LOOK AT THOSE FACES
Wofford's campus community was treated to more than lunch during the grand reopening of the renovated Burwell Building. AVI Foodsystems went all out for a Mardi Gras-themed celebration.
Over the past few years, our college has placed a growing emphasis on making Wofford’s high-impact educational experience accessible to all students. The need for financial support to make that happen resonates with Wofford alumni, parents and friends, and, as a result, the college has seen increased giving in the area of experiential learning.

This issue of Wofford Today includes stories of gifts that fuel these opportunities to learn by doing — from study away to internship or research experiences to community-based learning and entrepreneurial ventures. Read about how two members of the staff who have served the college for decades have been honored with the creation of funds to support experiential learning. Also, learn more about a scholarship memorializing Penny Koger-Thomas ’00 and gifts that paid for the renovation of a new advanced chemistry lab in honor of Dr. Charlie Bass.

This issue also celebrates the grand reopening of the Burwell Building, which provides opportunities for gathering and dining for all students, and the impact of the Presidential International Scholars program.

At Wofford College, every day provides opportunities to fulfill our mission, opening doors for students so they can become citizens, leaders and scholars in a global world. Your partnership is the key, and I thank you for your engagement.

Nayef H. Samhat
11TH PRESIDENT OF WOFFORD COLLEGE
Where thought leads.
Nature returns. Forests rise, fish swim and elk call where industry, dams and hunting had extinguished them decades ago. Perhaps in the future, longleaf pine savannah will once again dominate the lowland South, or wooly mammoths roam in the Arctic.

Ecological restoration brings complicated questions: Are natural ecosystems good or valuable, and who benefits? Will people have to change as the landscape around them changes, and how? What is actually being restored? Dr. Kaye Savage, professor and director of the Goodall Environmental Studies Center, and Dr. Peter Brewitt, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies, posed these questions as they led students in their “Return of the ‘Wild’: Ecological Restoration” Interim on an exploration of the past and future of the landscapes around us, digging into the cultural, economic, scientific and political factors that create them.

The group spent time visiting restoration sites, including the college’s Goodall Environmental Studies Center at Glendale Shoals.
UNDER CONSTRUCTION

A Wofford Interim course allowed students to assist in building two houses with Habitat for Humanity in Spartanburg County. Students also learned about the environmental footprint of houses and issues involving affordable housing in Spartanburg and across the country. The students also worked hard-to-fill timeslots for Habitat by reporting at 8:30 a.m. during January.

Read more online.

MAKING THE GRADE

A project that began in 2019 through Wofford’s Milliken Sustainability Initiative involves students volunteering with homework clubs twice a week at two Spartanburg Housing apartment complexes. The initiative earned Spartanburg Housing the 2021 National Award of Merit during the 2021 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Online National Conference and Exhibition.

Read more online.

THE ACADEMIC MINUTE

Wofford College’s Resilience Project was featured on National Public Radio’s The Academic Minute. Dr. John Lefebvre, professor of psychology and faculty mentor to the project’s student researchers, discussed the project and how it’s evolving at Wofford. The segment highlights academic research’s contributions to solving the world’s toughest problems. It’s heard on 70 NPR stations in the United States and Canada.

Read more online.

TRACK STAR

If she wanted, Grayson Carter ’22 could add a line to her resume that would make her the envy of current and former IndyCar drivers everywhere: “Wrecked Mario Andretti.” It happened during a friendly go-cart competition while taking a break from the serious work of the CheckIt4Andretti Foundation, where she interned. Carter helped build the foundation’s website.

Read more online.
NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED DESIGN
The Chandler Center for Environmental Studies has been recognized by Building Design + Construction and American School & University for its design and sustainability features. The 20,000-square-foot building opened in 2020. Its design and construction included the latest building sustainability features, including systems capturing rainwater for irrigation, a partial green roof and solar roof panels.

Read more online.

RETIREMENTS
Shirley Alexander, housekeeper, and John Blair, director of conference services, retired during the fall semester. Alexander was a Wofford employee for nearly 28 years and was a familiar face in the Mungo Student Center. Blair retired after 35 years. He arrived in 1986 to coach men’s soccer and ushered the team into the Division I era. He’s the career leader in victories with 107.

Read more online.

THE GIFT OF LIFE
Emily Hathcock ’23 didn’t realize she’d be someone’s Christmas miracle when she signed up to be a marrow donor. “I don’t know what this man looks like or what his family looks like,” Hathcock says. “But I want him to be able to walk outside and take a breath, and to have more time with the people he loves.”

Read more online.
This spring women’s lacrosse is practicing on a new artificial turf field adjacent to the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium. The addition of the field was a part of the college’s five-year growth plan. The team, in its fifth season, is competing for the first time as a member of the Big South Conference (the Southern Conference no longer sponsors women’s lacrosse).
RENOVATED AND REIMAGINED

By Dudley Brown
Students welcome the new flavors of the Burwell Building
The recently renovated Burwell Building can easily be compared to the food halls found in many major cities.

It’s a multilevel dining facility with multiple stations offering fresh and creative options for meals. Plus, it’s an inviting space to linger with friends, schedule a meeting and study. To say that diners have choices is an understatement.

The renovation of Burwell was a joint venture with the college’s culinary partner, AVI Foodsystems, that was completed in December 2021 at a cost of $11 million, funded largely by AVI. It includes a modern glass atrium and elevator.

“This space — this beautiful, new space — will fuel us with food, certainly, but also with conversation, laughter, knowledge, creativity and fun,” says Wofford President Nayef Samhat. “I’ve talked with a number of people who saw Burwell during its early days and who have spent time in Burwell now, and they almost can’t believe it’s the same building.”

The Feb. 18 grand-opening celebration had a Mardi Gras theme that included a brass band and an invitation for the entire campus community to partake in all that Burwell has to offer.

“I am confident that Burwell will be a destination where traditions, cultures and diverse foods are embraced and where amazing fresh meals are served each and every day by AVI team members who embrace a culture of genuine hospitality,” says Anthony Payiavlas, president and CEO of AVI Foodsystems. “It will be the place where people come together, form lasting friendships and create memories that will be cherished for a lifetime. In the simplest of terms, I want Burwell to be known for great food and outstanding hospitality and service.”

**The food**

Each station at Burwell is designed to be its own dining destination. There’s grilled fare, pizza, Asian cuisine, homestyle meals, options for people with food allergies and a dessert bar that’s hard to resist.

“We want every station to have its own restaurant identity,” says Cherie Tyger, resident director of culinary services, who points out the digital signage at each station listing its name and the day’s menu. Stations also have their own designated bowls and plates to complement themes.

Smoke & Fire offers burgers and hot dogs as well as rotating entrees like a brined and smoked pork loin. Pickled vegetables and sauces are also available to complement barbecue offerings.

Fusion offers Asian dishes, and Burwell’s open kitchens make it possible to watch the artistry that can be associated with cooking, especially when the wok is in use.

“The BTUs for it are off the charts,” says Stephen Baity, director of culinary operations, of the wok. “We have some amazing equipment.”

There’s a tandoori oven for naan bread, and four types of pizza are cooked daily in a brick oven.

Diners looking to simply make a sandwich will find house-roasted meats at The Carvery.
CHERIE TYGER
RESIDENT DIRECTOR
OF CULINARY SERVICES

MICHAEL PICCONE
DIRECTOR OF CATERING

JASON RIVERA
SOUS CHEF
Clarity is a station offering meals that are free of eight major allergens and gluten, and there’s a display case where people can find allergy-friendly cookies, donut holes and other treats for the times those with food allergies need to satisfy cravings.

“I had a couple of students almost in tears because of this,” says Tyger of Clarity.

The dessert bar includes various pastries, multiple flavors of ice cream and homemade gelato, popsicles and doughnuts. It’s also the spot to visit during breakfast hours twice a week for crepes.

The space

The updated Burwell has an additional 150 seats and three rooms that can be reserved for meetings: the Gray-Jones Room, the Anna Todd Wofford Room and the Holcombe Room. In addition, the building features the Montgomery Room, which is used as a faculty/staff dining space, and a smaller president’s dining room. All rooms are outfitted with technology, including the Holcombe Room’s 85-inch television.

McMillan Pazdan Smith served as the architects for Burwell, and Robins & Morton oversaw construction.

About AVI

AVI is a family-owned company that was founded in 1960 when John Payiavlas purchased a few vending machines. He and his brother also built a building that included a bowling alley and warehouse space for the foodservice business. The family began to set itself apart from other vending machine competitors in the 1970s by making fresh food from scratch for its vending machines. In the 1980s, AVI began operating cafés for clients, which eventually led it to establish a campus dining program in 2002 and partnerships with healthcare facilities in 2003.

AVI manages hospitality services in 44 states while striving to be a model of sustainability by using ingredients from farms and suppliers within 100 miles of client partners.

“Fresh food is not only our culinary philosophy; it is how food was intended to be prepared,” Payiavlas says. “It is at the core of what we do. Taking the time and effort to prepare food from scratch is how we best demonstrate that we truly care for the people we serve. Students need nourishment to reach their goals and to empower their learning. Every client partner and every guest deserves only the best that we can provide; our commitment to scratch cooking and our platinum culinary standards of excellence are how we deliver our best every day.”
FROM THE
archives

THE COLLEGE'S
DINING ROOMS

Dr. Phillip Stone ’94, archivist

Student dining options have evolved quite a bit since Wofford opened in 1854.

At first, the college operated under the “nonresident” system, which meant that Wofford did not provide housing or meals for students. Students often lived with families in Spartanburg. The early catalogues suggested that students could find lodging for around $10 to $12 per month.

Soon, however, students petitioned to live in unused rooms in Main Building. Two brothers, Zach T. and A.S. Whiteside, both members of the class of 1877, started finding ways to prepare their own meals. (The college food court in the Mungo Student Center is named for Zach.) A few years later, a student approached President James H. Carlisle requesting to rent a room in Main Building to start a dining group. The student, T.C. O’Dell of the class of 1886, later recounted that he was short of funds, and without a more economical way of paying for his meals, he might have to leave college. He explained to Carlisle that he believed that a group of students could save funds by hiring a cook and sharing the costs. O’Dell estimated the cost would be about $6 per month for each of them. Carlisle sent them to Professor W.W. Duncan, who supported their plan and gave them a ground floor room in the east wing of Main Building for their dining room as well as a wooden shack for a kitchen rent free. They hired Jim Gillespy, an African American cook from the local community, to prepare their meals. According to a faculty report to the board of trustees in 1882, about 20 students were sharing their meals, and the following year, they had to move to a larger room in Main Building. The students named their dining room “Wightman Hall” in honor of the college’s first president. The Wofford College Journal of 1891 described the dining hall this way: “The hall is lighted with gas, well heated, and altogether, with its twelve or fourteen tables, presents the appearance of a well-regulated dining room in a modern hotel,” serving food of a high quality. Even in the early 1890s, the monthly bill did not exceed $6.50 a month per student. Wightman Hall was able to serve about 50 students, which was a third of the student body. Carlisle, ever concerned about the moral life of the students, regularly inquired about events in the dining room. The Journal reported that most students participated in daily devotionals after supper and that they took turns leading prayers before meals. Dr. David Duncan Wallace of the class of 1894 remembered the “plain dressing and determined character” of the students who dined there, and he noted that the dining room, later called “College Hall,” continued until about 1908.

Growth in the student body in the early 20th century convinced the trustees to build a large residence hall and to include in it a kitchen and dining room. Alumni immediately set about raising funds, and the
college opened James H. Carlisle Memorial Hall in 1912. Most first-year and sophomore students had rooms in the residence hall, and the building’s dining room could accommodate about 225. Dr. Lewis P. Jones ’38 wrote about eating in the dining room in the 1930s, noting that meals included an early breakfast, dinner at 2:30 p.m. after classes had ended, and supper at 6:30 p.m. Either rice or grits appeared at most meals. On Sundays, students had to appear for lunch in a coat and tie, and as meals ended, they were handed a bag containing their supper so that the cooks could have an evening off. The dining room had no buffet line, with meals being served at the tables. While most students ate in Carlisle Hall, during the years that Snyder Residence Hall operated, its residents ate in their own dining room.

The college followed the model of building a residence hall with a dining room when it designed Wightman Hall. Opened in the summer of 1958, Wightman’s dining room, located on the second floor, featured dual serving lines as well as seating for about 400 students. Plans included a new kitchen, located on the ground floor, with food being moved upstairs using dumbwaiters. Compared to Carlisle Hall, Wightman’s dining room was more spacious, modern and efficient in terms of being able to handle a larger student body.

Arguably the most famous incident in the brief history of the Wightman dining room was the infamous 1965 food fight, which has grown to mythic proportions with every retelling. However, continued growth in the student body in the 1960s made Wightman Hall inadequate within less than a decade. The board of trustees began considering a new dining facility as early as 1965. Plans began to take shape for a campus center, with a dining room to seat more than 500 students, gathering spaces, offices and meeting rooms. Because the kitchen under Wightman Hall was so new, the college chose to connect the two buildings via a service corridor rather than build a new facility. That meant, however, the inconvenience of moving food between the buildings and upstairs to supply the three serving lines.

The Burwell Campus Center opened in the fall of 1969 with a major gift from Ernest and Ethel Burwell supporting much of the cost. Ernest Burwell had been a Spartanburg business leader since 1920 and was president of Burwell Chevrolet. Since it opened, the Burwell Dining Room and the other dining areas in the building have witnessed constant change, including admission of women as resident students, continued growth in the student body and changing student tastes and dietary requirements. With its most recent renovation in 2020-21, the Burwell Building is poised to serve several more generations of Wofford students, offering a place to gather, share meals and build community.
Designed to grow

A report on the college’s endowment

Endowment value
$439.6 million*

Rate of return (2021): 14.4%

On Feb. 24, 2021, Wofford College became a different institution within a matter of minutes. Jerry Richardson ’59 signed the agreement to donate $150 million to the college’s endowment, and the total endowment almost doubled. The Richardson gift is restricted to support need-based scholarships and experiential learning opportunities, building maintenance and renovation, and an increase in the compensation pool to $15 an hour for hourly employees, which has helped the college retain talented employees at a time when others have found that a challenge.

In the year since that gift, the college’s endowment has now grown to almost $440 million, thanks also to additional gifts and to compounding interest. That’s the beauty of an endowment; it’s designed to grow and provide an increasing stream of revenue to support student success in all areas.

This report will outline what an endowment is and why a growing endowment is vitally important to the future of Wofford College.

Wofford’s endowment can be a part of your future as well. Establishing a named, endowed fund at the college — whether a scholarship, professorship or program endowment — means you will always have an impact on our college and on the generations of Terriers to come!

*AS OF DEC. 31, 2021
An Overview of Wofford’s Endowment Performance

Wofford’s endowment during 2021

Investment return, net of fees: $71,820,974
Gifts to the endowment: $166,582,826
Spending: $9,311,589

Asset Allocation:
- Domestic Equity 42%
- International Equity 24.4%
- Flexible Capital 11.5%
- Fixed Income 9.8%
- Real Assets 10.3%
- Liquid Capital 2%

Average annual compounded return over the past five years: 11%

Annual Investment Returns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Return</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Wofford College endowment consists of 970 individual funds. Each is established by a dedicated and generous donor or group of donors for a specific purpose.

Endowment by Use:

- Academic scholarships and financial aid: 52%
- Athletics scholarships and financial aid: 22%
- Endowed professorships and chairs: 18%
- General support funds: 8%
## Endowment breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Funds</th>
<th>Athletics Funds</th>
<th>Building Funds (not yet active)</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total number of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>540</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Gifts and distribution:

### Endowment net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY20 Gifts</th>
<th>FY21 Gifts</th>
<th>FY20 Distribution</th>
<th>FY21 Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>Purpose/Time Restrictions</td>
<td>Perpetual in Nature</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Endowment net assets June 30, 2019**
  - FY20 Gifts: $2,599,842
  - FY21 Gifts: $57,505,070
  - FY20 Distribution: $151,567,650
  - FY21 Distribution: $211,672,562

- **Investment return, net**
  - FY20 Gifts: $8,278
  - FY21 Gifts: $725,238
  - FY20 Distribution: ($48,248)
  - FY21 Distribution: $685,268

- **Contributions, net of uncollectible gifts**
  - FY20 Gifts: $
  - FY21 Gifts: $4,132,939
  - FY20 Distribution: $4,132,939

- **Investment return used for operations**
  - FY20 Gifts: ($185,225)
  - FY21 Gifts: ($8,876,872)
  - FY20 Distribution: ($3,822)
  - FY21 Distribution: ($9,065,919)

- **Other transfers and reclassifications**
  - FY20 Gifts: ($273,715)
  - FY21 Gifts: $444,903
  - FY20 Distribution: $461,622
  - FY21 Distribution: $632,810

- **Endowment net assets June 30, 2020**
  - FY20 Gifts: $2,149,180
  - FY21 Gifts: $49,798,339
  - FY20 Distribution: $156,110,141
  - FY21 Distribution: $208,057,660

- **Total investment return**
  - FY20 Gifts: $642,387
  - FY21 Gifts: $69,166,718
  - FY20 Distribution: $2,011,869
  - FY21 Distribution: $71,820,974

- **Contributions, net of uncollectible gifts**
  - FY20 Gifts: $
  - FY21 Gifts: $166,582,826
  - FY20 Distribution: $166,582,826

- **Investment return used for operations**
  - FY20 Gifts: ($153,540)
  - FY21 Gifts: ($9,153,963)
  - FY20 Distribution: ($4,086)
  - FY21 Distribution: ($9,311,589)

- **Other transfers and reclassifications**
  - FY20 Gifts: ($144,016)
  - FY21 Gifts: $381,186
  - FY20 Distribution: $125,867
  - FY21 Distribution: $363,037

- **Endowment net assets June 30, 2021**
  - FY20 Gifts: $2,494,011
  - FY21 Gifts: $110,192,280
  - FY20 Distribution: $324,826,617
  - FY21 Distribution: $437,512,908
Ramirez-Alvarado is a biology and Spanish double major with a concentration in neuroscience from Spartanburg, S.C. She is a first-generation college student, a Bonner Scholar, a Gateway Scholar and a member of Wofford Women of Color and the Organization of Latin American Students. She also serves on the college’s orientation staff.

“My first year has been incredibly hectic in the midst of a pandemic, but I was able to successfully complete the year with a spot on the Dean’s List while being involved in a variety of campus organizations. These opportunities are possible because of a scholarship from the Fred A. Gosnell Sr. ’14 and Family Endowed Scholarship Fund, and I am truly grateful for this kindness. I promise to continue to work hard and succeed as I continue my journey here at Wofford. There is so much opportunity and so much I still want to do and continue to build. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity, and I hope you continue to invest in education so that other Latinx first-generation students like me can feel like their dreams are not that crazy and are actually feasible. ... I will continue to pursue my dreams, become successful and inspire others along the way to say thank you.”

Marlen Ramirez-Alvarado ’24

Harrington, a biology major from Katy, Texas, is a defensive back for the Terrier football team. He has taken advantage of several internship experiences and was named to the Southern Conference All-Academic Team and Academic Honor Roll. He’s also a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Council executive board, Alpha Epsilon Delta vice president, an iCAN mentor, a resident assistant, a teaching assistant in biology and a research assistant in psychology.

“Thank you so much for your generosity in being my scholarship donor! Without the help of the Daniel/J. Harold Chandler ’71 Endowed Scholarship Fund, I wouldn’t be able to continue to play the sport I love, while also receiving a great education. In a pandemic full of uncertainty caused by COVID-19, many programs at other institutions got canceled and scholarships were revoked. I am very blessed that I was able to still have a scholarship, and that is due to your help! I will utilize this scholarship to the fullest and make this opportunity count. It has been amazing watching our relationship grow over the years. I am thankful for the dinners, advice, and opportunities you and Mrs. Chandler have provided time and time again. I will never take for granted what you do not only for me, but many others! Thank you endlessly!”

John Harrington ’23

Lopez is a biology and Spanish double major from Spartanburg, S.C. She’s a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and served as the vice president of panhellenic recruitment. She’s also a Wofford cheerleader and alumni ambassador.

“Thank you for your generous support of my education through the M. Alex ’33 and Clara H. Foster Endowed Scholarship Fund at Wofford. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship. After graduation, I plan to take a gap year in order to gain more clinical experience within the medical field before applying to physician’s assistant school next cycle. Because of your generosity, I am one step closer to making my dreams a reality. I hope, in turn, I’ll be able to give back to Wofford one day and help other students achieve their goals.”

Natalie Lopez ’22

Marlen Ramirez-Alvarado ’24

Ramirez-Alvarado is a biology and Spanish double major with a concentration in neuroscience from Spartanburg, S.C. She is a first-generation college student, a Bonner Scholar, a Gateway Scholar and a member of Wofford Women of Color and the Organization of Latin American Students. She also serves on the college’s orientation staff.

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John Harrington ’23
FAQs about the endowment

What is the endowment?
Wofford's endowment is a pool of money, which is invested wisely, that provides a permanent source of support for the college. The endowment ensures Wofford's long-term sustainability while supporting current needs through annual spending allocations.

What does Wofford's endowment support?
Wofford's endowment provides funding for scholarships, student experiences, faculty and staff, building maintenance and renovation, technology upgrades, general college operations and programs that promote student success.

How do gifts to the endowment work?
Each gift — whether through the creation of a new fund or a gift to an existing fund — is invested with the college’s total endowment. The endowment is designed to grow. It’s invested in such a way that a portion of the growth returns to the fund, even as a portion is used to support current needs.

For example, endowed scholarship funds produce scholarships each year at these amounts:
+ A $50,000 endowment produces $2,500.
+ A $100,000 endowment produces $5,000.
+ A $250,000 endowment produces $12,500.
+ A $500,000 endowment produces $25,000.
+ A $750,000 endowment produces $37,500.
+ A $1,000,000 endowment produces $50,000.

Who manages Wofford’s endowment?
Wofford’s endowment is managed by an investment committee of the Wofford College Board of Trustees. The college also works with Prime Buchholz, an industry-leading independent investment advisory firm.

What is the endowment’s spend policy?
Following the Total Return Policy set by the board of trustees, a portion of the endowment is spent annually to support the college’s mission. Currently, the college allocates 5% of the endowment’s average market value for the prior five years toward current support of students, faculty and programs.

What percentage of Wofford’s annual budget does the endowment fund?
This past fiscal year, endowment distributions comprised 7.6% of the college’s operating revenue. The remaining 92.4% came from other sources, such as annual gifts to the college, tuition and fees, and grants or contracts.

Why does Wofford devote so much of its endowment to scholarships and financial aid?
Scholarships and financial aid constitute the largest category of endowment use. During the 2021-22 academic year, 95% of students received some sort of financial aid. Delivering Wofford’s nationally ranked residential liberal arts educational experience is costly, so providing generous scholarship support makes it accessible and affordable for more students.
How permanent are endowed funds?
Endowed funds are as permanent as Wofford itself. The college still awards scholarships established in the early 1900s. The class of 1932 established the first class scholarship, and awards from that fund are still awarded today. When students receive their scholarship awards, they learn the name of their scholarship donor or donors. The endowment tells a story of philanthropy that stretches back, makes a current impact and will reach far into the future.

What happens during recessions or changes in the stock market?
Although endowments, like all investments, are vulnerable to market risks, Wofford’s endowment spending allocation is calculated on a 20-quarter (or five-year) rolling average. That means that endowment spending remains relatively stable in the short-term to offset fluctuating economic conditions.

How does Wofford compare to other colleges and universities in our peer group?
Wofford almost doubled its endowment with the Richardson gift, but we remain lower mid-pack when compared to other nationally ranked liberal arts colleges.

How do you establish an endowed fund at the college?
The college’s gift officers are eager to discuss ways that you can nurture the people, programs and activities of Wofford College. Call 864-597-4204, email shuleres@wofford.edu or visit wofford.edu/endowedgifts to learn more.

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.
Gifts that fuel OPPORTUNITY

To make a gift to any of these funds, visit wofford.edu/give.

Elikem Asimenu ’24 spent Interim in the British Isles.
The “remember whens” and good-natured ribbing started immediately. Steven Blanton ’04, Allen Bridgers ’01, Brian Fast ’07, Craig Melvin ’01 and Josh Whitley ’05 zoomed in ahead of the guest of honor, Roberta Hurley ’81, dean of students and vice president of campus life and student development.

The joking continued as Hurley experienced a series of technical difficulties.

“She saw all of these idiots on the screen and decided she wasn’t going to join,” says Bridgers about Hurley dropping out of the meeting within seconds of joining.

Once together, the graduates surprised Hurley by announcing the establishment of an endowed fund in her honor to support experiential learning for students with financial need.

“I was shocked and humbled. One of my first thoughts was I need to change my will,” says Hurley. “My parents worked very hard to make sure I was able to attend Wofford, and even then, I still relied on a small academic award, a South Carolina Tuition Grant, a loan and work study. There wasn’t extra to travel or intern or do research off campus. I’m thrilled students will have access to funds for experiential learning thanks to the generosity of these great alumni.”

The idea to honor Hurley started when Josh and Cowles Gilchrist Whitley ’05 took advantage of the Trustee Matching Fund to establish an academic scholarship to benefit students from Berkeley and Charleston counties. The experience was easy and meaningful, so they decided to consider an additional scholarship.

“These endowed funds for experiential learning make a huge difference for our students, and they’re a priority if we’re going to fulfill our president’s vision and the vision of the trustees to make all that Wofford has to offer available for all students,” says Whitley. “While we were doing this, we talked a lot about our positive student experiences and realized that few people have had the impact that Roberta Hurley has had over the past four decades.”

The Whitleys did establish a second scholarship to support Interim travel and study for students with need, and Josh started calling friends who also had a special connection to Hurley with an opportunity to create a third endowed fund.

“I’ve been on the right side and on the wrong side of Dean Hurley, and she’s always been fair,” says Melvin, who joked that he’d like his contribution to be considered hush money. “We can all share stories of how she contributed to the student experience at Wofford, so when Josh called and said we should do something nice for someone who’s done something nice for us and our families and our college, how could we say no?” Melvin and his wife, Lindsay Czarniak, had already taken advantage of the Trustee Matching Fund to establish the Lindsay and Craig Melvin Fund to support students pursuing experiential learning opportunities.

“I learned what to do and what not to do thanks to Dean Hurley. She chewed me out many a time,” says Blanton, who contributed along with his spouse, Anna Richardson Blanton ’09.

“Dean Hurley and the Wofford community were there for me at a tough time,” says Fast, who was joined by his wife, Dr. Patricia Jordan Fast ’08, in making the gift. “I could not have afforded an internship abroad as a student, so it feels good to support that now.”

“My first run-in with Dean Hurley was when I pranked a student by impersonating a campus safety officer,” says Bridgers. “Dean Hurley understands that it’s important to let students screw up in a safe space.” Bridgers and his wife, Jenna Sheheen Bridgers ’01, contributed as a couple to the fund.

“She comes to our weddings and the christenings of our children. She comes to funerals, and she was there when we got a tough diagnosis after our twins were born,” says Whitley. “I made five calls and all five said yes. I could have called others. This is the easiest money I’ve ever raised, and I know this fund will grow as soon as more people learn about it.”

Hurley became dean of students on Aug. 15, 1995, and by Aug. 15, 2022, she will have transitioned to her new role as senior vice president for administration and secretary to the board of trustees.

“This is a wonderful compliment,” says Hurley. “The best thing about my job has been getting to know students and the lifelong relationships that have come from that. It’s something I never thought of when I accepted the job.”
More than 30 Wofford graduates donated to support renovating the chemistry department’s research lab. It’s their way of honoring Dr. Charlie Bass and giving back to ensure future Terriers receive the education and experiences they need for the future.

Dr. Steven Richards ’08, a Spartanburg dentist, fondly remembers how Bass, the college’s Dr. and Mrs. Larry Hearn McCalla Professor of Chemistry, taught organic chemistry and ultimately helped prepare students for postgraduate education. He played a leading role in getting alumni to give.

“I didn’t get a single no response,” he says.

The lab will accommodate research projects that carry over outside of traditional lab hours.

“Chemistry research, and I suspect research in the other disciplines on campus, simply does not fit nicely into a typical three-hour lab period,” says Bass, who will retire at the end of the spring semester. “In the past, attempts at research simply meant that experiments taking many hours were not possible as there was no dedicated space for such activities. Too much time was wasted by having to constantly set up and take down experiments so that regular lab classes could be prepared, taught, broken down and put away.”

More time focused on research excites Dr. Jameica Hill ’88, professor and chair of the chemistry department.

“Our students will benefit tremendously from having a state-of-the-art chemistry research lab within the department,” Hill says. “The experiences they will gain working on projects with faculty mentors are numerous, including a gradual transition toward independent research and confidence in their scientific abilities. But the most important benefit to undergraduate research is learning. Learning chemistry by doing chemistry in a non-classroom setting will help prepare our students to be better chemists and lends itself to students developing that excitement for discovery.”
Leslie Koger has a photograph of herself with her sister, Penny Koger ’00, that occupies a special place in her home and in her heart. It’s a picture of the sisters sharing Penny’s first salute after she was commissioned into the U.S. Army during Commencement Weekend in 2000.

Leslie, a master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, is now saluting her sister’s life through the Penny Koger Memorial Scholarship. She died suddenly on New Year’s Eve in 2013.

“We always talked about doing some type of scholarship after our mom passed during my sister’s freshman year, but we never got around to it,” Leslie says. “When Penny passed, I knew I had to do something. It was coming up on the eighth anniversary of her death, and it came to me during the pandemic that I needed to hurry up and get it done.”

In addition to participating in Army ROTC at Wofford, Penny also was a member of the women’s track and field team. She was active in the community, earning the Spartanburg Boys and Girls Club’s Volunteer of the Year Award in 1997.

After being honorably discharged from the Army, Penny moved into human resources and worked for several government agencies. In 2008, Ebony magazine featured her as one of “30 Rising Leaders Under 30.”

“She was a proud Terrier,” Leslie says. “Being from a small town, she supported rural students, and she was an advocate for other African Americans on campus. She had a drive to do the work she wanted to do, to serve others and to better herself.”

The scholarship was established in June 2021 and awarded for the first time during the Black Alumni Summit on Homecoming Weekend in October. Breana Dogan ’22, a biology major from Spartanburg, was the first recipient, and Leslie was there to present the scholarship.

“It’s an honor to be the first to receive the scholarship,” says Dogan, who plans to use the funds in graduate school. “From everything I’ve heard, Penny Koger was a phenomenal woman who did a lot of things on campus and in the community. It’s a great opportunity, and I am truly thankful.”

Penny Koger Memorial Scholarship a fitting salute to sister, alumna and soldier

By Robert W. Dalton

Penny Koger Memorial Scholarship a fitting salute to sister, alumna and soldier

By Robert W. Dalton
Cheek and Fant continue to make a difference with new endowed funds

By Dudley Brown

James Cheek ’73 and Phillip Fant ’74 were among the first Black students to attend Wofford. They made contributions to shape the student experience, and recent gifts from their family will continue to impact the campus for years to come.

Fant’s daughter, Phylicia Fant, recently honored them by establishing the Phillip Fant ’74 and James A. Cheek ’73 Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will benefit students from Spartanburg with financial need.

“Legacy matters, and they were courageous,” Phylicia Fant says. “The whole idea of the shoulders we stand on is real.”

Cheek has established the Arthur Earl Cheek and Myrtle Jackson Cheek Legacy Endowed Scholarship Fund to honor his parents. Fant and his wife, Margaree, started a travel fund to support students traveling with the college’s Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. All of the new funds were announced during one of the college’s Black History Month events.

Cheek’s fund will support study abroad experiences for Black students and others who are first-generation college students.

“My father always encouraged us to experience new things,” says Cheek, who studied in Ireland one Interim. “My mother was an educator.”

Cheek describes the experience in Ireland as reaffirming and an opportunity to get to know Wofford peers away from campus.

“It was a different atmosphere than the college, and we got to know each other on a different level,” Cheek says.

The Fants also wanted to support student travel.

“My mom always made sure I went on field trips,” says Fant, a founding member of Wofford’s chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

“They were an extension of your learning. All students don’t have the same advantages as others.”

Cheek shares that sentiment.

“We might not all be on the same path, but we all can be on the same journey,” Cheek says.

President Dr. Nayef Samhat with members of the Cheek and Fant families who are supporting the college by establishing endowed funds. From left, Samhat; James Cheek ’73; Myrtle Cheek; Phillip Fant ’74; Margaree Fant; Anneliesa Finch, a Wofford leadership gift officer; Eric Cheek; Phylicia Fant and Dr. Dwain Pruitt ’95, Wofford’s chief equity officer.
David M. and Cynthia C. Beacham are famous for saying yes. For more than 40 years, if the Spartanburg community asked, the Beachams answered in the affirmative — serving on boards, chairing committees, leading projects, volunteering, advocating and giving.

“They’re a power couple, and they’ve given 110% through service to more than 20 charitable organizations in our community,” says John White, attorney and managing partner of Harrison White PC, during the Abernathy-White Christmas Eve Annual Breakfast. “Spartanburg is a better place because of their involvement, and it is our honor to recognize their contributions with the Abernathy-White Humanitarian Award.”

In addition to presenting the award, Harrison White contributed the lead gift toward the establishment of the David M. and Cynthia C. Beacham Internship Fund in the Beachams’ honor. The fund will give students with financial need the resources to say yes to transformational internship opportunities.

“Internships are vitally important for college students,” says David Beacham. “They give students the opportunity to put their academic training to practical use, advancing their skills while discovering their professional passions and purpose. Cyndi and I have been fortunate to have found our passion and purpose in our work and in our engagement in the Spartanburg community. This fund will give future generations the same opportunity.”

David Beacham came to Spartanburg as a Wofford College student in the mid-1970s. He joined the college’s admission staff not long after graduation in 1977 and transitioned to advancement and senior leadership positions. He will retire from the college in May as senior vice president for administration and secretary to the board of trustees after 45 years of service. His nonprofit commitments have included First Presbyterian Church, the Cancer Association of Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties, Partners for Active Living, the American Red Cross Piedmont Chapter, Habitat for Humanity and St. Luke’s Free Medical Clinic.

Cyndi Beacham retired in June 2020 as president of the Charles Lea Center Foundation. Prior to that, she was vice president for community improvement and education with the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce. There she ran Leadership Spartanburg and started Junior Leadership Spartanburg. Through the years, she has supported numerous community organizations.

“This breakfast is all about planting seeds, and we’ve watched the seeds that David and Cyndi Beacham have planted grow and make a lasting impact in our community,” says White. “We want our community’s young people to take note and follow their examples.”

The Abernathy-White Christmas Eve Annual Breakfast began more than 60 years ago when two prominent Spartanburg citizens — John B. White Sr., founder of the Beacon restaurant, and Warren Abernathy, senior advisor to Sen. Strom Thurmond — started gathering people who often did not see eye-to-eye for a breakfast on Dec. 24. The point was to get people to put aside their political differences to build cooperation and community. Over the years, the modest gathering, which was originally held at the Beacon, grew to an event that now brings nearly 700 people together at the Marriott downtown for breakfast, fellowship and a cause that furthers the Spartanburg community. Harrison White hosts the breakfast in memory of White and Abernathy.
Wofford Way Unity Fund builds culture of lifelong learning and growth

By Robert W. Dalton

Johnston Dantzler ’69 learned a lot about himself and the world around him during Wofford’s first Interim in 1968. Dantzler and three friends traveled to three historically Black universities to interview students and administrators. Their goal was to learn about the challenges faced by Black people in America.

“As we had never interacted with students of color, we left Johnson C. Smith University, Claflin and South Carolina State with different perspectives. We found these college students much like us ... interested in, yet concerned about, the future of America.”

More than 50 years later, Dantzler is still learning. That’s why he joined several classmates in 2021 to establish the Wofford Way Unity Fund. The fund’s purpose is to provide support to enact the recommendations of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee adopted by the college’s board of trustees in August 2021.

“I reflect on my Wofford experience 50-plus years ago with mixed pride and inquietude,” Dantzler says. “My first Interim project helped me do some soul-searching, to envision America, its people and government as inclusive of all citizens. I want to believe we can still achieve this. With its current emphasis on diversity and inclusiveness ... today’s Wofford has made the responsible commitment to every student seeking truth, understanding and justice while earning a quality liberal arts education.”

Elliott Cooper ’04, Wofford’s director of annual giving, says that recommendation 13 of the JEDI report perfectly summarizes the purpose of the Wofford Way Unity Fund. That recommendation states that financial need should not limit student academic choices.

“The Wofford Way Unity Fund aims to break down the barriers that financial limitations raise within the Wofford experience,” Cooper says. “It will allow more students to participate in the things that make them choose Wofford in the first place, the community, the academics and the co-curricular opportunities. The ultimate goal will result in all Wofford students having the opportunity and choice to participate in all Wofford has to offer.”

Dr. Russell Wigginton, president of the National Civil Rights Museum, spoke at Wofford on Feb. 2 to kick off the college’s Black History Month commemoration.
Philips Leach ’10 believes the Terrier Excellence Fund could be a game-changer for Wofford’s overall athletics program.

The fund was established to allow supporters to give to specific sports. The proceeds could be used to fund a variety of items, such as travel for recruiting, meals and nutrition for physical development, personal and professional development, international team trips, and locker room and equipment enhancements.

“It would have been a great addition to supplement the men’s soccer budget when I was playing,” says Leach, who played on the Southern Conference regular season and tournament championship team in 2009. “A lot of programs, both men’s and women’s, are recognizing that. These are funds that can be used wherever the coaching staff sees the greatest need.”

Leach, director of origination at REV Renewables in Raleigh, N.C., and a member of the Terrier Club Board of Directors, says the fund can aid programs on two fronts: helping them be more successful now and attracting more talent in the future.

“It’s a creative addition that the athletics department has submitted to supporters who may want to make donations to a specific sport on top of their regular Terrier Club donations,” Leach says. “Whether you played on a given team or had friends or family who played, it’s a great avenue to support specific programs.”

Men’s soccer coach Joel Tyson says the fund will allow programs to enhance the experience of student-athletes. “Any time we get the opportunity for people to provide funds for our program, it gives us the opportunity to take better care of our players,” Tyson says. “That could be done in a variety of ways, including providing extra gear, enhancing postgame and post-training nutrition, and creating team bonding activities.”

Luke Feisal ’14, associate athletics director for athletics development, says the Terrier Excellence Fund, coupled with Terrier Club annual giving and athletics endowed scholarship contributions, will allow programs to excel at the highest level.

“Giving to a specific sport through the Terrier Excellence Fund is a tremendous way to elevate the student-athletes’ experience as they strive to reach their goals and expectations. It is a definite difference maker.”

Terrier Excellence Fund allows supporters to give to specific sports

By Robert W. Dalton
In the 1970s Wofford College President Joe Lesesne met potential donors to discuss opportunities to provide scholarships supporting Interim travel. A decade later, one of those people approached Lesesne to pitch an idea that would take that idea to the next level.

The Presidential International Scholars program is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, and it has provided a life-changing experience for students and a lasting impact on Wofford’s campus.

“Wofford College is a leader in experiential learning — study abroad, community-based learning, undergraduate research and internships — and all who said yes to the opportunity to represent Wofford around the world as Presidential International Scholars share in that success,” said Dr. Nayef Samhat, Wofford’s president, during a Presidential International Scholar reunion in the fall.

The donor’s three basic requirements continue to shape how students are selected:

A person best suited to make a beneficial contribution to the good of humankind.

The desire to conduct international research, with emphasis on developing nations.

The expectation of returning to Wofford to live among peers while sharing experiences with the campus and the larger community.

“The concept was the anonymous donor’s, but it turned out to be a good set of guidelines,” Lesesne says.

The donor, who has combat experience, wanted students to be tested and challenged. The experience did just that, and the first scholar played a vital role in the program’s launch and future success.

“The original recipient turned out to be a good choice, and we learned a lot from him,” Lesesne says. “We added to and changed the process over time, but not the methodology.”

The First

Collier Slade ’87 was excited about the opportunity to travel the world and to conduct research on global deforestation when he was selected as the college’s first Presidential International Scholar. His mother, however, didn’t share that enthusiasm.

“My mother said yes, and the only reason she said yes is because Joe Lesesne said it would be OK,” says Slade, who
also credits former Dean of the College Dr. Dan Maultsby '61 for assisting with reassuring his mom.

Slade scheduled meetings with various agencies headquartered in the United States that did work in countries he was visiting, including Catholic Charities and the World Wildlife Fund.

“The student had a major role to play,” says Slade, who traveled to seven countries. “You had to figure it all out, including transportation, and there was little handholding.”

He wasn’t only preparing to have a successful year of research and travel. He understood his experience would impact the future of the program.

“There was this sense of responsibility when you’re selected for this type of experience,” Slade says.

In later years, Slade and other scholars have discussed the feeling of responsibility to do good in the world that they continue to carry.

“I remember coming back and talking to scholars. We wondered if we were living up to that,” Slade says. “That responsibility still guides my life decisions.”

Slade, who lives in Maryland, served in the U.S. Army for 27 years before retiring in 2014 as a colonel. He’s currently working with the Army in a civilian role in research and development.

“My entire career has been impacted by this scholarship,” Slade says. “All of us have this debt of gratitude.”

**Documenting the Experience**

Ingrid Hutto Palmquist ’90 was the first woman selected as Presidential International Scholar and the first scholar to publish a book about her experiences. Scott Neely ’00 is the other to have written a book.

“I remember when Collier Slade came back and watching his slideshow in the Burwell Building, and I was fascinated by his experience,” Palmquist says.

She researched higher education and its potential to serve as a catalyst for change or a way of maintaining the status quo.

“That year stimulated my interest in social justice and how we treat each other,” says Palmquist, who also developed an interest in photography during the year.
Palmquist worked as a civil rights attorney before turning her interest to community engagement work focused on social justice and racial equality. She directed “Tale of the Lion,” a documentary film that won an award from the Maryland Historical Society.

“Our thought has been to give our children the chance to grow up celebrating our common humanity as well as our differences globally, whether they are playing with other kids in a rural village in Cambodia, enjoying a Broadway play, joining a pick-up soccer game in Croatia or playing basketball in the park in front of our house with other kids from many walks of life,” says Palmquist of her husband, Mark, and two teenage children.

‘Started in Mexico and ended in China’

It’s common for Presidential International Scholars to travel to multiple countries and continents during their year as the scholar, but Dwain Pruitt ’95, the college’s chief equity officer, most likely packed more in than anyone else. He set out to travel to 17 countries, but it ended up being 15. He was forced to cancel travel to Israel because of the Hebron Massacre, and he had to cancel travel to Kenya to cut costs.

Pruitt, like many of his peer scholars, says the experience had a personal and professional impact on his life.

“I learned just how narrow my understanding of the world and global politics was,” Pruitt says. “Seeing real, lived, human experiences with my own eyes forced me to rethink assumptions and embrace the radical notion of our global common humanity. Since that experience, I have cultivated a healthy suspicion of simple, one-sided answers to complex questions. Being the Presidential Scholar made me commit to finding and sharing profoundly human stories in my teaching and in the educational programming work that I do.”

Sibling Scholars

Kris Neely ’02 doubted that he’d be selected as the college’s Presidential International Scholar. His older brother Scott Neely ’00 was the scholar during the 1998-99 academic year. He didn’t think a sibling of a scholar would be chosen so soon.

He was, and his brother offered insight on his experience. But another older brother, Erik Neely, played a significant role in helping Kris plan the year, which would be spent studying water and spirit.

The Dominican Republic was Kris’ first stop. He stayed with a host mother. She didn’t speak English, and he didn’t speak Spanish. So, he debated whether to answer the phone one afternoon while he was working through his travel plans and research while his host was away.

He answered the phone, and it was a call for him. The director of his program told him to immediately go to the phone company to call his family. It was a one-mile walk, and he wasn’t sure what to expect. He was prepared for the passing of his grandmother. He said his goodbyes to her before leaving. Scott answered and told him that Erik died and that the family had purchased a plane ticket for him to return home the next day. Kris walked the one mile back to his host mother’s home.

“It was lonely to face that,” Neely says. “There was a numbness, and it was shocking.”

While home in Spartanburg, his family urged him to discontinue his travels. It wasn’t an option for him, though.

“It started as a trip based on sibling rivalry and turned into an homage to Erik,” Neely says.

Erik was on Kris’ mind while traveling up the Amazon River, the part that excited Erik the most, but it proved to be a difficult journey for Kris. He became ill. During a stop in Brazil, an elderly woman seated near him got off the boat and returned with a green drink that didn’t look appetizing, but she motioned that it would help with an upset stomach.

“It was almost instantaneous in how much better it made me feel,” Neely says.
Kris often thinks about the kindness strangers expressed while he was vulnerable. It started with his host mother in the Dominican Republic making sure he had comfort food after receiving news about his brother’s passing, the elderly woman on the riverboat, a cab driver in Jordan and a professor in Africa, who advised him while navigating the continent, who suggested he focus on his health and cancel plans to travel to Zimbabwe and Zambia.

“When someone shows kindness in your time of need, it’s hard not to pay it forward,” Neely says.

Kris’ older brother, Scott, was proud when he was named a scholar, and Scott is still moved by Kris’ research and how he handled the challenges that he faced.

“The year Kris lived was far different, and far more difficult, than my own,” Scott says. “He suffered great personal loss and had to find a way through. I respect how Kris walked through the adversity he encountered, and how he created from it a year rich in meaning to share.”
Where They Are Now

The Presidential International Scholars program is celebrating 35 years and more than 20 scholars gathered on campus for a fall reunion. A few scholars shared updates through a survey.

William Collier Slade ’87
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? Global deforestation.
Countries you visited while Presidential International Scholar? Brazil, India, Nepal, China, Taiwan, New Zealand and Australia.
What are you doing now? Filled with gratitude when I reminisce about the scholarship.

Ingrid Hutto Palmquist ’90
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? My project was to investigate whether higher education in developing countries served as a catalyst for change or as a tool to perpetuate the status quo. In countries without much of a middle class, where a relative few have extreme wealth and a great many live in poverty, was higher education available to rich and poor alike? Were colleges and universities in developing countries preparing students to tackle basic problems in areas such as economic development, education, and management of natural resources? Or did they educate an elite that was sheltered from such problems?
Countries visited while Presidential International Scholar? Costa Rica, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Spain, Lesotho, Kenya, Israel, Egypt, India, Nepal, Thailand, Hong Kong and the Samoan Islands.
What are you doing now? Upon graduation I moved to North Carolina to be a wilderness counselor for children with behavior problems with Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives. I then married Lisa Deavenport ‘90, and we moved to Ohio for 14 years, before returning to the Upstate of South Carolina in 2008 with two children. My career has been in the chemical industry and since 2011 with Michelin. My career has given me the opportunity to work alongside people from all over the world here and abroad. I have been engaged with several community organizations in my life in both leadership and volunteer capacities. Notably, I am the upstate co-chair for the Braver Angels Palmetto Alliance. Braver Angels is a national organization that works alongside individuals, organizations and institutions at a local level to depolarize and create capacity to engage and collaborate across differences (political, racial, religious, etc.). We are currently delivering workshops for Leadership Wofford 2022.

Eric Ireland ’92
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? Impact of religion on the progress of developing countries.
Countries you visited while Presidential International Scholar? El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Haiti, United Kingdom, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Greece, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Israel, Greece, India, Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Japan.
What are you doing now? Upon graduation I moved to North Carolina to be a wilderness counselor for children with behavior problems with Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives. I then married Lisa Deavenport ‘90, and we moved to Ohio for 14 years, before returning to the Upstate of South Carolina in 2008 with two children. My career has been in the chemical industry and since 2011 with Michelin. My career has given me the opportunity to work alongside people from all over the world here and abroad. I have been engaged with several community organizations in my life in both leadership and volunteer capacities. Notably, I am the upstate co-chair for the Braver Angels Palmetto Alliance. Braver Angels is a national organization that works alongside individuals, organizations and institutions at a local level to depolarize and create capacity to engage and collaborate across differences (political, racial, religious, etc.). We are currently delivering workshops for Leadership Wofford 2022.

Dwain C. Pruitt ’95
Focus of Presidential International Scholar research? My topic was “Historic Preservation in the Developing World.” I studied how various nations and cultural organizations were attempting to commemorate and preserve important archaeological and cultural sites.
Countries visited while Presidential International Scholar? Mexico, Guatemala, Chile, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Poland, India, Thailand, and China.
What are you doing now? After several years of service as a faculty member or administrator at several colleges and universities, I returned to Wofford in September 2021 to serve as the college’s inaugural chief equity officer. In addition to serving in this role, I’m also teaching courses for the department of history.

Scott Talley ’99
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? Early education methods.
Countries visited while Presidential International Scholar? Thailand, China, Vietnam, Laos, Czech Republic, Tunisia, Ghana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Brazil and Chile.
What are you doing now? Kelly and I live in Moore, S.C., with our three sons, Hudson (16), Leyton (15) and
Wells (10). I am the principal of Talley Law Firm, P.A., in Spartanburg, and currently serve as state senator, District 12 (Spartanburg and Greenville counties) in the South Carolina Senate, first elected in 2016.

Jonathan Hufford '10
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? The intersection of traditional medicine and Western medicine.
Countries you visited while Presidential International Scholar? Australia, China, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, India, Germany, Turkey, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique, Jordan and Syria.
What are you doing now? I am an OB-GYN living in Greenville, S.C.

Regina Fuller '11
Countries visited while Presidential International Scholar? Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Senegal, Ghana, Tanzania, Egypt, Israel and India.
What are you doing now? I am writing my dissertation on sex education in Ghana as a doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am based in Accra, Ghana.

Lindsey Perret Woolley '15
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? Women as agents of change in Latin America.
Countries visited while Presidential International Scholar? Nicaragua, Cuba, Mexico and Dominican Republic.
What are you doing now? I am currently taking time off from nonprofit work while taking classes and working at my local library. I married Tyler Woolley ’16 in 2018. We have a dog and foster cats! We live in Lexington, S.C.

Kendall Weaver ’20
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? How Western humanitarian aid organizations operate within Arab communities.
Countries you visited while Presidential International Scholar? Jordan, Palestine and Israel.
What are you doing now? I am newly married to Victor Karpik and have settled in Spartanburg, S.C., where I work as the volunteer coordinator and victim advocate at SAFE Homes Rape Crisis Coalition.

Margaret Roach ’21
Focus of your Presidential International Scholar research? I researched the integration of traditional healing and biomedical approaches to treating common mental disorders in India. During my research, I was led toward answering a more fundamental, but related, question of “how do you address mental illness as a public health crisis when there are a shortage of mental health professionals?”
Countries that you visited while Presidential International Scholar? Did not travel due to COVID-19 pandemic, conducted research remotely.
What are you doing now? Living in Chapel Hill, N.C. Pursuing a master of public health with a concentration in health equity, social justice and human rights at the University of North Carolina.

Scholars
Visit wofford.edu/presidentialinternational scholars to learn more about the research and travels of the college’s scholars.

1985-86 Collier Slade ’87
1986-87 Benjamin Hill ’89
1987-88 Furman Buchanan ’89
1988-89 Ingrid Hutto ’90
1989-90 Joseph Davidson ’91
1990-91 Eric Ireland ’92
1991-92 David Bresenham ’93
1992-93 Andrew Green ’94
1993-94 Dwain Pruitt ’95
1994-95 William King Jr. ’95
1995-96 Christopher Barrett ’97*
1997-98 Scott Talley ’99
1998-99 Scott Neely ’00
1999-00 Kathryn Kane ’01
2000-01 Kristofer Neely ’02
2001-02 Allyson Gibson ’03
2002-03 Dawna Quick ’04
2003-04 Alynn Steele ’05
2004-05 Thomas Pierce ’06
2005-06 Nell Sandifer ’07
2006-07 Ivy Pirt ’08
2006-07 Elise Boos ’08
2007-08 Vanessa Lauber ’09
2008-09 Jonathan Hufford ’10
2009-10 Regina Fuller ’11
2010-11 Tyler Swain ’12
2011-12 Amy Powers ’13
2012-13 Brian McCracken ’13
2012-13 Chris Bouran ’13
2012-13 David Moore ’13
2013-14 Laura Kate Gamble ’14
2014-15 Lindsey Perret Woolley ’15
2015-16 Phifer Nicholson ’16
2016-17 Punam Mulji ’17
2017-18 Victoria Nwankudu ’19
2018-19 Lydia Estes ’20
2019-20 Kendall Weaver ’20
2020-21 Margaret Roach ’21
2021-22 Hector Ortiz ’22
*deceased
1943
More than four years after his death, Richard Bennitt Gable was the subject of a feature story in the Greenville News on Dec. 7, 2021, on the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The article focused on a letter, released by his daughter, that Gable wrote to his mother in the aftermath of the attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

1960
Former Air Force Academy head football coach Fisher DeBerry has been named a 2021 Kappa Sigma Man of the Year. DeBerry, who resides in Isle of Palms, S.C., is a 1957 initiate of the Alpha-Nu Chapter at Wofford. He coached at the Air Force Academy from 1984-2006 and is the winningest coach in U.S. service academy history. He led the Falcons to 14 Commander-in-Chief’s trophies and compiled a 34-8 record over rivals Army and Navy. DeBerry won the 1985 Paul “Bear” Bryant Award as the country’s top coach. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2011. In 2004, DeBerry and his wife founded the Fisher DeBerry Foundation to provide opportunities for children of single-parent homes. He played football and baseball at Wofford and served as an assistant football coach at the college for two seasons. He was inducted into the Wofford Athletics Hall of Fame in 1986.

Lee Cantley Farmer, wife of the Rev. Zach Farmer, died on Sept. 3, 2020. In addition to serving as secretary for her husband’s ministry, she faithfully held other roles in local churches and worked for 16 years as an administrative assistant to the district superintendents of the Walterboro and Orangeburg districts of the S.C. United Methodist Conference. The Farmers were married four months after their first date and enjoyed almost 58 years of marriage.

1969
Lynda Broome McLane, wife of Foster B. McLane III, died on Oct. 7, 2021. A lifelong educator, she taught at the elementary school level for much of her career. Later in her career, she specialized in the Reading Recovery Program for students who had difficulty reading. The McLanes were married for more than 50 years and made their home in Spartanburg, S.C.

1972
The Rev. Arthur Holt of Boiling Springs, S.C., has written a book, “What I Have Come to Believe,” which was recently published by the S.C. United Methodist Advocate Press. The book is a summary of how the retired minister’s faith has evolved over the course of his adult life.

1977
Dr. Don Marler has been elected president of the S.C. Board of Dentistry for 2022. He has served on the board for the past four years. He is the owner of Pickens Dental Associates.

1978
Michael Rodriguez’s novel, “Moravian Falls: The Fantastic Adventures of Dr. Domo,” has been published by Outskirts Press. It tells the story of a man who is given special powers that he never asked for and the adventures he encounters while trying to use them to save the people who are dear to him. Rodriguez resides in Winter Springs, Fla.

1980
Joe E. Taylor Jr. was sworn in as a city councilman in Columbia, S.C., on Jan. 4, 2022, by the Hon. Costa Pleicones ’65, current Wofford trustee and retired chief justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court. While a student at Wofford, Taylor helped found Southland Log Homes along with his father. At age 25, he became president and CEO and eventually built the company into the largest producer of pre-cut log buildings in North America. He sold the company into the private equity market in 2005. In 2003, he was appointed by Gov. Mark Sanford to chair the S.C. Jobs Economic Development Authority. He was appointed Secretary of Commerce in 2006. He donated $1 million for the renovation of the Curry Building into the Joe E. Taylor Athletic Center. He has served on many corporate, charitable and educational boards, including the Wofford Board of Trustees. He received an honorary doctorate from the college, and he was named an honorary letterman by the Wofford Athletics Hall of Fame.

1990
Rebecca Durak Husted was a guest on the Webinars with Wendy podcast, discussing welfare, safety and disaster prep for pastured horses. Husted is a decorated combat veteran and a retired signal officer in the U.S. Army. She is president of Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue in Macon, Ga. She provides training in rescue techniques across the U.S. and internationally.

**Update your information and submit your news to be considered for the next issue of Wofford Today.**

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429 N. Church St.
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+ View and pay your pledge.
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For more information, contact the Wofford College Alumni Association at alumni@wofford.edu.
As the executive director of the South Carolina Education Lottery, Hogan Brown ’80 is accustomed to dealing with some big numbers that have had a huge impact on education in the state.

The lottery had a record year in 2021, with $2.42 billion in sales and $607.6 million transferred to the General Assembly for education. That comes on top of another record year in 2020, with $2.11 billion and $492.8 million transferred. The expected transfer this fiscal year is $540 million.

Brown says a variety of factors played a role in the increase.

“I think people being closed in, a lack of other entertainment options and an element of the stimulus all contributed to the increase,” he says. “This year, I think we’ll be more on the trend line we would have expected for a normal year.”

The lottery recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. It sold its first instant ticket on Jan. 7, 2002. Since its inception, it has transferred more than $6.9 billion for higher education, K-12 and community education programs. The bulk of the money funded more than 2.2 million college scholarships for South Carolina students.

Currently, 943 Wofford students receive financial support from lottery funds. Over the past two decades, more than 31,000 lottery-funded scholarships and grants were awarded to Wofford students.

Brown has been there since the beginning, coming on board in August 2001 as director of legal services. He became interim executive director in the fall of 2016, and was officially named to the position in May 2017.

“Very few people at the start had significant lottery experience, so certainly we’ve grown as a staff,” Brown says. “And our lottery is a very traditional lottery. We don’t offer keno, we don’t do internet sales and all sales must be in cash. Things other lotteries do, we aren’t allowed to do. We’ve had to abide by the same rules since we started, and the results speak for themselves.”

Brown says keeping the lottery fresh is one of the challenges his team faces. Keeping it secure is another.

“We work very hard on our internal controls and cybersecurity,” he says. “It is of utmost importance for us to retain the trust of our players as well as our beneficiaries.”

Brown also has to combat the misconception that the lottery commission decides where the money goes. (Spoiler alert, it doesn’t. That job belongs to the state legislature.)

Brown isn’t Wofford’s only connection to the lottery. Brian Ford ’08, the chief financial officer, is in his ninth year with the lottery. Timothy Madden ’85, now a family court judge and a current member of the Wofford Board of Trustees, served on the lottery commission, including a stint as chairman, for 14 years.

Ford says officials focus on running the lottery efficiently. Operating expenses are under 1% of revenues.

“We take a lot of pride in selling in a responsible manner,” Ford says. “We don’t spend what other lotteries do on advertising, and we focus on beneficiary messaging and not hard sales tactics.”

Ford says he feels fortunate to be a part of the organization.

“Everyone understands that their job makes a difference to the bottom line and what gets transferred to education,” he says.
1995
Liphatech’s structural pest control business has named **Joey Hedgemon** Southeast district sales manager. Hedgemon, who resides in Baton Rouge, La., brings several years of sales experience to the company, including five years in the professional pest control industry spent at Orkin Pest Control.

1996
**Dr. David Cross** is an associate professor at Charleston Southern University, where he teaches Spanish and Arabic languages. During the last year, he served as an Arabic expert content selector for the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland and as a copy editor of college textbooks for diacritech e-publishing company. He also taught online Arabic classes for City University of Seattle, Concordia Language Villages of Concordia College and the STARTALK Arabic Academy of Pennsylvania State University.

1999
**Eleanor McDonough Malinoski**, a licensed clinical social worker in Zionsville, Ind., began working with The Emotional PPE Project in 2021. The project connects healthcare workers whose mental health has been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis with licensed mental health professionals. All services provided through The Emotional PPE Project are free of charge.

**Amy Schneider**, a real estate attorney, has joined Hand and become a contestant on the show for a decade, repeatedly passing the initial entry barrier. She tried to get on the show when she was growing up. She tried to get on the show when she was growing up.

**Dawson** did not get invited back, Dawson says. “Then, in mid-September, I got the call.” Unfortunately for Dawson, she was a contestant along with Amy Schneider during Schneider’s 40-game win streak — the second longest streak in “Jeopardy!” history. Dawson says that she and the other contestants knew they were in trouble during a pre-production meeting when a “Jeopardy!” staffer told them Schneider wouldn’t be at the meeting because she had heard the information so many times already.

“At that point we stopped looking at each other as victims of the same tragedy,” Dawson says. “That’s not hard, and it’s fun.”

“Getting to watch the show with my family was its own exciting thing. Then there’s been the residual excitement of people reaching out. Anybody who is thinking about trying out should do it. It’s not hard, and it’s fun.”

Class Notes

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Answers and Questions

CLARK TEASTER DAWSON ’06 FULFILLS DREAM OF COMPETING ON ‘JEOPARDY!’

By Robert W. Dalton

An attorney from Columbia, S.C., she recently fulfilled her dream of competing on the game show “Jeopardy!”

Who is Clark Teaster Dawson ’06?
Dawson flew to California in November 2021 to record the show, which aired on Jan. 13. Since then, she has been inundated with requests for signed business cards from friends and strangers.

“I was watching the show with family, and I assumed people that I know would reach out,” Dawson says. “My phone started going off, and I started getting emails in my work address. It died down, but I guess a lot of people DVR the show and watch on weekends, so there was a fresh wave. I vastly underestimated the viewership.”

Dawson, a real estate attorney, watched “Jeopardy!” with her family when she was growing up. She tried to become a contestant on the show for a decade, repeatedly passing the initial test and making it to the second stage but no further.

“I had gotten used to the idea that this would be that thing that I continued to do until I didn’t get invited back,” Dawson says. “Then, in mid-September, I got the call.”

Unfortunately for Dawson, she was a contestant along with Amy Schneider during Schneider’s 40-game win streak — the second longest streak in “Jeopardy!” history. Dawson says that she and the other contestants knew they were in trouble during a pre-production meeting when a “Jeopardy!” staffer told them Schneider wouldn’t be at the meeting because she had heard the information so many times already.

“At that point we stopped looking at each other as competition and started looking at each other as victims of the same tragedy,” Dawson says. “That’s when my game plan changed, and I just wanted to make it to final Jeopardy.”

Dawson went 1-1 against Schneider. As part of their preparation for the show, each contestant participates in two rehearsal games. Dawson won both of her rehearsal games, including one that included Schneider.

The key to being successful on the show, Dawson says, is getting lucky with the categories and finding a rhythm with the buzzer that allows contestants to ring in and answer quickly.

“I finally got into a rhythm with the buzzer, but we took a break, and I never got it back,” she says. Still, Dawson says the experience was worth the wait.

“It’s been sort of overwhelming,” Dawson says. “Getting to watch the show with my family was its own exciting thing. Then there’s been the residual excitement of people reaching out. Anybody who is thinking about trying out should do it. It’s not hard, and it’s fun.”

CLASS NOTES
in hand surgery. His surgical interests include endoscopic carpal tunnel release, advanced nerve repair and nonoperative treatment of Dupuytren’s disease.

**Jennifer Jackson Swank** received her doctorate of education degree in curriculum and instruction of special education from Liberty University in February 2021. She is the assistant principal at Anderson Mill Elementary School in Moore, S.C.

**2004**

Jean Cecil Frick, a communications professional with experience in public, private and nonprofit sectors, has been named the chair of the board of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Frick is a senior strategic advisor at NP Strategy. She also has served as the CEO of a startup web development firm and as a Senate liaison in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs during the George W. Bush administration. A former executive at the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, she was selected by the Columbia Regional Business Report for its 2020 list of Icons and Phenoms.

**2005**

The city of Beaufort, S.C., has named Alan Eisenman finance director. He has worked for the city’s finance department as a senior accountant since January 2016.

Carrie Schultz Peck and Brian Peck welcomed a son, Henry David Peck, on Sept. 16, 2021. They live in Fort Mill, S.C., where she is employed as a product group manager at TD Bank and he is a director of development at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

**2006**

Meredith Jaggard has been promoted to executive director of the alumni association at the University of California’s Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. She has worked at the college since 2019 and previously served as director of alumni engagement and culture.

Rachel Smithson Wood has been named assistant city manager in Asheville, N.C. She came to Asheville from Denton, Texas, where she served in a variety of roles, most recently as deputy director of capital projects.

**2007**

Tyler Greiner and Megan Greiner welcomed a son, Arthur Robert Greiner, in July 2021. Tyler is a project forester/wildland firefighter with the S.C. Forestry Commission in Walterboro.

Elizabeth Fortson Sheehan and Adam Sheehan ’07 have opened McIntosh Cottage Antiques in Columbia, S.C. Elizabeth is the owner of Keep Your Fork Cheesecakes. Adam is vice president of underwriting at AccuRisk Ancillary Solutions.

Andrew Stubbs is the owner of the first Chick-Fil-A restaurant in Bismarck, N.D. He is the brother of Wofford women’s tennis coach Krissy Hall.

**2008**

Dr. Achini Bandara has been named to the board of directors of Placer Land Trust in Auburn, Calif. Bandara serves as development director for Sierra Nevada Journeys, a nonprofit based in Nevada and California that delivers outdoor, science-based education programs for youth. Before her career in education and
environmental advocacy, she held project management and project development scientist positions at the University of Southern California’s Keck School of Medicine and the City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center. She also brings extensive experience with managing large grants and grant-funded projects.

Horizon Investments has promoted Austin Fitch of Charlotte, N.C., to managing director of consulting solutions. He joined the company in 2011 and most recently served as head of the portfolio strategy group.

2011

William Thomas Mills was recently recognized by Continental Who’s Who as a distinguished executive for his work in the brokerage field. He is a senior brokerage associate at Trinity Partners in Columbia, S.C. He earned his real estate license during his junior year at Wofford. In 2016, he received the Power Broker Award from the Costar Group as the top retail leasing broker.

2012

Calvin Cantrell and his wife, Laurel, are both completing residencies in Jacksonville, Fla. Cantrell is currently in a general surgery residency and plans to continue with a fellowship in bariatric surgery.

Sara Blackman Dolinak and Tom Dolinak welcomed a son, Stephen Thomas Dolinak, on Sept. 22, 2021. Ashlee is the director of on Sept. 22, 2021. Ashlee Moody Davis welcomed a daughter, Clarke Louise Davis, and became the Order of the Palmetto, the state of South Carolina’s highest civilian honor.

2013

Ayesha Iqbal has joined the software company Salesforce in San Francisco as senior business operations manager. She previously worked with Citibank in a variety of capacities, most recently as vice president of global consumer banking.

Mary Katherine DuBose Lentz and Joe Lentz welcomed a daughter, Salem Katherine Lentz, on Feb. 3, 2021. Mary Katherine is an assurance manager with Price Waterhouse Coopers in Charlotte, N.C.

Grace Wallace Moid and Livingston Moid IV welcomed their second child, Graham, on Sept. 24, 2021. Amy is a clinical pharmacist with Prisma Health, and Brandon is a tax partner with Bradshaw, Gordon and Clinkscale in Greenville, S.C. They have a daughter, Blair, who is 3.

2014

Courtney King has joined Duke Raleigh Hospital as a clinical pharmacist.

2015

Ashlee Moody Davis and Hank Davis welcomed a daughter, Clarke Louise Davis, on Sept. 22, 2021. Ashlee is the director of public affairs for the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C. Hank is an implementation specialist at DDC Public Affairs in Columbia, S.C.

Carolyn Harvey McMurry and Kit McMurry were married on Nov. 6, 2021, on Seabrook Island, S.C. Carolyn is an assurance manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Kit is a development associate with OTO Development in Tampa, Fla.

The University of Chicago Law School has awarded Erin Simmonds the Herbert L. Caplan Prize for Reform in Public and Constitutional Law. The prize is presented to the outstanding student paper that proposes a creative and feasible solution to a critical issue in the public law. Simmonds’ paper, “Abortion and the Establishment Clause: A New Constitutional Method and Case Study,” examined whether religious freedom arguments could be used in opposing antiabortion laws that were religiously motivated but justified on secular grounds.

Anna Grace Snyder and her husband, Miller, welcomed a son, Mack Alton Snyder, on Sept. 9, 2021. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where she practices as a physician assistant and he is a landscape architect.

2016

Bailey Newsome and Wilson Jay Brown ’17 were married on Oct. 9, 2021, in Linville, N.C. She is an interior design assistant at Pursley Dixon Architecture in Raleigh, N.C. He is vice president of branch units at AlarmQuest in Winston-Salem, N.C.

The People’s Court

PASLAY WRITES HISTORY OF SPARTANBURG’S MAGISTRATE SYSTEM

After retiring from the bench, the Hon. James B. Paslay ’68 decided to write about the history of the Spartanburg Magistrate Court, covering everything from early colonial hearings to notable judges who influenced the court’s progress. “The Spartanburg People’s Court: A History of the Spartanburg County Magistrate System” is now available in the Hub City Book Store in Spartanburg and through Amazon.

“Many people have seen popular television series such as ‘The People’s Court,’ ‘Night Court’ and ‘Judge Judy.’ This book describes the true court and how it benefits the average citizen,” says Paslay.

Paslay followed in both his mother’s and father’s footsteps. Agnes H. Paslay was on staff with the Spartanburg County magistrate’s office for 35 years. He exceeded his mother’s tenure by a decade. Both his father and grandfather were attorneys, and Paslay joined their 100-year-old firm when he graduated at the top of his class from the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Paslay went on to enjoy a successful career, supervising every division — civil, criminal, traffic and jail arraignment, as well as serving as chief magistrate — at some point during his service. Just prior to his retirement in 2018, he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the state of South Carolina’s highest civilian honor.
**2020**

Haiden Lancaster has been named the club director at the Cleveland Academy of Leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate. Additionally, she is an intern at Spartanburg Academic Movement.

Kendall Weaver and Victor Karpik were married on Nov. 21, 2021, at Indigo Hall in Spartanburg. She is a volunteer coordinator with SAFE Homes-Rape Crisis Coalition in Spartanburg.

**2021**

Ashlyn Alexander is working at Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

NBC Sports has hired Eyon Brown as a social media coordinator. Brown is working in the division headquarters in Stamford, Conn. He previously interned with the Wofford College Office of Marketing and Communications, the Pro Football Hall of Fame and with ESPN.

**FACULTY AND STAFF**

Dr. Laura Barbas Rhoden, professor of Spanish, published “Sustainability and the Pluriverse: from Environmental Humanities Theory to Content-Based Instruction in Spanish Curricula” in Education for Sustainable Development in Foreign Language Learning, Content-Based Instruction in College-Level Curricula.

Dr. Jennifer Bradham, assistant professor of environmental studies, and a colleague published “Perceptions by early career tropical researchers on the impact of COVID-19 six months into the pandemic” in Biotropica.

Dr. Natalie Grinnell, Reeves Family Professor in Humanities, has had her article, “Writing Into Hope: Laughter, Sadness and Healing in John Gower’s Confessio Amantis,” accepted for publication in Accessus: A Journal of Premodern Literature and New Media. Additionally, Grinnell has been appointed to the advisory board of the New Queer Medievalisms book series with De Gruyter and the Medieval Institutions Publications. Her first project will be to co-edit a volume on queer theory and the works of John Gower. Additionally, Grinnell was elected vice president of the Southeastern Medieval Association (SEMA) for 2021-23, and president of SEMA for 2023-25.

Dr. Philip Dorroll, associate professor of religion, was interviewed by the Middle East Monitor (MEMO) to discuss his book “Islamic Theology in the Turkish Republic.”

Dr. Rachel Grotheer, assistant professor of mathematics, has had her article, “Iterative hard thresholding for low CP-rank tensor models,” published in the journal Linear and Multilinear Algebra. Additionally, Grotheer and coauthors have had the paper “Semi-supervised Nonnegative Matrix Factorization for Document Classification” accepted to the Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computer.

**STAYING CONNECTED**

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1969 GATHER TO REMINISCE

By Robert W. Dalton

Foster McLane ’69 remembers working hard to impress the coaches during his first practice in a Wofford football uniform. He was participating in a blocking drill when he heard a voice behind him tell him to stay low.

“I looked around and saw this guy in street clothes,” says McLane. “And I said, ‘Who are you?’”

Turns out it was Dr. Joe Lesesne, president emeritus, who was a history professor and an assistant football coach at the time.

That’s one of the stories that was told at a restaurant in downtown Spartanburg in early December, when McLane and other members of the class of 1969 gathered to reminisce with Lesesne and Dr. Ross Bayard, professor of history emeritus. On the front row, left to right, are Perrin Powell, Jack Kaplan, Lesesne, Bayard and Johnston Dantzler. On the back row, left to right, are John Burtnett, Foster McLane, Tim Remaley and Peter Moore.

Johnston Dantzler ’69 has been the organizer of the gatherings. He says he wants his classmates to stay connected. At the December gathering, Dantzler read messages from classmates who were unable to attend.

“Time is a precious commodity,” says Dantzler. “In the past 18 months we’ve all lost friends. It’s easy for us to not check up on each other. I’ve tried to reach out to a lot of friends. That’s what makes me tick.”

Bayard says it’s overwhelming when students he taught more than 50 years ago still recall some of his lessons.

“One of the things you learn in teaching is that you never know how students are going to turn out,” says Bayard. “I’m delighted to know they still remember me and some of the things I said in the classroom. I have so many good memories of them.”
Dr. Katherine Janiec Jones’ article, “A Theology of Increasing Adequacy: Process, Practicality and Relationship,” has been published by The Journal of Interreligious Studies. Jones also has been asked to write for the University of Chicago Divinity School’s Craft of Teaching blog. Jones is a professor of religion. Additionally, Jones was a panelist and keynote respondent for “Translating Sanskrit Buddhist Philosophy for the Philosophy Curriculum,” an online symposium hosted by Princeton University.

Dr. Kirsten Krick-Aigner’s article, “It is not to think that real strangers, as you are, give us so much love: An Austrian Pen Pal’s Journey to a Safe Haven in the United States,” appeared in the Journal of Austrian-American History. Krick-Aigner is a professor of German.

Dr. Dawn McQuiston, associate professor of psychology, and co-authors published the article “Secondary trauma in the legal system: Stories, studies, and strategies” in Wake Forest Law Review.

Dr. Anne Rodrick, Reeves Family Professor of History, has been invited to present at a roundtable on the history of Mason College and the University of Birmingham (UK) in January.

Jessica Scott-Felder, assistant professor of studio art, was part of a panel discussion sponsored by the Columbia Museum of Art. The program, “Identity and Power in Cultural Economics,” was a conversation about identity against a backdrop of increased national anxiety around issues of race and inclusion.

Dr. Charles Smith, associate professor of biology, was interviewed on a recent episode of the Village Voices podcast. Smith discussed his research on the copperhead snake and what that revealed about climate and drought. He is the director of the Copperhead Institute in Spartanburg.

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As vice president and general manager at Dunlop Sports Group Americas, Kai Nitsche ’96 often finds himself on the road.

He’s been to nearly every state in the country and to exotic locales around the world. No matter where his job takes him, his favorite trip will always be the one he took to London several years ago, when he took his father to Wimbledon.

“My dad actually played Wimbledon in 1961,” Nitsche says. “It was just special being there with him several decades later, watching matches and listening to him tell stories about his experience there.”

Nitsche has spent most of his career with Dunlop, a leading manufacturer of sports equipment, particularly tennis. He left for several years, taking a post with a competitor, but he found that the grass court wasn’t greener on the other side. He returned to Dunlop and its offices in Greenville, S.C., and has been in his current position for nearly 12 years.

Nitsche started as a sales rep in Atlanta and has worked in product management, marketing and sales management.

“Having the opportunity to have many different roles within our company gave me the opportunity to work closely with all departments, such as finance, customer service and operations,” Nitsche says. “This gave me a foundation for the role that I have now.”

Nitsche was 6 years old the first time he picked up a tennis racket. He also played soccer until he was 14, when he decided to focus on tennis exclusively. He played for two years at Wofford.

He says his experience at Wofford equipped him for his career with Dunlop. He majored in accounting but didn’t want to become a CPA. An internship with Adidas helped him find his direction.

“That is where I really found my passion for the sporting goods industry,” he says. “I worked in team sales and in finance, and through that internship I was exposed to so much in sports marketing. That internship turned into a part-time job my last two years at Wofford, and that helped me get my first job here at Dunlop.”

Nitsche says sometimes his family says he’s too competitive.

“I don’t like losing, and I am going to try and outwork everyone to win,” he says. “I think my background in sports has been great for me to carry into business.”

According to Nitsche, Dunlop’s business has soared during COVID-19; the company expects sales to be up more than 50% this year.

“Tennis is a great sport during a pandemic because of social distancing,” he says. “A lot of people are either picking it up for the first time or resuming their participation.”

Nitsche says Dunlop is constantly striving to improve its manufacturing process and its product quality. It’s also focused on the environment and has a goal of reducing plastic waste in its packaging by 50% by 2030.

“Every day there are new and different challenges,” Nitsche says. “We take them seriously, but at the end of the day I have to pinch myself because I’m doing what I want to be doing.”
Jonathan Franklin ’16 has a knack for finding human interest stories, and he’s further honing his craft after being named a Paul Miller Washington Reporting Fellow by the National Press Foundation.

Franklin, a digital reporter with National Public Radio (NPR) in Washington, D.C., is one of 20 journalists selected for the fellowship, which allows reporters to discuss politics and policy with regulators, lawmakers, experts and other respected journalists.

“One of the main things that I learned at Wofford and Georgetown is that the answer might be in front of you, but do more investigating and think outside of the box,” says Franklin, who earned a master’s degree in journalism at Georgetown University.

Franklin worked for a CBS affiliate in Washington before joining NPR in the summer of 2021. NPR announced his hiring by touting his ability to craft engaging leads (the introductory paragraph of a story) and “well-calibrated anecdotes that center the individuals and communities in service of the journalism he’s pursuing.”

Franklin intends to use the insight he’ll gain during the fellowship to make complex subjects more understandable to readers.

“When doing my storytelling process, whether it’s for radio or print, I think about how I would explain it to my grandmother,” Franklin says.

Franklin often finds stories and sources by monitoring social media. He wrote one of the stories that he’s proudest of after seeing a Facebook post about a woman collecting posters, signs and artwork left at a fence dubbed “The Black Lives Matter Fence” near the White House.

He met the woman at a storage unit where she had more than 700 items. She realized the items represented part of the nation’s history and started to collect the items and guard the fence, along with others, to prevent vandalism. She established relationships with the Baltimore and Washington public libraries to begin having items digitally archived.

After the story aired, Franklin received calls from a university and museums, including the National Civil Rights Museum, wanting to connect with the woman to discuss exhibits and the preservation of the items.

“That’s the sort of impact I want to have,” Franklin says.
Joe Greenlee ’76 was a fixture on the Wofford College campus for three decades.

Greenlee, who earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology, served as the director of public safety from 1975 to 2004. He died on Jan. 7, 2022.

Greenlee was instrumental in convincing the state legislature to pass a law allowing private colleges to send officers to the police academy for training, according to a 2004 article in the Spartanburg Herald-Journal. That paved the way for Wofford’s Campus Safety to become an independent agency.

“Joe helped to oversee and implement a transformation in the role of campus safety on the Wofford campus, from the era of a very small presence into a 24/7 operation serving a student body and physical campus that was growing dramatically during his tenure,” says David Beacham ’77, senior vice president for administration and secretary to Wofford’s Board of Trustees.

Greenlee’s outgoing personality allowed him to build a rapport with students. He often called them by their first names, and encouraged them to use good judgement.

“Joe worked to bring a level of professionalism to this area,” Beacham says. “He was especially sensitive to the fine line that exists between enforcement of campus regulations and recognition of questionable judgment often found in the behavior of 18- to 22-year-olds.”

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in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He was a volunteer and leader for local organizations, including Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, the United Way, Peachtree Ministries and Gaffney Little Theatre. He was a member of Buford Street United Methodist Church. A talented artist, he often left sketches on napkins, bulletins and discarded programs.

Dr. Leon Edwin Thompson, Jan. 15, 2022, Abbeville, S.C. A retired minister, Thompson served United Methodist churches throughout Georgia and South Carolina during his 45-year career. He enjoyed scouting and earned his Eagle Scout badge. While at Wofford, he was a staff member with the Old Gold and Black student newspaper staff.

1959

The Rev. Conrad Allen Senn, Jan. 18, 2022, Spartanburg, S.C. Senn was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Korean War. He served as a United Methodist minister for nearly 30 years, including assignments at St. Luke and Trinity in Spartanburg. A long-time member of the South Carolina United Methodist Conference, he served on the conference ordained board of ministry and the conference board of education, missions and summer investment programs. He also was a member of the Lions Club.

Henry Proctor Sermons Sr., Dec. 13, 2021, Havelock, N.C. Sermons was the first fire marshal for Craven County, N.C. After retiring from that position, he worked as the emergency services coordinator for Craven Community College. He served on a variety of boards, and he was instrumental in getting rescue squads started in Havelock, Fort Barnwell, Bridgeton, Cove City and Vanceboro. He served on the rescue squad for 25 years and as a representative for the area on the board of directors for the N.C. Association of Rescue and EMS for over 28 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having served during the Korean War. He was active as a coach, manager and president of the local Babe Ruth Baseball League and served United Methodist churches throughout Georgia and South Carolina during his 45-year career. He enjoyed scouting and earned his Eagle Scout badge. While at Wofford, he was a member of the tennis team.

Richard E. Hollis, Feb. 21, 2022, Spartanburg, S.C. A U.S. Navy veteran, Hollis spent his career in Alexandria, Va., retiring from the architectural firm of Wisnewski Blair and Associates in 2002. He served as president of the United Way, Belle Haven Country Club and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. He also served on the board of directors for the Florida Orchestra, inspired by a youth spent playing the violin in various orchestras. His love of music ranged from Hank Williams to Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto in D Major. While at Wofford, he was a member of the tennis team.

John William Coleman, Aug. 9, 2021, Tampa, Fla. Coleman had a long and varied business career, working as a systems engineer for IBM, as a director and vice president of Pioneer Western Corp., as vice president of operations for Western Reserve Life Insurance and president of its corporate services subsidiary. He also was founder and president of Reliable Circuits. He retired in Tampa as president and CEO of Aegis Mail Services. He served on the board of directors for the Florida Orchestra, inspired by a youth spent playing the violin in various orchestras. His love of music ranged from Hank Williams to Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto in D Major. While at Wofford, he was a member of the tennis team.

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Col. Lee Cole Smith Jr., Jan. 21, 2022, Dothan, Ala. Smith retired from the U.S. Army after 26 years of service. He served two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot and flew over 3,000 hours, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross. After leaving the military, he worked as a field office manager for Boeing. He was an active member of the Lions Club and the Enterprise (Ala.) YMCA board of directors, where he was a leading supporter of the soccer program. He also was involved in the Dothan soccer program, where he coached three of his grandsons. He was a member of Covenant United Methodist Church.

1960

Roland Goff Elmore Jr., March 28, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Elmore retired after more than 30 years in sales and fabric design for Milliken & Co. He then bought Fabric and Yarn Associates, which he operated for several years. He served United Methodist churches throughout Georgia and South Carolina during his 45-year career. He enjoyed scouting and earned his Eagle Scout badge. While at Wofford, he was a staff member with the Old Gold and Black student newspaper staff.

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1961

Harold Fleming Harris, Jan. 6, 2022, Sullivan’s Island, S.C. Harris spent his career in education, teaching and coaching basketball at Moultrie High School for several years. He also served as principal at Sullivan’s Island Elementary School. He was a three-year letterman on the Wofford football team.

1962

Philip Dahms Coffin, Dec. 9, 2021, Delta, Colo. Coffin served in the U.S. Marine Corps, reaching the rank of sergeant.

Philip DuPre Greer, Dec. 29, 2021, Columbia, S.C. Greer was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He worked as a special agent for the Internal Revenue Service for 25 years. After retiring, he worked as a background investigator for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Peden Brown McLeod, Dec. 30, 2021, Walterboro, S.C. McLeod served in the state House of Representatives from 1972-79 and the state Senate from 1979-90. He was named state code commissioner and director of the S.C. Legislative Council in 1990. He was a U.S. Army veteran, reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel. He was a vintage car racing enthusiast and was a member of the Vintage Drivers Club of America. He also was an avid sailor. He attended Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Harold Dean Thompson Sr., Oct. 22, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Thompson served three years in the U.S. Navy before coming to Wofford. He had a 40-year career with Spartan Mills, serving as vice president of human resources for 30 years. After retiring, he worked at Woodfin Ridge Golf Club for 19 years. He attended The Masters for 57 consecutive years and followed every other golf tournament on TV. He also cheered for the Atlanta Braves, the Carolina Panthers, the Golden State Warriors and the Terriers. He was a lifelong member of El Bethel United Methodist Church, where he sang in the choir, served on the administrative board, and was chairman of the board of trustees. He was a member of the Roebuck Masonic Lodge for 50 years. He also was a former member of the Wofford Alumni Association board. One of his greatest pleasures was being part of the Beacon Wednesday Lunch Bunch.
founder, board chairman and CEO of the Bank of Walterboro. He served on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1962-64 and was a captain in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1962-72. He graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1967 and began practicing in Walterboro. He was active in his community, including serving as commander of American Legion Post 93 and as district chairman of the Boy Scouts of America. In 1998, he received the Order of the Palmetto, the state’s highest civilian honor. While at Wofford, he was president of his junior and senior classes and a member of the Senior Order of Gnomes.

Claude Earle Thomas, Dec. 15, 2021, Charleston, S.C. Thomas worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 38 years, retiring in 2004 as the laboratory director of the U.S. Vegetable Laboratory in Charleston. He was a guest lecturer at Xingjiang Agricultural University in China in 1988. He authored or co-authored over 200 scientific research publications. He developed varieties of cantaloupe that were grown throughout the world, and he had research and advisory assignments in Peru, Israel, France, Poland and China. He earned his bachelor’s degree in biology from Wofford in two years and eight months. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he enjoyed growing and exhibiting his championship roses. He served as a Little League baseball coach and an AAU swim coach. He was a deacon and church council member at Fort Johnson Baptist Church.

1964

William Franklin Hannon III, Oct. 9, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Hannon was the owner of Able Septic Tank Service. He was a member of the Hejaz Shriners and St. John’s Masonic Lodge No. 333.

George S. Nicholson Jr., Dec. 14, 2021, West Columbia, S.C. Nicholson served in the U.S. Army, reaching the rank of captain. He was awarded the Bronze Star in 1969 for his actions in the Vietnam War. He retired as senior partner from Nicholson, Davis, Frawley, Anderson and Ayer Law Firm after 40 years. He was a former municipal judge of West Columbia, Lexington and Springdale and was a charter member and past president of the American Board of Trial Advocates. He was a member of Cayce United Methodist Church.

Dr. Wilbur Michael Riddle, Jan. 4, 2022, Easley, S.C. Riddle worked in general dentistry for seven years before beginning his career as an oral surgeon in 1984. He retired in 2014. He was a member of the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the South Carolina Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, where he served as past president. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, a charter member of St. Matthias Lutheran Church in Easley and an avid golfer and skier.

Paul David Sloan Jr., Jan. 20, 2022, Camden, S.C. Sloan spent his career in the banking and property and land management industries. He was a member of Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church and the Inquirers Sunday school class. As a member of Gideons International, he spent many Sunday afternoons sharing the gospel with inmates in Kershaw County. He was a former member of the Kiwanis Club, a board member for the Kershaw County Library and a volunteer for Camden Elementary School. He also was a former member of the Wofford Alumni Association board.

Osborne Glenn Wood Jr., Jan. 1, 2022, Simpsonville, S.C. Wood joined the U.S. Navy when he was 16 and spent three years on the USS Saratoga after graduating from high school. He served in the Naval Reserve while attending Wofford. He spent his career in the textile industry, building and running computer system for a variety of manufacturing companies. After retiring in 2001, he pursued his love of hunting and fishing.

1965

Charles Hubbard “Tod” Eschenbach, Jan. 27, 2022, Sarasota, Fla. Eschenbach spent 34 years with Chrysler, retiring in 1999 as vice president of union relations. He was an avid boater and golfer. He played baseball while at Wofford.

1966

James Howard Hughes, Oct. 14, 2021, Norcross, Ga. Hughes had a career in sales with Colgate-Palmolive. He lettered in both football and baseball while at Wofford.

Gwin Adam Pierce Jr., Jan. 7, 2022, Spartanburg, S.C. Pierce owned and operated Pierce and Associates Insurance Agency for 25 years before buying Children Under Construction, a private Christian preschool in Greenville, S.C., which he ran for another 25 years. He served the Spartanburg Downtown Sertoma Club in many capacities, including as club president. During his time at Wofford he was a member of the rifle team and was on the Old Gold and Black student newspaper staff.

1967

Donald Norman Renouf, Jan. 16, 2022, Warwick, R.I. Renouf was a U.S. Army veteran who served during the Vietnam War. He worked as a biological research scientist for Pfizer for 31 years, retiring in 2001. After retiring he spent more than 12 years traveling across the U.S., Canada and Mexico in an RV. During his travels he volunteered at several state and national federal parks, including Hunting Island State Park in South Carolina. He enjoyed fly fishing, hiking, camping, biking, kayaking and astronomy.

Henry Timrod “Rod” Stroman Jr., Oct. 1, 2021, Orangeburg, S.C. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Stroman was a pilot with Eastern Air Lines for over 27 years. He flew with Kiwi International Air Lines for nine years and was a flight simulator certifier with Delta Air Lines until he retired. He was an active member of Mid-Carolina Gun Club and was inducted into the S.C. Hall of Fame of Skeet Shooters. He was a former member of Ducks Unlimited and enjoyed being a fishing guide in Santee. He was a member of Wofford’s golf and rifle teams.

1969

Thomas Keys “Hawk” Hannah, April 6, 2021, Atlanta, Ga. Hannah had a lifelong passion for photography and would sell his prints at the Piedmont Arts Festival. In 1983, he founded The Caldron Classic Golf Tournament for friends and family to enjoy. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, served in the Vietnam War and was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal. After leaving the military he founded Orenda Palm, which produced cleaning products for the laundry industry. He played both football and baseball while at Wofford.

Henry Townes Medlock II, Feb. 14, 2022, Moore, S.C. Medlock was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving with the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii. After returning from the Army, he spent his career in commercial real estate in Atlanta, Ga.; during that time he was a leader of the Wofford Atlanta Alumni group. He was a beloved member of the great Terrier football teams of the late 1960s and then the 1970 team that played for the NAIA national championship. He and wife, Joanne, faithfully came to football games until his health made that difficult.

1971

The Rev. Dr. Michael Worth Wilson, Oct. 7, 2021, Marietta, Ga. After serving in the U.S. Army, Wilson spent much of his career in banking. He left the industry for the ministry, joining the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church after earning his
master of divinity degree. After a brief stint with congregations in the greater Atlanta area, he worked primarily with rural churches before retiring in 2016. He enjoyed cycling, tennis and camping. In his later years, he liked visiting state parks and spending time outdoors with his dogs.

1972
Dr. Glenn Albert McCoy, Dec. 12, 2021, Louisville, Ky. After earning his medical degree, McCoy joined the U.S. Army and began his OB/GYN practice at the 97th General Hospital in Frankfurt, Germany. He continued to practice after he was discharged from the military. After retirement, he worked with Louisville Wound Care Associates until a few weeks before his death.

Douglas Lamar Pridegon, Oct. 30, 2021, Lyman, S.C. Pridegon worked for several companies during a 40-year career in the financial services industry. He also was area director for Young Life in Anderson, S.C., for three years. He was an active member of First Baptist Spartanburg and later of First Presbyterian Church. He also volunteered for Mobile Meals. He enjoyed listening to classical music and playing tennis and Scrabble.

1973
David Steven “Dave” Murphy, Oct. 10, 2021, Greensboro, N.C. Murphy was the president and chairman of Mother Murphy’s Laboratories, a food flavoring business. He died after a 13-year battle with cancer. Murphy enjoyed traveling and being surrounded by family and friends. He was a well-loved member of the Terrier basketball team, scoring 1,089 points in four seasons. He ranks ninth in team history with 946 career rebounds.

Ramón “Ray” Schwartz III, Nov. 7, 2021, Sumter, S.C. Schwartz spent his career with the S.C. Employment Security Commission. He was an avid sports fan who enjoyed playing sports trivia with his friends. He was a member of the Church of the Holy Comforter.

1975
David Wade Carpenter, Jan. 3, 2022, Duncan, S.C. Carpenter was the owner and operator of Spartan Paving and Concrete. He lettered in basketball while at Wofford. He loved the beach, dogs, cats and sports.

1980
Ken L. Steen, Feb. 18, 2022, Fredericksburg, Va. Steen enjoyed a career in education, both public and private, that spanned more than 35 years. During his tenure in the private, independent school sector, he was able to travel to more than 35 countries. Ireland was his favorite. He was active in local and national fundraising professionals’ organizations. Additionally, he served on the board of the North Carolina Boys’ Choir and the member committee of the University Club of Washington, D.C. While at Wofford he was a Milliken Scholar, a cheerleader and a copy editor for the Bohemian yearbook.

Dr. Jeffrey Lee Tedder, Oct. 27, 2021, Tampa, Fla. Tedder lettered in both football and basketball while at Wofford. He moved to Tampa in the early 1990s and founded Tedder Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center, where he treated rising professional athletes and weekend warriors alike. He was a fan of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Atlanta Braves and Elvis Presley’s music. He could often be found at his favorite restaurant, Eddie V’s.

1992
William Michael Kessinger, Jan. 22, 2022, Greenville, S.C. Kessinger owned and operated two businesses on Main Street in Greenville over the course of his life: the Coffee Beanery and the Barefoot Comfort shoe store. He was a passionate University of Georgia football fan and was in attendance with his son when the Bulldogs won the national championship in January, and with his father and brother when they won the title in 1980.

1997
The Rev. Thomas R. “Tommy” Bailey, Nov. 16, 2021, Irmo, S.C. Bailey was a retired elder in the S.C. United Methodist Conference. During his ministry, he served the Chesnee/Trinity Charge, the Duncan Acres Charge in Union, the Timmonsville/Salem Charge and the St. James Charge in Laurens. After his retirement from church ministry, he worked as a chaplain for Crescent Hospice. Before coming to Wofford, he attended Spartanburg Methodist College, where he received many awards, including the Olin D. Johnston Good Citizenship Award and the Religion Award. In 2002, Kappa Sigma Alpha service fraternity named its highest award, given to the student who gives the most service to the community, the Thomas R. Bailey Humanitarian Service Award in his honor.

1999
Thomas Patrick Floyd, Jan. 13, 2022, Dallas, Texas. Floyd was managing director at Regions Bank. He received a 40 Under 40 Award from the Commercial Finance Association in 2017. He was a board member and past treasurer of Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship.

2008
Geoffrey R. Griffin, Nov. 17, 2021, Cheraw, S.C. Griffin was a facilities quality auditor at McEntire Foods in Columbia, S.C.

Susan Chalfant Walker, Sept. 23, 2021, Charlotte, N.C. Walker was a senior manager at Accenture in Charlotte. While at Wofford, she was a member of the women’s choir. Her favorite place was Bald Head Island, N.C., where she enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

Carolyn Creal, Feb. 10, 2022, Spartanburg, S.C. A 1969 graduate of Centre College in Danville, Ky., Creal was a cataloging assistant at the Sandor Teszler Library from 2010-18. In 1970, she became the curator of the Spartanburg County Regional Museum and worked there for the next 36 years. She was the co-editor of the book “When the Soldiers Came to Town,” which was published in 2004 by Hub City Press. She enjoyed traveling and had special memories of trips to London. She enjoyed reading, cats and all things Christmas.

Freddie Lewis Meadows, Dec. 1, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Meadows retired from Wofford in 2013 after 33 years of service in facilities.

Jack Peterson, Nov. 12, 2021, Boiling Springs, S.C. Peterson was a former Wofford football coach and director of athletics. He compiled a 16-14-1 record in three seasons (1971-73), earning the NAIA District Coach of the Year Award in 1972. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church, where he served on the pastor-parish relations committee and taught Sunday school.

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