

THE
M

SPRING 2018

Mercerian

A PUBLICATION OF MERCER UNIVERSITY • MERCER.EDU

SoCon SLAYERS

Mercer's
Distinguished
University
Professors

An Enduring
Global Footprint

Mercer Women
Run the
SoCon Table



MACON | ATLANTA | SAVANNAH
Columbus, Douglas County, Henry County, Warner Robins

THE **Mercerian**
VOLUME 28, NO. 1

PRESIDENT

William D. Underwood, J.D.

CHANCELLOR

R. Kirby Godsey, Ph.D.

PROVOST

D. Scott Davis, Ph.D.

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION
AND FINANCE**

James S. Netherton, Ph.D.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Kellie Raiford Appel, J.D.

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

Larry D. Brumley

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Penny L. Elkins, Ph.D.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

John A. Patterson

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

William G. Solomon IV, J.D.

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR

Rick Cameron

ART DIRECTOR

Steve Mosley

STAFF WRITERS

Kyle Sears CLA '09,
Drew Daws

PHOTOGRAPHY COORDINATOR

Janet Crocker PEN '09

SPECIAL DESIGN

Ginger Harper, Parker King

PHOTOGRAPHERS

John Amis, John Carrington, Andy Carter,
Mary Clare, Jan Crocker, Matt Hagan, Roger Idenden,
Amy Maddox, Christopher Ian Smith, Matthew Smith,
Judy Stapleton, Jacopa Stinachelli, Jessica Whitley

CONTRIBUTORS

Laura Botts, David Fox, Jill Kinsella CLA '85,
Mary Beth Kosowski, Allen London,
Erin Lones CLA '00, Gerrit Van Genderen

DIGITAL PRODUCTION

Matthew Smith, Director;
Elizabeth Hyde, Rob Saxon, Todd Sayre

EDITORIAL OFFICE

The Mercerian, 1501 Mercer University Drive,
Macon, GA 31207-0001
T (478) 301-4024 F (478) 301-2684
www.mercer.edu • mercerian@mercer.edu

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

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

THE MERCERIAN is published by the Office of Marketing
Communications at Mercer University. ©2018 Mercer University.
The views and opinions presented in this publication are not
necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of
the University.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE MERCERIAN,
1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, GA 31207-0001.



Make the Connection — Become a fan of Mercer on
Facebook, follow us on Twitter and Instagram, watch our
latest videos on YouTube. mercer.edu/socialmedia

CONTENTS

THE MERCERIAN, SPRING 2018

Meet the Distinguished University Professors **12**

Mercer's Enduring International Footprint **19**

ON THE QUAD **2**

BEARS ROUNDUP **28**

HEALTH SCIENCES **32**

CLASS NOTES **33**

ADVANCEMENT UPDATE **39**

ON THE COVER — The 2017-18 women's basketball season will serve as the benchmark for future Mercer teams. Even though the championship season ended at the NCAA Tournament on March 17 when the Bears lost 68-63 to the No. 18 Georgia Lady Bulldogs, the more than 1,000 Mercer faithful who made the trek to Athens let their presence be known. The AP game story noted "A raucous Mercer contingency matched the Georgia fan base in terms of crowd noise for the final 10 minutes." On the cover, the Bears celebrate cutting down the nets at the Southern Conference Tournament in Asheville, North Carolina. A season recap of the team that captured the hearts of all Mercerians is on pages 28-31. | Judy Stapleton photo

In Our Lens

Mercer's Spearman C. Godsey Science Center opened its doors to students on Jan. 8, the first day of the spring semester and a landmark moment for the University. The largest academic facility project in Mercer's history, the \$44 million, four-story, 143,410-square-foot, state-of-the-art science center includes 60 teaching and research labs in addition to classrooms, lecture halls and offices to accommodate growing enrollment and research activity in chemistry, biology and neurosciences. | Matthew Smith photo

MERCER WINS HIGHEST STUDENT VOTER PARTICIPATION IN SOUTHERN CONFERENCE'S INAUGURAL VOTER PARTICIPATION CHAMPIONSHIP

In 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 NCAA Division I conference championship for voter participation.

Concluding this first-of-its-kind competition, Mercer claimed the conference championship for Highest Student Voter Participation with a record-setting 56.4 percent of students participating in the 2016 general election.

National Study on Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) report revealed an 80-percent voter registration rate of students and that an impressive 4,373 students voted in the 2016 general election. Mercer's team tasked with overseeing this initiative was led by Hannah Vann, associate director of Research That Reaches Out.

"This competition really galvanized our students in the political process," said Dr. Douglas R. Pearson, vice president and dean of students at Mercer. "We saw an increase in debate watches, voter registration and overall discussion. There was a lot of hard work and energy behind this competition, so I was pleased to hear about the final results and Mercer securing first place."

An awards ceremony for Mercer took place during the University's Homecoming football game

Mercer was presented with the Highest Student Voter Participation Award for the inaugural SoCon Votes competition at halftime of November's Homecoming football game. Pictured, from left, are Mercer alumnus and SoCon Votes developer Joey Wozniak, Associate Director of the Quality Enhancement Plan Hannah Vann, students Austin Paul and Emily Thompson, Knight Foundation Macon Program Director Lynn Murphey, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Dr. Doug Pearson and President William D. Underwood.



JESSICA WHITLEY PHOTO; THIS PAGE, MERCER VIDEO CAPTURE

“THE IMPROVEMENT BY STUDENTS ...SHOW WHAT'S POSSIBLE WHEN LEADERS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES STAND UP TO SUPPORT STUDENT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.”

— JOEY WOZNIAK

against SoCon rival Samford University on Nov. 4.

"The improvement by students at Mercer show what's possible when leaders on college campuses stand up to support student civic engagement," said Joey Wozniak, who developed "SoCon Votes" as a senior at Mercer with a grant from the Knight Foundation Fund at the Community Foundation of Central Georgia and technical expertise from the Academic Exchange and Council of Chief Student Affairs Officers within the Southern Conference.

UNIVERSITY RECEIVES 'ALL IN' CHALLENGE BRONZE SEAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT VOTER ENGAGEMENT

Mercer was recognized as part of the inaugural ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge to increase college student voting. The University received a bronze seal for achieving a student voter turnout rate between 50 and 59 percent.

Student participation in elections has increased during the past few years. A recent report, titled "Democracy Counts: A Report on U.S. College and University Student Voting," from the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), an initiative of Tufts University's Institute for Democracy in Higher Education, shows that, between the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections, student voting went from 45.1 percent of eligible voters to 48.3 percent.

The ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge is a national awards program. The Challenge encourages higher education institutions to help students form the habits of active and informed citizenship, and make democratic participation a core value on their campus.

By joining the Challenge, campuses commit to:

- Convening a campus-wide committee that includes members from academic affairs, student affairs and the student body, as well as any other relevant stakeholders.
- Developing and implementing an action plan to improve democratic engagement.
- Participating in the NSLVE in order to measure student voting rates.
- Sharing their campus' action plan and NSLVE results in order to be eligible for a recognition seal and/or awards.

More than 300 campuses, enrolling more than four million students, have joined the Challenge since its launch in the summer of 2016.

BOARD APPROVES NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS, ELECTS NEW TRUSTEES DURING HOMECOMING MEETING

Mercer's Board of Trustees approved two new graduate programs, installed nine members and elected officers during its annual Homecoming meeting on Nov. 3.

A new Master of Theological Studies will be offered through Mercer's McAfee School of Theology on the University's Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus in Atlanta beginning next fall. The 49-hour, two-year program will allow students to craft their own course of study, in consultation with their faculty supervisor. It will prepare students for future advanced and specialized work in religion and theology through teaching and research, church leadership, or community and global ministry. The course of study allows students to concentrate in one of four broad areas: Bible, history/theology, ethics, and practical theology.

The College of Health Professions will begin offering the Master of Athletic Training degree on the Macon campus, beginning in June. It will be a six-semester, 70-credit-hour professional program that will prepare students for national certification in athletic training. The College will seek accreditation



Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter unanimously elected Lifetime Mercer Trustee

for the program through the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). Clinical experiences with the Mercer athletics program will be a component of the degree.

New trustees who began their five-year terms at the conclusion of the Nov. 3 meeting include Curtis G. Anderson, retired investment banker from Savannah; Barbara (Babs) Baugh, president of the John and Eula Mae Baugh Foundation in San Antonio, Texas; James C. Elder Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church in Columbus; Benjamin W. (Benjy) Griffith III, president and owner of Southern Pine Plantations Inc. in Macon; J. Curtis Lewis III, partner with Hunter & Lewis LLP law firm and a businessman in Savannah; David Linch, managing director of Linch Capital in Atlanta; William Anthony (Tony) Moye, founder of Moye's Pharmacy in McDonough; J. Reg Murphy, retired vice chairman of the National Geographic Society from Sea Island; and Richard A. (Doc) Schneider, senior partner with the Atlanta law firm of King & Spalding LLP. Elder, Griffith, Linch, Moye, Murphy and Schneider are Mercer alumni.

Trustees who rotated off the board and were recognized for their service include Neville Callam of Falls Church, Virginia; Holly McCorkle Jones of Jacksonville, Florida; Claude M. Kicklighter of McLean, Virginia; Thomas W. Malone of North Palm Beach, Florida; M. Diane Owens of Lilburn; Miller Peterson Robinson of Columbus; Raymond M. (Thad) Warren of Atlanta; and Jerry S. Wilson of Ponte Vedra, Florida.

President Jimmy Carter, who completed a regular term on the board, was unanimously elected a Life Trustee of the University.

Atlanta physician Dr. Spencer B. King III, a 1959 graduate of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts, was elected chair of the board. Cathy Callaway Adams, an executive of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta and a 1981 graduate of Tift College, was elected chair of the board's executive committee.

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

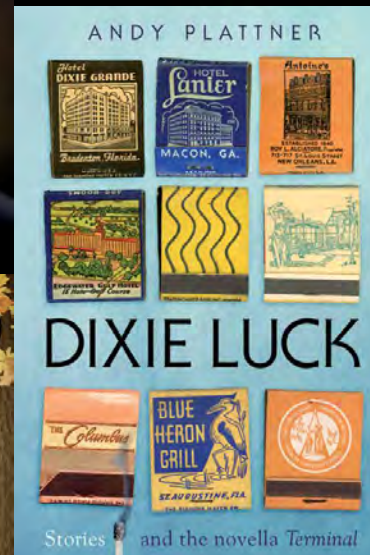
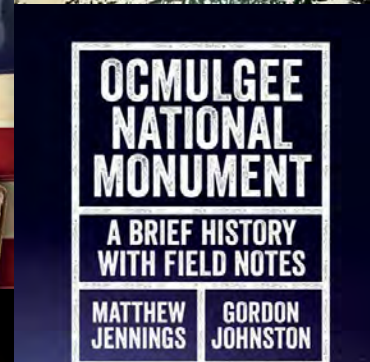
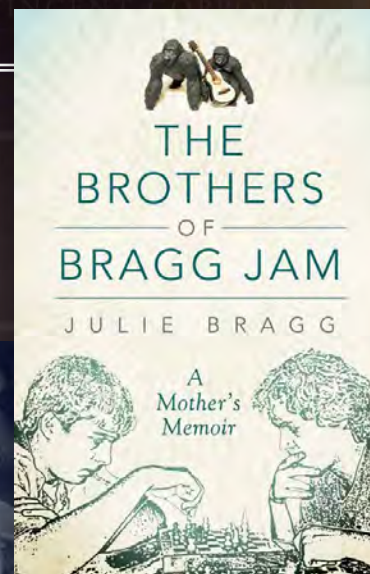
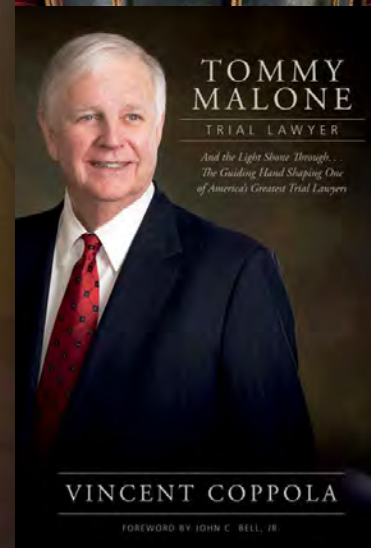
OFFERING A DIVERSE SEASON OF BOOKS IN HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY, MEMOIR, POETRY, FICTION, AND RELIGION

Mercer University Press continues to acquire diverse scholarship from a variety of authors and offers 17 new books for the Spring/Summer 2018 season. Highlighted titles include: *Tommy Malone, Trial Lawyer: And the Light Shone Through...The Guiding Hand Shaping One of America's Greatest Trial Lawyers* by Vincent Coppola, a biography of Albany, Georgia's, "rebel with a cause" and longtime Mercer trustee; *When In the Course of Human Events: 1776 at Home, Abroad, and in American Memory*, a collection of essays from Mercer's 2016 A.V. Elliott Conference on Great Books and Ideas, edited by Mercer professor Dr. Will R. Jordan; *Ocmulgee National Monument: A Brief History with Field Notes* by Matthew Jennings and Mercer professor Dr. Gordon Johnston, an interdisciplinary guide to the national monument located in Macon, Georgia, which includes history, archaeology, native cultures, and creative nonfiction; The Ferrol Sams Award for Fiction winner, *Dixie Luck: Stories and the novella Terminal* by Andy Plattner, character studies of people who try to stay honest and upbeat in the face of stacked odds; The Adrienne Bond Award for Poetry winner, *The Disappearing Act* by Sara Pirkle Hughes, poems on the fallible nature of memory and how memory shapes a person's identity and perception of the past; and *The Brothers of Bragg Jam: A Mother's Memoir* by Julie Bragg, an intimate glimpse into a family's world of hope following the tragic deaths of two sons and their legacy that followed.

Visit www.mupress.org to see a complete listing of titles or to download a catalog. Books are available from your favorite independent bookstore, major online retailer, or wherever fine books are sold. Order from Mercer University Press directly and receive a 40 percent Mercer alumni discount by calling (478) 301-2880. Shipping charges and taxes will apply.

MERCER UNIVERSITY

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS



GEORGIA RESEARCH ALLIANCE UNIVERSITIES SIGN AGREEMENT TO SHARE CORE FACILITIES

Research leaders from the eight universities in the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) recently signed a memorandum of understanding for the shared use of core research facilities at each of their institutions. The agreement means identified core facilities and equipment will be available to scientists at all eight institutions at the same rates and terms offered to internal facility users.

The GRA includes Mercer University, Augusta University, Clark Atlanta University, Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Morehouse School of Medicine and the University of Georgia.

"Being a part of the Georgia Research Alliance shared core facilities agreement provides Mercer with a tremendous expansion of state-of-the-art research equipment and technical expertise support for our faculty," said Dr. Wayne Glasgow, senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies. "Having these resources available provides enhanced opportunities to more effectively address specific research questions and to develop productive research collaborations among GRA member institutions."

The aim of the partnership agreement is to create a greater availability of research support services for faculty at all the Georgia research universities,

Mercer School of Medicine, with support from the GRA, recently purchased a JEOL JEM-2100Plus Transmission Electron Microscope capable of collecting digital images at the cellular, sub-cellular and molecular level. Integrated with a state-of-the-art workstation supporting cryotomography, it can resolve protein structure at near-atomic detail.

to minimize duplication of resources, and to expand and maximize collaborative research opportunities.

"One of the key aims of the Georgia Research Alliance has always been to unite our research universities across the state in increasing biomedical innovation and economic development for the benefit of all Georgia citizens," said C. Michael Cassidy, president of the GRA. "Sharing these core research facilities, which often include expensive equipment and specially trained personnel, is an ideal opportunity to enhance team science while increasing research efficiency and saving time and money."

Core research facilities at the eight institutions include imaging; immunotherapy and immune monitoring; chemical and biomolecular analysis; genomics, proteomics, lipidomics, glycomics and metabolomics; nuclear magnetic resonance; mass spectrometry; flow cytometry; transgenic mouse and animal models; electron microscopy; cancer tissue and pathology; cellular imaging; molecular modeling and drug design; confocal microscopy; DNA sequencing; neuroscience (behavioral studies); brain imaging; high containment lab; isotope studies; nanotechnology; biomarkers; flow cytometry; biostatistics; high performance computing; and clinical trials.

“BEING A PART OF THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES MERCER WITH EXPANSION OF STATE-OF-THE-ART RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE SUPPORT FOR OUR FACULTY.”



JOHN CARRINGTON PHOTO

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

MERCER MOVES UP TWO SPOTS IN *U.S. NEWS* RANKING OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

MERCER MOVED UP TWO SPOTS to No. 133 in *U.S. News & World Report's* national universities rankings, released in September, tied with six others, including large, flagship institutions Louisiana State University, Rutgers University, the University of Arkansas and the University of Kentucky.

Last year, due to factors such as an increase in research expenditures and doctoral programs, Mercer was elevated to the national universities category following 17 years as a top 10 regional university in the South.

Mercer, Emory (tied for No. 21), Georgia Tech (tied for No. 34), the University of Georgia (tied for No. 54) and Georgia State University (tied for No. 223) are the only institutions in the state to be ranked in the publication's top tier of national universities.

Additionally, Mercer is ranked by the magazine as the No. 39 best value among the 311 national universities, coming in one spot ahead of the University of Southern California. Mercer and Emory are the only two Georgia institutions ranked among the top 50 best values in this category.

The 311 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 2016-17 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.

Mercer School of Engineering's undergraduate program, which consistently appears among the nation's top engineering programs that have bachelor's or master's as their terminal degrees, is ranked No. 38 based on surveys of engineering deans and senior faculty at accredited programs.

Mercer is also ranked No. 83 among the publication's Best College for Veterans due to the University's enrollment of and benefits for veterans and active-duty service members.

ONLINE MBA AMONG *U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S* BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS

MERCER'S EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS is featured in *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Online Programs Rankings, released on Jan. 9.

The School's Online Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is tied for 61st among the 282 institutions included in that particular ranking, alongside Drexel University, Quinnipiac University, Rutgers University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Kansas and Villanova University.



For its 2018 edition, *U.S. News* ranked online MBA programs using five categories: student engagement, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, and student services and technology.

In its seventh year of collecting data from online degree programs, *U.S. News* assessed 1,490 programs that offer 100 percent online classes needed to complete the degree.

MERCER AMONG KIPLINGER'S 300 BEST VALUE COLLEGES FOR 2018

MERCER APPEARS IN THE TOP HALF OF KIPLINGER'S 300 BEST COLLEGE Values for 2018, coming in at No. 129.

This ranking places the University among the top 40 private universities in the country.

Introduced in 1998, Kiplinger's rankings now combine public schools, private universities and private liberal arts colleges into a single, comprehensive list. The company also provides a ranking of the 100 best values in each category.

Kiplinger's analysis is based on objective measurements of academic quality and affordability, not subjective criteria.



McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AMONG 2017-18 CLASS OF 'SEMINARIES THAT CHANGE THE WORLD'

MERCER'S JAMES AND CAROLYN McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY HAS been recognized as a "Seminary that Changes the World" for 2017-18 by the Center for Faith and Service, based out of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois.

For each of the past five years, the Center has identified 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, foster interfaith dialogue, teach community development and launch well-rounded ministers.

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.



MERCER RECEIVES HIGHLY SELECTIVE CAMPUS COMPACT FUND FOR POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT AWARD

MERCER WAS ONE OF 40 INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY — and the only in Georgia — to receive an award from Campus Compact's Fund for Positive Engagement, designed to bridge divides on campuses and in communities.

Campus Compact, a Boston-based nonprofit organization working to advance the public purposes of higher education, created the Fund for Positive Engagement as a direct response to the divisive and destructive climate in the U.S. that took shape during the 2016 campaign and has continued in its

aftermath. The purpose of the fund is to catalyze experiments in bridging divisions among people and groups in communities across the country.

"We wanted to create an incentive for colleges and universities to come up with creative responses to the challenges they are seeing," said Andrew Seligsohn, president of Campus Compact. "We have been hearing from

our member colleges and universities that students and community members cannot hold conversations with people with differing political views. Immigrant and Muslim students are afraid to express their views. Many community members see universities as completely separate universes

with different values. We invited our members to propose steps to break through those divides, and we are excited by the proposals that came back."

The selection process was highly competitive, as Campus Compact received nearly 300 submissions. Two-thirds of the reviewers were students in Campus Compact's Newman Civic Fellows program. Proposals were judged based on the strength of the idea, its practicality and the degree to which it will be possible to measure success, among other criteria.

Mercer is using its funding to establish a deliberative dialogue initiative, The SOUL (Seeking Openness, Understanding, and Learning) Project, on campus to equip students, faculty and staff with the tools to facilitate intentional discourse on difficult topics.

Last fall, the University conducted training on deliberative dialogue facilitation and worked with undergraduates to host a deliberative dialogue event on campus on a topic of the students' choosing.

This spring, trained undergrads are conducting a similar training for high school students at nearby Mount de Sales Academy and working with the high-schoolers to host a deliberative dialogue event for their peers.

Hannah Vann, associate director of Mercer's Research That Reaches Out Office, and Dr. Eimad Houry, professor and chair of international and global studies, serve as co-directors. Teri McMurtry-Chubb, professor of law at Mercer Law School, leads training, and Betsy Holcomb, theology teacher at Mount de Sales, serves as a partner on The SOUL Project.

MERCER RECEIVES ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION'S TREE CAMPUS USA RECOGNITION

MERCER IS ONE OF 344 INSTITUTIONS NATIONALLY TO RECEIVE the Arbor Day Foundation's 2017 Tree Campus USA® recognition of the University's commitment to effective urban forest management.



Celebrating its 10th anniversary, Tree Campus USA honors colleges and universities not only for effective campus forest management but also for engaging staff and students in conservation goals.

Mercer earned the designation by meeting five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and a student service-learning project.

The Arbor Day Foundation has helped campuses throughout the country plant thousands of trees, and Tree Campus USA colleges and universities invested more than \$48 million in campus forest management last year.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

MERCER NAMED PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION FOR PRESTIGIOUS CHURCHILL SCHOLARSHIP



MERCER HAS BEEN NAMED a participating institution for the Churchill Scholarship, a prestigious and highly selective award for American students to engage in a year of master's-level study in science, mathematics and engineering at the University of Cambridge.

Mercer joins Emory, Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia as the only institutions in the state to participate in the scholarship

program, and is the only participating institution in the Southern Conference.

"The Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States accepts nominations for the Churchill Scholarship from a limited number of U.S. institutions. With the addition of Mercer University, our list of Participating Institutions is now 113 colleges and universities. Each institution can nominate up to two candidates per year for the 15 scholarships available," said Dr. Michael Morse, executive director of the Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States.

"The Foundation seeks institutions that are able to nominate competitive candidates on a regular basis. The Churchill Scholarship is often called the most academically challenging of the prestigious U.K. scholarships, so this is no easy task. Scholarship winners typically have compiled a resume that would be impressive for advanced graduate students, even though they apply as undergraduates. On a recent visit to Mercer, the Foundation was impressed by the quality of the science and engineering facilities, the enthusiasm of the faculty and the achievements of the students. We look forward to receiving nominations in the years to come."

The Churchill Scholarship was established at the request of Sir Winston Churchill in order to fulfill his vision of U.S.-U.K. scientific exchange with the goal of advancing science and technology on both sides of the Atlantic, helping to ensure future prosperity and security.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, either native born or naturalized, and must be a senior who is enrolled in one of the institutions participating in the scholarship program or a student who has graduated from one of those institutions within the past 12 months. Upon taking up the scholarship, a Churchill Scholar must hold a bachelor's or an equivalent degree, and may not have attained a doctorate.

The one-year awards lead to the Master of Philosophy or Master of Advanced Study from Churchill College at the University of Cambridge.



Kaitlyn Koontz



Emma Peel



Kayla Beasley



Lane Benton

The scholarship is worth between \$50,000 and \$60,000, depending on the exchange rate. It covers all University and College fees in addition to a living allowance and reimbursement for travel and associated fees.

The Churchill Foundation also offers the possibility of a Special Research Grant of up to \$2,000. This grant may cover travel for presentations at international conferences, short stays at another university or institute for special research, and other activities.

"Mercer students are among the most accomplished young scientists and engineers in the country, and becoming a participating institution for the Churchill Scholarship is one more prestigious recognition of our students' accomplishments," said Dr. David A. Davis, director of fellowships and scholarships and associate professor of English at Mercer. "Our students deserve the opportunity to compete for the Churchill Scholarship."

Since 1963, approximately 500 Churchill Scholarships have been awarded.

FIVE MERCERIANS SELECTED FOR PEACE CORPS SERVICE



MERCERIANS **KAITLYN KOONTZ**, **EMMA PEEL**, **KAYLA BEASLEY**, **LANE BENTON** and **ANGELA LENT** were recently selected to serve the Peace Corps in Ethiopia, Ecuador, Uganda, Botswana and Guinea respectively.

Koontz, from Peachtree City, completed her coursework last fall toward a Bachelor of Arts degree

with a major in global health studies and a minor in international affairs.

She is currently serving as a community health volunteer educating Ethiopians about the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Program, as well as providing information about basic nutrition and healthy eating practices.

Peel, from Portland, Oregon, graduated last May with a Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in global health studies and Spanish and a minor in anthropology.

She will begin serving in May as a health extension volunteer working alongside the Ecuadorian government on a number of issues, including HIV/AIDS outreach, nutrition, maternal and child health, reproductive health and rights, and the prevention of tropical diseases.

Beasley, from Peachtree City, is a senior majoring in global health studies with minors in global development and history.

She will begin serving in June as a community health educator working alongside Ugandan health clinics and community-based organizations to address HIV prevention and mitigation, maternal and child health, the WASH Program, and malaria prevention.

Benton, from Athens, is a senior double-majoring in global health studies and international affairs with a minor in statistics.

She will begin serving in July as life skills educator working with HIV/AIDS capacity building efforts and youth at a Botswana school.

Lent, from Seabrook, New Hampshire, is a senior majoring in global development studies with a minor in business administration.

She will begin serving in July as a teacher of secondary math, and possibly also English, to 11th- and 12th-grade Guinean students. Additionally, she will collaborate with fellow educators to discuss the current state of education in the country and incorporate gender awareness into her community development work, seeking to provide education and empowerment to local girls.

The Peace Corps, established by 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. To date, more than 225,000 Americans have served in 141 countries.

SENIOR MAGGIE CALLAHAN RECEIVES BOREN SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY IN THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SENIOR **MAGGIE CALLAHAN** was awarded a Boren Scholarship to learn Georgian and study the political culture of the southern Caucasus region in Tblisi, Georgia, during the current academic year.

In exchange for funding, Callahan, a political science and economics double-major from Social Circle, will work for the federal government

in national security for at least one year following her study overseas.

Callahan, who also has a minor in communication studies, has traveled internationally on a number of occasions as an undergraduate, including a Mercer On Mission trip to the Republic of Georgia, study abroad at Al Akhawayn University in Morocco, and service as an English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor at the Azrou Center for Community Development in Morocco.

David L. Boren Scholarships and Fellowships are sponsored by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), a major federal initiative designed to build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills.

TWO ENGINEERING STUDENTS RECEIVE SMART SCHOLARSHIPS FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SENIOR **JOSEPHINE MAZURKIEWICZ**, from Valdosta, and junior **MICHAEL GENTRY**, from Bonaire, were awarded Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarships by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD).

Mazurkiewicz and Gentry, both electrical



Angela Lent



Maggie Callahan



Josephine Mazurkiewicz



Michael Gentry

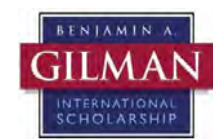
Nationally competitive fellowships and scholarships offer Mercer students opportunities for research experiences, language study, international travel, internships, and graduate study at prestigious institutions. To learn more, visit the Office of National Fellowships and Scholarships nfs.mercer.edu.

engineering majors, will serve as interns and, later, civilian employees at Robins Air Force Base. They will receive full tuition, an annual stipend and additional allowances while at Mercer for each year they commit to working for the DoD following graduation.

Both students are participating in the School of Engineering's 4 + 1 Master of Science in Engineering program that allows them to earn both bachelor's and master's degrees over five years of study.

The SMART Scholarship for Service Program provides an opportunity for students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines to receive a full scholarship and be gainfully employed upon degree completion.

SIX STUDENTS RECEIVE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE BENJAMIN A. GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY ABROAD



THE U.S. DEPARTMENT of State recently announced that five Mercer students are among nearly 1,000 American undergraduates from 386 colleges and universities selected to receive the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study or intern abroad this year.

Gilman Scholars receive up to \$5,000 to apply towards their study abroad or internship program costs with additional funding available for the study of a critical language overseas.

Junior **SA'HAARA-JADE BRYANT**, a global health studies major from Albany, will participate in an internship program in South Africa.

Junior **TIMOTHY HOOD**, a computer engineering major from Lawrenceville, will participate in a Mercer On Mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Junior **DONALD WILLIAMS**, an international business major from Columbus, will study Spanish in Spain.

Sophomore **ARIEL DANIELS**, a political science major from Milledgeville, will study Arabic in Morocco.

Sophomore **DANIELLE LOVING**, a chemistry major from Byron, will participate in a Mercer On Mission trip to Peru.

Additionally, junior **SIMRAN KHOJA**, a math and economics double-major from Lilburn, was selected last fall to study abroad in Hong Kong during the current academic year.

The Gilman Scholarship has enabled more than 25,000 outstanding Americans of diverse backgrounds to engage in a meaningful educational experience abroad. The program has successfully broadened U.S. participation in study abroad, while emphasizing countries and regions where fewer Americans traditionally study.

The Gilman Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education.

FACULTY NEWS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DEAN ELIZABETH HAMMOND ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

ELIZABETH DANKERT HAMMOND, dean of the University Library at Mercer since 1999, recently announced her retirement from the University, effective June 30, and Provost Dr. D. Scott Davis has appointed a committee to lead the search for her successor. The search committee will be led by Dr. Anita O. Gustafson, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. “Beth Hammond has served the University with distinction for almost 40 years,” Dr. Davis said. “She has led the University Library through a period of dynamic growth and change, always seeking innovative ways to keep Mercer on the leading edge of the field. We are very grateful for her dedicated service.”

Prior to being appointed dean, Hammond served Mercer in various administrative and public services library positions since 1978, including two terms as interim library director. She received her B.A. in art history and her Master of Library Science degree from

the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As dean of the University Library, Hammond is responsible for operations of the Jack Tarver Library on the Macon campus, the Swilley Library on the Cecil B. Day campus in Atlanta, and libraries at the Regional Academic Centers. These libraries serve undergraduate and graduate programs in business and economics, education, engineering, liberal arts, music, nursing, pharmacy, health professions, theology and working adult programs.

Hammond oversees a \$4 million budget and a combined staff of 50 Mercer employees. Working closely with other deans, University administrators and department heads, the dean ensures that library services, technology, facilities, and collections provide top-quality, responsive support for the academic programs and the research agenda of the University. In 2016, she and the senior leadership team implemented a reorganization of the University Library into cross-campus teams that has led to innovative approaches for supporting Mercer’s initiatives in service, research and scholarship.



She serves on a number of administrative bodies, including Provost’s Council and Council of Deans. In 2007, she chaired the University Planning Council subcommittee that drafted a new vision statement for the University.

Hammond recently served as chair of the Board of Trustees of LYRASIS, a national membership organization for libraries and information professionals. She is a manuscript reviewer for *College and University Libraries* and regularly serves on reaffirmation review committees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, as well as providing consulting work on library administration. In 2000, she was selected for the inaugural class of the Frye Leadership Institute, an intensive two-week experience for emerging leaders in library and information technology in higher education. Hammond is married to Dr. L. Kenneth Hammond, former dean pro tem and professor emeritus in the College of Liberal Arts.



MERCER SELECTED TO HOST AMERICAN CENTER FOR MONGOLIAN STUDIES

Mercer’s Department of International and Global Studies (IGS) was selected to serve as the new host for the American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS), a nonprofit educational organization established in 2004 to advance academic research, training and exchanges in Inner Asia.

“We very much appreciate Mercer’s willingness to host the American Center for Mongolian Studies,” said **Dr. Charles Krusekopf**, outgoing executive director of ACMS, professor of international business at Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia, and visiting professor at the Management Institute in Innsbruck, Austria. “Previous hosts have included Austin College, Western Washington University, the University of Wisconsin and the University of Pennsylvania.”

ACMS began operations at Mercer on Oct. 1. Additionally, **Dr. Jonathan Addleton**, who serves as an adjunct professor of international and global studies, was appointed the new executive director of ACMS, providing U.S.-based strategic direction and support for the organization’s office in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. ACMS sponsors a library, conferences, lecture series and other programs in Mongolia.

As a member of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), based at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., ACMS is part of a network of 25 similar centers, including “sister institutions” in Egypt, Jordan, India, Cambodia, Senegal and elsewhere.

Dr. Addleton joined Mercer’s faculty in January following a 33-year career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer that included assignments as U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia from 2009-2012 and USAID Mission Director in Mongolia from 2001-2004.

“It is both an honor and an opportunity for Mercer University to host ACMS and become part of the broader CAORC network,” added Dr. Addleton. “My hope is that this affiliation will further strengthen Mercer’s international connections.”

Funding for ACMS programs related to Mongolia come from several sources, including the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of State, Luce Foundation, Asia Foundation and National Endowment for the Humanities. Ongoing activities include a summer fellowship program that provides opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students to visit and conduct research in Mongolia.

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE JOURNALISM ADDS THREE STAFF MEMBERS

Mercer’s Center for Collaborative Journalism recently added three staff members to support expanded programming underwritten by a \$2 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Amyre Makupson, evening co-anchor at Macon’s WGXA-TV ABC 16 and Fox 24 for the past four years, has been named broadcast news director. Makupson will work with Mercer students to produce local news stories for CCJ broadcast partner 13WMAZ, as well as for Mercer’s own TV station, WMUB. Students will also, under Makupson’s supervision, produce video content for CCJ partners *The Telegraph* and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Broadcast journalist **Sonya Green**, who recently completed a Knight-Wallace Fellowship at the University of Michigan, has been named engagement coordinator and reporter for the Center. Green will work out of the CCJ’s Peyton Anderson Newsroom and assist partners in coordinating community events, oversee assignments and schedules for the reporting teams, and manage new community-engagement technology.

The Center’s TV station, WMUB, has added **William C. Maddox**, a former longtime member of WMAZ’s engineering staff, as operations manager. Reporting to the broadcast news director, Maddox works with CCJ faculty, students and media partners to develop content and is responsible for WMUB operations and compliance with FCC regulations.

“These new hires bring years of experience to our journalism and media studies program and will help our students continue to expand their skillsets through hands-on work with WMUB and our media partners,” said CCJ Interim Director Debbie Blankenship.

Makupson, who earned her bachelor’s degree in broadcast journalism from Howard University and her master’s degree in communications from Wayne State University, both with honors, worked as a reporter, editor, producer and anchor for network affiliates in Lima, Ohio, before joining WGXA in 2013.

Green has a bachelor’s degree in media studies and English from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Prior to being selected for the highly competitive Knight-Wallace Fellowship at Michigan, Green spent more than a decade serving in management and editorial roles at TV and radio stations in the Seattle area. She also was a news producer at Denver’s KMGH, an ABC affiliate, for five years. She and a former colleague at KBCS in Bellevue, Washington, recently won third place in the 2017 Katherine Schneider Journalism Award for Excellence in Reporting on Disability.

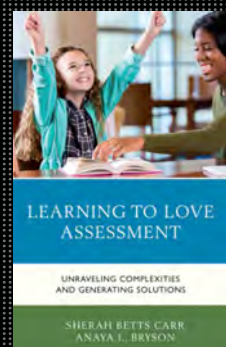
A U.S. Navy veteran, Maddox served as an engineer at WMAZ for more than a decade. Prior to that he was assistant chief engineer for Georgia Public Broadcasting. He is licensed by the FCC and certified by the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

Established in 2012 with \$5.7 million in funding from Knight Foundation and the Peyton Anderson Foundation, the Center for Collaborative Journalism is a unique partnership between Mercer’s Journalism and Media Studies Department, McClatchy-owned *The Telegraph* of Macon and Georgia Public Broadcasting. The prototype brings students, faculty and veteran journalists together in a joint newsroom located in Mercer Village.

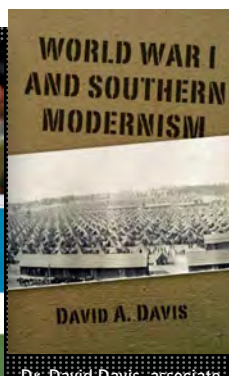
From left, William Maddox, Amyre Makupson, Sonya Green



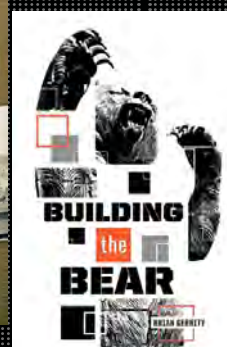
MERCER FACULTY & STAFF AUTHOR NEW BOOKS



Dr. Sherah Betts Carr, associate professor of education, co-authored *Learning to Love Assessment: Unraveling Complexities and Generating Solutions*, Rowman and Littlefield Education.



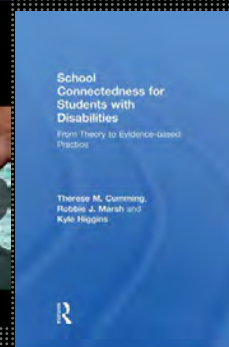
Dr. David Davis, associate professor of English, authored *World War I and Southern Modernism*, University Press of Mississippi.



Brian Gerrity, senior associate athletic director and executive director of the Mercer Athletic Foundation, authored *Building the Bear: A Mid-Major Fundraising Story*, Sabbath and Baron.



Dr. Frank Macke, professor of communication studies, authored *The Experience of Human Communication: Body, Flesh and Relationship*, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.



Dr. Robbie Marsh, assistant professor of special education, co-authored *School Connectedness for Students with Disabilities: From Theory to Evidence-based Practice*, Routledge.



Dr. Anya Silver, professor of English, authored *Second Bloom*, Cascade Books.

Who are Mercer's Distinguished University Professors?

BY DREW DAWS

AT THIS PAST NOVEMBER'S HOMECOMING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Mercer President William D. Underwood announced the appointment of Dr. Sarah E. Gardner as Distinguished University Professor of History.

The highest academic rank available to a Mercer faculty member is Distinguished University Professor. The appointment recognizes extraordinary scholarship or creative work by faculty who have achieved national and international distinction in their fields.

With Dr. Gardner's appointment, Mercer has six Distinguished University Professors on the faculty in the areas of biomedical engineering, chemistry, Christian ethics, history and music.

Robert McDuffie

Robert McDuffie (left) is a Grammy-nominated violinist who has played with many of the world's foremost orchestras. He founded the Rome Chamber Music Festival in Italy, as well as Mercer's Robert McDuffie Center for Strings in his hometown of Macon.

He plays one of the world's greatest violins, known as the "Ladenburg," which was made by Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù in 1735 and is valued at approximately \$10 million.

He has appeared as soloist with most of the major orchestras of the world, including the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics; the Chicago, San Francisco, National, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, St. Louis, Montreal, and Toronto Symphonies; the Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Minnesota Orchestras; the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the North German Radio Orchestra, the Düsseldorf Symphony, the Frankfurt Radio Orchestra, the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, the Hamburg Symphony, Bruckner Orchestra Linz, Orchestra del Teatro alla Scala, Santa Cecilia Orchestra of Rome, Venice Baroque Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de México, Orquesta Sinfónica de Minería; and all of the major orchestras of Australia.

McDuffie has been a Distinguished University Professor of Music since 2004, when he first joined the faculty at Mercer.

"It's an incredible honor to be a Distinguished University Professor," he said. "I am immensely grateful to the University for allowing our Center for Strings to push back against outdated norms in classical music higher education."

In 2006, he founded the Center for Strings, a special institute within the University's Townsend School of Music, located at the historic Bell House on College Street. He sought to provide a learning environment where musicians can also study other disciplines, such as business and law, while enrolled at the University.

"I strive to create an environment whereby exceptionally talented students will come to Macon, instead of New York, and to Mercer, instead of Juilliard, to realize their full potential," he said.

One of the most gratifying aspects of his career is seeing the evolution of students during their time in Macon.

"It is special for me to witness raw talent morph into intellectual curiosity," McDuffie said.

What is something your students may not know about you?

As a student in New York City, McDuffie, a Macon native, took time out of his busy schedule to cheer on his favorite home team. "While I was at Juilliard, I once called in sick to a performance because the Atlanta Braves were playing on TV," he said.

Grammy-nominated violinist Robert McDuffie, left, and R.E.M. bassist Mike Mills perform Mills' *Concerto for Violin, Rock Band and String Orchestra* at McDuffie's 2016 Rome (Italy) Chamber Music Festival. McDuffie and Mills met in Macon in middle school and have been friends ever since.

JACOPO STINAGHELLI PHOTO

David Gushee, Ph.D.

David P. Gushee, Ph.D., joined the Mercer faculty as Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics in 2007 and serves as founding director of the Center for Theology and Public Life, which organizes events and courses to advance quality conversations about major issues arising at the intersection of theology, ethics and public policy.

"I am a Christian ethicist with special interest in social ethics; that is, major public issues to which Christians need to give serious attention," he said. "I have written a lot about the moral teachings of Jesus and what they mean for us today."

Dr. Gushee is the author or editor of more than 20 books, as well as hundreds of publications, and has lectured on every continent. He accompanies his scholarly production with church work, activism, board service and domestic and global media consultation.

Widely considered one of the leading moral voices in American Christianity, Dr. Gushee enjoys the opportunity to share his knowledge with students at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

"I get to teach students who are at very different stages of life and pursuing very different vocations. I deeply appreciate the environment of total academic freedom because it is a fragile thing in many schools," he said. "It has been exciting to watch the student body get more and more diverse, and more and more sharp, as my time has gone by at Mercer."

Dr. Gushee has dedicated his life to service and educating the world at large on how Christianity should be interpreted today.

"It has been immensely meaningful to be named a Distinguished University Professor," he said. "From the beginning, I have been aware of what a rare honor it is. Colleagues in other schools know the significance of this kind of post, and it has opened doors for me in many places."

What is something your students may not know about you?

"I read classic novels, travel as much as possible with my wife, Jeanie, watch Braves games and play with my grandson," he said. "I love baseball to my core. I was on a Little League baseball team in 1974 that was just a few games away from the Little League World Series."



CHRISTOPHER IAN SMITH PHOTOS



Sarah Gardner, Ph.D.

Sarah E. Gardner, Ph.D., has taught at Mercer since 1996. Last November, President Underwood and the Board of Trustees announced her appointment as Distinguished University Professor of History, an honor that also marked her 22nd year at the University.

"I am honored and humbled by the appointment," Dr. Gardner said. "This recognition affirms Mercer's commitment to the humanities at a time when, across the country, the value and importance of core disciplines is questioned."

Dr. Gardner studies the intellectual and cultural history of the American South. She is the author of *Blood and Iron: Southern White Women's Narratives of the Civil War, 1861-1937* and co-editor of *Voices of the American South*, a comprehensive survey of pivotal works in the Southern literary tradition.

Dr. Gardner's second book, *Reviewing the South: The Literary Marketplace and the Making of the Southern Renaissance*, was published last April, and she has signed on to co-edit a forthcoming series from the University of Georgia Press, titled "Print Culture in the South," and to author another book from the University of North Carolina Press that will explore intellectual life in the Civil War-era South.

"Much of my work focuses on the print culture, the literary marketplace, and the circulation of ideas," she said. "I am currently writing a book on reading during the American Civil War."

Dr. Gardner's field of study encompasses a wide range of history throughout the 19th and early 20th century. Her classes have investigated "Reconstruction and the Rise of Jim Crow America" and "The Civil War and Memory," among other topics. Dr. Gardner also teaches regularly in the University's Great Books program.

"A liberal arts education is about something more than fostering the skills necessary for graduates to enter the workforce successfully," Dr. Gardner said. "It's about cultivating inquisitiveness, imagination and empathy. Every time I enter the classroom, I have the opportunity to demonstrate the continued relevance of rigorous humanistic inquiry."

What is something your students may not know about you?

Although she works in Georgia, Dr. Gardner resides in Pennsylvania. When she is not working, she enjoys spending her time relaxing and enjoying her favorite pastimes. "I do most of my writing while listening to jazz. I watch a lot of British mysteries. And I am a diehard baseball fan. Alas, my heart is broken every single season. I grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. Need I say more?"



Adam Kiefer, Ph.D.

Adam Kiefer, Ph.D., joined the University's Chemistry Department in 2008. He is a trusted mentor to many students at Mercer and a pioneer in his field of study, helping to tackle an environmental crisis that affects the entire world.

"In the field of artisanal and small-scale goldmining, many miners use mercury, some use cyanide, and there are environmental and human health consequences as a result of that," he said.

Last spring, Dr. Kiefer was appointed Distinguished University Professor of Chemistry for establishing a program that exemplifies Mercer's emphasis on "Research That Reaches Out."

"One of the most important things that the award has done for me is give verification that the work I do is important," he said. "As professors, we have a balance between doing good work and providing students with the opportunities to see the world through a different lens."

Small-scale gold mining is one of the world's largest contributors to man-made atmospheric mercury contamination. Because of his groundbreaking efforts, Dr. Kiefer has collaborated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to deal with this emerging crisis.

"Approximately 20 to 40 percent of the world's gold is mined by people who are independent miners. We take a look at the pollution from not only those chemicals but also some of the pollutants that are released through the mining process and how they affect the world around us," he said.

Being a faculty member at Mercer has given Dr. Kiefer what he considers to be a unique opportunity to both educate and challenge his students, not only in the classroom and lab, but also on a much larger scale.

"Although there are a lot of great schools out there, there are very few schools that provide the faculty with the opportunity to work at the level with the students that we do, he said. "It is a blessing to allow our students the chance to participate in projects that can create a more global impact."

What is something your students may not know about you?

Dr. Kiefer enjoys Macon's rich music heritage, which affords him the chance to have a deeper connection with one of his favorite bands. "I saw the Allman Brothers Band 36 times in concert," he said.



Wallace Daniel, Ph.D.

Wallace L. Daniel has been at Mercer since 2008, originally serving as provost of the University.

With more than 30 years of teaching and administrative experience at Baylor University and Mercer, Dr. Daniel stepped away from his administrative role to join the faculty as a professor in 2012. That same year, he was appointed Distinguished University Professor of History to pursue his research interests in the Soviet Union, contemporary Russia and society.

"While serving as provost, I had the opportunity to get to know the faculty, staff and students across the University," he said. "Presently, as a faculty member, I am profoundly grateful for this honor. It is humbling to be recognized as part of such a distinguished group."

Dr. Daniel received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, specializing in Russia, and has been awarded Fulbright-Hays Fellowships to Russia and the former Soviet Union three times.

He has dedicated a large part of his career to the study of Russian history, including the Orthodox Church, civil society, human rights and freedom of conscience. His most recent project is an intellectual biography of Father Aleksandr Men, a Russian Orthodox priest who was murdered.

"The books and articles I have written deal with men and women who have offered fresh and creative ways of thinking and living in difficult circumstances," he said.

In his administrative role, Dr. Daniel saw how the University promotes its mission. As a faculty member, he now sees the tangible impact the mission has on its students.

"The academic environment at Mercer encourages students to be interdisciplinary learners while at the same time allowing them to develop a moral conscience towards the betterment of humankind," he said. "Both of these commitments are part of Mercer's heritage, and I see them acted out repeatedly in the classroom and on campus."

What is something your students may not know about you?

When he is not in the classroom, Dr. Daniel enjoys watching sports and listening to music. "I am a rabid basketball fan, and I also love to listen to classic rock 'n' roll music, like Little Richard, Buddy Holly, the Platters and many others," he said.

CHRISTOPHER IAN SMITH PHOTOS



Ha Van Vo, M.D., Ph.D., DPM

Ha Van Vo, M.D., Ph.D., DPM (left), is internationally recognized for his work helping thousands of amputees who live in developing countries. Through his research, he developed a patented universal socket technology to provide prosthetic legs to thousands of people living in impoverished regions around the world.

Last spring, Dr. Vo, who has been a member of Mercer's faculty for the past 12 years, was appointed Distinguished University Professor of Biomedical Engineering for his groundbreaking efforts in his field.

"This is perhaps the highest honor a professor can receive at Mercer," he said. "There are so many outstanding professors here, and I am very honored to be selected for this recognition."

Dr. Vo's areas of teaching and research include orthopedic biomechanics, injured mechanics, orthopedic rehabilitation, bone fracture mechanics, biomedical materials and prosthetics and orthotics.

There are an estimated 100,000 amputees currently living in his home country of Vietnam, many injured by land mines and unexploded bombs left during the Vietnam War.

Dr. Vo's prosthesis has been used to fit over 8,000 amputees in Vietnam. He has led Mercer On Mission programs to the country since 2009, providing an affordable and highly-effective alternative to otherwise costly prostheses.

The Clinton Global Initiative University programs recognized the University for its commitment to engaging the world and taking on global challenges. Dr. Vo's prosthetic leg project was one of only three programs recognized by former President Bill Clinton.

"The prosthetic we have developed costs around \$150," Dr. Vo said. "Through the Mercer On Mission Orthopedic Prosthetic Program, I have had the opportunity to interact with students and provide a hands-on learning experience. This program, and the effects it has had on both students and amputees, is one of the most rewarding parts of my career thus far. To see a man who had not walked in 30 years take his first steps is an amazing experience. Even more amazing is to see the look on our students' faces when they know that they were the ones who used their learning, skills and hard work to make that happen."

The success of Dr. Vo's prosthetic leg project has inspired him to turn his attention in a new direction. He has recently completed the design of a prosthetic hand. During this summer's Mercer On Mission program, the Mercer team will fit at least 50 of these devices on upper extremity amputees in Vietnam.

What is something your students may not know about you?

Dr. Vo is passionate about helping those in need, even if it means providing them with a simple meal. "One fact that few people may know about me is that I am a chef at a Thai restaurant," he said. "It is great to have a chance to pursue multiple passions."

MERCER ON MISSION PHOTOS

Mercer's Enduring International Footprint

By Kyle Sears

University approaching international service in ways that are impactful and sustainable

To teach, to learn, to create,
to discover, to inspire,
to empower, to serve —

in 2006, Mercer President William D. Underwood tasked University Minister and Dean of Chapel Dr. Craig McMahan with creating a program that would allow students and faculty to carry the University's mission beyond the borders of Bibb County, the state of Georgia or even the United States. >>

In June 2007, Mercer On Mission launched with 38 students and six faculty members traveling to Kenya, Guatemala and Brazil to hand out mosquito nets and work with at-risk children.

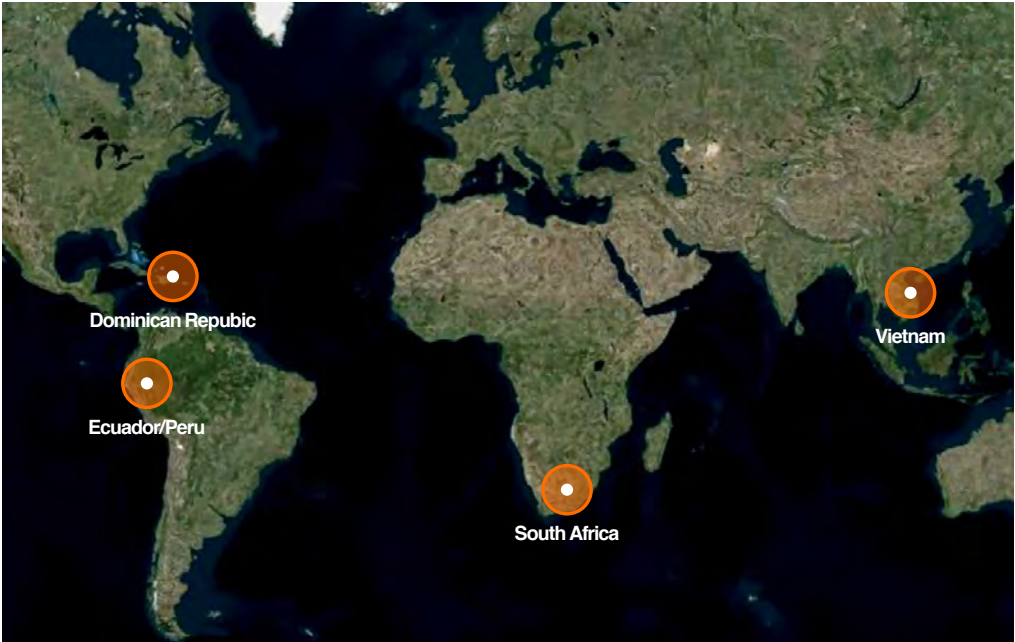
In the almost 12 years since, international service has become increasingly integral to the Mercer experience, and the University has taken on an increasing role as **a difference-maker around the globe.**

M

ercer is changing the world through programs that are having an impact even when students and faculty are no longer in these countries. The University’s involvement is not just two to three weeks at a time during Mercer On Mission’s annual summer trips. The work continues year-round through regular communication and faculty visits, the hiring and training of local personnel, and additional steps to ensure that the solutions the University is offering to medical, environmental, educational and many other issues can be carried out on an ongoing basis.

Specifically for its prosthetics program, Mercer On Mission has been recognized by former President Bill Clinton and called the most effective nongovernmental organization in Vietnam by the country’s prime minister. Programs such as this, as well as efforts to curb mercury contamination in Ecuador and Peru and to improve education in the Dominican Republic and South Africa are prime examples of Mercer’s enduring global footprint.

Mercer On Mission currently operates clinics in four locations throughout Vietnam and trains local doctors and technicians to fit Dr. Ha Vo’s patented prosthetic year-round in the absence of University faculty and students.



Vietnam

Mercer On Mission’s prosthetics program in Vietnam began in 2009 when Dr. Ha Van Vo, Distinguished University Professor of Biomedical Engineering, realized a dream. As a young boy growing up in South Vietnam after the Vietnam War, he hoped to someday make a difference for his fellow citizens who lost limbs primarily from unexploded ordnance left after the war.

Today, it is estimated that there are more than 100,000 amputees in an economy

that depends heavily on jobs, such as farmers and day laborers, that are difficult — if not impossible — to fulfill without the use of both legs.

On the first trip almost 10 years ago, a team of Mercer students and faculty visited the country with a prosthetic leg that Dr. Vo had begun to design and fit about 38 people in the town of Phung Hiep.

“What’s been at the heart of this program is this prosthetic leg that Dr. Vo designed,” said Dr. McMahan. “It’s an incredible piece of equipment. It is very light and durable, and it’s a very comfortable prosthesis. It weighs less than two pounds so the amputees find it to be very comfortable and functional.”

At first Dr. Vo and his students were making the prosthetics in his lab on the



“MANY OF OUR AMPUTEES THAT RECEIVE THE PROSTHETIC GO OUT AND RIDE BICYCLES; SOME GO OUT AND PLAY SOCCER; SOME OF THEM DANCE. SOME ARE ABLE TO CARRY HEAVY BUCKETS OF WATER ON THEIR SHOULDERS; SOME NOW CAN LAY BRICK, DOING ALL KINDS OF THINGS THAT THEY HAVEN’T BEEN ABLE TO DO BEFORE. IT’S JUST AN AMAZING TRANSFORMATION.”
— DR. McMAHAN

Macon campus and carrying them in their suitcases to Vietnam. But the program soon outgrew this modest mode of production and transportation. Thanks in large part to the generosity of Macon businessman Chris Sheridan, who through a family foundation contributes \$250,000 per year to the program, prosthetics are now being produced in Vietnam. Mercer On Mission now operates clinics in four locations around the country and trains local doctors and technicians to fit the prosthetic year-round in the absence of Dr. Vo and his team. Altogether, Mercer On Mission has fit almost 10 percent of the amputees in the country, allowing thousands of people to contribute economically, socially and in other ways they couldn’t in the past. The program is also stimulating the local

economy through the creation of jobs for manufacturers and fitters. “The lasting impact in one sense is that we are helping people become fully human, functional persons again,” said Dr. McMahan. “In another sense, we are creating opportunities for work by our orders for prosthetic legs.” Yet another enduring impact is on the students who participate in the program, who, Dr. McMahan says, often aren’t the same after they’ve played a role in giving a fellow human the opportunity to walk. “There’s something that happens deep in your soul that makes this an impactful experience,” he said. “So many of our students want to go back, and many of them reimagine what they might want to do with their lives.”



Ecuador/Peru

Globally, artisanal and small-scale gold mining is the leading source of anthropogenic mercury pollution. In these operations, mercury is used to purify gold from ore in a process called amalgamation. The mercury is burned off and turns to vapor, which travels freely through the atmosphere and does not break down in the environment. Mercury toxicity commonly affects the neurologic, gastrointestinal and renal organ systems.

Dr. Adam Kiefer, Distinguished University Professor of Chemistry, first took Mercer On Mission teams to Mozambique in 2010 and 2011 to assess mercury pollution in the environment and mercury poisoning of gold miners. The program shifted to Ecuador in 2012, where faculty and students having been working to assess and map polluted areas.

During the last two years, the team collaborated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the development and construction of a mercury capture system to trap exhaust fumes from burned amalgam.

Six weeks before arriving in Ecuador in 2017, the country's government outlawed the burning of mercury. Ecuadorian officials allowed for one day of burning to test the new system, which successfully extracted 85 percent of Mercury vapor during amalgamation. With the burning of mercury remaining illegal in Ecuador, Dr. Kiefer and his team will relocate this summer's efforts to Peru, where the practice is still commonly used.

As Mercer On Mission and Ecuadorian officials developed a working relationship over the past five years, locals expressed concerns about other issues on the horizon for the gold-mining community in the country's El Oro Province. In addition to the harmful effects caused by the chief industry in the area, there was a limited supply of gold that would eventually run out. Other industry would be needed to stimulate the economy in the near future.

In response, Mercer developed the "Centers of Strength" model, a multidisciplinary approach to serving international communities. In recent years, Mercer On Mission has brought in not only chemistry and engineering students to assess mercury pollution, but also education students to work with children, business students to consult with industry leaders and entrepreneurs, public health students to perform health assessments and Spanish students to serve as translators.

"We bring students in from so many different backgrounds, and they have their own stories to share," said Dr. Kiefer. "By bringing everybody together, we really are able to work with communities in very unique ways."

A student on one of these trips, current senior Shane Buerster, had his life and the lives of numerous Ecuadorians impacted by a chance encounter with a man named Arturo who had worked in the coffee industry for 50 years.

"I encountered many incredible Ecuadorians, and I realized just how hard they work. I realized that the average farmer's son doesn't complete primary school. I realized the average farmer's daughter doesn't complete the sixth grade," said Buerster. "This bothered me. I have always had the opportunity to chase my dreams. I never had to worry about food being on the table. I know that I cannot create equal results for the farmers, but I can create an equality of opportunity."

Last August, Buerster, an economics, Spanish and marketing triple-major from Pooler, purchased the first 4,000 pounds of Ecuadorian coffee for his company, Z Beans, which was founded with the mission to create sustainable solutions for impoverished Ecuadorian farmers through fair-trade importation methods.

Buerster has set up office space in the Mercer Innovation Center and is currently supplying coffee to four coffee shops in the Southeast, six retail locations and a dozen businesses in Macon. He hopes to supply the breakrooms of another 40 local businesses by the end of the current semester.

"This is my calling," he said. "I plan to create a global platform for the farmers to sell their products."



"MERCER ON MISSION HELPED ME CREATE MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS. AS A STUDENT INTERESTED IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORK, MERCER OPENED THE DOORS FOR ME TO NOT ONLY DEVELOP BUT TO CREATE A MARKET FOR ONE OF ECUADOR'S OVERLOOKED PRODUCTS, COFFEE."
— SHANE BUERSTER



Mercer On Mission teams, led by Dr. Adam Kiefer, have visited artisanal and small-scale gold-mining communities since 2010 to assess and reduce pollution caused by the burning of mercury to purify gold from ore.

Senior Shane Buerster met a farmer named Arturo during a Mercer On Mission trip to Ecuador and was inspired to start a coffee company, called Z Beans, with a mission to create sustainable solutions for impoverished Ecuadorian farmers through fairtrade importation methods.

a model that can be carried on to the K-12 learning environment.

"The professors at Mercer have done an outstanding job," said McDonald. "They have developed close relationships with the Dominican people. They have been innovative in their work, and they are always building on what we've accomplished and thinking of ways we can improve. I think the work has been very meaningful for them."

This summer, Tift College faculty, led by Dr. Justin Ballenger, and STEM teachers from Gwinnett and DeKalb counties, will be going to the Dominican Republic to follow up on training and also to set up a 2-acre plot at one of the schools that will be used as an aquaponics garden. Local high-schoolers will be charged with maintaining the fish and vegetables in the garden while also learning science and math concepts.

"The bottom line is that we all share the mutual focus of improving the quality of instruction for students," said Dr. Sherah Carr, associate professor in the Tift College of Education. "I have shared many lessons learned from this project with my students. I want them to have a sense of the benefits of international viewpoints on teaching and learning and how we can approach differences from an asset versus a deficit perspective. My goal now is to add more Mercer students as active participants in this incredible project."

Additionally, Mercer On Mission hopes to become increasingly involved with the McDonald Center's work. In an unrelated project, the men's basketball team traveled to the country last June to build a water system in an area while locals did not have access to clean drinking water. Organizers are looking into how projects such as these could be linked to create a new "Center of Strength" in the Dominican Republic.



South Africa

Over the past 10 years, Dr. Mary Alice Morgan, senior vice provost for service-learning, and Dr. Eimad Houry, professor and chair of international and global studies, have accompanied students on five Mercer On Mission trips to South Africa, a country still navigating its way out of decades of institutionalized racism prior to the end of apartheid in 1994.

The running theme throughout these trips has been service to education. Teams have worked on projects, such as creating an instructional video on social health determinants, providing research and support to a local housing project and organizing a interscholastic debate tournament, with a goal of empowering and inspiring impoverished communities.

"For me personally, having grown up in the American South when it



Dominican Republic

Mercer's McDonald Center for the Advancement of Global Education in the Dominican Republic is primarily the vision of one man: Tom McDonald.

McDonald, who attended Mercer before transferring to another institution, and his wife, Ramona, a Tift College graduate, wanted to give back to a country that had given much to them by helping Dominicans succeed as

participants in the global economy.

The key to achieving this goal, McDonald believes, is education. He owned a medical supply business in the Dominican Republic for two decades. On an island nation that requires international commerce for a thriving economy, he found that education — or the lack thereof — was often holding back firms from expanding operations.

He sought out Mercer and its Tift College of Education to help establish the McDonald Center, which began working with K-12 schools four years ago. Mercer faculty participating in the Center's efforts soon discovered that in order to create sustainable impact in the

BING MAPS; MERCER ON MISSION PHOTOS

“I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO HELP INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS IMPROVE THEIR INSTRUCTION. THE MORE I HAVE WORKED WITH THESE AMAZING TEACHERS AND LEADERS, THE MORE I REALIZE THAT I AM THE MAJOR LEARNER.” — DR. CARR

was still segregated, anything that could be done to help manage the recovery from that sort of social engineering was something I wanted to be a participant in,” said Dr. Morgan.

South African activist Anwar Parker has served as a liaison to the Mercer On Mission team, connecting it with local organizations that need help. He has also begun bringing in Mercer students as interns to help with community outreach efforts year-round.

“Working with us several times, Anwar recognized that Mercer is committed to making a lasting impact with the organizations and the individuals we’re working with,” said Dr. Morgan.

One project, in particular, that stands out is the development of a drama club at an under-resourced and marginalized school in a township that had recently been created from a squatter camp. The Mercer On Mission team provided local students with copies of plays written during apartheid, but the students weren’t content to act out these plays; they wanted help to write and perform their own.

Students reflected on struggles, not only with racism, but with other issues, such as hunger, which they encountered on a daily basis at a school of 600 with only enough government funding to feed 400 students each day.

They selected and performed a play, called “The Hot Seat: Untold Stories of a South Africa Township,” for the first time in front of their school and families, and in the fall, after the Mercer On Mission team had left, they entered a local competition and won first place. They went on to regional and provincial competitions — and won first place at each of those, as well, against schools with many more resources. The play served as a “stepping stone” for many of the students to pursue college and careers.

“A lot of our students come back with a fresh perspective on issues they thought they understood based on things they studied in the classroom but they hadn’t really experienced firsthand for themselves,” said Dr. Houry. “One of those issues is inequality and the degree to which it can stifle motivation and aspirations in people to achieve and succeed in life.”

One of these students, current senior Joseph Payne, sought to have a lasting impact when he returned to the South Africa as an intern with DOCKDA Rural Development Agency. He organized and managed a crowdfunding campaign to raise money for bicycles to be distributed to schoolchildren in the remote Northern Cape Province.

The campaign included Payne — a philosophy and politics, philosophy and economics double-major from Dublin — hiking 15 kilometers (9.3 miles) over three mountains near Cape Town to raise awareness about the lengths that local children often have to take to travel to and from school each day. He successfully raised funds to purchase five bicycles that were distributed last fall.

“I have long been interested in poverty relief and international travel and saw the



Mercer’s McDonald Center for the Advancement of Global Education has been working for the past four years with K-12 teachers and university faculty in the Dominican Republic to improve the quality of teaching in the Caribbean nation.

Mercer On Mission teams, led by Dr. Eimad Houry and Dr. Mary Alice Morgan, have made five trips to South Africa since 2010 to assist impoverished communities with projects such as creating an instructional video on social health determinants, providing research and support to a local housing project and organizing a interscholastic debate tournament.



South Africa internship program as a great opportunity to combine the two,” said Payne. “I had an incredible experience living in Cape Town, a city with a very complex and interesting history and culture. I was also pleased to get to know my South African coworkers very well and have a rewarding work experience.”

Thus far, 30 Mercer students have participated in six- to eight-week internships in South Africa. Additionally, the Mercer Service Scholars — a prestigious program for students who have demonstrated a commitment to service and leadership in addition to outstanding academic performance — are involved in a regular Mercer On Mission trip to South Africa, as the University continues to expand its footprint in that community.

“Our work in South Africa not only embodies Mercer’s mission to use University expertise and resources to empower citizens in the developing world, but also to instill a commitment to social justice and equity among our students,” said Dr. Morgan.

“We have many students come back and pursue opportunities with organizations like the Peace Corps,” added Dr. Houry.

It’s never too early to start visiting college campuses, and summer is a great time to check out several schools on your list.

WHEN YOU’RE MAKING YOUR VISITS, PAY ATTENTION TO THESE 3 IMPORTANT FACTORS:

1. Atmosphere. How welcoming and open are the students and staff? The kinds of people you’re going to be working with and becoming friends with have a huge impact on your college experience!

2. Distinctive Features. These might include accelerated master’s degree programs, scholarship opportunities, internship opportunities, research and study abroad programs, etc. These things can make a difference in just receiving a degree and graduating from college ready to take on the real world.

3. Fit. Picture yourself living in the residence halls, eating in the dining hall, cheering at sporting events, studying in the library and being a part of the organizations on campus. Make sure you can see yourself thriving for the next four years.

I visited a few schools during my freshman and sophomore years of high school, and that helped me figure out what kinds of schools I was really interested in. From there, I made a few more visits and discovered that Mercer is the perfect fit for me!

— Jayla

**Get a glimpse of Mercer this summer at Bears On Deck
June 8 • July 13
Register at visit.mercer.edu**

COLLEGE BOUND:

Campus Visit Tips FROM A CURRENT MERCER STUDENT

FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES WITH COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENTS

Meet Jayla Moody, '19

**Journalism and French Double Major
Global Development Studies Minor**

Campus Involvement: Admissions Special Events Team, AWARE, *The Cluster*, Greek Life, Leadership Mercer



MERCER
UNIVERSITY



SAVE THE DATE!

MERCER UNIVERSITY

Homecoming

NOVEMBER 2-4 2018

Unite with classmates and relive memories at Homecoming 2018. Remember the past and see how bright the future looks at Mercer!

Be here for our annual events, including:
 7th Annual Alumni Career Speakers Series
 4th Annual Alumni Awards Dinner
 50-Year Reunion - Class of 1968
 Friday Night Pep Rally
 Half Century Club Celebration
 Tailgating galore to get you into the Mercer spirit
 Football vs ETSU Bucs
 ...and much more!

Watch your mail, email and social media for more information.

Registration begins in late summer at
HOMECOMING.MERCER.EDU

JOHN AMIS, JESSICA WHITLEY, CHRISTOPHER VAN SMITH PHOTOS

BEARS GO TO THE

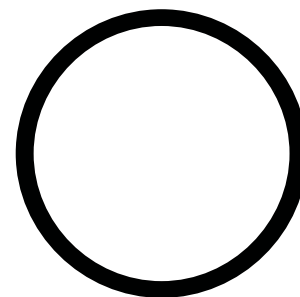


DANCE



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RECORDS NUMEROUS MILESTONES DURING CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

By Rick Cameron | Photographs by Judy Stapleton



the Chattanooga in the Southern Conference Tournament Championship. The Mocs moved on to the "Big Dance," the NCAA Tournament, while the Bears would head to Tuscaloosa to play the University of Alabama in the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

On March 5, 2017, at approximately 2 p.m., women's head coach Susie Gardner, her staff and team dejectedly exited the U.S. Cellular Center in Asheville, North Carolina, after a devastating two-point, 61-59, loss to

Over the next 365 days, each returning member of the women's team and coaching staff pledged to diligently work overtime in the off season and, beginning in November, play the next play, win the next possession and garnish the next victory. Over the 2017-2018 season, only two teams on the schedule would be able to derail the Bears. One of those, the Georgia Lady Bulldogs, was a top 25 team headed to this year's NCAA Tournament and the other is NCAA Tournament qualifier Western Kentucky, who edged the Bears by five points at a Thanksgiving tournament in Atlanta. The Bears would not lose again over the next 100 days.

The Bears would not only go unbeaten in conference play to nail their third consecutive Southern Conference regular season championship but on March 4, 2018, the now No. 25 (AP) Mercer women's basketball team would win its first Southern Conference Women's Basketball Tournament title. The Bears defeated East Tennessee State University, 68-53, behind a game-high 29 points from





Kahlia Lawrence at that same U.S. Cellular Center. After heart-breaking defeats in the conference title game each of the last two seasons, top-seeded Mercer (30-2) clinched the SoCon's automatic bid to the 2018 NCAA Tournament with the 15-point victory over the No. 2 seed Bucs. It was Mercer's 27th consecutive win, tying Chattanooga's conference record

that was set in 2003-04.

Lawrence garnered "player of the game" honors and capped off a Tournament MVP performance. She finished the game 10-of-18 from the field, including 3-of-6 from downtown. Lawrence averaged 25 points per game during the SoCon Championships. The milestones reached during the 2017-2018 season have established these Bears as the most accomplished team in Mercer women's basketball history.

The facts speak for themselves:

- Mercer entered the AP Top 25 Poll for the first time since 1980, coming in at No. 25. The Bears were also ranked 23rd in the USA Today Coaches Poll, tabbed No. 3 in the ESPNW Mid-Major Poll and ranked third in the Collegeinsider.com Top 25 mid-major rankings (the Bears received one first-place vote).
- Lawrence was named SoCon Player of the Year for the third consecutive season;
- Gardner, while becoming Mercer's all-time winningest coach, captured SoCon Coach of the Year honors, while Lawrence, Sydney Means and KeKe Calloway were named SoCon First Team All-Conference.
- In Gardner's eighth season at the helm of the Bears' program, Mercer has won at least 20 games in five of the last six seasons. Gardner has led the Bears to a 144-110 record and

named SoCon Coach of the Year for the second time in three seasons.

- At press time, the Mercer women's team had the third-longest active winning streak in NCAA Division I, trailing only perennial powers UConn and Baylor.
- Mercer notched its 30th win of the season, setting the program record for most wins in a single season, while going unbeaten at 14-0 in conference play and claiming the program's first-ever outright SoCon regular season championship.
- With the tournament championship, Mercer earned the SoCon's automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history.
- The Bears posted four players on the SoCon All-Tournament Teams as Sydni Means and Amanda Thompson garnered a spot on the second team, while Calloway and Lawrence were slated on the first team.
- Lawrence was tabbed as the SoCon Tournament Most Outstanding Player.
- At the close of the SoCon Tournament, the Bears were first in the conference in 11 team statistical categories for the season and first in eight individual rankings.
- Senior point guard Means was not only first in the conference in assist/turnover ratio but was



first in the nation with 264 assists and only 55 turnovers for the entire season. Calloway, a junior, set the SoCon single-season

three point record with 99 triples on the season and also became Mercer's all-time three-point leader with 219 career three pointers.

BAGROU

FIRST SOCCER PLAYER IN SCHOOL HISTORY TAKEN IN SUPER DRAFT



Mercer standout senior Will Bagrou was selected by Sporting Kansas City in the fourth round with the No. 75th overall pick in the 2018 Major League Soccer SuperDraft. Bagrou's selection marks the first time in school history that a men's soccer player has been drafted in the SuperDraft.

Bagrou joins four former Bears who are currently playing professional soccer: Carl-Oscar Andersson (New York Cosmos), Vicente Arze (Club Aurora), Richard Perdomo (Club Deportivo Platense) and Greg

Ranjitsingh (Louisville City FC).

"For Will to be drafted is a testament to his hard work and determination," said Mercer Head Coach Brad Ruzzo. "The most important trait Will has is his will to win above any individual accomplishment he has earned. He deserves this opportunity, as he will go down as one of the best attacking players in Southern Conference and Mercer soccer history. He has all the physical and mental tools to succeed at this level and I can't wait to follow his professional career."

Bagrou departs Mercer as one of the most decorative student-athletes in school history. The forward is a three-time All-South Region honoree, 2017 SoCon Male Athlete of the Year, four-time All-Southern Conference First Team honoree and two-time All-SoCon Tournament member. The Georgia native was named a MAC Hermann Trophy semifinalist and the SoCon Player of the Year during the 2016 season, while being tabbed to the NSCAA All-America Second Team.

MEN'S SOCCER ADVANCES TO NCAA

The men's soccer team advanced to the 2017 NCAA Men's Soccer Tournament where they dropped a tough 1-0 decision to Coastal Carolina in the opening round at CCU Soccer Stadium in Conway, South Carolina.

The trip to the NCAA Tournament highlighted another historic year for Head Coach Brad Ruzzo's squad.

The Bears claimed the 2017 Southern Conference title for the second consecutive season, besting UNCG in penalty kicks, 3-2. Three different seniors were named to the SoCon All-Tournament team, in addition to Jeremy Booth being named SoCon Tournament Most Outstanding Player for the second year in a row.

Mercer graduates one of its most decorated senior classes in program history. This senior class finished with a 45-29-10 overall record in four seasons, notching one SoCon regular season title

(2014) two SoCon Tournament titles (2016, 2017) and two NCAA Tournament berths (2016, 2017). The senior class ruled the SoCon over four years, claiming nine SoCon All-Tournament honorees, 14 All-Conference winners and four individual awards.





The Road Less Traveled

Pharm.D. Graduate Takes Nontraditional Path to Become Leading Expert on Rattlesnake Antivenom

By Drew Daws

In addition to being one of the world's leading experts on rattlesnake antivenom, Dr. Alexander Garrard, Pharm.D., has traveled across the globe using his knowledge and expertise to help educate and respond to emerging crises.

A 2008 graduate of the College of Pharmacy, he was director of the Washington State Poison Center before recently transitioning to a UK-based pharmaceutical company, BTG, where he serves as the North American medical affairs science expert, focusing on rattlesnake antivenom.

"For the past three years, I was the clinical managing director of the Washington Poison Center," he said. "An opportunity opened up at BTG where a new role was created for me to come on board as a medical affairs science expert for BTG's product, CroFab."

CroFab® is a rattlesnake antivenom developed for all North American pit viper venoms. Dr. Garrard spends most of his time traveling across the country to regions where snakebites are most prevalent, from the Southeast to Colorado.

According to the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, approximately 8,000 venomous snakebites occur in the U.S. each year. Proper education is important for physicians to be able to recognize and treat snakebite victims.

While at the Washington State Poison Center, Dr. Garrard was the only Pharm.D. toxicologist asked by the Drug Enforcement Agency to attend a conference in Uzbekistan on the emerging drug crisis in Central Asia.

His time in Uzbekistan allowed him to experience how healthcare systems operate outside of the U.S. and the challenges people face in less developed parts of the world.

While studying in the College of Pharmacy, Dr. Garrard was able to pursue his passion in toxicology while working with organizations that helped him develop a regional, national and even global perspective on crisis management.

"Mercer placed a heavy focus on specialization," he said. "I became interested in toxicology during my first clinical rotations of my last year. I never would have had this opportunity had it not been for the University's strong relationship with the Georgia Poison Center in Atlanta."

Dr. Garrard decided not to pursue the traditional path of becoming a community pharmacist and followed his dream of becoming a toxicologist, which has taken him across the world and provided him the chance to use his knowledge to help those in need. He hopes to continue research into treatments for emerging overdoses overseas that are not common in the U.S.

"I hope that my career path might inspire others to pursue their passions and to not say no to opportunities that come their way. Keep an open mind, step out on the ledge and don't be afraid to take a risk," he said.



MATT HAGEN PHOTO

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; **PEN** — Penfield College of Mercer University; **CHP** — College of Health Professions; **DIV** — McAfee School of Theology; **EDU** — Tift College of Education; **EGR** — School of Engineering; **LAW** — Walter F. George School of Law; **MED** — School of Medicine; **MUS** — Townsend School of Music; **NUR** — Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; **PHA** — College of Pharmacy; **TCS** — Tift College Scholars; **Tift** — Tift College

Achievements

1950s

Stephen Krysalka, CLA '56, celebrated his 100th birthday in October with a large gathering of family and friends. Former churches he served as pastor were represented by long-time friends from Bethlehem Baptist of Warthen, Houston Heights Baptist and Lawrence Drive Baptist of Macon and Smyrna Baptist of Deepstep. Highland Hills Baptist of Macon, where he enjoys membership following retirement, was represented by staff members and deacons of the family.

Mason Olds, CLA '57, published a new novel, titled *Beginnings: How It Was*, set on an interracial farm in southwest Georgia one week in the 1950s. A Wishing Shelf Book Review gave it five stars, saying, "An inspiring story set in turbulent America. Powerfully written and unputdownable!!"

Bernard "Ace" McKendree Parker, EDU '50, was named Knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honor by the Republique Francaise. On Sept. 25, 2017, Parker was recognized in a ceremony at the Georgia State Capitol, along with five other World War II veterans (one posthumously).

1960s

Robert H. Baer, CLA '62, LAW '68, was featured in the "Our Veterans" column in *The Brunswick News*. In the article, Baer credits his service in the Army for giving him a more-worldly perspective that enabled him to obtain his law degree.

Robert A. Berlin, LAW '63, president/founder of The New Decision Management Associates Inc. (The New DMA Inc.) was elected chair of the Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Georgia. He will serve in this capacity for one year. The Dispute Resolution Section of the Bar supports, through education and facilitation, various methods for resolving legal disputes in ways other than litigation.

Sharon Birdseye, NUR '65, recently celebrated 50 years as an alumna of Georgia Baptist College of Nursing and 30 years as an International Board certified lactation consultant. She started the first private practice for lactation in the Atlanta area in 1988. Her practice held a 30-year celebration event on Feb. 24.

1970s

Cherie Aldridge, CLA '76, published her first novel, *Hester*, in 2017.

Ann Baird Bishop, LAW '76, received the 2017 Distinguished Service Award from the Workers' Compensation Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia. This award is presented to members of the bench and bar who have made outstanding contributions to the practice and/or development of workers' compensation law. Bishop currently serves as the chair of Mercer Law's Board of Visitors.

James "Jim" Harrison Bray, CLA '72, was honored for his volunteer service by the Santa Barbara Foundation at a luncheon in November. Hosted by the Santa Barbara Foundation and sponsored by the *Santa Maria Times*, the annual event recognizes individuals, couples and families who have a proven record of philanthropy through financial support, civic and charitable responsibility, and community leadership.

Jack G. Flintom, CLA '71, a retired Episcopal priest, recently retired after 28 years as a costumed historical interpreter at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia.

Donna Price, CLA '76, LAW '79, Captain, JAGC, USN (Retired) was recently selected as an OUT100 honoree representing transgender military service veterans and recognized for her service at the OUT100 Gala in New York City in November.

The Hon. W. Louis Sands, CLA '71, LAW '74, was recognized with the inaugural Tony Baldwin Trailblazer Award at the Mercer BLSA Alumni Council (BAC) Annual Award Dinner on Oct. 28, 2017. The award honors

Carner Appointed Lead Executive Pastor

The Rev. Jennifer Carner, CLA '05, was named lead executive pastor of The House of Hope Atlanta in September 2017.

A Macon native, Carner graduated from Mercer in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in Christianity and a minor in business administration. She is also a graduate of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University where she received a Master of Divinity.

While living in Macon, Carner worked in the local community to improve the standard of living for others. She planned and implemented programs for the City of Macon to train high school students for college, such as the Core Neighborhood Program, and implemented a program to help elderly residents of the community improve the façades of their houses. Carner also served as a member of the Community Advisory Council as a representative for the University.

Carner served in ministry with her father for several years. She was ordained in 2008 and served as pastor of children and youth at Bible-Based Fellowship Church in Tampa, Florida, and pastor of students, young adults, and singles at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church in Memphis, Tennessee, before serving at The House of Hope Atlanta.



illustrious alumni who embody the spirit of Mercer BLSA's first faculty advisor: thoughtful, bold and unmoved by the daily challenges of a black attorney in this profession.

David F. Sipple, LAW '72, was elected as one of the Best Lawyers 2018 in the area of admiralty and maritime law. Sipple is a partner at HunterMaclean in Savannah.

Kathleen Hartman Thomas, CLA '75, was ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont and assigned to Christ Episcopal Church, Bethel, Vermont, on July 28, 2017. Thomas continues to work at Vermont Law School as the student advisor in the online programs.

Jonathan Weintraub, LAW '79, was appointed chief judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Stonecrest in September.

1980s

Yaw Adu Gyamfi, PHA '85, was elected president of the Association of Ghana Industries (AGI). Adu-Gyamfi is chief executive officer of Danadams Pharmaceuticals.

Pamela Benford, CLA '89, received the 2017 President's Award by the Georgia Professional Human Services Association (GPHSA). The award recognizes "truly outstanding service to Georgia's families and children, advocacy and partnership." She is the school social worker for the Morgan County Charter School System (MCCSS). The honor is not her first; last year she was named School Social Worker of the Year for her county's charter school system by the School Social

Work Association of America.

Elizabeth K. Bobbitt, LAW '89, was named as new chief assistant district attorney for Towaliga Judicial Circuit, covering Butts, Monroe and Lamar Counties.

James "Jim" E. Elliott Jr., LAW '82, city attorney of Warner Robins, was inducted into the Georgia Municipal Association's Municipal Hall of Fame in June 2017 during GMA's annual convention in Savannah. The Municipal Hall of Fame honors municipal officials who exemplify the best in public service, and who, throughout their careers, have made extraordinary contributions to their communities and Georgia's cities. Elliott has 32 years of service to the City of Warner Robins and was recognized for having "played a vital role in virtually every project, program and initiative completed in the city." He has served on a wide variety of GMA committees, councils, task forces, and the GMA Board of Directors, and has also chaired the Local Government Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia.

T. Marty Fiorentino, LAW '83 was recognized by the *Jacksonville Business Journal* as a 2017 Ultimate CEO. Fiorentino serves as president of The Fiorentino Group, one of the largest government affairs and business development firms in Florida.

Joseph M. Finnerty, LAW '81, chair of Barclay Damon's Media & First Amendment Law Practice Area, was honored by the *Investigative Post* for his contributions to journalism and his support for the publication. Finnerty

has more than 30 years of experience representing news media organizations in all aspects of news gathering and dissemination, First Amendment issues and defamation defense. He also represents clients in high profile commercial litigation cases.

Delynn "Dee" Keeton, NUR '82, was recognized as the 2017 Celebrating Nurses Honoree by *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Keeton, director of patient care services and quality at DeKalb Medical Center, was one of 79 nurses who were nominated for the award. She left DeKalb Medical Center in September for a position as executive director of the Physicians Care Clinic in Decatur.

Nancy T. Klotz, CAS '84, authored *Murder at Indigo Springs*, a true story published by Sterling House, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Robert A. Mason, LAW '88, was named a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC) and was named by North Carolina State Bar Council as chairman of North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization.

Submit your personal accomplishments, marriage/births/anniversary or In Memory announcements for *The Mercerian* in the Alumni Class Notes section to Erin Lones, director of Advancement Communications, at lones_ep@mercer.edu.

Zachery S. Mitcham, BUS '80, chief information security and compliance officer for North Carolina Central University, received outstanding educator honors by *SC Magazine* for bringing his military discipline to information technology. Mitcham, a former army officer, set out to improve cybersecurity within the higher education sector by leading numerous organizational level technology projects and proving IT's value as a strategic asset to board level officials.

Charles "Chas" Edward Reynolds II, CLA '85, LAW '88, is one of two attorneys appointed by the Florida Board of Governors to serve on the Supreme Court's Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee. The committee issues written opinions regarding judicial conduct both in and out of the courtroom, including election issues. His term runs through 2022.

Thomas G. Savini, BUS '86, was named chief financial officer of Revenue Analytics, a tech-enabled consulting firm and a leader in the revenue management space. Savini, who joined the company on Aug. 1, 2017, brings more than 25 years of experience in corporate banking, finance and executive leadership working with high growth technology companies.

1990s

Matthew C. Alford, LAW '99, successfully tried a plaintiff's case wherein a Troup County jury returned a \$2 million verdict in 15 minutes. This is the largest personal injury verdict on record in the Superior Court of Troup County. Alford is primarily a medical malpractice defense attorney but also handles Plaintiff, non professional liability personal injury cases at Willis McKenzie LLC in LaGrange, where he was born and raised.

Jamie Smith Arkins, CLA '98, was named Rotarian of the Year for the Metropolitan Savannah Rotary Club. She also passed the SHRM-CP exam to receive her Professional in Human Resources certification.

G. Scott Baity, LAW '96, deputy general counsel for Baptist Health in Jacksonville, Florida, was awarded the prestigious First Chair Award for excellence in legal counsel for his significant contributions to the legal community through hard work and innovation. Baity was recognized in the category of Top Assistant General Counsel.

Cedric Barrett Baker, PHA '91, gave a lecture on "Turmeric and Cancer Prevention" as part of the

guest faculty at the NIH Clinical Center for the John Milner Nutrition and Cancer Prevention Research Practicum, an annual series given by the Nutrition Science Research Group, Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

Mark E. Beatty, LAW '98, was recently promoted to senior vice president, executive compensation & benefits for CBS Corporation, based in New York, New York.

Bryan L. Brendle, LAW '93, joined The American Horse Council (AHC) as the director of policy and legislative affairs. In this capacity, Brendle will lead the public policy, government relations and advocacy efforts of AHC.

Lee W. Folsom, BUS '93, fulfilled the requirements to become a state certified general real property appraiser on Aug. 7, 2017.

Brian D. Hawkins, BUS '95, was named the chief financial officer of Greater Community Bank in Rome.

Deron R. Hicks, LAW '93, recently authored *The Van Gogh Deception*, his third young readers book, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. The book is highly acclaimed and was recently featured in the *Wall Street Journal* as one the best new children's books.

Frank R. McKay, LAW '91, was reappointed as chairman of the State Board of Worker's Compensation by Gov. Deal. McKay will serve for an additional four years as chairman and as chief appellate court judge for the State Board.

Mark E. Powell, LAW '96, joined the international law firm of Dorsey & Whitney LLP as a partner in its Tax, Trusts and Estates practice group. A fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, Powell has practiced in southern California since 1996.

Bryan C. Ramos, LAW '99, was selected to serve on the Board of Directors of Asian Americans Advancing Justice — Atlanta (AAJ Atlanta). Ramos is the principal attorney at Ramos Law Firm. AAJ Atlanta is the first and only non-profit legal advocacy group dedicated to promoting the civil rights of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Georgia and the Southeast.

2000s

John Chvatal, CLA '03, an AP and gifted biology teacher at Brookwood High School, was named one of six finalists for the 2018 Gwinnett County Teacher of the Year honor. The six finalists were chosen from a field of

25 semifinalists by a selection committee comprised of Gwinnett County Public Schools officials. Those semifinalists were selected from the 138 local school Teachers of the Year.

Dr. Alexander Richard Garrard, PHA '08, joined BTG as their North American medical affairs scientific expert on rattlesnake anti-venom in 2017. Garrard trained as a pharmacist at Mercer and did a post graduate fellowship at UF in toxicology and emergency medicine. He is a board certified clinical toxicologist.

David M. Gould, LAW '00, became board certified in juvenile law by the Florida State Bar.

Davina Yetter Gould, ENG '00, was promoted to director of communications and marketing for USF Health Development and Alumni Relations. Gould received a 2017 international CASE silver award for a fundraising publications package.

Bradley M. Harmon, LAW '02, was elected as one of the "Best Lawyers 2018" in the area of litigation and construction. Harmon is a partner at HunterMaclean in Savannah.

Randy Warren Hill Jr., PEN '05, geographic information systems analyst for the City of Newnan, created development project web maps that were featured in *The Newnan Times-Herald*.

Shawne Holder, EDU '09, began her first year as principal of the newly named Lakeview Academy in Baldwin County in August. Holder began her career in Newton County. After moving to Jasper County, she served as the media specialist at Washington Park Elementary School and then assistant principal and principal. After 18 years, she decided to branch out and moved to Baldwin County.

Jim Hollandsworth, DIV '07, received the True Inspiration Award from the Chick fil A Foundation for his non-profit organization, Path Project, which operates community centers in eight mobile home parks in Georgia and Tennessee. Hollandsworth, his wife Melinda, and their staff of 24 are trying to change statistics by offering a full range of programs at their community centers — starting with Mommy & Me interactive learning experiences for moms and babies, all the way to high school leadership clubs, which are individualized to the specific needs of each student. Path Project serves 625 children and youth across their communities.

Charley R. Johnson, EGR '03, was named one of

Georgia Trend's 40 Under 40 honorees for 2017. Johnson manages the utilities department of Rayonier Advanced Materials, manufacturing a chemical used in products such as LCD screens, shampoo, toothbrushes, pharmaceuticals, paints and sponges.

Jim Lastinger, CLA '01, was featured in the article "Inbound Marketing Tips" published by Fit Small Business, a small business publication site reaching one million unique monthly visitors. Lastinger is the CEO of Deep Field Inc., a quickly growing digital marketing agency based in Waycross.

Duncan "Blake" Lyons, BUS '00, was recently recognized in *The Atlanta Business Chronicle* 40 under 40 list. Lyons is vice president of HR for the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank.

Billy J. Nelson Jr., LAW '09, was appointed as solicitor general for the State Court of Long County by Gov. Deal.

Fernando Salazar, BUS '05, of Coral Gables, Florida, was named Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) Member of the Year for the state. The award is presented to a PTR member who has shown dedication and diligence in promoting and supporting tennis and PTR. Salazar, founder and co-owner of Passion for Tennis, is a certified professional in two PTR education pathways.

Serina F. Shyu, BUS '05, recently completed the CFP® Certification Process and is now a Certified Financial Planner™ professional. The designation comes with extensive training in financial planning, estate planning, insurance, investments, taxes, employee benefits and retirement planning, as well as in CFP Board's Standards of Professional Conduct, which are rigorously enforced.

Mitchell J. Thoreson, LAW '08, joined Conestoga Title Insurance Co. in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, as underwriting counsel in June. Thoreson was previously with Alford and Thoreson in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

2010s

Amanda Anastasia Ni'Cole Alexander, DIV '14, began a supervisor education fellowship position at Duke University Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, on Nov. 1, 2017.

Natasha S. Banks, LAW '16, wrote an article, "Should Employees Receive Compensation for Off The Clock Cell Phone Use?" after a recent Seventh Circuit decision holding that an employer was not liable for failing to compensate employees for work performed on a mobile device outside of regularly scheduled shifts.

Adelyn Bargeron Boleman, LAW '17, joined the General Commercial Litigation practice group of Burr & Forman LLP in Atlanta in November.

Charles V. Crowe, CLA '06, LAW '10, joined the firm of Warner, Bates, McGough, McGinnis & Portnoy in July as an associate practicing family law.

Graham Davis, LAW '17, recently began a position as an associate with Downey & Cleveland LLP in Marietta.

Mollie K. Davis, BUS '14, LAW '17, joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Atlanta in September.

Talia Davis, LAW '17, joined the lending practice group of Burr & Forman LLP in Atlanta in November.

Maggie Hinchey DeLeon, LAW '12, was assigned to the Savannah Major Crimes Division's Special Victim's Unit focusing on crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and domestic violence homicide. DeLeon was previously in prosecution of elder abuse and domestic violence in the DA's Other Felony Crimes Unit.

R. Lee Discher, LAW '14, joined Alston & Bird as an associate in the firm's Finance Group. His practice is focused on representing corporate borrowers, sponsors, banks and other financial lending institutions in debt financing. Discher was most recently with Kutak Rock LLP's Public Finance Group and New Markets Tax Credits Group.

Andrew Eck, EGR '16, received The Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce 2017 Outstanding Young Business Leader Award. Eck is the founder, president and VP of marketing, finance and operations for Georgia Artisan, a Macon-based boutique furniture manufacturer located in downtown Macon. Not only is Eck growing a successful local business, he also pours time and energy into the community. He is involved in various capacities with the Business Education Partnership, OneMacon,

MARY CLARE PHOTO; MAGAZINE PAGE IMAGE COURTESY OF O

Friends of Macon Music, Macon Productions, 5/4 Music Space and SparkMacon.

Jonathan A. Fultz, LAW '12, joined Helton Law LLC, a general practice firm in Cartersville.

Mary G. Hattie, PEN '17, was recently hired by the Department of Agriculture.

Damon Joshua, PEN '12, was named vice president of the Commercial Business Unit at MarketSource in October. Joshua joined MarketSource in 2012 and has nearly 25 years of leadership experience, including roles at a number of industry-leading organizations such as Cisco, Verizon and UPS. In his new role, he will be responsible for leading the overall strategy, growth and direction for business development, client services, commercial recruiting and innovation. MarketSource is a leader in designing and delivering innovative and proven marketing and sales-team solutions for companies of all sizes.

Jake W. Kacynski, LAW '12, joined Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation in Nashville, Tennessee, as a corporate tax associate in October.

Katherine Wolf Khachatourian, PHA '11, was appointed to the Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission by Gov. Jay Inslee. This is a four-year commitment. The mission of the Washington State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission is to promote public health and safety by establishing the highest standards in the practice of pharmacy and to advocate for patient safety through effective communication with the public, profession, Department of Health, governor and the legislature.

Jason S. Knowles, LAW '15, joined the Macon Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office.

Thomasina Odom Lawson, BUS '95, PEN '12, PEN '15, won the Approved Clinical Supervisor Training Award from the National Board for Certified Counselors for 2017. Lawson is assistant professor of counseling at Webster University in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Emily Macheski-Preston, LAW '10, was named a partner of Coleman Talley LLP. She specializes in local government law, zoning, and affordable housing property management. Coleman Talley LLP has offices in Valdosta and Buckhead.

Mike Masielle, BUS '17, founded Ultimental, a natural, performance enhancing supplement that combines a green tea mix with natural sweeteners and eight active work life performance enhancers called nootropics. The business was one of four new businesses selected as a fellow of the Mercer Innovation Center. The four fellows will receive up to \$20,000 in startup funds, full access to Mercer University facilities, coaching from experienced business professionals, office space in the incubator for a full year, paid interns from the university and entrepreneurial community and opportunities to pitch to investors throughout Georgia.

Michaela L. Mericle, CLA '07, LAW '11, joined the family law firm of Hedgpeeth, Heredia, Rieder LLC as an associate attorney.

Andrew G. Paradis, LAW '13, was honored by the New York State Bar Association and the New York County Lawyer's Association for outstanding work and dedicated pro bono service to the New York County Lawyers Association on Oct. 26, 2017.

Mary Grace Rahm, LAW '17, joined Clark Partington Attorneys at Law Commercial Litigation Department. Rahm will be based in the firm's Destin, Florida, branch.

Madeline Tapper, CLA '12, was recognized with a "30 under 30" award from the Georgia Center for Nonprofits and the Young Nonprofit Professional Network.

Hannah L. Troyer, CLA '14, MED '17, began studies at St. George's University School of Medicine in January.

D. Jacob Wallace, LAW '16, was installed as president-elect for the Kiwanis Club of Harris County effective in September.

Michael Walter, EGR '11, EGR '12, recently founded 43 Tech, a company that produces a KiwiCard. KiwiCard is a credit card sized Bluetooth Low Energy tracking device designed specifically for wallets. The business was one of four new businesses selected as a fellow of the Mercer Innovation Center (MIC). The four fellows will receive up to \$20,000 in startup funds, full access to

Price Featured in *O, the Oprah Magazine*

Nancey B. Price, CLA '15, a collage artist, philanthropist and aspiring author, was featured in the November issue of *O, the Oprah Magazine*. Since graduating *magna cum laude* from Mercer, Price has been telling her stories of Black girlhood and womanhood in the spoken and written word. She has performed her storytelling at open mic events and has documented her experiences in her blog, *Diary of a Young Black Author* in Need of a Hug.

Most recently, Price embarked on the journey of storytelling through the art of collaging. Her artwork has been recognized by the University of Georgia, and she was commissioned by *O Magazine* to create a collage for a feature on African American history.

Describing her artwork, Price said, "What began as an obsession with paper dolls blossomed into building worlds from seemingly unconnected images of Blackness."

Price created her first collage in 2016, gaining inspiration from the works of Mirlande Jean-Gilles. In February, her artwork was on display at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts.

While at Mercer, Price had the opportunity to travel to Zomba, Malawi, with the Mercer On Mission program. She and a team of Mercer students operated a rural health clinic and conducted water testing in the village of Chuluchosema. Through this experience, Price learned of the health challenges faced by rural Malawian



women and girls. Her experience inspired her to create the Malawi Girl Project, an initiative to ensure Malawian school girls have access to feminine hygiene products.

Since its founding in 2015, the Malawi Girl Project has provided products for 250 adolescent girls in three schools. Price hopes the Malawi Girl Project will become a sustainable non-profit to provide ongoing support for adolescent girls in Chuluchosema and the surrounding areas.

Price currently works for Georgia Southern's Business Innovation Group and is a graduate student pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree.

Marriages, Births, Anniversaries

2000s

James M. Hunt, CLA '06, and his wife Holly announce the birth of their twins, Harrison Radford Hunt and Savannah Jean Hunt, born April 20, 2017.

Shalana Cobb Jones, CLA '06, and her husband Willie announce the birth of their child, Amelia Jones, on April 30, 2017.

Michael Memberg, LAW '08, and his wife, Beryl Firestone, welcomed their son, Max Fletcher Memberg, on Sept. 8, 2017.

Cayce Myers, LAW '09, and **Anne (Carroll) Myers**, LAW '09, welcomed their daughter, Cayce Anne, on Aug. 31, 2017.

2010s

Ashley Berry, PHA '11, married Allen Luck on Nov. 11, 2017, in Gainesville, Florida.

Emily Anspach, CLA '17, married Matthew Maino on June 24, 2017, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Daniel Larson, CLA '12, and his wife Alison welcomed their daughter, Ansley Faye Larson, on June 16, 2017.

Ashleigh Provost Smaha, BUS '09, LAW '17, and her husband Ched, welcomed their second son, Miles David, on Dec. 1, 2017.

Morgan G. West, LAW '16, and her husband Eric announce the birth of their second child, Lemon Louise, on Sept. 18, 2017.

IN MEMORY

1930s

Mildred W. Owen Landry, TIFT '39, of Madison, Sept. 28, 2017.
Camella “Mel” R. Gates Whipple, TIFT '32, of Vidalia, Aug. 13, 2017.

1940s

Perry G. Busbee, CLA '46, of Cordele, Nov. 22, 2017.
Marjorie Brewton, NUR '49, of Guyton, Aug. 28, 2016.
Shirley Willoughby Canham, CLA '47, of Shawnee, Oklahoma, Aug. 7, 2017.
Cleo Iddins Chonko, NUR '46, of Reidsville, Sept. 2, 2017.
Mary “Alice” Vaughn Cromer, TIFT '46, EDU '74, of Forsyth, Aug. 4, 2017.
Norman Jewel Crowe, CLA '44, of Sylvester, Jan. 24.

Joyce Human Cutchins, CLA '49, of Ooltewah, Tennessee, Aug. 28, 2017.
Gerald A. Cutchins, CLA '49, of Ooltewah, Tennessee, Aug. 16, 2017.
Mary “Elinor” Coker, NUR '49, of Savannah, Dec. 25, 2017.
Robert Stone Duggan Jr., CLA '48, of Stone Mountain, Jan. 8.
James H. Faulkner, CLA '48, of Macon, Jan. 3.
Carolyn Futral Hamrick, TIFT '49, EDU '71, of Perry, Dec. 22, 2017.
Dorothy Register Harrison, TIFT '45, of Dublin, Nov. 2, 2017.
Willene E. Kimbell, NUR '46, of Macon, Dec. 27, 2017.
Edna E. Dickson Lamar, TIFT '42, of Tignall, Nov. 21, 2017.
Imogene Bennett Lanier, CLA '45, of Acworth, Nov. 7, 2017.
Charlotte F. Mauldin, NUR '46, of Doraville, Iowa, Nov. 23, 2017.
R. Harold Mincey, CLA '49, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Oct. 11, 2016.
Dorothy Edwards Moore, TIFT '40, of Dunwoody, Jan. 1.
Ruth Hodges Presley, TIFT '40, of Jackson, March 9, 2017.
Thelma Eunice Routon, NUR '46, of Blairsville, Feb. 5.
Helen Salter, TIFT '46, of Thomaston, Sept. 2, 2017.
Emily Houston Shelnutt, NUR '45, of The Villages, Florida, Nov. 28, 2017.
Robert Earl Shirley, CLA '49, of Tupelo, Mississippi, Oct. 20, 2017.
Rita Hays Walker, NUR '49, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Aug. 24, 2017.
Robert Curtis White, CLA '49, of Macon, Jan. 6.
J. Walker Whittle, CLA '49, of Henderson, Tennessee, Sept. 2, 2017.

1950s

Durward M. Boyd, CLA '50, of Macon, Jan. 29.

Martha I. Brown, NUR '57, of Dublin, May 31, 2017.
Jean Burdette Castellaw, TIFT '54, of Lenoir, North Carolina, Dec. 5, 2017.
Jozef F. Senna, CLA '52, of St. Simons Island, Nov. 10, 2017.
Ann Rooks Sims, TIFT '58, of Albany, Oct. 5, 2017.
Charles R. White, CLA '50, of Macon, Dec. 18, 2017.
Floyd Pete White, PHA '55, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Oct. 15, 2017.
Marian Hilliard Williams, PHA '51, of West Palm Beach, Florida, Dec. 13, 2017.
Oliver Broadus Wood Jr., CLA '55, of Jonesboro, Nov. 23, 2017.
Gloria Catherine Woods, NUR '57, of Powder Springs, March 7, 2017.

1960s

Tamra Parsons Acree, NUR '61, of Ellijay, Nov. 6, 2017.
Anna Akin Armitage, CLA '61, of Greenville, South Carolina, Oct. 15, 2017.
Daniel Roscoe Arowood Jr., CLA '60, of Blackshear, Dec. 17, 2017.
John David Bailey, CLA '61, of Jonesborough, Tennessee, Jan. 27.
David S. Baroody, LAW '65, of Marion, South Carolina, Dec. 5, 2017.
Helen Berenthien, CLA '68, LAW '70, of Columbus, Aug. 25, 2017.
Susan Doris Blumberg, TIFT '66, of Roswell, Jan. 6.
Sherry McCallum Brown, CLA '66, of Macon, Feb. 6.
Patricia Smith Byrd, CLA '63, of Milledgeville, Jan. 17.
Alva Cauley, CLA '65, of Cullowhee, North Carolina, Dec. 28, 2017.
Karen R. Clifton, CLA '60, of Macon, Oct. 3, 2017.
Hal C. Cook, CLA '62, of Warner Robins, Jan. 20.
Robblye McEver Daniel, CLA '60, of Williamsburg, Virginia, Sept. 1, 2017.
Charles E. Daniel Jr., CLA '68, of Johns Creek, Sept. 22, 2017.
Fannie W. Dasher, EDU '68, of Valdosta, Jan. 9.
Robert Henry DeJarnette Jr., CLA '60, of Vidalia, Aug. 20, 2017.
Robert Bruce Drake, CLA '65, of Spring Valley, California, July 21, 2017.
Malcolm Frank Edwards Jr., CLA '62, of Valley, Alabama, Nov. 18, 2017.
Jack Latimer Fowler, CLA '65, of Atlanta, July 25, 2017.
Lucy Loveridge Gaechter, NUR '60, of Lyman, South Carolina, May 7, 2017.
Searcy Slaton Garrison Jr., CLA '62, LAW '66, of Sandy Springs, Jan. 21.
Clarence E. Goss Jr., CLA '63, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, Sept. 15, 2017.
Patricia R. Hardeman, CLA '68, of Macon, Nov. 17, 2017.
James B. Holland III, PHA '61, of Pickens, South Carolina, March 19, 2016.
Clarence Ray Keeling, PHA '61, of Gainesville, Sept. 12, 2017.
Frederick Hamilton Kuhlke, CLA '63, of Augusta, Oct. 31, 2017.
James M. Kirkpatrick, CLA '60, of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, July 14, 2017.
Kay R. Landers, CLA '63, of Arlington, Tennessee, April 24, 2017.
Dorothea Del Lott, TIFT '62, of Waycross, Aug. 4, 2017.
Linda B. Lovett, CLA '61, of Hamilton, Montana, Nov. 5, 2017.

Basil V. Lucas, CLA '61, of Bainbridge, Oct. 27, 2017.
Mary Hicks McDaniel, CLA '61, of Pinehurst, North Carolina, Nov. 12, 2017.
John “Lee” McFall, NUR '64, of Decatur, Nov. 21, 2017.
Louise Fitzpatrick McNair, CLA '66, of Atlanta, Oct. 22, 2017.
Naomi Joanne Rogers Morris, NUR '61, of Martinez, Jan. 13.
Charles D. Murphy Jr., PHA '66, of Jamestown, North Carolina, Nov. 5, 2017.
Linda Butler Underwood, CLA '60, of Irmo, South Carolina, Oct. 27, 2017.
Dana Jewell Wilson, TIFT '66, of Thomasville, Dec. 28, 2017.
Ronal Denson Wood, PHA '65, of Homerville, Aug. 5, 2017.

John F. Schindelar, CLA '58, LAW '61, of Young Harris, Feb. 3.
Susan D. Shepard, NUR '60, of Williamsburg, Virginia, Oct. 15, 2017.
John C. Swearingen Jr., LAW '68, of Columbus, June 17, 2016.
Donna W. Tabor, CLA '60, of Perry, Oct. 20, 2017.
Diane Daniel Taylor, TIFT '66, of Barnesville, Aug. 7, 2017.
Thelma Huston Thomas, TIFT '66, of McDonough, Jan. 3.
Linda Butler Underwood, CLA '60, of Irmo, South Carolina, Oct. 27, 2017.
Dana Jewell Wilson, TIFT '66, of Thomasville, Dec. 28, 2017.
Ronal Denson Wood, PHA '65, of Homerville, Aug. 5, 2017.

1970s

Herbert Eugene Anderson, CLA '71, of Lizella, Aug. 10, 2017.
Elizabeth Hurst Biebighauser, CLA '72, of Montgomery, Alabama, Dec. 30, 2017.
Andrew D. Bladon, CLA '79, of Tampa, Florida, Dec. 23, 2017.
Janice Canup, NUR '70, of Dawsonville, Jan. 30.
Audrey Bigelow Chamberlin, CLA '71, of Orlando, Florida, Sept. 11, 2017.
Thomas Neal Cochran, CLA '76, of Savannah, Aug. 16, 2017.
Susan Shivers Davis, CLA '74, of Wildwood, Tennessee, Dec. 9, 2017.
Nancy Brunson Gass, NUR '79, of Ballground, Sept. 2, 2017.
Shirley Kowles Gross, CLA '76, of Marshallville, Dec. 7, 2017.

2000s

Allison W. Palmer, BUS '05, of Warner Robins, Jan. 30.
William E. Pelham, PEN '03, of Gainesville, Aug. 21, 2016.
Amy Williams Todd, CLA '03, of Greenville, South Carolina, Jan. 19.

2010s

Bertila Ivane Delora Boyd-Bostic, LAW '11, of Sumpter, South Carolina, Oct. 29, 2017.
John Russell Lamon, EDU '13, of Eatonton, Sept. 29, 2017.
Ramel F. Moore, NUR '13, of Humble, Texas, March 18, 2017.
Earnestine Jones, EDU '12, of Hampton, Jan. 5.

Friends, Former Faculty & Former Staff

Kenneth F. Antley, of Smyrna, Nov. 19, 2017.
Mary Anne Crum Armour, of Macon, Sept. 3, 2017.
Nancy K. Bell, of Americus, Sept. 20, 2017.
Celeste Bowen, of Tifton, Jan. 26.
Richard C. Burts Jr., of Greenville, South Carolina, Sept. 10, 2017.
W. Frances Camp, of Rome, July 31, 2016.
Patricia R. Clance, of Jacksonville, Florida, Oct. 27, 2017.
John Wesley Cramer, of Macon, Sept. 26, 2017.
Edus E. Crooms, of Macon, Dec. 3, 2017.
Bobbie Jeanne Day, of Woodstock, Jan. 28.
Paul M. Debusman, of Crescent Hill, Kentucky, Feb. 27, 2017.
Keith Dimond, of Savannah, Feb. 6.
Helen Longino Dunwoody, of Macon, Nov. 11, 2017.
John A. Ezzard, of Tiger, Nov. 2, 2017.
Katherine M. Gerrity, of Manchester, Maine, Aug. 28, 2017.
Jack C. Godsey Sr., of Guntersville, Alabama, Aug. 16, 2017.
Theodora L. Gongaware, former faculty, of Savannah, Jan. 9.
Mavis Foxworth Hamm, of Columbus, Aug. 4, 2017.
John Estill Jones, of Chatsworth, Dec. 30, 2017.
Jimmy N. Lawson, of Forsyth, June 13, 2017.
Pauline Ferguson Miles, of Macon, Aug. 9, 2017.
Joseph W. Moss, of Saint Simons Island, Jan. 31.
Rosalind B. Newman, of Atlanta, Jan. 11.
Charles F. Nicol, of Marietta, Dec. 21, 2017.
Craig M. Nielson, of Greenville, South Carolina, Sept. 17, 2017.
Martin Emmett Ouzts III, of Atlanta, Nov. 4, 2016.
Emily B. Parker, of Hermitage, Tennessee, Nov. 2, 2017.
Pledger W. Parker, of Hermitage, Tennessee, July 16, 2017.
Betty J. Parsons, of Macon, Aug. 19, 2017.
Carolyn Shealy Self, of Johns Creek, Jan. 20.
Ranjit Sinha, of Eastman, Oct. 13, 2017.
Roseann Swiergosz, of Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 5, 2017.
Sam R. Whittfield, of Marietta, Jan. 27.

Alumnus and Former Trustee
Druie Douglas Barnard Jr.

Douglas Barnard Jr., CLA '43, LAW '48, former U.S. congressman and retired banker, died Jan. 11. Barnard was born March 20, 1922, in Augusta. He graduated from the Academy of Richmond County in 1939 and received his A.B. degree from Mercer in 1943. Barnard served in the United States Army from 1943-1945. He then earned his law degree from the Mercer School of Law. Following law school, Barnard began a successful career as a banker in Augusta. From 1963 to 1966, Barnard served as executive secretary to Gov. Carl E. Sanders. In 1976, Barnard became the first U.S. congressman and represented Georgia's 10th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1977 until his retirement in 1993.



Barnard

Barnard was an influential legislator on a wide variety of economic issues. A senior member of the House Banking Committee, Barnard devoted much of his congressional career to restructuring regulations in order to expand American competitiveness in global markets, particularly after the European Union commenced modernization of its financial markets in 1990. Barnard received numerous awards and honors throughout his life. The Doug Barnard Jr. Parkway was named for him in 1994. In 1996, he was honored by Congress with the passage of the Doug Barnard Olympic Coin Bill. While in Congress, he served on the Board of Visitors for the United States Air Force Academy. He received the University's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1985 and served on the Mercer Board of Trustees from 1993 to 1998. He also served on the Board of Trustees for Augusta University.

Former Trustee and Generous Supporter
Robert Joe Potts

Robert Joe “Bob” Potts, retired Texas Baptist pastor and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) missionary, died Dec. 24 at the age of 84. Potts was a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a pastor for more than 40 years, including at First Baptist Church in Corsicana, Texas, from 1964 to 1973, and First Baptist Church in Columbus, from 1973 to 1995. He and his wife, Dorothy, served as missionaries with CBF in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from early 1996 to 1998, where they worked with Rainbow Church, an English-Russian speaking congregation. In 2008, Potts and his wife established the Dorothy Cook Potts and Robert J. Potts Endowed Fund for Mercer On Mission. He served on the University's Board of Trustees from 1982 to 1987 and received an honorary degree from the University in 1990. He and his wife were recognized as Life Members of The President's Club in 2010.



Potts

Former Dean, Religion Professor and Marriage & Family Therapy Founder
Rollin Stely Armour Sr. and Mary Anne Crum Armour

Rollin Stely Armour Sr. died March 2 at the age of 88. Armour graduated high school at the age of 16 and attended Baylor University, graduating with a B.A. in 1950. Following a call to ministry, he earned a Bachelor of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, a master's degree in sacred theology and a Th.D. in church history from Harvard. Armour served as dean of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts from 1980 to 1984 and also served as chair and professor of the Christianity department from 1984 until his retirement in 1998.



Mary Anne Armour



Rollin Armour

Mary Anne Crum Armour died Sept. 3, 2017, at the age of 88. While raising three children, Armour pursued an M.A. in counseling at Stetson University and trained as a marriage and family therapist. Armour came to the School of Medicine in 1982 when the first Medical School class entered. She served as co-director of the master's program in family therapy and family services, which she founded at Mercer in 1983. The Armours were married for 60 years. Upon their retirement in 1998, they established the Armour Family Therapy Lecture Series at the Mercer School of Medicine. The Armours were generous supporters of the University and were named Life Members of The President's Club in 2005.

Alumnus and Former Trustee
John Carlton Binns

Former trustee, alumnus and generous supporter John Carlton Binns, CLA '57, died Nov. 12 at the age of 82. Binns graduated from North Fulton High School in 1953, where he excelled in basketball and golf, sports he continued with success at Mercer. He graduated from Mercer in 1957 as senior class president and became a successful commercial realtor with Sharp-Boylston Co. and later, with his own firm, Binns Properties. He was a longtime member of Wieuca Road Baptist Church, a past president of the Buckhead Fifty Club, worked as a mentor with the Boys Club of Atlanta and loved traveling. Binns served as member of the University's Board of Trustees from 1973 to 1978. In 2015, he established the Mary Arnold Binns Scholarship in honor of his late sister who was a 1954 graduate of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts and Mercer alumni director from 1971 to 1983. In celebration of the 50th reunion of his graduating class, Binns began the 50-year Reunion Class Alumni Scholarship Fund for students in the College of Liberal Arts in 2007.



Binns

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.



75 YEARS AGO

(Above) World War II brought a renewed interest in physical fitness to the Mercer campus. Male students were required to take 4.5 quarter hours during each year, and females took three quarter hours. The young ladies shooting in this photograph are in front of Porter Gym (now Cruz Plaza) and the building now known as Penfield Hall.

100 YEARS AGO

(Left) These “studious” young men made up the 1918 Medical Association on campus. In June 1914, the Board of Trustees entered an agreement with the Medical College of Georgia by which Mercer offered a Bachelor of Science in Medicine degree to students who completed two years at Mercer and four years of medical school in Augusta.

50 YEARS AGO

The Student Government Association has long been an important part of the University. Pictured here are the SGA officers from 1968 (left to right): vice president Roger Anderberg, president David Hudson, treasurer Carol Anne Kelly and freshman adviser Ed Bacon.



“SPIFF UP THE

T
IN MARCH, IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MAIN LEVEL OF TARVER LIBRARY WERE COMPLETED WITH A GENEROUS GIFT FROM THE MARGARET AND JACK TARVER FOUNDATION.



The “Spiff Up the T” renovation project began in the fall with a kick-off event on Nov. 1. The improvements were planned with input from students and included items such as ergonomic computer tables and chairs, more mobile white boards, soft and comfortable seating areas, more power outlets for mobile devices and laptops, technology enhanced study rooms, and more media areas, including “maker space” for 3D printing and media production.

A D V A N C E M E N T U P D A T E

HAGGARD MAKES \$1 MILLION COMMITMENT TO SCHOOL OF LAW

In December 2017, W. Andrew “Andy” Haggard, LAW ’67, made a \$1 million commitment to create the Haggard Scholars Program for the School of Law. Haggard will be recognized as a Life Member of the Mercer University President’s Club in April.

The Haggard Scholars Program will provide a full-tuition scholarship to a student enrolled in the School of Law, with first preference given to students who have a demonstrated commitment to trial practice. Additional preference will be given to students who graduated from Florida State University.

“A GOOD ATTORNEY, AND PERSON, GIVES BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITY, AND THEIR LAW SCHOOL.”

“The legal education I acquired at Mercer, as well as the principles I took to heart from my law professors, have helped to shape who I am, both as an attorney and as a man,” said Haggard. “I was taught and shown by my mentors that a good attorney, and person, gives back to their community, and their law school. Family sticks together. That is why I have the honor and privilege of providing scholarship assistance that I hope will open up opportunities for dedicated and passionate students who just need a little help to attain their dreams of a legal career. I want for them to find what I found: mentors, lifelong friends and success.”

Haggard received his B.A. from Florida State University in 1964 and his J.D. from Mercer in 1967. He was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1967 and served as an assistant state attorney in the 11th Judicial Circuit, as well as chief prosecutor, trial counsel and military judge in the Judge Advocate General’s office (JAG) of the United States Air Force from 1968-1971. He was the youngest military judge ever selected in the field of trial litigation.

He has practiced from 1972 to the present in the field of personal injury, wrongful death, negligent security and liquor liability and has tried more than 150 jury trials. From 1990-1992, he served as a commissioner on the Florida Commission on Ethics.

Haggard is a current member of the Mercer University Board of Trustees and Florida State University Board of Trustees, having served as chairman of the latter from 2010-2012. He served as chairman of the Florida State University College of Arts and Sciences Leadership Counsel and also served on the board of directors of the Florida State University Research Foundation and on the Florida State University Foundation Board of Trustees.

ANDY CARTER PHOTOS

MERCER UNIVERSITY'S FINANCIAL AID SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WILL BENEFIT FROM NEARLY \$4.4 MILLION IN ESTATE GIFTS FROM THREE GENEROUS AND DEVOTED ALUMNI:

**WARNER J. RAINES, CLA '51
PEARL TRAYLOR RAINES, CLA '48
DR. JAMES D. ORR JR., CLA '59**

Warner and Pearl Raines, both graduates of the College of Liberal Arts, spent a collective 56 years working in Georgia's public schools and believed in the importance of training future educators. When they were living, they established three scholarships in the Tift College of Education to help ensure that education students would receive the best instruction possible.

Warner Raines passed away in 2012 and Pearl Raines passed away in 2016. Upon the death of Pearl Raines, Mercer received funds from the couple's estate totaling just under \$2.4 million. Proceeds from these endowments will provide annual scholarships, in perpetuity, to the scholarships previously established by the couple. Based on a combination of need and academic performance, the new scholarships will support students studying education or business who are Georgia residents.

In December 2017, the University received the first distribution of funds from the estate of Dr. James D. Orr Jr. who passed away in September 2014. After graduating from Mercer's College of Liberal Arts, Orr earned a doctoral degree in administration from Columbia University. He served as associate dean of students and Greek advisor at Georgia Southern University until his retirement in 1996. As an administrator, Orr encouraged students to become productive members of society. He nurtured leadership skills, along with the ability to work with others toward a common goal, in the students he mentored.

Nearly \$2 million in scholarship funds from the Dr. James D. Orr Jr. Scholarship Foundation will establish an expendable scholarship for traditional undergraduate students enrolled on the Macon campus. Recipients of the scholarship will include students who are engaged in one or more of the following academic or extracurricular activities associated with a well-rounded, positive collegiate experience: the University Honors Program, Study Abroad, Greek Life or Campus Recreation/ Intramural activities.

An estate or planned gift is a way to share the benefits of one's life work and make a deep and lasting difference in the lives of students. For information about the benefits of making a planned gift or establishing a scholarship, visit mercerplannedgiving.org or call Mercer's gift planning officers Richard Spivey (478-301-2172) or Claude Smith (478-301-5451) for assistance.

UNIVERSITY RECEIVES GIFTS FROM MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

In 1996, Mercer established a clinical relationship with Memorial Health in Savannah to provide instruction for third- and fourth-year medical students at Mercer University School of Medicine. The School of Medicine established the full four-year M.D. program on the Savannah Campus in 2008. Since 1996, Memorial Health University Medical Center has served as a teaching hospital for the School of Medicine, and Memorial has been the sponsoring institution for the residency program, officially called the Mercer University School of Medicine (Savannah) Program. Its growing research and service programs have been recognized nationally and internationally.

In January, the non-profit Memorial Health Inc., was purchased and became the newest partner of the for-profit HCA Healthcare. Under the deal, the Memorial Health Foundation, the fundraising arm of Memorial Health, was dissolved. Through the dissolution, Mercer received seven funds totaling over \$5.8 million in endowment to be used for research and scholarships.

With the purchase, Memorial becomes the 13th hospital in HCA's South Atlantic Division serving communities in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. The division is headquartered in Charleston and is part of HCA's 179-hospital group nationally.

Moving forward, the health system will continue to operate under the name Memorial Health, the hospital as Memorial Health University Medical Center and its employed physicians

as Memorial Health University physicians. All will take on a new icon — the Caring Star — which represents the critical link between team members, physicians, patients and community.

Dr. Frank Rossiter Jr., chairman of the Chatham County Hospital Authority and current board member of the Mercer University School of Medicine Board of Governors, said that HCA has committed to maintaining major services at Memorial Health, including pediatrics, neonatal care/level III nursery, Level 1 trauma, and the residency education program.

Since the educational program for the M.D. degree began in Savannah in 1996, the program has grown 50 percent to an entering class size of 60 with a total of 240 medical students, matching the number of medical students on the Macon campus. In 2015, the School of Medicine dedicated the Medical Education and Research Building. With exceptional clinical partners, Savannah medical students receive a superb clinical education and are exposed to a diversity of clinical experiences in supportive learning settings that allow for close interaction with medical residents and expert clinical faculty. Through its ongoing partnership with Memorial Health, the School of Medicine anticipates continued growth and success of the Savannah program as it fulfills its founding mission of providing primary care doctors for rural and medically underserved Georgia.



A Gift with Global Impact

Dr. Kay W. Shurden and Dr. Walter B. Shurden

have devoted their lives to teaching and ministry, encouraging their students to make a difference in the lives of others. The Shurdens believe Mercer

On Mission is one of the best service-learning opportunities available to Mercer students and have supported the program since its beginning in 2007. "Mercer On Mission impacts the lives of the students, faculty, and the people they serve," said Dr. Kay Shurden. "It broadens their world and allows them to make a difference more in actions than words."

Last fall, through a six-figure commitment, the Shurdens established The Kay Wilson Shurden and Walter B. Shurden Mercer On Mission Endowed Fund to provide financial assistance for students participating in the program. It is their dream that Mercer On Mission will one day be fully endowed so that any student who wants to participate will have the opportunity.

Dr. Kay Shurden, a retired professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Mercer University School of Medicine, is a noted author and maintains a practice in counseling and supervision. Dr. Walter Shurden, a retired Christianity professor and nationally noted church historian, is the founding executive director of the Center for Baptist Studies and a minister at large for Mercer.

For more information on Mercer On Mission, visit mom.mercer.edu. To learn more about how you can support Mercer On Mission, contact Dr. Craig McMahan, University Minister and Dean of the Chapel, at (478) 301-2992 or email MercerOnMission@mercer.edu.

MERCER ON MISSION
Crossing cultures. Changing lives.

CHRISTOPHER IAN SMITH PHOTO



MERCER

FOOTBALL

2018 SEASON



TICKETS (478) 301-5470 TICKETS.MERCER.EDU