Excellence, engagement and transformation from the ground up
In the Class of 2021 are future teachers, attorneys, physicians, entrepreneurs, accountants, scientists, clergy, musicians, interior designers, historians, architects ... the list goes on and on. I don’t know where the Class of 2021 will end up in four years, but I’m positive that they will be prepared!

That’s what Wofford College does. It offers students opportunities to prepare for their first (or fifth) job. In the pages of this Wofford Today, you’ll find the stories of graduates who have taken their Wofford foundation and upon it built — or are building — careers in the military. They all say that Wofford’s liberal arts education helped them prepare to serve and lead under often unexpected and demanding circumstances, and for that we are all grateful ... but not surprised.

Other features in this issue include stories of how students spent the summer preparing for their futures through internship, research or job experiences. There’s also a section in which you’ll meet a vital team of Wofford staff who maintain and prepare the college’s buildings and grounds so the campus is a rich environment for student success.

Students have come to Wofford for years to prepare for lives of leadership, service and lifelong learning. Thanks to your help, that tradition will continue for generations to come.

Go, Terriers!

Nayef
On Aug. 21 at 1:10 p.m., the Wofford campus turned its eyes (covered by ISO-certified safety glasses, of course) toward the skies for the beginning of the solar eclipse. Terriers gathered in teams, departments and with families to watch an event that had been 99 years in the making. The Wofford soccer teams, on campus for workouts, bought eclipse doughnuts and gathered between Gibbs Stadium and the statue of Jerry Richardson to commemorate the event.

Although not in the band for a total eclipse, the college saw a 99.93 percent obscuration on campus at 2:29:52 p.m.
A. STUDENTS RECEIVE GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS
A group of Wofford students were among the undergraduates selected for the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to study or intern abroad this year. Wofford has produced six Gilman Scholars during the 2017 award cycle.
Continued online.

B. STARTALK HAS LOCAL STUDENTS TALKING
Now in its fifth year, STARTALK at Wofford offers local middle and high school students the opportunity to learn Chinese language and culture. The two-week intensive immersion experience is free of charge and designed to increase the number of Americans learning, speaking and teaching critical-need foreign languages.
Continued online.

C. WATTS TO LEAD OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
Demario Watts has accepted the position of assistant dean of students for diversity and leadership development. He had been serving the college as assistant director of residence life for the past two years. In addition, Watts has served as one of the college’s Title IX deputy coordinators and is a member of the college National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) team.
Continued online.

D. SUSTAINABILITY STORYBOARD HAS WOFFORD SEEING GREEN
Thanks to the $4.25 million grant from the Romill Foundation, the Milliken Sustainability Initiative at Wofford College is under way and already making a difference. The college has installed new metering technology on campus, including an online storyboard that displays sustainability initiatives and real-time energy usage. Continued online.

E. FOWLER COMPLETES NEH INSTITUTE
Dr. Cynthia Fowler recently spent four weeks at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, as one of 25 professors from institutions across the country to learn about Islam in South and Southeast Asia. The Islam in Asia Institute was hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Fowler has conducted ethnography fieldwork in Indonesia since 1996.
Continued online.

F. EXPLORING AND APPLYING DESIGN THINKING
This summer five Wofford students participated in a rigorous three-week Entrepreneurial Thinking Certificate Program through The Space in the Mungo Center. The program was designed to help students build a highly sought-after skill set that today’s employers and graduate programs want. The program included attending Startup Fest in Montreal, Canada.
Continued online.

G. AVI UPGRADES CAMPUS DINING
Students, faculty and staff returning to Wofford this fall found campus dining upgrades. AVI Foodsystems Inc. began providing services in July. They are renovating Zach’s this semester in the Campus Life Building by expanding Chick-fil-A and Boar’s Head deli, and plans also are under way to renovate the Burwell dining hall in the coming year.
Continued online.

H. DISCOVERING NEW HORIZONS
Woody Middleton ’18 will spend his fall semester sailing aboard the 57-foot sailboat Nogal through the islands of Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. In what he describes as the opportunity of a lifetime, he will help crew the ship, scuba dive through breathtaking coral reefs and reconnect with family. He still plans to graduate from Wofford on time in the spring.
Continued online.

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Continued online.
Carolina Panthers tight end Greg Olsen takes a selfie with a Navy petty officer at Military Day at training camp this summer. The Panthers and the USO-NC work with military bases in the Carolinas to show gratitude to military personnel for their services with an exclusive experience each summer at Wofford. Invited troops watch practice from a special viewing area, receive Panthers memorabilia, get a behind-the-scenes tour and dine with players and coaches.
Lefebvre (left) and Fitzpatrick (second from right) interned this summer with IES Abroad in Cape Town, South Africa. Lefebvre worked with Breadline Africa, an NGO that retrofits containers to provide infrastructure in rural areas. The job involved international accounting and working with governing boards. Fitzpatrick worked with City Mission, a Christian nonprofit that coordinates citywide outreach programs. She helped prepare meals to take to the public hospital where patients often have to wait days to be seen by a doctor, played soccer with youth who are trying to escape gang violence and attended meetings and Bible studies designed to help ex-offenders transition back into society. In a country with 11 official languages, Fitzpatrick says she has learned how to interact with different people. “Although we come from very different backgrounds, in the end we are all human, and that lesson has made me more empathetic and open-minded,” she says.

Erin Fitzpatrick ’18
Majors in economics and religion; Chapin, S.C.
Alex Lefebvre ’19
Major in accounting; Spartanburg, S.C.
KIARA WILLIAMS '18

Major in government, minors in history and business concentrations in American politics and gender studies; Blythewood, S.C.

Through The Space to Explore internship program, Williams, along with eight other students, spent 10 weeks in Mbozi, Tanzania, a small city nestled at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro.

“I worked as a marketing and sales intern for Totohealth Tanzania, which is a social enterprise that strives to contribute toward reaching Tanzania’s national vision of ending preventable maternal and child deaths by 2035. I have worked on various social media platforms to raise awareness about the high infant and maternal mortality rates in Tanzania as well as the life-saving products offered by Totohealth. I also have gone out into the field to witness community health workers receive training and give medical advice to expectant mothers. Working in a field that empowers women and improves their livelihood has always been a dream of mine, and I have learned the importance of connecting with people on a personal level.”

OMAR ELMORE ’19

Major in English, concentration in film and digital media; Greenwood, S.C.

Elmore worked as a media intern with MSNBC Longform in New York. He put together documentary-style pieces such as “O.J. Simpson: 20 Years Later.” He learned about scheduling, archiving, rights clearances and other topics on the business side of news production. He also shadowed anchors and producers. Wofford trustee Craig Melvin ’01 (co-anchor of “Weekend TODAY,” national correspondent for “TODAY” and MSNBC anchor) helped him secure the internship.

“I enjoyed working in 30 Rock and being in the city the entire summer. One thing I learned is that news moves very fast, so it is a fast-paced work environment!”

CHIE MUSHAYAMUNDA ’18

Major in English; Winston-Salem, N.C.

Mushayamunda spent her summer interning with Greater Gift, an organization based in Wake Forest University’s Innovation Quarter in downtown Winston-Salem, N.C.

“They are one of the largest donor management companies in the world, and they are trying to build more of a community and a brand. I really enjoyed getting to know the team and learning as much as possible about the business side of communications. I was able to attend the summer conference where the company’s leadership gave presentations on the business side of marketing and communications and got to meet many clients.”

CARTER ELY ’18

Major in English, minor in art; Charleston, S.C.

Wade’s internship with local station ABC News 4 WCIV in Charleston, S.C., had her out in the field daily from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. She worked with other reporters and learned about multimedia journalism, which required her to write, shoot and edit each story.

“I really enjoyed working with other people and getting to see behind the scenes of what it takes to put together a news story. It was a great opportunity to learn and grow as a journalist.”

EMILY CARTER ’19

Major in business economics; Greenville, S.C.

Carter worked as a media intern with the event services team at Bon Secours Wellness Arena in Greenville, S.C. She helped with event planning and logistics, as well as the life-saving products offered by Totohealth. I also have gone out into the field to witness community health workers receive training and give medical advice to expectant mothers. Working in a field that empowers women and improves their livelihood has always been a dream of mine, and I have learned the importance of connecting with people on a personal level.”

ELEANOR WADE ’18

Major in English, minor in art; Notary, Charleston, S.C.

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BRECK PETERTSON ’18

Major in French; Jacksonville, Fla.

Peterson spent the summer in Las Vegas, N.M., interning with a veterinary hospital. Not only did she work with typical cases involving cats and dogs, she also was able to go on ranch calls to tend larger animals. Peterson has begun the process of applying to veterinary school and is thankful for her internship and the experience and insight into the realities of life as a veterinarian.

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The Great Barrier Reef is dying, and a group from Wofford College has joined global efforts to address the problem.

“Coral bleaching is a big threat,” says Dr. Geoffrey Mitchell, assistant professor of biology at Wofford. “Coral reefs are the rainforests of the ocean. They’re among the most biodiverse places on the planet and are important to the world’s food supply, not to mention the multibillion-dollar tourist industry that the reefs support.”

Bleaching occurs when coral expel the algae that live inside them; their relationship is symbiotic. Without the nutrients provided by the algae, the coral lose their color and soon die. A heat wave in 2016 left 90 percent of the Great Barrier Reef with evidence of bleaching.

During the past summer each student worked on a different piece of the puzzle, but Mitchell says the bulk of the work involved trying to determine how coral and algae maintain their connection. Because coral is difficult to grow in the lab, the students used anemones and their own endosymbiotic algae. “For example,” says Mitchell, “Kajal Patel ‘18 (a psychology major from Philadelphia, Pa.) and Madalyn Snoddy ‘18 (a biology and Spanish major from Columbia, S.C.) isolated anemone cells and subjected them to higher temperatures to see how cells change. One hypothesis is that high temperatures cause the algae to divide too much, and they take over so the coral are no longer able to control the growth. When this happens they spit out the algae.”

Lacey Talbot ’18 of Spartanburg would love to be among the first to demonstrate the hypothesis in the lab. The biology major with an emphasis in computer science plans a career in research. “Research can be both rewarding and frustrating, but I enjoy it because you never know what’s going to happen.”

This summer’s research was a continuation of similar research directed by Mitchell during 2016. The goal is to share the findings with the scientific community in the form of papers and presentations. For the Wofford students, the goal also is to prepare for careers in medicine, bioinformatics or scientific research.

Summer researchers (from left): Kesha Patel, Kajal Patel, Lacey Talbot, Madalyn Snoddy and Dr. Geoffrey Mitchell.

Using research experience to prepare for the future

Wofford students join global efforts to address coral bleaching

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Summer researchers (from left): Kesha Patel, Kajal Patel, Lacey Talbot, Madalyn Snoddy and Dr. Geoffrey Mitchell.
How much energy does Wofford College use? What’s the water consumption? What about management of buildings, transportation and waste? By the end of the summer, a Wofford student and professor had a pretty good idea.

Dr. Amy Telligman, assistant professor of environmental studies, and J.J. Smith ’20, an environmental studies major from Spartanburg, were awarded a Summer Collaborative Research Grant from the college to assess the sustainability of Wofford’s campus systems and culture of sustainability. They spent the summer collecting data to get a baseline that the college can use to evaluate future improvements.

“J.J. was in my class in the spring, and we talked about the campus as a living lab that we can use to understand that, and these summer undergraduates are ideal for that type of work,” says Smith, who has learned that the work is not glamorous and can be tedious. “Research is a messy process. It’s slow going, especially at first, and there are lots of ups and downs,” she says. “It’s important for our students to understand that, and these summer undergraduate research experiences are ideal for that type of learning.”

According to Telligman, that’s just part of the experience. “Research is a messy process. It’s slow going, especially at first, and there are lots of ups and downs,” she says. “It’s important for our students to understand that, and these summer undergraduate research experiences are ideal for that type of learning.”

“How much energy does Wofford College use? What’s the water consumption? What about management of buildings, transportation and waste? By the end of the summer, a Wofford student and professor had a pretty good idea. Smith worked with the college’s new energy manager, Rob Richards, and others on campus to gather the data that will eventually be sent to the campus sustainability manager, Rob Richards, and others on campus to gather the data that will eventually be sent to the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), a national organization that collects and reports compounded data from across the country. Smith also learned how to develop professional relationships, communicate effectively, be persistent and apply the research methods that until now have been purely theoretical.

“I’m interested in a future career in the field of sustainability,” says Smith, who has learned that the work is not glamorous and can be tedious. “J.J. was in my class in the spring, and we talked about the campus as a living lab that we can use to understand that, and these summer undergraduates are ideal for that type of learning.”

The assessment that Telligman and Smith have been working on was motivated by the Milliken Sustainability Initiative at Wofford College, a $4.25 million multifaceted sustainability program funded by a grant from the Romill Foundation. The initiative also includes a new residence hall, a living learning community focused on sustainability, partnerships with the Northside and Glendale communities, student entrepreneurial opportunities and new faculty and staff in the field of sustainability.

Assessing sustainability at Wofford College
Student-faculty research team explores the campus as a living lab

Schaumburg, Ill. His team worked quickly and efficiently across the company.

“With the reform going on in health care, I picked a busy and exciting time to work in the field. The summer has been an incredible opportunity, and I have learned the ins and outs of health care and the complexity of reform. I see myself working here in the future.”

Lindsey interned with Smuggler, a film, commercial, music video and theater production company in New York City.

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LYDIA MILLER ’18
Majors in history and humanities; Gainesville, Ga.
Miller was the programs intern at President Lincoln’s Cottage in Washington, D.C. The museum teaches visitors about the thoughts and conversations held by the Lincoln family during their stays at the cottage and strives to inspire its visitors in their own path for forward thinking. Some projects Miller assisted in planning and executing were the Students Opposing Slavery International Summit and the Civil War Washington Teacher Fellows program.
“This internship showed me that my passion for history can and should be applied in a public setting.”

ALEX THELE ’18
Major in biology; concentrations in neuroscience and medical humanities; Boca Raton, Fla.
Thele participated in a research fellowship through the Jackson Laboratory’s Summer Student Program in Bar Harbor, Maine. The fellowship program accepts all high school and undergraduate college students each year and is focused on mammalian genetics and genomics. Thele worked with Dr. Gregory Cox, whose lab researches several motor neuron diseases. Her specific project focused on spinal muscular atrophy with respiratory distress, type I. She presented her data at the end of the summer.
“I enjoyed my experience, especially because my project has direct implications for a human disease. I designed the entire project, performed the experiment, analyzed the data and wrote a research paper, and I got really great results and made a cool discovery that my mentor will follow up on. ... I also learned how to adapt to unanticipated problems in creative ways. Ultimately, it cemented my desire to be involved in clinical trials and biomedical research when I am a physician.”

SAM PADULA ’20
Major in biology; concentration in neuroscience; Irvine, Calif.
For 10 weeks Padula interned with the Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway, N.J. His project in Dr. Hajoze Zhang’s lab involved documenting better understanding of a specific kinase (MARKK) in synaptic development and cognitive function. He says it was exciting to see how scientists generate knowledge and to participate in that process.
“What started as a conversation about teaching quantum physics to non-science majors has turned into a children’s book project and an interdisciplinary summer research experience for three Wofford College students and three members of the faculty.”

GRANT MCCLURE ’19
Majors in English and environmental studies; Charleston, S.C.
McClure worked at Alaska Trophy Adventures Lodge in Katmai National Park as a fly fishing guide. He led groups of people from around the world on fly fishing trips along the Alagnak River, which is home to salmon, rainbow trout, char and grayling. McClure says his summer experience taught him how to handle conflict and challenges.
“There are bears, the river is fast, boats break down and tempers flare between people. In somewhere so remote and wild, things can go wrong quickly, so learning to be vigilant and calm in the face of adversity was formative.”

JAKE PHILLIPS ’18
Majors in physics and German; Rock Hill, S.C.
What started as a conversation about teaching light in a way that is both understandable and entertaining to a first- or second-grade audience.
“When I was explaining the concepts to the writer and illustrator, I tried to take out all of the scary physics phrases — like ‘work function’. I didn’t really want to get into explaining that — and instead talked about the concept in terms of energy.”

“Physics is all about interactions,” says Martsberger. “During lunch she and her colleagues found themselves discussing how the interactions found in scientific processes — between energy and matter, for example — match the values and virtues found in everyday human interactions. They decided to challenge themselves and three student researchers to use that commonality to explain the photoelectric effect.”
“There are physical systems that take a long time to create and build; a glass house, for example. A rock can quickly break it. Trust can work like that as well,” says Martsberger. “Our goal has been to use the analogy of interpersonal dynamics to teach a physical phenomenon so that the elegance of physics is accessible to a wide audience.”
Martsberger has been advising the project physicist, Jake Phillips’ ‘18, a physics and German major from Huntersville, N.C. Phillips was charged with explaining light in a way that is both understandable and entertaining to a first- or second-grade audience.
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Mitch Humphries

Humphries was waiting in the car for his aunt to finish a job interview at Wofford when he was called in for an interview of his own. He’s been at Wofford for 26 years and has worked his way up to administrative housekeeping supervisor. Humphries always has a smile and wave for faculty, staff, students and visitors. “I love it here because of the people,” he says.

By 7 a.m. each morning, Monday through Friday (and sometimes on weekends as well), the college’s Physical Plant staff is at work. They’re the first ones on-site for Commencement or Homecoming and often the last to leave after the cleanup is done. The college’s 170-acre campus with academic buildings, residence halls, athletics facilities, dining areas, administrative offices, theaters, studios, a library, a Wellness Center and dozens of study and recreational spaces, needs almost constant care.

“It’s clear how much pride our physical plant staff takes in making Wofford College comfortable and beautiful,” says President Nayeef Samhat. “First impressions matter, and we owe these keepers of our buildings and grounds a debt of gratitude for their work ethic, creativity, attention to detail and love of the Wofford community.”

Dr. Ernest Boyer, former president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and United States Commissioner of Education
Ruben Ortiz

Ortiz came to the United States after graduating from high school in Puerto Rico. He’s been in the States 40 years and has worked at Wofford for 14. Depending on the season he has a weed eater or trimmer in his hands or is driving a truck or digging holes for new plantings. His co-workers love it when he makes enough Puerto Rican rice and beans to share.

Ken Pettit

Pettit, director of preventive maintenance at the college, also directs a summer work program for students. “I’m basically teaching work ethic,” he says. “I teach the students the importance of taking pride in what they’re doing, and that transfers to life in the classroom or football field or after graduation.” Pettit is the college’s unofficial animal whisperer. A few years ago he rescued an injured hawk and recently found a new home for a peacock that had wandered onto the campus.

Emanuel Burnside

Burnside has been running trash routes at Wofford for the past two years. He says he enjoys “keeping the college looking good.” He particularly likes his job during the Panthers training camp. The Panthers are his team, and he takes great pride in contributing to their experience at Wofford each summer.

Galina Moshkun

Moshkun arrived in New York from the Ukraine in 2002 in pursuit of religious freedom. Her grandfather died after being exiled to Siberia because the government found a Bible in his home. She and her husband, Boris, also a Wofford housekeeper, moved South because “Spartanburg is warmer,” she says. They have five children and 21 grandchildren. Moshkun likes to read because she says it helps her learn English words.

Jeff Gist, Converse Draper, Shannon Shippy, Darryl Maybin and Rashawn Twitty

Most of the campus has Converse Draper on speed dial. He supervises the college’s utility crew, which means he’s part of planning, setup and cleanup for all major college events — from Baccalaureate and Commencement to Homecoming.

Marty Kerr (supervisor), Tim Neal, Stephen Herbert, Scott Coggins and Nathan Dyer (consultant)

The maintenance of HVAC, elevators, emergency sprinklers and plumbing is the responsibility of the college’s mechanical crew. With the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts and the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium now up and running, the staff has spent necessary time this summer in training to familiarize themselves with the new systems.
Rick Shehan
Shehan retired after 23 years of service in the U.S. Navy and went back to college to earn his degree before coming to Wofford as a groundskeeper. He became the office manager of the Physical Plant in August 2016. His military background serves him well at Wofford. “Anyone can be a job starter,” he says, “but to be a job finisher takes discipline.” Jobs get finished with Shehan following up.

Virginia (Washington) Brewton
When Brewton came to Wofford 19 years ago, she didn’t expect to be at the college long. “The management and the people — the students and faculty in the building where I work and my co-workers in the Physical Plant — kept me coming back,” she says. Brewton, the president of evangelism at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, brings that encouraging spirit with her to work.

Ed Davis
Davis has worked with the college’s multi-craft crew for more than six years. He’s active in local military re-enactment organizations, particularly for the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War. He also collects World War II- and Vietnam War-era military vehicles. Davis even has talked with Wofford history classes, dressed in period attire, of course.

David Friday
After graduating from the Charles Lea Center 33 years ago, Friday joined the groundskeeping staff at Wofford. He loves the camaraderie with his co-workers and takes great pride in collecting litter across campus. He also cleans the Physical Plant offices. When he’s not on campus, Friday enjoys going dancing and attending wrestling matches.

The father-son team of Bob and Rob Richards is all about efficiency. Bob, as the college’s on-site engineer, consults on all major building and construction projects. Rob, the energy sustainability manager, focuses on creating a more energy-efficient campus through the Milliken Sustainability Initiative at Wofford College. Farming and engineering are both in their blood, and they bring that work ethic and an emphasis on functionality as well as beauty to Wofford’s campus.

Clayton Rollins
Rollins grew up on a farm, which means he can fix just about anything. He does small engine repair at Wofford as well as grounds work — maintaining irrigation, fertilizing and seeding. He is considering taking advantage of the college program that allows employees to take a class a semester for free as he works toward a degree.

Rob Richards
The father-son team of Bob and Rob Richards is all about efficiency. Bob, as the college’s on-site engineer, consults on all major building and construction projects. Rob, the energy sustainability manager, focuses on creating a more energy-efficient campus through the Milliken Sustainability Initiative at Wofford College. Farming and engineering are both in their blood, and they bring that work ethic and an emphasis on functionality as well as beauty to Wofford’s campus.

Shirley Alexander, Chris Carson and Olga Krayevski
Alexander, Carson and Krayevski have spent most of their time lately cleaning up after construction crews and visitors to the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. Alexander, a 23-year veteran at Wofford, is excited about the new building because of the upcoming plays, something she has enjoyed attending in the past. Carson has worked at Wofford for 21 years. He sometimes brings his nephews to basketball games and is looking forward to doing that in the new Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium this season. Krayevski was born in Israel, where she worked as an accountant. She’s been at Wofford for nine years.

Rob Richards and Bob Richards
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Virginia (Washington) Brewton
When Brewton came to Wofford 19 years ago, she didn’t expect to be at the college long. “The management and the people — the students and faculty in the building where I work and my co-workers in the Physical Plant — kept me coming back,” she says. Brewton, the president of evangelism at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, brings that encouraging spirit with her to work.

Ed Davis
Davis has worked with the college’s multi-craft crew for more than six years. He’s active in local military re-enactment organizations, particularly for the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War. He also collects World War II- and Vietnam War-era military vehicles. Davis even has talked with Wofford history classes, dressed in period attire, of course.

David Friday
After graduating from the Charles Lea Center 33 years ago, Friday joined the groundskeeping staff at Wofford. He loves the camaraderie with his co-workers and takes great pride in collecting litter across campus. He also cleans the Physical Plant offices. When he’s not on campus, Friday enjoys going dancing and attending wrestling matches.

Clayton Rollins
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Jeff Burney (back row), residential housekeeping supervisor, first came to Wofford in 1998. Three years ago he was promoted to his current position, and strives to make sure his staff stays on top of preventive maintenance and student needs. His favorite days are the ones without “School Dude” work requests. “It means we’re on top of it, that we’re doing a good job.” Watching Burney in action with residential housekeeping staff, it’s clear that he genuinely cares about the people with whom he works. Vladimir Zmeyev (far right) is quick to say just that. “Jeff is a very good supervisor. Wofford is a very good place to work. Every day is a good day at Wofford College.” Zmeyev has dual citizenship in the U.S. and Russia. He has two four-year degrees from Russian institutions and worked for 24 years as a train conductor before moving his family, including 11 children, to the States. At Wofford for two years, he spends most of his days working in the Michael S. Brown Village Center. Vasiliy Velit (far left) works in DuPré and Wightman halls and has been at Wofford for six years. He also has dual citizenship in the U.S. and Russia. His co-workers brag about his skills as a cook and a gardener.

Twanda Drummond (center) has worked at Wofford for four years. Primarily assigned to Marsh and Carlisle halls, she, like everyone else on the Physical Plant staff, pitches in wherever she’s needed, especially during the summers, when the Carolina Panthers and other campers are in the residence halls.

Johney Bonds is fast to credit the crews who “make the magic happen. I’m just the conductor,” he says.

Juanita Ramirez cleans the house and is about to celebrate her sixth work anniversary at Wofford. “When I open the door, I say, ‘Rusty, I’m here!’ He doesn’t bark at me. He’s a good dog.” Ramirez has tended to the housekeeping needs in Shipp, Lesesne and Greene halls and now works in DuPré Hall as well as in the homes of the president and provost. The mother of two teenagers, she’s comfortable with her job and is good at it. “I do the same thing at home,” she says.
Wofford welcomed 453 members of the Class of 2021 as classes began Monday, Sept. 4. The college also welcomed 17 transfer students.

“We are always excited to welcome another outstanding class of students to campus,” says Brand Stille ’86, vice president for enrollment. “This class is no exception, with students coming from 30 states and six foreign countries — as far away as Iceland — and 17 percent are students of color.” Forty-six percent are from outside of South Carolina.

Wofford’s reputation as a top national liberal arts college attracts high-caliber students from all over, Stille says. “We saw an increase in applications for admission this year and the incoming class is a great representation of the high quality of students we seek and attract.

The average high school GPA for the incoming class is near 4.0, and 43 percent of the class was in the top 10 percent of their high school classes. Fifteen members of the class were student body presidents in high school. Fourteen earned the rank of Gold Award or Eagle Scout, 31 were editors of a publication in high school and 163 were captains of high school athletic teams. Sixty-nine are first-generation college students.

Stille notes that the Class of 2021 also includes:

• Adventure-seekers who summited Mount Shasta in California, cliff-jumped off a 65-foot rock in Vermont, climbed two 14,000-foot mountains this summer and spent spring break zip-lining and whitewater rafting in Costa Rica.

• Athletes whose soccer team went 26-0 and were state champions, whose lacrosse team went 17-0, who ran two half-marathons, who won a bronze medal in the 4x400m relay in the 2017 Canada Summer Games and who completed the Krispy Kreme Challenge three times (running a five-mile race in which a dozen doughnuts must be consumed halfway through).

• One member of a high school choir that sang for Pope Francis during the first mass of 2017.

• One who had to evacuate her home for 16 days because of Hurricane Matthew.

• One who has been a sailor since he was 5, and a sailing instructor and coach since he was 11.

• One who ranked in the top 10 percent of players in the world in Madden 17.

Then, there’s the student who kept a unique promise to her parents — that she wouldn’t go to a college more than 1,000 miles away from home. Thankfully, for her and us, Wofford is only 999 miles away.
Students who may be impacted by a significant life event, such as the death of a parent or guardian or a family’s loss of income or any number of situations, soon will have assistance available to help them.

With the help of a $300,000 grant from The Daniel-Mickel Foundation, the college now offers scholarships to help students stay in college and recover from tragedy. The grant is paired with a $50,000 matching grant from the college’s Trustee Matching Fund. The new fund, called OneWofford, is available to receive additional annual contributions of any size from others committed to assisting students through extreme circumstances; it will be activated in January 2018.

“This newly endowed fund will help ensure success for all Wofford students and demonstrates the care and support of the Wofford family and friends for our students,” President Nayef Samhat says. “We are so grateful to The Daniel-Mickel Foundation for this partnership.”

“The Daniel-Mickel Foundation is very pleased to support Wofford and its students,” says Charles Mickel, trustee of the foundation. “Financial concerns for students will always be present in college. We hope we can help keep some students from falling through the cracks and dropping out when unforeseen financial difficulties arise... We also hope the recipients of these funds will become strong alumni of Wofford and will pay forward this gift with their own generosity.”

Wofford will use software it already has acquired in its proactive approach toward academic success that links students to campus resources and notifies students, advisors and other faculty and staff members of important events relating to a student’s success. Through the software, called Starfish, students can alert faculty and staff if they have family issues and need help because of them.

OneWofford provides emergency scholarships

Daniel-Mickel Foundation gift helps students impacted by life events

by Laura Hendrix Corbin

This summer, 18 first-year students were on campus as part of the inaugural Gateway Scholars Program, an initiative designed to help first-generation, Pell Grant-eligible and DACA-protected students build relationships and learn skills needed to help ensure their success in college.

Gateway Scholars spent two weeks connecting with faculty, staff and other incoming students while on campus. They registered for their first classes and became comfortable with on-campus technology and other resources. They also attended financial literacy and public speaking seminars.

The Gateway Scholars program is just one of three initiatives of Wofford’s Pipeline to Postsecondary Success, funded by a grant from the Jolley Foundation. The initiative is a partnership of the Office of Student Success and the Center for Community-Based Learning.

“We want students to stay at Wofford, to succeed here and to graduate — to thrive and flourish,” says Dr. Boyce Lawton, dean of student success. “We want them to really engage with the college. We know that ultimately will help them succeed at Wofford and beyond. Early relationships are very important.”

The Pipeline to Postsecondary Success initiative consists of two other elements: a “near-peer” college access mentoring program and an “equity tool kit fund” designed to provide equitable experiences for all students.

The Jolley Foundation, a family foundation established in 1947 in Greenville, S.C., supports efforts to improve the lives of the residents of Upstate South Carolina.
Something special started in the spring. First an email came from Lt. Cmdr. Travis Smith ‘97 sharing a moving essay he wrote about a former Wofford ROTC instructor. Then Lt. Col. Carl Young ‘96 met with some Wofford folks and started talking about the high percentage of battalion commanders who came out of the classes of 1996 and 1997. A few weeks later, Dr. John Liston ‘54 called to tell us about Col. Frank Pusey ’54 and his distinguished career, which included piloting Air Force One. We learned about a graduate who started a theater program for veterans, and we were invited to the change-of-command ceremony for Lt. Col. Todd Burroughs ’94 as he began his leadership with The Old Guard. A feature developed as more stories surfaced.

With appreciation for their commitment to our country, Wofford College is proud to share these stories of our servant-leaders in the military.
**LEADING BY EXAMPLE**

**BURROUGHS TAKES COMMAND OF THE OLD GUARD**

On Thursday, Aug. 1, Lt. Col. Todd Burroughs, a native of York, S.C., took command of the 4th Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), at Fort Myer, Va. The change of command from Lt. Col. Ryan Morgan to Burroughs was almost finished with his course work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill when he received the assignment at Fort Myer, Va.

Burroughs, who counts Wofford role models, especially his football coaches, among the people who taught him how to be a good leader.

**JESSICA HARNER ’13: FROM MP TO PA**

Lt. Col. Todd Burroughs “knew the only leadership position he wanted was with The Old Guard.”

**COL. ROBERT E. KIRTLING ’39 TURNS 100**

**25-YEAR U.S. AIR FORCE VETERAN CONTINUES TO BE HONORED FOR SERVICE**

In July, Air Combat Command published “Air Force veteran turns 100,” a story about Col. Robert Kirirling ’39, retired. A World War II and Korean War veteran, Kirirling says in the article of his combat missions, “I didn’t really fancy getting shot at.”

Kirirling loved his work as a test pilot of the P-38 aircraft for the U.S. Air Force. War, however, placed him in the role of fighter pilot. He was shot down over North Africa during World War II and evaded capture for three weeks before returning to his unit.

During his career Kirirling was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, more than a dozen air medals, the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. Later in his career he briefed President Eisenhower as the USAF member of the Joint Advanced Study Group and, as a fellow at Harvard University’s Center for International Affairs, worked closely with Dr. Henry Kissinger.

Read the full article at www.airforce.mil/news/Articles/Article/112012/air-force-veteran-turns-100/. Special thanks to John Hubaur, Kirirling’s grandson, for providing photos.

**STILL BUILDING CHAFFECT HODD TEACHES NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS**

Army Lt. Col. Columbus Hood ’80 understands a few things about service.

After retiring from a 25-year military career, including over 22 years in active duty, Hood decided to use his experience as a way to encourage high school students through the Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), a position he has held in Vicksburg, Miss., since 2005.

“One of my last assignments in the Army was in the Philadelphia area,” Hood says. “There were always some negatives stereotyping young black men on television, so I decided I wanted to help guide other black men to better themselves and be a mentor to them.”

After graduating from Wolford, Hood began his Army career as an infantry officer and attained a master’s degree in adult education from Troy University in Troy, Ala. Hood spent the majority of his Army career in the civil affairs and psychological operations units.

“The primary objective of civil affairs and psychological operations units is to convince, neutral and friendly nations and forces to take action favorable to the United States and its allies,” says Hood. He met his wife while serving at Fort Benning, and together they have three sons.

Although Hood rarely makes the trip from Mississippi back to his hometown of Greenville, S.C., he has fond memories of his time at Wolford. He enjoyed his professors, especially Dr. Otis Turner (Wolford’s first African-American faculty member) and Dr. John Ballard (professor of religion) and felt well prepared for his career.

“JROTC is about service to your school, your community and your country,” adds Hood. “Service in the military builds character, and JROTC is a character education program. I enjoy my job because it gives me the ability to positively impact our next generation of leaders.”
Just 39 days a year. That’s the time devoted to training a complex group of citizens-soldiers who may be called upon to perform disaster-relief assistance, search and rescue operations, civil defense, homeland security, missions on foreign soil and even support for the war on drugs.

"It takes creative, dedicated soldiers who spend more than the 39 days they’re paid for," says Lt. Col. Carl Young ’96 from a field command post near Fort Hood, S.C. At the same time he was commanding the 1501st Expeditionary Signal Battalion and directing Joint Strategic Plans with the South Carolina National Guard, He’s now stationed at the Pentagon as the Army’s chief cloud architect. This is a return to Washington, D.C., for Young, who previously served as the chief of war plans policy for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Joining him at Fort Hood were Lt. Col. Chris Schwendimann ’97 and Lt. Col. Will Brown ’97. A few hours earlier, Schwendimann was in a suit and tie as a financial planner and banker. He just rotated out of battalion command and now holds a staff position with the National Guard in Columbia. He works under the brigade command of Col. Andrew Barten ’97. As an aviator, Schwendimann serves three and four times the standard 39 days. When he’s not in uniform Brown is president of Lindsay Oil Co. At least one weekend a month and two weeks a year, however, he’s responsible for training signal troops.

"Out of the classes of 1996 and 1997, within the past year there have been four Army battalion commanders from Wofford," says Young. "Statistically, it’s pretty rare — unless you’re talking about West Point — to have four out of the dozen or so to make battalion commander at the same time.

In addition to Brown, Schwendimann and Young, the Class of 1996-97 battalion commanders also include Lt. Col. Bryan Lake ’97, with the Security Force Assistance Brigade, U.S. Army Forces Command, based out of Fort Bragg, N.C. Lake, who just returned from Afghanistan, is on active duty.

"We all have over 20 years of service," says Schwendimann. "We serve because the Army still desires our service, and we still want to provide it. We do it for love of state, love of country, love of peers. It’s a fellowship, and in some cases we’ve had enough time to develop long-term friendships.

Young has conducted combat operations in Kuwait, Iraq and various locations around the world. Schwendimann was deployed to the Balkans twice and also has spent time with the guard in Greece, Korea and Japan. Brown did a tour in Afghanistan and connected with Lenny Best ’92, who also was serving there at the time.

"You are not going to understand or know what’s going to happen when you hit the ground, so soldiers need to be able to make immediate assessments," says Young. "The true liberal arts education we received at Wofford helps you think quickly and effectively.

Schwendimann calls it mental agility and adds that building adaptive leaders is a challenge.

"We don’t know when or how, but there will be another shift in worldview. In our lifetime, 9/11 did that," says Schwendimann. "Not knowing what the future looks like, how do you prepare students? I believe the answer is the liberal arts. It’s a foundation that provides a broad perspective and open-mindedness. The skills I learned at Wofford can be applied to commerce as well as national defense."

According to Young, the cultural shift that Schwendimann mentions has led to a shift in the military as well.

"The guard has become much more integrated into active units," says Young. "We’ve started calling ourselves operational reserves. The change hasn’t been smooth, but in the end we’ve become better and more flexible for it.”

Young used that Wofford ingenuity to build additional flexibility and efficiency into National Guard training. Instead of soldiers gathering at brigade headquarters and moving to field sites, a process that sometimes took four or five hours, Young set up a mobile command post in an unused field near a National Guard armory. The post has remained in place.

"We came out here for exercises and never left,” says Young. “This is how we would set up in the field. Before we have satellite equipment, networks, tele- phone operations, cooks and mechanics all sitting back at armories, and we couldn’t do what we needed to do. Now we have satellites pointing at the sky, and we’re doing our thing by a.m.

Young’s field model has generated 50 percent more time in actual training and has caught the attention of other states looking for ways to make their National Guard units more productive and efficient.

According to all of the 1996-97 battalion commanders, support is the key to balancing the demands of multiple jobs, sometimes additional education, and family responsibilities.

"My professional career as a civilian and my professional career in the military strengthen each other," says Brown. "Balance can be tough, but a supportive family and a supportive work place helps, and I think we all enjoy the challenge."

"No matter how difficult, no matter the level of responsibility, and regardless of the location or how uncomfortable, austere or dangerous conditions may be, the job is the easy part. It is the physical separation from family and friends, the sacrifices required of one’s family and the inability to be present for life’s special occasions and milestones that make it difficult."

Modern technology helps, and Lake and his family communicate via FaceTime almost daily.

"The hardest part about being separated from Bryan is not being able to participate in life’s events together — first days of school, dance recitals, awards programs, birthdays and holidays," says Stephanie. "Murphy’s Law also applies because it’s when he’s gone that an appliance breaks or the air conditioner goes out. And, of course, we always worry about his safety."
After assassinating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tenn., James Earl Ray escaped and led the world on a two-month manhunt. Scotland Yard captured him in London, and a month later, Col. Frank Pusey ’54 brought Ray back to Memphis.

It was July 1968, and Frank was stationed at Andrews Air Force Base just outside of Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Sarah, had tickets to see “Man of La Mancha” at the Kennedy Center. They were getting ready for the evening when the phone rang — not an unusual occurrence for pilots who flew in the 1254th Military Air Transport Wing, the squadron that flew the president as well as high-ranking U.S. government officials and designated foreign dignitaries.

“They said they needed me to take a flight, but they couldn’t tell me where I was going or what I was supposed to do. They just told me to go to the runway and look for a certain tail number,” says Frank. “I said, ‘I asked when I’d be coming back, but they couldn’t tell me. OK,’ I said, ‘I’ll tell Sarah the good news.’”

While Sarah called their hooch for the evening with regrets, Frank met the crew along with a contingent of FBI agents. There he learned he was flying to London for Ray’s extradition. There he learned he was flying to London for Ray’s extradition.

“The FBI considered him capable of anything. They wanted us to know that. I said, ‘Just don’t let him through that door (referring to the door to the cockpit), and we’ll be OK.’” says Frank.

Frank’s 27-year distinguished career with the Air Force also included flying Lyndon Johnson, Gerald Ford, Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, although not all were presidents at the time. He safely guided the Apollo 11 astronauts, Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong and Michael Collins, through the last half of their goodwill tour following their successful moon landing, and he flew Shirley Temple Black, Spiro Agnew and a host of others on diplomatic missions. The stories are many, and Frank and Sarah exchange glances and smile with the retelling.

“Sarah made me promise not to use profanity,” says Frank after he almost slips during the interview. “Once you get to be 85, the line between stories I’ve lived and stories I’ve heard blue, but at least you’ll know they’re somebody’s war stories.”

Sarah shares her head and remains unflinching, interjecting details, to keep Frank “honest,” something you can tell she’s been doing her whole life. After all, he followed her to Spartinburg, choosing Wofford because of its proximity to Converse College. Frank went on to pitch for the Terriers, participate in the Army ROTC program and make good friends, including Dr. John Liston ’54 and roommate George Pernow ’54, now deceased.

“Wofford was a good entrée,” says Frank. “I got an education and a degree, and I got to be with my girlfriend, not necessarily in that order.”

Frank has flown largely under the radar because many of his missions were classified. After 30 years, however, it’s now safe to tell some of the remarkable stories.

“I stood by in San Clemente with Nixon and flew Johnson back and forth to his ranch in Texas. He loved showering people’s cattle. We got first-rate treatment, and the job had its perks, like getting to play golf on Bob Hope’s Palm Beach estate,” says Frank.

He flew Johnson out to Nixon’s birthday party and joined family and friends for cake. He toured Calumet horse farm in Lexington, Ky., with Pat Nixon and enjoyed dinner in Bangkok, Thailand, with Nancy and Ronald Reagan. One of his greatest regrets is not taking photos.

“I went to so many places and did so many things, but a pilot carrying a camera was considered bourgeois,” says Frank. “Now I regret that I didn’t have one with me.”

Frank says he often thought about asking for autographs, but that was frowned upon as well. He may not have original phonos and signatures, but Sarah was back home clipping newspaper stories about her husband’s adventures. They now have an impressive collection of scrapbooks.

“Johnson loved root beer. He would drink a six-pack before the plane got to the Mississippi River. Once he ran out near Lambert Field in St. Louis,” says Frank. Johnson ordered an unplanned stop to pick up enough to get through the remainder of the trip. Johnson also often complained about the temperature on the planes. “The crew of Air Force One arranged for him to have his own personal thermostat with a toggle switch. He could switch it to cool and a green light would come on. Then he could switch it to red for heat. The switch didn’t connect to anything, but it solved the problem.”

Prior to flying with the 1254th, Frank flew single-engine fighters before switching to the Douglas C-133 Glidemaster, nicknamed “Old Shaky.” The move to transport planes brought him back near home and Charleston AFB. Frank flew the huge C-130 Hercules cargo planes in Vietnam.

“Flying cargo jets meant hours of boredom interspersed with moments of stark terror,” he says.

Frank had almost 10,000 flying hours — a year and a half in the cockpit — when he retired. He was grounded for only one year during his career while serving as deputy commander at Andrews AFB. Frank flew the huge C-130 Hercules cargo planes in Vietnam.

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“Flying cargo jets meant hours of boredom interspersed with moments of stark terror,” he says.
Deane did just that. She participated in ROTC while at Wofford and received her commission in 1985. Assigned to the Corps of Engineers, she spent most of her career stateside. First at Fort Belvoir in Virginia, her duty stations included Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Riley, Kan.; Southern University, New Orleans, La.; Fort McPherson, Ga.; Fort Riley, Kan.; the Army Engineer School, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.; and Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico.

“One high point of my career was to be assigned as the first woman commander of a combat engineer unit in Puerto Rico,” she says. “We deployed in support of Iraqi Freedom in 2003. In 2007, while assigned to Fort Leonard Wood, Deane was diagnosed with breast cancer. She returned to the Pentagone to receive medical treatment at the Bethesda Navy Medical Center. Deane served her unit until her final Army assignment in the Reserve as the director of installation management back at Fort Belvoir, where it all started.

“T’m a survivor!” she says referring to her battle with breast cancer. Deane’s story shows that she’s been preparing for that role her whole life.

Deane came from a loving and strong family with humble means. She didn’t have many family role models who had gone to college or pursued careers in the military, but she knew that both paths would lead her to economic security and a fulfilling life.

As one of the early residential women students to attend Wofford and a minority student, the road was challenging.

“During my years at Wofford, black students didn’t really have a support system,” she says. “It was very difficult, and I learned that I had to toughen up, but that was for the course in the military.

Deane found herself in the minority again in the Army Corps of Engineers. She started out in topographic and cartographic engineering before moving to combat heavy engineer assignments. She served the second half of her career assigned to senior staff positions and focused on military facilities.

“My first assignment in the Army was not easy. Women were not accepted, and my boss didn’t accept me. If not for the people I worked with, I wouldn’t have made it,” she says. “By my sixth year in the military, I finally began to feel comfortable wearing the uniform.”

Deane was the only woman in her Engineer Officer Advanced Course. “Even after a decade in the military, I still faced the disbelief that very few women were in the Engineer branch. As the years went on, however, things started to change. More women were assigned and remained in the Corps of Engineers.”

“I knew the person I was,” she says. “I knew as long as I was strong on the inside, nothing could touch me. Being broken was not an option.”

Regardless of where she was stationed, Deane also found opportunities to become involved in the lives of children in need of extra support. She mentored youth while she was at Wofford and continued to do so while she served in the Army. During the early years of her career, she volunteered as a Big Sister. Later, she became a guardian ad litem. After retirement, she started a nonprofit to assist youth who had been in the foster care system.

She lives a busy lifestyle, but is never too busy to help a child. As Deaner works on her doctorate degree at the University of Maryland University College, Deaner continues to work with kids. Last year she adopted a baby, Aiden. He had been living on the streets with his homeless mother.

Although now retired, Deaner still lives that 1970s Army commercial.

“Now,” she says, “I’m trying to be the best mom I can be.”

As active-duty military, running into those you previously served with isn’t uncommon. Serving in more than one branch of the military increases the chance of always knowing someone at a new duty station.

Today is Fat Tuesday in New Orleans. I am a helicopter pilot in the U.S. Coast Guard and have been tasked to conduct an aerial patrol in support of the Department of Homeland Security over two of the most famous parades of the Mardi Gras season, Rex and Zulu.

I retire in less than a year and, therefore, have a nostalgic enjoyment for every opportunity to perform the many missions I get to conduct on a daily basis in the Coast Guard, but today is special. Today, I have a special passenger. Today, I am also performing a ceremonial last flight for a retiring soldier — a soldier I first met more than 20 years ago, on the campus of Wofford College, in Spartanburg, S.C.

I entered Wofford College in the fall of 1993, and it wasn’t long before I found myself preparing for a military career alongside members of the U.S. Army’s ROTC detachment, better known as the Southern Guard Battalion. My lead instructor was Army Capt. Wayne Magee Jr., the same Wayne Magee I have scheduled to fly with me today, but now he is a colonel.

Col. Magee, the chief of staff for the 175th Theater Support Command, at NAS JRB New Orleans, will soon retire from the Army with more than 33 years of service to our country. I don’t know if that means as much to you as you read this as it does to me, but wow! What an accomplishment and sacrifice. It has been people like me who have benefited from this man’s sacrifices and hard work. It wouldn’t be for his effort and dedication to help get me through my formative years in college as I transformed from a student to a soldier and helicopter pilot in the Army, I would not find myself here today preparing to pilot a $30 million helicopter as a member of the Coast Guard.

But his hard work and sacrifices didn’t come free either. He missed his sons’ birthdays, anniversaries with his wife, soccer games, days when his kids came home with a broken heart and days when they accomplished amazing things beyond their expectations. But Col. Magee, like so many of our military members, wasn’t always there to be the dad he wanted to be because he was being the soldier we needed him to be.

Military service for some may be only a few years, a few decades or in Col. Magee’s case 33 years, but it costs so much more than what most people see. I know what he has done and what sacrifices he has made. Thank you, Col. Magee, for your service. You are a hero to your family, to me and to our country. I appreciate your service and hope our two-hour flight on this beautiful morning in the Crescent City helps you see some of the wonderful people in this country you have protected. Even though they aren’t gathering and cheering for you directly, they gather and cheer because of you. I am honored today to conduct this patrol with you — a true American hero. God bless you and the many other men and women in our great military. Thank you for your service.
A WARRIOR’S HEART
FRED JOHNSON ’85 HELPS VETERANS THROUGH SHAKESPEARE

Wofford College is woven into the entire fabric of the life of retired U.S. Army Col. Fred Johnson (top left) — basketball and cross-country; a lore and writing; long-lasting relationships with his classmates and teammates; and William Shakespeare. Johnson has woven other elements of his Wofford experiences through his writing. In his story, he has published book “Five Wars: A Soldier’s Journey to Peace.” The first chapter, “Theatre,” describes being in Baghdad at the “Song in a Web” while also hamstringing back to his days at Wofford as a basketball player: “Thoughts of going pro were extinguished early in my collegiate (basketball) career,” he writes. “I started taking ROTC classes and quickly found that my athleticism and skills honed directing Wofford’s offense and defense were skills the Army valued. Going into my junior year of college, part of my basketball scholarship got cut. . . . I had to find a way to make up the difference, so I applied for an ROTC scholarship and got it. I killed two birds with one stone: I got money for school, and I wouldn’t have a job when I graduated.”

Johnson intended to stay in the Army only the required time and to serve as a personnel and administration officer. Instead, he was commissioned an infantry officer and made a career out of it. His time at Wofford was spent, too, forming long-lasting relationships. “In the gym playing pickup basketball, I talked to John Lane ’77 (then teaching English) a lot and that was the beginning of my writing career.” The mentoring from Lane and Dr. Emry Trakas (now the Laura and Winston Hoy professor of English), Johnson began writing, including a short story that won the Wofford Literary Prize. “These relationships were a wonderful way to learn,” he says. “I still value the system I really valued the most — I was able to think, reflect and learn.”

Johnson also credits his Wofford experience as a major reason why he chose to attend the University of Alabama-Birmingham, where he served four combat tours in both Iraq wars, Afghanistan and Bosnia and continued his own lifelong, greater war with PTSD after returning home. It was that personal battle that inspired Johnson to create Shakespeare with Veterans as a way for veterans, like him, to heal. “Theatre is a powerful way to help them deal with post-traumatic stress and reintegration into society,” he says. He was inspired by the impact of a similar program, Shakespeare Behind Bars, on inmates — “theatre as a way to connect with offenders and helping them come to terms with their difficulties in life.”

Shakespeare with Veterans has three objectives — provide a place to heal, create an opportunity for veterans to connect with America’s military to its people. “What we wanted to do is bring our group together and get it all on the line, so the public can see that these are the people that go to war for us; the plays of the first program presented in July 2016 in Louisvile, Ky., as a program of Kentucky Shakespeare.”

“My interest and love of Shakespeare started at Wofford,” Johnson says, who received degrees in government and sociology. “One of my professors, the late John Cobb, built a Shakespeare program around Shakespeare and his works.” Johnson taught all of the war names in Shakespeare classics, such as “Richard III,” “Macbeth” and “Henry V.” It was the birth of Shakespeare with Veterans.

VETERANS + THEATRE

With over 23 years of service to his country, Army Lt. Col. Murray Brent McCullouch ’92 attributes his success to Wofford. A native Mississippian, McCullouch chose Wofford because he was offered an Army ROTC scholarship. “That scholarship offered me to take a tour, and I fell in love with the campus,” says McCullouch. While at Wofford McCullouch also fell in love with Susan Rycavage ’93. Today they are married with three children and live in the Magnolia State, where McCullouch is full-time active duty with the Mississippi Army National Guard. Commissioned through the Army ROTC program, McCullouch went on his first assignment to Italy and served as an infantry unit for two years. Upon his return he stayed involved with the military through the Army National Guard while he worked for Young Life Christian ministry. During that time his unit was mobilized, and he was sent on assignment to Afghanistan as a military intelligence officer. Upon his return home, McCullouch became the state’s first full-time military intelligence officer and has served in a variety of positions since, including service to the state during Hurricane Katrina in 2005, deployment to Iraq in 2009 and multiple overseas operations.

“I have been well served by my Wofford liberal arts education,” says McCullouch. “It exposed me to a variety of fields of study and gave me the tools to understand and engage with the environment in which I now operate. I put my education to the test during one of my first intelligence assignments. I had a short amount of time to write a brief for my commander about Liberia — its political climate, economic variables, religious constraints. At Wofford I took a wide spectrum of classes that taught me to research and write — government, philosophy, history, English. It was a great training ground.” McCullouch also appreciates a geology class he took from Dr. Terry Ferguson: “He was my class was hard, and I was just stumped with a big problem with a lot of pieces and parts,” says McCullouch. “He really helped me understand that I had to look at each of the parts and see how each part works. He helped me think through the pieces of a problem and connect the dots to figure out the sum of the parts. It’s a skill I continue to use every day.”

McCullouch now is looking forward to applying his Wofford education to a new role in strategic planning with the Mississippi Army National Guard. “We live in an ever-changing environment and face evolving threats, like cyber security. In that position I will have the opportunity to work with local colleges, universities and government agencies to look at complex problems and figure out how to move forward. I want to help Mississippi continue to improve and get better, and I’m excited to be part of the team crafting solutions to problems that face our state.”

WELL SERVED BY WOFFORD

MCULLOUCH APPLIES LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION TO MILITARY STRATEGIC PLANNING

"It is my belief that no one speaks more directly to the warrior’s heart than William Shakespeare,” says Fred Johnson — known to us back then as J.R. — was one of them. A retired colonel, who served as a personnel and administration officer. "I have been well served by my Wofford liberal arts education,” says McCullouch. “It exposed me to a variety of fields of study and gave me the tools to understand and engage with the environment in which I now operate. I put my education to the test during one of my first intelligence assignments. I had a short amount of time to write a brief for my commander about Liberia — its political climate, economic variables, religious constraints. At Wofford I took a wide spectrum of classes that taught me to research and write — government, philosophy, history, English. It was a great training ground.” McCullouch also appreciates a geology class he took from Dr. Terry Ferguson: “He was my class was hard, and I was just stumped with a big problem with a lot of pieces and parts,” says McCullouch. “He really helped me understand that I had to look at each of the parts and see how each part works. He helped me think through the pieces of a problem and connect the dots to figure out the sum of the parts. It’s a skill I continue to use every day.”

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### CLASS NOTES

**1959**
Now retired and living in Greensboro, S.C., Ernest W. Prewett Jr. notes that he enjoyed the Summer 2017 Wofford Today. Stories or notes that particularly touched him were mentions of Walterboro, his birthplace, and a class note about Dr. Riddick Ackerman III that mentioned Dr. Riddle Anderson Jr., who was his family doctor during childhood. Prewett, editor of the yearbook while at Wofford, particularly enjoyed the 1959 Bohemian photo credit in the story about Rosalind Sallenger Richardson, namedake of Wofford’s new center for the arts. Prewett writes, “I married one of those ‘Miss Bohemian beauties’ (Jane Younginer Prewett) ... and we remain together after 56 years.”

**1962**
Morton G. “Butch” Bozard was recognized with the inaugural Distinguished Service Award at the 50th annual meeting of the Georgia Defense Lawyers Association (GDLA). The award, which was a surprise to Butch, honors his meritorious and extended service to the mission and goals of the association. Butch’s wife, Lee, even designed the first GDLA logo. A partner in the Bozard, Foster and Pool law firm that has practiced law in Savannah since 1967.

**1965**
Ernest Ray Allen recently was honored by the University of South Carolina as senior vice president on the Allen County Commission for Higher Education. He retired from the commission after 22 years of service, holding the position of chairman for the past three years. He was awarded the status of commissioner emeritus. Allen and his wife of 56 years, Anita, reside in Aiken.

Russell D. Zimmerman III married Rose Bozard on Aug. 5, 2017, at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg, S.C. It was Zimmerman’s first marriage.

**1975**
Jack Moore, class chair

The University of South Carolina has hired former Carolina Panthers president Dr. Danny Morrison as a sports management professor in the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management. He began his new position as a professor on Aug. 16.

Chris Pracht was inducted into the National Auctioneers Hall of Fame. Pracht lives in Anderson, S.C., and is the chief auctioneer and broker-in-charge at Chris Pracht Auctioneers.

**1976**
John Gandy, class chair

The South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians has honored Dr. Troy R. Gambell of Kingstree, S.C., as the 2017-18 Family Physician of the Year. Gambell has served the community as a doctor, teacher, mentor and administrator in the field.

In June, the United Way of the Piedmont welcomed Warren Hay sufficiently as the new COO and vice president of finance and administration. He comes to the United Way after retiring from Quality Industries as president and CEO.

**1981**
Patricia Watson, class chair

In May, Pioneer Investments announced the appointment of Henry Ovrich as senior vice president and head of business developments in the U.S. The company is based in Boston, Mass.

**1985**
Tim Madden, class chair

Dr. Phillip H. Graham has become a partner in the Midlawnon Animal Services veterinary clinics in Comoysi, Loris, and as of July, their new location in the Market Common in Myrtle Beach.

**1989**
Michael Sullivan, class chair

Cynthia Jones has been named a senior program director for the South Carolina Department of Commerce’s existing industry program.

**1990**
Scott Gamble, class chair

Dr. Cindy Wesley is the associate dean of academics at the University of Northern Colorado. She oversees the academic policies and procedures of the graduate school and works with students on graduate engagement and professional development.

**1991**
Leland S. Lombard, class chair

Andrew Martin Jr. recently was board certified in health care management as a fellow by the American College of Healthcare Executives. The society is dedicated to promoting the highest standards of professionalism, education, leadership and health care management. Martin lives in Charlotte, N.C., where he serves as vice president for communications with Carolina Healthcare System.

**1993**
Sarah Copeland Southall, class chair

Steven R. Martin recently was board certified in family practice as a fellow by the American Academy of Family Physicians. The society is dedicated to promoting the highest standards of professionalism, education, leadership and health care management. Martin lives in Charlotte, N.C., as the 2017-18 Family Physician of the Year.

**1994**
Alivia Truvidal, class chair

Jennifer Nodine Bell, associate athletics director for internal operations and compliance at Wofford College, has been selected to participate in the NCAA Pathway Program. She is one of 25 senior level college athletics administrators from Division I, II and III colleges and universities selected to participate in the year-long program.

Anne Holmes Clark and her husband, Will, have moved their family to Santiago, Chile, for a year of travel, language immersion and adventure. Their sons, ages 14, 10 and 10, will be enrolled in an international school while Will works as a consultant for a large health system. They are hoping for lots of Wofford visitors to share their beautiful view of the Andes.

**1996**
Dr. Phillip H. Graham

Price is excited to lead the organization. He reports that after 14 months he and his wife, Ann, moved back in their house that was destroyed by the October 2015 floods in Columbia. He thanks his many Wofford friends for their love and support during this trying time. The Prices are the proud grandparents of Louise (2), the daughter of Blanche Price Provence ’09. They also happily welcomed another Wofford Terrier into the fold when their daughter married Andrew Anderson ‘09 on June 3, 2017. Their daughter Jean Porter Price ’14 is starting her fourth year as assistant professor of communications at Sandhills Community College.

**1997**
Sarah Copeland Southall, class chair

Steven R. Martin recently was board certified as a family physician and is the chief auctioneer and broker-in-charge at Chris Pracht Auctioneers.

**2013**
Sarah Copeland Southall, class chair

Steven R. Martin, a native of Columbia, S.C., has been active in his family’s homebuilding business since graduating from Wofford in 1981. He became CEO of Mungo Homes in 2009. In recent years, Mungo Homes has been recognized as one of the best homebuilders in the country, and the company is consistently at the top of the list of companies of its kind. The company currently ranks as the 50th largest builder in the United States. Mungo is in the South Carolina Housing Hall of Fame. He is an unlimited general contractor and one of the first certified master builders in South Carolina. He is a past president of the South Carolina Home Builders Association as well as the Home Builders Association of Greater Columbia. He serves on the board of the Carolina Advisory Board, National Bank of South Carolina, South Carolina Home Builders Association, and the College of William and Mary Alumni Advisory Board. He spent nine years on the Lexington Medical Center Board of Trustees; serving as chairman three times; he currently serves on the Lexington Medical Center Foundation Board. He is a former member of the Medical University of South Carolina’s Board of Visitors, Columbia (chair) and the Cultural Council of Richland and Lexington counties. He also served as the honorary wing commander of the 169th Fighter Wing of the South Carolina Air National Guard.

Whitley, a native of the South Carolina Lowcountry near Pinopolis, served as president of Campus Union at Wofford and was active in numerous other campus activities. He was a member of the Slate and served on several boards.

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HERE’S THE PROOF

Langley preparing for national distribution of alcohol ice cream

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89

With flavors such as peach whiskey, vanilla bourbon, mocha chocolate moonshine and coconut rum, Ryan Langley ’02 doesn’t have much trouble selling JB’s Prf ice cream new tonic in Durham, N.C. Adam received a position with Duke University’s Office of Research Support as the assistant director of international projects. His work involves coordinating pre- and post-award compliance standards for Duke’s international research projects. Katy is a speech language pathologist with Chapel Hill City Schools. She is based at Carrboro Elementary School.

2005

Ryan Walker, class chair

Robert Lack has joined the law firm of Bray and Long in Charlotte, N.C. Lack’s practice focuses on tax consultation and planning, estate planning, trusts, estates and corporate law.

2006

Hadley Green, husband, class chair

Richard L. Cox is a sales executive for The Reserve at Lake Reserve. He is a graduate of William Carey University. Josh Kerr is a senior analytical chemist with Optimis Chemical Group in Douglas, Ga. Lewis White and Lauren Crosby White ’07 announce the birth of Mary Crosby White and William Lewis White III, both born Feb. 12, 2017.

2007

Hunter Miller, class chair

Living in Greenville, S.C., Beth Holler Jacobs is a financial planner with Family Legacy Inc. Her husband, Dr. David Jacobs, just finished his general surgery residency with Greenville Health System and trained in August as a general surgery resident at Eastside Baptist Hospital. They have a son, Cal, who will celebrate his first birthday in December.

2008

Ann Brasington, class chair

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89

With flavors such as peach whiskey, vanilla bourbon, mocha chocolate moonshine and coconut rum, Ryan Langley ’02 doesn’t have much trouble selling JB’s Pr fired ice cream. The toughness of the law has been winning through federal and state regulations so the ice cream is available to more than just our city. Good thing Langley, a partner in the Hodgde Langley Law firm in Spartanburg, has a decade of experience litigating cases in state and federal courts.

Langley says that the JB’s Prf is an old family recipe, now patent pending. Langley, his dad, Joe Brett Langley, was famous for making homemade ice cream in the residential construction market in which he worked.

“Two years ago our team started to commercialize in South Carolina,” says Langley. “At first we sold in just a few stores, but thanks to the hard work of our sales team, now we have a presence in a few hundred, including Green’s, New York Butcher Shop, Cushew and Total Wine.”

Langley says he frequently asks whether someone can get drunk from eating the alcohol ice cream. He usually laughs, “Because the amount of whole milk, cream and the sugar quantity, they’d probably get a tummy ache before they get a buzz.”

2008

Maurice Masie serves as chief of staff to the chief people officer at Athenahealth, headquartered in Watertown, Mass.

2009

Tracy Howard, class chair

Meghan McGowan Shaw and Chad Shaw were married in Bedford, N.H., on Oct. 15, 2016. The couple lives in Atlanta, Ga.

2010

Emily Collins Brown has become a partner in the Barnes Affidavit law firm in Columbia, S.C. She joined the firm as an associate in 2014. Her practice focuses on hospital and medical malpractice defense.

Megan Marie Early and Philip Koya Sopp celebrated their first wedding anniversary on May 28, 2017. They were married at The Cheyney in New Orleans, La., and now live in Greenville, S.C., where she is a partner in the Early-Leary Law Group.

Augusta University’s adjunct law professor joined the expert network, an organization for professionals in the field. He was chosen for the

2011

Dr. Mackie Steadman Talley

March 15, 2017. The family lives in Spartanburg. The proud parents of Smith Andrew Richards, born in January, are Steve Richards and Caroline Smith Richards, who are the parents of Smith Andrew Richards, born in January.

2012

Kari Harris, class chair

Dr. Meredith Calcina Davitte and Steve Davitte Jr. announce the birth of Steven “Sullivan” Davitte, born March 3, 2017. The family lives in Charlotte, N.C., where Meredith is a pediatrician and Steve is a CPA.

The Atlanta Silverbacks Football Club has signed doorkeeper, and reporter for WUSA-TV in Washington.

On July 11, Ellison Barber ’12, a general assignment reporter for Fox News Channel, died from his first live report from the lawn of the White House. She is based in the Washington, D.C., bureau.

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BARTER REPORTS LIVE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

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Dr. Michael Carper, Dr. Chris Bourean, Grier, Dr. Shelby Harris and From left in both photos are Dr. Ethan Miller, once again for another Wofford/Wake photo.

FROM WHITE COAT TO M.D.

Moore’s ‘92 phone.

Craig Calhoun has joined Frampton Construction Co. as an executive in the Charleston, S.C., office. Calhoun, a CPA, will team with the finance department to provide financial leadership and strategy.

ONCE A TERRIER...

The Wofford family continues to support Forrest Lasso ‘76 in his third year with the Charleston (S.C.) Battery. Cheering him on this season were (from left) Carl Walsh ’96, John Bailey Moore (Class of 24a), Lavin Moore ’92 and Lundy Moore (Class of 26). The photo was taken by Lynn Walsh ’90 on Lauri Walsh Moore’s ’94 phone.

FROM WHITE COAT TO M.D.

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2012

Halle Wilen, class chair

The Rev. Patrick Craigigraduated in May 2017 with a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University. On July 1, he joined the staff of First United Methodist Church of Ocala (Fla.) as an associate pastor.

2013

Victoria Ariola, class chair

Carolina Tracy Culbertson, Columbia branch manager at Recruiting Solutions, graduated in May 2017 as a member of the Leadership Columbia Class of 2017. She is an active member of several other organizations in the Columbia, S.C., area, including the Young Leaders Society for United Way and Junior League of Columbia. Coldwell Banker Caine recently welcomed Charlotte Mailtard Horney as a residential sales assistant in the Spartanburg office. She is also an avid volunteer for the Spartanburg Humane Society.

Laura Douglass Marion is a project archivist at the Virginia Historical Society. She is also a student at Gordon–Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte, N.C. James Heards ‘76 is serving as a pastoral intern at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Charleston, S.C., while attending Reformed Theological Seminary. The two were married Feb. 11, 2017. Living in Savannah, Ga., Hunter McGhee is an account executive with UPS. He works in business development and sales in Savannah and the surrounding areas.

2014

Shri Selvakumar, class chair

2015

Maggie Stroud, class chair

Hank Davis lives in Washington, D.C., where he is a client relations associate for DDC Public Affairs.

Jillian Cortkan Heard is a student at Gordon–Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte, N.C. She is serving as a pastoral intern at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Charleston, S.C., while attending Reformed Theological Seminary. The two were married Feb. 11, 2017. Living in Savannah, Ga., Hunter McGhee is an account executive with UPS. He works in business development and sales in Savannah and the surrounding areas.

2016

Marianna Conrad, class chair

Jacob Balmer and Lauren Levitt were married on May 27, 2017, in Spartanburg. They live in Charleston, S.C., where Jacob is a student at the Medical University of South Carolina. Lauren works as a customer experience manager with Qlaurch.

Luke Benson and Jessica LeGrand were married July 15, 2017, at Rock Bottom Pond in Ridgeway, S.C. They live in Columbia, S.C., where Jessica is pursuing a degree at the University of South Carolina School of Law. She also works as a law clerk at Bailey, Prant and Wells in Lugoff. Luke, a second lieutenant with the U.S. Army Reserve, is in graduate school studying information technology and security while working at Verizon Wireless in tech support. Other Wofford alumni in the wedding included Kaitli Shealy. Angela Heinrich is a financial advisor at Merrill Lynch in Spartanburg. She completed several internships during her time at Wofford and used those as stepping stones for her career in wealth management.

2017

Patrick Longest, class chair

Wofford right-handed pitcher Spencer Kulman has signed a free agent contract with the San Diego Padres. Kulman was tied for second in the SoCon last season with eight wins.

Andrew Novak was named a Cleveland Golf/Srixon All-America Scholar by the Golf Coaches Association of America. The honor is the second consecutive for Novak. He ended his senior year with a 71.40 stroke average, the best in the Southern Conference. He was named SoCon Golfer of the Year, the college’s first golfer to win the award. Novak plans to pursue professional golf and is playing on the MacKenzie Tour in Canada.

Alex Pruitt has joined the Capitala Group investment team as an analyst. The company, based in Charlotte, N.C., provides capital to lower and traditional middle-market companies.
IN MEMORIAM
Fred L. Tindall

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and operated Smith’s Jewelry Store on Main Street in Spartanburg, S.C. Smith and his wife, Lib, owned and operated the store for 37 years and was active in both the church and community.

Thomas B. “Sonny” Williams, May 20, 2017, Orangeburg, S.C. Williams served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War before returning to South Carolina and serving in the U.S. Army National Guard for 12 years.

Joseph Oscar Price Jr., July 25, 2017, Nashville, Tenn. Price was famous in the Wofford community for lettering in both football and baseball for the Terriers. He also founded the Tennessee Dew Drops, a favorite Wofford student group, and was active in both his church and community.

James D. “Jimmie” Green, July 15, 2017, Camden, S.C. Green spent nearly 59 years as a CPA in both public and private accounting. He was active in his church, a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church. His wife, Bobbie, and son, Jonathan, also attended Wofford.

James M. Arthur Jr., June 18, 2017, Union, S.C. Arthur retired from United Merchants and supplied with a terminal illness and was a faithful Presbyterian Church member.

Dr. James M. Arthur Jr., June 18, 2017, Union, S.C. Arthur retired from United Merchants and supplied with a terminal illness and was a faithful Presbyterian Church member.

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Roger Glen Hagy, May 27, 2017, Greenville, S.C. Hagy was a faithful Presbyterian Church member.

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Dr. Franklin “Dink” Dinkins, Jr., May 27, 2017, Spartanburg, S.C. Dinkins was a faithful Presbyterian Church member.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES: WORLDS AT WAR AND ABOROAD
Sander Tessler Library features exhibit marking centennial of the Great War

American entry into the First World War in April 1917 brought tremendous changes to American society, and Wofford and the Spartanburg community felt those changes as much as any.

“World War I at Home and Abroad” is the latest exhibit on display at the Sandler Tessler Library Gallery, where various items from the college’s archives are featured, giving a personal view of the war. These items are coupled with a traveling exhibition that illuminates the political, social and cultural climate during this time period. The traveling exhibition was produced by the library at Sewanee: The University of The South and funded by the Associated Colleges of the South.

The war saw more than 400 students and alumni serve in the armed forces, and 17 Wofford students or graduates, including three students in the Wofford Fitting School, died in the war. By late 1918, the Army took over the campus, organizing the student body into a Student Army Training Corps. The militarization of the student body lasted only a brief time, as the United States brought an end to the immediate need to train additional students for service. Just over a year later, the First Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) detachment was established on the campus.

Student publications covered the events of the war breathlessly, and some young alumni wrote back to report on life at the front. One alumni sent back poems that were published in The Journal. Over the course of the fall, keep an eye on The News from the Archives blog for more details about the centennial of World War I at Wofford.
In late March, Dr. Vincent E. Miller, professor of English emeritus at Wofford College, passed away at the age of 95. Dr. Miller taught at Wofford from 1957 until his retirement in 1989. He was an extraordinary scholar who was praised by Ezra Pound for his collaboration on Pound’s poetry anthology, “Confucius to Cummings.” The consensus among the many students who were captivated by his teaching method as well as the subject matter he taught was “He taught me to read,” and “He taught me to think.”

I remember Dr. Miller saying that if you wanted to be a scholar, say of Shakespeare, it wasn’t enough to read everything that Shakespeare had written. You had to read everything that Shakespeare had read. Few could live up to his standards, but how exciting it was to try!

Dr. Miller made the attempt to understand great writing seem like the most challenging and worthwhile endeavor in life. If we could only grasp what Pound or T.S. Eliot meant, we would own the keys to being more authentic human beings. Some of life’s mysteries would become clear.

With the patience of a serious fisherman, Dr. Miller would throw out “What you got?” and “Is that what you think?” and let his students thrash around to come up with a reasonable answer. I may sound like the naïve youth that I was then, but after graduating in 1973, I am still reading and rereading material from his courses.

In 2002, two of his top students, Donald Greiner ’62 and John Lane ’77, edited “A Packet for Vincent Miller,” with articles by and about this unique teacher. There may be a few copies around at the Hub City Bookshop.

A Vince Miller anecdote.

My first class assignment from Dr. Miller was to read Hemingway’s “The Sun Also Rises” and write a paper about it. I had not actually read the book, but I had seen part of the movie once on television. I thought that might be close enough.

With the confidence of youth, I wrote a strange essay about people drifting through life until they are faced with a “moment of truth” challenge and are forced to act. Or something like that. I believe bullfighting may have been involved. I remember word for word Dr. Miller’s comments when he returned my paper: “Wes, you have a theory! I even think it’s right, but it ain’t what’s going on in this book. Honestly now, did you read it?”

I waited until class was over and went up to Dr. Miller’s desk. “You got me,” I said. “I’m sorry, and it won’t happen again.” And it didn’t. At least not in any of Dr. Miller’s classes.
STUDENT SUCCESS STARTS HERE

Every Wofford College employee — regardless of their job or title — puts student success first. For example, Michelle Griggs, director of creative services, created this graphic of Main Building from a Mark Olencki ’75 photo to illustrate a feature on the college’s Physical Plant staff (see pages 16 through 23). From the folks in student affairs and advancement to maintenance and financial aid, Wofford staff take pride in their work.