Mariella Stine '25 learned a lot about herself while studying in Granada, Spain, during the spring 2023 semester. The most important lesson was that she could stand on her own.

“The independence of going abroad and participating in a program where there weren't a lot of Wofford students was a good thing for me,” says Stine, a Spanish and studio art double major from Sandy Springs, Georgia. “Now that I am back, my perspective about the challenges I face here is different, too. If I could handle going to another country for five months on my own, I can handle this.”

Study abroad program is a key ingredient in the college’s emphasis on high-impact, experiential learning opportunities. Wofford’s program is among the highest ranked nationally by the Institute of International Education in its annual Open Doors Report, which was released Nov. 13.
The college ranks No. 8 in the percentage of students studying abroad for academic credit, No. 6 for short-term study abroad and No. 9 for the total number of students studying abroad among baccalaureate institutions. The rankings are based on data from the 2021-22 academic year and demonstrate the program’s rapid recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Will Cox ’15 ready for Military Memorial to rise

Will Cox ’15 participated in ROTC at Wofford and served as a U.S. Army aviation officer. He recently made a gift to Wofford’s Military Memorial project and visited campus to see where the memorial will stand.

Will Cox ’15 stood at the intersection of where Wofford College’s future will honor its past and soaked up the atmosphere.

Cox, executive vice president of Cox Bros. Services in Spartanburg, recently made a gift to support the college’s Military Memorial project. He visited campus to see where the memorial will stand between Main Building and the DuPré Administration Building.

“I look forward to the day where future students, professors, alumni and community members can walk past this incredible memorial and reflect on the sacrifices made by former Terriers and their families,” Cox says.

The memorial will be a public space on campus that will bear the names, class years, service branches and ranks of those who died while on active duty beginning with World War I and Wofford’s establishment of a U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps unit.
Cox participated in ROTC while he was at Wofford. He was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant and served as a U.S. Army aviation officer. He later became a Black Hawk helicopter pilot in command and an instructor pilot.

Craig Melvin ’01 named Kappa Sigma’s Man of the Year

Craig Melvin ’01, a member of the Wofford Board of Trustees, has been named Kappa Sigma Fraternity’s 2023 Man of the Year. Melvin, host of NBC News’ “Today” show, is the 90th member of Kappa Sigma to receive the honor, which is presented annually in recognition of extraordinary professional success and societal impact.

Prior to his current role Melvin spent more than a decade as a correspondent and show host for NBC and MSNBC, covering breaking news, human interest and political stories.

“I am so honored to be chosen as Kappa Sigma’s Man of The Year. I have such fond memories from my days at the Alpha-Nu Chapter at Wofford College and am so proud to continue the Kappa Sigma legacy of excellence,” Melvin said in a news release issued by the fraternity.
Melvin is a 1998 initiate of the Alpha-Nu Chapter. His inspirational video about his membership in Kappa Sigma was a highlight of the organization’s 150th anniversary celebration and international convention in 2019.

He is the author of a memoir, “Pops: Learning to Be a Son and a Father,” which explores his relationship with his dad and his own experience as a parent. His new children’s book “Proud of You,” will be published in May 2024.

“Brother Melvin sets a wonderful example for the undergraduate brothers of Kappa Sigma,” said Burt Trembly, national president of Kappa Sigma’s alumni board of directors. “Through his achievements, they are inspired to follow their passions and are reminded that, with diligence and hard work, they too can reach the pinnacle of their profession. He exemplifies the values of our organization and brings honor to himself, his family, and all of us as members of Kappa Sigma.”

Remembering Doyle W. Boggs ’70

Doyle Boggs ’70, center, with Steve Harvey, Mary Beth Knight ’96, Karla Parris Jennings ’04 and Sarah Smith ’06 at his retirement party.

When he retired in 2015 as associate vice president of communications at Wofford, Dr. Doyle W. Boggs ’70 was asked how he wanted to be remembered.

“I want to be remembered for joining Wofford, as a student, Old Gold and Black editor and student sports information director, then as a member of the alumni association and employee. I worked side by side with great people through the years, and I am especially
fond of the student workers who I jokingly called Boggs Scholars. I still treasure those relationships.”

Boggs died on Nov. 4 in Spartanburg.

One of those “Boggs Scholars” was Josh Whitley ’05, who now serves on the Wofford College Board of Trustees and was the student chair of the public policy committee Boggs established to engage students with communications, especially in thanking and making requests of legislators.

“I am grateful that I had the opportunity to work for Dr. Boggs all four of my student years at Wofford,” says Whitley. “He was a mentor, endlessly kind and absolutely devoted to Wofford College.”

Remembering Rudy Mancke ’67

South Carolina naturalist and Spartanburg native Rudy Mancke ’67, the longtime host of NatureScene on South Carolina Educational Television (SCETV) and on public radio, died Nov. 7. He was a natural history curator at the South Carolina State Museum and a high school biology and geology teacher before his work with South Carolina Educational Television.

Wofford President Emeritus Bernie Dunlap knew Rudy well. They started out at SCETV at the same time.

“We tried really hard to get him to return to Wofford and continue recording Nature Scene out of Spartanburg. We thought he’d almost agreed, but in the end, of course, he stayed put in Columbia, where I’m sure they fought tenaciously to keep him,” says Dunlap. “No one has ever embodied the value of a Wofford education more impressively than Rudy. Flags should fly at half-mast at every nature center in the state.”

For more, read this article in GoUpstate.

Sen. Cory Booker to headline conference

U.S. Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey will hold a town hall as part of the South Carolina Democratic Party’s 2023 First in the Nation Spratt Issues Conference Series on Saturday, Nov. 18, on the campus of Wofford College. The conference and town hall will be held in the Jerome Johnson Richardson Theatre in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts.
The conference begins with a panel discussion, "Impact of Abortion Bans on Women in South Carolina," from 10:45 a.m.-noon. After lunch, a panel discussion on "Action and Advocacy in Your Local Community," will run from 12:45-2 p.m.

Booker will take the stage at 2 p.m. He will hold a meet and greet after the town hall.

Tickets are $10 for Wofford students and are available HERE. General admission tickets are $50 and are available HERE.

**Athletics updates**

Grace Agster ranked nationally after fall season
Terriers set for SoCon volleyball tournament