

THE

FALL 2016

# Mercerian

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**Macon Campus  
Transformation  
Continues**

**Lewis Becomes  
Mercer's Most  
Decorated Athlete**

**Med School Adds  
Residency Partnership**

## NEW DAY COMING FOR SCIENCES AT MERCER







# In Our Lens

A spectacular new pedestrian bridge connecting the \$50 million Mercer Landing student housing/office/retail/hotel development to campus was formally opened on September 1 prior to the Mercer-Citadel football game. The bridge features an LED lighting system capable of generating more than 4 billion color combinations. A grand new campus entrance on Mercer University Drive was also constructed as part of the project. Collectively, they form an eye-popping gateway from I-75 to campus and to downtown Macon.



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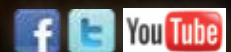
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[mercer.edu/socialmedia](http://mercer.edu/socialmedia)

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# THE **Mercerian**

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**EDITORIAL STAFF**

**EDITOR**

Rick Cameron

**DESIGN EDITOR**

Steve Mosley

**STAFF WRITER**

Kyle Sears CLA '09

**PHOTOGRAPHY COORDINATOR/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT**

Janet Crocker PC '09

**SPECIAL DESIGN**

Ginger Harper, Gerrit Vangenderen

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

John Amis, Beau Cabell, John Carrington, Jan Crocker, Roger Idenden, Harry H. Joiner, John Knight, Amy Maddox, Saldivia-Jones Photography, Matthew Smith, Kellie Welborn, Leah Yetter

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Laura Botts, Jill Kinsella CLA '85, Mary Beth Kosowski, Allen London, Erin Lones CLA '00

**EDITORIAL OFFICE**

*The Mercerian*, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, GA 31207

**T** (478) 301-4024 **F** (478) 301-2684

[www.mercer.edu](http://www.mercer.edu) • [mercerian@mercer.edu](mailto:mercerian@mercer.edu)

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## Inaugural Teaching Fellows Introduced at State Capitol

GOV. NATHAN DEAL, CLA '64, LAW '66, and Arthur Levine, president of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, at the State Capitol on June 1 announced Georgia's second class of Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows, including 12 who will study at Mercer.

Sixty individuals were selected to receive Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowships in Georgia during the 2016-2017 academic year. The highly competitive fellowship program is offered at Mercer, Columbus State University, Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University and Piedmont College.

"The Woodrow Wilson Fellowship is about putting well-trained, committed educators in not only the fields of highest demand in our technology-driven age, but in the schools of highest need here in Georgia," Deal said. "STEM education plays a critical role in our state's competitiveness and future economic prosperity and the most important thing we can do for our students in this field is ensure they have effective teachers. This opportunity for teachers is leading to a brighter future for students as they prepare for the 21st century workforce."

"Under Gov. Deal's leadership, Georgia has demonstrated a strong commitment to identifying, recruiting and preparing top candidates for STEM teaching careers throughout the state," said Levine. "Across the nation, we hear of struggles to get exemplary teachers, particularly those who teach subjects like science and math, to serve in high-need schools. Through the hard work of the governor, the legislature, partner universities and local school districts, we are working together to ensure Georgia's urban and rural communities have the strong teachers our children need to

learn and succeed in the 21st century. Together, we are committed to meeting the staffing needs of Georgia's high-need schools."

Among this class is Mercer's inaugural cohort of Fellows, recent graduates or career changers with strong backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and math who will be prepared to teach in high-need secondary schools. They include Wesley Adams from Gainesville; Jessica Baker from Auburn, Alabama; Frances Clay from Broadview,

in the Tift College of Education.

Each Fellow receives \$30,000 to complete a specially designed, cutting-edge master's degree program based on a yearlong classroom experience. In return, Fellows commit to teach for three years in the urban and rural Georgia schools that most need strong STEM teachers. Throughout the three-year commitment, Fellows receive ongoing support and mentoring.

Woodrow Wilson is administering the program, with in-state coordination by the

Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education and support from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation. Current project funding is \$9.36 million.

All five participating universities received \$400,000 matching grants to develop their teacher preparation programs based on standards set by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation. For each of the program's three years, the participating Georgia colleges and universities will be

able to enroll 12 Fellows, totaling 180 Fellows over that three-year period.

The Woodrow Wilson Foundation is also partnering with a wide range of school districts across the state on this effort. The Bibb County School District, Dodge County Schools, Houston County Schools and Monroe County Schools are partnering with Mercer in Central Georgia.

Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey and Ohio are currently Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship states. The Georgia program brings the Woodrow Wilson Foundation's total commitment to the Fellowship to more than \$90 million nationally.



The 2016-2017 class of Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows was introduced at the State Capitol on July 1. The class includes 12 students who will participate in the highly competitive fellowship program in Mercer's Tift College of Education.

Illinois; Serge Farinas from Miami, Florida; Catherine "Beth" Harvey from Madison; Caitlin Hochuli from Evansville, Illinois; Xiaojuan Liao from Auburn, Alabama; Shekita Maxwell from Macon; Laura Rogers from Decatur; Michael Sommer from Portland, Oregon; Sara Stover from Augusta; and Khelsea Willis from Atlanta.

Maxwell (CHP '13), Adams (EGR '15) and Stover (CLA '16) previously earned undergraduate or graduate degrees from Mercer. Additionally, alumna Dhwani Patel (CLA '16) is among Piedmont's cohort of Fellows.

Mercer's program is directed by Dr. Sharon Murphy Augustine, chair of teacher education

JOHN AMIS PHOTO



## Mercer Debuts in Top Tier of National Universities Category in *U.S. News* Rankings

**M**ercer debuted at No. 135 in *U.S. News & World Report's* national universities rankings, released Sept. 13, joining Emory, Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia as the only institutions in the state to be ranked in the top tier. The No. 135 ranking places Mercer among the top 75 private universities in the country, according to *U.S. News*.

Additionally, Mercer is ranked by the magazine as the No. 24 best value among the 310 national universities, coming in one spot ahead of the University of Notre Dame. Mercer and Emory are the only two Georgia institutions ranked among the top 50 best values in this category.

For the previous 17 years, the University has been featured in the publication as a top 10 regional university in the South. A near doubling in research expenditures and a significant increase in the number of doctoral programs over the past decade resulted in Mercer being reclassified last year as a "doctoral university with moderate research activity" by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Consequently, *U.S. News* elevated Mercer to its national universities category, which includes the premier universities in the United States. The 310 institutions ranked as national universities are evaluated based upon factors such as peer assessment, freshman retention,

graduation rate, class size, student-faculty ratio, academic profile of entering class, acceptance rate and alumni giving.

The best value rankings take into account an institution's academic quality and the 2015-16 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal.

The Mercer School of Engineering's undergraduate program, which consistently ranks among the nation's top engineering programs that have bachelor's or master's as their terminal degrees, is ranked No. 42 based on surveys of engineering deans and senior faculty at accredited programs.

## Trustees Authorize Construction of Science Center and OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field

**M**ercer University's Board of Trustees, meeting April 22 on the Savannah campus at Memorial University Medical Center, authorized construction to begin on a new Macon undergraduate science center, which will be named the Spearman C. Godsey Science Center in honor of Mercer Chancellor R. Kirby Godsey's father and in recognition of Dr. Godsey's multi-million dollar naming gift. Trustees also gave the green light for construction to begin on a new baseball stadium on the Macon campus. As previously announced, the new baseball facility will be known as OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field in recognition of a lead gift provided last year by Macon-based orthopedic medical practice OrthoGeorgia.

Construction on the Godsey Science Center got underway in May (see story, p. 16).

Construction on OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field also began in May. The new stadium will accommodate 1,500 fans and feature premium chairback seating behind home plate. Other features include new dugouts, concession and restroom facilities, press box and camera positions for ESPN3 broadcasts, two open-air suites, a ticket booth,

and the M. Diane Owens Entry Plaza.

In other action, the board approved a record \$239.4 million operating budget for 2016-17, which represents a \$2,261,556, or 1.0 percent, increase over the current budget. For the fourth consecutive year, trustees voted to limit the tuition increase for Mercer's Macon undergraduate programs to 2 percent. President William D. Underwood noted that the University's disciplined approach to holding down costs for students and their families, coupled with the national achievements of its students, has contributed to recognition by

*U.S. News & World Report* and other college guidebooks of Mercer's great value.

Students in the Walter F. George School of Law will see a 1.9 percent tuition increase, the first increase in four years, and Doctor of Medicine students in the School of Medicine will see a 2 percent increase in tuition, their first increase in five years. Increases for most other graduate and professional programs will be 3 percent or less.

**A rendering of OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field. Construction began in May on the new 1,500-seat stadium.**



# Macon Campus Transformation Highlighted by New Facilities, Additional Parking

**M**ercer students who returned to the Macon campus this fall were greeted by several changes, including new dining options and additional parking, aimed at further enhancing student life.

The University Center (UC) food court received a full remodel over the summer and features a Panda Express, P.O.D. Express (Provisions on Demand) and a full-service Chick-fil-A.

Panda Express, one of the fastest growing fast-casual concepts in the country, features Mandarin and Szechwan wok-cooked entrées and sides for lunch and dinner, such as beef with broccoli, orange chicken and Kung Pao chicken.

P.O.D. Express combines the corner store with the style of a modern market, featuring grab-and-go dining options including freshly-prepared breakfast sandwiches, burritos, wraps, sushi and salads, as well as fresh produce, bakery and coffee selections and traditional essentials found in a convenience store.

Chick-fil-A has been a staple at the University for more than 18 years, beginning as an express location with a limited menu in the Connell Student Center. Over the years, the Mercer location's menu and operations have expanded. This year, for the first time, Chick-fil-A brings its full-service model to campus.

In Connell Student Center, another redesigned food court

features Which Wich and P.O.D. Express.

Which Wich Superior Sandwiches offers more than 50 varieties of customizable "wiches." The Which Wich menu also includes vegetarian options and several healthy sandwiches with less than 400 calories each.

Connell's P.O.D. Market also includes Brewed Awakenings, an express coffee bar featuring Starbucks coffee, tea, espresso beverages, bagels, pastries and more.

Auxiliary Services and Mercer Dining have renovated and refreshed the seating and lounge area between the post office and the food court entrance. This area features expanded seating and tables, new flooring, two televisions, wi-fi upgrades, as well as charging stations at many of the tables.

Due to the overwhelming success of its first year, The Farmers Market, located in the UC, has increased its lunch and dinner hours, and The Fresh Food Company in Connell Student

Center has expanded its deli offerings to include fresh-baked breads, sub sandwiches and more.

Additionally, a private franchisee will be opening a full-service Subway in Mercer Village later this fall.

The completed construction of several new facilities, including Legacy Hall and the Lofts at Mercer Landing, have resulted in nearly 600 additional parking spaces on campus.

Students entering South Campus from Mercer University Drive are greeted by a redesigned entrance at Stadium Drive, as well as the new pedestrian bridge from Mercer Landing, which includes the Marriott TownePlace Suites and several restaurants on the block adjacent to the lofts.

For more photos of campus improvements, visit [construction.mercer.edu](http://construction.mercer.edu).

**An aerial view of Legacy Hall (lower left), Mercer's new 300-bed residence hall that opened this fall.**



MATTHEW SMITH PHOTO



## Mercer On Mission Deploys More Than 200 to 11 Sites

**M**ercer On Mission, the University's unique blend of study abroad and service learning, deployed 181 students and 20 faculty members to 11 sites in South America, Asia and Africa from May through August.

This summer's activities included the initiative's 10th visit to Vietnam, during which participants fit their 5,000th patient with the Universal Socket Prosthetic developed and patented by Dr. Ha Vo, associate professor of biomedical engineering.

A team of 23 biomedical engineering students, two graduate assistants and four faculty members left for southern Vietnam on June 1 to work at clinics provided for permanent use by the Vietnamese government in the cities of Ben Tre, Can Tho and Hau Giang. During the three-week trip, the team fit nearly 500 amputees and saw more than 2,000 orthopedic patients.

Thanks to new partnerships and funding, as well as government support, Mercer officials are working to expand the program in order to fit as many as 10,000 amputees each year.

"Over the course of our program in Vietnam, we have seen the scope and quality of our work increase immensely. The very first year

we fit 38 patients with prostheses; this year we anticipate fitting over 500 patients," said Dr. Craig McMahan, dean of chapel and University minister, who oversees Mercer On Mission.

"The impact of our work is immediate. An amputee may hobble into the clinic on a very primitive, handmade prosthetic, or limp in on crutches, or even crawl in on hands and knees. The experience of fitting them with a prosthetic that allows them to walk out with a perfect gait and carry on a normal life is nothing short of amazing. On a number of occasions, our patients have remarked that getting the Mercer prosthetic is a life-changing opportunity for them."

This summer's Mercer On Mission sites also included:

- Dr. Michelle Vaughn and Dr. Martha Lee Child from the Tift College of Education led 11 students to Belize to work with local teachers and students on improving teaching skills and educational outcomes.
- Dr. William Bina III and Gayle Bina from the School of Medicine led 22 students to Cambodia and 23 students to Honduras to set up medical clinics.
- Randall Harshbarger from the College of Liberal Arts and Dr. Michael MacCarthy from the School of Engineering led 14 students to Madagascar to work on clean water projects, including replacing components in water pumps that are causing toxic levels of lead exposure.
- Dr. Etienne Musonera and Dr. Gerry Mills from the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics led 12 students to Rwanda to continue work with widows and orphans of the 1994 genocide to help them develop small businesses to provide for their families.

- Dr. Eimad Houry and Dr. Mary Alice Morgan from the College of Liberal Arts led 12 students to South Africa to provide racial tolerance and anti-bullying programs to three segregated schools.
- Dr. Sinjae Hyun from the School of Engineering led 19 students to South Korea to conduct English classes and robotics training for North Korean refugees who live near the international headquarters for Samsung.
- Dr. Natalie Bourdon and Dr. Amy Nichols-Belo from the College of Liberal Arts led 11 students to Tanzania to partner with Dutch-run non-governmental organization Upendo Daima, which provides shelter, counseling and rehabilitation for former street children. The team developed health modules and provided tutoring.
- Dr. David Ritchie from the School of Law and Dr. Bridget Trogden from the College of Liberal Arts led 15 students to Peru to work toward United Nations sustainability goals, including installing solar-powered lights.
- Dr. Adam Kiefer and Dr. Clara Mengolini from the College of Liberal Arts and Dr. Antonio Saravia from the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics led 19 students to Ecuador to work with artisanal gold miners to reduce their exposure to toxic levels of mercury and with coffee growers to improve their production, processing and distribution. Begun in 2007, Mercer On Mission provides life-changing experiences for students through a combination of academic instruction, cultural immersion, meaningful service and spiritual reflection. To date, more than 1,000 students have participated in trips to nearly 100 sites in Southeast Asia, Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and other areas of the world.



## Center for the Arts Receives Excellence in Rehabilitation Award

THE GEORGIA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION presented the Tattnell Square Center for the Arts an award for Excellence in Rehabilitation. Scot Mann, director of Mercer Theatre, attended the April 22 ceremony in Marietta on behalf of Mercer.

The historic Tattnell Square Presbyterian Church on

the corner of Macon's College and Oglethorpe streets was restored by the University in 2014 to

become Tattnell Square Center for the Arts. The Center serves as a community theatre and arts venue, as well as home to the University's Theatre Department. The Center accommodates visual and performing arts, lectures, film screenings and workshops hosted by community arts organizations.



AMY MADDOX PHOTO



## Mercer Launches Center for Leadership and Ethics

**P**resident William D. Underwood on March 21 announced the launch of the Center for Leadership and Ethics, a multidisciplinary effort to develop global leaders required for the demands, challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

"I asked retired Lt. Gen. Mick Kicklighter, a Mercer trustee and 1955 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, to help me envision how the University could continue to support the leadership development of our students across all locations and programs, building on a strong heritage of equipping leaders," Underwood said.

"With an alumni base including the current chief justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, a former attorney general of the United States, 12 governors — including Georgia's current governor, two United States senators, and many more Mercerians leading in corporate boardrooms, as entrepreneurs, in higher education, as principals, teachers, and superintendents in our public and private schools, and numerous other walks of life, Mercer has been involved in the support and

development of leadership since its founding."

The Center's work will focus on the coordination of all initiatives across the University — building synergies where appropriate, maintaining the integrity of existing programs and developing new ideas — to support leadership development across all programs and locations.

"I am honored that the president asked me to assist with the work to highlight, strengthen and assess leadership and ethics as an integral part of the Mercer experience," Kicklighter said. "Being a Mercer graduate, I am grateful for what the institution has done for me, and I look forward to working with faculty and staff on this important initiative in the life of the University."

As part of the the launch announcement,



ROGER IDENBERG PHOTO

the Center sponsored an inaugural lecture by Gen. Michael Hayden, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"If we ever needed young people to be well schooled in history and philosophy and sociology and anthropology and science, today's the day," Hayden said as part of his presentation, "Leadership in a Troubled World."

## Southern Conference Launches Voter Engagement Competition

**I**n an attempt to address one of American democracy's biggest problems — low and unequal participation that leads to low levels of engagement beyond college — the Southern Conference launched "SoCon Votes," the first voter engagement competition in an NCAA Division I athletic conference.

"SoCon Votes," conceived by recent Mercer graduate and former Student Government Association President Joey Wozniak, aims to capitalize on existing rivalries among schools to transform student voting engagement into a contest to be tracked by a national voting organization.

Each of the conference's 10 participating institutions will form a team among students, faculty and staff to compete in four rounds. After each round, a panel of voter engagement advisers will rank the teams based on a rubric.

"The rubric will consist of certain criteria like get-out-the-vote efforts, ballot access, voter knowledge and more," said Wozniak, who received a grant from the Knight Foundation

Fund at the Community Foundation of Central Georgia to launch the initiative. "Theoretically, schools will come up with innovative ways to reach out to students in those specific areas."

In the first round, teams will sign up for the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), which offers colleges and universities the opportunity to learn student registration and voting rates. Teams will be judged based upon their institution's voter turnout for the 2012 election.

In the second round, teams will create a playbook designed to increase voter engagement for the 2016 election and be judged based on the composition of their plans, while in the third round, teams will put their playbooks into action and be judged based on how successful they were in implementing their plans.

The championship round will be judged based on NSLVE reports for the 2016 election, with awards going to the teams with the highest

undergrad voter turnout and the most improved undergrad voter turnout.

"This can be an effective method of taking the competitive nature all students have for their institution and converting it into action that benefits the democratic process," said John

Iamarino, commissioner of the Southern Conference. "We're proud that the SoCon can play a role in encouraging student voter turnout."

Wozniak outlined his plan for "SoCon Votes" to student affairs professionals representing the Southern Conference's member

institutions in Asheville, North Carolina, on March 4 and received overwhelming support.

"The various schools from around the conference were very positive about the concept," said Dr. Douglas Pearson, vice president for student affairs at Mercer. "It is great to see student civic engagement given such a prominent place at our institutions and in our conference."



## Stamps Foundation Announces Fifth Class of Scholars

**T**his fall, Mercer welcomed five incoming freshmen as part of the University's fifth class of Stamps Scholars and the 11th class overall for the

Stamps Family Charitable Foundation and its 36 partner institutions across the country.

Mercer's newest Stamps Scholars include Evan Hjort from Fall City, Washington; Grace Maloney from Marietta; Moriah Roycroft from Davidson, North Carolina; Lindsey Smallwood from Waycross; and Elizabeth Tammi from Oviedo, Florida. With the addition of this fifth class, 23 Stamps Scholars are on the University's campus this fall.

Stamps Scholars are chosen for their strong leadership potential, academic merit and exceptional character. The Foundation supports promising students who are eager to make contributions to the world and have the work ethic to make their dreams a reality.

This year's incoming class of Scholars, selected from more than 400,000 applicants, is

made up of 209 students with diverse academic interests including biomedical engineering, public policy, medicine, music and education.

The Stamps Scholarship covers all expenses for four years of undergraduate study and

opportunities to attend biennial conventions, where Scholars are able to network with one another and learn from recognized leaders. Stamps Scholars are known for their significant contributions to their campuses.

Thirty Stamps Scholars have won nationally prestigious academic awards to further both undergraduate and graduate studies. These include Fulbright, Gates Cambridge, Goldwater, Marshall, Rhodes, Truman and Schwarzman scholarships.

Beyond graduation, Stamps Scholars continue to distinguish themselves in their professional and graduate careers. Stamps alumni are working with top companies and organizations such as Google, McKinsey & Co. and NASA and pursuing graduate degrees at prestigious universities

such as MIT, Stanford and Oxford.

E. Roe Stamps IV, who was raised in Macon and is a graduate of Stratford Academy, and his wife, Penny, established the foundation in part to help exceptional students realize their dream of achieving a college education.



Mercer's fifth class of Stamps Scholars includes, left to right: Grace Maloney, Lindsey Smallwood, Moriah Roycroft, Elizabeth Tammi and Evan Hjort.

also includes a monetary enrichment fund that Scholars can use for their academic and professional development. Other benefits of the scholarship include participation in a national day of service; access to a growing network of scholars and alumni; and

## McAfee Recognized as 'Seminary that Changes the World'

**M**ercer's James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology has been recognized as a "Seminary that Changes the World" for 2016-17 by the Center for Faith and Service.

Each year, the Center identifies a select group of seminaries and divinity schools offering innovative courses, programs and opportunities for students seeking to engage in social justice and service work while in seminary.

McAfee's recognition as a "Seminary that

Changes the World" reflects the School's ongoing work to influence racial reconciliation,

**SEMINARIES**  
*that CHANGE the WORLD*  
CLASS OF 2016-17

foster interfaith dialogue, teach community development and launch well-rounded ministers.

"At McAfee School of Theology, our goal is to equip transformational leaders for the church, the community and the world," said Dr. Jeff Willetts, dean of the School. "This recognition demonstrates that McAfee's vision for ministry preparation comports with the world's need in a dynamic and ongoing way."

The Center for Faith and Service is an organization that works to help seminaries, service programs, denominations and local congregations connect faith with service and social justice work.



# Innovation Center Names Inaugural Class of Fellows

**T**he Mercer Innovation Center (MIC) recently selected its inaugural class of Mercer Innovation Fellows, who this fall began the process of launching two new businesses with startup funds, housing, office space and access to University facilities and other resources provided by the Center.

HeadNoise is a headband that allows only the wearer to listen to music through bone conduction — the conduction of sound to the inner ear through the bones of the skull. The product is developed by Micah Givens and Marcos Zacarias, both recent Mercer graduates.

Givens earned his bachelor's degree in computer engineering with a minor in



Givens



Zacarias

business, while Zacarias earned his bachelor's degree in electrical and electronics engineering. Together, over the past year, they won the MIC's Next Big Idea business pitch competition, were named the top senior design project at the School of Engineering's annual Engineering Expo and were semifinalists at the Techstars Global Startup Battle.

KUDU Safari Braai is a wood-burning grill, griddle and fire pit with interchangeable attachments allowing the user to cook multiple items simultaneously. The product is developed by Stebin Horne, a Macon native and graduate of the University of Georgia and Mercer Law School.

Horne has experience in the healthcare and legal industries and has served the local community in several capacities, including as a Macon City Council member and a board



Horne

member for the Macon Water Authority.

As Mercer Innovation Fellows, these two startups will each receive a prize package that includes \$20,000 in funds, housing and parking on Mercer's campus, office space and MIC membership for a year, paid student interns, access to Mercer facilities, access to local investors, and coaching and mentoring by the MIC's advisory board.

Both startups have launched Kickstarter campaigns to secure additional funding. Visit [www.kickstarter.com](http://www.kickstarter.com) for more information and to search for and contribute to these projects.

The annual Mercer Innovation Fellowships are open to entrepreneurs, 21 and older, from across the world, in addition to current Mercer students. Applications for next year's fellowships are available at [mic.mercer.edu/fellows](http://mic.mercer.edu/fellows).

For more information on the Mercer Innovation Fellows program, contact Dr. Lankford at [lankford\\_sm@mercer.edu](mailto:lankford_sm@mercer.edu).

## Macon, Mercer Habitat Organizations Recognized in Washington

**A**s part of the 10th annual Habitat on the Hill conference Feb. 2-4 in Washington, D.C., Macon Area Habitat for Humanity (MAHFH), supported by efforts of Mercer student chapter, received one of two 2016 Advocacy Awards for working to combat blight in Middle Georgia.

"The 2016 Advocacy Awards are designed to recognize and highlight the outstanding advocacy efforts being implemented around the world throughout the Habitat network," said Carolyn Tilney, project specialist for Habitat for Humanity International's Washington, D.C., office.

Blossom Thao, vice president of Mercer's chapter, joined Harold Tessendorf, executive director of MAHFH, in the nation's capital for the three-day conference, during which more than 200 Habitat representatives from across the country urged federal lawmakers to support program and policies that promote safe, decent and affordable homeownership opportunities.

Thao and Tessendorf gave a presentation on MAHFH's "Blight Out of Sight" campaign, which was launched in 2014 to begin demolition on some of the 118 blighted homes

in Macon's Lynmore Estates neighborhood.

While visiting Capitol Hill, Thao and Tessendorf met with Georgia's senators and

representatives to share the work of MAHFH and discuss policy priorities, including much-needed housing finance reform.



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

## FACULTY ROUNDUP

### ■ Gushee Receives Wilbur Award for Religion News Column

Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics Dr. David Gushee was presented one of the Religion Communicators Council's 22 Wilbur Awards April 2 in recognition of his column writing for Religion News Service (RNS).



Dr. Gushee

The awards are given to honor excellence by individuals in secular media — print and online journalism, book publishing, broadcasting and motion pictures — for communicating religious issues, values and themes during the previous year.

Dr. Gushee was presented with the Wilbur Award for Digital Communications: Faith-Based Blogs during the council's 87th annual national convention in New York City.

The Wilbur Awards, named for the late Marvin C. Wilbur, a pioneer in religious public relations, longtime council leader and former Presbyterian Church executive, have been presented annually since 1949. Juries of media professionals, coordinated by council members across the country, evaluate submissions in eight categories based on content, creativity, impact and excellence in communication religious values.

This year's award-winners came from a diversity of media outlets, such as The Associated Press, The Atlantic, CBS News, CNN, National Geographic, NPR, Oprah Winfrey Network, Slate and *Vanity Fair*.

Dr. Gushee is widely regarded as one of the leading moral voices in American Christianity. As Distinguished University Professor at Mercer, he teaches in McAfee School of Theology and throughout the University in his specialty, Christian ethics. As founding director of the Center for Theology and Public Life, he organizes events and courses to advance quality conversations about major issues arising at the intersection of theology, ethics and public policy.

### ■ Morgan Named United Way of Central Georgia Volunteer of the Year

Dr. Mary Alice Morgan, senior vice provost for service learning and professor of English and women's and gender studies, was presented with the second annual Lt. Randy Parker Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award at the annual meeting of the United Way of Central Georgia in March.

The award, created to recognize a volunteer who is outstanding in raising awareness for United Way's efforts in the local community, is named for the Macon-Bibb County firefighter who heroically

gave his life in the line of duty in February 2015. Parker was actively involved in United Way of Central Georgia among many other community organizations.

Dr. Morgan, who joined the Mercer faculty in 1997, has spearheaded the University's efforts to promote service learning and civic engagement since July 1, 2008.

Under her leadership, Mercer is one of only 361 universities to earn the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification, has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll,

and has been recognized by the Clinton Global Initiative University. Additionally, in 2013, she was named a finalist for the national Campus Compact Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award.

Dr. Morgan was instrumental in the development of United Way of Central Georgia's Read2Succeed Initiative, which focuses on making sure children are reading at or above grade level when they finish third grade. Read2Succeed was launched at nearby Ingram-Pye Elementary School and received a \$225,000 challenge grant last June from The Peyton Anderson Foundation to expand to nine other elementary schools. The initiative grew out of a successful reading program involving Mercer student tutors at Ingram-Pye piloted by Dr. Morgan.

### ■ Vokhiwa Elected President of Georgia Fulbright Association

Dr. Zipangani Vokhiwa, associate professor of science in Penfield College, was recently elected president of the Fulbright Association's Georgia Chapter.



Dr. Vokhiwa

Dr. Vokhiwa served as principal investigator for an \$84,220 Fulbright Hays Group Projects Abroad grant awarded to Mercer by the U.S. Department of Education in 2012. He led a team of 10 teachers and two administrators from Metro Atlanta on a four-week trip to his home country of Malawi to collect data for a research project titled "The Interaction of Environment and Culture in Malawi."

He has also led three Mercer On Mission trips to Malawi — in 2010, 2011 and 2013 — where students worked at two orphanages and watershed sites to address water quality and environmental sustainability initiatives alongside community leaders.

Dr. Vokhiwa joined the Penfield College faculty after serving as assistant professor of biology at Kennesaw State University from 2003-2007.



Dr. Morgan

JAN CROCKER PHOTO



His teaching and research interests include sustainable watershed management, ecological monitoring, ecosystem approach, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives.

The Georgia Chapter was founded in the early 1990s and organizes six major annual events for visiting Fulbright scholars, students and alumni. For more information, visit [fulbrightga.org](http://fulbrightga.org).

## Moretti Joins Ehnes Quartet for Concerts in Seoul, South Korea

Amy Schwartz Moretti, a member of the Ehnes Quartet and director of the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, a special institute within Mercer's Townsend School of Music, traveled to Seoul, South Korea, to perform all 17 of Beethoven's quartets over six concerts in 17 days. The group left the U.S. on June 17, and the first concert took place on June 25 at the IBK Chamber Hall in Seoul.

The Ehnes Quartet, formed in 2010, has been hailed as "an important new force in the chamber music arena" with a "dream-team lineup" (*Strings Magazine*). The quartet is composed of four internationally renowned string musicians: violinists James Ehnes and Moretti, violist Richard O'Neill and cellist Robert DeMaine. The quartet will return to Mercer's Fabian Concert Series in February, where the group will also give a master class to Center students.

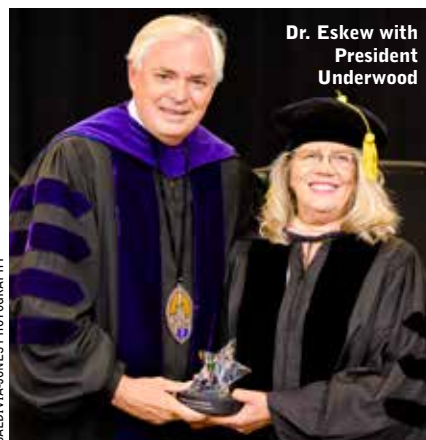


Moretti

## Eskew Receives Hendricks Award for Excellence in Teaching

Penfield College Professor of English Dr. Margaret Eskew received the Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award at Mercer's Macon commencement in May.

The Hendricks Award recognizes a full-time teacher who best exemplifies



SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

Dr. Eskew with President Underwood

the qualities that distinguished Joe and Jean Hendricks as teachers and mentors to generations of Mercer students. These include challenging and inspiring teaching in and out of the classroom, active engagement of students in the process of learning, discovery and leadership, as well as caring mentoring to motivate students and junior faculty to achieve their highest aspirations.

Dr. Eskew earned her bachelor's degree from the University of New Orleans and her Master of Arts in German literature from Tulane University, where she began her teaching career and later served on the faculty. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in linguistics from Georgetown University, where she also taught courses in German language and German women writers and served on the faculty of the Georgetown Summer School in Trier, Germany.

In her current appointment as professor of English in Penfield College, she serves Mercer's working adult learners. She previously directed the University's English Language Institute in Macon.

She has won numerous awards, such as the Innovations in Teaching Award co-sponsored by Mercer and Vulcan Materials Co., for excellence in teaching and innovative practices in student learning environments and recognition for the language programs she founded and directed.

Dr. Eskew's research centers on the World War II era and the linguistic and cultural analysis of propaganda. She authored *The Syntactic Preferences of Adolf*

*Hitler*, published by Peter Lang, and served as publishing editor of two recent books by author Dodie Cantrell-Bickley — *The Reason of Fools* and *A Reason to Fear*.

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award, which carries a \$5,000 stipend, is named for two of Mercer's greatest teachers, who are legendary at the University for their dedication to students and for their ability to engage students in transformative learning and discovery.

Dr. Jean Hendricks, a 1942 graduate of Tift College, served as chair of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts, and was the beloved dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in Atlanta. Dr. Joseph Hendricks, a 1955 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts taught for 32 years in the First-Year Seminar program, which he and his wife were instrumental in creating. He also founded the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and taught for years in the Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts.

## Bartlett, Boggs Selected for Teaching Fellows Program

Dr. Jennifer L. Bartlett, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, and Dr. Olivia M. Boggs, associate professor in Tift College of Education, were recently selected as 2016 Governor's Teaching Fellows.

The Governor's Teaching Fellows Program was established in 1995 by Zell Miller, governor of Georgia from 1991-1999, to provide the state's higher education faculty with expanded opportunities for developing important teaching skills.

Dr. Bartlett participated in an intensive summer symposium, while Dr. Boggs is participating an academic year symposia program.



Dr. Bartlett



Dr. Boggs

# OnTheQuad

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### ■ Rice Earns Goldwater; Resnick Receives Honorable Mention

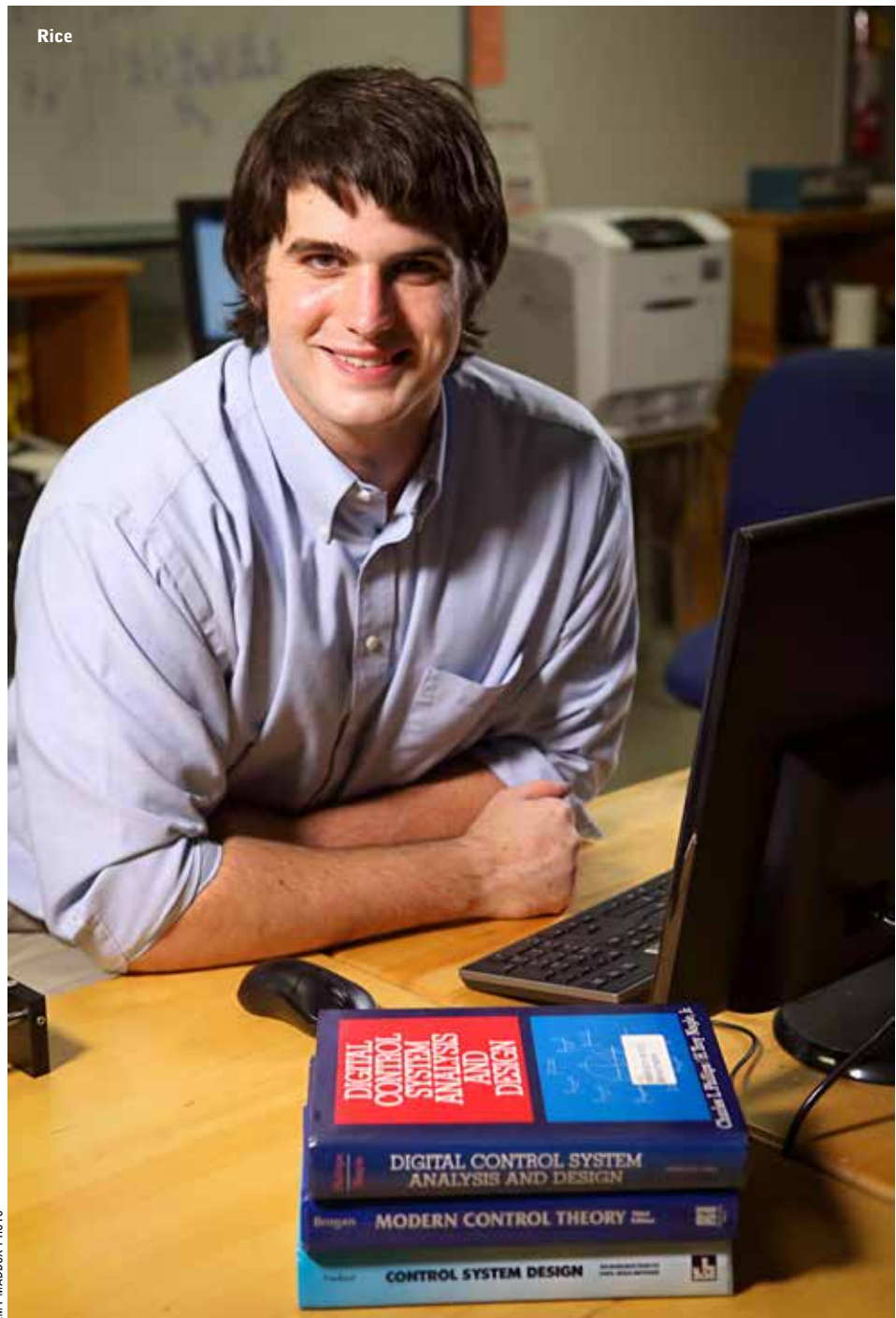
Junior Zechariah Rice earned one of the nation's most prestigious and competitive research scholarships for undergraduate students, the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, which was awarded to only 252 students for the 2016-2017 academic year. Rice is the University's fourth Goldwater Scholarship winner in as many years.

Additionally, junior Jessica Resnick was selected as an honorable mention for the Goldwater Scholarship, marking the second time that the University has had two students recognized by the Goldwater Foundation in the same year. Over the last four years, Mercer undergraduates have claimed 22 percent of the Goldwater Scholarships awarded to students at Georgia colleges and universities.

"Applicants undergo a rigorous application process and must write a detailed scientific proposal for an independent research project," said Dr. Adam Kiefer, associate professor of chemistry and the Goldwater Scholarship faculty representative at Mercer. "This award is not only a testament to these students' hard work, intelligence and determination, but also recognizes their potential as future researchers."

Rice was awarded the scholarship based on academic merit from a field of 1,150 mathematics, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. The one- and two-year scholarships, awarded to undergraduate sophomores and juniors, cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

"It is an honor and a privilege to receive this award, and it brings me great joy to represent Mercer in this capacity," said Rice. "The Lord has blessed me, and for that I am grateful. I am especially thankful to my family, my research adviser Dr. Makhin Thitsa, Dr. Loren Sumner, Dr. Chamaree



AMY MADDOX PHOTO

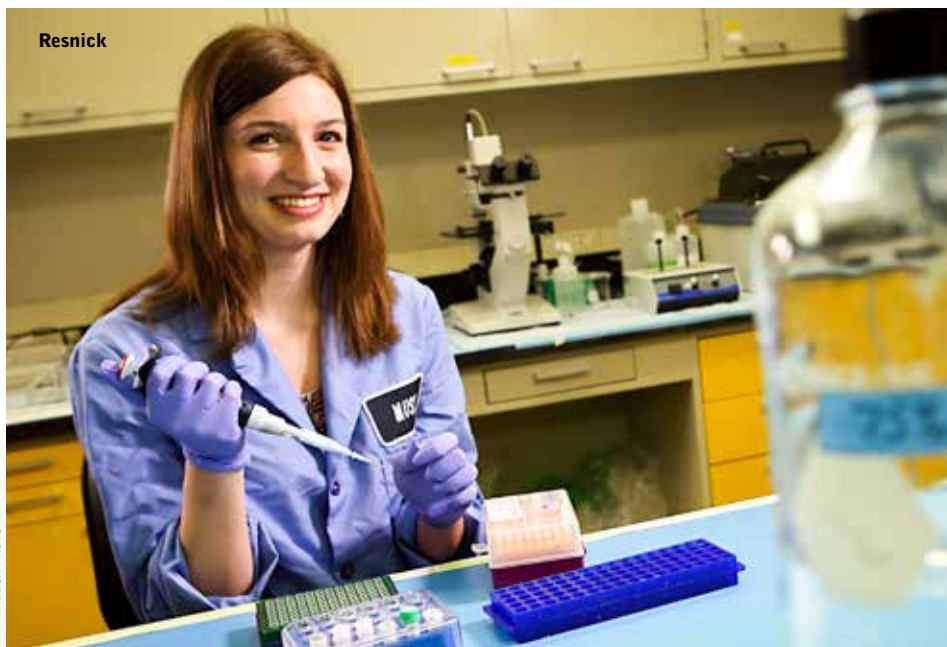
de Silva and Dr. Adam Kiefer, all of whom helped me tremendously in applying for this award."

Rice, from Newberry, Florida, is majoring

in electrical engineering. He works in the lab of Dr. Thitsa, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering in the School of Engineering, where Rice has



Resnick



AMY MADDOX PHOTO

derived the nonlinear feedback control law for controlling a passively Q-switched pulsed laser system.

Rice, who is minoring in Christianity and computer science, plans to obtain a Ph.D. in electrical engineering with a focus in non-linear controls. He hopes to conduct research and teach at the university level. The valedictorian of his graduating class at Newberry High School, Rice received a Presidential Scholarship and Engineering Scholarship to Mercer, in addition to an athletic scholarship to join the football team. He is the University's first engineering student and second student-athlete to earn recognition from the Goldwater Foundation. He also is believed to be the nation's first NCAA Division I football player to be awarded a Goldwater.

Goldwater Scholars have very impressive academic qualifications that have garnered the attention of prestigious postgraduate fellowship programs. Recent Goldwater Scholars have been awarded 86 Rhodes Scholarships, 125 Marshall Awards, 134 Churchill Scholarships and numerous other distinguished fellowships, such as the National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships.

Resnick, from Woodstock, was one of 256 students selected as an honorable mention for the Goldwater Scholarship. She is a biochemistry and molecular biology major who works with Dr. Amy Wiles, assistant professor of biology in the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. Clay Pandorf, assistant professor of physiology in the School of Medicine, on a collaborative project investigating long non-coding RNA (lncRNA) in rat muscle in response to disuse and atrophy.

Resnick plans to obtain a Ph.D. in genetics and conduct research on genetic disease as a professor at a research university.

The Goldwater Foundation is a federally endowed agency established by Public Law 99-661 on Nov. 14, 1986. The scholarship program, honoring Sen. Barry Goldwater, was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields. Since its first award in 1989, the Foundation has bestowed 7,680 scholarships worth approximately \$48 million.

## Orcutt Selected for Amgen Scholars Research Program

Senior Kaydren Orcutt, who was named the University's third-ever Goldwater Scholarship recipient in 2015, was selected as an Amgen Scholar and spent 10 weeks this summer conducting research at the University of California, Berkeley.



Orcutt

A chemistry and Spanish double-major from Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, Orcutt studied at UC Berkeley from May 30-Aug. 5, where she worked in a faculty member's laboratory under the direct mentorship of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers.

In addition to research, she participated in lab meetings, scientific and professional development seminars and workshops, and social activities. She also wrote a paper and presented a scientific poster at the National Amgen Scholars Program Symposium at UCLA in July.

Orcutt, a 2013 Stamps Scholar and participant in the University Honors Program, conducts research in the lab of Dr. Kathryn Kloepper, associate professor of chemistry and director of the Great Books Program. Orcutt is one of several undergraduate researchers utilizing analytical chemistry to investigate better ways to clean up oil spills. Specifically, this research pertains to biosurfactants, which are naturally produced, soap-like molecules that enable water and oils to mix. This work is performed in collaboration with Dr. Garland Crawford, assistant professor of chemistry.

Amgen Scholars is an international program made possible through a 12-year, \$50 million commitment from the Amgen Foundation with direction and technical assistance provided by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Cambridge.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### ■ Patterson, Hamvas Earn Fulbright U.S. Student Awards

Alumnae Precious Patterson and Lena Hamvas were selected to receive prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Awards to either pursue graduate study or teach abroad starting this fall.

Patterson, from Richmond Hill, earned her bachelor's degree *cum laude* in economics with minors in business administration and chemistry in 2015.

She will pursue a Master of Science in Renewable Energy, Enterprise and Management at Newcastle University in Newcastle, England. She plans to study the effects of communal investments on fuel poverty in northeast England and Scotland.

After earning her master's degree, Patterson plans to pursue a career path that aids in the global transition toward sustainable living, such as working on renewable energy policy as an economist or helping businesses transition to renewables as a consultant.

Hamvas, from Marietta, earned her bachelor's degree in global health studies in 2014.

She will spend 10 months as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) in Jordan and then plans to attend graduate school for international comparative education.

Hamvas previously volunteered in Jordan for a summer, working with the Syrian American Medical Society. Additionally, she spent a year teaching English in Thailand through Teach Thailand Corps.

She serves as a full-time AmeriCorps volunteer with the New American Integration Program in Boston, Massachusetts, where she teaches English to immigrants and refugees and coordinates community-building projects.



Patterson



Hamvas

### ■ Three Mercerians Selected for Peace Corps Service

Taylor Jolly and Heaven Woods were selected to serve the Peace Corps following graduation last spring, and senior Gabriel Ramirez has been selected to serve beginning in January.

Jolly, from LaGrange, was a global health studies major with minors in anthropology, political science and statistics. She serves as a community health education volunteer in the Southeast Asian nation of Cambodia, where she works alongside local partners to build the capacity of Cambodians to fulfill their health-related needs.

Woods, from Canton, was a women's and gender studies major with a minor in chemistry. She serves as a high school science teacher in the Central African nation of Cameroon, where she focuses on building leadership skills in students and improving community involvement in education through efforts to improve literacy skills, gender awareness initiatives and enhancement of learning materials in resource-scarce contexts.

Ramirez, from Warner Robins, will be completing the five-year joint bachelor's and master's degree program in the School of Engineering during the fall semester. He will then be deployed as a health volunteer in Ethiopia, where he will serve the Peace Corps for two years by improving local water and sanitation at the household level in an Ethiopian town. He will also participate in educational outreach regarding topics such as HIV/AIDS awareness and gender empowerment.

The Peace Corps, established by



Jolly



Woods



Ramirez

President John F. Kennedy in 1961, is a volunteer program administered by the U.S. government to send the best and brightest Americans abroad to tackle the most pressing needs of people around the world. More than 220,000 Americans have served in 140 countries, and more than 6,900 volunteers are now serving in 63 countries.

### ■ Bless, Wood Join Teach For America Corps in the Carolinas

Recent graduates Emily Bless and Conner Wood were accepted into Teach For America and will spend the next two years teaching in under-resourced public schools in the Carolinas.

Bless, from Acworth, was an international affairs and French double-major with a minor in Spanish. She will teach special education in South Carolina.

Teach For America began its partnership with South Carolina in 2011, and currently has 170 corps members working in partner schools in rural communities in Orangeburg and the Pee Dee along Interstate 95 and in the Lowcountry, including Colleton and Berkeley counties.

Wood, from Cartersville, was a journalism major with a minor in Spanish. She will teach special education in Eastern North Carolina.

Teach For America began its partnership with Eastern North Carolina in 1990, and currently has 280 corps members working in 13 counties that are subject to widespread unemployment and the highest concentration of impoverished families in the state.

Last spring, both Bless and Wood were among the 26 seniors and juniors in the College of Liberal Arts inducted into The Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's most prestigious academic honor society.



Bless



Wood





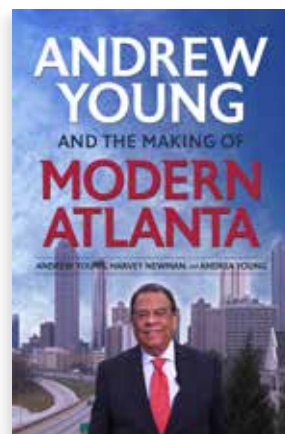
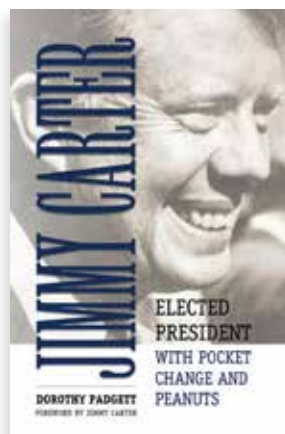
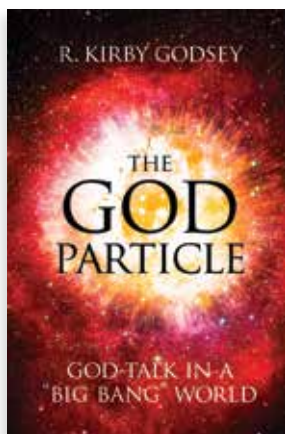
# MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

Small press. Great authors. Impressive books.

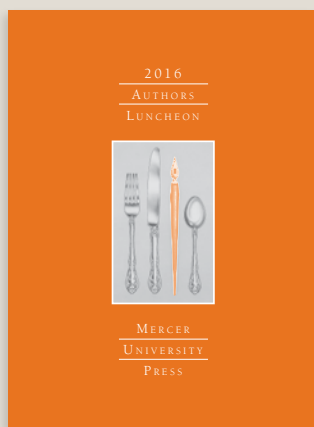
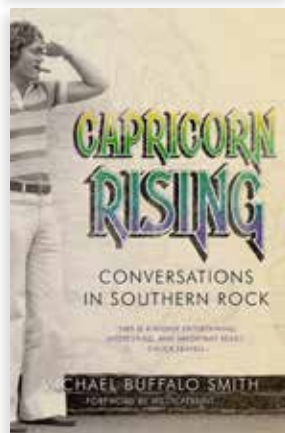
## MUP Offers an Exciting New Season of Books

**P**ublishing 15 books by new and returning authors for the Fall/Winter 2016 season, Mercer University Press offers a variety of history, fiction, education, music, sports and religion titles, along with an illustrated children's book.

Highlighted books from this season include: *The God Particle: God-Talk in a "Big-Bang" World* by R. Kirby Godsey, based on lectures presented at the Mountain Top Lectures in Amicalola Falls, Georgia; *Jimmy Carter: Elected President with Pocket Change and Peanuts* by Dorothy Padgett, a first-hand account of the election campaign of the 39th President of the United States, and more; *Andrew Young and the Making of Modern Atlanta* by Andrew Young, Harvey Newman and Andrea Young, key decisions that led to Atlanta's becoming an international city; *Capricorn Rising: Conversations in Southern Rock* by Michael Buffalo Smith, interviews with some of the greatest stars of the 70s produced at the iconic Capricorn Records; *Lightningstruck: A Novel* by Ashley Mace Havird, a coming of age story set in 1960s South Carolina; and *1, 2, 3, TEAM!*, illustrated by Tina Mullen, director of the UF Health Shands Arts in Medicine, and story by Susie Gardner, head women's basketball coach at Mercer. When a new coach arrives, Zoey learns it takes more than one player to make a team.



Visit [www.mupress.org](http://www.mupress.org) to see a complete listing of titles. Books are available from your favorite independent bookstore and major online retailers. By calling the publisher directly and identifying yourself as a Mercer alum, Mercerians will receive a 40 percent discount on their order. Taxes and shipping charges will apply. Call toll-free (866) 895-1472 or (478) 301-2880.



## Authors Luncheon

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

**Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**  
**InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta**

Authors appearing include Dan A. Aldridge Jr., Joseph Madison Beck, Kathy A. Bradley, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, Johnnie Gabriel, R. Kirby Godsey, Nancy Grace, Ann Hite, Harvey Newman, Dorothy Padgett, William Rawlings, Richard A. "Doc" Schneider, Michael Buffalo Smith, Andrea Young, and Ambassador Andrew Young. For additional information, email [wallace\\_am@mercer.edu](mailto:wallace_am@mercer.edu).



# Spearman C. Godsey Science Center

STATE-OF-THE-ART, \$44 MILLION  
FACILITY A LANDMARK INVESTMENT  
IN RESEARCH AT MERCER





In May, the University began construction on the largest academic facility project in its history to ensure the momentum of its recognition as a national research institution continues.

At a cost of \$44 million, the four-story, 143,410-square-foot Spearman C. Godsey Science Center will include 60 teaching and research labs in addition to classrooms, lecture halls and offices. Its expected completion next December will be a landmark moment for the University.

"Our undergraduate sciences faculty and administrators have invested several years in meticulously planning a 21st century science facility that will serve our students and faculty well into the future," said Mercer President William D. Underwood. "With the support of several major donors who have caught the vision for a first-rate undergraduate science facility at Mercer, we are

going to see this dream become a reality."

Aside from general biology and chemistry labs, the center will include specialized teaching labs in soil and field biology, anatomy and physiology, infectious diseases, molecular and cellular biology, organic chemistry, problems in chemistry and biochemistry. Additional specialized labs to house instrumentation and a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer, as well as a laser lab, computational center, growth room, cold room and tissue culture suite will be included in the facility. Lab space will also be devoted to science courses offered through Penfield College and Tift College of Education.

Three medium classrooms will each seat 75 to 100 students, while four small classrooms will seat 32 students each. The center will house 46 offices and include outdoor seating space as well as an informal amphitheater.

"This new facility will provide the infrastructure to support a variety of laboratories, innovative pedagogies and direct student-faculty interactions in undergraduate research. In turn, this will make us more competitive for grants, fellowships and scholarships, and will open up opportunities such as the ability to take on more research students and to host events like regional meetings and conferences," said Dr. Kevin Bucholtz, director of undergraduate research and associate professor of chemistry.

The center was designed using recommendations and best practices from Project Kaleidoscope, a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) reform center founded by the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

One recommendation to focus on informal learning spaces resulted in the first, third and fourth floors each containing a 3,000-square-foot learning exchange, spaces that will include tables, chairs, couches and charging stations where students can congregate and study.

Another suggestion to incorporate a science-on-display model resulted in an emphasis on interior and exterior windows to make labs more visible to those passing by or through the facility.

"The faculty has been actively involved in the design of the spaces to not only meet our current needs but to think to the future of what cutting-edge STEM education will look like," said Dr. Bucholtz. "The result is a building that focuses on modern laboratories and interactive spaces to provide students with the tools to conduct and high-level research."

The L-shaped Spearman C. Godsey Science Center will anchor the University's new A.V. Elliott Sciences Quadrangle, which will also include the School of Medicine, two School of Engineering and Physics Department buildings and Willet Science Center, which will be repurposed to house the Psychology and Computer Science Departments, as well as other University units.

"By locating the new building near other sciences, the medical and engineering schools and the Mercer Innovation Center, we are developing a tremendous pool of intellectual capacity, broad physical resources and high-quality students to address challenging questions and unmet global needs," added Dr. Bucholtz.

The quadrangle will be named for Mercer alumnus and trustee A.V. Elliott, who provided a lead gift for the project. The center itself is named in honor of the father of Mercer Chancellor Dr. R. Kirby Godsey in recognition of a multi-million dollar naming gift.

"Everyone's life is a story. The story of my father, Spearman C. Godsey, ended abruptly when he died because of an accident in 1935 — six months before I was born," Dr. Godsey said. "I learned of my father from my brothers, Jack and Max, my mother, Chloe, and especially his mother, my grandmother, Janie Godsey Scott, who influenced my life in profound ways. Above all else, she taught me the meaning of grace. This gift is a tribute to this man who lives within me and my brothers and who, even in his absence, has shaped the content and character of our lives."

Additional gifts, pledges and/or challenge grants toward the construction of the facility have been made by the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation; the Peyton Anderson Foundation; an anonymous foundation; Dr. James and Jean Culver; the James Hyde Porter Trust; the E.J. Grassmann Trust; Dr. Bob and Carolyn Hargrove, and a number of other alumni and friends of Mercer.

With four Goldwater scholars in the past four years, numerous recipients of other competitive national scholarships and fellowships in the sciences, and a *U.S. News & World Report* top 50 ranking in undergraduate research opportunities, Mercer's profile as a research institution has never been higher.





*A D E C A D E O F*



*WILLIAM D. UNDERWOOD*



# L E A D E R S H I P

ON JUNE 30, WILLIAM D. UNDERWOOD COMPLETED HIS

# 10<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

AS MERCER'S  
18<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT.

AT THE DEC. 2, 2005, NEWS CONFERENCE WHERE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES INTRODUCED UNDERWOOD AS PRESIDENT-ELECT, HE JOKED THAT ONLY A FOOL WOULD FOLLOW A LONGTIME SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENT LIKE R. KIRBY GODSEY, WHO IS THE UNIVERSITY'S LONGEST-SERVING CEO AT 27 YEARS AND NOW SERVES AS CHANCELLOR. MERCER HAS A HISTORY OF STRONG, STABLE LEADERSHIP. OVER THE LAST 56 YEARS THE UNIVERSITY HAS HAD ONLY THREE PRESIDENTS. BUT IN A DECADE'S TIME — A RELATIVELY SHORT SPAN BY MERCER PRESIDENTIAL STANDARDS — THE INSTITUTION HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN VIRTUALLY EVERY MEASURABLE AREA. THE FOLLOWING PAGES HIGHLIGHT SOME OF MERCER'S MOST NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS DURING UNDERWOOD'S TENURE.

"BILL UNDERWOOD has provided superb leadership for the University. As one who has been in that post, I simply couldn't be more pleased that someone has come in and not only carried on the trajectory of the University, but has made it even better than we imagined. His achievements are just enormous over this decade. I'm delighted that he is there. I'm delighted that he is my friend, and I've enjoyed being able to talk to him on a regular basis. He's such an extraordinary talent. He has strengthened the academic programs. He has brought Phi Beta Kappa to campus. The University has grown academically. The number and quality of students has continued to rise under his leadership. He has really stepped up the engagement between Mercer and Macon. He has made a better university, and I think that's the high calling of the president of a university."

— Chancellor R. Kirby Godsey, Ph.D., 17th President, 1979-2006



**“B**ILL UNDERWOOD is a visionary who has enhanced the Mercer image greatly during his tenure as president. It makes all of us Mercer alumni very proud. Speaking as someone from the governmental side at the state level, I can say that he has made Mercer a valuable partner with the state of Georgia from his extensive expansion of medical education. There are many areas where his expertise and hard work have not only benefited Mercer, but also the state of Georgia. He is a great personal friend, and he is someone I rely on for advice.”

— **Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal**, CLA '64, LAW '66

“MERCER AND MACON have both become more vibrant places in the past 10 years because of Bill Underwood’s vision. He pushes us to dream big — often bigger than we think possible. And then he provides the support to make those dreams a reality.”

— **Kathryn Dennis**, President, Community Foundation of Central Georgia

“I WAS CONVINCED Bill Underwood would bring great things to Mercer, but I would never have believed — and still do not grasp how he did it — all that he would do to inspire Mercer to race to the top of the academic world. Under his leadership, the very face of the Macon campus would be transformed — and so would Mercer and Macon. And Mercer is everywhere on a mission — with Goldwater and Fulbright scholars abounding, a medical school reaching out from Macon and taking root in Savannah and Columbus, students in Vietnam fitting the misbegotten victims of land mines with practical and affordable prosthetic legs that let them walk again, footballs flying through a new stadium filled with full-throated fans, basketballs falling through NCAA nets bringing victory against mighty Duke, the most heralded strings program in the world bringing forth exquisite music, and more and more and more.”

— **Richard A. “Doc” Schneider**, LAW '81, Current Member and Former Chair, Board of Trustees



## 2006-2007

**College Hill Corridor** began as a student class project and developed into one of the country's most successful community redevelopment initiatives, leveraging more than \$7 million in Knight Foundation funding into more than \$200 million in public-private development along the two-mile corridor connecting Mercer's Macon campus to downtown.



## 2007

**Mercer On Mission** established, sending more than 1,000 Mercer students and more than 200 faculty to countries around the world to apply their research and knowledge to solve real-world problems. The Vietnam prosthetics program, the longest-running MOM initiative, has fit more than 5,000 amputees, most of whom lost limbs to land mines left over from the Vietnam War.

**MERCER ON MISSION**  
*Crossing cultures. Changing lives.*

## 2006-2016

### 2008

Celebration of  
**Mercer's 175 birthday**

### 2009

**Enrollment**  
surpasses 8,000

### 2010

Trustees vote unanimously to  
**resume intercollegiate football**

### 2011

**Mercer Village** opens in formerly  
boarded-up retail district



“PRESIDENT UNDERWOOD has consistently addressed faculty concerns, especially effective teaching, research, and faculty benefits and salaries. He has motivated the use of evidence-based assessment practices, culminating in the award of a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Mercer. Under his leadership, research has expanded and broadened with increased grant awards and faculty and student presentations at conferences. His tenacity and vision in solidifying and increasing Mercer’s resources and financial accountability have strengthened the bottom line.”

— **Margaret Eskew**, Ph.D., Professor of English, Penfield College; Chair, House of Delegates (2013-2014); 2016 Recipient of the Joe and Jean Hendricks Award for Excellence in Teaching

“DURING PRESIDENT UNDERWOOD’S TENURE, the colleges and schools within the University have grown leaps and bounds. The transformation of what has occurred on the Macon campus — with the addition of the football team and the new facilities — is just absolutely incredible. Mercer is now not just known in the Southeast but nationwide, and has an international presence as well. I am truly proud to let people know that I graduated from Mercer.”

**Liza Chapman**, PHARM ’02, President, National Alumni Board of Directors

**Significant Student Achievements** — Dozens of students have been selected for prestigious fellowships and highly selective postgraduate service opportunities, including **10 Fulbright Scholars**, **four straight Goldwater Scholars**, and numerous **Teach For America** and **Peace Corps** appointments. And Mercer’s first-ever **Miss America**, Betty Cantrell, was crowned in September 2015!



## 2013

Creation of the **College of Health Professions**.

**Resumption of intercollegiate football** after 72-year absence and set NCAA Division I record for most wins (10) in an inaugural season.



## 2014

Admitted to the **Georgia Research Alliance** (Only Mercer, Emory and UGA hold membership in GRA and host Phi Beta Kappa chapters).

Launched the **\$400 million Aspire fundraising campaign**, which to date has secured more than \$188 million in gifts and pledges.

Construction of **Moye Athletic Complex**, including **Five Star Stadium**, **Anderson Field**, **Drake Field House** and the **Butler Family Plaza**.

**Historic win over Duke** in NCAA men’s basketball tournament, capping the most successful stretch in Mercer basketball history.

**Mid-Major National Player of the Year** in men’s basketball — Langston Hall



**ASPIRE**  
THE CAMPAIGN  
for  
MERCER UNIVERSITY

## 2012

Formation of **Mercer Health Sciences Center**



Added **men’s and women’s lacrosse**, **women’s track** and **beach volleyball**.

Moved from the Atlantic Sun to the historic **Southern Conference**.

**Among the conference leaders** in football and basketball game attendance.



"PRESIDENT UNDERWOOD has been just the right leader for this time in Mercer's history. Building on the vision of Dr. Godsey, President Underwood has taken Mercer to a new level of academic achievement, higher enrollment with better-qualified students, and service beyond the campus in the surrounding community and to remote corners of the world. Under his leadership, Mercer has also reached a higher level in athletics while maintaining the commitment that its athletes be students first."

— **David E. Hudson**, CLA '68, Current Member and Former Chair, Board of Trustees; Chair, 2005 Presidential Search Committee

"IT'S SORT OF SCARY the amount of autonomy he gives our opinions and his willingness to engage the student body and have honest, candid conversations about some very large issues. He doesn't make major decisions on campus without engaging student input in one way or another. He is an incredible role model for people who are aspiring to make a difference and have an impact in the world."

— **Austin Harrison**, CLA '16, President, Student Government Association, 2015-16

"PRESIDENT UNDERWOOD'S LEADERSHIP has been transformative for our community. He has pushed to have Mercer reach out to the community directly around it and to the world beyond so that its students can have a positive impact locally and globally. He recognizes that the success of Mercer will have great benefit to Macon-Bibb County, and the success of Macon-Bibb County will have great benefit to Mercer."

— **Robert A.B. Reichert**, LAW '81, Mayor, Macon-Bibb County

#### Individual Awards and Honors —

- Consistently named by *Georgia Trend* magazine as one of the state's 100 most influential Georgians and has been recognized by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* as one of its "Most Admired CEOs"
- *Macon Telegraph's* Middle Georgian of the Year in 2016
- Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2014



#### Campus Construction —

- In addition to new athletics facilities, the Macon campus has been transformed with more than 900 beds of new student housing, completion of the **Science and Engineering Building**, **Hilton Garden Inn**, **Mercer Village**, **Emily Parker Myers Admissions and Welcome Center**, **Cruz Plaza**, **Center for Collaborative Journalism**, **Bell House** (McDuffie Center for Strings), **Mercer Medicine** (former Georgia Music Hall of Fame), **Mercer Landing** (student lofts, restaurants, University offices and new Marriott TownePlace Suites Hotel), and the **Tattnall Square Center for the Arts**
- **New medical education and research building in Savannah**
- Renovations to a number of **academic, student life and residential facilities in Atlanta and Macon**
- Construction underway on \$44 million **Spearman C. Godsey Science Center**

To see a photo gallery of campus improvements, visit  
[construction.mercer.edu](http://construction.mercer.edu)

## 2015

#### Carnegie Classification update.

Mercer was moved from the "Master's Colleges and Universities — Larger Programs" category to the "Doctoral Universities — Moderate Research Activity" category, underscoring Mercer's status as a national university.

Awarded **Phi Beta Kappa** Chapter (one of only 286 in the U.S. and only six in Georgia).



## 2015-16

#### SoCon Barrett-Bonner Award

for highest percentage of its student-athletes on the league's academic honor roll.

## 2016

#### Golden Spikes Award winner

(Heisman trophy of college baseball) — Kyle Lewis.

Construction underway on **OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field**, new home of Mercer baseball.



MORE THAN  
**21,000**

GRADUATES ADDED TO THE  
MERCER ALUMNI RANKS —  
ONE-FOURTH OF MERCER'S  
LIVING ALUMNI BASE.

OVERALL ENROLLMENT  
(22% INCREASE)  
7,049 to  
**8,603**

MACON FRESHMAN  
ENROLLMENT  
(47% INCREASE)  
567 to  
**831**

AVERAGE SAT  
1180 to  
**1212**

FRESHMAN-TO-SOPHOMORE  
RETENTION RATE  
80.5% to  
**87.4%**

MACON UNDERGRADUATE  
ENROLLMENT  
(26% INCREASE)  
2,305 to  
**2,912**

JULY 1, 2006 TO JUNE 30, 2016



INTEGRATING  
RESEARCH  
AND SERVICE  
TO ALLEVIATE  
SUFFERING,  
IMPROVE  
COMMUNITIES AND  
SOLVE REAL-WORLD  
PROBLEMS HAS  
BEEN A KEY THEME  
AND EMPHASIS  
OF UNDERWOOD'S  
PRESIDENCY.

NEW Ph.D.  
PROGRAMS IN  
EDUCATIONAL  
LEADERSHIP,  
CURRICULUM  
AND  
INSTRUCTION,  
COUNSELOR  
EDUCATION  
AND  
SUPERVISION,  
CLINICAL  
MEDICAL  
PSYCHOLOGY,  
AND NURSING.

VOLUNTARY SUPPORT

**\$150 million**

ANNUAL RESEARCH EXPENDITURES  
(80% INCREASE)

\$18.1 million  
to **\$32.7 million**

OPERATING BUDGET  
(64% INCREASE)

\$162 million  
to **\$265 million**

ENDOWMENT  
(66% INCREASE)

\$172 million  
to **\$285 million**

Ph.D. ENROLLMENT

33 to  
more than  
**300**

Ph.D.s AWARDED ANNUALLY

3 in 2006  
to more than  
**60 in 2016**





# MERCER UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

NOVEMBER 4-6 | 2016

Make the pilgrimage to  
Macon an annual tradition!

Homecoming will feature dozens of events designed to help you find your friends and rekindle your fondness for the Mercer you remember.







Come and explore all of the exciting campus additions and improvements, or reminisce with friends at a tailgate party. Mercer is said to have the best game day environment in the Southern Conference, so make sure to cheer on the Bears when they face East Tennessee State University on the football field. Other featured events for the weekend will include the traditional Half Century Club luncheon, class reunions, alumni career speaker series, alumni awards dinner, pep rally, and so much more. Homecoming 2016 is for all Mercerians! To view photos from Homecoming 2015, visit [homecoming.mercer.edu](http://homecoming.mercer.edu).



Register now at  
[homecoming.mercer.edu](http://homecoming.mercer.edu)  
or (478) 301-2173.



# KYLE LEWIS

## Becomes Most Decorated Student-Athlete in Mercer History

**I**n the many years that Mercer has fielded student-athletes in competition, a number have accomplished mammoth milestones. However, baseball's Kyle Lewis took his game to unprecedented heights this past season claiming practically every prestigious award that recognizes the best player in college baseball. Even though he was not highly recruited coming out of Shiloh High School, coach Craig Gibson saw something in Lewis that resulted in not only his acclaimed career with the Bears, but also made the former Mercer outfielder a first-round draft choice of the Seattle Mariners.



JUAN OCAMPO PHOTO

### 2016 GOLDEN SPIKES AWARD WINNER – THE HEISMAN TROPHY OF COLLEGE BASEBALL

Lewis was awarded one of college baseball's most prestigious honors when he was named the 39th recipient of the Golden Spikes Award during a live presentation on SportsCenter at ESPN's Los Angeles studio. It is considered the Heisman Trophy of college baseball.

The Golden Spikes Award was Lewis' third national player of the year honor as he beat out three other finalists — Louisville's Corey Ray, Florida's Logan Shore and Clemson's Seth Beer.

Lewis — the No. 11 overall pick by the Seattle Mariners in 2016 MLB

Kyle Lewis received the 2016 Golden Spikes Award, signifying the nation's best baseball player, during a live televised presentation in Los Angeles.





Draft on June 9 — joined an elite list of players to win the Golden Spikes Award, including current major league all-stars such as Bryce Harper, Kris Bryant, Stephen Strasburg, David Price and Buster Posey, among others.

In addition to consensus All-America first team honors, the Snellville, Georgia, native has been named the Baseball America National Player of the Year, American Baseball Coaches Association Player of the Year and a Dick Howser Trophy semifinalist. He was also named the Southern Conference Player of the Year for the second straight season.

En route to leading the Bears to a second straight SoCon regular season title and their seventh straight season with 35 wins or more, Lewis established himself as one of college baseball's premier players. He led the nation's regular season best power-hitting team with 20 home runs and 72 RBIs, which ranked sixth and fifth nationally, while ranking top-five nationally in walks (66), on-base percentage (.535) and runs (70) and top-15 nationally in batting average (.395).

The Golden Spikes Award has been presented by USA Baseball since 1978 to honor the top amateur baseball player in the nation. The award is sponsored by Major League Baseball and is presented in partnership with the Rod Dedeaux Foundation.

The former Bear is the first player in SoCon history and second from the state of Georgia (Georgia Tech's Jason Varitek, 1994) to win the award.

### HEAD COACH CRAIG GIBSON ON THE AWARD

"What a great day for Kyle Lewis, Mercer University and our athletic

# KYLE LEWIS

## 2016 TROPHY CASE



**GOLDEN SPIKES  
AWARD**



**NATIONAL  
PLAYER OF THE YEAR**



**NATIONAL  
PLAYER OF THE YEAR**



**SOCON  
PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

program — this is the crown jewel of college baseball and the equivalent of the Heisman Trophy. The Golden Spikes Award couldn't have gone to a better person, player and individual on and off the field.

Kyle represents what a great student-athlete really is, and his achievements have been phenomenal. He's off to a great start in his

professional career, and we couldn't be more excited and proud for Kyle and his family."

"It's unbelievable at our level to have a player of Kyle's caliber and for us to have been a part of his life for three years here in Macon. This certainly adds to our reputation, regionally and nationally, as a successful baseball program."

## Mercer Leads SoCon with 296 Student-Athletes on Academic Honor Roll

**M**ercer University placed a league-best 296 student-athletes on the Southern Conference academic honor roll for the 2015-16 academic year.

For the second straight year the Bears led the league in recipients.

Mercer's 296 honorees were 90 more than any other institution. Wofford was second with 206.



The academic honor roll originated in 1988-89, when SoCon athletic directors established the award to recognize the league's outstanding student-athletes. The academic honor roll consists of student-athletes who participated in varsity sports and posted a 3.0 grade point average or higher, were eligible the entire academic year and were members of the final squad lists.

Of the 1,964 student-athletes on the list, 398 earned the Commissioner's Medal, attaining a GPA of 3.8 or higher throughout the year. That standard is up from 3.5 in previous years. The Bears had 63 recipients of the honor.

A league-record 146 student-athletes boasted perfect 4.0 GPAs in 2015-16, surpassing the previous standard of 122 set last year. Mercer accounted for 26 of the student-athletes to record a 4.0 GPA.

## Mercer Athletics Receives SoCon Academic Award

**T**he Mercer Athletic Department earned its first Barrett-Bonner Award, given to the Southern Conference institution that places the highest percentage of its student athletes on the league's academic honor roll.

"We are proud of our student-athletes and academic support staff for achieving this honor," said Mercer Director of Athletics Jim Cole. "This award is a direct result of the work done by Sybil Blalock and her staff, and it validates our commitment to success in the classroom."

Mercer placed 67.8 percent of its student-



**Dr. Jeff Hugdahl, faculty athletic representative, receives the Barrett-Bonner Award on Mercer's behalf from SoCon Commissioner John Iamarino.**

athletes on the Honor Roll for the 2014-15 academic year.

The Barrett-Bonner Award was first

presented in 1994, for the 1992-93 academic year. The award is named after Col. John G. Barrett, faculty athletics representative at VMI from 1965-87, and Dr. Francis W. Bonner, faculty athletics representative at Furman from 1968-90.

The award was presented to Mercer at this year's Southern Conference Honors Dinner, held in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Other honors handed out at the dinner included the

Graduation Award, the D.S. McAlister Award, All-Sports trophies, Athletes of the Year, and postgraduate scholarships.



## Construction Continues on OrthoGeorgia Park at Claude Smith Field

WORKERS STEADILY SHOW PROGRESS on Mercer's new baseball stadium — OrthoGeorgia Park. The former dugouts, grandstand, press box and concession area at Claude Smith Field have long

been removed and anticipation is now directed toward Craig Gibson's team taking the field in the new stadium this spring to defend its Southern Conference championship.



## Coliseum Medical Centers, School of Medicine Announce Residency Partnership

HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF AMERICA'S SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION and MACON'S COLISEUM MEDICAL CENTERS recently announced the launch of graduate medical education training programs in partnership with Mercer School of Medicine.

“Among our most pressing healthcare challenges is ensuring an adequate supply of well-educated health care professionals to meet the needs of people in this region,” said Mercer President William D. Underwood. “I could not be more pleased that Coliseum Medical Centers is joining with other leading hospitals to address the urgent need for more quality residencies. These new residencies, coupled with the quality residencies at Navicent, will build on the momentum that already exists as we work together to make Middle Georgia a destination for quality health care.”

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Institutional Review Committee granted initial accreditation for Coliseum to provide internal medicine and psychiatry residency and fellowship opportunities to medical school graduates in July 2017. Mercer will provide faculty support, research opportunities, medical libraries and simulation support.

The development of these new programs results from a broader national commitment to creating best-in-class residency programs across the country by HCA. The programs at Coliseum are a part of an investment made by HCA to

establish 150 new residency and fellowship programs over the next few years, adding 2,500 new physician-training positions in 17 states.

“Coliseum Medical Centers is proud of our new partnership with Mercer. Residents will receive training from the most experienced specialists in Middle Georgia. The goal is to develop highly qualified physicians with hopes that they continue practicing here in our community,” said Lance Jones, chief executive officer of Coliseum Medical Centers.

“The nation is facing a worsening physician shortage. What is even more concerning is that there are not enough residency slots for our medical school graduates. The development of quality residency and fellowship programs is essential to ensuring that we have the capacity to care for our communities,” said Dr. John Lucas, vice president for graduate medical education, HCA South Atlantic Division.

Coliseum Medical Centers intends to recruit 10 internal medicine residents and four psychiatry residents to begin in the new programs in July 2017. The hospital plans to add 10 additional internal medicine residents each year for a total of 30 residents and four additional psychiatry residents each year for a total of 16 residents. The programs will incorporate a variety of

experiences that allow residents to focus on inpatient, specialty and ambulatory patient care experiences. Additionally, Coliseum plans to add residency positions in family practice and emergency medicine as well as a transitional year program in subsequent years with the goal of offering 100 residency positions by 2020.

Since graduating its first class of physicians in 1986, Mercer has also maintained a residency partnership with Medical Center, Navicent Health. Navicent, with Mercer as an academic partner, has offered strong graduate medical education programs that positively impact access to quality medical care in Georgia.

“Continued growth of residency positions in Georgia is important to addressing the severe shortage of physicians,” said Jean R. Sumner, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine. “If our graduates are able to enter a residency in Georgia, they almost always stay in state to practice. This new partnership with Coliseum adds to the superb clinical training already offered by Navicent and strengthens the medical care community in Macon and Middle Georgia.”

**Local and state elected officials and representatives from Mercer and Coliseum Medical Centers were on hand for a press conference Aug. 4 to announce the establishment of a new residency program.**



COURTESY OF COLISEUM HEALTH SYSTEM

## College of Nursing Receives HRSA Grant to Improve Workforce Diversity

**M**ercer's College of Nursing was recently awarded a nearly \$350,000 grant by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities who are underrepresented among registered nurses. The HRSA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The College of Nursing is one of 13 nursing programs across the country to receive this grant.

The funding will support the College's Dedicated to Diversity (D2D) project. Funding

will extend over a one-year budget period and focus on retention of nursing students through student stipends, scholarships and opportunities for mentorship and partnerships. In addition, the grant provides academic and peer support.

"Our nursing program is strongly committed to improving the retention of our diverse nursing student population," said Dr. Linda A. Streit, dean of the College "The proposed aims listed in this project are truly innovative and they reflect the mission of the University, as well as Georgia Baptist College of Nursing."

Dr. Lanell M. Bellury, associate professor, will serve as principal investigator and project director for the grant, which involves

collaboration with the Department of Public Health in Mercer's College of Health Professions, as well as the Atlanta Black Nurses Association.

The D2D project will support up to 20 qualified undergraduate students who evidence strong academic potential and economic need.

"The Dedicated to Diversity project will heighten the overall cultural awareness within the College to one which can make positive strides toward cultivating diversity in the profession of nursing," said Dr. Bellury. "Overall, the project aims to provide support to facilitate the success and retention of our students."

## Bellury Selected for Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy

**C**ollege of Nursing faculty member Dr. Lanell Bellury is one of 12 scholars nationwide selected to participate in the 2016-2017 Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (NFLA).

The NFLA, sponsored by The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International and The Elsevier Foundation, is a highly selective, 20-month mentored leadership academy. It is designed to support the recommendations of the 2010 Institute of Medicine report, titled "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health," which calls for "health organizations, including nursing organizations and nursing schools, to provide nurses greater opportunities to gain leadership skills and put them into practice."

The NFLA pairs aspiring full-time, non-tenured faculty leaders, called scholars, with

experienced leadership mentors, supported by NFLA faculty members. The academy curriculum includes a variety of educational strategies for developing leadership knowledge, competence and outcomes, and is designed to

foster academic career success, promote nurse faculty retention and satisfaction, encourage personal leadership development and cultivate high-performing, supportive work environments in academia.



Dr. Lanell Bellury is one of 12 scholars nationwide participating in the 2016-2017 Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy.

SALDIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY



## Warren Named NRHA Outstanding Researcher of the Year

Mercer School of Medicine faculty member Jacob C. Warren, Ph.D., was named Outstanding Researcher of the Year by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) at the association's Annual Rural Health Conference in Minneapolis in May. The conference is the largest gathering of rural health professionals in the nation.



Dr. Warren

Since joining the medical school in 2013, Dr. Warren, who serves as Rufus Harris Endowed Chair and director of the Center for Rural Health and Health Disparities (CRHHD), has published more than 20 peer-reviewed journal articles, delivered more than 30 professional presentations and published the text *Rural Public Health*.

As director of CRHHD, he oversees a multi-million dollar portfolio of federal funding that supports the Center's efforts.

The largest of these initiatives is a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center of Excellence grant that supports a comprehensive research, training and community engagement initiative working to eliminate rural health disparities throughout southeast Georgia. Through this effort, he has led the development and testing of a novel, telehealth-delivered diabetes and hypertension self-management intervention for patients receiving care at clinics for uninsured and socioeconomically disadvantaged rural populations.

He also co-leads numerous community-based participatory research initiatives, including jointly chairing efforts to increase access to health care for rural children in southern Georgia.

"It is quite an honor to be named Outstanding Researcher of the Year by the National Rural Health Association," said Dr. Warren. "I have been very fortunate to have the ability to focus my career on improving health in rural and underserved populations, and to see the work I have been doing here at Mercer in the Center for Rural Health and

Health Disparities recognized in this way is truly humbling."

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and well-being of rural Americans and providing leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education and research. NRHA membership is made up of 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations with an interest in rural health.

## Kohse Named Managing Partner of Mercer Medicine

Larry Kohse, M.D., has assumed the role of managing partner of Mercer Medicine, the School of Medicine's (MUSM) multi-specialty physician practice. Dr. Kohse will work with the medical school's Physician Advisory Committee to direct the physician-led practice.



Dr. Kohse

"Dr. Kohse brings to the practice a wealth of knowledge and skill. Not only has he run his own practice, he is an outstanding clinician with academic interests in practice quality, patient care and efficiency. He has already brought the organization great value," said Jean Sumner, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine.

Dr. Kohse earned his bachelor's degree with honors in microbiology from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, where he also did graduate work in virology. He completed his Doctor of Medicine at the University of British Columbia, as well.

After completing an internal medicine residency, he accepted a fellowship in endocrinology from the Cleveland Clinic. He remained at the Cleveland Clinic for eight years as a staff endocrinologist before relocating his practice to Macon in 1995.

Dr. Kohse is board certified in internal medicine, endocrinology and metabolism, and recently was certified in clinical densitometry.

He has served as a professor of internal medicine and chief of the Endocrinology Division at the medical school since 2013.

He will maintain his consultative practice

in endocrinology at Mercer Medicine.

Mercer Medicine is a multi-specialty physician practice and a subsidiary of the School of Medicine and the Mercer Health Sciences Center. Its physicians specialize in cardiology, critical care medicine, endocrinology, infectious disease, nephrology, psychiatry and behavioral health, pulmonology, sleep medicine and sports medicine. Backed by the academic resources of the University, Mercer Medicine physicians also conduct groundbreaking clinical research in their specialized fields of study. Mercer Medicine currently employs more than 40 faculty physicians with clinic locations at 250 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in downtown Macon and on the Macon campus.

## Watts Selected for National Nursing Research Award

Sarah O. Watts, a Ph.D. student in the College of Nursing, was recently selected to receive the 2016 Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS)/National League for Nursing (NLN) Doctoral Dissertation



Watts

Award. This award is made annually to one doctoral nursing student in the country.

Watts was selected based on her dissertation research proposal, titled "Learning Experiences of Senior-Level, Pre-licensure Nursing Students: An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis."

SNRS and NLN presented Watts with \$5,000 to support completion of her dissertation. Additionally, she received a one-year student membership to the NLN.

Watts formally received the award at the 2016 NLN Education Summit in Orlando, Florida, on Sept. 22.

SNRS and NLN have a strong and mutual interest in promoting nursing education research conducted by doctoral nursing students. Together, they strive to increase the quality and quantities of nursing education-focused research, as well as support the advancement of the science of nursing education.

# AlumniClassNotes

**Key to Mercer Schools and Colleges** — **BUS** — Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics; **CAS** — College of Arts and Sciences; **CLA** — College of Liberal Arts; **PC** — Penfield College of Mercer University; **CHP** — College of Health Professions; **DIV** — McAfee College of Theology; **EDU** — Tift College of Education; **EGR** — School of Engineering; **LAW** — Walter F. George School of Law; **MED** — School of Medicine; **MUS** — Townsend School of Music; **NUR** — Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; **PHA** — College of Pharmacy; **TCS** — Tift College Scholars; **Tift** — Tift College

## Achievements

### 1950s

**Dr. Daniel Roberts**, CLA '53, was honored for more than 20 years of service by the American Cancer Society of Brevard County. He was acknowledged and honored by the Kiwanis Club of Rockledge for Man of the Year. The Florida Society of Dermatologic Surgeons honored him as Surgeon of the Year, and the Florida Society of Dermatology honored him as Practitioner of the Year.

### 1960s

**J. Daniel Falligant**, LAW '68, was recognized as a member of the "Top One Percent" of the attorneys in the nation by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel, an organization dedicated to promoting the highest standards of legal excellence. Falligant, a partner at Bouhan Falligant, has been named "Super Lawyer" and "Legal Elite" by *Georgia Trend*, and "Best Lawyers in America" by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**Toni Vissage Sweeney**, CLA '65, recently received a "Professional Reader" designation from *netgalley.com*. She reviews books for the *New York Journal of Books Online* as well as the *Paranormal Romance Guild*. In April, she completed her third year as promotions manager for Class Act Books, a publisher with whom she has 56 novels in publication.

### 1970s

**T. Edwin Evans**, CLA '71, a family physician from Seneca, South Carolina, became president of the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians (SCAFP) during the SCAFP Summer Break Away & 68th Annual Assembly in June. Previously, he served as vice president and District I director on the SCAFP Board of Directors.

**Donna Ruth "D.R." Jones**, CLA '79, LAW '82, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor at the University of Memphis School of Law. Jones also serves as associate dean for Information Resources and Law Library director. She teaches copyright law and recently served as chair of the Copyright Committee for the American Association of Law Libraries.

**Anne Longman**, CLA '71, was named a 2016 Super Lawyer in the area of administrative law. A partner with Lewis, Longman & Walker in Tallahassee, Florida, she shares this designation with only five percent of attorneys in Florida. She has been recognized as a Super Lawyer for nine consecutive years.

**The Hon. Walter J. Matthews**, CLA '68, LAW '74, retired in September after 28 years of service.

**R. David McCleskey**, CAS '72, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

**Hugh B. McNatt**, CLA '69, LAW '72, was recognized with the 15th annual Chief Justice Thomas O. Marshall Professionalism Award at the 2016 State Bar of Georgia Annual Meeting by the Bench and Bar Committee for demonstrating the highest professional conduct and paramount reputation for professionalism.

**The Hon. Randall A. Meincke**, CLA '71, LAW '75, became a full-time associate judge for the Forsyth County Juvenile Court on July 25, 2015. He was previously appointed as part-time associate judge in August 2014.

**The Hon. J. Carlisle Overstreet**, LAW '70, received the Distinguished Judicial Service Award from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**George C. Reid**, LAW '73, of The Reid Firm LLC, Atlanta, Georgia, has been selected as a Fellow of the American College of Civil Trial Mediators

and was also named as a master mediator by the American Arbitration Association to serve as a mediator in large, complex matters. Additionally, Reid was recently elected as a member of the Georgia Arbitration Forum, a group of experienced commercial arbitrators focused on topics of interest to the arbitration community. Reid's practice is devoted exclusively to the mediation and arbitration of disputes.

**Camilla Sims-Stambaugh**, CLA '74, has joined Stambaugh & Associates PA as a special education advocate/school psychologist after 30 years in the government, non-profit and public school arenas, working with at-risk students. She is completing a book based on her dissertation, *From Behind The Mask: Principal Perceptions of Section 504*.

### 1980s

**Diana Strichard Barber**, LAW '85, is now the assistant professor of Hospitality Law and Liability in the Michael A. Leven School of Culinary Sustainability and Hospitality at Kennesaw State University. Previously, she was a senior lecturer and director of Study Abroad Programs for the Cecil B. Day School of Hospitality Administration at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, and taught at Georgia State for 12 years.

**Kathy A. Bradley**, LAW '81, recently had her second book of essays published by Mercer University Press. The title of the book is *Wondering Toward Center*. She serves as an assistant district attorney for the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit.

**George R. Christian**, LAW '83, was appointed district attorney for the Mountain Judicial Circuit by Gov. Nathan Deal. He has served as acting district attorney since Judge Brian Rickman's appointment to the Court of Appeals in January. He will serve the remainder of Judge Rickman's term to the end of this year.

Submit your personal accomplishments, marriage/births/anniversary or In Memory announcements for *The Mercerian* in the Alumni Class Notes section to Erin Lones, coordinator of Advancement Communications, at [lones\\_ep@mercer.edu](mailto:lones_ep@mercer.edu).

**The Hon. Lisa Ritchey Craig**, LAW '89, CLA '86, joined the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia on March 24.

**Robert Fink**, PHA '83, '84, was recently named vice president of Ancillary Services & Chief Pharmacy Executive and Quorum Health President of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

**The Hon. Ellen Stewart Golden**, LAW '89, was appointed by Gov. Deal to the Board of Trustees of the Judicial Retirement System of Georgia on Aug. 1.

**John Mills**, BUS '86, LAW '89, received the 2016 President's Book Award presented by the Florida Authors and Publishers Association for his book *The Hooker, The Dancer, and the Nun*. He is an attorney in Fort Myers, Florida, and has published six novels.

**Zachery S. Mitcham**, BUSM '80, completed a graduate course of study professional development program in strategic management from Harvard University Extension School on Jan. 15.

**J. William Pierce Jr.**, LAW '82, is listed as leading U.S. Attorney in the area of real estate and secured lending. He is an attorney at Glankler Brown, a Memphis, Tennessee, firm, selected by Chambers USA 2016 guide as a "leading U.S. firm" in the area of Real Estate.

**Bonnie "Boo" McCue Ramage**, BUS '84, celebrated her 25th anniversary with the Greenwood Genetic Center in Greenwood, South Carolina, in April. She serves as the center administrator.

**Darcee S. Siegel**, LAW '85, a Florida Supreme Court Certified Civil Circuit mediator was nominated to serve on the American Bar Association's Board of Governors for a three-year term commencing in August. She was nominated as a section member-at-large to represent the Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division of the ABA.

**Evelt L. Simmons**, LAW '82, was featured in the cover story of the *ABA Journal* March 2016 issue focusing on the decline in the number of African-American women in Big Law. Currently the only female shareholder of color at Greenspoon Marder, Simmons shared her vision for a climate of inclusiveness for women and minorities and the difficulties in changing the paradigm.

**Renee Dukes Smith**, PHA '95, was elected a member of the 2016-2017 GPhA Board of Directors at the GPhA Convention in June. She was also recognized as president of Region 3 for GPhA for 2016-2017.

**Carter L. Stout**, LAW '85, was named Rotarian of the Year by the Rotary Club of Dunwoody for his leadership and service as Director-at-Large and Race Relations Director for the Club's 5K race.

**Jill Anderson Travis**, LAW '86, received the 2015 GACDL President's Award from the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

## Rev. Sharma Lewis First African-American Female to be Elected Methodist Southeastern Bishop

**M**ercer alumna Rev. Sharma Lewis of the North Georgia Annual Conference was elected bishop by the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church in July. Lewis is the first African-American woman elected bishop in the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the first African-American woman elected in the denomination since 2000.

Currently serving as district superintendent of the Atlanta-Decatur-Oxford District, Lewis is a native of Statesboro in the South Georgia Conference and a life-long United Methodist. She graduated from Mercer's College of Liberal Arts with a B.S. in biology in 1985. She also holds a M.S. in biology from the University of West Georgia. Prior to becoming a minister, she worked as a biologist in the academic and corporate sectors. After answering the call to ministry, Lewis earned a M.Div. from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

Before being appointed district superintendent, the Rev. Lewis served at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in McDonough, Powers Ferry United Methodist

Church in Marietta and Ben Hill United Methodist Church in Atlanta. She was the first female senior pastor and first African-American pastor of Powers Ferry United Methodist Church. She was also the first woman to serve as senior minister of Wesley Chapel UMC, and the first woman to serve as district superintendent in the Atlanta-Decatur-Oxford District.



HARRY H. JOINER PHOTO

Lewis



**Paul "Pete" Wellborn**, LAW '89, was reappointed by Gov. Deal to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Technology Authority on July 5.

**Lynn M. White**, LAW '84, an attorney with Baker Donelson in Orlando, Florida, has been named to the 2017 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America for Real Estate Law*.

## 1990s

**Deborah P. Armstrong**, BUS '95, became Piedmont Henry Hospital's new chief operating officer in May. Since 2011, she has served as CEO of Rockdale Medical Center in Conyers, where she helped establish a clinical affiliation with Piedmont Healthcare.

**Patrick D. Banks**, CLA '97, was recently appointed by Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards as the assistant secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

**Darcy Johnson Davis**, BUSM '91, was promoted to CEO of the Health Care District of Palm Beach County Florida. She was unanimously voted into this top executive position by the Board of Commissioners after having served as the chief operating and chief financial officer at the district for the past four-and-a-half years. She was also selected by the *South Florida Business Journal* as one of the top most Influential Business Women for 2016.

**Jonathan W. Hedgepeth**, LAW '91, family law attorney and founding partner at Hedgepeth, Heredia & Rieder in Atlanta, was named a 2016 Super Lawyer.

**Charles "Chuck" Hodges II**, LAW '95, has joined Jones Day as a partner in the domestic and international tax law practice.

**George H. Hartwig III**, LAW '91, district attorney for the Houston County Judicial Circuit, was appointed by Gov. Deal to the State of Georgia Criminal Justice Reform Council.

**Franklin J. Hogue**, LAW '91, received the 2015 G. Terry Jackson Friend of the Constitution Award from the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

**Jennifer Chapman Joyner**, CLA '95, was promoted to assistant vice president of Alumni Engagement & Special Events at Columbus State University and was elected as a trustee of the Phi Mu Fraternity Foundation at the 54th National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

**Brian Kish**, BUS '90, was promoted to general manager of Enterprise Systems at Delta Air Lines Inc. on May 1. In this role, Kish leads a team of system architects and functional support specialists in the growth and sustainment of SAP enterprise software.

**Christy Peacock Kovac**, BUS '93, was recently promoted to president of Sheridan Construction in Macon. She is the first woman to head a major Middle Georgia construction company.

**Carole Frauman Maddux**, BUSA '94, received the 2016 Community Impact Award by Georgians for a Healthy Future.

**Christopher N. Smith**, LAW '91, was appointed a Knight of the Order of Dannebrog in recognition for his valuable services as Consul of Denmark in Georgia. He was appointed Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Denmark in 2006. The Royal Danish Consulate was established in Georgia in 1802 and is one of the oldest foreign missions in the state.

**Cristy Carter Swink**, BUS '94, was recently appointed vice president and general manager for AT&T Florida. In her new role, she will oversee more than 2,100 employees in AT&T company-owned retail stores and manage the company's relationship with AT&T's authorized and national retailers in Florida, who operate nearly 800 stores. She has been with the company since 1994, starting as a sales manager for BellSouth Mobility in Greenville, South Carolina.

**Jonathan J. Tuggle**, LAW '98 was elected president of The Charles Longstreet Welnert Family Law American Inn of Court. He was also named a 2016 Super Lawyer in the area of family law and was recognized among the Top 100 Super Lawyers. He has been recognized five times by the publication.

**LuWanna Williams**, EDU '95, was named acting director of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics at Fort Valley State University in July. For the past eight years, she has served in a variety of capacities at FVSU, including overseeing all aspects of student-athlete recruiting and certification, ensuring adherence to all rules and regulations set forth by FVSU, the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

**Amy Reeder Worley**, CLA '97, LAW '00, joins Merz Pharmaceutical in Raleigh, North Carolina, as senior corporate counsel. She was most recently a principal at Jackson Lewis, leading the Privacy eCommunications and Data Security practice group.

## 2000s

**William K. Boddie Jr.**, LAW '03, was elected to House District 62 (South Fulton & Douglas County) in the Georgia House of Representatives on July 26. He is a managing partner at The Boddie McKnight Law Firm LLC in Atlanta.

**Blake Bowler**, BUS '07, earned his Ph.D. in accounting from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and is joining the University of Florida as an assistant professor.

**Shelly Brockman**, BUS '07, launched a women's entrepreneurship agency aimed at teaching women how to start, build and grow a successful business. The agency has guided dozens of women through the process of bringing a business to market.

## Charles Williams, M.D., Receives American College of Radiology Gold Medal

**D**r. Charles D. "Pedro" Williams, CLA '62, received a Gold Medal from the American College of Radiology in Washington, D.C., on May 15. Madame Marie Curie from France received this award in 1931, and W.D. Coolidge received this honor in 1927 for inventing the tungsten x-ray tube. Each year, the ACR Board of Chancellors awards the College's highest honor, the ACR Gold Medal, to an individual for distinguished and extraordinary service to the American College of Radiology or to the discipline of radiology.

Dr. Williams has served on some 50 commission, committee and task force positions in the American College of Radiology, including vice president. He was a member of the ACR Board of Chancellors for eight years and chaired the ACR Commission on Human Resources. He has been the keynote speaker in more than 40 state meetings. He previously received a Gold Medal from the state of Florida. In July 2015, the Florida Radiological Society named their legacy lecture the Charles D. Williams Legacy Lecture.

He is a practicing diagnostic radiologist in Tallahassee, Florida, and, in 2012, was selected as the most outstanding physician in Tallahassee by the Capital Medical Society. Dr. Williams was listed by *RT Image* magazine as among the top most influential among hospitals, institutions and individuals in the nation. John Hopkins Hospital was listed as 4th, Massachusetts General Hospital as 15th, Mayo Clinic in Minnesota as

19th and Dr. Williams was listed as 17th.

While a student at Mercer, Dr. Williams served as president of the sophomore class, vice president of the freshman class, freshman adviser and president of Blue Key. He was also a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. He is married to Patricia E. Williams, and they have six children and 15 grandchildren. Their daughter, Sharon Flagge Dailey, is a 1994 Mercer alumna.



COURTESY OF DR. CHARLES WILLIAMS

**David C. Kushner, M.D., left, president of the American College of Radiology, presents the Radiology Gold Medal to Dr. Charles Williams.**

**Ivy Cadle**, LAW '07, was elected president of the William Augustus Bootle Inn of Court for 2016-2017. He is also serving as the president-elect of the Macon Bar Association, as well as the chair-elect of the Eminent Domain Section of the State Bar of Georgia.

**Elizabeth A. Carr**, CLA '06, LAW '10, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17. Previously the assistant director of Career Services at the Mercer University School of Law, she was promoted to director of Career Services on July 25.

**Liza Guy Chapman**, PHA '02, was installed as president-elect of the GPhA Board of Directors at the GPhA Annual Convention in June.

**James R. DiAngelo**, NUR '07, '11, was promoted to director of Nursing Practice and Governance at Piedmont Healthcare.

**Dr. Frederick Lee Flynt Jr.**, MED '05, joined the University Cancer and Blood Center's physician staff. He is board certified in internal medicine, hematology and oncology.

**Rhett Fraser**, CLA '05, LAW '08, was selected as a Rising Star for 2016 in "Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice" by *Super Lawyers* for the state of Oregon.

**Bradley Mitchell Harmon**, LAW '02, was named one of the 2016 Georgia Rising Stars. He was also elected managing partner at Hunter Maclean, a business law firm in Savannah and Brunswick, Georgia.

**James M. Hunt**, CLA '06, earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education at Florida State University in April.

**M. Anne Kaufold-Wiggins**, LAW '05, received the Award of Achievement for Service to the YLD from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Octavia M. Lawton**, CLA '07, CHP '09, graduated from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine and began her residency in family medicine at The Medical Center/Navicent Health.

**Nicholas J. Laybourn**, LAW '05, of Hunter Maclean in Savannah was named one of the 2016 Georgia Rising Stars.

**William Patrick Miles Jr.**, LAW '01, was promoted to partner at Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers LLC in Marietta.

**Floyd S. "Trey" Mills III**, LAW '05, was named one of Top 10 Personal Injury Attorneys in the state of South Carolina for 2016 by the National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys. He is also recognized as a "Rising Star" for the fifth consecutive year by *Super Lawyers* Magazine. He has served as an IPTAY Representative since 2007, served on the boards of the Cancer Association of Anderson and The American Red Cross Upstate Chapter, served as the president of the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division and been named in the National Trial Lawyers Top 100.

**Christopher J. Mueller**, LAW '05, was named a 2016 Super Lawyer in the area of construction law. In July, he spoke at the ALFA International Construction Practice Group seminar in Rancho Palos Verdes, California on the topic of "The Building Code and Beyond: Government's Role in Construction and Construction Litigation."

**Odilia Okoroukwu Osakwe**, PHA '09, recently published a book with Academic Press. The book title is *Social Aspects of Drug Discovery, Development and Commercialization*.

**William K. Otto**, CLA '07, LAW '10, joined the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority in Washington, D.C., as an attorney in the Office of Litigation and Policy on May 13.

**Kevin Patrick**, LAW '08, recently opened his own practice, Kevin Patrick Law, in Atlanta. His firm specializes in personal injury and represents individuals and families throughout Georgia.

**Jodi Weber Phelps**, CLA '01, was recently named executive director of University Communications and Marketing at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Before joining UNCP, she was the chief operating officer for Action Pathways Inc., a private, non-profit human services agency in Fayetteville.

**Charlotte J. Redo**, LAW '06, was appointed chair of the Labor & Employment Law Section for the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA). Prior to her appointment, she served two consecutive years as the cochair of GABWA's Community Service Committee, spearheading various community service projects in the metro Atlanta area.

**Sunny R. Sandos**, LAW '09, was recently named the executive director of Planned Giving for East Tennessee State University. Sandos was also elected as president of the Northeast Tennessee Young Lawyers Association of the Tennessee Bar Association covering a jurisdiction of nine counties.

**Deiton Samuel Schwalls**, ENG '00, was elected to a two-year term as regional director for the National Association of State Floodplain Managers, serving the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. He was also elected as vice president of the Florida Floodplain Managers Association.

**Jonathan E. Smith**, LAW '05, was one of 25 attorneys selected by the Fulton County Daily Report as "On the Rise," awarded to Atlanta area attorneys under the age of 40 for professional excellence. Smith is associate general counsel for the Atlanta Braves.

**Jeremy Timmerman**, CLA '08, won a Georgia Press Association Award in June in the 2016 Better Newspaper Contest. He received the first place award for education writing. He is a journalist for *The Telegraph* in Macon.

**Robert Scott Tomerlin**, PHA '06, was installed as president of the Florida Pharmacy Association for 2016-2017 during the association's 126th Annual Meeting & Convention held June 29-July 4 at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort in Broward County, Florida.

**Laura Baumgartner Traylor**, LAW '02, has joined MendenFreiman LLP as an Of Counsel Attorney practicing estate planning, trust and estate.

**Stuart Walker**, LAW '04, was elected president of the Macon Bar Association.

**Keagan Waystack Goodrich**, LAW '04, of Bushway and Waystack Attorneys at Law in Macon has been selected for inclusion into its Top 100 Criminal Defense Trial Lawyers in Georgia by The National Trial Lawyers.

## 2010s

**Ashley A. Akins**, LAW '13, received the Award of Achievement for Service to the Public from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Alexandra M. Blaha**, ENG '14, was named project manager and continuous improvement lead for XPO Logistics.

**James Daniel Cole**, BUS '07, LAW '12, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Laura Corley**, CLA '14, won the Georgia Press Association Emerging Journalist Award in June for her work at the weekly *Douglas Sentinel*. She is now a public safety reporter at *The Telegraph* in Macon.

**Dustin E. Davies**, LAW '11, received the Award of Achievement for Service to the Bar from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Carmen D. Echols**, PHA '12, became UNC Children's Inpatient Pediatric Pulmonary Clinical Pharmacist in August. She works with cystic fibrosis patients and their families.

**R. Walker Garrett**, LAW '10, was elected to District 8 City Council in Columbus on May 24.

**Amanda N. Heath**, LAW '10, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Kristi Marie Winger Minor**, LAW '13, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Justin L. Oliverio**, LAW '10, was recognized in the Sole Proprietor category for raising 12,200 pounds of food during the 2016 Legal Food Frenzy.

**Elizabeth Pool O'Neal**, LAW '11, received the Award of Achievement for Service to the Public from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Steven L. Pruitt II**, LAW '14, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Michael A. Rivera**, LAW '11, graduated from the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia on June 17.

**Emily Traylor Vande Lune**, CLA '13, recently graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law. In August, she began a one-year position as a law fellow at the University of Alabama office of counsel.

**Katherine Noel Willett**, LAW '10, was appointed managing partner of the Burroughs Elijah Law Firm Office in Greenville, South Carolina. She has served as a litigation attorney in Atlanta, focusing her practice in the areas of construction/business litigation, as well as landlord/tenant matters, collections work and plaintiff's personal injury. She has also worked as a trust and estates attorney in Augusta.

# Marriages, Births, Anniversaries

## 1980s

**Stephen A. Hedden**, CLA '89, married Maria Kalamas of Montreal on May 21 at Eastside Baptist Church in Marietta.

## 1990s

**Robin C. Wetherington**, CLA '97, and Mark Purdy were married on Sept. 26, 2015, in Dahlonga.

## 2000s

**Christina Beasley Huseman**, CLA '05, and her husband Mark announce the birth of their daughter, Bristol Jo, on April 11.

**Krystal Marie Morris Keith**, MUS '07, and her husband Kasey announce the birth of their first child, a daughter named Karson Grace, on Jan. 11.

**James A. Robson**, LAW '07, and his wife Kate announce the birth of their daughter, Lydia Charlotte, on Feb. 22.

**Sarah MacConnell Schanck**, BUS '06, and her husband Justin announce the birth of their second child, Connor Justin, on May 31.

**Amanda Gluck Steger**, LAW '07, and **Brett Lee Steger**, LAW '07, announce the birth of their second child, Andrew Brett, on Dec. 24, 2015.

## 2010s

**Robert W. Johnson**, LAW '14, and **D. Jordan Quinley**, LAW '14, were married on March 19 at The Foundry at Puritan Mill in Atlanta. Robert represents insurance companies in automobile accidents at Gower Wooten & Darnelle LLC in Atlanta and is licensed in Georgia and Alabama. Jordan, licensed in Georgia, practices commercial real estate and commercial lending at Burr & Forman LLP in Atlanta.

**Jennifer Friend Block**, LAW '10 and **Jesse Block**, LAW '11, announce the birth of their second daughter, Emily Katherine, on April 9.

**Opie D. Bowen**, LAW '10, and **Sarah Elizabeth Baggett**, PHA '13, were married in Dahlonga on June 4.

**Tiffany Norris Cooper**, CLA '07, LAW '10, and her husband Kyle announce the birth of their daughter, Scarlett Rhea, on Sept. 27, 2015.

**Lindsey Hancock**, CLA '15, married Donald Warden on July 9 in Franklin, Tennessee. The couple resides in Mississippi.

**Lindsey Anne Hansen**, LAW '14, and **Adam Henry Miller II**, LAW '14, were married on April 17 in Norcross.

**Danielle Phillips McBride**, LAW '10, and her husband, Ashley Steven McBride, announce the birth of their daughter, Annabeth Audrey, on April 1. **Matthew Mitchell**, LAW '10, and his wife Tasha announce the birth of their twin boys, Mercer Gage and Sawyer Rhett, on May 25.

**The Hon. Rizza Palmares O'Connor**, BUS '07, LAW '10 and **Daniel O'Connor**, LAW '12, announce the birth of their second child, Evelyn Lee, on April 3.

**Carrie Keel Trivett**, CLA '06, and **Eric Trivett**, CLA '05, LAW '08, announce the birth of their second child, William Bradley, on Aug. 20, 2015.

**Jeannette Salter Waring**, LAW '10, and **William Winburn Waring III**, LAW '10, were married on the beach in Mexico on Oct. 31, 2015.



## In Memory

### 1930s

**Barbara Farmer Kincheloe**, TIFT '39, Richmond, Virginia, April 27.

### 1940s

**Dorothy McLendon Anderson**, EDU '44, of Florence, Alabama, July 6.

**Eugenia Finney Barksdale**, CLA '43, of Atlanta, June 12.

**Gerald Camp**, CLA '49, Jacksonville, Florida, June 21.

**Dorothy Huffman Cross**, TIFT '40, of Charlotte, North Carolina, June 15.

**Charles Rich Jr.**, CLA '43, of Chicago, Illinois, July 16.

**James M. Grant**, CLA '49, of Milledgeville, May 27.

**Eulin McCorkle Hamilton**, TIFT '41, of Dearing, May 7.

**Marinel Smith Harris**, TIFT '46, of Stone Mountain, June 4.

**James Harrison**, CLA '49, of Macon, April 5.

**Florrie L. Malphrus Kirkley**, TIFT '49, of Darien, May 26.

**Marion Lowery**, LAW '48, of Avondale Estates, April 13.

**Sara Bess Strickland Luidens**, CLA '45, of Rockford, Michigan, March 29.

**Leighton Chick Martin**, EDU '49, of Brevard, North Carolina, June 3.

**Martha Jordan Nicholls**, TIFT '46, of Arlington, Texas, July 20.

**Luther Bernard Thigpen**, AB '49, of Asheville, North Carolina, died Aug. 11.

**M. Louise Leverett Williamson**, TIFT '45, of Panama City Beach, Florida, May 23.

**Iva Jeanne Moody Zetrouer**, TIFT '48, of Palatka, Florida, July 17.

### 1950s

**James Allen**, CLA '57, of Macon, June 12.

**Ben Amos**, PHA '58, of Fairburn, June 26.

**Edwena Wells Bagley**, NUR '52, of Lula, June 17.

**Betty Barnes**, NUR '56, of Statesboro, April 23.

## Beloved Former English Chair Dr. Ben Griffith Jr., CLA '44

**D**r. Benjamin Woodward Griffith Jr., Mercer alumnus, former University trustee and former chair of the English Department, died June 14 at the age of 94. Dr. Griffith was born March 30, 1922, in Lanett, Alabama. During his lifetime, he made significant impacts professionally, socially, artistically and personally. Four institutions of higher education benefited from his talents as an educator, folk musician and prolific writer.

Dr. Griffith's dedication to Mercer, in addition to his faculty tenure, included service as a trustee and as a member of the Mercer University Press Board of Directors. His family ties to Mercer also include his late brother, Dr. Jim Griffith, CLA '49, formerly the executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention; son, Benjy, CLA '77, now a University trustee; and Benjy's wife, Teresa, CLA '78.

In 2001, Mercer established the Benjamin W. Griffith Jr. Chair of English and Development Fund.

After receiving a Bachelor of Arts from Mercer in 1944, Dr. Griffith earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University in 1948 and 1952, respectively.

Dr. Griffith began his career in education as a professor of English and chair of the department at Tift College from 1950-55. He also served as a visiting scholar at Duke University in 1955. He then joined the faculty at Mercer, where he served as associate professor of English and, subsequently, director



Dr. Griffith

of freshman English and full professor in 1957; chairman of the department in 1961; and Pollock Professor of English from 1955-1970. He also served as Mercer's golf coach for several years.

From 1970-73, he was a professor and head of the English Department at West Georgia College in Carrollton. On July 1, 1973, he was named dean of the graduate school at West Georgia. He retired in 1987.

Dr. Griffith's gifts as a writer and author have touched the lives of many in print and music. He wrote the lyrics for a Christmas song, called "Come and See the Babe," published by Broadman Press in 1982.

Dr. Griffith was a close personal friend of the late author Flannery O'Connor. Several of his letters to her were published in a collection of her letters, *The Habit of Being*, and he is mentioned several times in the editor's notes.

His gifts as a specialist in the field of early 19th-century literature have been recognized both in this country and abroad. In 1956, he had scholarly articles printed in a British academic journal published by the Oxford University Press. In total, he published more than 50 articles on literary figures.

Dr. Griffith had two books of theater classics published in 1961, among the four books he authored and the three he edited. The most noted is the publication *McIntosh and Weatherford, Creek Indian Leaders*. In 1992, he also wrote a two-act play, *The Murder of Chief McIntosh*.

In addition, Dr. Griffith lectured on folk music, founded and, for several years, directed the Georgia Collegiate Folksong Festival, and wrote book and movie reviews and columns for various Georgia newspapers and *The New York Herald Tribune*. A number of his articles appeared in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* magazine.

Dr. Griffith served in the U.S. Navy from 1943-46. He became a lieutenant and served in World War II, receiving Atlantic, Pacific, China, Philippines and Victory medals.

## Founding Medical School Faculty Member Oscar Spivey, M.D., CLA '41

**D**r. Oscar Smith Spivey, Mercer alumnus, former faculty member and generous supporter, died on July 18. He was born in Macon on Oct. 3, 1925, to Dr. Oscar Smith Spivey and Eugenia Lowe Spivey. Spivey graduated from Lanier High School and was accepted into the Navy V-12, an accelerated education program during WWII.

He graduated from Mercer University in 1947 and attended the Medical College of Georgia. He completed his medical training at Tulane University and Charity Hospital in New Orleans, at that time the largest hospital in the country. On completion of his pediatric medical training in 1950, he reported to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Pensacola where he was part of the Air Search and Rescue Unit at Corry Naval Airbase.

In 1954, Spivey returned to Macon to join his stepfather's pediatric practice. After 27 years in private pediatric practice, Spivey became the founding chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at Mercer University



Dr. Spivey

School of Medicine. While there, he and others recognized the need for a dedicated children's hospital serving central Georgia, which led to the birth of The Children's Hospital at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in 1987.

He continued as professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Mercer from 1982 to 2000, and as chief of the Department of Pediatric Education and medical director of the Children's Hospital, and was honored by the Medical Center of Central Georgia for 31 years of service and dedication.

Dr. Spivey was a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Macon Rotary Club, the Bibb County Medical Association, Palaver Club, U.S. Closed and Vineville Methodist Church. He was recognized by many for his tireless dedication to the medical care of the children of Georgia, serving as president of the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and receiving awards that included the Physician of the Year Award from the Bibb County Medical Society (2000), the Founding Father of Pediatrics Award from Mercer University (2000), the Humanitarian Award from MedCen Healthcare (2005) and the Leila D. Denmark, M.D. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (2014).

His many contributions are recognized by the Oscar Spivey, M.D., Child Advocacy Award that is provided to outstanding young pediatricians in training at Children's Hospital/Mercer University.

**Marietta Zimmerman Barnes**, CLA '58, of Richmond, Virginia, July 13.  
**Maxine Blackmon**, NUR '56, of Wilsonville, Alabama, March 15.  
**Sara Hall Bradford**, CLA '54, of Roswell, April 29.  
**William Brewer**, PHA '50, of Atlanta, April 30.  
**Connie Smith Bruce**, CLA '53, of Lilburn, Feb. 8.  
**Olin Burkhalter Jr.**, CLA '53, of Macon, July 22.  
**Mary Joyce Henderson Campbell**, CLA '54, of Chatham Township, New Jersey, May 17.  
**Mary Cannon**, TIFT '53, of Decatur, March 5.

**Mildred Timmerman Clark**, CLA '50, of Jackson, Tennessee, Feb. 17.  
**Betty Jones Cook**, NUR '50, of Atlanta, April 10.  
**Anne Bonner Covington**, TIFT '50, of Amelia Court House, Virginia, April 29.  
**Michael Deep**, LAW '50, of Macon, May 9.  
**Donald Dove**, CLA '53, of Grayson, July 9.  
**Gans Earnest**, CLA '54, of Okeechobee, Florida, July 23.  
**Barbara Anne Wagner Foster**, TIFT '57, of Suwanee, Feb. 10.  
**Jean McDaniel Gillon**, CLA '51, of Macon, April 18.  
**Margaret Harrison Green**, CLA '51, of Edison, March 1.

**Aubry L. Heflin**, CLA '50, of Panama City, Florida, July 20.  
**Sam S. Hopkins**, CLA '53, of Big Canoe, May 19.  
**George Hughs**, CLA '57, of Knoxville, Tennessee, May 17.  
**Robert Jones**, PHA '59, of Shannon, March 4.  
**James Kennett Jr.**, CLA '59, of Charlotte, North Carolina, June 28.  
**Walter Lawry**, CLA '51, of Evans, July 19.  
**Janine Gibson Lee**, TIFT '53, of Fernandina Beach, Florida, May 29.  
**H. Watson**, CLA '50, of Orange Park, Florida, Feb. 26.

**John Mancin III**, CLA '55, of Bartow, July 17.  
**Marjorie Bonner Merrow**, CLA '51, of Mobile, Alabama, Feb. 23.  
**Carolyn Hunter McCall**, EDU '58, of Baxley, March 18.  
**Lorie McElheney**, CLA '50, of Panama City, Florida, April 19.  
**F. McWilliams Jr.**, CLA '54, of Tucker, May 17.  
**Harvey E. Minsk**, PHA '57, of Atlanta, Feb. 19.  
**Gloria Montjoy**, CLA '58, of Macon, July 18.  
**Thomas Perkins Jr.**, CLA '51, of Stone Mountain, May 9.

**Dorothy Jackson Rainey**, TIFT '50, of Albany, July 5.  
**William Slaughter**, LAW '50, of Columbus, May 2.  
**John W. Thomas**, CLA '53, of Hazlehurst, June 3.  
**Sibley Fleming Wheeler**, CLA '59, of Thomson, May 5.  
**Nina Tanner Yeomans**, CLA '59, of Macon, April 12.

## 1960s

**Samuel Anderson Jr.**, LAW '63, of Macon, March 29.  
**Merle Baker**, EDU '64, of Norman Park, July 26.

## University Icon and Life Trustee

### Robert L. Steed, CLA '58, LAW '60

**D**istinguished Alumnus Robert L. Steed, who served as the University's seventh Life Trustee and was a tireless champion for Mercer, died at his Buckhead home on June 4.

"Bob Steed was one of Mercer's most loyal sons," said President William D. Underwood. "His affinity for the University had no limit, and he served it faithfully for most of his life. Indeed, he was one of our greatest ambassadors. Bob was greatly beloved, and we will miss his wit, wisdom, warm personality, and constant advocacy for his cherished alma mater."

Steed, a senior partner with King & Spalding's Public Finance Practice Group, served as bond counsel to the State of Georgia and to cities, counties and governmental authorities throughout the state and the Southeast.

He was a noted humorist and author. His humor columns appeared for many years in *The Atlanta Constitution* and in papers of the *New York Times* Regional Newspaper Group. Mercer University Press published several of his books, including *Willard Lives!*, 1981; *Lucid Intervals*, 1983; *Money, Power and Sex (A Self-Help Guide for All Ages)*, 1985; *The Sass Menagerie*, 1988; *Mail Fraud, The Laughable Letters of Robert L. Steed*, 1991; and *A Ship Without an Udder*, 1995. Steed's commentaries could occasionally be heard on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered."

While a student, he served as editor of *The Mercer Cluster* and wrote the paper's popular column "Willard Lives." Steed graduated from Mercer in 1958 and earned his law degree from Mercer's Walter F. George School of



Steed

Law. In 1961-1962, Steed served as law clerk to Justice Carlton Mobley on the Supreme Court of Georgia. He joined King & Spalding in 1962 and became a partner in 1967.

Steed provided extensive leadership to his alma mater. In addition to serving six terms as a member of the Board of Trustees, including chairing the board for several years, he was a member of the board of the Walter F. George Trust, chair of the Mercer School of Law Board of Visitors and president of the Law Alumni Association. He served as the popular master of ceremonies for the Mercer University Press Authors' Luncheon for many years, an event that raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Press.

"There will never be another Bob Steed," said Richard A. "Doc" Schneider, current trustee, former board chair and longtime law firm colleague. "He championed causes from starving artists to budding lawyers to his cherished Mercer and King & Spalding. If you were in trouble or needed a helping hand, there was no one better than Bob Steed. In Bob Steed, we had a friend."

Among his many honors, he was a recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Mercer Law School and the Journalistic Achievement Award and Honor Award from the Council of Authors and Journalists. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from Mercer in 1979.

"Bob Steed is practically the definition of Mercer," said Mercer trustee Gene Gabbard, who served several terms on the board with Steed. "I really enjoyed Bob and Judge (Griffin) Bell's jesting with him. I will never forget when Judge Bell said to me, 'Bob has written more books than he has read!'"

Steed also provided exemplary leadership while serving as executive vice chair of the Mercer 2000: Advancing the Vision Campaign.

Steed is survived by his wife, Lu; three children — Josh Steed, Nona Bickers and Georgia Vance; and 10 grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to Mercer's Steed Scholarship by contacting the Office of University Advancement at (800) 837-2911.

## Alumnus and Former Trustee

### David Campbell, CLA '68

**W**illiam David "Grumpy" Campbell, alumnus and former member of the Mercer University Board of Trustees, died on March 27. The son of late Virginia Watkins Campbell and William Robert Campbell, he was born in Albany on March 29, 1946. Diagnosed with polio at the age of five, he overcame the disease at the age of 12 after receiving extensive care at the Warm Springs hospital.

After graduating from high school, he attended Mercer University. He was a member of the Alpha Tau



Campbell

Omega fraternity. Campbell earned his undergraduate degree in 1968. It was at Mercer that he met Lynda Medley, whom he married in 1967.

After graduation, Campbell and Reed Jackson joined their father-in-law, Gaines Medley, in his restaurant supply business. Campbell and Jackson, along with Medley, shaped Medley Hotel and Restaurant Supply into one of the most successful food service companies in the country. Campbell was a legend in the industry he worked in for 43 years and cherished his peers.

After retirement in the food service business, Campbell started his second career with his son, Stewart, and Bo Henry to purchase Merry Acres Inn and Shackelford House. There, he continued his passion to serve the community through hospitality.

Campbell was a trustee of Mercer from 1992 to 1997. He served as president of the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board of Directors in 1993 and was chairman of the Trustee Finance Committee for Mercer in 1997. He was also a recipient of Mercer's Meritorious Service Award.



**Donald A. Barkley**, CLA '60, of Atlanta, Aug. 23.  
**Ethel Sharon McCleskey Brooks**, TIFT '67, of Milledgeville, May 8.  
**W. Brooks**, CLA '60, of Lawrenceville, May 28.  
**Renee Abromet Campbell**, PHA '63, of Rockledge, Florida, July 18.  
**William Carithers**, CLA '60, of Morrow, June 25.  
**Annette Cheek Coogle**, TIFT '66, of Oglethorpe, July 13.  
**James Elrod**, CLA '63, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 14.  
**Charles Foster**, CLA '60, of Dothan, Alabama, July 11.  
**Thomas Frankum Jr.**, CLA '63, of Macon, May 27.  
**Burma Jean Thomas Goodloe**, NUR '62, of Dunwoody, July 8.  
**L. Bill Hankla**, PHA '68, of Norcross, July 27.  
**Jody Langston Harrison**, NUR '68, of Stone Mountain, June 14.  
**John Howell**, LAW '63, of Macon, Feb. 9.  
**J. Hunsberger**, CLA '64, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Feb. 17.  
**Michael Johnson**, CLA '64, of Roan Mountain, Tennessee, July 20.  
**Eleanor Lanell Cowart Murphy**, TIFT '66, of Forsyth, May 2.  
**Lloyd Norton**, CLA '61, of Senoia, March 22.  
**Betty Jordan Phillips**, CLA '63, of Macon, March 11.  
**Maurice Randall**, CLA '61, of Cedartown, July 11.  
**Sandra Lee Hays Ryan**, CLA '62, of Alpharetta, June 18.  
**Alexander Sandy Saunders**, CLA '66, of Stone Mountain, July 31.  
**Janet Stovall Sherling**, CLA '61, of Jonesboro, April 1.  
**Franklin Sinclair Shingler III**, LAW '63, of Donalsonville, Feb. 28.  
**Brenda Whitlow Sizemore**, NUR '62, of Okatie, South Carolina, March 9.  
**Robert Trammell**, CLA '60, of Luthersville, July 26.  
**James Webb**, CLA '62, of Murrayville, May 13.  
**Eddie White**, CLA '63, of Raeford, North Carolina, May 5.

## 1970s

**John Atkinson**, TIFT '79, of Juliette, Feb. 21.  
**Sheryl Campbell**, TIFT '73, of Vidalia, May 31.  
**James Carter**, CLA '77, of Atlanta, April 21.  
**Linda Butler Clark**, TIFT '72, of Folkston, March 23.  
**John Copelan**, LAW '76, of Coral Springs, Florida, March 25.  
**Elizabeth Elias Crafton**, CLA '76, of Kennesaw, July 8.  
**Martha Jones Drawdy**, TIFT '70, of Ellabell, May 3.  
**Joyce Brooks Haire**, TIFT '79, of Barnesville, June 10.  
**Travis L. Harris**, CLA '74, of Macon, July 6.  
**Julia Howell Kronquist**, EDU '70, of Jacksonville, Florida, Feb. 22.

**John Markwalter**, CLA '71, of Milledgeville, May 25.  
**Richard Metz**, LAW '74, of Bowie, Maryland, Feb. 14.  
**Cynthia Mims**, TIFT '76, of Pooler, May 14.  
**Bradford Pierce**, LAW '78, of Palm Coast, Florida, April 29.

## 1980s

**Gerrelldine Bussey Addy**, CAS '87, of Stockbridge, June 5.  
**Alicia Ziadie Corriher**, CLA '82, of China Grove, North Carolina, Feb. 20.  
**Gina Galantino-Rey**, CLA '86, of Tampa, Florida, April 10.  
**Sue Ballard Gilliam**, LAW '82, of Hendersonville, North Carolina, June 28.  
**Claudia Edwards Gordon**, LAW '82, of Alexandria, Virginia, Feb. 18.  
**George Haley III**, MUS '80, of Cartersville, March 26.  
**Mildred Albert Hargrove**, LAW '84, of Goose Creek, South Carolina, May 21.  
**Mary Nowell Henderson**, CLA '81, of Madison, Tennessee, March 18.  
**Robert Phillips**, CAS '83, of McDonough, Aug. 2.  
**Joel Williams Jr.**, LAW '83, of Duluth, April 17.  
**Joyce Floyd Williams**, EDU '87, of Southport, North Carolina, July 18.

## 1990s

**Ishuan Ku Hargrove**, CLA '97, of Lakeland, Florida, March 19.  
**Edward Howes**, BUS '93, of Fairfax, Virginia, March 31.  
**Livia Gay Pyle Jones**, PEN '91, of Griffin, May 6.  
**Mary Reeves**, CLA '92, of Forsyth, Feb. 9.  
**Lizette Lisa Alvarez Woerner**, PHA '90, of Duluth, July 12.  
**Marjorie Pamela Mason Wynn**, CLA '90, of Clarksville, Tennessee, March 5.

## 2000s

**John Vinyard Jr.**, PEN '03, of Mableton, May 4.

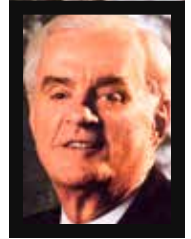
## Friends & Former Staff

**Curtis Avery**, of Pine Mountain, friend and supporter of the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, May 30.  
**Frank Domico**, of Suwanee, husband of Mercer University Georgia Baptist College of Nursing Associate Dean Dr. Dare Domico, July 25.  
**Paula Ketchum** of Dallas, supporter of the College of Pharmacy, March 2.  
**Frances Mosley** of Saint Petersburg, Florida, former executive administrative assistant in the speech and theatre departments, March 12.  
**Beth Johanna Pearce Nelson** of Independence, Ohio, former flute instructor, Oct. 8, 2015.  
**Geraldine Tilson** of Doraville, former adjunct professor, March 2.  
**James Whatley** of Venice, Florida, supporter of the Mercer Athletic Foundation, May 7.

## Former Trustee and Honorary Graduate T. Marshall Hahn Jr., HON '94

**T**. Marshall Hahn Jr., a former trustee and honorary graduate, died May 29. Hahn was born Dec. 2, 1926, in Lexington, Kentucky, to the late Thomas Marshall Hahn and Elizabeth Boston Hahn. He received the bachelor of science degree in physics from the University of Kentucky in 1945 and the Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1950. As 11th president and first lady of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University from 1962-1974, Hahn and his wife Peggy changed the landscape of the university and community they both loved so much.

After his tenure at Virginia Tech, Hahn and his wife moved to Portland, Oregon (later Atlanta), where he served as president and CEO of Georgia Pacific Corp., retiring in 1993. In 1994, Hahn was awarded the Honorary Doctor of Law Degrees from Mercer. He served on the Mercer Board of Trustees and the National Engineering Advisory Board.



Hahn

## Alumnus and Generous Supporter Rudolph Patterson, CLA '61, LAW '63

**R**udolph Nelson Patterson, alumnus with two Mercer degrees and a generous supporter, died Saturday, Feb. 27. Patterson was born in Poulan, Georgia, the son of the late Pauline Howard Quick and Harry Nelson Patterson.

He was a retired partner in the Westmoreland, Patterson, Moseley, and Hinson Law Firm. Patterson was a graduate of Mercer University in 1961 and received a J.D. Degree from Mercer Law School in 1963.

Patterson was president of the State Bar of Georgia from 1999-2000. He also served as president of the Macon Bar Association, the Macon Legal Aid Society, the National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives and as chair of the Income Security Committee of the American Bar Association.

He was a member of Wesleyan Drive Baptist Church where he was a deacon and Sunday School teacher. Patterson received the Law School's Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2000 and served on the Mercer Athletic Foundation Board from 2012 to 2015.



Patterson

## Alumnus and Former Faculty Member Ronald Coleman Bloodworth, CLA '60

**R**onald Coleman Bloodworth, M.D., prominent physician and generous University supporter, died May 4. Bloodworth was a Macon native and son of the late Tyrus Coleman Bloodworth and Grace Hardaway Bloodworth. He graduated from Lanier High School in 1956, from Mercer University *cum laude* in 1960 and the Medical College of Georgia in 1963 with an internship at Macon Hospital.

In over 40 years of practice, Bloodworth's many positions included service in the United States Navy as a flight surgeon on the USS Shangri-LA, as chief psychiatry resident at Grady Hospital, establishing a substance abuse treatment center at Greenville Health Center, director of the Psychiatric Institute of Atlanta, director of Neuropsychiatry at Charter-By-The Sea, director of psychiatry at Searcy Hospital and associate professor of Psychiatry at Mercer Medical School. He was a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and was elected as one of America's top psychiatrists.

Memorial contributions can be made to Mercer's Townsend School of Music, McDuffie Center for Strings.



Dr. Bloodworth

# 50-75-100 Years Ago ...

Photos and archival information for 50-75-100 Years Ago assembled by Laura Botts and the Tarver Library Special Collections staff.



**1916** (Above) The Original Freshman Club, "The Veterans of Four Years" and "Original and Eternal Freshmen - 1912-1916," was featured in the 1916 *Cauldron* yearbook. Members included J.C. Eppinger, H.P. Fleming, H.C. Hodges, R.A. Merritt, F.O. Schofield, J.B. Stubbs, W.F. West and J.D. Carlisle.



**1942** (Above) Although the Glee Club became co-educational in 1938, females were not allowed on the week-long performance tours until this group of singers took off for Thomaston, Americus, Buena Vista, Barnesville and Carrollton in March 1942. (1942 *Cauldron*)



**1942** The 1942 school year marked the end of intercollegiate football at Mercer as coaches Bobby Hooks (left) and Billy Smith (right) joined the ranks of World War II soldiers. Hooks began his military service as a first lieutenant in the Army, and Smith (Mercer class of 1938) served as an ensign in the Navy.

**1967** Washboard bands provided frequent entertainment for mid-20th century college students, and this merry group of Phi Mus was no exception. (1967 *Cauldron*)



# AdvancementUpdate

## University Advancement Adds New Staff

THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT has added several new staff members to assist with fundraising efforts for the University and work with Mercer alumni.

**J. Brian Greer, DIV '09**, joined the Office of University Advancement as director of development for the Stetson School of Business and Economics and The Executive Forum. Greer brings more than nine years of fundraising experience working with organizations such as Georgia Gwinnett College, Mercy Care Foundation and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. His primary role at Mercer includes generating annual fund and major gifts for the business school, developing relationships with business school alumni and working with the Executive Forum speaker series. Originally from Ridgeland, Mississippi, Greer completed his undergraduate studies at the University of



Greer

Southern Mississippi. He also holds a M.Div. from Mercer's McAfee School of Theology and a M.A. from Georgia State University in nonprofit management.

**Erin Pitts Lones, CLA '00**, transitioned into a new role in the Office of University Advancement as director of advancement communications and special alumni programs. Lones has worked in the Advancement office for more than 13 years, serving in various roles in the areas of alumni and development. In her new position, she will manage development and alumni communication efforts including print, electronic messaging, and social media. She will also continue her work



Lones

with Tift College programs. Lones holds a B.A. in communication from Mercer's College of Liberal Arts.

**Ariel Morgan** joined the Office of Alumni Services in November 2015 as the coordinator of alumni services. Morgan began her work with the University in 2014, serving on staff at the School of Law prior to joining alumni services. She holds a B.B.A. in marketing from the University of North Georgia, where she served as a student worker in career services and was vice president of recruitment for the Executive Board of the UNG Panhellenic Council. Her husband, Gregg Morgan, is a first-year M.D. student at Mercer's School of Medicine.



Morgan

## Three Mercerians Among Recent Phi Delta Theta Hall of Fame Inductees

PHI DELTA THETA ALUMNI clubs and undergraduate chapters throughout Georgia announced the 2016 Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees in March. Among the inductees were U.S. District Court judge William A. Bootle, CLA '24, LAW '25, HON '82, G.I. Bill co-author Rufus C. Harris, CLA '17, LAW '31, and Capricorn Records co-founder Alan Walden. The inductees were recognized at various Founders Day celebrations across the state.

"The purpose of the Phi Delta Theta Georgia Alumni Hall of Fame is to recognize members in or from the state of Georgia who have made a significant impact professionally



Bootle



Harris

and/or civically on a local, national or global front," said Richard T. Orr, Phi Delta Theta Province President. "Phi Deltas have been a vital part of Georgia's history since establishing the Oglethorpe College chapter in 1871. Among its ranks you find governors, college presidents, soldiers, clergy, actors, business owners, CEOs and much more."

The Phi Delta Theta Alumni Clubs of Georgia are among the organization's oldest clubs. Over the years, they have included many prominent members of their local communities. The Clubs' mission is to provide a social and professional networking forum for the more than

6,000 alumni across the state representing more than 150 undergraduate chapters. Established in 2015, the Hall of Fame selection committee includes the current presidents from each of the undergraduate and alumni chapters.

Phi Delta Theta was founded on Dec. 26, 1848, at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio. The men of Phi Delta Theta share a common commitment — the cultivation of friendship among its members, the acquirement individually of a high degree of mental culture, and the attainment personally of a high standard of morality.



Walden

## Center for Southern Studies Awarded NEH Challenge Grant

IN DECEMBER 2014, THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH) awarded Mercer's College of Liberal Arts a \$500,000 challenge grant to support the establishment of an endowed Center for Southern Studies. NEH Challenge Grants are capacity-building grants, intended to help institutions and organizations secure long-term support for their humanities programs and resources. This grant, which is composed of a multi-year payout of \$500,000 from the NEH, has a required three-to-one matching component. The University successfully completed its second year of fundraising to match the three-to-one gift in July, cumulatively raising \$720,561 in private gifts.

Over the past decade, the College of Liberal Arts has offered an interdisciplinary program in Southern Studies that focuses exclusively on undergraduate students and offers a bachelor's degree in Southern Studies. Southern Studies students learn about the history, culture, literature, geography, economics and politics of America's complex and most fascinating region.

The program hosts the annual Lamar Memorial Lecture Series, the nation's most prestigious lecture series on Southern history and culture, which was established in 1957 by the late Dr. Spencer B. King Sr., Professor of History Emeritus. The program also presents the Sidney Lanier Prize for Southern Literature, as well as a film series and lectures by high-profile scholars, including Pulitzer Prize winners Douglas Blackmon and Hank Klibanoff. Additionally, one of the program's faculty members, Dr. Doug Thompson, associate professor of Southern

Studies, is editor of the *Journal of Southern Religion*, the first scholarly journal devoted to the study of religion in the American South.

"Through creativity and the assistance of a supportive University administration and generous grants, the program has become one of Mercer's signature programs and one of the most highly regarded Southern Studies institutes in the country," said Dr. Sarah Gardner, professor of history and director of Southern Studies.

With support from the NEH Challenge Grant and associated private gifts, the College of Liberal Arts now has the potential to expand its teaching and scholarship on the South. The Center invites internationally known lectures to campus, supports undergraduate scholarship, and faculty research. The Center will also develop and curate digital resources on the South with a special focus on Southern religion. However, its most distinctive programs will

be Southern Semester, a unique opportunity for domestic and international students to study the American South for a semester at Mercer, and a new Southern Institute for High School students that will invite rising high school seniors to spend the summer at Mercer studying the history, literature, religion and broader culture of the region.

The University is committed to raising at least \$1.5 million to match the NEH Challenge Grant, ultimately creating a \$2 million endowment to support the Center. This project is a significant component of the \$400 million Aspire Campaign. Funds for the three-to-one matching requirement of the Challenge Grants Program will continue to be raised through July 31, 2019. For more information on the Center for Southern Studies and how to invest in the students and faculty, visit [aspire.mercer.edu](http://aspire.mercer.edu) or contact Todd Smith at [smith\\_bt@mercer.edu](mailto:smith_bt@mercer.edu).

## University Honors New President's Club Life Members

AT THE 51ST ANNUAL CELEBRATION of The President's Club, Mercer recognized its most generous donors. On the evening of April 22, members of The President's Club gathered

for dinner followed by a dessert reception in The Grand Ballroom of The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa. Life Members of the President's Club were honored at this event.

The University's highest level of leadership giving, President's Club Life Member, is conferred on those individuals and churches

who have contributed at least \$100,000 to Mercer. At this year's event, the following were recognized for achieving Life Member status: Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson, William and Paula Betts, Tom and Darla Bishop, and Thad and Darlene Warren.

The Mercer University President's Club was established in 1964 to recognize alumni and friends who provide a nucleus of support for the University. Over the years, this select group of alumni and friends has supplied nearly three-quarters of the gifts from individuals for annual support. Friends and alumni of Mercer who contribute \$1,000 or more during the calendar year are eligible for membership in The President's Club.



(L-R, front row) Darlene Boone Warren BUSA '86, Darla Bishop, Paula Betts, Elizabeth "Libba" Anderson; (back row): President William D. Underwood, Raymond M. "Thad" Warren III CLA '86, William H. "Billy" Anderson II, CLA '59, Thomas P. "Tom" Bishop CLA '82/LAW '85, William "Bill" Betts, Curtis G. "Curt" Anderson.





A S P I R E

THE CAMPAIGN  
*for*  
MERCER UNIVERSITY

# The Gift of Education

**F**orty-eight years ago, after graduating from high school in Warner Robins, R. Lee Bowers, with the influence of a family friend who was a Mercer graduate, found himself on a path to attending Mercer himself. He had to pay for his own education and needed financial assistance, and discovered the assistance he needed at Mercer.

After four successful years, Bowers graduated from the College of Liberal Arts with a B.S. in biology in 1972. While a student, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Bowers is retired director of the Baltimore District of the Food and Drug Administration. He recently completed a three-year term on the College of Liberal Arts Alumni Board of Directors.

With a recent significant financial commitment to the University, Bowers established an endowed scholarship through a charitable remainder trust. "I believe that the education, insights and opportunities Mercer opened for me have greatly impacted me professionally and personally," said Bowers. "I hope by providing a scholarship fund for future Mercer students, I can pay back, in part, some of the gift that Mercer has given me. I am proud to be a BEAR!"

Gifts to Mercer make a difference in the lives of our students. For more information about the benefits of making a planned gift or endowing a scholarship, contact the Office of University Advancement at (800) 837-2911.



# MERCER BASKETBALL

## 2016-17 SCHEDULES

### MEN'S

NOV. 11 BREWTON-PARKER  
 NOV. 13 FLORIDA (X)  
 NOV. 20 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
 NOV. 22 RADFORD  
 SAVANNAH INVITATIONAL  
 • NOV. 25 EAST CAROLINA  
 • NOV. 26 AIR FORCE/AKRON  
 NOV. 29 DAVIDSON  
 DEC. 3 GEORGE MASON  
 DEC. 7 OGLETHORPE  
 DEC. 10 CLEMSON  
 DEC. 18 AUBURN  
 DEC. 22 LA SALLE  
 DEC. 28 KENNESAW  
 DEC. 31 WOFFORD  
 JAN. 2 FURMAN  
 JAN. 5 VMI  
 JAN. 7 ETSU  
 JAN. 11 SAMFORD  
 JAN. 14 CHATTANOOGA  
 JAN. 19 UNCG  
 JAN. 21 WESTERN CAROLINA  
 JAN. 28 THE CITADEL  
 JAN. 30 WESTERN CAROLINA  
 FEB. 2 FURMAN  
 FEB. 4 WOFFORD  
 FEB. 9 VMI  
 FEB. 11 ETSU  
 FEB. 18 THE CITADEL  
 FEB. 22 UNCG  
 FEB. 25 CHATTANOOGA  
 FEB. 27 SAMFORD

### WOMEN'S

NOV. 11 EMMANUEL  
 NOV. 13 GEORGIA  
 NOV. 16 CAMPBELL  
 NOV. 18 FLORIDA ATLANTIC  
 NOV. 22 ILLINOIS  
 NOV. 25 HOUSTON  
 NOV. 29 GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
 DEC. 3 KENNESAW  
 DEC. 7 GEORGIA TECH  
 DEC. 10 WEST GEORGIA  
 DEC. 18 WINTHROP  
 DEC. 21 FLORIDA STATE  
 DEC. 29 DAVIDSON  
 DEC. 31 PAINE  
 JAN. 5 ETSU  
 JAN. 7 CHATTANOOGA  
 JAN. 12 UNCG  
 JAN. 14 WESTERN CAROLINA  
 JAN. 19 FURMAN  
 JAN. 21 WOFFORD  
 JAN. 28 SAMFORD  
 FEB. 2 CHATTANOOGA  
 FEB. 4 ETSU  
 FEB. 9 WESTERN CAROLINA  
 FEB. 11 UNCG  
 FEB. 16 WOFFORD  
 FEB. 18 FURMAN  
 FEB. 25 SAMFORD

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WOMEN'S HEAD COACH  
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