Top of the morning

By Robert W. Dalton

A lot of people have had Zoom calls with the boss over the past year and half. Fadzai Mushayamunda ‘22, is no exception.

As part of her internship with NBC News’ “TODAY” Show, Mushayamunda, a humanities major and Bonner Scholar from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, got to sit in on a call with The Boss. As in Bruce Springsteen.

Mushayamunda also has been on calls with Jennifer Lopez, actor James Michael Tyler (Gunther from “Friends”) and Brandon Flowers (lead singer and keyboardist for The Killers).

“Mainly I’m in charge of recording the interviews,” Mushayamunda says. “It’s a lot of fun.”

Because of the ongoing pandemic, Mushayamunda is working remotely. She was at first disappointed that she would be spending the summer in Winston-Salem instead of New York City. Once she got started, however, she appreciated the familiar surroundings.
“Everyone wants to spend the summer in New York and get that experience,” she says. “But having it be here opened up a lot of opportunities for me and made it easier to do the work. After such a tumultuous year, it was nice to be able to come home and get the energy I need going into my senior year. This is the last summer I’ll be able to do that.”

An unexpected reunion

Dr. G.R. Davis (left), McCalla Professor of Biology, reconnected with a former student, Dr. Michael O’Quinn ’99, while undergoing heart surgery.

By Heidi Campbell-Robinson, contributing writer

Early on the morning of June 16, Dr. G.R. Davis, McCalla Professor of Biology, lay on a hospital bed. His chest had been shaved and cold electrodes were in place.

He was being prepared for heart surgery.

“I wasn’t nervous,” Davis says. “In fact, I had a sense of assurance because the doctor was one in whom I put great trust.”

Dr. Michael O’Quinn, who happened to be a 1999 Wofford College graduate and one of Davis’ former students, was his cardiologist.

“He was one of mine,” Davis says.

O’Quinn performed cryoablation, a procedure meant to restore a normal heart rhythm by disabling heart cells that create an irregular heartbeat.
Twenty-four years ago, O'Quinn studied physiology with Davis. He recalls Davis’ ability to use colorful analogies to illustrate scientific principles.

New in athletics

Mark Line, left, has been named Wofford’s first softball coach. Stanley Broaden, right, has been hired as associate athletics director for operations, replacing Line.

Stanley Broaden has been hired as associate athletics director for operations. The Department of Athletics has restructured that position, and Broaden takes over many of the responsibilities of Mark Line, who has been named Wofford’s first softball coach. Read more about Broaden and Line.

Support doubling Pell Grants

At least 18% of Wofford College’s student body were eligible for a Pell Grant during the 2020-21 academic year. Pell Grants help nearly 7 million students from families earning low to moderate incomes attend college each year.

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) is leading a movement to double the annual Pell Grant maximum award to $13,000. This would support the reduction of student debt and boost economic mobility.

Visit doublepell.org/take-action to contact your U.S. senators and representatives to support this initiative.