STUDYING SONGBIRD HEALTH

Breana Dogan ’22, a biology major with a concentration in neuroscience from Spartanburg, participated in a research project with a team of students and Dr. Lori Cruze, assistant professor of biology, to investigate the effectiveness of noninvasive sex hormone analysis in songbirds. She and her team spent their summer reading literature about bird species, bird-watching and collecting samples for analysis. She hopes to continue research to further understand how the concentration of circulating hormones can indicate the health of birds and their environment.
This summer dozens of Wofford students, faculty and staff worked on a plan to return to campus in the fall. We called our plan Wofford Together. The Student COVID-19 Response Team also came up with a special Terriers Take Care (of each other) tagline for their social media campaign encouraging their peers to make healthy choices for the good of our community. I like Wofford Together and Terriers Take Care very much because they are indicative of our community, and not just in this time of coronavirus. Even as I write that, I realize that those words are easy for me to say because I see and experience this each day. Unfortunately, not everyone in our community has the same experience or feels the same level of inclusion. This has been hard for many of us to hear and understand, but we must listen, learn and respond with compassion.

Since integration and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, each generation has made strides in the area of diversity, equity and inclusion. Now, however, is the ideal opportunity to take those cumulative gains and build upon them. This issue of Wofford Today shares information on our college’s and nation’s extraordinary summer, with an interview with Dr. Will Gravely ’61, professor emeritus of religion at the University of Denver, who spent 40 years researching the last lynching in South Carolina. We share information on the 2019 Diversity Report and celebrate the launch of a new strategic visioning process to prepare our college for the future. There’s even a story written by a South Carolina Journalist of the Year telling the story of the Back of the College neighborhood.

We belong to an incredible community, and although we may have different majors and priorities and values, we all cherish Wofford College and value the liberal arts educational experience. Thank you for your commitment to the college and each other.

Wofford Together!
Where thought leads.
The Chandler Center for Environmental Studies opened this fall, and the building earned Three Green Globes in the Green Globes Certification program. The center has the distinction of being the only building on a college or university campus in the state with Three Green Globes. The college and Robins & Morton, the company that constructed the building, were recognized for “demonstrating leadership in applying the best practices regarding energy, water and environmental efficiency.” The Chandler Center’s highest-scoring elements included its project management approach, specifications for green building products, storm drain protection measures, waste-diversion planning, energy-efficient design and the use of low-emission appliances. The building was made possible by a lead gift from Delores and Harold Chandler ’71. Read more at wofford.edu/woffordtoday.
HATHCOCK LEADS HOSA INTERNATIONAL

Emily Hathcock ’23 is taking her love of medicine and passion for helping others to a global scale as international postsecondary/collegiate vice president of the International Health Occupations Students of America’s Executive Council. Hathcock is a biology and government major from Summerville, S.C.

Read more online.

STUDENT-ENTREPRENEURS COMPLETE SUMMER ACCELERATOR

In business by the end of the summer — that was the goal of the five students who participated in the Summer Accelerator program through the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation. For eight weeks, the students attended weekly advising meetings, tracked progress and prioritized tasks using global startup accelerator tools.

Read more online.

WOFFORD RECEIVES NEH PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE GRANT

Wofford received a $6,942 NEH Preservation Assistance grant over the summer that will allow the college to survey the works on paper of Julia Elizabeth Tolbert. The funding will be used to hire a conservation consulting firm. Thanks to a gift from her family, Wofford holds Tolbert’s works in the permanent collection.

Read more online.

ANOTHER SUMMER OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Carman Autry ’22 and Anye Stewart ’23 were two of the 36 students who participated along with 24 faculty mentors in Wofford-sponsored research projects this summer. Autry and Stewart did research on Omar Ibn Said, an enslaved man from Senegal who was an Islamic scholar. His story will be presented during the Spoleto Festival in Charleston.

Read more online.
#RACEAGAINST RACISM

On July 24, the social media accounts for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee were full of images of players, coaches, staff and fans taking part in a virtual 5K to show support for the end of racism. SAAC has additional plans for the 2020-21 academic year that will continue the dialogue on racism and social justice.

Read more online.

MEN’S TENNIS RANKED TOP 25

Tennis Recruiting Network announced its Top 25 Men’s Mid Major Recruiting Classes for 2020, and Wofford made the list at No. 25. Wofford added four to an already strong team. Representing the Class of 2024 are William Fullett (Cumming, Ga.), Alex Horn (Lexington, Ky.), Ashe Ray (Spartanburg) and Francisco Javier Arce Vieyra (Mexico).

Read more online.
Despite the Southern Conference postponing fall sports, the Wofford football team has been on the field since early August preparing for a spring season. Quarterback Peyton Derrick '21 and running back Nathan Walker '22 work on the handoff in the Terriers’ option offense. The Wofford rushing offense was ranked third in the nation in 2019. Cross country, volleyball and men’s and women’s soccer also have been working toward a championship season in the spring. Derrick is a government major from Conway, S.C. Walker is a business economics major from Ridgeville, S.C.
The Wofford Admission staff found something distinctive in each member of the Class of 2024.

“Each year we strive to enroll a class that is academically competitive, comprised of students who are leaders in their communities and can bring varying perspectives to our campus community,” says Megan Tyler ’14, director of admission. “Our selection process is incredibly thorough, and we identified something special in each of our incoming students.”
One student is fluent in three languages; another established her own jewelry line and recruited 65 ambassadors to help her sell her product. Four students were awarded Athlete of the Year honors. One member of the class is a National Horatio Alger Association Scholar, and another was blessed by Pope Francis on New Year’s Day. A student started a podcast, another won a state cooking competition and yet another presented summer research on the gut microbiome of zebrafish.

For all of their differences, however, the Class of 2024 has something in common — graduating from high school during COVID-19.

“Our incoming class has faced adversity in ways few other incoming cohorts have thus far. In response to the pandemic, they have developed skills that can only be refined in difficult times. They have embraced this challenge with remarkable resilience, displaying what we already knew they possessed — the hearts of Terriers,” says Tyler. They navigated remote learning, wore masks while filling essential roles and found ways to improve themselves while staying home. The college’s admission staff reached out to check on accepted students during the spring and summer. During those conversations, the students shared their quarantine activities: one became a sales manager, several ran half marathons while others learned to make face masks; one student made several hundred.

The Class of 2024 also holds the distinction of being Wofford’s largest ever incoming class. The college received a record 4,110 applications, including a record number of early decision applications. Selectivity was at an all-time low of 53%.

CLASS OF 2024 SNAPSHOT:

› 21 transfer students.
› 496 first-year students.
› 261 female.
› 236 male.
› 281 out-of-state.
› 216 in-state.
› 67 first-generation college students.
› 88 Pell-eligible.
› 141 legacy connections.
› 95 student-athletes (57 signed and 38 walk-on).
› 24 Gold Awards/Eagle Scouts.
› 61 club presidents.
› 164 team captains.
› 33 editors.
› 51 student government leaders, including 9 student body presidents.
› 4 valedictorians;
› 10 salutatorians.
Among members of the class of 2024 are individuals who:

- Climbed a glacier.
- Summitted a fourteener, one of 96 U.S. mountain peaks with an elevation of at least 14,000 feet.
- Performed at Carnegie Hall and exhibited at the High Museum.
- Participated in 4 Black Lives Matter protests.
- Ran 1,000 miles in a year.
- Has a 93-mph fast ball.
- Had their research accepted by the International Conference of Microwave Spectroscopy.
- Beat the video game 2048.
- Started a blog to address mass migration in Africa.
- Took a 6,000-mile road trip through 14 states.

During COVID-19, members of the class:

- Learned Gujarati and American Sign Language.
- Learned to play the ukulele.
- Learned to sew; one student made over 200 masks.
- Raised a pet cow.
- Created a tribute video for his high school senior class.
- Read 15 books.
- Trained for a marathon.
- Road tripped to Idaho.
- Binged “Game of Thrones” in a week.
AP Scholars with Distinction.
State champions in track, debate, motocross, mock trial, tennis, soccer and cooking.
A black belt in Tae Kwon Do.
2020 DAR Citizen of the Year in South Carolina.
An Odyssey of the Mind World Champion.

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS INCLUDE:

› A Canadian applying for U.S. citizenship.
› A certified Emergency Medical Technician.
› A rapper whose songs are on Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube.
› The top-rated tennis player in Mexico.
› A certified CrossFit trainer.
COVID-19 limited the ability of high school juniors to tour colleges during the popular spring and summer visit months.

“This year’s class will most likely be applying to colleges they have not yet had the chance to visit,” says Tyler. “These students have already navigated a disruptive end to their junior year and will most likely face many new challenges in their senior year. Learning more about college options virtually will be yet another challenge.”

Because of this, the Wofford Office of Admission has reexamined the ways in which it communicates with prospective students, becoming more accessible than ever before.

“Our recruitment plan includes both virtual and in-person options,” says Tyler, referring to limited in-person visits to high schools and small on-campus information sessions and tours for seniors as well as weekly virtual information sessions and several virtual open house events. Admission counselors also are eager to schedule Zoom meetings with students unable to visit in person. “With the addition of virtual options, we are able to offer support to our prospective students in ways that best meet their needs and engage with them where they are, especially students who previously may not have been able to attend on-campus events.”

Wofford also has joined the Making Caring Common Initiative, which outlines new ways to evaluate admission applications during 2020 and 2021. The initiative assesses academic achievements and extracurricular activities in the context of the obstacles caused by coronavirus and places increased emphasis on service and contributions to others, family contributions and self-care.

“We want high school seniors to know that we value their experience during COVID-19, and the Common Application gives opportunities for students to do that. Students should also know that Wofford is test optional,” says Tyler.

The Common Application (apply.commonapp.org) went live for the Class of 2025 on Aug. 1. Visit wofford.edu/admission for application deadlines and more information about becoming a Terrier.
WILL GRAVELY ’61 has spent much of his life researching racism in the United States, including how all of the defendants brought to trial after what’s considered South Carolina’s last racially motivated lynching were acquitted despite 26 men confessing to the crime.

Gravely, who is white, grew up in Pickens, S.C. He has memories of playing with a Black boy until both of their parents felt it would be best if they stopped being playmates. As a teenager, he was once berated for referring to a Black deliveryman at his high school as a gentleman.

When Gravely enrolled at Wofford, he met renowned professor of history Dr. Lewis P. Jones ’38. Jones once asked Gravely what he knew about the lynching of Willie Earle, a Black man jailed in Pickens in 1947. Gravely didn’t know anything at the time, but the story stuck with him, and he eventually spent decades researching the event before writing the book “They Stole Him Out the Jail,” which was published by the University of South Carolina.
Press in 2019. A network of Wofford faculty and alumni assisted his research over the years.

Although he didn’t begin his research into Willie Earle until 1978, Gravely became active in the Civil Rights Movement as a Wofford student. He tells the story of some classmates who went to Orangeburg, S.C., to participate in sit-ins, leaving campus shortly before the spring semester ended in 1961 after their rooms were trashed. Faculty members invited Gravely and a roommate to stay with them in the event they were the next targets because of their involvement with the S.C. Conference on Human Relations, which played a leading role in organizing the sit-ins.

After graduation, Gravely attended Drew Theological School and studied under Dr. George Kelsey, who taught the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Morehouse College. Gravely now holds the distinction of professor emeritus at the University of Denver, and he’s watched the demonstrations and calls for racial justice from his Littleton, Colo., home with his wife.

“I isolated as we have been at our ages (78 and 81), we have not been directly aligned with or made any public stand within the Colorado and Denver downtown activism,” says Gravely. “It seemed to us that now is a time for reflection and listening, joined to our admiration for the courageous and determined protestors taking a stand. We enjoyed seeing the younger adults and students accompanying older African American community leaders. The spontaneous emergence of what we have been witnessing is impressive.”

While Gravely has spent much of his life studying racism, challenging himself and becoming an ally, he continues to listen and has a list of books to read to gain a better understanding of the current movement.

“I continue to learn from and observe and listen to Black voices and their allies of a new generation aware of the long struggle,” says Gravely. He is aware of the concern in recent months over the terms “systemic racism” and “white supremacy” in urgent calls for change. According to Gravely, “white supremacy and systemic racism are valuable categories that are not extreme (terms) if we are mature enough to engage our present reality.”

Gravely’s work has inspired current Wofford students. He visited campus in 2017 and participated in a conference focused on Earle’s killing and the launch of Wofford Trustee the Rev. Dr. Will Willimon’s book “Who Lynched Willie Earle: Preaching to Confront Racism.” Willimon is a 1968 Wofford graduate. Students learned that a historical marker outside of Greenville acknowledging Earle’s lynching was stolen. Campus Union, spearheaded by former president Drake McCormick ‘18 and secretary Trey Williams ‘19, began raising funds to replace the marker. They raised $3,141, and current students are finalizing plans with South Carolina legislators to identify a new location.

WOFFORD STUDENTS PROTEST LYNCHING

Sam Watt, Spartanburg County’s solicitor, was assigned as the prosecutor in the trial for the men accused of lynching a Greenville County man in 1947. It’s considered the state’s last racially motivated lynching. After the suspects were acquitted, about 50 Wofford students were photographed protesting the verdict in Spartanburg’s downtown.
Wofford awards hundreds of scholarships each year: academic awards; awards for United Methodist students; scholarships for student-athletes, student-artists and student-entrepreneurs; Bonner Scholarships for students who will participate in community-based learning; Gateway Scholarships for first-generation college students; awards for students who are from out of state or from underserved populations.

"These awards make the Wofford College liberal arts educational experience accessible; 95% of the student body receives financial assistance of one kind or another," says Brand Stille ’86, vice president for enrollment. "The ability to offer competitive scholarships allows us to attract high-caliber students from diverse backgrounds and with a range of experiences."

That’s more important than ever when considering nationwide projections for declining enrollments. In a 2018 article in Inside Higher Education, Dr. Nathan Grawe, author of “Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education,” predicts as much as a 15% decrease in the number of traditional college applicants by 2026. Colleges in the Midwest and Northeast could see declines exceeding 20%. At the same time, the percentage of students of color and first-generation college students is growing.

“We are aware of the demographic trends and have planned strategically for Wofford’s continued strength and relevance in a changing world,” says Dr. Nayef Samhat, president. “Our 2014 strategic vision resulted in infrastructure improvements and new buildings, endowment growth and additional resources for scholarships, and the expansion of high-impact academic and co-curricular programming. Now we begin envisioning Wofford’s future again, and this time our focus will be on the Vision for Wofford in the World with an emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion.”
The 2020 strategic vision has a foundation of progress from which to build. The following community gains are a few of the highlights from the college’s 2019 Diversity Report:

- Appointment of six additional faculty of color.
- Back of the College Neighborhood research funding.
- Participation in the Universities Studying Slavery Symposium.
- Appointment of the first academic dean of diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Council of Independent Colleges Legacies of American Slavery campus planning grant.
- AAC&U Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation program (internally funded).
- Search advocate program development.
- Participation in Teach.Equity.Now. to develop inclusive pedagogy.
- Launch of a diversity speakers series.
- Robust heritage month celebrations.
- LGBTQIA Ally Training.
- Participation in the Notre Dame Peace Conference.
- Inaugural Black and Abroad forums.
- Participation in the Interfaith Leadership Institute.
- Expanded scholarship opportunities for first-generation college students.

The next vision considers calls for change from both students and alumni across generations. “We must take the challenge posed by this national crisis and use it as an opportunity to build an even stronger Wofford for a world that will be very different in the years to come,” wrote Samhat in a message to the Wofford community announcing the new strategic vision process. “In addition to reaffirming and strengthening our existing and new efforts, we must also move in ways that will sustain personal and institutional transformation, so our college truly becomes a diverse, welcoming and inclusive home to all.”

In addition to the plan, the college outlined immediate actions. One of those was the reevaluation and development of new strategies for the recruitment of underrepresented students.

For the past several years, the college has offered the Multicultural Scholarship as a way to enhance the financial aid packages of historically underrepresented applicants. According to Stille, the effort has been moderately successful; of the 67 students offered the scholarship during the 2018-19 recruitment cycle, 18 enrolled. During 2019-20, 14 of 59 accepted. This year, Arsenio Parks ’11, senior assistant director and director of diversity and inclusion for admission, offered a proposal to boost those numbers and the college’s recruitment of diverse populations.
Wofford for the World
Steering Committee:

**DR. CHRISTINE DINKINS,** William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Philosophy (co-chair)

**DR. RAMÓN GALÍNANES,** director of undergraduate research and post-graduate fellowships (co-chair)

**TAIFHA ALEXANDER,** assistant dean of students for diversity and leadership

**DR. BEGOÑA CABALLERO,** dean of diversity and inclusion, associate professor of Spanish

**CHRIS CARPENTER ’90,** trustee

**DYLAN GOSHORN ’22,** student representative

**DR. JAMEICA BYARS HILL ’88,** professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry, faculty athletics representative

**JURNEE JONES ’21,** student representative

**DR. DAN MATHEWSON,** associate provost and associate professor of religion

**GREG O’DELL ’92,** trustee

**ARSENIO PARKS ’11,** senior assistant director and director of diversity and inclusion for admission

**HON. COSTA PLEICONES ’65,** trustee

**REV. DR. RON ROBINSON ’78,** Perkins-Prothro Chaplain and Professor of Religion

**DR. TASHA SMITH-TYUS,** director of career services

**JAMES STUKES,** coordinator for college access and student success

**JOYCE YETTE ’80,** trustee
“AT WOFFORD, DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION ARE CORE VALUES, AND WE ARE STRONGER FOR OUR DIFFERENCES.”

ARSENIO PARKS ’11

“We’re revamping the scholarship in name and selection process, and we’re going to do a better job of creating an awareness of the opportunity,” says Parks. “Our goal is to attract a more diverse applicant pool and incoming first-year class.”

The $5,000 GOLD (Growing Our Leadership through Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Scholarship is designed for incoming first-year students from historically underrepresented populations (African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Alaskan Native or American Indian, Asian American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, or Multiracial). It is stackable and annually renewable.

“Our purpose is to acknowledge students who have exhibited strong academic achievement, leadership in civic engagement and potential to contribute to the Wofford community and beyond,” says Parks. “At Wofford, diversity, equity and inclusion are core values, and we are stronger for our differences.”

HOW TO APPLY FOR A GOLD SCHOLARSHIP

To be considered for a GOLD Scholarship, complete and submit ALL of the following application components before the deadline.

+ Apply for admission to Wofford by the Early Action deadline (Nov. 15).
+ Submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to Wofford’s Financial Aid Office.
+ Complete the GOLD Scholarship application.

Application Essay (Answer one of the following questions.)

1. How have your life experiences and educational pursuits informed your understanding of the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion?

2. If you are awarded a GOLD Scholarship, how do you intend to contribute to a more diverse, equitable and inclusive Wofford College? For example, engaging in scholarly discourse, community engagement, research or other creative efforts.
Wofford College
Board of Trustees
commitment to social justice

As trustees of Wofford College, we acknowledge that our college’s mission of fostering excellence in character, leadership and service to others fundamentally means that Wofford’s mission cannot be executed without equal rights and opportunity and social justice — on Wofford’s campus and everywhere else in the world.

We are committed to investing our time and our resources in ways that will cultivate greater awareness of the damage that racism, bigotry, hatred and the other progeny of inequality and social injustice continue to cause throughout the world. This commitment includes making prevention of this damage an imperative. Fundamentally, this commitment is a call to action to go beyond the work that Wofford has undertaken in the past.

Wofford’s commitment to continuous, diligent and intentional action will enable this board and the college’s faculty, staff and students to lead transformational initiatives that will make our college and each of us examples of how the world can change — for the greater good, for everyone.

Wofford College reaffirmation of core values of diversity, equity and inclusion

At Wofford College, diversity, equity and inclusion are core values, and our community is stronger for our differences. Thus, it is imperative at this time of pain and dissension throughout our country that we recommit ourselves to these values as well as a culture of mutual respect and civil discourse.

Wofford’s mission calls for each of us to make positive contributions to a global society, fostering commitment to excellence in character, performance, leadership, service to others and lifelong learning. Let us use this moment to respond to current events as our mission instructs us. Listen to the concerns and frustrations of our neighbors. Develop the courage to speak against racism, bigotry and hate. Engage with respect, civility and empathy.

The past several months have revealed much about our nation and world. And while we look forward to returning to some kind of normal after this pandemic, the lives of those who have been killed or wrongfully accused, the families who continue to seek justice and the communities that continue to suffer remind us that we collectively have a responsibility to pursue a normal that reflects the values of our nation: justice, liberty and equality for all.

Let us strive together to achieve these ends, for we must not tolerate anything less as a nation and world.
PANDEMIC SUCCESS STORIES

A summer of faculty learning

Wofford faculty learned a lot from the quick switch to remote learning in the spring, and they’ve learned even more since.

“The spring was about surviving until the end of the semester,” says Dr. Dan Mathewson, associate provost for faculty development and associate professor of religion. Dr. Anne Catlla, director of the Center for Innovation and Learning and associate professor of mathematics, called it “triage teaching and triage faculty development.” By the summer, with student feedback in hand, faculty were mobilizing for a different experience in the fall.

According to Mathewson, students faced three broad types of challenges during the spring semester.

+ **Equity issues immediately rose to the top.** Some students lacked adequate technology. Some also experienced food insecurity or unsafe living spaces. (The Office of Student Success and the Office of the Chaplain immediately worked to address those needs.)

+ **Many students experienced an unanticipated level of physical and mental fatigue.** Students who were not accustomed to learning from home found it hard to carve out time and space for academic pursuits while juggling family responsibilities. Students and faculty alike also struggled with the effects of too much screen time.

+ **Finally, every student, even if they escaped the effects of the first two challenges, faced a sense of loss and grief.** Leaving campus abruptly meant losing interaction with friends and missing out on milestone events. On a day-to-day basis, students missed out on the formal and informal interactions that happen simply as a result of living and studying together.

“These challenges created a different context for learning, not just at Wofford, but across higher education,” says Mathewson.

Led by Catlla, Wofford’s Center for Innovation and Learning worked to develop strategies for blended — online, hybrid and in-person — learning. Technology became critical, but it didn’t replace best pedagogical practices.

“We learned early on that we needed to turn the conversation from technology to pedagogy. We’re all teachers first,” says Dr. John Miles, dean of institutional effectiveness and academic planning and associate professor of English. “The workshops we did over the summer were about thinking explicitly about courses, even courses that have been taught for years.”

The results included innovative assignments, retooled learning objectives and a new awareness of the complications involved in teaching with masks or behind plexiglass barriers and without the same kinds of small-group engagement options that were available before COVID-19. Professors who were accustomed to teaching in the same classrooms also had to transition to different locations.
The professionals in Information Technology Services helped make the process easier.

“All Wofford classrooms now look alike as far as technology goes,” says Martin Aigner, instructional technologist. “This is unheard of, but it’s really beneficial for faculty to walk into any classroom and see the same situation.”

The collaboration between ITS and the CIL yielded trainings and workshops that incorporated teaching and technology. Many faculty gained new proficiencies in Moodle, a learning management system; Perusall for student reading; EdPuzzle to create videos and Zoom to engage with students remotely.

“Good teaching is good teaching, regardless of the modality you’re using,” says Catlla. “We’re still providing structure, communications and community. When we’re face to face in the classroom together, this happens naturally. Now we just have to be more intentional about it. Faculty have embraced this with student learning and the student experience in mind.”

According to Catlla, almost 100 faculty attended CIL trainings over the summer so they would be prepared for an uncertain fall.

“We keep telling ourselves and each other that no one has ever done this. We can’t find the expert. There is no expert, but when you put all of us in a room, there’s a lot of experience with teaching and learning,” says Miles. “We will continue to meet challenges we’ve never seen, but our teaching and focus on student learning can be stable regardless of those changes.”

“WE WILL CONTINUE TO MEET CHALLENGES WE’VE NEVER SEEN, but our teaching and focus on student learning can be stable regardless of those changes.”
Welcoming new faculty

Imagine moving and changing jobs during COVID-19. Meeting new colleagues for the first time behind masks. Meeting via Zoom instead of in person. Settling into a new home and a new office without co-workers or neighbors popping in to say hi or drop off a plant. This fall 13 new faculty members joined the community, and a group of Wofford faculty, including Dr. Jeremy Henkel, associate professor of philosophy; Dr. Kimberly Hall, assistant professor of English; and Dr. Lori Cruze, assistant professor of biology, put a lot of extra effort into their induction as Terriers.

“New faculty onboarding is something we’ve done really well in the past,” says Henkel, who directs new faculty teaching initiatives through the CIL. This year the group knew they couldn’t wait until August, and they knew they would have to be even more intentional than ever in their efforts. Even before the full week of orientation and training in August, Wofford faculty held two Zoom meetings with new faculty over the summer. By the time classes started, new faculty knew each other and many of their Wofford colleagues. They became comfortable with Wofford’s technology and course management systems and even received tips on best local hiking trails, restaurants and places to get an oil change.

“This is an incredible group of new faculty,” says Henkel. “Now they know what’s coming and what questions to ask. We’re excited that they’re a part of our community.”

SUCCESS STORIES

1. DR. AARON HARP
   assistant professor of music
2. DR. RACHEL GROTHEER
   assistant professor of mathematics
3. DR. SMRITI BHARGAVA
   assistant professor of economics
4. MUHAMMAD VELJI
   James A. and Susan K. Keller Fellow in Philosophy
5. DR. GILLIAN YOUNG
   assistant professor of art and art history
6. DR. INGRID LILLY
   assistant professor of religion
7. DR. KYLE RICHARDSON
   assistant professor of psychology
8. DR. JIM STEVENS
   assistant professor of finance
9. DR. GRACE SCHWARTZ
   assistant professor of chemistry
10. MAYA FEIN
    assistant professor of theatre
11. DR. TAYLOR BROBRY
    assistant professor of environmental studies
12. DR. JENNIFER BRADHAM
    assistant professor of environmental studies
13. DR. ZHE YANG
    assistant professor of economics
Students form COVID-19 Response Team

When Elena Pulanco ’22 arrived on campus in late August, she had not seen anyone but family for five months. The art history and sociology and anthropology major with a concentration in studio art from Englewood, N.J., was eager to be back at Wofford with her women’s basketball teammates, but she also understood what was at stake.

“I knew that following the guidelines and procedures would be essential to enjoy time with professors, teammates, friends and coaches,” she says. That’s why she volunteered to serve on the COVID-19 Student Response Team.

The plan to bring Wofford back together in the fall began in the spring. President Nayef Samhat commissioned groups of faculty and staff to develop health and safety guidelines and to look at a variety of calendar options. Protocols began to form around classroom, dining, residence life and move-in and orientation safety, and students were recruited to vet the plan and share their thoughts on the best way to engage their peers.

“Students know the most effective ways to communicate with each other, so we all knew that getting them involved was the key to success,” says Mary Carman Jordan ’13, director of admission events and a member of the working group planning Wofford’s return to on-campus learning in the fall. “The students reviewed the Wofford Together plan, made recommendations

(From left) Mitch Humphries, Wayne Gosson and Randy Brown were among the facilities staff preparing classrooms with plexiglass, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer and gloves.

AVI, Wofford’s culinary partner, has reworked its procedures to maximize safety.
and drafted a student pledge. The team also communicated the importance of following the plan in a series of social media videos and messages to the campus community.”

The video series includes two Zoom conversations in which a group of students discuss the Wofford Together plan while sharing how they were preparing to return to campus by divvying up the purchase of cleaning supplies with roommates and quarantining at home two weeks before returning to campus while watching NBA games and Hulu.

“I’m kind of sad,” says Jalen Carter ’21, a pre-law psychology and sociology and anthropology major with a minor in philosophy from Clinton, S.C., when thinking about how different college life will be. “I want to be able to do some of the college kid things, but at the same time, I’ve been deprived of Wofford for five months. You either adapt or get left behind.”

Carter, a member of the COVID-19 Student Response Team, is sharing an on-campus apartment with some friends he met during his first weekend as a student. They’re planning themed dinners, and Carter tested some of his recipes with family during the summer. One of his prized purchases for the upcoming year is a rice cooker.

“I make mean fajitas,” he says.

According to Jordan, every member of the team is a leader on campus, and their leadership, both in word and deed, has made an impact on student commitment and behavior. “We are together and having the success we are because of them. I’ve loved getting to know the students on the team better and working with them this summer.”

“I am overwhelmed with gratitude in this moment for the privilege of my situation and wish every student and every teacher in every classroom throughout the world had the same opportunity.”
Hettes reflects on being back in the classroom during a pandemic

Dr. Stacey Hettes, professor of biology, concluded a six-year term as associate provost for faculty development at the conclusion of the 2019-20 academic year, but not before spending lots of late nights and early mornings helping faculty prepare for the unexpected transition to remote learning. Now she’s back in the classroom, and here’s a reflection from her experience:

“It is important when hearing reports of the impact of COVID-19 on colleges and universities that we recognize that one size does not fit all. I feel like I may have the very best situation of any professor teaching in person in the U.S. I can enter the backdoor of Milliken Science where there is a touchless hand sanitizer dispenser waiting for me. I can arrive when I can predict the hallways will be empty. My office is the only office on my hall. I teach my class and lab across the hall from my office in a space that accommodates the entire group while staying six feet apart. I am the only professor using this particular room, so I am only exposed to my two classes (36 students total). This leaves me with minimal contact and maximum flexibility for preparing modified lab activities and working with students. I can record a video of class at the touch of a button so students know if they feel they should not come to class, even out of an abundance of caution, they can readily catch up.

“I don’t say any of this to brag. I say it in recognition of the incredible privilege it is to teach at Wofford College, where grace and flexibility are the words I hear more than any other. Flexibility allowed many colleagues to teach remotely if they choose, which is what set my in-person choice up for the best possible success — that and a MONUMENTAL effort by good folks like Dan Deeter, director of business services and risk management, who chaired the college’s return to work committee; Fred Miller, chief information officer and associate vice president for information services; Dr. Trina Jones, professor and associate provost for curriculum and co-curriculum; Chris Gardner, chief financial officer; and all the good folks working with them, one of the most important of whom is a man I adore and yet we have not had occasion to learn each other’s last names, Donald — Donald, who for me embodies the entirety of our most dedicated facilities and maintenance colleagues. Donald is up and down my hall and the adjoining Great Oaks Hall the entire day to keep us safe and stocked. He’s doing what Wofford folks do, watching out for and taking care of each other.

“Even with the risk, the masks, the smell of bleach and the plexiglas, being back in the classroom has boosted my spirits. Not a single student, not one, has behaved in our shared space in a way that failed to exude respect and concern for me and each other that no face mask can hide. I trust them and myself to stay vigilant in holding these standards for the remainder of our in-person time. I am overwhelmed with gratitude in this moment for the privilege of my situation and wish every student and every teacher in every classroom throughout the world had the same opportunity.”
The Back of the College Neighborhood

A STORY OF PEOPLE, PLACE AND CHANGE

Editor’s note:

The Wofford bubble was a very real thing when I was a student at Wofford between 1985 and 1989. The Bonner Scholar Program, which began at Wofford in 1991, and a growing emphasis on community-based learning changed that (thank goodness), but then Wofford was a different place in a Spartanburg of another time.

My room in Shipp Hall during my junior and senior years faced Evins Street and the few houses that sat steps beyond that boundary. They were the backdrop for tennis matches when the college’s tennis courts filled the area now paved for Olin Building and Shipp Hall parking. Some people consider everything between Evins Street and Spartanburg Regional Medical Center the Back of the College neighborhood. Others say the neighborhood was concentrated between Cumming Street School and the practice fields beyond Gibbs Stadium. With the exception of a few students or faculty who rented homes off McDowell Street or Osage, I didn’t know the people who lived to the north of the college. Later I interviewed a few residents, and as I listened to their stories, I felt both joy at their memories and discomfort at my lack of knowledge or engagement as a student.

In recent years, there have been competing narratives surrounding the evolution of the neighborhood. Current Wofford students are doing a good job of learning more through oral history and ethnographic research. Some are involved in a collaborative project to tell the residential history of the neighborhood. This article, written by local journalist Bob Dalton, blends both nostalgia and public record. There are areas of gray, but what good story doesn’t leave room for critical thinking, compassion and self reflection? JMB
Rose Thomas loved playing tetherball.

It was her favorite thing to do at the T.K. Gregg Community Center in the Northside, where people who lived in the Back of the College neighborhood gathered for fun and fellowship. There were other games, of course, and dances. But tetherball, that was her thing.

So was roller skating through the neighborhood. And the May Day programs at Cumming Street School — the school she attended during the 1950s from first grade through ninth, and the school her mother attended before her.

Growing up, Thomas wanted to be a dancer, and she was part of a group that performed at functions in the neighborhood. Her mother, however, told her she needed to do something that would help her get a real job.

So she became a teacher, like Louvenia Barksdale, who lived next door to Thomas on Evans Street. And like Claudia Pinkney, her music teacher who lived three houses away. And like Stacey Whitmire, her second-grade teacher who would invite Thomas to her home to take tests because she knew Thomas was an anxious child who didn’t do well taking the tests in the classroom.

“I really enjoyed growing up Cack of the College,” says Thomas, who taught English and math at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind and at Cleveland Elementary before retiring in 2000. “The neighborhood was like one big family. For the most part, everybody knew everybody, and everybody looked out for one another.”

The neighborhood

The Rev. A.H. Cumming — who came to town before the Civil War and served as an administrator at Spartanburg Female College — purchased property in the area after the war and donated it to emancipated slaves. Tobias “Tobe” Harwell Jr. was one of the neighborhood’s earliest residents. He came to Spartanburg in 1859, enslaved by Albert M. Shipp, Wofford’s second president. Hartwell purchased a lot from the Cleveland family in 1872 and built a house there. He became a cornerstone of the community, and one of Spartanburg’s first public housing developments was named for him.

According to Brad Steinecke, assistant director of local history for Spartanburg County Public Libraries, the Back of the College neighborhood was one of the first, if not the very first, areas in the city to be Black-owned. Steinecke is involved in a project with Dr. Jim Neighbors, associate professor in the Department of English and co-coordinator of Wofford’s African/African-American Studies Program, among others, to preserve the neighborhood’s history.

“Land ownership had been the primary marker of economic success for generations,” Steinecke says. “So the ownership of land was a major achievement.” Being able to purchase the land represented “another kind of freedom and independence” for the residents.

At its pinnacle in the 1940s, the neighborhoods adjacent to the college contained about 400 houses. Neighbors says. Based on census records, more than 1,600 people lived in the area. It was home to a number of churches, including Cumming Street Baptist, Trinity AME and Walker Memorial. People in the area also attended Silver Hill United Methodist, the first African-American Methodist Church in Spartanburg, located off North Converse Street, near what is now Barnet Park. Children attended Dean Street School and Cumming Street School. A Community Cash grocery store sat on the spot now occupied by the Wofford College Bookstore, and the neighborhood held a McBride’s Grocery as well.
In 2010, Mann’s son, Greyson, received a full scholarship to Wofford. He graduated with honors in 2014.

Mann’s sister, Catherine Mann Garner, who now makes her home in Charlotte, N.C., worked at the Kiddie College in the neighborhood from 1968 to 1970. Kiddie College was a daycare center and preschool owned and operated by the Rev. Walter Hart and his wife, Sophie.

“The Kiddie College was an essential business,” Garner says. “Those in the neighborhood who realized the importance of early education had their kids there.”

Garner said that during her senior year of high school (1970-71), there were signs that the invisible wall between the college and the community was beginning to crack. Wofford began actively recruiting Black students when Dr. Paul Hardin III became president in 1968, and Garner would sometimes visit friends who were attending the college. She didn’t always feel welcome.

“Whenever I was on campus, I’d get some stern looks,” she says. “There were students who were stopped and asked to show their IDs. There was a class of students who were not very warm to Black people.”

According to Neighbors, before integration Back of the College residents said “they wouldn’t go on campus because they didn’t feel welcome. They would walk around campus rather than risk going on it.” He says integration paved the way for more interaction between the college and the neighborhood. A program called Happy Saturdays, established by Wofford students around 1970, attempted to create a better relationship with residents.

“They invited kids to come on campus; they would have games for students, give tours, take them to the library and the dining hall. They wanted to make the college a welcoming place,” Neighbors says.

Former Spartanburg Mayor James Talley, an assistant football coach at Wofford in the 1980s and 1990s, has fond memories of a bustling, close-knit neighborhood during the 1950s, 1960s and even into the 1970s.

“A lot of professionals lived there,” says Talley. “It was a proud neighborhood. The people in the neighborhood supported the churches and the mom-and-pop businesses. But as the years went on and people passed away or moved away, it began to deteriorate.”
+ Expansion and change

Wofford began buying properties adjacent to the college after World War II. Roger Milliken, the late textile magnate and longest-serving member of the college’s Board of Trustees, encouraged the college and Spartanburg General Hospital to buy properties as they became available. At the time, Cleveland Street, which no longer exists, ran behind Main Building. The Cleveland family owned all of the property between Evins and Cleveland streets and sold the college the land. The college used the property to add DuPré and Shipp halls as well as a set of tennis courts to the campus. Milliken funded these purchases until they became a line item in the college’s budget in the 1980s, according to Dr. Phillip Stone ’94, archivist and campus historian.

“Once people who owned property near Wofford learned that the college would buy if they were ready to sell, they would call the president and ask for an offer,” says Stone. “Joe Lesesne usually referred them to Ed Greene, the chief business officer.”

Over time, like most landlocked colleges and universities, Wofford began expanding its footprint.

“Many minorities who went through World War II and those who got an education left,” says Dr. Joe Lesesne, Wofford’s ninth president, who served from 1972 to 2000. “And they had no intention of coming back. There were greater opportunities for them in other regions of the country.”

When Wofford purchased a parcel of land with a house on it, the college would clear the land. Some people sold to investors who kept the houses but used them as rentals. The changes in ownership caused a shift in the neighborhood dynamic. Lesesne says the neighborhood was in decline by the time he arrived on campus as a faculty member in 1964.

“I have sympathy for the people who think the college, over its history, had opportunities to help, and in hindsight there are things I wish would have been done,” Lesesne says. “But where we were at the time, particularly in the 1960s and 1970s, I don’t think the neighborhood died there.”

By the 1980s the neighborhood was sparsely populated, and many houses had been demolished, says Lesesne. There were few children, and the elementary school had been closed. There was a lot of drug activity in the area, and many of the people who still lived there were frightened.

“They would have liked for us to police the area, but we couldn’t, really,” he says, referring to the college’s lack of jurisdiction off campus. “We did tell our folks to patrol the area and to call the police if they saw anything.”

Lesesne says Wofford became more intentional about buying properties in the 1990s, especially after the NFL’s Carolina Panthers, founded and owned by Jerry Richardson ’59, agreed to hold training camp in Spartanburg on Wofford’s
Woody Willard '74, president of Willard Incorporated, became involved in the acquisition of property adjacent to the college when the community began negotiations with the Panthers. Willard wanted to support the project because of the economic benefits to the entire area, but he knew he could not participate as an investor. So he offered to provide his appraisal, negotiation and sales services pro bono. Since then, he has secured more than 275 parcels on behalf of the college at prices ranging from $2,000 to $250,000, always at or above fair market value.

"At first the college only bought abandoned properties," says Willard. "Sometimes families in the neighborhood approached Wofford. They were going to leave the area and wanted to gauge the college's interest in buying their property."

According to Willard, some homeowners stayed for a decade or more after they had an offer on their homes. They wanted to live out their lives in their homes. "We respected that, altered our plans and were good neighbors to each other."

Rerouting traffic through the neighborhood was another change. At a 1994 City Council meeting to consider closing Evins, Twitty, Jones and Pee Dee streets, several neighborhood residents raised concerns about access for emergency vehicles and inconvenience for those who still lived there. In response, Wofford agreed to pave two parking lots for Mount Zion and Greater Trinity churches.

"We started closing streets after the property had been sold to Wofford," Talley says. "The Panthers were coming to town. Once Wofford owned the property, they petitioned the city to close the streets. And we gradually did, one by one or two by two. But the streets we were closing were already empty. We were closing them in name only."

City Council minutes document both the resistance and support for street closings. Talley recognized the decline in the neighborhood but said the protests showed the passion many people had for the neighborhood they remembered. "This was where they grew up, where they spent their entire lives. It was their identity," he said.
One of the final homeowners in the Back of the College neighborhood was Hattie Belle Penland, a longtime teacher at Cumming Street School and a mentor to countless children. Her home sat close to where the Gibbs Stadium scoreboard is now located.

“She had lived there all her life,” Lesesne says. “She was the only person there who I actually dealt with in buying a house. She was a tough negotiator.”

Moving forward

In 1998, the Wofford Neighborhood Focus Group initiated an effort to erect a marker near the entrance to Gibbs Stadium to recognize the neighborhood. Neighborhood members of the focus group helped pick the location, which was prominent during Spartanburg High School football games. Now that Spartanburg High School has a new stadium, the marker has been moved to front Cumming Street, where it will be visible to passing traffic.

“The marker means a great deal to the people who grew up in the shadows of the college,” said Winston Wingo in an article by Linda Conley in the Spartanburg Herald-Journal. Wingo was the artist who was commissioned to create the bronze panel featuring the people and landmarks of the Back of the College neighborhood.

Thomas hopes the college will find a way to preserve the neighborhood’s history and significance to Spartanburg.

Cumming Street School still stands across from the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium.

“One once some of the challenges of COVID-19 settle, I hope to continue conversations with individuals and community partners regarding Cumming Street School,” says President Nayef Samhat. “It would be appropriate and an excellent way to honor the community for that building, which played such an important role in our community’s education, to be a part of Wofford’s mission as well.”
HONORING THE 2020 ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CLASS

DRAPER AND PHILLIPS RECOGNIZED ALONG WITH FOUR STAND OUT GRADUATED STUDENT-ATHLETES

By Brent Williamson

When you arrive at any event on campus, ever wonder how the tables and chairs got there? Chances are Converse Draper and his utility crew did the heavy lifting to make sure the event ran smoothly.

Draper was hired at Wofford in 1994 by Curtis Anderson, with whom he had worked before outside of the college. “We worked really well together and had a lot of fun on the job, which made it easy,” says Draper. “I have seen a lot of things on campus and was able to meet a lot of people.”

He was promoted to supervisor of the utility crew in 2004. He retired on July 24, 2020 with over 26 years of service and countless numbers of chairs unfolded. Whether it was the Terrier Ball, Family Weekend, Commencement or a groundbreaking, Draper has been behind the scenes of every major event on campus.

“Converse Draper was the ultimate co-worker,” says Terri Lewitt, who retired last year as associate athletics director for development. “In the many years I had the opportunity to work with Converse, he always greeted me with a smile, a calm demeanor and willingness to be helpful no matter the task. He was absolutely the best!”

One of those on campus who worked closely with Draper and his utility crew is director of conference services John Blair. “There was never a time when I requested anything from Converse that he didn’t eagerly and cheerfully accomplish the task,” says Blair. “One example of this came almost every year at the interest fair when we needed more tables at the last minute, usually at the end of the workday. Converse and his group always answered the bell.”

“My wife and family really kept me going over the 26 years,” says Draper. “I will miss all the great people now that I have retired. They made it easy for me at work. Everyone becomes family at Wofford.”

For his years of exemplary service, the Terrier Club Board of Directors this fall honored him with the 2020 Wofford College Athletics Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Award. Because of COVID-19, he and the other inductees were not honored as planned at the first home football game.

Mary Ann Phillips was named an Honorary Letterman. Phillips has been a loyal supporter of Wofford College and Wofford Athletics for five decades. Although not a Wofford College graduate, she has been to countless athletics events and has been a loyal contributor and member of the Terrier Club for more than 50 years. Phillips was married to the late William P. Phillips ’55, a former football letter winner. Wofford support is a family affair. All three of Phillips’ children — Shawn Phillips ’80, Ashley Phillips Case ’85 and Kelly Phillips Willingham ’91 — graduated from Wofford, and four of her grandchildren — Perry Case ’14, Molly Case Culbertson ’16, Mary Willingham ’20 and Kathleen Willingham ’23 — have attended as well.
Bosley was a first team All-Southern Conference selection for the women’s soccer team. A defender, she played in 69 career games with 63 starts, along with four goals and seven assists. The team allowed a SoCon-low 11 goals for a 0.57 goals-against average during her senior season. A star in the classroom, Bosley was named CoSIDA Academic All-District and to the SoCon Academic Honor Roll and Fall All-Academic Team. Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, she was co-president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. A biology and chemistry major, she attended the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and is now a surgical resident at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Cochran was named Southern Conference Player of the Year as a senior and led the men’s basketball team to the 2014 and 2015 NCAA Tournaments. A four-year starter at guard, he was three-time All-Southern Conference, playing in 133 games with 112 starts. His 1,894 total points ranks seventh in college history, and his 226 steals places him third on Wofford’s all-time list. He is second in three-point field goals made. Cochran also accumulated 659 rebounds and 320 assists during his career. He was a Lou Henson Award Finalist. During his senior season, he was the only player in the country to lead his team in points per game (14.6), rebounds per game (5.9), assists per game (2.7), steals per game (1.8) and blocks per game (1.0). An English major, Cochran has been playing basketball professionally since graduation. He’s now with Boncourt in Switzerland.

Galloway, a four-year starter, was a three-time All-Southern Conference selection for the men’s tennis team. As a senior he was first team All-SoCon in both singles and doubles. Galloway was named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll all four seasons. He has played professionally on the ATP Tour, primarily in doubles, since 2015. He’s now ranked at 150 (doubles). In 2018, he and his partner, Nathaniel Lammons, won in the first round of men’s doubles in the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows, earning a 6-2, 6-2 victory. He was the first former SoCon player to see action in the U.S. Open in over 30 years.

Lasso was a four-year starter on defense for the Terriers, with 71 career starts. He scored 14 career goals with eight assists for 36 career points. Named All-Southern Conference three times, he was a member of 2013 SoCon Regular Season Championship team. As a senior he was named first team All-SoCon, first team NSCAA All-South and third team NSCAA All-America, only the second player in college history to do so. Lasso has played professionally since graduation, including a stint with the MLS FC Cincinnati. He is currently with the Tampa Bay Rowdies in the USL.

The Hall of Fame recognizes “those former athletes and coaches who, by outstanding athletic achievement and service, have made lasting and significant contributions to the cause of sports at Wofford College, the Spartanburg community, South Carolina and the nation.”

**DR. MAGGIE BOSLEY ’14**

“What an incredible honor it is to be inducted into the Hall of Fame! Wofford was not only instrumental in my growth and development as a soccer player but also as a person. I am so proud to be a part of the Wofford community, and it means the world to be recognized for the time I spent there doing what I loved.”

**ROB GALLOWAY ’15**

“I’m really honored to be a part of this prestigious group of athletes. My experience at Wofford helped me in so many ways, from athletics to academics to building relationships. That experience has provided me a solid foundation as I navigate the ATP Tour and will no doubt serve me well in all my future endeavors.”

**KARL COCHRAN ’15**

“Malcolm X said, ‘There is nothing better than adversity. Every defeat, every heartbreak, every loss, contains its own seed, its own lesson on how to improve your performance next time.’ Throughout my career this became my creed, and instead of breaking under pressure I became malleable and let adversity turn me into something stronger; something better. Words can hardly express the emotion of being associated with the best of the best at Wofford College, and while this honor is a highlight in my life, I promise to continue to add to this legacy. Like a role model of mine frequently said, ‘The marathon continues,’ and my race is far from over.”

**FORREST LASSO ’15**

“Being inducted into the Hall of Fame means more to me than I can describe. I’ve tried putting it on paper, and no matter which words I choose or how I frame them, they simply just don’t cut it. I’m eternally grateful for everything Wofford did for me while I was in school and to my coaches, teammates, professors, friends and everyone else who pushed me, but also patiently waited and allowed me to learn, grow and develop into the player and man I am today — thank you!”
On May 30 Chiedza “Chie” Mushayamunda ’18 and Matthew Hooker were married amid the coronavirus chaos, and The New York Times included their story.

“My plans were completely changed, but my husband and I decided to get married anyway,” says Mushayamunda. According to The Times article, “The wedding was to have taken place at the Millennium Center in Winston-Salem, N.C., with more than 200 guests, including family and friends from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Australia, Canada and Britain.

“The couple, concerned mainly with the health and safety of their guests, were still married May 30. But the ceremony, and the reception, took place mostly with immediate family on the grounds of Summit School — a scenic outdoor space in Winston-Salem, and the school the bride attended through ninth grade.”

They were engaged in August 2019. Mushayamunda is a marketing specialist at Javara, a clinical research company based in Winston-Salem. She recently accepted an offer of admission to pursue an MBA at Wake Forest in the fall of 2021. Hooker began a judicial clerkship in August with Adam M. Conrad, a special superior court judge for complex business cases at the North Carolina business court in Charlotte.
HONORING THE CLASS OF 2020

Because of COVID-19, the Class of 2020 had their Commencement postponed then canceled with promises of a spring celebration. They received their official diplomas in May, but the college still wanted to send them something special to commemorate their accomplishment.

In September, each member of the class received a celebration in a box that included Commencement programs, a 2020 Bohemian, Little River Roasting coffee, a book of cocktail and mocktail recipes created for them by Wofford staff and faculty and their diploma cover with the following blessing inserted.

Blessing of the Graduates

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

May the blessing of God be upon you and all you love this day, and forever more.

Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Ronald R. Robinson ’78
PERKINS-PROTHRO CHAPLAIN & PROFESSOR OF RELIGION
In January 2020, Madison Walter-Garcia ’15 said yes to opportunity.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was mobilizing for COVID-19, which meant after five years of working with the organization — as an intern, ORISE Fellow, contractor and employee — Walter-Garcia would serve on her first response team.

A graduate of Emory University’s Rollins School of Public health with a master’s degree in public health in behavioral science and health education, Walter-Garcia was working as a public health analyst with the CDC’s Division of Global Health Protection. The day after receiving the invitation, she became the first CDC Foundation liaison for the CDC’s COVID-19 response.

Walter-Garcia’s work involved building systems from the ground up to ensure that public and private resources were funneled quickly to the areas of greatest need.

“Every response is unique, and I was responsible for developing the procedures and mechanisms to make sure we reviewed gifts quickly and efficiently,” says Walter-Garcia. “I worked with task forces and leadership to determine priorities for projects. I was able to grow so much in such a short span of time.”

Walter-Garcia say she thrived off the energy in the Emergency Operations Center in Atlanta and transitioning to full-time telework took some adjustment. She says the greatest personal benefits of her three months on the coronavirus response team were the connections, which have ultimately led her to her next career adventure at the CDC as a health policy analyst in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. In this role, she is also serving on the COVID-19 vaccine planning unit in policy and partnerships.

“I cannot overestimate the value of networking,” she says. “Every single opportunity I have been afforded has been due in part to my ability to network. … I try to make sure I have at least one networking coffee or lunch a month to expand my horizons and learn about others.”

One of Walter-Garcia’s favorite networking opportunities was with Catherine Hastings Zilber ’98, associate vice president for infectious disease programs at the CDC.

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2000

Lanecia Rouse Tinsley is an abstract artist based in Houston. She participated in “Come and See,” a virtual art show hosted by The Breath and The Clay, an art community that explores the intersections of art, faith and culture. Tinsley works with projectCURATE as co-spiritual director and consultant for the arts. She’s also co-founder/co-creative director of ImagiNoir Group, an international alliance and think tank of Black activists, artists, writers, scholars and educators.

2001

McCrorry Construction has named Allen Bridgers its president. Bridgers was previously vice president of business development at the company, a 102-year-old general contractor based in Columbia, S.C.

Catherine Baker married Jon Burbage on June 29, 2020 in Lincolnville, Maine. The couple’s wedding story and photos were published in Boston Magazine.

William McGirt returned to the PGA Tour in July after experiencing injuries, surgeries and rehab. He tied for 68th in the 2020 Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village in Dublin, Ohio. McGirt is a past winner of that tournament.

Ben Ross, co-founder Brackish Bow Ties, was recognized at the White House in the spring for donating nearly 3,000 cloth face masks to health care workers in South Carolina and at least nine other states. Ross and Jeff Plotner founded the company in 2012. Plotner was unable to attend the ceremony because of the birth of his third child.

2002

Lexington-Richland School District Five named Christian English principal at Seven Oaks Elementary MEDIA Magnet School in Irmo, S.C. English was previously assistant principal at Dutch Fork High School.

Shamika Martin Walls was named chief operating officer for CaringWorks, a Decatur, Ga.-based nonprofit focused on ending homelessness in metro Atlanta. Walls was previously director of administration and finance at the Morehouse School of Medicine.

2003

Jeb Stewart Carlisle was named a vice president with North Highland, a consulting firm. He is based in the firm’s Charlotte, N.C., office as a client executive.

Meghan McGowan Shaw and Chad Shaw welcomed a son, Easton McGowan Shaw, on Sept. 28, 2018.

Barton Keith Ledford was named chief technology officer for Fonteva in Arlington, Va. He was most recently director of technology for CodeScience.

2004

Courtney Parades Plotner and Jeff Plotner ’01 welcomed their third son, Tucker Harrison Plotner, on May 15, 2020. Tucker joins brothers Judson (4) and Barnes (2).

Brooks Yarborough Jr. was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the S.C. Army National Guard. He also has a career with Michelin North America. He lives in Gilbert, S.C., with his wife, Meredith, and children Michael Mae, Anna and West.

2005

Ashley Car Sims and her husband, Cole, welcomed their third child, Lydia Josephine “Josie” Sims, on May 20, 2020. She joins big brothers Colston (5) and Benjamin (3). The family lives in Asheville, N.C.

2006

The Spartanburg Herald-Journal profiled Howard Wilkerson in May for continuing his professional basketball career at age 37. Wilkerson is a leading scorer and rebounder for the Centro Español de Plotter in Argentina.

2008

Kinli Bare Abee and Matt Abee ’10 welcomed a daughter, Charlotte “Charli” Adams Abee, on Aug. 16. Charli was 8 pounds, 2 ounces and 21.5 inches long.

CLASS NOTES

MADISON WALTER-GARCIA ’15

THREE MONTHS ON THE CDC’S COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89

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“Every response is unique, and I was responsible for developing the procedures and mechanisms to make sure we reviewed gifts quickly and efficiently,” says Walter-Garcia. “I worked with task forces and leadership to determine priorities for projects. I was able to grow so much in such a short span of time.”

Walter-Garcia say she thrived off the energy in the Emergency Operations Center in Atlanta and transitioning to full-time telework took some adjustment. She says the greatest personal benefits of her three months on the coronavirus response team were the connections, which have ultimately led her to her next career adventure at the CDC as a health policy analyst in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. In this role, she is also serving on the COVID-19 vaccine planning unit in policy and partnerships.

“I cannot overestimate the value of networking,” she says. “Every single opportunity I have been afforded has been due in part to my ability to network. … I try to make sure I have at least one networking coffee or lunch a month to expand my horizons and learn about others.”

One of Walter-Garcia’s favorite networking opportunities was with Catherine Hastings Zilber ’98, associate vice president for infectious disease programs at the CDC.
Mary Patton Parks Anderson recently graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine with a master’s in nurse anesthesia. She has accepted a position as a CRNA at Anesthesiology of Greenwood, S.C., where she and her husband, Jennings, live.

2011

Bo Bryan and his wife, Frances Ellerbe Bryan, welcomed daughter Blanche Anne Bryan on Aug. 18. Blanche’s grandfather Thomas C. Bryan II ’73 is also a Terrier.

Brittani Minnieweather McElveen and Derek Michael McElveen welcomed a daughter, Michael-Hope, on April 30, 2020.


2012

Eric Breitenstein recently accepted a job as a science teacher and assistant football coach at his high school in Boone, N.C. Breitenstein is the only second Terrier — after former head coach Mike Ayers — named to the Southern Conference Hall of Fame.


Jennifer Lynn Fisher is a consultant at MotionMobs, a software development firm based in Birmingham, Ala. She has been involved with communicating with businesses on how to use a new COVID-19 exposure notification app. The firm is building the app in collaboration with the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

2013

Lizzie Kyser Frantz has joined Moore Beauston & Woodham as a senior accountant in the tax and consulting firm’s Charleston, S.C., office. Frantz, a certified public accountant, earned a master of professional accountancy and taxation from Clemson University.

2015

Amelia Bryn Furbish graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina in May of 2020, earning a doctor of pharmacy. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in biomedical science at MUSC.

2016

Matthew John Millburn reflected on life in the Minor Leagues, including a canceled 2020 season, with the Spartanburg Herald-Journal in a June 4, 2020, story. He’s a starting pitcher in the Oakland Athletics’ farm system with the Midlands RockHounds in Midland, Texas.

2017

Ellie Varn and Rob Greene were married May 30, 2020, in Spartanburg.

2018

Ellie MacBride Donohue graduated from the Fox School of Business at Temple University in May with a Master of Science in hospitality management.

Catherine Ann Earley graduated in 2020 with an M.A. in art history from the University of Georgia. She is a sales associate with SOCO Gallery in Charlotte, N.C.

Gabby Boniface Lacey and Walden Lacey were married April 25, 2020 in Moore, S.C. The couple lives in Greenville, S.C.

2019

Cam Jackson completed his first professional basketball season in Germany’s Basketball Bundesliga League. His team in Ludwigsburg placed second in the playoffs.

Thad Mangum, a defensive lineman on the Terriers football team, transferred to use a sixth year of eligibility at the University of South Florida.

Catherine Watson and John Bradley were married Aug. 1, 2020, at Shandon United Methodist Church in Columbia, S.C. Watson is a financial analyst with OTO Development in Spartanburg. The couple lives in Greenville, S.C.

Foundation. When Walter-Garcia saw Zilber’s feature in Wofford Today, she found her email and reached out asking for a meeting.

“She graciously said yes, and we spent a wonderful lunch chatting about my professional development and her work at the CDC Foundation. Fast-forward two years later; I am now in a role where I interact with the CDC Foundation and Catherine daily, and my conversation with her was one of the many factors that emphasize to me the importance of partnerships in public health.”

Walter-Garcia lives in Atlanta with her husband, Jacolvy Garcia ’15, a financial education program coordinator with Atlanta Habitat for Humanity.
2019

Caroline Maas and Zachary Rue were married May 16, 2020, in Columbia, S.C. She is pursuing a master’s degree in English literature at Clemson University. The couple lives in Greenville, S.C.

2020

Josh Burger transferred to Texas Tech University for a final year of eligibility and graduate school. Burger played right tackle for the Terriers and earned all-conference honors his sophomore and junior seasons. He was an All-American after his sophomore season.

Two Terriers happened to find themselves in the same cohort as Americorps VISTAs after their plans to volunteer abroad were delayed. Lydia Estes and Kendall Weaver are both in Greenville, S.C., and decided to become roommates. Their paths often crossed at Wofford. Both were finalists for the Richardson Family Scholarship and were selected as Presidential International Scholars.

The Seattle Mariners signed Brett Rodriguez to a free agent baseball contract. He’s the Terriers’ all-time leader in stolen bases. He started all 61 games his junior season and batted .324. He was all-conference.

Turner Bryant is pursuing a master of engineering focused in engineering physics at Cornell University.

FRIENDS

Russell Booker recently retired as superintendent of Spartanburg School District 7, but he remains active in the education field in Spartanburg County. He and his wife, Sheryl McClerklin Booker ’92, have started One Acorn, a consulting agency, to provide leadership training, diversity, equity and inclusion strategy. He is also the executive director of the Spartanburg Academic Movement.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Deirdre Coleman, assistant professor of mathematics, has been awarded a Mathematical Association of America National Research Experience for Undergraduates Program Grant. In addition, her research group had one of their papers accepted for publication: “The Periodicity of Nim-Sequences in Two-Element Subtraction Games, Integers 20 (2020).”

Dr. Rachel Grotheer, assistant professor of mathematics, had the following accepted for publication by the journal Inverse Problems and Imaging: “Stochastic greedy algorithms for multiple measurement vectors.”

Dr. Kirsten Krick-Aigner, professor of German, received a grant from the Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies to present a paper on the panel “Age, Agency, and Agencies and the Migration of Austrian Children and Youth to the U.S.” at the October 2020 German Studies Association conference. She conducted research into the life of Jewish Austrian refugee Marianne Winter during her sabbatical and wrote “Marianne Selinger’s Journey from Vienna to the U.S.: How an Epistolary Friendship Led to Emigration and the Reshaping of Identity.” Her shorter talk, now to be held at the virtual GSA conference, will be published as a longer research paper in the Botstiber Journal.

Dr. Anne Rodrick, professor of history, had a book review of Lawrence Goldman’s “Welfare and Social Policy in Britain since 1870: Essays in Honour of Jose Harris” appear on H-Albion in June.

HELP WOFFORD RECRUIT FUTURE TERRIERS!

Because of COVID-19, admission visits are limited this fall. You can help by sharing your Wofford stories, encouraging high school students to consider Wofford or contacting the Office of Admission with the names of prospective students.

Email Admission@wofford.edu or visit wofford.edu/admission for more information.

#whywofford ... because we have the best alumni network!
Casey Geiger ’16 didn’t expect her senior Interim course on yoga to become the foundation of her wellness journey.

“My mental health journey started with Wofford’s counseling services,” says Geiger, who was diagnosed with depression and anxiety in her senior year. Perry Vandiver Henson ’96, director of counseling and accessibility services for Wofford, worked with Geiger to create a treatment plan. “We discussed a number of skills, such as mindfulness and meditation. I realized I had already been in a type of treatment through my Interim class on yoga.”

After Wofford, Geiger moved to Raleigh, N.C., where she continued to make mental health a priority, finding a yoga studio and continuing her connection with Henson. Geiger, however, quickly noted a lack of diversity in yoga and the wellness industry as a whole.

“Yoga has had a profound impact on my life and mental well-being,” she says, “but I realized that, much like therapy, it’s a privilege.” Fueled by a desire to make yoga accessible to a broader audience, Geiger decided to become an instructor herself. Her Wofford community supported her in a number of ways, including contributing to a crowdsourced fund for teacher training. “Wofford played a big part in my ability to teach. So many of the people who donated to the fund were classmates, especially ones who took the yoga course with me.”

Today, the Raleigh-based yogi is a senior digital strategist at Ruffalo Noel Levitz, a higher education marketing firm, and an instructor at Current Wellness, a wellness facility centering physical and mental health. Using social media, Geiger shares her wellness journey with followers in an effort to destigmatize mental health treatment, just as Henson did for her at Wofford.

Geiger says, “I often think, ‘What if I hadn’t gone to Wofford? What if I hadn’t taken that class?’ Wofford prepared me for the world and shaped who I am today and who I see myself becoming in the future.”
IN MEMORIAM

1940

Dr. George Butler Richardson, July 26, 2020, Florence, S.C. Richardson lived to be 102 and practiced dentistry for 68 years. He retired at the age of 94. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and was stationed at 168th General Hospital in Normandy. He traveled to Europe on the Queen Elizabeth and enjoyed games of bridge and once found himself seated at a table next to Winston Churchill. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Florence and served on the board of the Thornwell Home for Children. Memorials may be made to Wofford College, Office of Advancement, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

1948

Dr. Joseph Vernon Jeffords, May 23, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Shortly after enrolling at Wofford, Jeffords volunteered for service in the U.S. Navy Reserve Medical Corps. He served at the Naval Medical Center in Washington, D.C., before receiving sea duty as a medic on the USS Opponent in the Pacific Theater. He returned to Wofford after being discharged. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and earned a medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. He was a charter member of MUSC's chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. Jeffords was active in many medical societies and held leadership positions. He worked in private practice as a surgeon for many years in Spartanburg. He also represented Spartanburg Regional’s medical staff for 21 years on the health system’s board of trustees.

1950

Eugene Clarence “Gene” Tabbot, Aug. 4, 2020, Boiling Springs, S.C. Tabbot enrolled at Wofford College after World War II. He was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving in the China, Burma and India theater. Tabbot flew combat missions throughout the campaign and transported personnel and supplies across Japanese lines. After the war ended, he picked up POWs in Hanoi from Japanese prison camps. He was a longtime educator in Spartanburg County and was named principal of the year two consecutive years.

Charles Faber “Charlie” West Jr., July 15, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. West was a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. He served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Following his retirement from the military, he worked with Bryson Chevrolet, Steris and volunteered as a tutor with Spartanburg School District 7. Memorials in his honor may be made to the Wofford College Scholarship Fund, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

1951

John Fleming, May 17, 2020, Augusta, Ga. Fleming was second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and was awarded a Purple Heart after service in the Korean War. He earned a law degree from the University of Georgia. Fleming also served as a medic in Europe during World War II. He later became a successful businessman in Spartanburg, S.C.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

SPEAKERS CHALLENGE WOFFORD
WITH A RANGE OF IDEAS

by Dr. Phillip Stone ’94, college archivist

Presidents Woodrow Wilson, Gerald R. Ford and George H. W. Bush. George Washington Carver. Robert Frost. Carl Sandburg. Seamus Heaney. What do these individuals have in common? They have all spoken at Wofford College.

A great benefit of being in college is the opportunity to hear, engage with and learn from guest speakers. Throughout its history, Wofford has played host to numerous famous, interesting and sometimes controversial speakers, from entertainers to educators, from religious figures to presidential candidates. Here are four who stand out for one reason or another.

Perhaps one of the more unlikely and more interesting speakers to come to campus, given the era in which he lived, was Dr. George Washington Carver. He spoke to the student body in chapel at some point in December 1923, as recorded in an exchange of letters with President Henry Nelson Snyder. Carver wrote to Snyder to thank him for the “warm and sympathetic reception that I received at your college.” He continued, “It was a source of inspiration and pleasure to meet such a fine body of students, as well as members of the faculty. I shall not soon forget the very warm reception.” He also, in a handwritten note at the bottom of the letter, asked for a copy of any article from the Old Gold and Black student newspaper about his visit. Snyder wrote back to Carver, as one educator to another, to say, “You pleased our students immensely, and they felt greatly instructed by the experience of the hour which you gave them.”

On March 14, 1950, students, faculty and residents of Spartanburg were treated to an evening with acclaimed poet Robert Frost in Leonard Auditorium. Frost, who had spoken at Wofford the previous year, lectured on the topic of “Politics and Poetry.” Perhaps the most memorable part of the evening happened because Dr. Bill Hunter, the chair of the English department, had invited Carl Sandburg, who lived in nearby Flat Rock, N.C., to attend as well. Frost was irritated by Sandburg’s appearance, thinking the latter had appeared to show him up. Hunter never did admit that he’d extended the invitation, though he did acknowledge Sandburg’s presence in the audience. Frost mentioned Sandburg in his remarks, to which Sandburg’s voice could be heard to say, “I live on a high mountain 40 miles from here,” to which Frost replied, “You live on a high mountain? Is it a higher mountain than mine?”

While two future presidents and quite a few presidential candidates have made appearances on campus, only once has a former president spoken in Leonard Auditorium. On April 15, 1980, former President Gerald R. Ford was on campus, giving two guest lectures to classes in Shipp Hall Lounge and speaking to a campus convocation in Leonard. Ford spoke about the dangers of government by nostalgia and government by
degree from the University of Georgia. The former Terrier football player also enjoyed being a college football referee in the Southeastern Conference. He was an active member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Memorials may be made to the Terrier Club at Wofford College, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

**1952**

Dr. Henry Grace Kelley Jr., June 6, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Kelley was a prominent cardiothoracic surgeon. He founded the open heart program at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center in 1981. The auditorium in the hospital’s heart center is named in his honor. While serving in the U.S. Navy, he was chief of surgery at Station Hospital in Port Hueneme, Calif. Kelley was an Eagle Scout, licensed pilot, hunter and fisherman.

**1953**

Robert Timothy Barham, July 22, 2020, West Columbia, S.C. Barham enjoyed a long career at Columbia College beginning in 1958. It began as a student recruiter and led to him becoming vice president of business administration and finance. He was credited with helping the campus rebuild after a 1964 fire. He spent his last decade at the college as the director of planned giving.

James Wesley “Wes” Floyd, May 24, 2020, Lake City, S.C. Floyd worked in Florence County School District III for 28 years. He also served on the City Council of Lake City and was a lifelong member of Lake City United Methodist Church.

**1954**

Dr. Ansel Bobo McMakin Jr., May 26, 2020, Greenville, S.C. McMakin earned a master’s degree from the University of Tennessee and a doctoral degree from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. After serving in the military, he worked with the Greenville County School District. He was a longtime member of Northside United Methodist Church.

**1956**

Hubert “Hugo” Hodgin, May 24, 2020, East Greenwich, R.I. Hodgin earned a doctor of theology from Duke University's Divinity School. He served for many years as a minister but became discouraged by limitations he encountered when speaking against racial injustice and the Vietnam War. This led him to leave the ministry while remaining committed to his faith. He earned a second doctorate in adult education from North Carolina State University. He transitioned to work in the North Carolina community college system, first as a sociology teacher and for many years as vice president of Davidson County Community College. He volunteered and served on civic boards in Lexington, N.C. He was a deacon at Grace Episcopal Church.

Alumni of the 1950s and 1960s probably don’t remember most of the speakers they heard in chapel. However, it’s likely that nobody who heard or saw Karla LaVey speak in Leonard Auditorium in March 1973 will ever forget it. Perhaps some college staff members will never forget the overwhelming reaction to her from alumni and friends of the college. LaVey, a self-professed witch, spoke as part of a lecture series on “Religious Experience of 20th Century Man.” The daughter of Church of Satan founder Anton LaVey, she spoke about her belief in indulgence rather than abstinence. The Old Gold and Black noted that some 800 people filled Leonard Auditorium to see and hear LaVey, who, during her remarks, fielded pointed questions. One member of the audience tried to cast out her demon before he was escorted out. The Old Gold and Black concluded, “Most students felt that Ms. LaVey elaborated on ‘basic human nature’ and enjoyed her visit.” Many administrators did not enjoy the flurry of letters, many from Methodist churches, some from alumni and a few from area residents, that condemned the college for hosting the talk. One administrator later said that LaVey was the most expensive speaker the college ever had because of the number of wills that got changed as a result. Still, it was probably one of the more memorable lectures ever presented at Wofford.
1957
David “Dave” Stuart, Aug. 6, 2020, Lexington, S.C. Stuart was an Eagle Scout. He owned David Stuart Insurance Agency in Greenwood. He was a member of Main Street United Methodist Church and served on many committees. He was active with the Greenwood Lions Club and supported American Legion Post 20 Baseball and Greenwood High School football.

William Finley “Bill” Stokes Jr., May 23, 2020, Hendersonville, N.C. Stokes served in the U.S. Army Reserves and established several businesses. He had a long career with insurance agencies. Stokes, an avid golfer, helped start a maintenance and design company for golf courses. At his death, he was president of Signal Insurance Group in Greenville, S.C., with his daughter.

1958
Albert Edison “Al” Ward, May 26, 2020, Rock Hill, S.C. Ward served in the U.S. Army and traveled across Europe during his service. He worked with Springs Industries in research and developed Tryst Fabric, a flame-retardant fabric used in children’s pajamas. He also worked with the ThermalKem Waste Treatment Plant. He enjoyed time in the woods and had a passion for American chestnut trees. He took a cherry blossom branch from the White House and was able to root it into a thriving tree.

1960
Emory Carlton Bowyer, May 23, 2020, Virginia Beach, Va. Bowyer earned a Master of Science degree in education from Old Dominion University. He was a past member of the Alumni Association’s board of directors. Bowyer arrived in Virginia Beach in 1960 to teach and serve as head football coach for Virginia Beach High School. He held several administrative positions with Virginia Beach City Public Schools before becoming its superintendent.

1961

1962
Carl Eugene “Gene” Berry Jr., July 21, 2020, Batesburg, S.C. Berry returned home after graduating from Wofford and taught chemistry and physics at Batesburg-Leesville High School. In retirement, he operated Berry’s Nursery, where his prime interest was cultivating orchids, camellias and tropical plants. He also owned Windy Hill Farms, and there enjoyed hunting, fishing, wildlife management, land conservation, gardening, horticulture and hosting scouting events. He was an Eagle Scout. Berry was a member of Leesville United Methodist Church and served as director of music for many years. He served on and chaired the Batesburg-Leesville Planning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority. He assisted in the organization of the Ridge Choral Society and performed with the group at Carnegie Hall and toured Russia.

Crawford Edward Foy Jr., Aug. 9, 2020, Columbia, S.C. Foy served in the U.S. Navy after graduating from dental school. After Vietnam, he operated a private dental practice in Monterey, Calif., for nearly 30 years. He returned to his hometown of Columbia in 2014. He had many groups of friends and was active in Rotary Clubs in Monterey and Columbia. Memorials may be made to Wofford College, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

1963

1964
James Franklin “Jim Frank” Henderson Jr., Aug. 2, 2020, Rotunda West, Fla. Henderson served as the president and economic developer for the Laurinburg and Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce in North Carolina for 20 years.

THE HON. CLYDE HAMILTON ’56
SEPT. 2, 2020, COLUMBIA, S.C.

Four Wofford College graduates have served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the nation’s second-highest court. The longest-serving justice, the Hon. Clyde Hamilton ’56, died on Sept. 2, 2020, in Columbia, S.C.

Hamilton took the oath to serve the court in August 1991 by placing his right hand on the Bible given to him by the college at Commencement in 1956. He worked his way through Wofford, and his obituary lists his favorite campus job as “bell ringer,” which involved ringing the college’s 700-pound bell to signal the beginning and ending of classes.
1967

Charlie Linwood Fowler II, July 15, 2020, Summerville, S.C. Fowler served two years in the U.S. Navy. He worked as a salesman and plant manager for several concrete companies between 1978 and 2016. Fowler, a captain of the Terriers tennis team, was a tennis pro at the George Miller Country Club in Summerville. He was a member of Bethany United Methodist.

Ferrell Lafayette “Larry” Holley Jr., May 12, 2020, Aiken, S.C. Holley earned a master’s in business administration from the University of South Carolina. He served in the U.S. Army and did a tour in Vietnam, receiving a Bronze Star for his service. He joined Hutson-Etheridge in 1971 and remained with the independent insurance agency for 49 years, ultimately serving as president.

Huston Ira Huffman, July 25, 2020, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Huffman had an extensive career in engineering and management in the textile, paper and ink manufacturing industries. After spending several years managing plants, he began operating his own general contracting firm. He spent his retirement years in the Myrtle Beach area and served a term on the town council for Briarcliffe Acres before being elected to two terms as mayor. He obtained his pilot’s license, taught astronomy and enjoyed making wine. He was a member of Mensa.

1968


Charles Richard “Chuck” LeGette, July 19, 2020, Charleston, S.C. LeGette had a lifelong passion for music that began after he attended his first concert at 11 when he saw Buddy Holly. He was known as “Mr. Entertainment” as a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at Wofford. A few of the legendary acts that he saw perform were Sam Cooke, Wilson Pickett, Otis Redding, The Tams, The Four Tops, Elvis, Tom Petty, Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, Chuck Berry, The Rolling Stones and Willie Nelson.

1969

William Noland “Bill” Smith Jr., May 12, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Smith held management positions in banking and the furniture industries during his career. In recent years, he worked as a realtor. He had a passion for aviation and achieved his pilot’s license.

1970

Dr. Wayne Laverne McLemore, July 20, 2020, Morristown, Tenn. McLemore graduated from the Medical College of Virginia and completed an internship at the University of Oregon and a surgical residency at the University of Texas, San Antonio, before spending 40 years as an orthopedic surgeon in East Tennessee.

Col. Gabriel Rouquie, June 3, 2020, Suffolk, Va. Rouquie retired from the U.S. Army after 28 years of service. He received numerous awards and decorations. He was an Eagle Scout and earned a master’s degree from the University of South Carolina. After retiring from the military, he worked as a program manager and operations research analyst for Cubic Corp., Northrup Grumman and the Phoenix Group.

1971

William Congreve “Buzz” Jackson III, May 4, 2020, Greensboro, N.C. He earned a master’s in business administration from Wake Forest University. Jackson was a senior vice president of special assets for New Bridge Bank. While living in his hometown of Aiken, S.C., he was president of Jackson Petroleum and served on the city planning commission. He was active with the Aiken Symphony Guild and Aiken Rotary Club.

Rev. Richard Benson “Rick” King, July 10, 2020, Paris, Tenn. King earned a master’s of divinity from Emory University and did his post-master’s work at Wesley Theological Seminary. He was a longtime pastor with the Memphis Conference of the United Methodist Church. He actively worked with local government to help open the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Hardeman County. He performed with numerous choirs and theater productions.
James Thomas Schofield, July 18, 2020, Florence, S.C. Schofield served as chairman of the board and CEO of Carolina Supply House Inc. He was a licensed real estate broker and the former owner and operator of The Heritage Inn & Restaurant. His dedicated service to Florence included being a state constable, a city councilman and chair of the Florence County Council.

George Wilson “Pudge” Tate Jr., May 29, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Tate’s 48-year career included time with Milliken & Co. and IH Services. He founded Executive Quality Management and served on the board of the Safe Homes Rape Crisis Coalition.

James Lewis “Jim” Wilmer, March 15, 2020, Stokesdale, N.C. Wilmer earned a Ph.D. from Cornell University in environmental toxicology. He was a research scientist and received recognition from his employers over the years.

Rev. Dr. Robert Norris Burkins Sr., May 1, 2020, Simpsonville, S.C. Burkins most recently served as senior pastor at Reedy River Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, S.C. Before that he was pastor of Cleveland Chapel Baptist Church in Spartanburg; Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange, N.J.; and Woodlawn Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Fla. Under his leadership, Elmwood became one of the largest African American Presbyterian churches in the United States.


Michael Wren “Mike” Taylor, Aug. 5, 2020, Rutherfordton, N.C. Taylor was passionate about Wofford football and basketball. He attended many home and away games, including NCAA Tournament appearances. He was known as “Mr. First Down” during

When Lucy Strausbaugh Woodhouse ’90 returned to Wofford to serve as the director of Lifelong Learning at Wofford, the world was facing a pandemic. Spring classes were canceled, and she had to work remotely during her first months. She, however, had been charged with taking the college’s relatively new program to the next level in terms of enrollment and volunteer involvement.

“It would have been easy to cancel summer classes then wait out COVID-19, but our new director and faithful lifelong learning volunteers had other plans,” says Dr. David Wood, senior vice president for advancement. “Lifelong Learning at Wofford is thriving in spite of the challenges.”

Expanding the volunteer base was a priority for Woodhouse. She rallied instructors and committee members around the program’s inaugural summer term, offered virtually, and organized and marketed a hybrid fall term. In the meantime, she distributed 20 weeks of online learning resources to area lifelong learners to keep them engaged while quarantining and social distancing. She and a newly created volunteer Tech Team even offered classes on how to use Zoom so Lifelong Learning members and instructors could be ready for an uncertain fall.

“The program has adapted to the moment and members are banding together during these challenging times,” Woodhouse says. “The number of committees, course offerings and their memberships have doubled as members find ways to get involved and keep engaged during the social isolation.”

Fall programming began in early September, but membership includes a variety of virtual gatherings throughout the year: wine and book clubs, happy hours, book and movie shares, takeout and talks, virtual tours and a roundtable lunch series.

“It’s well worth the $50 annual membership fee to be a part of this creative community of learners,” says Woodhouse.

Visit wofford.edu/advancement/lifelong-learning to become an annual member. The perks of membership include first dibs on course registration as well as special one-time events and seminars throughout the year.
football season. He worked in banking and as an insurance adjuster before retiring. He served many years as chairman of the ABC board in Rutherfordton.

1985
Marshall Randolph Martin, March 25, 2020, Loveland, Colo. Martin earned a MBA from North Carolina State University. He worked as a quality systems consultant in the pharmaceutical industry.

1990
William Gordon “Gee” Burnett Jr., June 24, 2020, Tampa, Fla. Burnett was active with civic groups and a member of Advent United Methodist Church.

1999
Jason King Sloan, May 2, 2020, Brentwood, Tenn. Sloan was senior director of treasury for Asurion Corp., in Nashville, Tenn. He was an avid soccer fan and was a member of the Memphis Football Club and Manchester United Fans of Middle Tennessee.

2023
Robert Edwin Gaddy Myers, June 9, 2020, Raleigh, N.C. A rising sophomore at Wofford when he withdrew from the college, Myers was planning to major in economics and finance. He enjoyed following the stock market and investing. He also enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, grilling, playing lacrosse and audiobooks.

FRIENDS
Susan Calvert, July 3, 2020, Inman, S.C. Calvert was Wofford College’s first female Campus Safety officer. She served the campus for 25 years.

Dr. Kate Elizabeth Smith, July 11, 2020, Turbeville, S.C. Smith served on the Wofford College Board of Trustees from 1982-1990. She graduated from the University of South Carolina and was one of four women in her class at the Medical College of South Carolina. She practiced medicine in her hometown of Turbeville for nearly 60 years.

"These are unprecedented times." And unprecedented times call for unprecedented generosity.

Those first four words were the inspiration behind a letter that Steven Mungo ’81, a Wofford trustee and president and CEO of the Mungo Company in Columbia, S.C., sent over the summer asking loyal Wofford contributors to dig deep in support of current students and families affected by the pandemic.

According to Carolyn Sparks, associate vice president for admission and director of financial aid, the ForWoffordStudents-2020 mini-campaign yielded $450,659, which was distributed among 100 students in awards ranging from $600 to $10,000.

“A significant number of incoming and returning Wofford students have had an unfavorable change in their family economic situation, putting them at risk of not being able to attend or return in the fall,” wrote Mungo. “Wofford is a family as much as a college. ... I’d like to ask you to join me in helping these students stay part of the Wofford family.” Wofford students were given the opportunity to apply for the ForWoffordStudents-2020 scholarships over the summer. This college-based support was in addition to federal CARES Act funding distributed by the college in the spring.

The initiative worked. Wofford enrolled its largest and most selective class in the college’s history, and retention for returning students topped 90%.

The Mungos personally committed the lead gift of $50,000 to the campaign. The majority of support came from members of the Wofford College Board of Trustees.

“This is another example of how Wofford alumni, trustees and friends of the college are committed to our students,” says Dr. David Wood, senior vice president for advancement. “All colleges and universities have faced challenges since the spring. Wofford remains fiscally strong thanks to good leadership and planning as well as support from people like the Mungos.”
The competition may be gone for the fall semester, but the need remains.

Wofford College student-athletes are still conditioning, practicing and preparing to represent the college. They’re attending classes and finding ways to remain involved in the community, and they still need your support.

A fun way to support them this month is by participating in the

**Online Terrier Ball Auction, October 19-23, 2020.**

Follow the Terrier Club on Facebook and Instagram to follow the auction, enjoy throwback photos of fans and learn more about Wofford’s student-athletes!

Visit [wofford.edu/terrier-club](wofford.edu/terrier-club) for more information.
Even if you can’t visit the campus right now, you can still keep in touch.

Follow the college’s official Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.

@woffordcollege

Also look for weekly Conquer and Prevail e-newsletters. If you’re not receiving those and would like to, email woffordtoday@wofford.edu.