In the face of the challenges presented by COVID-19, Wofford College student-athletes such as Alexis Tomlin ’22, a biology major from Myrtle Beach, S.C., and other members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Council knew they would have to change how they connected with the community. A solution came when Spartanburg elementary schools reached out and requested that Wofford student-athletes record themselves reading some of their favorite children’s books. The initiative is called Story Time with the Terriers, and according to Tomlin, a member of the women’s basketball team, it’s a hit. Read more online.
We made it through an uncertain semester, and I would like to extend a special thanks to the many students, staff and faculty who adapted, sacrificed and prioritized our community’s health and the college’s rigorous academic program to ensure that we could complete the fall largely in person. We did it together, and I could not be prouder!

One of the things we all missed this fall was the opportunity to cheer on our athletics teams. About one in five students at Wofford is a Division I student-athlete, and celebrating our student-athletes for their classroom excellence, community leadership, and resilience and determination on the playing field is a part of what makes Wofford special. This year marks the 25th anniversary of NCAA Division I athletics at Wofford College. The college rose to the vision and challenges of that move — in funding, facilities, recruitment and competitiveness — all while keeping the emphasis on the student in student-athlete. Read more about the DI era at Wofford in a special feature written by Brent Williamson, our associate athletics director for media relations.

This issue of Wofford Today also includes stories on the impact of campus construction projects, trustee engagement and Wofford alumni who are making their communities better places to live and work. If you know of a graduate who we should feature in Wofford Today, please share. We are always eager to tell the stories of Terriers doing well and doing good. Email your ideas to WoffordToday@wofford.edu.

Thank you for your continued support of Wofford College.

Go Terriers!

Nayef H. Samhat
11TH PRESIDENT OF WOFFORD COLLEGE
Where thought leads.
Dr. Victoria Gilbert, assistant professor of government and international affairs, teaches the Middle East Politics class. “We were discussing different perspectives on the role of nuclear weapons in world politics and the debate on whether or not a world with more nukes is more stable or more dangerous,” says Gilbert, who has taught her classes outside all semester. “We then considered what these perspectives could tell us about nuclear weapons in the Middle East and how this helps us understand Iran’s interest in nuclear weapons and why other states don’t want Iran to have the bomb. The class also discussed and critiqued U.S. rhetoric on Iran’s nuclear program.”
MATH TEAS GO VIRTUAL DURING PANDEMIC

For the past six years, Wofford’s Department of Mathematics has hosted small get-togethers for students and professors called Math Teas. The events are continuing, but the gatherings are virtual. The new online environment has opened the door for new ideas. The most recent was a virtual escape room.

Read more online.

WAITING FOR GODOT

This fall, while many theatres around the globe remain shuttered with uncertain futures because of the global pandemic, Wofford’s Theatre Department returned to the stage with a production of “Waiting for Godot” by Nobel Prize-winning playwright Samuel Beckett. The production was open only to students, faculty and staff.

Read more online.

WOFFORD RANKS NO. 9 IN STUDY-ABROAD PARTICIPATION

Wofford is consistently one of the highest-ranked study abroad programs in the country. Again this year, the Institute of International Education’s Open Doors Report ranks the college No. 9 in the percentage of students studying abroad for academic credit, No. 12 for short-term study abroad and No. 13 for the total number of students studying abroad among baccalaureate institutions.

Read more online.

SHARED EXPERIENCES

For the past three years, Dr. Christine Dinkins and Dr. Laura Barbas Rhoden, along with a team of Wofford students, have spent their summers conducting research to better understand the Latinx community and how Latinx students spend time outside of school. Now they have developed a podcast to share research findings.

Read more online.
HONORING VETERANS

In recent years, Wofford has celebrated Veterans Day the weekend of the college’s Salute to Service football game in November. Football is delayed until the spring because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but the college’s ROTC program ensured that veterans were remembered with the recording of a 15-minute ceremony. Main Building was also lit in red, white and blue lights for the occasion.

Read more online.

WOFFORD VOTES

(From left) Woods Wooten ’23, Sadie Fink ’20 and Jurnee Jones ’21 voted early, but they took to the polls again on Election Day. They gave away doughnuts to encourage voters waiting in long lines to stay the course. The students were all active in the Wofford Votes initiative.

Read more online.

WOFFORD JOINS LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES RACIAL EQUITY LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

Wofford is one of 51 higher education institutions that are inaugural members of LACRELA. This places the college in a cohort that will communicate in a unified voice to policymakers, journalists and other audiences with regard to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.

Read more online.
In the spring, ENVS 151 (now ENVS 160/Sustainability Science) was supposed to kayak Lake Bowen to learn about Wofford’s drinking water source. ENVS 101 was supposed to kayak the upper shoals at Glendale to discover the area’s natural history. Both experiences were canceled because of COVID-19. This fall, Dr. Amy Telligman, assistant professor of environmental studies, and Dr. Kaye Savage, professor and director of the Goodall Environmental Studies Center, offered a make-up trip to Lawson’s Fork Creek in Glendale. On the paddle were (from left) Adrianne Thackery ’22 (out of frame), Aniah Kaltz ’22, Savage, Telligman, Drew Wilson ’23, Connor Crosier ’23 and Bob Hathcock, the kayak guide.
A
BOLD
MOVE
AND THE RIGHT MOVE

WOFFORD AND 25 YEARS
OF NCAA DIVISION I ATHLETICS
AND ACADEMICS
In 1993, Wofford was ready to make a bold move.

Much of the 1980s had been spent trying to find a home for the athletics program, as life in the NAIA was becoming a bigger challenge each season. Scheduling was a constant struggle and finding opponents that could be considered peer institutions in the classroom was an issue, which made for an uneven playing field.

“The academics and athletics programs should be complementary,” says Harold Chandler ’71, trustee emeritus. “Success in one should reflect on the outcomes you see in the other.”

Chandler was heavily involved in 1987 when college leaders began a new strategic planning task force to improve quality. The athletics program was one of the topics of research and discussion. Joining the NCAA would mean consistent academic standards, but it would also mean the commitment of additional financial resources and facilities as well as conference alignment.

“The reason for the move was academic,” says Dr. Danny Morrison ’75, executive director of the Charlotte Sports Foundation and a current Wofford trustee. Morrison served as director of athletics at Wofford from 1985 through 1996. “At the time, the NAIA really did not have the same minimum academic standards that the NCAA did. We felt like the most parallel track with the NAIA at the time was NCAA Division II. We knew we might stay Division II for a long time, but we also knew that it was our foray into the NCAA. Then we would be in a position to move within the NCAA.”

Wofford enjoyed several years of moderate success at the NCAA Division II level as an independent. The Terriers made the playoffs in football and men’s and women’s basketball. The college was following the “To Improve Quality” strategic plan, launched in 1987. That plan called for the college to revisit athletics planning in five years. In December 1992, the Board of Trustees created the Athletic Planning Team, which was later named the Athletic Task Force. This group was composed of trustees, faculty, athletics staff, students and community members.
They presented their findings the following May (1993).

“We had a really broad-based committee that looked at everything,” says Morrison. “Early on there was some sense that maybe Division III would be a good fit because of the number of smaller private colleges and universities there, but we also looked at geography, marketing, national exposure and non-scholarship versus scholarship.”

After reviewing the pros and cons of each division, it was the overwhelming consensus of the task force that Division I would “provide as much stability in our athletic picture as possible” (from the final task force report).

“I wish I could tell you that I was clairvoyant, and we would end up in Division I-AA, but I really didn’t know. Frankly, I wanted us to be there,” says Dr. Joe Lesesne, Wofford’s president from 1972 to 2000.

“The deciding factor was alignment with similar schools academically,” recalls Crystal Sharpe, a member of the task force and the women’s basketball coach at Wofford from 1984 until 1995. “The men’s basketball team had been very successful at Division II, and the women’s team made the playoffs and hung a banner as well shortly after the decision was made. Still, it was an academics decision more than an athletics decision.”

The final report from the Athletic Task Force included seven recommendations for a successful move to DI, including adding women’s soccer, women’s golf and outdoor track; building a wellness center; creating a full-time position for an intramural director; improving athletics facilities; and increasing funding for Title IX compliance.

“It was a very bold recommendation at the time,” says Morrison. “We still didn’t have the facilities that we would need, and we really didn’t have the funding that we would need, and yet, we had some really talented coaches, some committed staff and generous supporters who understood what we were trying to do. They made it all possible.”

Lesesne jokes that Morrison gives him too much credit. “It was bold, but I had a lot of other people in the boat with me. I knew that the future chairman of the Board of Trustees Harold Chandler ’71 and Jerry Richardson ’59, also a trustee at the time, weren’t going to leave the college in a bad place.”

The Board of Trustees approved the move and a three-year implementation plan that would end with Wofford competing in NCAA Division I athletics starting in the fall of 1995. The hurdles related to facilities, scholarships and conference affiliation remained in place, but not for long. Richardson was awarded an NFL franchise. An opening in the Southern Conference became available, and Homozel Mickel Daniel left the college a $12.5 million estate gift that launched the Daniel Challenge for endowed scholarships. With those coinciding events, Wofford was suddenly in position to see the impact of the bold move.

“Mr. Richardson had been working on bringing a team to the Carolinas since 1986,” recalls Morrison. “The team was announced in October 1993. We had studied every training camp in America, and we knew what was needed. The good fortune was that the college had already identified very similar things in the 1987 ‘To Improve Quality’ plan.”

In 1994, the Carolina Panthers agreed to hold training camp in Spartanburg and at Wofford beginning in the summer of 1995. National media attention followed.

The Terriers have won nine postseason Division I-AA/FCS contests since joining the NCAA.
Facilities

In 1995, the Richardson Physical Activities Building became the athletics hub of the campus. Baseball, basketball, football and soccer had offices in the building. There were athletics training and conditioning spaces as well as a fitness area, racquetball courts and a dance and aerobics studio to serve the entire student body. The facility received updates in 2008 and in 2018, the most recent of which was an addition to the athletics training room to include a hydrotherapy suite.

“The practice fields and the Richardson Physical Activities Building were designed to host an NFL football team, so everything was up to that standard. It was a huge recruiting tool for us,” says Richard Johnson, director of athletics. “As we grew and became more and more competitive, additional facilities took us up another notch.”

Gibbs Stadium was opened on Oct. 5, 1996, led by a gift from Jimmy and Marsha Gibbs with support from the Spartanburg community. “They made it possible for us to have what I still think is one of the greatest stadiums in the country,” says Mike Ayers, head football coach from 1988 to 2017.

Snyder Field was renovated and became the home pitch for men’s and women’s soccer. The lower practice fields were expanded to provide three surfaces to be used by football, soccer and the Carolina Panthers. In 2004, Law Field was completely rebuilt and became Russell C. King Field at Switzer Stadium, returning baseball to campus for the first time in nearly a decade. The Joe E. Taylor Center was added in 2009, providing a home for the athletics strength and conditioning program as well as office space for several sports. The Taylor Center is also the site of the rifle range.

“We had a team that worked hard on the facilities piece of the puzzle,” says Morrison. “Roger Milliken and Woody Willard ’74 were instrumental in the purchasing of the properties where Gibbs Stadium and the practice fields are now. That and the important closing of the road would not have been possible without the excitement of the Panthers.” (See the Back of the College Neighborhood Neighborhood)
story in the Fall 2020 Wofford Today for more information about the area where some of the college’s athletics facilities now stand.)

The Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium opened in fall 2017 as another jewel in the crown of top-notch athletics facilities. It’s the home to men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball and houses women’s lacrosse locker and office space as well as athletics video services. During its first two seasons, the University of South Carolina, Harvard University, University of North Carolina and Georgia Tech have all competed against the Terriers in the main 3,400-seat arena. This new facility also provided the opportunity to renovate Benjamin Johnson Arena into a campus recreation and fitness center.

The newest facility, Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall, which opened in the fall of 2020 on the site of the former Andrews Fieldhouse, contains a baseball locker room and a golf suite with two simulators and a putting studio along with offices and meeting space. The top two floors provide housing for 150 first-year students.

**Fundraising**

Another aspect of the move to Division I that made it such a bold decision was doing so with limited resources. A lot of money was needed for the move, not just for operations and facilities, but for scholarships as well.

“Once we made the decision to move to Division I, we knew there was going to be a financial challenge,” says Chandler. “There were some skeptics — I would say more off campus than on campus — but there were some skeptics in that broader audience. Quietly buried in that broader audience, however, were a handful of leaders who stepped forward with a plan and personal commitments. That then began to ignite a wider base of support.”

According to Morrison, the college began to put a major emphasis on endowed scholarships, and Lesesne decided to use the Daniel bequest to incentivize the creation of new funds.

“Again, Joe Lesesne was brilliant in recognizing that the Daniel gift could transform all areas of the college if he put the dollars into a matching program,” says Morrison.

Raising the funding for new buildings was also a challenge.

“Most people think the Panthers funded the Richardson Physical Activities Building and the other physical improvements to

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1 Hannah Steelman '21 competed in the NCAA Track and Field National Championships for the Terriers.

2 Rifle is the only coed sport at the college.

3 As members of NCAA Division I, the Terriers compete each year against Power 5 teams.

4 Wofford won the 2007 Southern Conference Baseball Championship.

5 Championships mean championship rings.

6 Competitive women’s basketball teams hung several banners in the NCAA Division II era.
athletics facilities, but that’s not true,” says Morrison. “They provided something just as vital with their commitment to bring training camp to Spartanburg. We only had one chance to get the training camp here, and the city of Spartanburg and the Wofford community rallied.”

According to Morrison, George Dean Johnson ’64 was a catalyst, as was Bobby Pinson, who led fundraising efforts. “So many people recognized that this was an extraordinary opportunity for Spartanburg and for Wofford,” he says.

While the college was raising funding for new facilities, athletics teams still needed scholarship support.

“There is no doubt that the Wofford faithful who contributed through the Terrier Club were difference makers,” says Ayers. “They afforded us a chance to go out and recruit, and as our capacity to offer scholarships increased, so did our ability to compete.”

The Athletic Task Force recommended that in addition to investing in athletics facilities, the college plan for additional physical activity and wellness facilities for the student body.

Wofford won the 2009 Southern Conference Men’s Soccer Championship.
The Southern Conference

The final report of the Athletic Task Force recommended that Wofford compete for up to 10 years as an independent while searching for a conference home. College leaders, however, already had their eyes on the Southern Conference.

“The Southern Conference was showing some signs of possible changes,” says Lesesne, who believed the conference aligned well with Wofford academically, athletically and geographically. “As soon as we made the decision to move to Division I, we began to lay the groundwork to gain membership.”

In 1995, Marshall University announced it would be leaving the Southern Conference. This provided the opening Wofford needed.

“Initially we were willing to make the move as an independent, which would have been brutal,” says Morrison. Academic peers Davidson College and Furman University were already members of the Southern Conference. The Citadel and Virginia Military Institute, comparable in size, also were members.

“We had done our homework, but it didn’t look like there were going to be any openings,” says Morrison. “Fortunately, our bold move positioned us to get lucky.”

When Marshall left, the Southern Conference needed another college or university to compete in football. It was already considering the addition of two public universities — UNC Greensboro and the College of Charleston — that did not play football. Wofford was within the conference’s geographic footprint and could offer football, academic rigor and Division I facilities.

“Wright Waters was the commissioner of the Southern Conference at the time, and he and his colleagues came up with a mix of public and private that made for a wonderful fit for the Southern Conference,” says Morrison.

The Terriers haven’t looked back.

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Champion(s)</th>
<th>Sport(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Rion Moore</td>
<td>Men’s Golf</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>William McGirt</td>
<td>Men’s Golf</td>
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<td>Adrian Borders</td>
<td>Men’s Track and Field (Outdoor Long Jump and Triple Jump)</td>
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<td>Ugo Ihekweazu</td>
<td>Men’s Track and Field (Outdoor High Jump)</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>Crystal Belcher</td>
<td>Women’s Track and Field (Outdoor Javelin)</td>
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<td>Katon Bethay</td>
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<td>Women’s Track and Field (Outdoor 100m and 200m)</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Hannah Steelman</td>
<td>Women’s Track and Field (Outdoor 3,000m Steeplechase)</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Hannah Steelman</td>
<td>Women’s Cross Country</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dan Wesson</td>
<td>Rifle</td>
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1. Rachel Woodlee Riley ’13 (left), a member of the volleyball team, was Wofford’s most recent Rhodes Scholar.

2. Dr. Danny Morrison ’75, who was commissioner of the Southern Conference at the time, presented Mike Ayers with the college’s first Southern Conference championship trophy.
Judging success

There were no recommended milestones or benchmarks mentioned in the final report of the Athletic Task Force to judge the success of the move to Division I. However, 25 years after the move, it’s clear that the bold move also was the right move.

During the first weeks in September 1995, the Terriers played their first NCAA contests in football, men’s and women’s soccer and volleyball. Later in the fall, the men’s basketball team took the court against the University of Missouri, Vanderbilt University and North Carolina State University. That semester of DI competition was the culmination of years of research, planning and work.

“It was hard, but it wasn’t as hard as it maybe should have been because of a couple of things,” says Johnson, who was the men’s basketball coach at the time. “Number one, I went in with my eyes wide open. I knew what I had, and I knew who I was playing. I knew we were going to generate the revenue, and I knew we were going to take our lumps. But I also knew that Joe Lesesne, Danny Morrison and David Wood knew that too.”

Johnson explained that at first it was about small victories and a commitment to improvement. The Terrier football team captured the college’s first conference championship in 2003. Additional team titles followed for baseball, men’s soccer and men’s basketball. Wofford also had individuals win championships in golf, rifle, women’s cross country and men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track.

“We didn’t win a lot of games, but we were competitive the very first year,” says Morrison. “There was a lot of pressure in the high-profile sports of football and men’s basketball, and I still marvel at the incredible job that Mike Ayers, Richard Johnson and later Mike Young did in leading those teams. They started a tradition of excellence that Jay McAuley in basketball and Josh Conklin in football and their assistant coaches are continuing today. I think if someone were to look back on it, they would say that it’s been a pretty remarkable 25 years. It’s a good example of how risk and progress are complementary variables.”

Ayers looks back and says it was absolutely a success. He and Conklin hold 10 NCAA FCS playoff appearances between them. “From the get-go, we understood that the college’s academic standards came first,” says Ayers.

Chandler agrees. “There is empirical evidence that the move has been a substantial success,” he says. “Our boldness athletically has created a national platform for our academic program.”

“I don’t think we would be at the place where we are today as an institution without the visibility that our move to Division I gave us,” Johnson says. “The athletics program helped the college increase enrollment and expand out-of-state applications. The college community became more diverse and more selective because of NCAA Division I recruiting efforts, and five NCAA men’s basketball tournament appearances and five Southern Conference championships in football certainly boosted the college’s brand awareness.”

“We found a place where our student-athletes could play and our college could be associated with other colleges and universities with similar aspirations. The student body could enjoy the excitement of Division I competition, and this would help us recruit more good students. It was all about improving quality,” says Lesesne. “It was a bold choice that has continued to pay off.”

Wofford now has a broad-based athletics program with 19 competitive teams, 50 full-time athletics staff and coaches and 200 scholarships. The athletics endowment has grown to $45 million, and during 2019, the Terrier Club raised $1.9 million in scholarships for Wofford student-athletes.

We can’t wait to see what the next 25 years will bring.
WOMEN’S LACROSSE, MEET YOUR NEW TEAMMATE

Tyson family establishes Anne Tyson Women’s Lacrosse Endowed Scholarship Fund

BY JO ANN MITCHELL BRASINGTON ’89
Wofford College's newest NCAA Division I athletics team just scored its first enduring victory. A new endowed scholarship named in honor of Dr. Anne Tyson has been established to support a student-athlete on the college's three-year-old women's lacrosse team.

“We have limited resources, so we have tried to find areas at Wofford where we could really make a difference,” says Anne, who played sports in high school and developed a lifelong devotion to exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle. “Our family believes that education is extremely important, and we wanted to increase opportunities for young women. Beyond education, there is also no question that the teamwork and discipline developed in athletics builds character and provides a skill set for the future in any organization.”

Anne, a Duke University graduate who earned her M.D. from the University of North Carolina, became involved with Wofford because of other Terriers in the family. Her two youngest daughters, Maggie Tyson ’11 and Julia Tyson ’13, are Wofford graduates, as is her husband, Dr. George Tyson ’72.

“We wanted to honor Anne’s commitment to our alma mater,” says George, who appreciated the trustee matching grant that helped make the scholarship gift possible. “We chose an endowed scholarship for women’s lacrosse to provide young women an opportunity to gain a Wofford education as a student-athlete and because of the college’s need in this relatively new program. Anne’s also from northern New Jersey (Rumson), an area where lacrosse is extremely popular and where recruiting may prove fruitful.”
The family has a long history of support for the college, including annual and special campaign gifts as well as through the establishment of the Mock Interview program initiated to help prepare students for medical school interviews, essays and, ultimately, acceptance. The Tysons have mentored students through the medical school application process for decades, and Anne has presented lectures to Wofford students based on her expertise with the psychiatric interview to provide students insight into the dynamics of the interview process. The Tysons also have a close relationship with the college’s Environmental Studies Department, developing the Tyson Family Lecture, a series devoted to the restoration and preservation of Southern ecosystems. Anne has enjoyed hosting Wofford students on field exercises on the family’s timberlands in Dillon County, S.C.

“Having the Tysons’ support reminds us of why Wofford is a special place,” says head coach Kim Eldridge. “We have student-athletes who are biology majors on a pre-med track. It will be a privilege to identify and award the Tyson scholarship to a deserving member of our team.”

The Tysons hope that the recipients of the Anne Tyson Endowed Scholarship will take advantage of the many opportunities for intellectual and personal growth that Wofford offers. They also hope their scholars will one day find ways to pay those opportunities forward.

“Nothing prepared me for the Duke surgical residency like my Wofford education and being part of a very special Terrier football team. We believe young women need and deserve similar opportunities,” says George. He also believes that giving back in the tradition of Jerry Richardson ’59, as well as Tyson’s teammates Harold Chandler ’71 and Ed Wile ’73, is part of living a legacy of giving and service, one focused squarely on the college’s future and service to the generations of Terriers to come.

“This sends a powerful statement that a new sport is important to us and to the Tysons,” says Richard Johnson, director of athletics. “It sends an equally powerful message that we want to endow scholarships for women’s sports.”

After residency in a combined Duke-UNC program, Anne served as an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Duke. When the family moved to Philadelphia, she became director of the psychiatric emergency room at Mercy Catholic Hospital with a clinical appointment to the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. She is now in private practice in Lakeland, Fla. Her personal interests include etymology and languages (she’s currently studying German), reading science and cooking. She’s an avid environmentalist and enjoys kayaking. She’s also an equal partner in the management of the family’s timber business and is committed to longleaf pine restoration.
“Endowed scholarships are our lifeline,” says Richard Johnson, director of athletics.

And few people understand that any better than Ed Wile ’73. After his freshman season in 1969, Wile decided he financially would not be able to return to Wofford. He was introduced to Vera Parsons, a Spartanburg resident who provided scholarship support to Wofford and other educational institutions. Parsons made it possible for Wile to continue his Wofford career.

“That changed my whole life,” says Wile, a retired investment consultant. “Without her I couldn’t have come back. And there are hundreds of students just like me.”

Wile never forgot Parsons, or her act of kindness. Years later, he established an endowed scholarship in her honor. A matching gift from the estate of Homozel Mickel Daniel allowed Wile to establish another endowed scholarship, this one honoring former Wofford football coach Jack Peterson.

Gifts such as Parsons’ and Wile’s have been an integral part of the success of Wofford’s student-athletes and the athletics program as a whole, especially in the 25 years of the NCAA Division I era.

“Our model doesn’t work without them,” says Johnson. “Nobody at the FCS level is self-sufficient, but if you do it right you can bring efficiency and brand identity to the institution.”

Wofford doesn’t receive state funding, it doesn’t make near the money on ticket sales that Power 5 schools make, nor does it get the same type of lucrative television contracts and associated sponsorships.

Guarantees — football and basketball games against Power 5 schools that come with a big payday — inject money into the program’s operating budget.
“We would play them anyway because they’re important from a recruiting standpoint and for the fans,” Johnson says. “But that money goes straight into the operating budget.”

According to Johnson, when the COVID-19 pandemic wiped out this season’s football game against South Carolina, it cost Wofford about $350,000 to $400,000.

“A lot of institutions lost money, and they can’t make it up,” he says. “We’re going to feel the pain, too, but because the institution is in a strong position and is so well run, it won’t be as much pain as some of the others.”

The growth of the athletics department endowment has played a critical role for the Terriers. It allows Wofford to attract players who might go elsewhere without those scholarship dollars. From just a shade under $1 million at the dawn of the Division I era, it has steadily grown to its present value of more than $45 million.

Harold Chandler ’71, a former CEO of Milliken & Co. and Wofford’s starting quarterback in 1969 and 1970, said it was important not to place any additional financial burdens on the college as it stepped up to Division I. He and others, including Wile, launched an ambitious plan to endow the entire athletics program.

“People got excited about it,” Chandler says. “They would endow scholarships in the name of a parent or as a memorial to a family member. This completely reinforced that Wofford was willing to compete athletically at the same level that it competed academically.”

The endowment has grown steadily through the years, including the year of the pandemic.

“In trying times like now, the endowment gives us a good base of scholarship dollars to go out and recruit top-notch student-athletes to represent Wofford,” says Luke Feisal ’14, Wofford’s associate athletics director for development. “The contributions are greater each year, and we invest them through the Board of Trustees Investment Advisory Committee, so they continue to grow.”

Endowed scholarships also connect generations of Terriers — donors to student-athletes, alumni to coaches, recruits to the people who started the first athletics fundraising efforts.

“This connectivity benefits everyone,” says Feisal. “Some really neat relationships have been built over the years because of endowed scholarships.”

CONNECTING THROUGH THE ENDOWMENT

The college offers two opportunities to establish an endowed scholarship:

1. **A minimum of $50,000**, payable over up to five years, establishes a named, permanently endowed scholarship.

2. **A commitment of $25,000**, payable over five years, coupled with a documented estate/insurance plan for an additional $100,000, establishes a named, permanently endowed scholarship. This option offers the donor the opportunity to establish the scholarship with a lower initial gift when it is combined with a generous planned gift.

The sky is the limit on the upper end: the greater the fund size, the greater the benefit to deserving students. Recently, Wofford has awarded 5% of the market value of each endowed fund, and each fund has grown by a similar percentage annually.

Currently, scholarships endowed at the following levels will produce these scholarship amounts each year:

- A $50,000 endowment produces $2,250.
- A $100,000 endowment produces $4,500.
- A $250,000 endowment produces $11,250.
- A $500,000 endowment produces $22,500.
- A $750,000 endowment produces $33,750.
- A $1,000,000 endowment produces $45,000.
The Architecture of Success

Where the next generation of students will discover their place

By Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89
“Buildings should be good neighbors.” That’s a quote from architect Paul Thiry, who is credited with bringing modernism to the Pacific Northwest, but it could be used to describe the construction and renovation boom at Wofford over the past six years.

“Every new and renovated space gives attention to detail and scale,” says President Nayef Samhat. “Our first new buildings — the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts, the Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village and the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium — fit seamlessly into Wofford’s historic campus. They look like they have been here for decades.”

Admission tour guides hear lots of wows as they walk students and their families through the campus. That’s by design. A beautiful campus that blends old and new gives Wofford a competitive edge in the quest for prospective student interest. Most importantly, attention to student success has been built into each new space, which impacts the experience of students who do become Terriers.

“When we have the opportunity to work on projects at Wofford, we always engage with students, faculty and staff to determine how spaces should be programmed and used within each building,” says Ron Smith, architect, McMillan Pazdan Smith. “By taking the feedback that we receive and by referencing the strong architectural language that has been developed on campus, we are able to begin the process of designing impactful spaces that can serve students for decades to come.”
This fall, first-year Terriers moved into the new, 150-bed Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall, located just across Campus Drive from other first-year residences, Greene Hall and Marsh Hall.

“Richardson Hall is unique because of the amount of common space,” says Chris Gardner, chief financial officer who worked with architects McMillan Pazdan Smith and construction firm Robins & Morton to lead this and other major construction projects on campus. He’s referring to the small group study rooms and niches in the lobby and halls designed to promote gathering and relationship development. There’s a kitchen, which fosters interaction, and spacious laundry rooms. Balconies overlook the historic campus in the front and Snyder Field in the back. There’s also a courtyard for games and gathering. The building is accessible with an elevator and several private apartments for students with special needs.

“It’s all about building camaraderie, something especially important in the first year,” Gardner says.

One wing of student rooms faces Russell C. King Field and Switzer Stadium. Another looks out over Snyder Field. Both wings have rooms with views of the courtyard. The building stands on the site where Andrews Field House stood until 2019. Because of its proximity to athletics facilities, the first floor of the building houses baseball locker rooms and offices as well as locker rooms and a shared training facility for men’s and women’s golf.

Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall was made possible by a gift from Jerry Richardson ’59. The gift allowed Wofford to move forward with a five-year plan for growth that will strategically increase the size of the student body to 1,800 students, improve campus infrastructure and continue innovations to the academic program.

“Architecture is really about well-being. I think that people want to feel good in a space... On the one hand it's about shelter, but it's also about pleasure.” Zaha Hadid, British Iraqi architect from Baghdad, known as “Queen of the curve”
The Chandler Center for Environmental Studies  
Opened September 2020

“The future of architecture lies in it being ecologically sensitive wherein it incorporates water, waste, energy, biodiversity, food and resources to build with.” Chitra Vishwanath, an Indian architect who works on themes related to ecology and architecture

Students and faculty who moved into the new Chandler Center for Environmental Studies this fall found gorgeous natural light, spectacular views of Main Building and flexible lab spaces. The building earned Green Globe Certification (three globes) for project management, the use of green building products, storm drain protection measures, waste-diversion planning, energy-efficient design and the use of low-emission appliances.

The new center for environmental studies was made possible by a gift from Delores and Harold Chandler ’71.

“Sustainability is one of the college’s core values,” says Gardner. “The building is tied to the college’s energy dashboard, so students can see how the solar panels change the energy profile of the building. There’s a green roof, a new food lab, a computer lab, a water lab and a soils lab, in addition to a large classroom space that can be divided in half or left open for a large group.”

The Chandler Center links the college’s environmental studies program to the Glendale community and Goodall Environmental Studies Center and the Milliken House, a 13-bed living learning residence committed to community-based learning around sustainability in the Northside.

The Sandor Teszler Library  
Renovations complete Fall 2020

“Architecture is not about space but about time.” Vito Acconci, an influential American performance, video and installation artist, whose diverse practice eventually included sculpture, architectural design and landscape design

The Sandor Teszler Library is Matilda Redfern’s favorite place to study on campus. Redfern ’23, a Spanish and sociology and anthropology major from Atlanta, Ga., likes the library’s varied meeting and studying options — from classrooms to small group spaces to private carrels or tables. The free use of printers, presentation practice areas and equipment, peer tutors and the writing center also are huge benefits.

“The library is definitely designed for student success,” she says. “All of these resources make the rigor of Wofford classes easier to tackle. I also love the new self-serve snack and coffee bar.”

Library renovations and the development of an academic commons were central to the college’s 2014 strategic vision. In addition to supporting student academic engagement, the library also is the home to the Center for Innovation and Learning.

“The library is the place where teachers become better teachers and students become better learners,” says Lisa Roberts, dean of the library. “The renovation was designed to provide more opportunities for collaboration. We’re also proud that the library has a new testing center in conjunction with Accessibility Services for students who need additional time or other accommodations.”
“By taking the feedback that we receive and by referencing the strong architectural language that has been developed on campus, we are able to begin the process of designing impactful spaces.”
The Campus Life Building, which opened in 1980, should have been one of the most popular buildings on campus, but it wasn’t — not until recently, at least. “We always felt that the Campus Life Building was not reaching its potential. Even after past renovations, it felt dated, more so than it actually was,” says Gardner. That’s no longer the case, but it took the construction of the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium and the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts to free up the space to make the Campus Life Building a true hub of student activities.

The building has housed athletics offices, men’s and women’s basketball and volleyball, Wofford Theatre and all of the offices associated with those programs. Now the Division of Campus Life and Student Development has offices on the second floor, and the main floor includes Zach’s with Chick-fil-A and Boars Head Deli; Terrier Grounds, a coffee shop selling Starbucks; a game room; a lobby for studying, gathering and dining; the Campus Post Office and offices for Campus Safety. The concourses of the Benjamin Johnson Arena are student fitness areas (cardio equipment on one side and weights and strength-training equipment on the other). The bleachers have been removed and the three courts, surrounded by a walking track, are open to students for events, intramurals or pickup games of basketball, volleyball or badminton.

Renovation of the building is still in progress, but when it’s complete, the Tony White Theatre will be redesigned as a flexible meeting space with a mezzanine to accommodate additional meeting and storage space for student organizations.

“It’s become a place for students to congregate, work out, dine and play,” says Gardner.

At the October meeting of the Board of Trustees, trustees honored Maria and Steven Mungo ’81 by naming the Campus Life Building the Mungo Student Center. The Mungos made the renovation and new fitness areas possible with their generous gift.
This fall students walked through a tunnel of shipping containers to make their way in and out of the Burwell construction zone to access the college's main dining hall. The building once housed dining on the second floor, with the kitchen, five meeting rooms, the post office and administrative office space on the first floor. Now, the entire building will be open for dining and meeting.

According to Gardner, architects convened focus groups of students in 2018 to begin planning the renovation. “Students desire more views into the cooking process, so the renovation will have open kitchen spaces,” he says. “Students with special dietary needs wanted enhanced services, so there will be a clarity station (allergen sensitive) where food is cooked to order.”

The new space will provide more flexibility while retaining the five private meeting rooms that saw frequent use before the renovation.

Wofford’s culinary services partner, AVI Fresh, is funding substantially all of the project costs.

“Culinary programs matter to prospective students and their families. We’re also a component in the satisfaction of current students. That’s why this renovation of the Burwell Building, constructed in 1960, is so important,” says Walter Miller, AVI’s resident district manager. “Our philosophy centers on a Fresh Food Forward model. We have skilled culinarians who prepare beautiful meals from scratch with the freshest ingredients, and soon we’ll have a new facility that makes the dining experience at Wofford second to none.”

Currently the bottom floor is under construction, and the top floor is open for student use. In the spring, when the first floor is complete, dining will flip so Robins and Morton crews can finish the project. The renovations will make the building more accessible and will make better use of outdoor dining opportunities.
The Wofford College Board of Trustees

“ALWAYS SEEKING WHAT SHOULD BE”

That’s why the meetings are organized so trustees have opportunities to hear from students, talk with them and learn more about student priorities. Students serve as representatives to board committees, as do members of the faculty. Students often join trustees for meals and receptions. The Campus Union president reports to the full board at each meeting, and every year someone invariably mentions that student government representatives will one day lead the college by serving as trustees.

David Beacham ’77, senior vice president for administration and secretary to the Board of Trustees, has watched it happen. Three graduated student body presidents — Stanley Porter ’89, Wendi Nix ’96 and Joshua Whitley ’05 — are current trustees.

“It’s rewarding to see those things come full circle and to see responsible and successful student leaders become responsible and successful alumni and trustees,” says Beacham.

The college has 31 trustees, including 26 who are alumni.

“It was a chance to deepen my connection as an alumnus, as well as give back to a school that has given Sally (McIntyre Malambri ’97) and me so much,” says the Rev. Will Malambri ’98. “Wofford gave me an excellent education, but not just in the classroom. The pursuit of understanding as well as the pursuit of a better community were nurtured by Wofford’s faculty, staff and fellow students. I’ll forever be grateful for what began as a student, but has continued as a result.”

By Dudley Brown

Each Wofford College Board of Trustees meeting is different, but each shares something very important: an abiding care for students and the student experience.
Service as a trustee involves overseeing a unique business model that includes the responsibility to educate while managing the equivalent of a small, thriving city.

“Our trustees offer a strategic vision and an ability to think through the complexities of directing a residential liberal arts institution,” says Dr. Nayef Samhat, Wofford’s president. “We are fortunate to have a deep pool of dedicated leaders with expertise in a breadth of areas. They spend invaluable time thinking about Wofford’s future while caring deeply about the Wofford community and the student experience right now.”

All of the trustees have been highly engaged with the college over the years, usually including service on various committees and advisory boards.

The process of selecting trustees follows the wishes of the college’s founder, Benjamin Wofford, whose will required that board members be elected by the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Trustees serving on the college’s Governance Committee are responsible for nominating trustees and working with the Annual Conference to ensure that the process is carried out according to Wofford’s will.

“The opportunity to serve post-graduation an institution which affected my life in so many profound ways has been an incredible honor,” says Board Chair Corry Oakes ’89. “Wofford supplied some of the most influential teachers of my life. The encouragement and training to think critically, to dig deeply, to be exposed to a wide variety of viewpoints and to explore differences in an environment of mutual respect were gifts that will last a lifetime.”

Trustees serve four-year terms and can serve no more than three consecutive terms (12 years) on the board. In recent years, the board has grown to 31 members. For many years it ranged from 20 to 27 members, but has been at its current size for nearly two decades. For a time, approximately half of the college’s trustees were ministers in the United Methodist Church. The college remains committed to keeping representatives from the church on the board and currently has two United Methodist ministers serving as trustees, Malambri and Bishop Will Willimon ’68. A third United Methodist minister, the Rev. John Hipp ’75, died in October. Hipp’s seat will be filled next year when the conference meets in the summer of 2021 to vote on two other openings.

“I enjoy every board meeting because of what we learn about the incredible students, faculty and staff who are currently on campus and because we get to be about the important work of helping Wofford realize an even brighter future,” says Malambri. “I also enjoy being in a room with people who care deeply about Wofford and give generously of their time, talent and resources to help our school thrive. We want current and future Wofford family to have the best experience possible and realize that means never being satisfied with what has been or is, but always seeking what should be.”

Trustees pictured:
+ Craig Melvin
+ Wendi Nix
+ Ronnie and Toni Andrews
+ Josh Whitley and Shawan Gillians
+ Steven Mungo
+ Stanley Porter
+ Danny Morrison with Jimmy and Marsha Gibbs
+ Joyce Yette
Trustees meet three times a year, in October, February and May. They are responsible for providing high-level strategies to plan for the college’s future and its fiscal needs. The board is generally not involved with day-to-day college operations.

Each trustee serves on at least two of the board’s seven standing committees (Enrollment, Academics, Investment, Operations, Student Experience, Advancement and Governance).

Joining the board during 2020 were Thomas L. Bower III ’74, R. Howard Coker ’85, Dr. English C. Flack ’00 and Shawan Gillians ’04. They filled terms completed by Laura J. Hoy, Stewart H. Johnson ’67, L. Leon Patterson ’63 and J.E. Reeves Jr.

“My Wofford experience has been instrumental in shaping my life, and the work and vision of the board played a tremendous role in making that experience possible,” says Gillians. “I hope my service will likewise contribute to experiences that help shape future Wofford alumni.”

Trustees completing terms on the Board of Trustees:

Laura J. Hoy of Myrtle Beach, S.C., served 2008-2020
She served on the 2012-2013 Presidential Search Committee and chaired the board’s committee on Academic Affairs for several years. Hoy and her husband, Winston, host and participate in many Wofford activities. They have given an endowed professorship in English. They have three children, including Will, a 2003 Wofford graduate.

L. Leon Patterson ’63 of Greenville, S.C., served 2008-2020
He was the trustee liaison to the Strategic Vision effort that began in 2012 and was the leading advocate for planning. He is part of a multigenerational Wofford family, and his late father, Dwight Patterson Sr., was a 25-year trustee and board chair in the 1960s.

Stewart H. Johnson ’67 of Spartanburg, served 2012-2020
Johnson’s wife, Ann Cobb Johnson, preceded him on the board. She served 2005-2009. The couple are considered the founders of the Terrier Ball, an event that raises scholarships for Wofford student-athletes. They also have supported multiple scholarships, professorships and other college projects. The Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village was named in his honor. Three of their four children are Wofford alumni: David ‘98, Jamie ’00 and Ann ’04.

He co-chaired the first Campaign for Wofford in the late 1980s and served as chair of the Committee on Development for many years. His family and the Reeves Foundation have been major players in every Wofford financial campaign for more than 40 years. The college’s tennis center is named in the family’s honor as well as several endowed scholarships and professorships.

Trustees re-elected to new four-year terms

Justin A. Converse ’96
Jimmy I. Gibbs
The Rev. William F. Malambri ’98
Jodie W. McLean
James C. Meadors ’81

2020-2021 Officers
Officers were elected to serve at the May 2020 trustees’ meeting.

Corry W. Oakes ’89, chair
Christopher A.P. Carpenter ’90, vice chair
The Hon. Costa M. Pleicones ’65, secretary
Trustees who began terms in 2020:
The South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church elected four Wofford alumni to fill the vacancies on the college’s Board of Trustees during a virtual meeting held Oct. 17. The election was scheduled for June but was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thomas L. Bower III '74 of Gainesville, Ga., is president and CEO of Clipper Petroleum. A graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law, he sits on a number of community boards, including Georgia Oilmen’s Association, United Community Bank of Gainesville and the Wofford Terrier Club. He has been active in youth athletics coaching and mentoring for years.

R. Howard Coker ’85 of Hartsville, S.C., is president and CEO of Sonoco. He holds an MBA from Wake Forest University. Previously Coker served as senior vice president, Global Paper/Industrial Converted Products. He is active in community and wildlife organizations, having served on the boards of Coker College and the Byerly Foundation.

Dr. English C. Flack ’00 of Nashville, Tenn., is a pediatric cardiologist and serves as medical director for the Middle Tennessee affiliate of Project ADAM, a national non-profit that empowers schools and communities to be prepared for sudden cardiac arrest. She’s also an assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Cardiology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She earned a medical degree at the Medical University of South Carolina.

B. Shawan Gillians ’04, of Charleston, S.C., is director of legal services and corporate secretary for Santee Cooper. She has served on the college’s Presidential Advisory Council and a number of civic boards. She has a law degree from The College of William & Mary School of Law and an MBA from the University of South Carolina.

2020–2021 Members of the Board of Trustees

Ashley Richardson Allen
Charlotte, N.C.

Ronald A. Andrews Jr. ’81
Coto de Caza, Calif.

Thomas L. Bower III '74
Gainesville, Ga.

Christopher A.P. Carpenter ’90
Atlanta, Ga.

R. Howard Coker ’85
Hartsville, S.C.

Justin A. Converse ’96
Spartanburg, S.C.

Dr. English C. Flack ’00
Nashville, Tenn.

Jimmy I. Gibbs
Spartanburg, S.C.

B. Shawan Gillians ’04
Charleston, S.C.

D. Christian Goodall ’79
Columbia, S.C.

H. Neel Hipp Jr.
Greenville, S.C.

Dr. Blanding U. Jones ’92
Los Angeles, Calif.

Wade P. Keisler ’80
Lexington, S.C.

The Rev. William F. Malambri ’98
Murrells Inlet, S.C.

Jodie W. McLean
Bethesda, Md.

James C. Meadors ’81
Charleston, S.C.

Craig D. Melvin ’01
New York, N.Y.

Betty J. Montgomery
Campobello, S.C.

Dr. Daniel B. Morrison Jr. ’75
Sullivans Island, S.C.

Steven W. Mungo ’81
Charleston, S.C.

Wendi M. Nix ’96
New York, N.Y.

Corry W. Oakes III ’89
Spartanburg, S.C.

Gregory A. O’Dell ’92
Washington, D.C.

The Hon. Costa M. Pleicones ’65
Columbia, S.C.

Stanley E. Porter ’89
Chevy Chase, Md.

Erin M. Watson ’91
Atlanta, Ga.

Joshua S. Whitley ’05
Charleston, S.C.

Bishop William H. Willimon ’68
Durham, N.C.

Joyce Payne Yette ’80
Washington, D.C.

Margaret G. Young ’92
Blacksburg, Va.
In July, Wofford College launched a new strategic vision process, one that recognizes a fissure in our society and responds with a measured approach based on the college’s foundation and strength in the liberal arts. Has this process made everyone happy? No, but it has continued Wofford’s tradition of thinking broadly and deeply about justice, equity, diversity and inclusion with the intent of engaging all of the college’s constituents in substantive and lasting improvement.

Dr. Christine Dinkins, William R. Kenan Professor of Philosophy, and Dr. Ramón Galiñanes, director of undergraduate research and postgraduate fellowships, are chairs of the 16-member Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee. This group, made up of students, faculty, staff and trustees, is sharing their work under JEDI Steering Committee at wofford.edu/strategicvision.
What is JEDI’s mission and how does JEDI reflect the college’s core values?

Dinkins: Our committee’s mission is to help light the way toward an equitable, just Wofford for the future. Wofford’s stated core values are:

› Collaborative teaching and learning.
› Freedom of inquiry.
› Academic excellence.
› Intellectual curiosity.
› Critical thinking.
› Integrity.
› Community and global engagement.
› Diversity and inclusiveness.
› Sustainability.

We want to be guided by every single one of these values in our work. The work of our committee is itself one of collaborative teaching and learning, from each other, from those on our campus already doing equity work, from those we will hear from in listening sessions. And any recommendations we make for changes in curriculum or other college structures will be guided by the goals of freedom of inquiry, academic excellence, intellectual curiosity and critical thinking.

One of Wofford’s greatest strengths is the commitment of faculty, staff and students to engaging with the Spartanburg community and across cultural differences around the globe. A strive toward equity should necessarily create more spaces and more support for that kind of engagement. For diversity and inclusiveness, we will be looking not just at the changing demographics of Wofford’s prospective students, but at diversity and inclusion in the processes that make our college what it is. How can we move toward more and more of our processes modeling participatory inclusion of diverse voices?

In terms of sustainability, Wofford stands in a national moment in a changing world. Today’s students want a focus on equity, and they want to do the work to make their community and their world more just. Meeting those students where they are and making opportunities for them to learn and engage around issues of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion can make Wofford a national leader and sustain our college for years to come.

RACIAL JUSTICE
DEFINITIONS

Edited from information from the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Often, race-focused conversations derail because people are using the same terms in different ways. Establishing a shared language to present data, describe conditions and outcomes and identify root causes of inequities serves an important function. It also makes it easier to communicate.

EQUITY

Equity is defined as “the state, quality or ideal of being just, impartial and fair.” The concept of equity is synonymous with fairness and justice.

EQUITY VS. EQUALITY

Equity involves trying to understand and give people what they need to enjoy full, healthy lives. Equality, in contrast, aims to ensure that everyone gets the same things in order to enjoy full, healthy lives. Equality works only if everyone starts from the same place and needs the same things.

SYSTEMIC EQUITY

Systemic equity is a complex combination of interrelated elements consciously designed to create, support and sustain social justice. It is a dynamic process that reinforces and replicates equitable ideas, power, resources, strategies, conditions, habits and outcomes.

INCLUSION

Inclusion is the action or state of including or of being included within a group or structure. More than simply diversity and numerical representation, inclusion involves authentic and empowered participation and a true sense of belonging.

RACIAL JUSTICE

Racial justice is the systematic fair treatment of people of all races that results in equitable opportunities and outcomes for everyone. All people are able to achieve their full potential in life, regardless of race, ethnicity or the community in which they live. A “racial justice” framework can move us from a reactive posture to a more powerful, proactive and even preventive approach.

RACE

Race is a socially constructed system of categorizing humans largely based on observable physical features (phenotypes), such as skin color and on ancestry. There is no scientific basis for or discernible distinction between racial categories.
How is JEDI structuring its work?

**Galiñanes:** The visioning work of the committee will be built on what we learn from the listening sessions and from the work being conducted in the five working groups:
- History, Memory and Place (led by me).
- Curriculum, Teaching and Advising (led by Christine Dinkins).
- Student Life (led by James Stukes).
- Enrollment, Recruitment and Marketing (led by Arsenio Parks).
- Policies, Procedures and JEDI Structure (led by Tasha Smith-Tyus).

The working groups are tasked with research, assessment and some action items taken along the way as we undertake the strategic visioning process. The listening sessions will be facilitated by the JEDI co-chairs; Dr. Debora Johnson-Ross ’81, our independent consultant; and a team of student researchers who will be collecting notes and supporting the process.

How will JEDI share progress, and how often can we expect updates from JEDI?

**Dinkins:** Approximately once a month. We will share progress through our website and through the Conquer and Prevail newsletter.

Does JEDI have a budget or an allocation of financial resources to do this work? If so, how is the steering group using the funding?

**Galiñanes:** Yes. We have an allocation of financial resources to undertake this process. We have started to use some of these resources by hiring a consultant. Dr. Johnson-Ross has been doing important work in higher education for decades now, and we are very fortunate to have been able to recruit her to work with us. Additionally, we have also hired Caitlynn Myer ’18 to work as a project coordinator for JEDI. She recently graduated from Clemson University’s graduate program in higher education, and she was a very engaged Bonner scholar during her time at Wofford.

What’s the purpose of the listening sessions and how can someone share their thoughts?

**Dinkins:** The primary purpose of the listening sessions is to hear from as many people as possible about what Wofford means to them, how they think Wofford should acknowledge its past and give them a chance to share their vision for Wofford’s future. We also hope these sessions will be a positive experience for those who participate — a chance to hear the thoughts of others in the session and to share their own thoughts with a group of active listeners. We are also very excited that we have a team of eight extremely bright and talented student researchers who are attending listening sessions, taking notes and helping with the data analysis.

For a schedule of listening sessions, readers can go to our website wofford.edu/strategicvision. Anyone who wants to be sure to be invited to a listening session should go to our website and let us know. Also, for anyone who prefers to give their thoughts in writing, we have a survey option as well. We are hoping that with the listening sessions and the surveys, we will be able to hear from many, many people who care about Wofford — its past, present and future.

How is JEDI going about the work of unpacking the college’s history?

**Galiñanes:** Some of this work has already taken place during the summer and previous years as part of some courses and the faculty-student collaborative research program, with projects led by Dr. Rhiannon Leebrick and Dr. Jim Neighbors and a team of student researchers. And, of course, Dr. Phillip Stone ’94 has been unpacking the college’s history for some time now, and he is instrumental in supporting the work of the JEDI committee when it comes to questions of Wofford’s history.

When will JEDI make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees?

**Galiñanes:** In February 2021, JEDI will present preliminary findings from the listening sessions and the research from the working groups. In May 2021, JEDI will present a draft vision and strategic plan to the Board of Trustees for their review and consideration.
There is much to celebrate in the 2019 Diversity Report. There also are other people and organizations on campus working toward justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. How is JEDI a part of this culture of positive change?

Dinkins: In doing our work, we want to acknowledge the extent to which there is already so much equity work being done by Wofford’s faculty, staff and students – for instance, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Antiracism Action Team (a group of faculty and staff collaborators), Wofford’s National Coalition Building Institute team, the Wofford Anti-Racism Coalition (a group of students and recent alumni), the Center for Innovation and Learning and students doing community-engaged work through our undergraduate research and community-based learning programs. Our committee is building on this work. Some of the key data we are studying has been produced by this prior work, and we are relying on our committee members who are already experienced in equity work to guide our committee process and lead our working groups. Our hope is that while we do our strategic vision work, we can also amplify and support all the truly good work already being done.

President Samhat has said that JEDI is just the beginning. What do you hope to accomplish with this beginning?

Galiñanes: We hope to continue planting seeds and taking important steps in building a just, equitable, diverse and inclusive Wofford that we all love and all want to belong to.

How will we know that JEDI has been successful?

Dinkins: We will know we have been successful if all of Wofford’s stakeholders know they have been listened to, and that our strategic vision has been shaped through an inclusive, participatory process. And we will have been successful if that strategic vision is one that lights the path to an equitable, just, sustainable, flourishing Wofford for the future.

RACISM

The concept of racism is widely thought of as simply personal prejudice, but in fact, it is a complex system of racial hierarchies and inequities. There is individual racism and broader racism that includes institutions and societal structures.

INTERNALIZED RACISM

Internalized racism describes the private racial beliefs held by individuals. The way we absorb social messages about race and adopt them as personal beliefs, biases and prejudices are all within the realm of internalized racism.

INTERPERSONAL RACISM

Interpersonal racism is how our private beliefs about race become public when we interact with others. When we act upon our prejudices or unconscious bias, we engage in interpersonal racism. Interpersonal racism can be unintentional or willful and overt.

INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

Institutional racism is racial inequity within institutions and systems of power, such as places of employment, government agencies and social services. It can take the form of unfair policies and practices, discriminatory treatment and inequitable opportunities and outcomes.

STRUCTURAL RACISM

Structural racism (or structural racialization) is the racial bias across institutions and society. It describes the cumulative and compounding effects of an array of factors that systematically privilege white people and disadvantage people of color. Since the word “racism” often is understood as a conscious belief, “racialization” may be a better way to describe a process that does not require intentionality. Structural racialization can create disparities without racist participants.

SYSTEMIC RACIALIZATION

Systemic racialization describes a dynamic system that produces and replicates racial ideologies, identities and inequities. Systemic racialization is the well-institutionalized pattern of discrimination that cuts across major political, economic and social organizations in a society.

RACIAL PRIVILEGE AND RACIAL OPPRESSION

Like two sides of the same coin, racial privilege describes race-based advantages and preferential treatment based on skin color, while racial oppression refers to race-based disadvantages, discrimination and exploitation based on skin color.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation is devoted to developing a brighter future for millions of children at risk of poor educational, economic, social and health outcomes. Their work focuses on strengthening families, building stronger communities and ensuring access to opportunity, because children need all three to succeed.
The United Way of the Midlands has honored 
Hayes Mizell with this year’s Alyce Kemp 
DeWitt Award. The award is the organization’s 
most prestigious award for long-term service 
to the organization and the community.

The S.C. General Assembly passed a resolution 
at the request of the state’s Department of 
Transportation to name a bridge that crosses 
the Edisto River along U.S. Highway 17 in 
Colleton County in honor of retired state sena-
tor Peden McLeod.

Rob Gregory stepped down as chair of the 
Apella Health Management Board of Trustees, 
which oversees Spartanburg Regional 
Healthcare System. Gregory guided the system 
through a period of expansion over the past 
decade. The health system’s revenue grew 
early $1 billion during his time as chairman.

Paul Pittman has been selected by the South 
Carolina Tennis Patrons Foundation as a 2020 
inductee into the state Tennis Hall of Fame. 
Pittman was selected for exceptional volunteer 
service. He is a past president of the Florence 
Tennis Association, the state tennis association 
and USTA South Carolina, and a past chair of 
the Patrons Foundation. He was also a board 
member of the Southern Tennis Association 
and the Southern Tennis Foundation. He has 
served on dozens of key committees and task 
forces at the local, state, sectional and national 
levels.

Buzz Rich was profiled in the Aiken Standard 
newspaper for his civic leadership. Rich, an 
attorney and financial planner, represents some 
of the most prominent businesses and utilities 
in Aiken, S.C. He is also well known for volun-
teering with the community’s meals-on-wheels 
program since 1992.

John Marshall Allen has joined Haynsworth 
Sinkler Boyd’s Charleston, S.C., office as special 
counsel. He has more than 30 years of expe-
rience representing a variety of clients in the 
healthcare industry.

The S.C. Research Authority named Russell 
D. Cook director of SC Launch and executive 
director of SC Launch Inc. He is responsible for 
leading the strategic direction of the SC Launch 
program, which provides mentoring, network-
ing and grant funding to eligible companies 
that employ new technologies in the life sci-
ence, technology and advanced manufacturing 
industries. He also serves as the liaison to the 
SC Launch Inc. board of directors, which makes 
capital investments in SC Launch companies.

Gray T. Culbreath became a fellow of the 
American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the 
premier legal associations in North America. 
Fellowship in the college is extended by invi-
tation to experienced trial lawyers of diverse 
backgrounds, who have mastered the art of 
advocacy and whose professional careers have 
been marked by the highest standards of ethical 
conduct, professionalism, civility and collegi-
ality. Culbreath is a partner at Gallivan White 
Boyd in Columbia, S.C., and has been practicing 
for over 30 years.

Landrum High School (S.C.) dedicated its track 
and cross-country complex to Dr. Todd Walter 
Jr. Walter has served the school for 25 years as 
a volunteer coach and team physician. He also 
founded the school’s girls soccer program.

Mike Ayers and John Lane ’77 are both 
retired after three decades of service 
to Wofford, but they start each week 
exchange text messages planning the 
work they’ll do for the college.

They’ve provided maintenance for more than 18 months at the 200-acre 
Wofford Preserve in Glendale, which 
includes the college’s Goodall Center for 
Environmental Studies. They clear trails, 
build bog bridges, remove litter, mow 
grass and cut trees.

“I don’t know what we would do without 
them,” says Dr. Kaye Savage, professor of environmental studies and director of the Goodall Environmental Studies 
Center. “The maintenance they’re doing 
is so important to ensure that we have 
good access.”

Ayers coached the Terrier football team 
for 30 years before retiring in 2017. Lane 
taught English and environmental studies 
for 32 years. They often enjoyed lunch 
together over the years.

“I’ve always appreciated Mike’s mind and 
how he could work problems out,” says 
Lane. “He would look at the football field 
and determine what we could get and 
how we could compete, and I knew he 
would have the same approach out here.”

Lane was the first director for the Goodall 
Center, which opened in 2009 when the 
environmental studies program began. 
He served in that role until his retirement 
last spring. Three years ago, the preserve 
started to take shape with the college’s 
lease of 100 acres from the Tyger River 
Foundation and property owned by an 
area family. It’s a place for students, 
faculty and staff to conduct research and 
study the environment, but it also meant 
responsibility for additional land that 
would need regular maintenance.

Lane secured grant money to pay 
student workers to clear trails and build 
bridges during the summers. Dr. George 
Tyson ’72, a passionate supporter of the 
college’s environmental studies program, 
suggested that he reach out to Ayers for 
assistance. The former coach has always 
enjoyed the outdoors. Now Ayers and 
Lane supervise student workers and take 
pride in working themselves.

There’s a list of future projects, including 
the building of a bird blind so people can 
observe the preserve’s wetlands.
When Ayers isn’t volunteering in Glendale, he’s tending to his yard and painting. He started painting as an assistant coach, but it was hard to do as a Division I head football coach. Lane, who lives near the preserve, enjoys daily walks through it, which leads to him identifying tasks that he and Ayers can tackle. When Lane’s not at the preserve, he and his wife, Betsy Teeter, are often working around their cabin in the Western North Carolina mountains. His days consist of a lot of reading and writing. He recently celebrated having a new novel published, and more books are in the works. A one-act play that he wrote 30 years ago was performed virtually by the Spartanburg Little Theater in November.

Anchorage 1770, owned by Amy Barwick Lesesne and Frank Lesesne, was named as one of the top 26 inns and bed and breakfasts in Veranda Magazine as well as a visitors’ choice by TripAdvisor.com. This places it in the top 10% of properties in the world listed on TripAdvisor. The inn is located in Beaufort, S.C.

Shayne Daugherty was named principal of Abner Creek Academy in Greer, S.C.

U.S. Cellular promoted Gregory Blair Rice to store manager of its Waynesville, N.C., store. He has more than eight years of wireless technology experience.

Melanie Dillingham Watson began a new job this summer as an assistant principal at Clinton High School in Clinton, S.C. She is married to former Terrier assistant football coach Drew Watson. Their older daughter, Cate, is a sophomore at Wofford.
DR. ANGELIQUE NYINAWABERA ’13
ASKING QUESTIONS; FINDING LIFESAVING ANSWERS
by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington 89

Even as a child, Dr. Angelique Nyinawabera ’13 asked a lot of questions.

“I drove my mom crazy, and I had so many timeouts. Not all of the questions were relevant or necessary, but I asked them anyway,” she says.

The questions continued when she came to Wofford as a Rwandan Presidential Scholar. “I hardly spoke English, and I had to make sure I understood things because of the language barrier. I attributed the questions to that, but it also had to do with my nature,” she says.

Now a research scientist with a pharmaceutical company in Boston, Mass., she’s paid to ask questions and find answers.

Nyinawabera’s primary work is in cancer drug development. Regardless of the disease, Nyinawabera’s responsibilities include developing bioanalytical methods robust enough to detect, measure and quantify drug content from biological samples. She also gets to be part of a team that trains interns and new hires. She enjoys the work and her coworkers, and she feels fulfilled knowing that she’s a part of scientific research that will save lives.

“I want to study and understand terminal diseases and help develop cures. That’s what motivates me the most,” she says.

Nyinawabera returned to Wofford in October when she was in the area for a friend’s wedding. She dropped by the college, saw a few professors and spent some time with Sara Milani, international programs advisor. Milani, who drove her to Wofford as a Rwandan Presidential Scholar, language training, was the first Wofford person she met. The two have remained in touch ever since.

Nyinawabera still uses a Wofford cup from her first year in college. Her apartment has Wofford memorabilia, and she frequently wears Wofford gear. She receives lots of good-natured ribbing because of it.

“I just have a big spirit and love of Wofford,” says Nyinawabera. “Wofford molded and shaped me. It’s my home in the U.S. because that’s where I learned English and met people who became family to me. Everything I am is thanks to Wofford.”

Nyinawabera earned her Ph.D. in May 2019 from Ohio University in Toledo. When she graduated, her mother, Christine Mujawamariya, was there. It was her first time outside of Rwanda.

CLASS NOTES

2004
Ralph Settle was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. Settle is a brokerage associate with Colliers International.

Jenny Lowe Stockwell is excited to join the Arts and Innovation Magnet Program at Barrow County’s Center for Innovative Teaching in Georgia. She teaches English/language arts and communicative arts.

2005
Erin Powell Sturtevant and Will Sturtevant celebrated the birth of their son, Wesley Powell, in October 2019. They live in Atlanta. Erin works in children’s ministries at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, and Will works for Bank of America.

2007
Bryan Blair, deputy director of athletics and leading operating director at Washington State University, wrote an opinion piece focused on social justice and the ability of sports to unite people for the website Front Office Sports.

2008

Amanda Richardson was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. Richardson is vice president of resource development with the United Way of the Piedmont.

2010
Evan Conard was named to the Best Lawyers of America “Ones to Watch” in 2021 for energy, oil and gas law. Conard is an associate in Bowles Rice’s Charleston, W.V., office.

Ashley DeCleene married Joseph Bliss in Lexington, S.C., on Dec. 15, 2019. She’s a teacher, and Joseph is an engineer in Lexington.

Jessica Holcomb was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. Holcomb was promoted to chief operating officer with the Spartanburg Housing Authority in July 2020. She has been with the agency for nine years.


Dr. Duncan Norton and Mariel Norton welcomed a baby boy, Paxton George Norton, on June 8, 2020. He joins his older brother, Dale Loring Norton (2).

Joshua T. Thompson was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. He’s a shareholder with the law firm Boulier Thompson & Barnes.

Philip Vann has joined Thalhimer’s Columbia, S.C., office as a vice president. He has more than six years of commercial brokerage experience and most recently served as a senior brokerage associate with Colliers International. He spent seven years as a banker in Columbia before moving into commercial real estate.

Nyinawabera still uses a Wofford cup from her first year in college. Her apartment has Wofford memorabilia, and she frequently wears Wofford gear. She receives lots of good-natured ribbing because of it.

“I just have a big spirit and love of Wofford,” says Nyinawabera. “Wofford molded and shaped me. It’s my home in the U.S. because that’s where I learned English and met people who became family to me. Everything I am is thanks to Wofford.”

Nyinawabera earned her Ph.D. in May 2019 from Ohio University in Toledo. When she graduated, her mother, Christine Mujawamariya, was there. It was her first time outside of Rwanda.
Business North Carolina magazine named Neil Hunter Robinette one of 19 trailblazing business owners and professionals under the age of 40 in the state. Robinette is CEO of C.F. Smith Property Group, a commercial real estate firm started by his grandfather. The firm has offices in Pinehurst and Rockingham, N.C.

Howard Lee Salters Jr. was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. Salters is a senior account manager with Milliken & Co.

Dr. Hunter Alexander Smith has joined Lowcountry Women’s Specialists as a full partner. Smith, an OB/GYN, specializes in robotic laparoscopy, high-risk obstetrics, contraception management and urogynecologic issues. He is also fluent in Spanish.

Emily Uldrick Hall and Daniel Wesley Hall Sr. are thrilled to announce the birth of their baby boy, Daniel Wesley Hall Jr., born May 26, 2020. The family lives in Easley, S.C. They hope Wesley is a Terrier one day as well!

Claudia Ruffin was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. Ruffin is executive vice president of Johnson Management.

Dr. Chris Olsen has joined Foothills Dental. The practice has offices on Pine Street and Reidville Road in Spartanburg.

Dr. Kristen Snipes, an OB/GYN, has joined Memorial Health University Physicians Woman’s Care. She’s practicing in the Okatie, S.C., office. Snipes has a background in determining pregnancy risks through noninvasive pregnancy testing. She completed her residency at Memorial Health, where she also served as chief resident. She earned her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina.


2012


2013

Cole Brown and Caitlin Felkel Brown welcomed their son, Brooks Parker Brown, on April 17, 2020. The family lives in Greenville, S.C.

Leigh Ann Miller graduated in August from Clemson University with a master’s in business administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship and innovation. She owns and operates Pink Bee GVL, a Lilly Pulitzer specialty store in downtown Greenville, S.C.

2015

**2015**

**Hank Davis** and **Ashlee Moody** recently relocated to Columbia, S.C., after living in Washington, D.C. He works in government relations. Davis has visited 125 National Park Service sites and 13 presidential burial sites.

**Brannan Hudson** has been awarded the Certified Commercial Investment Member designation by the CCIM Institute. Hudson is a brokerage associate with Colliers International. He specializes in leasing and selling flex and industrial properties in the Greenville-Spartanburg market.

**2016**

**Rev. Mason Cantey** has joined the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He’s serving as the pastor of Liberty United Methodist Church and Cherokee Springs United Methodist Church in Spartanburg.

**2018**

**Matt Henderson** was named to the Spartanburg Young Professionals’ Forty Under 40 list. He is a training manager with Tietex International.

**2018**

**Victoria Roof** earned a master of arts in teaching for elementary education from Liberty University in May 2020.

**2019**

**Cam Jackson** signed with Sport Lisboa Benfica of Lisbon, Portugal. The team had a 20-2 record in Liga Portuguesa de Baquetebol, the top league in Portugal, during the 2020-2021 season. That was the second-best record in the 14-team league. He spent his first season in professional basketball with two teams in Germany and played for the league championship.

**2019**

**Florence Gregorie Sloan** has been awarded the George N. Atiyeh Prize, which offers financial aid to attend the annual meetings of the Middle East Librarians Association (MELA) and the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA). Sloan is pursuing a master of science degree in information science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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For more information, contact the Wofford College Alumni Association at alumni@wofford.edu.
A couple of Terriers are leading in-depth conversations on race and our nation’s history at two of the most prominent companies in Upstate South Carolina.

“I knew I was having difficulty focusing on work with everything going on in the country and knew if it was a struggle for me, it was a struggle for others like me,” says Ricaye Harris ’05, director of diversity and inclusion for Spartanburg-based Milliken & Co.

Harris talked to a few colleagues and started planning weekly roundtable discussions for May and June focused on race after the deaths of Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor. Then, a video of George Floyd’s death made the news. According to Harris, the first virtual roundtable drew 75 participants. The conversation was scheduled for an hour, and it exceeded the allotted time. Word spread about the event, and the following week’s meeting had more than 200 participants, including company executives. Tears were shed as associates discussed experiences with racism, and the meeting once again lasted longer than planned. As the series continued, there never seemed to be enough time and participation was so high that the software nearly crashed. A diversity and inclusion roundtable is now held monthly for Milliken associates.

“For whatever reason, 2020 is different,” says Harris. “It’s not just minorities attending these roundtables. It’s always been one particular group pushing the agenda; 2020 has forced us to stand still a little bit, and because of that, we’ve been forced to see events that happen around us.”

Jil Littlejohn ’01, director of inclusion and diversity with Hubbell Inc. in Greenville, S.C., led a discussion on how to discuss disruptive events in the workplace after Floyd’s killing. She opened her remarks with the 200 attendees by making it clear that she was emotional. She had just explained Floyd’s death to her bonus son.

“2020 has been a doozy of a year,” says Littlejohn. “It’s been exhilarating, it’s been exciting and it’s been draining. The world woke up and decided we were behind.”

PREPARING TO LEAD

Harris began her career in human resources at Milliken after graduating from Wofford. Three years ago, she was a corporate recruiter and suggested a need for the company to do more diversity and inclusion work. Milliken’s leadership supported the endeavor and began exploring and benchmarking with Harris. She became the company’s first director of diversity and inclusion in 2019.

“It was good to see Milliken had made strides before these events,” says Harris. “It was good for associates to see that we were being intentional about this work. Today, there are financial costs if we don’t get this right. People recognize if you want to maintain your competitive advantage, you have to invest in this work.”

Corporation diversity and inclusion work continues to evolve after beginning in the 1960s.

“2020 has been a doozy of a year,” says Littlejohn. “It’s been exhilarating, it’s been exciting and it’s been draining. The world woke up and decided we were behind.”

WHAT’S AHEAD

Harris expects companies to continue investing in diversity and inclusion efforts by reviewing policies and recruitment. It’s also understood that many people are watching corporations, especially after organizations made statements supporting diversity during the events of the summer.

“I think we’re going to see accountability increase,” says Harris. “A lot of companies made statements, and in the next six to 12 months, people are going to be like, ‘Loved the statement and appreciate the words, but now what?’ We have to be intentional and have to be accountable. I look for companies to get serious and have strategies.”

Jil Littlejohn says the need for accountability should force companies to acknowledge the long-term commitment to diversity work.

“You can’t force it on anyone,” says Littlejohn. “The main thing is to create an environment where your workplace is inclusive and allow individuals to learn and grow and make sure any discrimination is frowned upon. Extend yourself grace and allow room to make mistakes. Stay in the game.”
IN MEMORIAM

1947
Robert Howard Bryant, Oct. 3, 2020, Irmo, S.C. Bryant worked in public education in Kings Mountain, N.C., for 35 years. He served as a teacher, principal and assistant district superintendent.

1951
Lt. Col. Thomas McKendre Williams Jr., Aug. 18, 2020, Columbia, S.C. Williams served in the U.S. Air Force as a chaplain for 20 years. He and his family returned to South Carolina after his military service, and he worked as a clinical chaplain with the state Department of Mental Health at Morris Village Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment Center. He later became chief of program development and training. He volunteered with the Boy Scouts, Meals on Wheels and a local soup kitchen. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Blythewood and served in many capacities.

1953
Col. Gregory Troutman, Oct. 24, 2020, Mount Pleasant, S.C. Troutman held an MBA from George Washington University and also attended the Army War College. An infantry officer and master paratrooper, he served in Germany, Lebanon, Korea and Vietnam in 1965 and in 1968 as battalion commander, 1st Air Cavalry. While at the Pentagon, he served on the Joint Chiefs of Staff and was recognized as the “Father of FEMA.” He also served as deputy commander of U.S. Training Mission in Saudi Arabia and as ROTC commander of all Southern colleges and universities. He was awarded the Silver Star as well as numerous other senior medals and combat and service decorations. After a second career as a Southeastern district manager in the financial services industry, Troutman retired in Atlanta.

John Paul Poston, Oct. 8, 2020, Marietta, Ga. Poston was a World War II veteran and served in the Philippines and Japan. He received a unit citation for military perfection. He worked for several prominent textile companies, mostly involving the construction of new plants or refurbishing and modernizing older facilities. His last job in textiles was as co-owner of American Mills in Jackson, Tenn. He volunteered with many civic organizations. In retirement, Poston wrote “The Land Between Rivers,” a collection of memoirs about his childhood in Florence County, S.C. Memorials may be made to Wofford College, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303.

1961
Rev. Needham Rodgers Williamson Sr., Aug. 31, 2020, Myrtle Beach, S.C. He served as a minister in the S.C. United Methodist Conference for 41 years and pastored 11 churches. He was instrumental in coining the name “UMVIM,” United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. He served as the leader of the first conference UMVIM overseas construction project, a medical clinic for a Methodist church in Haiti. He enjoyed restoring vintage Ford Mustangs with friends and his sons. His obituary describes his fondest memory as being general manager and tour manager of the Wofford Glee Club and touring as one of “Moyer’s Men.”

1963
John Raymond Flynn Jr., Sept. 14, 2020, Union, S.C. Flynn owned multiple businesses and rental properties in Union. He was a

BOOKS AND PODCASTS FROM ALUMNI

Scott Gould ’81 has a new novel, “Whereabouts,” published this fall. Set in the deep South of the 1970s, the book is the powerful coming-of-age story of an independent teenager who desperately longs to flee her small, claustrophobic hometown. From cheap campgrounds to roadside bars, to the cracked Formica counter of a crumbling pancake house, she wanders the back roads of a forgotten South looking for a safe place to land.

Dean Hartley ’68, who was named as a top scientist by Marquis Who’s Who in May of 2020, has two scientific books released in November. The first is “An Ontology of Modern Conflict.” The second is “Cognitive Superiority: Information to Power,” a more popular science book co-authored with Ken Jobson, M.D. Both books were published by Springer International Publishing. Hartley is principal of Hartley Consulting.

John Lane ’77, who recently retired from Wofford and was named professor of environmental studies emeritus, recently celebrated the release of his latest novel “Whose Woods These Are.” The story takes place on Thanksgiving in a deep river bottom in the mythical Morgan, S.C. It tells of the death and disappearance of an 85-year-old landowner and deer hunter from four perspectives.

The books are available from Upstate, S.C., independent book sellers as well as through Amazon.

Torrey Wilson Rogerson, Oct. 11, 2020, Buffalo, N.Y. Rogerson was a proud retiree of the CSEA815 Labor Union.

1965

Edwin King Long, Oct. 8, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Long earned a master’s degree in deaf education from Appalachian State University. He taught deaf students for 28 years at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind.

1966

Stiles Mikell Harper Jr., Aug. 29, 2020, Bluffton, S.C. Harper was dedicated to the Bluffton community and a generous person who liked to entertain and cook for friends and family. He trained at The Dubrulle French Culinary School in Vancouver. He founded and operated The Sandlapper Nursery. He invited the community to an annual open house that showcased as many as 3,000 orchids. His obituary read: “To know him was to have fresh eggs from his chickens, a jar of his famous artichoke relish, or vegetables out of his expansive garden left at your door.”

Teddy Bruce “Ted” Owens, Aug. 25, 2020, Columbus, N.C. Owens served in the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf. He held several positions with Milliken & Co. before retiring after 49 years of service. He was active in the community and was the mayor of the Town of Columbus and a Polk County commissioner. He served on many boards of directors and volunteered with the Polk County Historical Association.

1967

Dr. Bruce Henry Truesdale, Aug. 19, 2020, Lexington, S.C. Truesdale was a urologist for 37 years and practiced in West Columbia and Lexington, S.C.

1968

John Rodger Anthony, Aug. 14, 2020, Liberty, S.C. Anthony was a paratrooper during the Vietnam War. He enjoyed a long and successful career in banking and founded Cornerstone National Bank, which helped to launch several businesses in Pickens County.

Harriett Willimon Putman ’99 is the producer of “Everything Happens,” a Kate Bowler podcast produced through Duke University. It’s becoming increasingly popular, and two of the podcast guests are Wofford graduates: Lanecia Rouse Tinsley ’00 and Bishop Will Willimon ’68.

“Some experiences can only be captured in the making. And this beautiful soul, Lanecia Rouse Tinsley, is one of my favorite creators. Her art reminds me that even during life's most turbulent times, something beautiful can be made.”

Episode: katebowler.com/podcasts/lanecia-rouse-tinsley-when-hope-seems-lost/ or listen at pod.link/1341076079.

Olin Sansbury ’59 recently published reflections on his life in “Joint Ventures: A Life Enriched by the Good Will of Others.” The book includes South Carolina history and captures political and institutional changes in the state. Sansbury is chancellor emeritus of the University of South Carolina Upstate. He also teaches in the Lifelong Learning at Wofford program and has a class slated for the spring term.
Wofford athletics has a story that stretches back over 130 years.

Football, as many Terriers know, got its start in 1889, when Wofford and Furman played the first intercollegiate football game in South Carolina. Teams in the 1890s played occasional games against Georgia, South Carolina and Clemson, but there is no record of more than four games in a season before 1900. However, football took a 12-season hiatus between 1901 and 1914 because Methodist leaders and college officials believed the game was so violent as to be unsafe. Students played class football — what we might today call intramurals — until alumni convinced the trustees to revive the sport in 1914.

Baseball was the more popular sport in the late 1890s and early 1900s. College historian D.D. Wallace writes about early baseball, noting that the earliest teams learned the sport in the late 1860s from federal soldiers stationed in Spartanburg. Baseball resumed in the late 1880s, though records of that era are thin. Between 1898 and 1903, a well-balanced Wofford baseball team won about 33 games with 13 losses. Early Wofford teams had to play off campus, sometimes at textile parks, but later, the athletic field was leveled and expanded to add a baseball diamond.

Basketball also got its start in the early 1900s, both with class teams and a varsity team. The first record of a game was a 1906 victory over Wake Forest University. The oldest team photo dates from that year. It is a bit of a mystery as to where the college played its basketball games until the opening of Andrews Fieldhouse in 1929. The Terriers played some games at the local YMCA and also played games outside, weather permitting. A gymnasium team and a tennis team rounded out most of the college’s athletics teams before World War II.

Women’s athletics, of course, is a much more recent addition. Volleyball and women’s basketball began intercollegiate competition in 1980, about four years after the move to full residential coeducation.

The college had track and field and rifle teams at various points from 1930 until 1960, and rifle resurfaced for a short time in the 1980s. The college also had cheer teams in the 1930s, which continue today, although they are not NCAA Division I sports.
FRIENDS

Virginia Dean, Sept. 15, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Dean was married to Wofford Hall of Fame basketball player Wally Dean ’50. The couple were married for 46 years before he died. They supported Wofford athletics over the years and filmed the Terriers football games for 42 years. She attended more than 500 Wofford football games and continued to support the Terriers in person in recent years. She served in the Women’s Army Air Corp from 1943 until 1945. The Deans had three sons, including Donald Dean ’70. Memorials may be made to the Wallace G. Dean 1950 Memorial Athletic Endowed Scholarship Fund, Wofford College, 429 N. Church St., Spartanburg, SC 29303.

1987

Angela Vickers “Angie” Lawless, Aug. 27, 2020, Bradenton, Fla. After college, Lawless earned a master of science degree in food safety from Michigan State University. She worked in the food safety industry until retirement. She enjoyed photography, cooking and singing.

REV. DR. CHARLES DAVID BARRETT
Barrett was a beloved Wofford College professor. He taught religion for 33 years after serving as a United Methodist minister. Barrett took joy in his students and colleagues and was especially proud when his children, Sandy Barrett Moore ’93 and the late Chris Barrett ’97, became Wofford Terriers. His wife, Sally Cross Barrett ’69, is also a Wofford graduate. His blend of humor, humility and scholarship made him a much-loved professor, and he mentored many pre-ministerial students and candidates in ordination. He also authored four books: “Understanding the Christian Faith,” “God Under Our Skin: Christ and Covenant in the Christian Conversation,” and “Funny Things Can Happen on Your Way Through the Bible,” volumes I and II.

THE REV. JOHN WESLEY HIPP ’75
Oct. 28, 2020, Mount Pleasant, S.C.
Hipp was currently serving on the Wofford College Board of Trustees (since 2011). He was a chaplain in the S.C. Army National Guard for 28 years before retiring in 2008 as a lieutenant colonel. During his time in the National Guard, he was the command chaplain for Task Force 218, Operation Noble Eagle. He was ordained a deacon in 1976 and an elder in 1979. Hipp served churches throughout South Carolina and was named pastor emeritus of Bethel United Methodist Church at his retirement in 2018. He has served as the district superintendent of both the Orangeburg and the Florence districts. Hipp’s daughter, Stephanie Anne Hipp King ’02, is a Wofford graduate.

RITA RILLMAN
Sept. 19, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C.
Rillman was a student, faculty and staff favorite in the Acorn Café, serving both coffee and kindness. She died at the Regional Hospice Home in Spartanburg. The Old Gold and Black student newspaper featured her several times during her 18-year tenure at the college. In special tribute to Rillman, known affectionately as Ms. Rita, Dr. G.R. Davis, professor of biology, wrote: “She could listen to you and discern whether you 1) needed a shoulder to cry on, 2) a pat on the back or 3) a kick in the butt. ... She spurned bruised bananas, but she welcomed bruised people and ministered to each of us, according to our needs, with caffeine and counseling and carbohydrates. She sold us what we wanted and gave us what we needed.”

DR. DANIEL W. WELCH
Nov. 7, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C.
Welch was a professor of physics at Wofford at the time of his death. He was famous for his popular robotics Interim course that students considered challenging but fun. One student said, “His lectures as a combination of robotic design, the philosophy of robotics and real-life stories about engineering, physics, robotics, etc. After class, he is always happy to talk, course related or not.” Welch, a member of the Wofford faculty since 1978, loved learning and sharing with others everything about the transcendent beauty that is God in physics, theology, astronomy, music and literature.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The Terriers may not have been able to play during the fall, but Brent Williamson, associate athletics director for media relations, used the time to catch up with graduated student-athletes such as Dr. Travis Boyd ’09. You can find other “Where are they now?” features on Wofford Terriers social media accounts and at wofford.edu/athletics.

DR. TRAVIS BOYD ’09

What is your favorite Wofford football memory?

Beating App State at home the week after they beat Michigan was pretty awesome, but I think my favorite memory was senior year when playing Chattanooga at home. I got in the game at halfback, caught a pitch on an option and broke for a 50-yard run. After the game my mom handed me an acceptance letter from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. Great day.

What is your favorite Wofford memory?

My favorite Wofford memory is the long walk from Old Main down Campus Drive and out the front gates on graduation day. The road was lined with professors, mentors, coaches, classmates and alumni, and they were all clapping and patting us on the back. It was a very powerful and emotional moment.

How did competing as a student-athlete prepare you for life after Wofford?

In order to excel or even survive as a student-athlete at Wofford, you have to be goal-oriented and disciplined. Good luck being successful in any endeavor without those traits. The further you go after college, the less defined and obvious the goals become. There isn’t a test every couple of weeks to study for or an upcoming game to prepare for. I am thankful for my experience at Wofford because I learned how to set goals and be disciplined enough to put in the work.

Do you have a favorite Wofford professor or mentor that impacted you?

Dr. G.R. Davis took me under his wing and mentored me starting the spring of my sophomore year. He was my assigned advisor after I declared biology as my major. My life changed the day I walked into his office for our first meeting. I knew nothing about him before that meeting and left it with the feeling that he had a vested interest in my success.

Could you tell us a little about what you are doing now and your career path?

After Wofford I went on to the University of Louisville School of Medicine. I became interested in plastic and reconstructive surgery early in my third year of medical school after shadowing one of the younger plastic surgeons at the university for a week. Before that, like many, I thought plastic surgery was just cosmetic surgery. I was blown away by the variety of procedures he performed and the complexity involved in doing so. From there I focused my attention on getting into a plastic surgery residency and ended up matching at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas. During my six years of residency, I became interested in hand and upper extremity surgery and went on to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center for a one-year fellowship.

I am now in my first year of practice back in Dallas where I am on faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern. I operate mostly at Parkland Hospital doing a wide variety of reconstructive microsurgery and hand surgery. I love that in a given day I could be looking into a microscope to repair the nerves in the hand after a gunshot wound and later doing breast reconstruction after breast cancer.

What piece of advice would you give to current Wofford student-athletes?

My advice to all Wofford students is to reach out to your professors and build relationships. Wofford is a special place and unique in that you have the opportunity to actually know your professors. They’re there because they value having a relationship with Wofford students. Take advantage of it.

My advice to student-athletes is to bring the same level of intensity to your education as you do your sports. If you can do both, you should excel at both.

Travis and Audra Boyd. They are expecting their first child in December.
Follow the college’s official Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.

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Fullback, business economics major, Ridgeville, S.C.

DOM AGRON '22
Pitcher, finance major, Covington, Wash.

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