of my experiences and utilize them to the fullest for Mercer's program."

Before being named head coach, DeFeo spent a large portion of his coaching career under the tutelage of legendary LSU head coach Yvette Girouard.



James DeFeo

VOLLEYBALL — Damian Elder was named the new head volleyball coach in January.

"We are extremely pleased to add Coach Elder to the Mercer family," Cole said. "He brings over a decade of top-level hardwood coaching experience and has proven the ability to build a successful sand volleyball program. I'm confident we have found the right man to lead our program going forward."

Elder assumed his first head coaching role after spending 11 years as either an assistant or an associate coach in some of the nation's elite conferences, including the Pac-12 and the Southeastern Conference.

Most recently, Elder was an assistant at the College of Charleston, where he helped guide the Cougars to a 25-10 (14-2 SoCon) record and a runner-up finish in the 2011 SoCon Championship.

Before his stint in Charleston, Elder spent five seasons as the associate head coach at South Carolina. His teams at South Carolina racked up 71 wins over that time, including posting a program-record 21 victories in 2002.



Damian Elder

WOMEN'S SOCCER — Former Georgia Southwestern head coach Tony Economopoulos took over in February as the sixth women's soccer head coach in Mercer's program history.

Economopoulos, 37, just completed his third year at Georgia Southwestern, where he helped build the Hurricanes up-and-coming soccer program. His 2010 team set the program record for most conference wins in school history. His final season saw GSW also set a program record for most wins over a three-year span.

"Coach Economopoulos was an exceptional candidate for the position," Cole said. "He has a dynamic background and a passion for the game that will serve our student-athletes well. His coaching style, leadership and regional and national coaching accomplishments are a perfect fit for our university."

His 2011 team at GSW was a recipient of both a Team Academic Award and an Ethics Sportsmanship Silver Award from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.



Tony Economopoulos



Hospitals Partner with Mercer School of Medicine for new Columbus Campus

Mercer University is partnering with The Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital to establish a Columbus campus for its School of Medicine. Columbus joins Macon and Savannah in hosting campuses for the medical school, which currently enrolls 400 M.D. students.

Under terms of the partnership, the Mercer School of Medicine will place up to 80 third- and fourth-year medical students at the Columbus Campus. Students will begin their clinical rotations in Columbus this summer.

"The expansion of Mercer School of Medicine to Columbus has been made possible by the hard work of many people, including the leadership of The Medical Center and St. Francis, Pete Robinson, State Rep. Richard Smith, Mercer Medical School Dean Bill Bina, Mercer trustees Jimmy Elder and Tom Black, and a number of other local business and community leaders," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "We are pleased to be taking the unique mission of our School of Medicine to Columbus and West Georgia. It will further enhance health care for the citizens of this region and help prepare much-needed physicians for our state."

Local recruitment of faculty and staff for the Columbus campus of the School

of Medicine is under way, beginning with about a dozen and expanding as the program grows.

"This partnership integrates the strengths of all three institutions to improve undergraduate medical education, enhance graduate medical education experiences and further develop local Columbus faculty physicians," said William F. Bina III, M.D., M.P.H., dean of the Mercer School of Medicine. "Because the Mercer School of Medicine only accepts students who are Georgia residents, this campus expansion will expose a large number of future Georgia doctors to Columbus and the surrounding western region of Georgia, increasing the likelihood that many of them will practice in the area once they complete their medical education."

Georgia is facing a critical shortage of physicians within the next decade and beyond. The state currently ranks 37th in the nation in the number of physicians per capita. More

than 25 percent of the current Georgia physician workforce is age 55 or older. Most of these physicians will retire from practice or significantly curtail their patient care activities in the next 15 years. The number of Georgia citizens over the age of 65 will double in the next 20 years. Persons ages 65 or older seek care from a physician at two to three times the rate of persons younger than 65.

"It is imperative that Georgia medical schools prepare more physicians to address this shortage and the increased demand," President Underwood said. "Mercer School of Medicine is central to the solution, and this partnership with The Medical Center and St. Francis will greatly enhance our ability to meet this need."

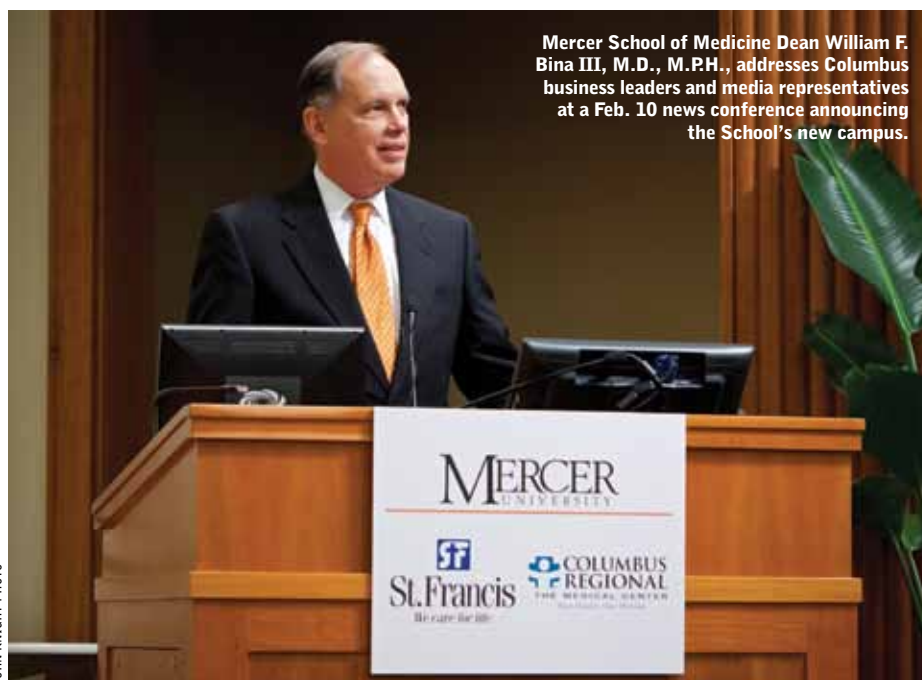
Over the School of Medicine's 30-year history, a higher percentage of its M.D. graduates — 65.7 percent — have remained in Georgia or returned after completing residencies than any other medical school in the state.

Establishment of a Columbus campus for the medical school will not only enhance medical education, it will also promote increased medical research at the institutions.

"The School of Medicine will be working with the two hospitals to develop clinical and basic science research, as well as research in health care delivery in the Columbus region," Dr. Bina said.

"The future benefits of this affiliation to our community and our region are without question," said Lance Duke, president and CEO of The Medical Center. "We know many of the students will grow to love this community as we do, and will choose to stay here to practice medicine."

Robert Granger, president and CEO of St. Francis Hospital, said, "Through partnering with the Mercer School of Medicine, this represents a unique opportunity for St. Francis and The Medical Center to work together for the improvement of health care in our community."



Mercer School of Medicine Dean William F. Bina III, M.D., M.P.H., addresses Columbus business leaders and media representatives at a Feb. 10 news conference announcing the School's new campus.

JOHN KNIGHT PHOTO



New Research Center Aims to Advance Drug Design, Delivery

Mercer's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences has launched a new research center charged with designing new drugs and developing new computer-based design methods to advance novel drug discovery.

The new Center for Drug Design will focus on all aspects of drug design research and teaching, ranging from software development to the application of computer-based methods that will predict biologically active compounds prior to laboratory testing. The Center will serve as a resource for universities, industries, and agencies interested in new drug design and the enhancement of existing drug candidates.

Using powerful computers and sophisticated graphics workstations, the Center will pursue fundamental problems and methodologies at the interface of chemistry, biology and physics. In fact, several drugs currently on the market and used to treat various disease states were developed using similar computer-assisted drug design methodologies.

J. Phillip Bowen, Ph.D., one of the nation's leading scholars in the area of computer-assisted

drug design, is the Center's director. Dr. Bowen joined the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences faculty last August as a full professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. He is the author of more than 90 publications and several patents in the areas of organic, medicinal and computational chemistry, as well as computer-assisted drug design.

"I believe we are in a unique position at Mercer University to make meaningful contributions in drug design because of our growing emphasis on the medical, pharmaceutical, and other health sciences programs," said Dr. Bowen, who earned his doctorate in synthetic organic chemistry from Emory University. In addition to pharmacy and pharmaceutical

sciences, Mercer has health-related graduate and professional programs in medicine, nursing, physical therapy, physician assistant studies and public health.

"I am looking forward to working with colleagues at Mercer, and other university and industry scientists to accomplish some exciting drug discovery research," Bowen said.

"Under the leadership of Dr. Bowen, this new center has profound implications in terms of how we understand and develop new drugs that ultimately make it to the market and into the hands of patients," said Hewitt "Ted" Matthews, Ph.D., dean of the College

of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and vice president for the Health Sciences at Mercer.



ERIK LESSER PHOTO

Dr. Phillip Bowen

Matthews Receives APhA Outstanding Dean Award

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) has named Dr. Hewitt W. "Ted" Matthews, dean of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, the 2012 APhA-Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Outstanding Dean Award. He was selected in recognition of his active promotion of student pharmacist welfare and professional development, strong advocacy for student pharmacists, and marked contributions to the APhA-ASP Chapter.

Established in 2004, the award recognizes the dean of a school or college of pharmacy who has made significant contributions to the APhA-ASP Chapter and promoted the welfare of student pharmacists through community service, leadership and professional activities. Dr. Matthews was presented with the award during the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans, March 9-12.

Dr. Ted Matthews



ROD REILLY PHOTO



■ Mercer, Emory Healthcare Join Forces

The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and the Department of Pharmaceutical Services at Emory Healthcare have partnered in a joint initiative for education, research and clinical service activities. Mercer clinical pharmacy specialists work together in providing clinical-training experiences for Mercer pharmacy students and collaborate in a variety of clinical research projects.

Amir Emamifar, Pharm.D., M.B.A., associate administrator for pharmaceutical services at Emory Healthcare, has been appointed by Mercer as assistant dean for clinical pharmacy education at Emory. In this capacity, he oversees the new Mercer-Emory joint initiative. The benefits of the joint initiative include:

- Provides a major teaching facility for Mercer pharmacy students;
- Enhances research collaboration with various Emory University hospitals, clinics and research centers;
- Enables Mercer pharmacy faculty to provide clinical instruction at Emory hospitals;
- Provides residency support to Mercer pharmacy students under joint accreditation with American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; and
- Provides Mercer pharmacy students experiential learning opportunities at Emory hospitals.

■ COPHS Moves to 90-Hour Pre-Pharmacy Requirement

Students enrolling into the pharmacy program at Mercer's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences are now required to have 90 undergraduate hours of pre-pharmacy coursework. With this change, Mercer is the only pharmacy program in Georgia that requires students to have 90 hours, or three years of college, prior to enrolling into its pharmacy school.

Mercer's decision to increase its pharmacy admissions requirements is driven by a changing health care delivery system



GBCN students serving as 2010-11 GANS officers presented the Adviser of the Year Award to the College's own Clinical Assistant Professor Jill Ray, center, holding plaque. Students from left, Simone Venning, Jason Walker, Jennifer Hunt, Maggie Adamack, Monique Greer, Anna Fields and B.J. Wright.

that requires health care providers work well in integrative teams that are adaptive and patient-focused. The changes — fueled in part by huge shifts from inpatient to outpatient care as Americans live longer lives — require more competent practitioners with advanced problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. As baby boomers age, the demand for pharmacists will increase in primary care services, hospitals and nursing homes, and non-patient care services such as private industry, academia and government, according to a recent report.

The pharmacy school's new curriculum, which faculty members have begun developing, will require all first-year pharmacy students be better prepared in exchange for an innovative academic experience that will produce superbly trained pharmacists. The new 90-hour requirements, and the new curriculum, take effect August 2012.

■ Mercer Nursing Students Win GANS Chapter Awards

Mercer's Georgia Baptist College of Nursing had an impressive showing at the Georgia Association of Nursing Students' 59th Annual Convention in Athens last October. The College's student chapter received the Financial Excellence Award and Best Web Site Award and won

the Penny Wars Competition. In addition, Jill Ray, clinical assistant professor at the College, received the Adviser of the Year Award and Elaine Harris, clinical associate professor, was the keynote speaker for the event.

"The leadership exemplified by our students at the Georgia Association of Nursing Students Convention is just another example of why nursing students at Mercer are simply the best of the best," said Dr. Linda Streit, dean of the College. "Our College's commitment to education and professional development remains steadfast as we continue to prepare future nursing leaders for the world."

■ School of Medicine to Provide Care to Veterans

Mercer's School of Medicine is participating in First Lady Michelle Obama's Joining Forces Initiative, along with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), by committing to create a new generation of doctors who will make sure veterans receive health care worthy of their service. Mercer is one of only 105 schools in the country to commit to the initiative. Recognizing veterans and their families' sacrifice and commitment, Mercer



pledged to mobilize its uniquely integrated missions in education, research and clinical care to train the nation's physicians to meet veterans' and their families' unique health care needs, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

"We are honored to participate in the White House Joining Forces Initiative to address improvements in the health care of military service members, veterans and their families," said Dr. William F. Bina III, dean of the School of Medicine. "Our school recognizes the unique challenges of active duty military and we remain dedicated to enrichment of our teaching, research and clinical missions of educating physicians that serve Georgia to address the unique health and wellness needs of those who serve our nation."

Dean Bina is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and served aboard nuclear submarines before entering the medical field as a family physician. Dr. Bina served on active duty for 26 years in worldwide duty stations before joining the Mercer faculty. He has served as dean since 2009.

"I'm inspired to see our nation's medical schools step up to address this pressing need for our veterans and military families," Michelle Obama said. "By directing some of our brightest minds, our most cutting-edge research and our finest teaching institutions toward our military families, they're ensuring that those who have served our country receive the first-rate care that they have earned."

Together, Mercer, the AAMC and AACOM are committing to enrich medical education along its continuum to ensure that physicians are aware of the unique clinical challenges and best practices associated with caring for this group; develop new research and clinical trials on PTSD and TBI so that we can better understand and treat these conditions; share information and best practices with each other through a collaborative web forum created by the AAMC; and grow the body of knowledge leading to improvements in health care and wellness for military service members, veterans and their families.

The Mercer School of Medicine is committed to advance its current medical education curriculum in the following areas:

- Learning and teaching about the unique clinical challenges and best practices associated with caring for military service members, veterans, and their families

- Focused efforts on psychological health conditions, such as: traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder

- Improvements in health care and wellness for service members and their families

Dean Bina said the school will be working with other like-minded organizations, including the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon and Memorial University Health Center in Savannah, as well as Robins Air Force Base, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Savannah Campus Update

Mercer School of Medicine's Savannah Campus has moved into new educational and administrative space. Mercer has leased the first floor of the Hoskins Center for Biomedical Research on the Campus of Memorial University Medical Center. This 14,000 square-foot space is modern, attractive and convenient to the Hoskins Center's research laboratories. It is a great solution for the School of Medicine until a Mercer facility can be built.

This year the Savannah Campus also reached two very significant milestones. March 16 was the campus' first "Match Day," when the results of the National Residency Matching Program are announced. On that day, the Class of 2012, the first class to complete all four years of medical education in Savannah, learned where they will go for residency training.

On May 5, the Class of 2012 will receive their Doctor of Medicine degrees in the first graduation ceremony to be held in Savannah.



**William and Iffath Hoskins Center
for Biomedical Research, Savannah**

Achievements

1940s

Francis E. Stewart, CLA '49, recently published his autobiography, *From Iowa Cornfields to Fernwood: My Life and Stories*, which details his work with Martin Luther King, his service as a preacher during the Civil Rights movement, and his time at Mercer.

1950s

Arthur Binion Amerson Jr., CLA '58, is president of the Dallas Council of Garden Clubs and editor of *Daylilies of the Southwest*, newsletter for region six of the American Hemerocallis Society, which covers Texas and New Mexico. Additionally, a team of scientists recently named a new bird species that he collected some 50 years ago when working for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Dewey E. Hughes, CLA '59, was recognized at the 150th Annual Session of the North Georgia Baptist Association for his 45 years of service as associational clerk. Also, a book commemorating 150 years of the association, *A Sesquicentennial Chronicle of the North Georgia Baptist Association*, written by Hughes, was presented at the annual meeting.

1960s

John B. Black Jr., CLA '61, was presented the OurTown Hero Award by the Swainsboro City Council on Nov. 7, 2011. During the presentation, Swainsboro Mayor Charles Schwabe thanked Black, who retired as president of East Georgia College on Dec. 31, 2011, for his profound impact on the community.

H. Lane Dennard Jr., CLA '66, was honored by the State Bar of Georgia during its mid-year meeting on Jan. 7 for his outstanding support of the Bar's two-year-old Military Legal Assistance Program, which makes legal services available to military personnel and veterans on a *pro bono* or reduced-fee basis.

David Sims, LAW '68, was appointed to the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council by Gov. Deal. The council is a nine-member independent agency within the state's executive branch whose mission is to ensure that clients receive adequate and ethical legal representation.

1970s

David H. Bottoms, CLA '71, HON '05, who holds the Amos Distinguished Chair in English Letters at Georgia State University, received a Governor's Award in the Humanities on Oct. 6, 2011, in recognition of his impact on Georgia's communities through history, literature, ideas, and culture.

Barbara Ann Boyce, Tift '76, is associate professor of kinesiology at the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education. She received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the National Association of Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education in spring 2011.

C. Grant Jackson, CLA '71, was presented the Chairman's Award at the City Center Partnership annual meeting on Nov. 14, 2011, in Columbia, S.C., for his work as senior vice president for community development at the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce.

Lynwood D. Jordan Jr., LAW '75, was appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the Judges of the Probate Courts Retirement Fund of Georgia by Gov. Nathan Deal.

Pharmacy School Alumnus Appointed to Board of World's Largest Medical Library

Dr. Henry Lewis III, PHA '78, was recently appointed by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Kathleen Sebelius to the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) for the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Dr. Lewis also became the 12th president of Florida Memorial University (FMU), a private, historically black institution in Miami Gardens, Fla., on Feb. 1, 2011, and hopes his board appointment is an inspiration to the school's students.

"I am truly humbled and honored to receive this appointment," Dr. Lewis said. "I hope this appointment inspires our students to leverage all of their available resources and opportunities so that they may achieve their dreams."

A nationally renowned biomedical researcher focusing on sickle cell anemia, Dr. Lewis will serve a four-year term on the Board of Regents ending August 2015. The board serves as the advisory body to HHS, NIH and NLM on all important aspects of policy regarding the Library and is the final review body for NLM's external

grant program. The Board meets three times a year in February, May and September.

The National Library of Medicine, on the campus of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., is the world's largest medical library. The Library collects materials and provides information and research services in all areas of biomedicine and health care.

"I am looking forward to serving on the board and expanding research on issues that impact our communities," Dr. Lewis added.

Prior to becoming president of FMU, Dr. Lewis served a distinguished 15-year tenure as dean of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Florida A&M University, where he increased the endowment from \$1 million to more than \$22 million and helped educate more than 25 percent of the country's African-American pharmacists.



Dr. Henry Lewis III

Dr. Henry Lewis III, PHA '78, was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to a four-year term on the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine for the National Institutes of Health in October 2011. Dr. Lewis is president of Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Kirby R. Moore, LAW '73, was reappointed to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority by Gov. Nathan Deal.

The Rev. Michael L. Ruffin, CLA '78, recently wrote *Living on the Edge: Preaching Advent in Year C*. He serves as pastor at First Baptist Church of Fitzgerald.

David Thompson, CLA '72, EDU '74, won the gold medal for best telling in the international storytelling competition at the 60th annual Comhaltas Ceoltirí Eireann convention, the largest organization of traditional Irish entertainers in North America, held in San Antonio on March 26, 2011.

D. Steven Wilson, PHA '76, PHA '77, BUS '82, completed his term of service as president of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy on Dec. 31, 2011.

William L. "Bill" Prather, PHA '70, succeeded Wilson as president.

1980s

Glen E. Ashman, LAW '80, received the Special Recognition Award from the Georgia Council of Municipal Court Judges "for years of tireless dedication in producing and editing the Municipal Judges Benchbook." The Benchbook is used by all of Georgia's Municipal Court judges. Judge Ashman has served as a judge of East Point's Municipal Court since 1988.

Henry G. "Chip" Bachara Jr., LAW '86, was named 2012 "Construction Lawyer of the

Year" for Jacksonville, Fla., by *Best Lawyers*.

In 2011, Bachara was appointed by Florida Gov. Rick Scott to the Fourth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.

Gary A. Barnes, LAW '81, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Law.

Frederick S. Bergen, LAW '86, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for personal injury.

Becky Blalock, BUS '84, was recognized as the first-ever Women in Technology Legacy Award recipient at the 2011 Women of the Year in Technology Awards gala event Nov. 10, 2011, at the Foundry at Puritan Mill in Atlanta. She retired from Southern Company in October.

Kathy A. Bradley, LAW '81, released her latest book *Breathing and Walking Around*, a collection of observations from her home in the coastal plains of South Georgia. Published by Mercer University Press, Bradley's manuscript won the inaugural Will D. Campbell Award for Creative Nonfiction in 2010.

Martha Christian, LAW '80, was appointed to the Macon Judicial Circuit in 1994 by then-Gov. Zell Miller after working as a general and domestic relations attorney in Macon for 14 years. Christian became the circuit's first female Superior Court judge and 13 years later became the circuit's first female chief judge. She retired at the end of 2011 and plans to move to north Georgia with her husband, a federal prosecutor, and continue working as a senior judge while enjoying retirement.

Cathy Cox, LAW '86, HON '07, received the Traditions of Excellence Award for General Practice presented by the General Practice and Trial Law

Section of the Georgia Bar. She currently serves as president of Young Harris College.

Andrew C. Dodgen, LAW '86, was appointed an associate judge of the Juvenile Court of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit. Dodgen will simultaneously continue to practice law in his Columbus office, Moore & Dodgen.

Linda S. Finley, CLA '78, LAW '81, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for bankruptcy and creditors' rights.

Charles Andrew Fuller, LAW '80, was appointed to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council by Gov. Deal.

William Gabbard, CLA '81, was recently appointed enlisted conductor of The Soldiers' Chorus of the U.S. Army Field Band in Washington, D.C. The Soldiers' Chorus is the Army's most traveled professional mixed choral ensemble, performing more than 150 concerts annually across the country.

Richard Gerakitis, LAW '81, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for labor and employment law.

Allen Harris, LAW '85, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for family law.

Adam J. Kennedy, CLA '84, recently retired from the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. He now serves as the court administrator for the Juvenile Court of Chatham County in Savannah.

Jill H. Kinsella, CLA '85, joined Mercer University as associate vice president and executive director of the Alumni Association on Dec. 1, 2011.

Howard S. Marks, LAW '84, was selected as a 2011 Florida Super Lawyer. He was also selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in

America 2012. Marks is a partner specializing in commercial litigation at Burr & Forman LLP in central Florida.

D. Todd Markle, LAW '89, was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Superior Court of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit by Gov. Deal.

Anton F. Mertens, CLA '84, LAW '87, completed the Ironman World Championship in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, on Oct. 8, 2011. After 16 hours, 17 minutes and 59 seconds, he swam 2.4 miles, biked 112 miles and run 26.2 miles, all under the 17-hour deadline. Mertens raced in memory of his father, who died of cancer in 1993, and raised \$10,000 for the American Cancer Society.

M. Yvette Miller, CLA '77, LAW '80, Georgia Court of Appeals Judge, won the State Bar of Georgia's Tradition of Excellence Award for the Judiciary.

John D. Mills, BUS '86 and LAW '89, recently released his fifth novel, *The Trophy Wife Divorce*, a legal thriller about a divorce case that turns into a criminal case. **Zachery Mitcham**, BUS '80, is chief information security officer at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C. He spoke as a panelist for the EC-Council CISO Executive Summit in Las Vegas in December 2010.

Joe S. Moore, PHA '81, recently received accreditation from the Pharmacy Compounding Accreditation Board for his Medical Center Compounding Pharmacy in Cleveland, Tenn. According to Moore, **Bob Harshbarger**, PHA '86, operates the only other such accredited compounding pharmacy in Tennessee.

Denise Sauls Parker, Tift '85, received a Master of Arts in Teaching in special education from Georgia College and State University on May 6, 2011, and was recognized as a 2011 Outstanding M.A.T. Student.

Rebecca Rogers Prevost, PHA '81 and '82, was promoted to medication safety officer for Florida Hospital, a multi-hospital system in Orlando, Fla.

Pete Robinson, LAW '80, was elected as a board member of the Georgia College Foundation in September 2011. He is the chairman of Troutman Sanders Strategies, a full-service federal and state lobbying/issue management firm, and a partner at Troutman Sanders LLP.

W. Lee Robinson, BUS '85, LAW '85, was appointed to the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board by Gov. Deal. Robinson is the current circuit public defender for the Macon Judicial Circuit.

James Sadd, LAW '87, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for personal injury.

Jacquelyn H. Saylor, LAW '83, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* Magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for taxes, estates and trusts.

Richard A. "Doc" Schneider, LAW '81, a senior litigation partner with King & Spalding in Atlanta, has become a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the nation's premier legal associations. The college comprises the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship is by invitation to lawyers with at least 15 years' trial experience who have demonstrated exceptional skill as advocates, and whose professional careers are distinguished by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism and civility. Schneider is one of the nation's leading class action defense lawyers and has served as lead trial counsel in two of the largest tobacco product liability class actions ever tried.

Ray S. Smith III, LAW '87, was reappointed by Gov. Deal to a third term on the Stone Mountain Memorial Association's (SMMA) board. The SMMA board is the governing body of Stone Mountain Park, Georgia's most visited attraction.

Dr. Timothy R. Stapleton, CLA '83 and MED '87, was appointed to the Georgia Music Hall of Fame Authority by Gov. Deal.

Vicky Sutton-Jackson, CLA '83, was hired as director of public relations at Morris College in August 2011.

Craig Williamson, CLA '80, was awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree in December 2011 from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur. His emphasis of study was Christian spirituality with emphasis on the Desert Fathers.

1990s

James H. Aiken, LAW '97, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for business law.

Thomas A. Albright, BUS '92, was named CEO and made a member of the board by Andrew Technologies LLC, the maker of a new suction-assisted liposuction system.

Kevin D. Asti, LAW '99, was appointed general counsel to Savtira Corporation, a new provider of B2B cloud commerce solutions.

Brett C. Bartlett, LAW '99, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for labor and employment law.

Lloyd N. Bell, LAW '92, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for personal injury and general practice/trial law. **Chad Boggan**, EGR '94, wrote his first book, *This Good Life*, in July 2011. It chronicles a man's journey from bachelorhood to fatherhood in New York City.

Michael P. Boggs, LAW '90, superior court judge in the Waycross Judicial Circuit, was appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals in December 2011 by Gov. Deal. Judge Boggs was sworn in Friday, Jan. 6, in the state House of Representatives chamber.

David L. Cannon, LAW '95, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for criminal law.

Chan Caudell, LAW '92, was appointed to the Superior Court of the Mountain Judicial Circuit by Gov. Deal.

Kevin J. Collins, CLA '97, MED '01, was named a recipient of the Jack C. Hughston Physician of the Year award for 2012 by the Honors and Awards Committee of Georgia Athletic Trainers' Association. He practices orthopedics and works with student athletes at Colquitt County High School and Valdosta State University.

Denise D. Dell-Powell, LAW '91, has been named a 2012 Lawyer of the Year in the area of Litigation - Bankruptcy by Best Lawyers. Powell is a partner with Burr & Forman LLP in Central Florida.

Angela Adkins Downes, CLA '91, presented "Justice for All: A Comparison of the Crime Victims' Rights in the U.S. and Canada" at the American Bar Association Annual Meeting in August 2011 in Toronto.

Michelle D. Harvey, LAW '96, is a special agent serving as associate division counsel for the FBI - Atlanta Division.

Lisa D. Herndon, LAW '90, was appointed to the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court by Florida Gov. Rick Scott in November 2011.

Deron R. Hicks, LAW '93, became inspector

general for Georgia on Jan. 11, 2011. His office is responsible for investigating fraud, corruption and misconduct in the state's executive branch. Hicks was previously a partner with the Columbus law firm Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford.

Franklin J. Hogue, LAW '91, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for criminal law.

Dale Klaus, LAW '97, of the marital and family law firm Klaus Doupe PA, has joined the board of directors of the Mental Health Association of Southwest Florida.

James Manley Jr., LAW '96, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for personal injury.

Jonathan G. Marquess, PHA '93, is a member of the McKesson National Independent Advisory Board.

Wes McDowell, BUS '92, is vice president and chief information officer for the Georgia region of Southern Company and was named Enterprise CIO of the Year by the Georgia CIO Leadership Association for demonstrating outstanding technology leadership.

Ann-Marie McGaughey, LAW '93, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for business law.

Dr. Kimberly D. King, MED '99, has joined the medical staff at Middle Tennessee Medical Center in Murfreesboro, Tenn., where she practices in maternal infant and women's health services.

James C. Overstreet Jr., LAW '99, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite" section for bankruptcy and creditors' rights.

Bruce E. Roberts, LAW '91, was appointed by Gov. Deal to serve on the State Court of Walker County.

Sarah C. Serpa, LAW '97, was named a 2011 Southern California Super Lawyer and a Southern California Rising Star in 2011 by Super Lawyers. Rising Stars recognizes the top up-and-coming attorneys who are 40 years old or younger or who have been practicing for 10 years or less.

Christopher N. Smith, LAW '91, and his wife, Lyubena Smith, were presented to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II at a dinner at the Danish ambassador's residence in Washington, D.C. Smith, a Macon attorney who serves as the Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Denmark, traveled to Washington for a symposium at the Danish Embassy, where he made a presentation on public diplomacy.

Natalie Y. Williams, BUS '95, recently joined Cotton States Insurance/COUNTRY Financial as a financial representative and opened an office in Columbus.

2000s

Wendy Krauser Altman, EGR '03, graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in 2011.

Cody Boisclair, CLA '05, graduated from the University of Georgia in August 2011 with a Ph.D. in computer science.

Ginny Brewer-Boydston, DIV '04, graduated Dec. 17, 2011, with a Ph.D. in biblical studies and a minor in Jewish studies from Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Kimberly Brown, CLA '06, was recognized as a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, and the Golden Key International Honour Society on Nov. 6, 2011.

Justin B. Connell, LAW '05, was recognized in *Georgia Trend* magazine's "2011 Legal Elite"

section for labor and employment law.

David R. Cook Jr., BUS '01, LAW '05, made partner in July 2011 at Autry, Horton & Cole LLP in Atlanta. Cook's practice focuses on construction, energy, and tax law, with specialties in the development of renewable energy projects and public owner construction matters.

Patrick M. Cook, PHA '01, opened his second store, Villa Rica Drugs, in Villa Rica on Sept. 12, 2011.

Mary Burgin Edwards, CLA '01, completed her Doctor of Education degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Florida College of Education in December.

Leah C. Fiorenza, LAW '09, joined Bryan Cave LLP in Atlanta as an associate practicing in the areas of commercial litigation and bankruptcy, restructuring and creditors' rights.

Dr. Katherine Anne Frizzell, MED '06, completed her residency at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah. She is board-eligible for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is a member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Medical Association and the Medical Association of Georgia.

Billie Rampley Frys, BUS '07, is the new director of marketing and communications at Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law.

Gould Hagler II, CLA '06, was named the first 2012 Paul Harris Fellow by the Augusta Rotary Club. The club's youngest member, he also serves on the board of trustees for Historic Augusta and Sacred Heart Cultural Center.

Lance Haney, EGR '05, received a Ph.D. in materials engineering from Auburn University in August 2011.

The Rev. Andrew Dellinger Jones, DIV '02, received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., in May 2011. Jones serves as senior pastor at Millbrook Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C., and is an adjunct professor at Duke Divinity School.

W. Brent Jones, DIV '01, received a Ph.D. in American religious history from the University of Virginia in May 2011.

Katie M. Kelley, LAW '04, joined Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers LLP in 2011. Kelley specializes in defending employers and insurers in workers' compensation claims.

Dr. Byung "Sam" Koo, MED '05, recently joined OrthoGeorgia in Macon after completing his orthopedic residency at Atlanta Medical Center. He has participated in numerous orthopedic research studies and has presented at the American Society for Surgery of the Hand and the Georgia Orthopedic Society annual meeting.

Dr. Jeremiah Ramos McClure, MED '08, joined Internal Medicine Associates in August 2011 at Coliseum Medical Centers in Macon.

Dr. Julie Anne McElroy, MED '06, joined Centennial Pediatrics in Smyrna, Tenn., after completing her residency training at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tenn.

Rebecca McKelvey, LAW '06, an associate at Stites & Harbison PLLC in Nashville, Tenn., joined the board of directors of the Tennessee Justice Center.

Farooq Mughal, CLA '00, was named "CNN's News Guard Atlanta 2011" by the CNN executive management and news gathering team.

Troy Newham, BUS '01, recently published 2084: *The Search for Love, Hope, and Faith*, a fiction novel

exploring the topic of a totalitarian government and its effect on the human condition.

Linh K. Pham, CLA '03, was named the 2011 "Tucker Citizen of the Year" by the Tucker Civic Association for her work as a teacher in Tucker High School's International Baccalaureate program.

Cenate Pruitt, CLA '02, received his Ph.D. in sociology from Georgia State University on Jan. 6. His dissertation was titled "Not Just a 'Place for Friends': Teenagers, Social Networks, and Identity Vulnerability."

The Rev. Charles Qualls, DIV '08, recently released his fifth book, *Divorce Ministry: A Guidebook*, which details the value of establishing a divorce recovery ministry while also offering practical insights on establishing a unique church-affiliated program. Qualls is the associate pastor for pastoral care at Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta.

Dr. Grant Scarborough, MED '03, opened MercyMed of Columbus in January. MercyMed is a primary care clinic that aims to provide medical services to the poor in the community – with or without insurance.

Delton Schwalls, EGR '00, recently received additional professional engineering licenses in Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina. He was also featured in the October 2011 issue of the *Florida Engineering Society Journal* in the article, "The Need for Comprehensive Floodplain Management Programs."

Dr. Jacob D. Schwartz, MED '05, completed a two-year internal medicine residency program followed by a three-year radiology internship at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah. Dr. Schwartz recently joined the staff of Colquitt Regional Medical Center and practices with Radiology Associates of Moultrie.

Golden Smith, CCPS '06, joined Youth Villages in December 2011 as a teacher-counselor at the Inner Harbour Campus, which provides residential treatment for children in Douglasville with emotional, behavioral and mental health issues.

Eric L. Trivett, CLA '05, LAW '08, recently made partner at Speed, Seta & Waters, LLC, an 18-attorney litigation firm in Lawrenceville.

Carisa Jurgens Turner, CLA '07, released her first album, *Stop the Noise*, on Nov. 15, 2011. Living in Atlanta, she is a singer, songwriter and worship artist who leads worship at churches, conferences, festivals and various other events.

T. Anthony Ussery, BUS '02, '04, executive vice president at Monroe County Bank in Forsyth, has been elected by his peers to serve on the Leadership GBA Executive Committee of the Georgia Bankers Association (GBA).

Paul Wolfe, PHA '07, recently accepted a position with CVS and relocated to Ashville, N.C.

2010s

Kyeanna Bailey, EDU '11, accepted a position in August 2011 as faculty specialist in the Office of Academic Affairs at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Monique DePass, CLA '11, was hired as a project manager at AT&T after graduation.

Nathan Edmondson, CLA '10, was selected by DC Comics to reintroduce *Gripter* as part of its historic renumbering of the entire DC Universe line of comic books. *Gripter* is a comic about former U.S. military special operative Cole Cash, now a con man and one of the most wanted men alive.

Song Chun Kwon, LAW '10, joined Bryan Cave LLP in Atlanta as an associate in the Transactions

Client Service Group. He focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and corporate governance.

Ivory Smith, MED '11, joined Youth Villages in February as a therapist at the Inner Harbour Campus, which provides residential treatment services for children in Douglasville with emotional, behavioral and mental health issues.

Sabrina "Breezy" Straton, CCPS '10, an admissions counselor at Mercer's Douglas County Regional Academic Center, was named one of the Top Ten Young Professionals by the Young Professionals Connection of the Douglas County Chamber of Commerce.

JeKaren Taylor, CCPS '11, recently accepted a position as an art teacher with Saint John Mary International School in Saraburi, Thailand.

Marriages, Births & Anniversaries

1990s

Marci Bozeman, CLA '92, married James Branch, BUS '92, LAW '95, on Oct. 1, 2011. The couple resides in Atlanta.

Elizabeth Bridgett Bevil, CLA '96, married Daron Wayne Holloway on Oct. 22, 2011. The couple resides in Macon.

Amy Cowart Johnston, CLA '98, and her husband, Lester T. Johnston Jr., CLA '97, announce the birth of their fourth child, Davis, on May 12, 2011. Lester

works at Community Medical Associates at Wills Memorial Hospital in Washington.

Kristen Walden Thomas, CLA '99, and her husband, Sean Thomas, announce the birth of their second child, Vivian Reese Thomas, on March 7, 2011. The family resides in Newport News, Va.

Andrea Miller Willis, BUS '97, married Scott Willis on June 25, 2011, in Harlem. The couple lives in Laurens, S.C.

2000s

Jerry Atkinson, DIV '09, and his wife, Marston Atkinson, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Emily Gracen Atkinson, in January 2011.

Silky Webb Beaty, PHA '05, married Henry Beaty IV on Sept. 17, 2011. The couple lives in Lithonia.

Alexandra Flores Billings, BUS '08, married Daniel Billings, BUS '09, on May 21, 2011, in Newton Chapel on Mercer's campus. The couple resides in Aiken, S.C.

Katherine Elliott Ficklin, EGR '05, married Barry Ficklin in 2011. They announce the birth of their son, Blake Armond Ficklin, on Jan. 24 at Houston Medical Center in Warner Robins. The family resides in Byron, where Katherine is a software quality assurance specialist at Robins Air Force Base.

Andrew R. Fiddes, CLA '95, BUS '96, LAW '00, married Christina A. Kasper at the Cathedral of Christ the King on June 18, 2011, in Atlanta, where the couple lives. Fiddes owns and operates The Fiddes Law Firm LLC in Atlanta and is an officer with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve.

Beloved Former Law Professor Reynold Kosek Dies from Cancer at 64

Longtime Mercer Law School faculty member Reynold Joseph Kosek Jr. died Jan. 17 at his home in Ormond Beach, Fla., after a long, courageous battle against cancer.

A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Kosek completed his undergraduate studies at West Virginia University in 1968, and he then served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army following graduation. After his term of service, Kosek continued his education at the State University of New York at Albany, receiving a Master's in Library Science in 1971, before earning his Juris Doctor in 1975 at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Like his father and grandfather, Kosek entered the legal profession, working briefly at the University of Southern California Law Center before joining the Mercer Law School faculty in 1977 as a reference librarian. By 1987, he achieved the rank of full professor. Known for his teaching in contracts, sales and remedies, Kosek also worked as a moot court advisor, led the Brainerd Currie Honor Society, served on the Faculty Policy Committee and chaired the committee that drafted the Student Honor Code while serving as faculty magistrate and honor court justice.

Kosek was legendary at the law school. He demanded excellence in classroom performance. First-year law students who initially felt awe and apprehension in his classroom left with great respect and deep affection



ROGER IDENEN PHOTO

Reynold Kosek

toward him when they graduated, understanding that he demanded their best because he cared for them.

For 28 consecutive years, until his retirement in 2010, graduating classes selected Kosek to be one of four hooders in the annual Senior Class Hooding Ceremony. On five different occasions, he received the Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award that is determined by a vote of each graduating class. When Kosek retired, this award was given its final and permanent name: The Reynold J. Kosek Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award. At the 2010 Law School graduation ceremony, he was the first recipient of the newly named award.

To read the full obituary, visit law.mercer.edu/kosek.

Billie Rampley Frys, BUS '07, married David Frys on Oct. 1, 2011, in Greensboro. The couple resides in Conyers.

Melissa Brown Kennebrew, CLA '03, and her husband, Chavarous Kennebrew, announce the birth of their second son, Aiden Christopher Kennebrew, on March 12, 2011. The family resides in Lawrenceville. Melissa also recently accepted a new job at CSM Global as a business process manager for finance and human resources.

Erin P. Lones, CLA '00, and her husband, Jonathan D. Lones, CLA '01, announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah, on April 6, 2011. The family lives in Macon.

Holly Spears Ravita, EDU '04, and her husband, Patrick Ravita, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Aubrey Elizabeth Ravita, on Dec. 28, 2010. The couple also celebrated five years of marriage in March.

Kimberly L. Simmons, BUS '08, PHA '08, and **DeRoyce D. Simmons**, PHA '07, announce the birth of their first child, Royce Charles "DJ" Simmons, on Dec. 19, 2011.

Amanda Kent Smith, LAW '07, and Ken Smith, LAW '07, announce the birth of their daughter, Lacey Elizabeth Smith, on Sept. 5, 2011.

Molly Feine Waugh, BUS '08, married Greg Waugh in Pensacola, Fla., on June 25, 2011. The couple resides in Gulf Breeze, Fla.

Judy Jones Wilbanks, BUS '09, married **Jason Wilbanks**, CLA '08, LAW '11, on Aug. 6, 2011, in Brunswick. The couple resides in Macon.

In Memory

1930s

William J. Crump, CLA '36, of Savannah died July 21, 2011.
Lena Allen Early, Tift '39, of Wilmington, N.C., died Nov. 3, 2011.
Searcy Slayton Garrison, CLA '34, of Atlanta died Sept. 6, 2011.
Sylvia Ann Dodson Sewell, Tift '37, of Atlanta died Oct. 20, 2011.
Martha S. Stewart, CLA '37, of Union Point died Sept. 3, 2011.

1940s

Guy E. Adair, PHA '43, of Decatur died May 21, 2011.
Albert C. Atkinson, CLA '49, of Beech Island, S.C., died June 19, 2011.
Ralph U. Bacon, LAW '48, of Statesboro died July 3, 2011.
Sterling M. Barger, CLA '48, of Reidsville died Sept. 13, 2011.
Vera M. Ashworth Barter, Tift '42, of Fairhope, Ala., died Aug. 9, 2011.
Carolyn Wise Breuer, CLA '48, of Fargo, N.D., died Dec. 2, 2011.
Doris Burson Couch, Tift '41, of Loganville died March 29, 2011.
Josiah Crudup Jr., CLA '48, of Anderson,

S.C., died Oct. 28, 2011.
Irma G. Day, NUR '43 and Tift '45, of San Angelo, Texas, died March 9, 2011.
John T. Donehoo, CLA '49, of Roswell died July 17, 2011.
Nan Foster Freemon, PHA '45, of Roswell died Oct. 17, 2011.
Frank Bartow Graham III, CLA '42, of Chattanooga, Tenn., died Nov. 27.
Harriette Chambless Graham, Tift '47, of Monroe died Oct. 20, 2011.
John K. Hamrick, CLA '49, of Cleveland died June 26, 2011.
Anne W. Holladay, Tift '48, of Gainesville died Oct. 16, 2011.
Jane Cook Hortman, Tift '48, of Rome died Aug. 23, 2011.
Margaret Barrett Joyner, CLA '44, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Dec. 7, 2011.
Julius M. Kirkland, CLA '41, of Summerville, S.C., died Nov. 27, 2011.
James D. "Spec" Landrum, CLA '48, of Franklin, N.C., died Nov. 10, 2011.
Hinton J. Merritt, CLA '43, of Colquitt died June 15, 2011.
Harriette S. Parker, CLA '45, of Cartersville died Sept. 13, 2011.
Betty G. Cagle Parkinson, Tift '49, of Perry died Nov. 28, 2011.
Mary Holbrook Pentecost, CLA '46, of Richmond, Va., died Nov. 30, 2011.

Mable R. Poetter, NUR '43, of Lawrenceville died June 25, 2011.
Doyle Revere Pratt, CLA '49, of Warner Robins died Dec. 10, 2011.
Jackson L. Radcliffe, CLA '48, of Anderson, S.C., died Jan. 19, 2011.
Kathryn Ransbotham, NUR '44, of Stone Mountain died Aug. 23, 2011.
Dorothy Hinton Riley, CLA '46, of Montgomery, Ala., died June 22, 2011.
Gladys Cordray Robbins, CLA '46, of Savannah died Nov. 3, 2011.
Carl D. Rogers Jr., CLA '45, of Rockledge, Fla., died May 26, 2011.
Charles A. Scholz, LAW '49, of Quincy, Ill., died Nov. 29, 2011.
Lila Hartley Shaffer, CLA '46, of Macon died June 7, 2011.
Henry R. Smith, CLA '49 and LAW '51, of Augusta died July 23, 2011.
Margaret Pulliam Smith, CLA '40, of Macon died Sept. 30, 2011.
Margie W. Solomon, CLA '48, of Bakersfield, Calif., died June 30, 2011.
Virginia Wynne Steele, CLA '44 and Tift '44, of Peachtree City died Aug. 18, 2011.
Martha Rebecca Teate, NUR '48, of Carrollton died June 3, 2011.
Martha Ellen Chandler Tomlin, CLA '44, of Milledgeville died Jan. 23.

Erma Josephine Wilson, NUR '48, of Loganville died May 15, 2011.
1950s
Walter L. Bell Jr., CLA '50, of Macon died June 15, 2011.
Julian N. Brooks, CLA '51, of Macon died Jan. 18.
Gloria Downs Carter, EDU '51, of Pembroke died Sept. 25, 2011.
Caroline Sammons Cassell, CLA '54, of Perry died Jan. 5.
Robert J. Cramer Sr., EDU '58, of Gray died Sept. 3, 2011.
Martha Statham Donehoo, Tift '50, of Fredericksburg, Va., died June 24, 2011.
Dubignon Douglas, LAW '51, of Dublin died Sept. 13, 2011.
William M. Emmons Jr., CLA '57, of Savannah died June 13, 2011.
Joyce S. Engle, CLA '50, of Naples, Fla., died Oct. 3, 2011.
Howard Neil Evans, CLA '56, of College Park died Sept. 21, 2011.
William A. Evans, CLA '53, of Gray died Sept. 13, 2011.
Mary Linda Dorminey Foreman, Tift '53, of Fitzgerald died Nov. 2, 2011.
Jan M. Freeman, CLA '51, of Albany died May 13, 2011.
Oscar L. Gilbert, CLA '56, of Greenville

died Sept. 30, 2011.
Vernon E. Grimes, CLA '54 of Mount Pleasant, S.C., died Aug. 17, 2011.
Ruth W. Hinton, NUR '55, of Jasper died Oct. 23, 2011.
Primus Seale Hipp, LAW '51, of LaGrange died Oct. 3, 2011.
Janice W. Hollis, CLA '51, of Dothan, Ala., died Dec. 15, 2011.
Grace P. Hoyt, CLA '59, of Allen, Texas, died Dec. 4, 2011.
James Brinson Hughes, CLA '51, of Dublin died July 1, 2011.
George C. Israel, CLA '51, of Gardendale, Ala., died Oct. 5, 2011.
Jean Bazemore Jester, Tift '56, of Lilburn died May 12, 2011.
Margaret C. Jobson, EDU '51, of Largo, Fla., died Feb. 18, 2011.
A. Moncrief Jordan, CLA '54, of Brentwood, Tenn., died Sept. 29, 2011.
Peggy W. Kattner, CLA '54, of Bowdon died April 6, 2011.
Heslip M. Lee, CLA '54, of Cedartown died May 26, 2011.
Isabelle M. Malone, CLA '59 and EDU '65, of Macon died Dec. 23, 2011.
Myrl Holloway Malone, NUR '51, of Rome died July 10, 2011.
Robert Daniel Mathews, CLA '51, of Mooresville, N.C., died July 22, 2011.

Mercer Alumnus and Former State Sen. Robert Brown Dies at 61

A native of Greenville, Robert Brown, CLA '71, died at age 61 after many faithful years of service as a public official in Macon. Brown was a successful politician at various levels of state and local government.

Brown came to Macon as a student at Mercer and made the city his lifelong home. A firm advocate of the causes in which he believed, he joined the civil rights movement in Macon and often marched for equal rights and jobs for African-Americans.

After graduation, Brown eventually became the owner of a local real estate business and first served his local community on the Bibb County Board of Education after losing two elections for a seat in the Georgia House of Representatives. In 1991, he won a special election for his state Senate seat against Robert Reichert and Jack Ellis — two men who would later serve as mayor of Macon. Brown's victory was a historic one, as he became the first African-American to represent the county in the state Senate since Reconstruction.

Known as a gifted orator and political strategist, Brown made sure to represent the concerns of the poor and less fortunate in his community as he vigorously opposed attempts to increase utility rates and efforts to weaken Georgia's HOPE scholarship.

Brown served as a senator about 20 years, achieving the rank of Senate minority leader, before resigning from his post in 2011 to run for mayor of Macon. Though unsuccessful, his influence in the community was evident, for Brown led a commission in the 1990s on Macon-Bibb Co. government consolidation, which has paved the way for current progress toward streamlining local government.

Also an advocate for the arts, Brown helped preserve the Douglass Theatre and enjoyed listening to jazz, reading and collecting historical artifacts.



Robert Brown

Coaching Legend, Athletic Hall of Fame Member Richard Reid Dies at 78

Middle Georgia lost a coaching legend when Richard Francis Reid, CLA '54, died Oct. 29, 2011, at the age of 78.

Reid, who grew up in Macon, starred as a basketball player at Lanier High School, where he won two state championships in 1948 and 1950 and made the All-State team in his junior and senior seasons. Riding the momentum of his high school success, Reid came to Mercer to continue his basketball career.

He quickly broke into the starting lineup as a freshman and became a four-year starter, playing in 108 games as a Bear. Reid made the All-Dixie Conference team in each of his four seasons at Mercer and won the conference's Most Valuable Player award in 1953, when he was also chosen as the Most Outstanding Mercer Athlete following his junior season. Moreover, Reid excelled in track and field, lettering four years in pole vault and long jump. For his athletic prowess, Reid, who still ranks among the top 20 career scorers in Mercer basketball history, was inducted into the Mercer Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973 and later the Macon Sports Hall of Fame.

Though his playing days ended after graduating with a degree in health and physical education in 1954, basketball would still be very much a part of Reid's life. After serving a two-year tour of duty in the U.S. Army, he returned to Middle Georgia and became the girls basketball coach at Jones County High School in 1957. From there, Reid moved on to coach at Stratford Academy before landing in 1976 at Tattnall Square Academy, where he spent the rest of his career aside from one year at Beechwood Academy.

During his coaching career, Reid brought success to every program he touched, winning some 25 state championships in boys and girls basketball, golf, softball and tennis. Moreover, he eclipsed 1,000 wins as a basketball coach and won countless other region championships. In 2010, Tattnall dedicated the school's basketball court in honor of Coach Reid.

Known for his calm demeanor even on the court, Reid touched the lives of thousands of students teaching them the game he loved so dearly.



Richard Reid

William B. Maurer, PHA '57, of Smyrna died Sept. 1, 2011.
George D. McFarland, PHA '59, of Dunwoody died Sept. 19, 2011.
Paul Judson Moss, CLA '52, of Rome died Aug. 31, 2011.
Charles Robert Owen Jr., CLA '57, of Montgomery, Ala., died June 25, 2011.
Troy Parnell, CLA '50, of Fort Myers, Fla., died Oct. 6, 2011.
J. Maynard Poythress Jr., CLA '56 of Louisville, Ky., died Jan. 11.
James C. Price, PHA '58, of Rock Spring died Sept. 8, 2011.
Mary Henson Rawls, NUR '54, of Andalusia, Ala., died July 1, 2011.
Robert Boyd Reeder, CLA '51, of Montgomery, Ala., died Jan. 22.
Bibb G. Reynolds, CLA '56, of Kingston died Jan. 5.
Mary Galbreath Smith, NUR '55, of Marietta died Sept. 15, 2011.
Harold Lamar Sangster, CLA '53, of Vienna died Nov. 23, 2011.
Marion L. Sparks, PHA '52, of Sebring, Fla., died Dec. 17, 2011.
Mary Jane Swift, NUR '56, of Dry Branch died May 17, 2011.
John T. Tippet Jr., CLA '51, of Auburn, Ala., died Jan. 27.
Percy Elliot Toney, CLA '56, of Augusta

died Feb. 23, 2011.
Catherine Baggarley Volk, Tift '51, of Macon died Nov. 12, 2011.
James Guy Wallace Jr., CLA '53, of Lithia Springs died April 20, 2011.
Barbara McLain Walker, CLA '57, of Athens died Feb. 5, 2011.
Lauta A. Walker, EDU '50, of Camilla, died Aug. 31, 2011.
Joyce J. Wasdin, CLA '58, of Jacksonville, Fla., died June 14, 2011.
Barbara Hardy White, Tift '51, of Sylvester died Sept. 13, 2011.
Gilbert Donzelle Wildes, CLA '56, of Valdosta died Aug. 17, 2011.
Miriam Gale Williams, NUR '56, of Dalton died May 28, 2011.
Beverly Skipper Willis, Tift '58, of Fernandina Beach, Fla., died Sept. 22, 2011.

1960s

Gertrude P. Adams, EDU '67, of Dawsonville died June 10, 2011.
Carlton E. Barkley, CLA '61, of Macon died July 2, 2011.
Richard Thomas Bridges, LAW '60, of Thomaston died Nov. 29, 2011.
Rodney M. Browne, CLA '60, of Macon died June 3, 2011.
Margaret C. Burke, CLA '65, of Summit, N.J., died June 25, 2011.

Frances Sandra Christensen, CLA '60, of Pittsburg, Kan., died June 17, 2011.
James O. Dayton, CLA '69, of Dade City, Fla., died May 22, 2011.
Loren Gary II, LAW '69, of Swainsboro died May 10, 2011.
John Milton Harrison, LAW '60, of Eastman died July 15, 2011.
Danny Heyward Hattaway, CLA '65, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., died April 30, 2011.
Samuel C. Lee, CLA '64, of Jacksonville, Fla., died Jan. 2.
James A. Loveless, EDU '60, of Avon Park, Fla., died May 10, 2011.
Peggy Lowe, NUR '63, of Gainesville died July 3, 2011.
William M. McClure, PHA '62, of Knoxville, Tenn., died Sept. 28, 2011.
Charles Edward McDonald, PHA '66, of Bardstown, Ky., died Nov. 4, 2011.
Mildred Boston McKneely, Tift '63, of LaGrange died June 10, 2011.
Donald R. Sherwood, PHA '62, of Buford died Aug. 9, 2011.
Alan B. Smith, LAW '60, of Brunswick died July 27, 2011.
Mary Magdalene Stancill, NUR '60, of Dalton died Sept. 8, 2011.
William W. Sutton, CLA '64, of Athens died Oct. 30, 2011.

Margaret P. Talton, EDU '65, of Perry died April 5, 2011.
Walter H. Wilson, CLA '66, of Macon died Jan. 11.

1970s

Berry B. Earle III, LAW '79, of Thomasville died June 4, 2011.
Jimmy L. Gardner, BUS '77, of Alpharetta died Oct. 25, 2011.
Horace L. McSwain III, LAW '74, of Macon died Sept. 7, 2011.
Fred Amsler Miller Jr., LAW '72, of Eastman died Sept. 14, 2011.
Marie J. Sears, EDU '73, of Macon died Jan. 21.
Christopher Edward Zorn, CLA '70, of El Paso, Texas, died Oct. 9, 2011.
Miriam Weeks Zuber, CLA '78, of Macon died Aug. 28, 2011.

1980s

Catherine Y. Anderson, Tift '84, of LaGrange died Aug. 24, 2011.
Patricia Elson, NUR '88, of Martinez died May 28, 2011.
Ann L. Lee, CLA '82, of Fort Valley died June 20, 2011.
Susan Pulliam, BUS '88, of Lithonia died Sept. 15, 2011.
Larry E. Sikes, LAW '86, of Hilliard, Fla.,

died March 5, 2011.
Robert Art Stephenson, CLA '83, of Tallahassee, Fla., died Oct. 8, 2011.
Philip M. Walden Jr., CLA '89 and LAW '92, of Atlanta died June 7, 2011.
Norman Walker, CAS '82, of Athens died Aug. 19, 2011.

1990s

Samuel Evans Anderson, BUS '93, of Macon died Sept. 13, 2011.
Christy Petrie Broyles, CCPS '96, of Lithia Springs died March 30, 2011.
Bardene Skidmore Killgore, CAS '90, of Lilburn died July 12, 2011.
Patricia Ann Walker, MED '95, of Hamilton, Mont., died June 17, 2011.

2000s

Jamier L. Andrews, EGR '07, of Atlanta died July 24, 2011.
Andre J. Evans, DIV '08, of Atlanta died Sept. 26, 2011.
Hayes R. Fairchild, CLA '02, of Atlanta died Dec. 23, 2011.
Mildred Diane Kimbell, NUR '02, of Suwanee died May 23, 2011.
Michael Lawrence Scheve, LAW '06, of Delray Beach, Fla., died Aug. 27, 2011.
Michael William Waldroup, PHA '00, of Fletcher, N.C., died Nov. 17, 2011.

Mercerian Nick Whitlock Dies at 29 in Service to His Country

Capt. Nicholas S. Whitlock, BUS '05, died along with three fellow airmen Feb. 18 in an aircraft accident near Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, while serving in the U.S. Air Force in Africa.

The accident occurred on a return trip from a surveillance and reconnaissance mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, which includes operations in Afghanistan, the Philippines, the Horn of Africa and elsewhere. Having earned a promotion to captain in November 2010, Whitlock was about one week into his fifth deployment since entering the Air Force.

A two-sport athlete and 2001 honor graduate of Newnan High School, Whitlock matriculated in the fall at Mercer, where he played baseball for the Bears. He was a member of the Mercer Ambassadors, a program through which students serve at various University events and represent Mercer in the community. While in college, Whitlock also met his wife, Ashley Oddi, BUS '07, whom he married in 2010.

After finishing his undergraduate studies, Whitlock earned his private pilot's license before joining the Air Force in 2006 and later completed a master's degree in business administration from the University of Florida in 2011.

Also an Eagle Scout, Whitlock understood the significance of serving others and worked with Alaska's Healing Hearts, a non-profit organization that enables disabled military veterans to participate in outdoor activities.

When Whitlock returned to Newnan from Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, members of The Patriot Guard led the procession from the airport as Coweta County citizens lined the route to recognize his family and salute his sacrifice. In addition, as part of the tribute effort organized by his friends and family, yellow ribbons adorned doors and mailboxes along the route to the Whitlock family home.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASHLEY WHITLOCK

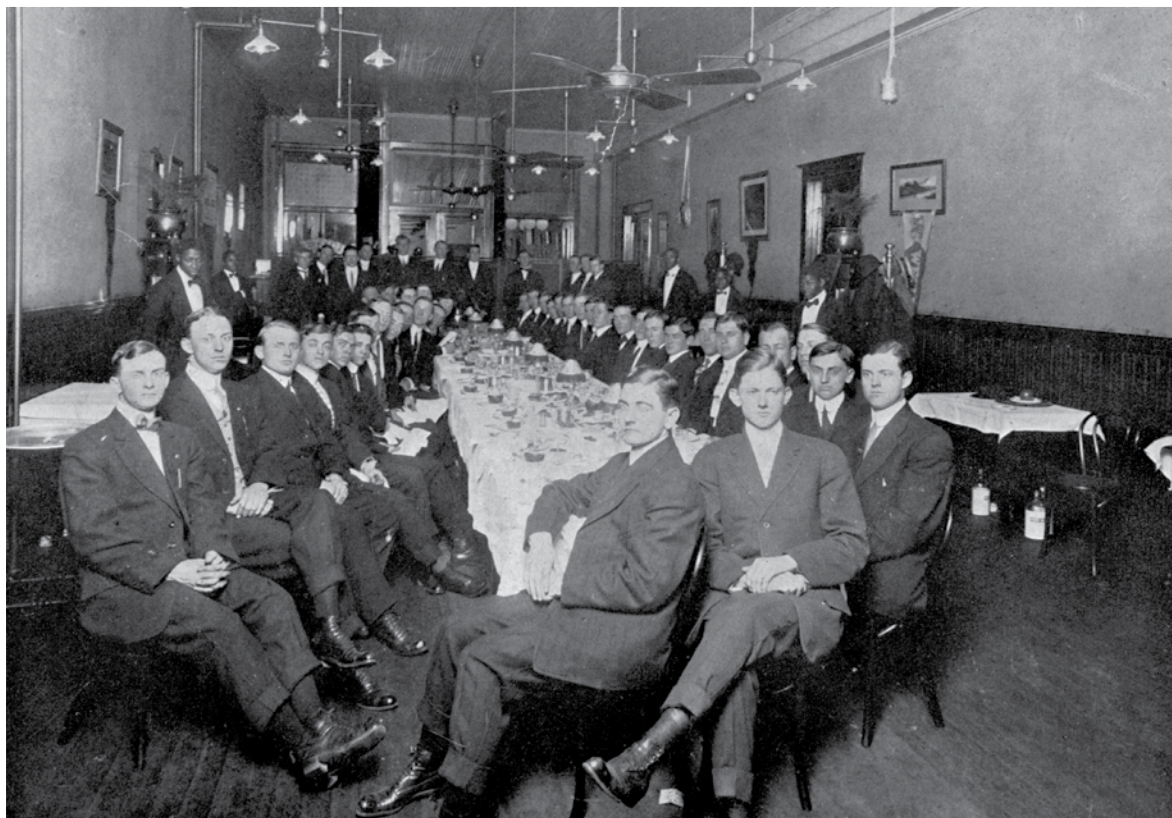
Ashley and Capt. Nick Witlock



25-50-100 Years Ago ...

Photos and archival information for 25-50-100 Years Ago assembled by Laura Botts and the Tarver Library Special Collections staff.

In a photo from the **1912** *Cauldron*, senior classmen are seated around a banquet table, probably in the dining area of Sherwood Hall. The menu featured Spanish mackerel, roast spring chicken, pocketbook rolls and other delicacies, followed by black coffee and cigars.



1962 Activities for Greek Week 1962 included a service project at the Bibb County Children's Home, a chapel presentation on "The Value of the Fraternity System," an auction of faculty members, and the I.F.C. dance featuring the Zodiacs. Students were dancing the twist as they ended the week's festivities.

Long-time Mercer employee and basketball booster Thelma "T-Lady" Ross **1987** was honored with the dedication of "T-Lady's Corner" in April 1987. The Student Government Association named the space in the Connell Student Center in recognition of her years of service in the snack bar and with the Student Activities Office.



Sharing the Lessons of Success

After a 33-year career at Southern Company in Atlanta, Becky Blalock, BUS '84, recently retired from her post as chief information officer for the last nine years. During that time, she collected a wealth of experience and accomplishments.

For driving the advancement of information technology at Southern Company, Blalock received the first-ever Women in Technology Legacy Award at the 2011 Women of the Year in Technology Awards gala. This award recognizes the impact she made on IT at her organization.

When she became CIO, Blalock immediately worked to improve morale among her team members, and the results showed when Computerworld magazine recognized Southern Company among its "100 Best Places to Work in IT." Under her leadership, the organization also started an intellectual property program that secured eight patents before her retirement with 63 more in progress. The work of her team also revolutionized customer service.

"We rolled out more than \$1 billion worth of new technology projects while I was there that really helped revolutionize the way the company operates and enhanced our ability to interact with customers in ways we never dreamed were possible," Blalock said.

Blalock also worked in accounting, finance, marketing, corporate communications and external affairs. While she contributed much to Southern Company, Blalock takes greater pride in the growth of her colleagues under her leadership.

"I think what's significant for any leader is to make sure that when you look back, you see that you made a difference," she said. "I feel like the things I made a difference in are other people's lives."

Now that Blalock has retired from full-time work, she is pursuing passions she simply could not accommodate given the demands of her position. Frequently a public speaker, Blalock always wanted to write a book with advice for young women professionals based on her experience in corporate America. Less than a year into retirement, she already has completed her manuscript and is quickly approaching the book's publication. Blalock hopes to inspire women as leaders in the workplace to be confident and unafraid to take risks.

"If you want to be a leader, that all begins within," she said. "You really have to feel good about yourself and know what it is you want before you can be successful. If you get that right, you're unstoppable."

Though the book is primarily targeted toward women, anyone striving for a leadership position could benefit from the knowledge Blalock shares. As another piece of advice, she also emphasizes the importance of high personal character for effective leadership.

"Integrity and character today are paramount to any leader," Blalock said. If you don't have that, nothing else matters. If people can't trust you, they are not going to follow you, and you cannot be successful in the long term."

Beyond her work as an aspiring author, Blalock maintains many close ties to the business community. She has just become a board member for two start-up companies and also serves on the board of The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and CSI Laboratories, which specializes in cancer diagnostics testing.

In addition, Blalock serves Mercer as a member of the Stetson School of Business and Economics Board of Visitors. She is a member of The Executive Forum, and, during the fall semester, she even lectured on how technology and social media are changing the business world as part of a course taught by several adjunct instructors.

"I've been just as involved as a graduate as I was when I went through as a student," Blalock said.

She credits her Mercer MBA experience as a contributing factor in her career success and believes the program offers students convenient options for pursuing a graduate education taught by faculty who have real-world experience and are accessible to students.

"I felt like the class sizes were small, and I always had teachers who cared about me," Blalock said. "I really was spoiled at Mercer!"



Becky Blalock

Blalock hopes to continue a family legacy at the University as her daughter is in the process of applying to pharmacy schools and was recently accepted at Mercer.

Because of her Mercer experience, Blalock actively supports the Stetson School of Business and Economics not only as a board member and occasional instructor, but also as a donor. It all goes back to one of the many lessons she learned in the course of a successful career.

"Part of one of the chapters in my book is about gratitude and giving back. If you really want to be successful, I think one of the keys is that you need to be extremely grateful for what you have, and you need to come in every day and think about how you can help somebody else. I think a university is a great place to do that," Blalock said. "There's nothing more powerful than helping somebody attain excellence through education."

New Staff Join University Advancement Office

To better serve Mercer's alumni and friends, the Office of University Advancement recently added several new staff members to coordinate fundraising and alumni activities, as well as to build relationships and foster goodwill among the University's constituents.

Drew Bloodworth, a graduate of the University of Georgia, came to Mercer in October 2011 and is coordinator of advancement communications. Bloodworth is charged with managing all development and alumni communication efforts, including print and electronic messaging, as well as its social media presence. His prior communications experience includes work at Aflac, James Bates LLP, Newell Rubbermaid and the UGA School of Law.

Leslie L. Cadle, LAW '07, filled the position of associate director of development and director of alumni affairs for the Law School in January. She has primary responsibility for reviving and supporting the practice of class reunions and for improving the alumni records database. In the development area, her

principal focus is researching prospects, writing major gift proposals, and working with Law School donors. Cadle comes to Mercer from the Macon law firm of Kathy McArthur, where she practiced as an associate.

Matt Duvall, CLA '01 and DIV '04, director of development for the McAfee School of Theology and the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, joined the advancement team in March. Duvall brings a working knowledge of Baptist life to his position, having previously served as senior pastor at First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, Ky., and as minister of students at First Baptist Church in Athens. He has also been a member of the McAfee alumni board of directors.

Jill H. Kinsella, CLA '85, was hired in December 2011 as associate vice president

of alumni services and executive director of the Alumni Association. In her role, Kinsella will lead a team responsible for serving Mercer's 70,000 alumni throughout their lives by promoting alumni involvement in University events, encouraging their financial support and enhancing goodwill with other alumni and the University. She comes to Mercer from Christ Church in Plano, Texas, one of the largest Anglican churches in the United States, where she was director of communications. In addition, Kinsella has served at Time Warner Cable in Atlanta, as well as several broadcast and media organizations in the Washington, D.C., area.

For more information about the Office of University Advancement and giving to Mercer, visit mercer.edu/gifts.

Notable Graduates Honored as 2011 Alumni Award Recipients

At Homecoming 2011, Mercer instituted a new tradition of recognizing outstanding alumni as recipients of University-wide awards.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Joseph M. Hendricks, CLA '55

Better known as "Papa Joe," Dr. Hendricks was a faculty member at the University for more than 40 years and was an instrumental figure during the Civil Rights movement on the Mercer campus. Dr. Hendricks taught as a professor of Christianity and founded the First-Year Seminar program with his sister, Dr. Jean Hendricks, who also taught at Mercer.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Claude Mick Kicklighter, CLA '55

A classmate of Dr. Hendricks, Kicklighter is director of the George Mason University School of Law's Critical Infrastructure Protec-

tion Program. His career covers more than 50 years of public service, first as an Army officer and, since his retirement, in positions in the Departments of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs. In his 35-year Army career, he commanded units at every level from platoon through an Army Division to commander of U.S. Army Pacific.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Eli Morgan, CLA '83

Morgan has passionately supported Mercer since graduation. After completing his degree, he volunteered for three consecutive summers in Mercer's Upward Bound program, which serves students who are first-

generation college attendees or come from a low-income background. In 1994, Morgan chaired the group that started the Joe Hendricks Minority Scholarship Fund, to which he was a significant contributor.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Diane Owens, CLA '77 and LAW '80

A life member of The President's Club, Owens is a partner with Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers in Atlanta and has received recognition from Atlanta Magazine as a Georgia Super Lawyer since 2005. When Owens served as chair of the Board of Trustees in 2010-2011, she became the first woman in Mercer's history to hold the position.

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

HOMECOMING 2012

Send your nominations for
Mercer Alumni Awards
Recipients to be formally recognized
at Homecoming 2012

For information on awards criteria
and to submit nominations, visit
alumni.mercer.edu/alumni-awards

NOVEMBER 9-10

Giving with Gratitude

Drayton, CLA '59, and Mary Etta, CLA '58, Sanders love sending students to their alma mater.

"We are both dedicated to lifelong learning and are interested in providing quality education for young people," Mary Etta said.

The Sanders support the Mercer Athletic Foundation, University Libraries, the College of Liberal Arts and McAfee School of Theology. A new interest of theirs is the Center for Teaching Churches, which works to place McAfee graduates in churches. As members of a Teaching Church, First Baptist of Dalton, the Sanders have witnessed how the Center supports new ministers.

"I profited so much from an internship and residency program before beginning my medical practice," Drayton said. "Similar support for young ministers gives them practical experience and mentoring as a transition to full ministry."

In addition to their generous annual giving, the Sanders' estate plans ensure that their contributions continue at Mercer.

"It goes beyond gratitude to the University," Mary Etta said. "To express gratitude to God and to show good stewardship, we want our resources to go to a good cause and a good place."



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO



Gifts to Mercer make a difference in the lives of our students. For more information on ways to give, contact the Office of University Advancement at (800) 837-2911.

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