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From the President

Now that I am back in an academic environment, memories of the dreaded first English class writing assignment following summer vacation come to mind — having to write about long car trips with the family and siblings punching one another in the back seat, or de-tasseling corn and baling hay in the heat of an Illinois summer, or hanging out at the town swimming pool.

This time, however, I write to celebrate and to share summer news about Furman.

The Class of 2017 joined us for the summer orientation process for both entering students and their families. They, like all of us who have faced the reality of our first college experience, were excited and a bit nervous, and had plenty of questions. They left full of confidence that nearly everything was going to be just fine — as long as the students occasionally called or texted home! Now that the school year has started, they’ve joined the returning students in making the campus come alive once again with energy and special purpose.

But what about the Class of 2018 — what will it be like? To find out, my wife, Lynne, and I each played “Undercover Boss” (no, not in disguise) and joined tours for interested parents and prospective students as they learned about the special place we call Furman University. Standing in the shoes of those seeing the campus and hearing about Furman for the first time, I could not help but be proud of the knowledge and enthusiasm of our student advocates and Welcome Center staff.

It made me realize, however, that everyone is a salesperson on behalf of Furman, whether it is current students or alumni speaking with friends at home, parents talking with one another at a party, or staff and faculty who take the time to stop and introduce themselves to visitors, making them feel welcome. It’s impossible to know just how influential each of us might be in making that extra effort to help another young person begin the path of lifetime learning as a Furman student.

Furman staff and faculty are not only committed to helping students learn to their utmost abilities, but also to helping them prepare to use their skills early and often in the workplace of the future. We do that in a number of ways, including through undergraduate research, study away and internships.

Concerning internships, a great deal of effort was given this summer to extending and enhancing our existing internship programs in the broad areas of health and health management through new cooperative efforts with Greenville Health System. I am excited about the possibilities for Furman students and the community in this rapidly growing field. In addition, the expanding entrepreneurial community in the Upstate is virtually untapped as a source of practical experience for our students. We are working to develop the close relationships that will lead to more opportunities for our students as interns, employees, and maybe even as entrepreneurs!

Perhaps the most significant physical change returning students found was the transformed Trone Student Center, with its expanded food offerings at the brand new Paddock Restaurant and its beautiful gathering places, both inside and out, overlooking the best view on campus.

As you read this, the fall sports season has begun. The new PowerBlade Bolt playing surface in Paladin Stadium has been installed for football and for our first lacrosse games this spring, and the expanded press box tower is expected to be fully completed late in the football season. Our coaches and their staffs, both those new to Furman and the veterans, have all been working hard, recruiting, planning and training. I hope to see everyone out cheering for the Paladins this year.

And finally, we have been working to bring a successful close to our Because Furman Matters campaign. We are close, but really need everyone to consider how they might make a difference and leave a legacy that will have impact for years to come. Read more about the final stage of the campaign on page 14.

Go Paladins!

— Carl Kohrt
FULL CIRCLE

Carl and Lynne Kohrt form a dynamic new leadership team for Furman.

By Jim Stewart

Back in 1965, while Carl Kohrt was completing his senior year as a chemistry major under the watchful eye of such legendary Furman professors as Stuart Patterson, John Southern and Don Kubler, his wife, Lynne, was the department assistant.

She was often joined at her post by their young son, Kris, who would sit propped in a seat beside her desk as she oversaw the office's daily operations. Kris must have absorbed something along the way, because in 1984 he would earn his own Furman degree.

Now fast forward 30 more years. Sarah Kohrt, Kris' daughter (and one of Carl's and Lynne's 10 grandchildren), is looking at colleges, with Furman on her list. And her grandparents, who have known each other since childhood, had their first date at band camp and are unabashedly each other's best friends, have returned to work at the place where they began their lives as a married couple.

Only this time it's in a more prominent capacity: as Furman's interim First Couple.

When Rod Smolla resigned as president effective July 1, the board of trustees acted quickly to tap one of its own: Carl Kohrt, son of two educators, 1965 Furman graduate (and 2009 honorary degree recipient), holder of a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and a master's degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, longtime executive with Eastman Kodak, and former head of Battelle, one of the nation's largest nonprofit independent research and development organizations.

In announcing the appointment, Richard Cullen '71, chair of the board, said that Kohrt was the "immediate and unanimous choice" and called him "a strong leader and a really bright guy, with great academic credentials and an exemplary record of business leadership. We'll be in good hands."

The way Kohrt describes the "ask" dovetails nicely with Cullen's and the board's evident confidence in their decision. "They said that Rod had submitted his resignation and asked me point-blank if I would consider being interim," says Kohrt. "My immediate response was that Lynne and I had been married 51 years, and it might be best to check with her first."

Her reaction: "She literally said, 'Well, it's Furman. We can make it work.' And so I went back and told them they could have us as long as they need us."

Together the Kohrts give Furman, in the words of trustee David Ellison '72, a presidential team that is "warm, gregarious and easy to be with. Both Carl and Lynne absolutely adore Furman. Carl has been on the board for a long time [including a term as chair], and when you combine his knowledge of Furman with his corporate background, business savvy and academic credentials, he has all the qualities we need."

Those qualities include a quiet confidence in his ability to move the university forward. Kohrt says, "I've been in leadership positions, for whatever reason, since high school, and I've found that I can generally motivate a group to do what's right. It's all about people — how you treat them, listen to them, respect them. You don't always have to agree, but you can find ways to work together."
As an example he cites his years in China with Eastman Kodak, where he forged a major partnership while developing and expanding the company’s Asian market. The experience, he says, taught him to better understand how to deal with people, organizations and cultures. He recalls a senior Chinese official telling him that the success of their relationship hinged on their mutual realization that, “If we are to go forward together, we must look backward together.”

WHEN HE LOOKS BACK on his Furman experience, Kohrt says, “Furman has definitely grown on me over time, in terms of the value I put on what I learned.” He gives credit to the chemistry department and particularly to Patterson, his primary mentor. But then his thoughts shift as he reflects on the influence of other professors.

“If it hadn’t been for Stuart Patterson I’d have been an English major,” he says, recalling John Crabtree’s Shakespeare class as a highlight. Winston Babb in the history department gets a nod, as does religion professor Edgar McKnight’s Old Testament course. “I still have the notes from his class,” Kohrt says, adding that he and Lynne used those notes to teach a church youth group during their years in Rochester, NY.

He chuckles as he remembers math professor Reece Blackwell’s advice on how to learn calculus: “Go home, get something to eat and work problems. It’s fun.” And he continues to marvel at Ray Nanney’s organizational skills and ability to “fill a blackboard, move to the next, and by the end of class have three perfectly full boards.”

Those and other experiences helped inspire him an appreciation for the value of lifelong learning and the liberal arts. Recently, in fact, Kohrt enrolled in a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) in advanced calculus, both to test himself and to see what the discipline is like today. He says he was able to complete the class — although he prefers not to reveal his grade. But since he was a magna cum laude graduate of Furman and a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow, he gets the benefit of the doubt.

The Furman influence remained strong, he says, through his rise into the top executive ranks at Eastman Kodak, where he worked for 29 years and was responsible for research laboratories on four continents, and on to Ohio-based Battelle, which he presided over for eight years before retiring in 2008. With both companies he earned widespread respect for his innovative thinking, people skills and ability to get things done.

At Battelle he was applauded for forging STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) partnerships between Ohio State University and local schools, and for his work with such organizations as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. When he retired, Ohio Rep. Deborah Pryce entered a laudatory commentary about his contributions into the Congressional Record. She said, “The way to judge one’s impact on an organization or community is to measure one’s personal and corporate accomplishments. Through this lens, it is easy to conclude that Carl has been an outstanding leader . . . [he] has made a significant difference.”
THE KOHRT NAME graces the main commons area in Furman’s Townes Center for Science. It was endowed by Carl and Lynne in memory of Carl’s parents, Carl and Catherine Traughber Kohrt. They have also been longtime backers of the chemistry department’s undergraduate research program, in which Carl was one of the earliest participants. The Partners Scholarship Program, athletics department (he played football and basketball his freshman year) and other areas have benefited from their support as well.

Now he and Lynne are extending their generosity and talents into new areas. In what could have been a period of uncertainty, they are providing direction and stability while energizing the campus with their eagerness and enthusiasm. Two immediate objectives: to complete the Because Furman Matters capital campaign (page 14) and to move forward with a Smolla-initiated project in which faculty, administrators and trustees meet regularly to examine such issues as tuition, financial aid, budgeting and costs.

Indeed, admission and financial aid strategies are key elements of the early Kohrt agenda. He and Lynne have dropped in on campus tours to meet and greet prospective Paladins, tell their Furman stories and learn firsthand what today’s students are looking for in a college. Carl has also met with faculty, staff and alumni, asking for their thoughts and input. He wants to make sure that Furman understands what kind of message it is sending during a time in which costs and return on investment are paramount concerns for families with college-age children.

In short, he hopes to find the common themes in what people know and think about Furman, and to incorporate those beliefs into the “T-shirt message” that will give students a clear impression of the challenges, opportunities, benefits and, especially, the value of a Furman education.

When Furman awarded Carl Kohrt an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 2009, the citation emphasized his “humility, humor, strength and benevolence” — qualities that the board of trustees knew would serve Furman well. Just as telling are the words of George Fisher, former head of Eastman Kodak, who once described Kohrt as “one of those individuals who combines the genius of a great scientist, the common sense of a great business person and the heart of a great human being.” [F]

Can you find Carl Kohrt in this photo of distinguished members of the Class of ’65 who received awards for graduate study? Hint: Think lab coat. The photo appeared in the Summer 1965 issue of The Furman University Magazine. Among the prospective doctors, lawyers, teachers and business leaders you can also find two future Furman professors, economist Dick Stanford (front row, far left), who provided the photo from his family archives, and philosopher Jim Edwards (back row, second from right). Photo by Neil Gillespie.
A Healthcare Primer

Two health sciences professors explain the basics of the Affordable Care Act — and how it might affect different groups.

By Tony Caterisano and Si Pearman

For more than 100 years, healthcare has been an issue in American politics. Theodore Roosevelt emphasized it during his unsuccessful “Bull Moose” campaign for the presidency in 1912. Presidents from Truman to Nixon, Carter and Clinton attempted to address needs in the healthcare system or to promote some kind of national health insurance plan.

During the Johnson administration, in 1965, the nation enacted historic legislation establishing Medicare and Medicaid, and for a time these government programs were thought to create a kind of “health Utopia” for Americans. Working citizens and their families would receive coverage through their employers, Medicaid would provide coverage when workers retired, and Medicare would protect widows and widowers and those who were medically indigent. However, in large part because of steady increases in healthcare costs during the 1970s and ’80s, this “Utopia” failed to materialize.

By 2008, according to a U.S. Census Bureau report, more than 36 million Americans — not counting those covered by Medicaid and Medicare — had no insurance coverage. And this number was (and is) growing, as were the costs of premiums, which rose at a rate faster than inflation. The Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employee Sponsored Health BENEFITS reported that the average premium contribution for an employee rose from $1,543 a year in 1999 to $3,515 in 2009. Over the same period average employer contributions rose from $5,791 to $13,375.

As a result, many workers, especially those at or near the minimum wage, were electing not to purchase health insurance because they couldn’t afford it.

More problems began to emerge. Some people could not obtain coverage because they worked for small companies that were unable to afford group plans, and the cost of individual policies was prohibitive. Part-time employees were generally not offered coverage, and most young adults were removed from family plans within a few months of graduation from high school or college because of private insurance guidelines.

Employees looking to move from one company to another also faced roadblocks. A new job would usually require them to change insurance carriers, and many found that they or a family member with a chronic, pre-existing condition, such as cancer, diabetes or asthma, would not be covered. So people became hesitant to change jobs. Moreover, if they lost a job, they might have trouble finding a new plan that would cover a pre-existing condition.

Others were dealing with catastrophic bills brought on by unexpected illnesses or accidents. Many families had no means to pay them, especially if they had no healthcare plan. Even for those with insurance, high deductibles for hospital coverage and high maximum out-of-pocket standards often led to massive bills. According to a 2009 report in the American Journal of Medicine, some studies estimated that healthcare costs had contributed to 60 percent of personal bankruptcies in recent years.

All of these factors provided the backdrop for what we now know as the Affordable Care Act — Obamacare, as many call it.
The ACA emerges
When Barack Obama began his quest for the presidency in 2008, healthcare was not, at first, a major tenet of his campaign. Hillary Rodham Clinton, his main rival for the Democratic nomination, actually led the call for healthcare reform during the early primaries. But as Obama's campaign gathered momentum and his support grew, he began to emphasize healthcare in an effort to draw support away from her.

After he was elected president, some advisors suggested he delay tackling healthcare reform and focus more on the economy. But others, like the now deceased Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, a powerful politician and longtime advocate for healthcare reform, advised (and pressured) Obama to push ahead. Party leaders also felt that the new president could use his "honeymoon" to help encourage an overhaul of the system, despite Republican opposition.

Most of us are familiar with what followed. Obama launched his healthcare initiative, the Republicans resisted, the parties bickered ad nauseam, and the bipartisan "Gang of Six" failed to find common ground. In the end, the Democrats mustered the votes to pass the bill in both houses of Congress. While parts of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), signed into law by Obama in March of 2010, have already been phased in, its strongest impact will begin to be felt this October.

But do Americans fully know, or understand, what the ACA does, even after more than three years of discussion and publicity? The Huffington Post suggested otherwise in a March 20 story, citing a Kaiser Family Foundation report that the public is "uninformed and confused" about the law. While people say they approve of many of its provisions, such as tax credits for individuals and small businesses, better coverage for prescription drugs and coverage for pre-existing health conditions, many remain resistant to the "mandate" that they purchase some form of health insurance, and others believe that the ACA establishes "death panels" to ration care and designate who gets what kind of treatment — and who does not.

Percentage of gross domestic product spent on healthcare with correlation to executive and legislative parties in power

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage of GDP spent on healthcare</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
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<td>1995</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
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- Healthcare spending
- Democratic Party
- Republican Party
Reducing the occurrences of preventable diseases is the only way to truly cut costs. Until people begin taking preventive actions at earlier ages, little will change.

A look at the basics
The Affordable Care Act, with its many stipulations and requirements, is a complicated piece of legislation. Both of us have taught classes on the topic. The following “primer” is based on our research and course preparation. We do not attempt to judge the merits of the law but to provide a summary of some of its key elements, and to offer insight into how different groups might be affected.

Under the ACA, children and dependents under 26 cannot be refused coverage for pre-existing health conditions, nor can they lose coverage or have policies canceled — a practice known as rescission — because they are “too sick” or have reached a lifetime limit. If their family incomes are less than 133 percent (or gross income adjusted to 138 percent) of the U.S. poverty level, they will be covered under expanded Medicaid, assuming their state participates in the planned expansion. If their parents are covered under a private insurance plan, they can be included up to age 26.

Young healthy people with jobs but without healthcare coverage will be required to purchase a plan. If they choose not to, they will pay a penalty (some call it a tax) that will be a percentage of their gross income. The penalty would, in theory, cost them pretty close to the price of a basic annual insurance premium. This is the “individual mandate” recently tested in the Supreme Court. The government’s ability to enforce the individual mandate, however, is somewhat suspect; property cannot be seized or liens on property levied, and the Internal Revenue Service can withhold money only from those in line to receive a tax refund. An exemption is allowed for those who prove that they cannot afford a plan or that having a plan goes against their religious beliefs.

No changes are required for those with private insurance, although employers may elect to change their insurance coverage at any time. Interstate insurance exchanges mandated by the Affordable Care Act are designed to allow employers to seek better deals across state lines.

For the elderly, the so-called “doughnut holes” — gaps in Medicare prescription drug coverage that force many to pay the full cost of prescriptions for extended periods — will be closed. A federal advisory board, established to make recommendations designed to keep costs down, may rule that some routine procedures that are currently

<table>
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<th>Healthcare spending per capita</th>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>$3,685</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>$3,975</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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covered will be unnecessary for certain age groups or high-risk populations. (This is the so-called “death panel” concept derided by opponents of the law.)

Insurance companies that provide supplemental insurance for Medicare patients will be paid less. The insurance industry will also face limits on profits that will require companies to refund some premiums or reinvest in patient care. Preventive treatments such as screenings and vaccinations will be free (no co-pay). Lifetime limits on coverage have been eliminated.

Physicians will see cuts in Medicaid and Medicare payments, which will be based on outcomes rather than the number of tests or office visits. The idea is that more patients in the system will offset lower fees for services. Medical students who graduate and choose to work in underserved communities may have their school loans forgiven.

As an incentive to develop healthcare plans, small businesses with fewer than 25 employees who make less than $50,000 per year will receive a tax credit. For 2013-14 the credit will be 35 percent of the cost of insurance; afterward it will be 50 percent. Initially the plan also called for businesses with more than 50 employees to be required to provide health insurance, or to pay a penalty; the Obama administration has recently delayed implementation of this aspect of the ACA for a year.

How will we pay for the Affordable Care Act, with its estimated cost of $940 billion over the next 10 years? The Medicare tax will increase 2.35 percent on those making more than $200,000 per year, and 3.85 percent on couples making more than $250,000 per year.

There will be a 40 percent corporate tax on companies that provide so-called “Cadillac” insurance plans, high-end plans through which employers may gain tax advantages. And there will be a 10 percent tax on persons who use tanning beds. Because 30 million new customers will be required to buy health insurance, the assumption is that the revenue they generate will offset the costs of the other provisions.

**Let’s treat the causes**

Legislation and regulation may be necessary to treat the symptoms of the healthcare crisis in America, but what about the causes?

As health sciences professors, we are especially concerned with the impact of our society’s poor health choices — smoking, lack of exercise, high-fat diets — on the rise in healthcare costs. We believe that reducing the occurrences of preventable diseases is the only way to truly cut costs. Until people begin taking preventive actions at earlier ages, little will change.

We can begin by improving health and physical education classes in our elementary, middle and high schools. Just as we seek to hire the best math and language teachers, we need to hire dedicated, knowledgeable health and physical education teachers and to offer physical education classes several days per week, at the least. We need to teach our children healthy behaviors and offer them healthier food choices, because almost one-third of the nation’s children are now considered obese.

If we don’t start assuming more responsibility for our health behaviors, we will place a huge economic burden on current and future generations. The cost of treating chronic illnesses such as heart disease, lung disease and diabetes, to name just a few, rises into the billions each year. Many of the risk factors connected to these diseases can be addressed through simple lifestyle changes — 30 minutes of daily physical activity, decreasing our fat and sugar intake, and making better dining choices, such as fruits, vegetables and healthy grains.

And all of us need to become advocates for these changes. We’ll never find solutions if we don’t attack the root causes of the problems. [F]

Tony Caterisano joined the Furman faculty in 1984; Si Pearman ’87 has taught at the university since 1990. Illustrations by iStockphotos.

Charts adapted from a July 17 talk at Furman by Hugh Greene, chief executive officer and president of Baptist Health in Jacksonville, Fla., as part of a summer lecture series on healthcare reform sponsored by the Riley Institute and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.
Violins Against Violence

A view of Suchitlán Lake through the doorway of a small Suchitoto café.
Photos by Steve O’Neill and Erik Ching.
Sister Peggy O'Neill's work sends a message of peace and hope to a war-torn country — and challenges others to a more purposeful life. By Mary O'Neill

"VIVA LA PAZ! VIVA LA PAZ!! VIVA LA PAZ!!!" We work our way up to a shout (there are only five of us), and our voices roll across the rocky, empty slope — it once was the village of Copapayo — and bounce down into the water of Suchitlán Lake.

We sit on a concrete foundation, an exception among what had been mostly adobe structures. It's the only remaining evidence of the 120 families that eked out a living on this arid hillside. A ghost-colored cow, ribs poking out, sidles over for a look.

It's February, El Salvador's dry season, but the lechuga — water lettuce — forms dense mats along the shoreline, impassably thick in a small ravine about 30 yards from our spot. In the early morning of November 3, 1983, that lechuga, normally a nuisance to boaters and fishermen, became the villagers' only lifeline.

By then, nearly four years into the Salvadoran Civil War, government forces had targeted the area for scorched-earth repression. Copapayans had seen mutilated body parts left as warnings on doorsteps. They instinctively dove for cover at the sound of an airplane. They had grown accustomed to sudden evacuations, thanks to rebel scouts who warned them when state death squads were on the approach.

That November was nothing new — a secret tip-off, a quick exodus, a hide-out. After a few days, the Copapayans gingerly re-entered their village from the lake, ferrying families through the vegetation two boatloads at a time.

Once nearly 150 people were ashore, the ambush began. Two lines of government soldiers descended from the hilltop, in a vee formation, firing M-16s and cannons on the unarmed villagers who stampeded back to the two canoes in a fruitless effort to escape. The Salvadoran army threw grenades directly into the boats. A lucky few grabbed the lechuga and floated underneath.

The massacre at Copapayo was one of many perpetrated by the elite Atlacatl Battalion, a fearsome counterinsurgency unit led by Lt. Col. Domingo Monterrosa. On average, 1,000 civilians a month were murdered by the Salvadoran army in the first half of the civil war. The most notorious human rights violations by Atlacatl troops included a six-village rampage at El Mozote in 1981 that left 800 civilians dead; the 1989 slaughter of six Jesuit priests, their cook and her daughter; and the attack on Copapayo.

The 70-odd survivors on shore, mostly women and children, were rounded up for torture — a forced march, starvation, rape and, finally, execution. No agency, no official commissioner, came to take the final toll, but it is presumed to be 142 murdered.

The sole survivor of both phases of the atrocity, then nine years old, is one of our little group this sunny afternoon. Rogelio Miranda is not shouting "Vendetta!" or epithets at Monterrosa, but "Viva la Paz!" — Long Live Peace. He is joined in that sentiment by another Copapayan, Mercedes Menheva, who had reluctantly evacuated just before the killing, and by Sister Margaret Ann "Peggy" O'Neill, a 75-year-old American nun who has found her life's mission in this traumatized society.

"They stretched my soul," she says. "I needed people who were humble, strong, courageous, honest and willing to weep — but to hold on to each other." Just after her arrival in 1987, as gunfire rang in the streets, she and a fellow nun told each other, "The women will take away our fear." Only later did they discover that the women of the village were saying the same thing about them: "When the sisters came, they took away our fear."

"That's really this definition of solidaridad. It's a new word for love," Sister Peggy says. "Even Jesus needed a gang."

SISTER PEGGY is turbo-charged by her mission. Her jeep clatters from a meeting with the local mayor to her teaching post at Central American University in San Salvador, and all points between.

Much of her seemingly bottomless energy, however, is funneled into the Centro Arte Para la Paz (Art Center for Peace) in Suchitoto, a cobblestoned, colonial town with majestic views of Suchitlán Lake. The site served as a convent and school before violence forced the previous order to flee in 1980. In the last eight years Sister Peggy has transformed the property from an abandoned, tumble-down shell into a centerpiece. Surrounded by bougainvillea, the center now boasts a museum and gallery space, an indoor/outdoor cafe, meeting rooms, music rooms, a skateboard park, a large conference hall, lodgings, a peace garden, and a 19th-century chapel on its way to restoration.

Its aim is to foster peace through creativity, holistic and therapeutic
practices, cross-cultural exchange and educational events. “Well, if you say conflict mediation, who’s going to sign up for that? We use beauty instead,” Sister Peggy explains. “There is something intuitive about making music, making art. Violins against violence.”

Though the fighting officially ceased more than 20 years ago, “El Salvador as an entire nation is still deeply traumatized by this war,” says Erik Ching, who heads Furman’s study away program in Latin America. “The whole nation has PTSD [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder], and violence seeps in and pervades society as a result. Sister Peggy is meeting that head-on.”

The center serves a radius of 82 villages with programs for adults and children, ranging from drama therapy and yoga to guitar lessons, dance and primers on Gandhi. Many activities, like the self-healing approach called Capacitar, or the simple recounting of the past as practiced by Rogelio and Mercedes, fit any age.

And any country. “We’re telling people to resist violence,” Sister Peggy says. “But how do you creatively resist? How do you deal with the fear and the processes you go through to resist gang recruitment or to resist running for the easy way out? Look, there will always be violence in me, in each of us. But there’s art with touching your own violence. How do I deal with it? The older I get, the more I think the Beatitudes are about geography. Where do I stand? Am I on the side of people who are longing?”

FURMAN STUDENTS, introduced to Sister Peggy and her work through visits during study away programs, have taken her message to heart.

Ali Boyd ’11 is the legal coordinator for Annunciation House, a migrant shelter in El Paso, Texas. “I am living in solidarity with people who are torture survivors, who are fleeing violence and death squads, just as they did in El Salvador,” Boyd says. “The crimes are the same, with state complicity just as in El Salvador. The whole study abroad experience with Sister Peggy was formative for me. I can trace my vocational evolution to her.”

Sister Peggy makes clear that the destruction of Copapayo isn’t only about Salvadorans. At the start of each visit to the site, she leads students in a reflection on Mexico, Darfur, Syria — widening a circle of compassion to include fellow sufferers across the world.

“We must see and feel the pain to want to do the changing, to be a part of the new birthing. Think about a meaningful life, not just a comfortable one.” A broader audience — Furman’s 2013 graduates, their friends and families — heard that encouragement from Sister Peggy in May, when she received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree and gave the Commencement speech.

“Get a life, a real life — not just the manic pursuit of the next promotion, the larger house, the greener lawn, the bigger paycheck. . . . Get a life where you are not alone. Find people you love, and who love you. Get a life in which you are generous. Give yourself away,” she urged the graduates. “Fig out on life!”

Matthew Sturz ’10, now in medical school at the University of Chicago, returned to Suchitoto for an additional six weeks after his study abroad experience in El Salvador in 2008. “I was overwhelmed by the generosity and friendliness of Latin Americans,” he says. “I was welcomed there even though I didn’t speak the language very well, and when that’s juxtaposed with the intolerance leveled at undocumented populations here — and to imagine them facing a health issue here on top of that intolerance — a shift took place for me. It meshed with what we learned about liberation theology from Sister Peggy and shaped my focus on accessibility and availability issues in our current national healthcare policies.”

Ching has been marveling at Sister Peggy’s impact for 10 years. “The change you get to see in students — they always find her captivating,” he says. “She somehow manages never to offend and always to inspire, even as she’s saying the most provocative, challenging things. No one reeks back. They jump in.”

“We all have conceptions about what a nun is — reserved, wearing a habit,” says Celeste Peay ’13, who traveled to Suchitoto in 2012. “She is so gregarious, filled with vitality and energy. All of her days were crammed full but she was present every second that she was with you. You feel rejuvenated after talking with her.
“She’s a perfect example of what it looks like to live out your passion. She calls us to a more challenging life, but the most rewarding one.” After she completes medical school and a master’s degree in public health, Peay intends to practice in Latin America.

SISTER PEGGY took her vows with the Sisters of Charity a little more than 50 years ago. After earning her Ph.D. she became the chair of the theology department at Iona College in New York. She took a sabbatical in the mid-1980s to teach and serve across Latin America, and her love affair with Salvadoreans — “They nourish and astound me” — began. “Wherever the need is, I’ll go, but there was a chemistry there,” she explains. “Plus there was a classical music station! That was the last thing that I checked off. Done deal. I can survive anything with good music.”

By the fall of 1987 she had resigned her faculty position and started helping Copapayans return to El Salvador from Honduran refugee camps. She has run medical supplies to hiding guerrillas, defied armed soldiers, thwarted kidnappings and brought bodily remains — sometimes only severed heads — home to anxious mothers. “We were not brave. We were just doing little things that amounted to bigger things,” she asserts. “You just didn’t think.”

Those so-called little things continued even after the peace agreement was signed in 1992. The basic amenities the peasants fought for — education, tillable land, water, housing, healthcare — had to be implemented. Sister Peggy works alongside her Salvadorean friends and creates jobs at the center in Suchitoto as they try to move out of survival mode.

“In North America, we’re so interested in whether there’s life after death. But their question is, ‘Why isn’t there life for everybody before death? Why can’t we have life instead of just survival?’ That’s what they ask me here,” she says.

At the Art Center for Peace, there is life before death. Salvadorans cooks make fried plantains for conference-goers, a choreographer teaches 40 rapt teenagers new dance moves, and carpenters measure beams for more renovations.

“When you hear someone like Mercedes speak now — an incredibly articulate, motivated individual who is politically astute and speaking out publicly — you’re seeing the power of community organizing. She’s a living embodiment of the transformation in that area,” says Ching.

Sister Peggy’s next target is a performing arts venue at the center. “To somehow continue the dream of having young people realize opportunity, to have horizons just being stretched, to have them spinning around in their bodies and shouting! There are a couple of kids we really could send to play the harp professionally. And we have saxes, two of them, but no sax teacher. Maybe Bill Clinton could come,” she jokes.

Over a mango-coconut smoothie at the center’s café, Sister Peggy cites lines from a favorite poem by Mary Oliver:

“When it’s over, I want to say: all my life I was a bride married to amazement.”
As campaign approaches conclusion, university launches final push

A5 CHAIR of the board of trustees in October of 2007, Carl Kohrt stood at the podium in Timmons Arena and helped launch the largest fundraising drive in Furman's history: the $400 million Because Furman Matters capital campaign.

Today, almost six years later, Kohrt is at the forefront of the campaign again — only now he is interim president of Furman, a position he assumed July 1 after Rod Smolla's resignation. And just as he was there for the campaign's beginning, Kohrt is looking forward to bringing it to its December 31 conclusion.

To date, Furman has raised $390 million toward its $400 million goal. As the campaign enters its final months, Kohrt says he is confident that alumni, parents and friends will step forward to help the university reach its completion.

When he talks of the campaign and its current and potential impact on Furman, Kohrt invokes a quote from the poem "The Bridge Builder," by Will Allen Dromgoole. The poem tells the "pay it forward" story of an old man on a voyage. Kohrt says, "It represents a moment in my family's life when we chose to be philanthropic in a larger way, and it suits the way we all should feel about why this campaign matters."

"The Bridge Builder" follows the old man along a journey that takes him to the edge of a treacherous abyss. Once he makes it safely to the other side, he stops to build a bridge. An observer questions the man's actions and motivations, to which the old man replies:

"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said, "there followed after me today. A youth whose feet must pass this way. This chasm that has been as naught to me. To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be; He, too, must cross in the twilight dam; Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"

Kohrt says, "The many donors who have given generously to this campaign are helping to build a bridge, similar to the one Dromgoole describes, for those who have yet to come to Furman. But we are not yet across. Because Furman Matters is ultimately about our students. They are worthy of our investment. We are building the bridge for them."

In recent years the campaign's final phase has focused on four primary areas. The university has worked to strengthen support for and access to the Furman experience through such efforts as the Furman Standard (faculty development), Furman United (financial aid for students with unexpected economic need) and enhancements to international and study away programs (page 15). Furman's efforts to renew its athletics program have led to increased scholarship support for varsity and club sports, plus major improvements to facilities for baseball, softball, golf, soccer and football (page 21).

The $7.75 million expansion and renovation of the Trone Student Center and the recent gift from John and Jeanette Cothran toward the Center for Vocational Reflection (page 15) have been key elements in Furman's determination to transform the living and learning experience for students. The university has also worked to expand its ties and outreach to the community and region through campaign initiatives that support the Shi Center for Sustainability, the Herring Center for Continuing Education and the Riley Institute at Furman.

As the campaign heads toward completion, Kohrt says, "What we need most are funds to build the endowment that supports our programs for students and professors. Adding about $20 million to Furman's endowment would be an incredible capstone."

And when he thinks about the iconic image of the Bell Tower with Paris Mountain in the background — the image that adorned the original campaign marketing materials and served as inspiration through the last six years — Kohrt says it is representative of the heights to which Furman aspires. As he says, "If you don't stretch, you will fall short. And we want to continue to stretch — and to rise."

To learn more about the remaining needs of the Because Furman Matters campaign, contact mike.gatchell@furman.edu or visit becausefurmanmatters.com. Stories on these pages by Kate Hofler Dabbs '09.
‘Investment in people’ supports Center for Vocational Reflection

AFTER GRADUATING FROM FURMAN in 1954 and then serving in the Army, John Cothran returned to his Greenville home searching for a calling.

“I had visited the new campus many times on return trips while stationed at Fort Knox and would always pass through the front gates to see the progress,” he says. “One day my father [a 1922 graduate] invited me to tag along to see the cornerstone placed for the library. He pointed at a man across the crowd, E. Roy Stone, and said, ‘Mr. Stone is a prominent real estate man. Let me introduce you to him; you may want to go into the real estate business.’”

Cothran soon joined Stone in the real estate profession. He opened his own company in 1962, followed by many others, and his career would span more than five decades.

Perhaps it was this memory of finding his calling that inspired Cothran, a longtime Furman trustee, and his wife, Jeanette, to pledge a major gift that, when added to gifts from other donors, will ensure a $3 million endowment for the Center for Vocational Reflection. “Jeanette and I always wanted to invest in people — it is one investment that never goes down in value,” Cothran says.

Established as the Lilly Center in 2001 through a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., the center is now named for the Cothrans. It aims to provide resources for individuals and groups to reflect upon their vocational choices by creating opportunities for thoughtful and open dialogue while seeking to stimulate and inform social action.

The center also sponsors service-learning projects for students and alumni. More than 100 faculty members have benefited from a series of yearlong seminars designed to explore topics that help them better discern their vocations as teachers and scholars. Through the center’s alumni programs, endowed by Tom and Becky Hood ‘89 Becherer, alumni may participate in “pilgrimages” around the world or return to campus for a weekend of reflection and conversation with current and former faculty on the topic, “What’s Calling You Now?”

David Bost, professor of Spanish and administrative director of the Cothran Center, says, “We hope to expand the footprint of the center, letting it permeate through other programs and the curriculum. We hope ‘Who am I?’, ‘What do I believe?’ and ‘What does the world need from me?’ will become common themes throughout the university.”

The Cothrans are founding members of the Partners Scholarship Program. Two of their four sons are Furman graduates.

Learn more at furmanlilly.com.

Rinkers’ commitment boosts study away and international education programs

FIVE FURMAN STUDENTS received scholarships this spring to participate in a study away program during May Experience, the university’s three-week semester that bridges the end of the academic year and the start of summer school. The students were the first of many who will participate in travel programs thanks to the generosity of Leighann and David Rinker, who recently made a $1 million commitment to the newly named Rinker Center for Study Away and International Education.

Kailash Khandke, assistant academic dean for study away and international education, says, “We are designating a large part of the funds to support the endowment for study away, and the rest will largely be allotted to need-based scholarships.” Khandke adds that he is working to apply a portion of the gift to study and assess the impact of study away programs on students’ lives. He also would like to develop more travel opportunities for faculty to cultivate an interest in developing new faculty-led study away programs.

The Rinkers are from Atlantis, Fla., and have been generous Furman supporters for more than 25 years. Leighann Rinker is a current trustee and past chair of the board who holds an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Furman. She and her husband are founding members of the Partners Scholarship Program and have been inducted into Benefactors Circle, a society for donors of more than $1 million to the university. They also are past members of the Parents Council, as three of their four children (and two of their children’s spouses) are Furman graduates. The Marshall E. Rinker, Sr., Foundation, which David chairs, provided the naming gift for Marshall E. and Vera Lea Rinker Hall in the Charles H. Townes Center for Science.

Furman’s study away opportunities range from May Experience trips to semester or year-long programs in the United States and abroad, and the university offers opportunities to travel in 37 countries. Approximately 45 percent of students participate in study away programs during their time at the university.

Learn more at furman.edu/academics.
I HAVE BEEN fortunate to know and work with TRUDY FULLER since I was 16 years old and a student at the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities summer program. I went on to study with her for four years at Furman.

As my years as a student passed I began to cherish my weekly lessons more and more. Trudy not only taught me how to sing and be a better musician, she showed me how to expect more of myself than I ever thought was possible. The lessons I learned about singing were invaluable, but the sense of discipline Trudy instilled in me informs my learning and my life to this day.

Although she may not have specifically set out to give me the skills required to be a teacher, I now find myself drawing from her example as I teach my own students. She was demanding, but she had a compassionate manner that left her universally adored. Even as I had finished my senior recital and been accepted to a top conservatory, she still pushed me hard through my last lesson as a Furman student.

In the years since I graduated, Trudy, who taught at Furman for 30 years until deciding to retire this spring, has been one of my biggest fans, an extraordinary mentor and a special friend. She watches every video I post on YouTube, listens to every recording I send her, and offers great encouragement and opinions. She is eager to hear about the progress of the students that I now teach. All that I do has been inspired by Trudy’s instruction.

Trudy received the Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching in 2003, and she exemplifies what makes Furman a world-class institution: great professors who push students to achieve their personal best. Her style was distinguished by a humble dignity that has left a lasting impact at Furman and, through her many students, around the world.

— CRAIG PRICE

The author, a 2004 graduate, lives in Lexington, Ky., where he maintains a private voice studio and singing career. He holds a master’s degree from Manhattan School of Music.

DAVID REDBURN came to Furman in 1990 with a strong background in the fields of gerontology and demography. He did his undergraduate work at North Carolina State before journeying to the University of Utah for his doctorate. During his 20-plus years at Furman he twice served as chair of the sociology department, and for several years he was secretary/treasurer of the Southern Demographic Association.

Two things stand out in regard to David’s contributions to Furman. For many years he taught a two-semester methods sequence that guided our majors in the development of original research papers. These projects often led to presentations by the students at regional conferences, and the skills developed in these classes helped many of our majors succeed at top graduate programs and non-academic research positions.

David’s classes were often interdisciplinary in nature, and he forged important connections between the sociology department and the departments of economics and earth and environmental sciences.

To recognize his service to Furman and to the department, the Redburn Award was established for the graduating sociology major who best exemplifies outstanding academic promise, leadership and service.

Much of David’s research focused on social inequality. In addition, he studied the concept of social capital — how the quality of one’s social networks contributes to economic success, and how the nature of neighborhoods in which one resides promotes trust among residents and affects quality of life.

It’s safe to say, however, that one of his major interests was, in his words, “cruising sailors.” He and his spouse, Deb, spent many summers on a boat, sailing in the Caribbean or along both coasts of the United States — or even in the Greek Isles with longtime friends Bob and Mickey Fray from the mathematics department.

Over time the Redburns met many couples who lived abroad and cruised their boats either full- or part-time. This social group had not been studied until David presented a paper about it at the Southern Sociological Society meetings in 2007. Our understanding is that David and Deb plan to spend as much of their retirement as possible in further exploration of this topic — and lifestyle!

— PAUL KOOistra

The author, a 1974 graduate, is chair of the sociology department.
MAURICE CHERRY taught me Spanish when I was a Furman undergraduate. He then taught me how to teach Spanish when I was a Furman graduate student.

When I student-taught, he supervised all Furman foreign language student teachers, which entailed visiting us in our respective schools. He spent however long was needed to affirm and motivate us as we brought foreign languages to sometimes less than appreciative adolescents. He molded my career choice and he regularly checks in with me, be it by sending a congratulatory note for a publication or encouraging me to make a presentation at a conference.

A 1965 Furman graduate himself, Maurice Cherry stood for rigor in the classroom. Four decades of Furman undergraduates carry those hard-earned grades as badges. His assessments were always accompanied by personal and constructive feedback. I still have my student-teaching journal, the pages peppered with thoughtful comments. He read every word of our reflections, complaints and hopes. This is something provided only by the best professors — those willing to dedicate the hours needed to sharpen their students’ writing and thinking skills.

When I started teaching at Valdosta State University, I received an email from the editor of the catalog, Lee Bradley, welcoming me and encouraging me to visit. He knew of my arrival from Dr. Cherry. When I went to see him, I learned that Lee and Dr. Cherry were longtime friends and co-editors of the journal Dimension. We shared stories of Dr. Cherry and our sincere admiration for his intellect and unwavering dedication to excellence. This sentiment extends throughout the community of modern language scholars, as the Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT) recently honored Dr. Cherry with its prestigious Founders Award.

Professors like Maurice Cherry guide you, inspire you and end up synonymous in your mind with that special, irreplaceable time that was your college days. I know I join many others that Dr. Cherry impacted over his 40 years of service in saying, “Thank you for a job well done.”

— RANSOM GLADWIN

THERE’S PROBABLY NO BETTER send-off for a Furman professor heading into retirement than to be presented the Aleetor G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching.

Just ask JOHN SHELLEY. The religion professor received the teaching award at the 2013 Commencement — fitting recognition for 33 years of exceptional service to the university, and for his continuing ability to connect with undergraduates (page 19).

Shelley has influenced countless students, many of whom now teach in colleges and universities around the country. Each year his departmental colleagues have looked forward to his return from the Society of Christian Ethics meeting, when he shares news from Furman ethicists for whom he has been a role model and mentor. His “Faith and Ethics” class has been one of the major’s core courses throughout his years at Furman. And he was co-founder and first coordinator of the university’s poverty studies program, which has become one of the most popular interdisciplinary minors at Furman — and provided the perfect place for him to merge his passions for teaching and social justice.

Ten years ago Shelley, author of numerous scholarly articles, penned one of the best-received stories this magazine has printed. “The Gezork Incident,” from the Spring 2003 issue, described the politics surrounding the dismissal of religion professor Herbert Gezork in the 1930s and revealed how the controversy ensured that academic freedom would be protected at Furman. It prompted tremendous response from readers and helped inspire one of Gezork’s former students to endow a lectureship in theology and philosophy at the university.

All of this from an honors graduate of the electrical engineering program at Clemson University whose skills were so valued that he was courted by the likes of Stanford and MIT for graduate study, and was offered jobs by IBM and Bell Laboratories. Instead he entered Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he earned a Master of Divinity degree and studied under Edgar McKnight, later a colleague at Furman. He went on to complete a doctorate at Vanderbilt.

He made his way in 1980 to Furman, where he has served as a model of integrity, compassion and teaching excellence.

— JIM STEWART

The author, a 1994 graduate (M.A. ’96), is associate professor of Spanish at Valdosta (Ga.) State University.
University considers proposal to become tobacco free

A SEVEN-MEMBER COMMITTEE has recommended that Furman adopt a tobacco-free policy beginning with the 2014-15 academic year. The proposal, if approved, would prohibit the use of all forms of tobacco, including smokeless products, on university property. The group, chaired by Jeff Redderson, associate vice president for facilities services, began studying the issue last year after the university received complaints about exposure to secondhand smoke. The committee included representatives from the faculty, administrative staff and student body.

Redderson says that roughly 15 percent of faculty and staff and 5 percent of students reported using tobacco products more than three times per week.

The university banned smoking in all campus buildings in 1993. The ban was extended in 2007 to include smoking within 25 feet of building entrances. Students were still allowed to smoke on the balconies of residence halls.

A series of forums will likely be held this fall to gather input on the proposed policy change, says Redderson.

Among institutions of higher learning in South Carolina, Charleston Southern, Converse, Lander, Medical University of South Carolina, Southern Wesleyan, University of South Carolina-Upstate, York Technical College and Piedmont Technical College have banned all forms of tobacco use on their campuses, and Clemson University has formed a committee to study the matter. More than 825 U.S. colleges and universities are tobacco free.

Redderson says research gathered by the committee indicates that healthcare costs are 40 percent higher for smokers, and that smoke-free policies on campuses help decrease tobacco consumption.

"There are many health, economic and environmental benefits from having a tobacco-free environment," states the recommendation. "The committee recognizes that it is Furman’s responsibility to actively engage our campus community in accepting responsibility for improving our environment, beginning with our campus."

— JOHN ROBERTS

Reprinted from Inside Furman, the internal campus newsletter. The author is the university’s director of communications.

Education program makes Council on Teacher Quality honor roll

IF YOU’RE LOOKING for a top teacher education program, the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) reports that Furman’s is among the best.

Furman was one of only four universities in the nation to receive a top rating from NCTQ for its undergraduate secondary teacher education program. The NCTQ’s Teacher Prep Review gave Furman, Vanderbilt, Lipscomb and Ohio State universities four-star ratings for combining “an eye for the talent teachers need, strong content knowledge preparation, and well-structured opportunities to practice the craft of teaching.”

In addition, Furman was the only school in South Carolina to have both its elementary and secondary programs make the review’s honor roll. NCTQ assigned ratings of 0 to 4 stars to 1,200 teacher education programs; to make the honor roll, programs had to earn at least three stars. Twenty-one elementary programs (4 percent of those rated) and 84 secondary programs (14 percent) qualified for the honor roll, including the undergraduate secondary programs at Clemson University, College of Charleston and the University of South Carolina.

Nelly Hecker, chair of the education department, says Furman “owes its strength to outstanding faculty who engage teacher candidates in practices supported by empirical evidence, and to strong partnerships with public school districts that provide excellent mentors. The retention of our graduates in the field of education has dramatically increased since we extended our teacher preparation program to a fifth year of study, giving our candidates more time to enroll in content courses and more time to teach under the guidance of master practitioners and mentors.”

The Furman program is known for its high entrance and exit standards. After four years of study, elementary teacher candidates are required to spend an additional semester completing a teaching internship. The university graduates 30 to 50 teacher candidates each year.

Learn more at nctq.org.
Commentary: Meritorious Teaching and Advising Award recipients

AS IS TRADITIONAL AT FURMAN, the 2013 Commencement featured the presentations of the Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Awards for Meritorious Teaching and Advising. The advising honorees were Nelly Hecker, professor and chair of education, and John Wheeler (far right), professor of chemistry. John Shelley (second from left), who was influential in establishing Furman’s poverty studies minor and retired this year as professor of religion (page 17), and A. Scott Henderson, professor of education, received the teaching awards. Henderson is only the third professor in Furman history to win both the teaching and advising awards, joining Charles Brewer, William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of Psychology, and Tom Cloer, professor emeritus of education. Henderson received the advising award in 2002.

To recognize the winners, we feature representative quotes from letters, submitted by former or current students or colleagues, nominating each of them for their respective awards.

NELLY HECKER (joined faculty in 1979): “The capstone requirement of our teacher education program is the teaching internship. For many years Nelly supervised elementary candidates during their internships . . . the supervisor has to be prepared to offer ongoing encouragement and assistance, which includes observing the intern and modeling appropriate teaching strategies. Nelly has not only done these things, but she has proven to be a vital source of emotional support for teaching interns as they embrace one of the most stressful stages in their preparation as educators.”

JOHN SHELLEY (joined faculty in 1980): “I was inspired by his dedication and true care and respect for the subject, and I looked forward to his class every day. He developed my slight interest in poverty into a completely new viewpoint on society, [and he influenced] my decision to pursue a minor in poverty studies and a career that is aware of social justice and equality. He always sees the best in his students, and he truly believes in what he teaches and who he teaches.”

A. SCOTT HENDERSON (joined faculty in 1998): “Awards and recognitions cannot serve as adequate measures of Dr. Henderson as a teacher, a man, a friend or a colleague. His legacy will be his students, their pursuit of knowledge, their professionalism, their commitment to the excellence that he continues to instill in them. Academically, personally and socially, my Furman experience has been significantly shaped because of this professor, his love of subject, his concern for students and his enthusiasm for teaching.”

JOHN WHEELER (joined faculty in 1991): “He was not my 'official' advisor during my days at Furman, but he has been my most valuable touchstone for guidance and advice over the last 15 years. When I faced a tough choice between attending graduate school and medical school, John was there with wise counsel. When I looked for ideas and inspiration for teaching, John was gracious in his ideas and strategies. When I had questions related to career paths and life in academia, he was my valued confidante. Stated simply, John Wheeler embodies the best of academic advising. He stands out as one of a kind.”
ROBERT WHITLOW ’76, The Living Room (Thomas Nelson, 2013). The last novel from the best-selling Whitlow focuses on Amy Clarke, a legal secretary and novelist whose dreams provide the plots for her books. As she begins her third book, the nature of her dreams shifts and they begin to foreshadow real life. Before long the scenes begin to spill over into her waking hours. As she becomes entangled in an intense case at work, her visions take on a dark hue and implicate someone dear to her. Can she act to prevent tragedy? This is the 13th book from the Christy Award-winning Whitlow, an attorney in Charlotte, N.C. Visit roberhwhitlow.com.

TOMMY HAYS ’77, What I Came to Tell You (Egmont USA, 2013). The author’s fourth novel is a young adult book that writer Ron Rash describes as “a great-hearted novel filled with wisdom and truth.” Set in Asheville, N.C., where Hays lives, it follows the efforts of 12-year-old Grover to deal with his mother’s death, and how friends and family ultimately help him cope. Novelist Josephine Humphreys, who holds an honorary degree from Furman, says the story is “rich with the troubles of love and grief, family and community, but there’s a surprising aura of innocence over all, lifting the novel and its readers into another realm.” Hays is executive director of the Great Smokies Writing Program and a lecturer in the Master of Liberal Arts Program at the University of North Carolina–Asheville. Visit tommyhays.com.

J. MICHAEL MARTINEZ ’84, American Environmentalism: Philosophy, History, and Public Policy (CRC Press, 2013). The book provides a foundation in American environmentalism as well as modern environmental politics, agencies, stakeholders and tenets of the sustainability movement. It examines the main decision criteria for policymakers and how to actually “operationally” sustain and amid the competing priorities of consumer needs, ethical ideals, lawyers, lobbyists and politicians. Martinez, who has doctorates in political science and public administration, is corporate counsel for a company in Monroe, Ga., and teaches part time on the college level. Visit jmichaelmartinez.com.

TRACY BEHRENS SANDS ’90, The Christian Alphabet Book: Teaching Children About Jesus, Prayer and the Bible (Love the Dove Publishing, 2012). The book offers young readers the chance to learn about foundational Christian truths and how those truths weave together to create a rich tapestry of faith. Sands, who also illustrated the book, uses scripture and easy-to-grasp images to help parents share the Gospel with their children. She holds a master’s degree in art education from Georgia State University and taught art in the schools for 10 years. She also has a business creating personalized Christian name art. Visit thechristianalphabet.com.

SAUNDRA DAVIS WESTERVET ’90 and Kimberly J. Cook, Life after Death Row (Rutgers University Press, 2012). Interviews with 18 individuals who have been exonerated and freed after years on death row illustrate their post-incarceration struggles with being wrongly convicted of capital crimes. Drawing upon research on trauma, recovery, coping and stigma, the authors depict the difficulties encountered by people striving to reclaim their lives after years of wrongful incarceration, and their search for acceptance and acknowledgement. The book also offers policy-based recommendations designed to help meet the needs of future exonerees. Westervelt is an associate professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina–Greensboro. (Furman featured her work in the Fall 2006 issue.) Cook is chair of sociology and criminology at the University of North Carolina–Wilmington.

GREGORY ELLISON ’94, Take Ego Out of It: Turn Stress into Success in Relationships, Sports and Life (Bookbaby, 2013). Stress happens on a daily basis, and how you respond to it matters. This e-book outlines a simple strategy to cope with stress and to turn stressful moments into productive ones by training yourself to think before you react. Ellison lives on Hilton Head Island, S.C. Visit takegooutofit.com.

MICHELLE "BROWNIE" PUGH ’05, Love at First Hike (CreateSpace, 2013). The author, an emergency medical technician in Simpsonville, S.C., writes about her effort to fulfill a childhood dream of hiking the Appalachian Trail, a quest she began shortly after graduating from Furman. Her trek provided her a host of new experiences and a blossoming romance, but after an injury forced her off the trail she feared that both her dream of reaching Mount Katahdin (the trail’s end) and her hopes for the relationship were gone. Little did she know what the future held, and despite additional setbacks that caused her quest to be further delayed, she never gave up on her goal.

FROM FACULTY

NICHOLAS F. RADEL, Understanding Edmund White (University of South Carolina Press, 2013). This is the first book-length critical study of the work of America’s best-known gay novelist. Radel, who has taught English at Furman since 1986, examines White’s writing within the changing social contexts of the past half-century, when gay and lesbian individuals began to be increasingly accepted by society. White, who was on campus this spring to teach the English department’s “Writing with Writers” May Experience course, is most famous for his trilogy of autobiographical fiction — A Boy’s Own Story, The Beautiful Room Is Empty and The Farewell Symphony. He is the author of a series of experimental and historical novels and is a regular contributor to The New York Times and the Times Literary Supplement in London.
Hall of Fame welcomes four new members

FOOTBALL STANDOUT Jerome Felton ’08, tennis stars James Cameron ’03 and Mary Neil Hagood McKie ’05, and longtime women’s tennis coach Debbie Southern will be inducted into Furman’s Athletic Hall of Fame October 5.

Felton, who earned All-Pro recognition in 2012 with the Minnesota Vikings of the National Football League, gained 2,652 yards rushing and scored 63 touchdowns in four seasons as Furman’s starting fullback, during which time the Paladins won a Southern Conference title and made three NCAA I-AA (FCS) playoff appearances. He holds numerous school records and was a three-time All-Southern Conference choice and an All-America selection.

Cameron was conference player of the year and male athlete of the year in 2003. With John Chesworth ’03, he earned All-America honors after they advanced to the doubles quarterfinals of the 2002 NCAA tournament. A seven-time All-league selection, he received the Furman Academic Achievement Award in 2003.

During her four years at Furman McKie was twice the league’s player of the year and helped her squad to a 38-0 conference regular-season record. She holds the school record for most doubles wins with 75. She received the 2004 Southeast Region Arthur Ashe Sportmanship Award and was the league’s female athlete of the year in 2005.

With 435 victories during her 30-year Furman career, Southern has led her teams to nine NCAA tournament appearances, 16 conference tournament titles, and a winning streak of 100 straight conference matches from 1998 to 2010, the longest run of success in league history in any sport. She was inducted into the International Tennis Association Women’s Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame in 2012 and the South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame in 2004.

Pearce-Horton Complex nears completion

DODGING THE UNENDING deluges and downpours that drowned the Greenville area over the summer, construction crews somehow made good progress on the expansion of the press tower at Paladin Stadium.

The actual "press level" for the Pearce-Horton Football Complex, as it has been named, was to be ready for the September 14 home opener against Presbyterian. In addition, an artificial Power-Blade Bolt surface, which replaced the original natural grass field, was installed over the summer and will support both football and Furman’s new lacrosse program, which opens varsity play in 2014.

The rest of the $12 million, 44,000-square-foot complex is expected to open later in the fall.

Greenville residents Sonny Horton ’52 and his wife, Keeter, provided the naming gift for the renovated facility, which now houses the football program as well as the university’s Heritage Hall, president’s box and special club seating, among other amenities. The name honors both Sonny’s and Keeter’s families.

Sonny Horton was an all-South Carolina running back during his playing days and is a member of the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame. He received the Southern Conference Service Award in 2006 and, with Keeter, was honored with Furman’s Bell Tower Award in 2008. Keeter’s father, Charlie Pearce, attended Furman and played football in the early 1920s.

“The new facility shows our fan base, alumni and recruits that we are serious about returning the Paladins to national prominence,” says Ken Petrus, associate athletic director for development. “This building could not have been realized without the generosity of devoted alumni such as the Hortons.”
FURMAN TO HONOR ITS TOP MILITARY BRASS AT HOMECOMING

IS FURMAN AN INCUBATOR for top military brass?

Bill Mayville '76, a product of Furman's military science program, noticed a few years ago that a number of Furman graduates were being promoted to the military's top ranks. His research found that seven Furman graduates currently serve as general officers in the Army, with five on active duty. (See the write-up under Class of '84 to learn about Furman's newest general, Chris Ballard.)

Several more graduates are generals in the Army National Guard and Army Reserve. Since 1950 Furman has produced 11 Army general officers, two Navy admirals and a Marine Corps general officer.

Furman will honor its high-ranking military graduates November 9 during Homecoming. It will be a rare treat for the members of the university's Corps of Cadets to interact with the alumni officers who are able to attend. The campus will also hold a special ceremony on Veterans Day, November 11.

And there's more to this military story. To support the career development of Furman's ROTC cadets, Mayville, a Florida businessman and strong Furman supporter, worked this spring with retired Army colonel Mike Pasquarett, who taught in the military science department during Mayville's student days, to develop a program in Washington, D.C., for the university's graduating cadets.

With Pasquarett's help, the cadets were able to visit such sites as the Pentagon, Brookings Institute and Capitol Hill, meet officers with Furman ties, and learn about how national security policy and strategy are developed and applied at the highest levels. The idea for the trip, called “How Washington Works,” came from a course Pasquarett taught at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., for senior military and civilian leaders.

Pasquarett says he wanted the Furman cadets to have a head start as they began their military careers. “It is important for them to know the process, to know the players,” he says.

He came to campus in March to teach the first part of the course, drawing from his three decades in the military and 12 additional years on the faculty at the Army War College. The mini-course covered such topics as defense policy and strategy, national security organization, the influence of the Washington think tank community, and Defense Department interactions with Congress.

Mayville and Pasquarett hope that the program can be expanded, and that in the future political science and history students can join the Furman cadets in Washington.

The information gathered and connections made through “How Washington Works” will likely provide a career boost to the 2013 cadets, who received their commissions May 3. Perhaps one or more of them will become the next Furman general.

NEW FACE IN THE OFFICE:

Sarrin Towle Warfield ’03 has joined our staff as assistant director of alumni programs. She earned her Furman degree in communication studies with a concentration in women's studies, then received a master's in organization development and a coaching certificate from the McColl School of Business at Queens University in Charlotte, N.C. She's married to Bob Warfield '02.

We're delighted to have Sarrin back on campus. With Homecoming approaching, don't be surprised to hear from her soon!

— TOM TRIPLITT

A report by Erikah Haavie for edge.furman.edu served as the basis for this column. Tom Triplit, a 1976 graduate, is Furman's executive director of constituent relations and alumni programs.
67 Alan Hill of Bay City, Mich., who recently retired after teaching sociology and anthropology for 25 years at Delta College, was recognized by the Michigan Sociological Association for his distinguished service to sociology. He remains active as an emeritus adjunct professor at Delta and as a visiting professor at Michigan State University. Alan taught at Furman from 1979-87.

69 H. Donald Sellers of the Haysworth Sinkler Boyd law firm in Greenville was named to the 2013 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers.

70 Bill Metcalf of Campobello, S.C., was inducted into the South Carolina Athletics Coaches Association Hall of Fame July 27. Now retired, Bill was baseball coach at Chapman High School for 24 years, during which time his teams won 342 games and three upper state championships. He was a leader in the founding of the South Carolina Baseball Coaches Association and was its first president. He was also president of the Spartanburg Baseball Coaches Association four times and was a three-time nominee for national coach of the year.

71 Susan Thomson Shi, Furman’s First Lady from 1994-2010, received the United Way of Greenville County’s Spirit Award for outstanding community leadership. She was recognized for her work with the Institute for Child Success, which focuses on creating high-quality early childhood development and education systems that ensure school readiness for all children.

72 Cathy Cannon Hubka of Ormond Beach, Fla., has retired after 23 years of teaching. She was teacher of the year in 2001 at Ormond Beach Middle School and was twice honored as social studies teacher of the year.

73 **THIS YEAR IS REUNION!**

Henry Parr of the Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham law firm in Greenville was named to the 2013 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers.

75 **Ballentine Carter** is the 2013 recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Alumni Award from the Urology Care Foundation of the American Urological Foundation. The award recognizes his work as a researcher, urologist and mentor of young scientists. An internationally recognized expert in the diagnosis and treatment of prostate disease, Ball is professor of urology and oncology and director of the division of adult urology at the Brady Urological Institute of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. He received Furman’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2005.

76 **Clyde Mayes** of Greenville was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame May 13. Clyde led Furman to two Southern Conference regular-season basketball titles, three league tournament crowns and three NCAA tournament appearances, averaging 17.9 points and 12.6 rebounds per game for his college career. A two-time conference player of the year and All-America as a senior, he played professionally in the National Basketball Association and in Europe.

77 **Phil Reeves** of the Gallivan White & Boyd law firm in Greenville was named to the 2013 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers. **MARRIAGE: Larry Nordlinder and Reina Rivera, December 22. They live in Black Mountain, N.C. Larry, who has spent most of his career in software training and application development, has started a new company, SharePoint Revolution (sharepointrev.com).**

79 **Susan Martore-Baker** of Bedford, N.H., has been appointed president of Cambridge Trust Company of New Hampshire. She was previously senior vice president at Citizens Private Bank & Trust.

81 **Angela Walker Franklin,** president of Des Moines University in Iowa since 2011, is one of 13 African Americans included in the 2013 South Carolina African American History calendar, published by AT&T. The calendar recognizes the achievements of African Americans with roots in the state. Angela, a native of McCormick’s, has served several terms on the Furman board of trustees. Visit SCAfricanAmerican.com.

82 **J. Carey Thompson,** vice president for enrollment and communications and dean of admission at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., received the 2013 Larry West Award, the highest distinction given by the Southern Association for College Admission Counseling. The award recognizes longevity of service, leadership, dedication to the organization, and contributions to the profession and to students. Carey has also been head of admission at Centre College and at Furman.

83 **THIS YEAR IS REUNION!**

Winnie Talbert Kortemeier earned her Ph.D. in geology from the University of Nevada-Reno in December. She continues to teach geosciences at Western Nevada College in Carson City.

84 **Christopher Ballard** was commissioned a brigadier general in the U.S. Army June 12 during ceremonies in Washington, D.C. He has since redeployed to Afghanistan where he serves as deputy chief of staff (Intelligence), Headquarters, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command, Operation Enduring Freedom. He has commanded military intelligence formations at the platoon, company, battalion and brigade level, and was most recently director of Army Cyber Operations Integration Center/K-3, Second Army/U.S. Army Cyber Command in Fort Belvoir, Va.

85 **Kathleen Brady** has been appointed vice chancellor for planning, institutional research and metropolitan studies at the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg. She was previously director of the school’s Metropolitan Studies Institute. **David Ouzts** continues as chair of professional concerns and development for the Association of Anglican Musicians and has edited new editions of the organization’s two professional manuals, *Musicians Called to Serve* (2011) and *Servant Leadership for Musicians: A Vocational Handbook for Ministry* (2013). He is in his 12th year as music director and liturgist at Church of the Holy Communion (Episcopal) in Memphis, Tenn.

86 **After almost 10 years as associate vice president for development and campaign director at Elon University in Burlington, N.C., Chuck Davis has moved with his family to Aberdeen, Scotland. He is chief executive officer of the Robert Gordon University Foundation,**
2013–14 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leslie L. Smith ’91, president; Rebecca Ann Armocast ’89, president-elect; C. Todd Malo ’95, vice president; J. Chris Brown ’89, past president; Henry E. Barton, Jr. ’84; Laura Wahorske Benz ’00; Marilyn Mayfield Blackwell ’65; Sidney R. Bland ’59; Tracy Hulsey Bond ’90; Kevin R. Bryant ’85; William M. Burtless ’84; O. Vernon Burrow ’69; M. Susan Caffey ’81; Bryan D. Fox ’93; Russell I. Gambrell ’79; Charles D. Hardy ’89; Jimmie E. Harley ’58; Gregory W. Haselden ’94; Gail Laible Hughes ’83; Calvin C. Hurst ’04; Richard E. Hyman ’77; Thomas A. Marshall ’77; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. ’79; Andrew C. Medlyn ’97; Steven M. Price ’86; Orlando B. Ruff ’99; Kenneth A. Sargent ’62; Gordon D. Seay ’61; George O. Short ’54; Christopher P. Smith ’95; E. Leon Smith ’61; Kevin R. Spears ’92; Douglas N. Stinson ’01; T. David Tribble ’76; Elizabeth K. Wherry ’01; Elizabeth Goodlet Williams ’91.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: Carl Koorh ’65, president; Mike Gatchell ’91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt ’76, executive director of alumni programs and constituent relations; Leo Fackler ’03, associate director of alumni programs; Sarrin Tovle Warfield ’03, assistant director of alumni programs; Liz McSherry ’07, president, Young Alumni Council; Ali Moran ’14, president, Student Alumni Council; Brian Boda ’14, president, Student Government Association; Alexandra Cross ’14, president, Senior Class.

93

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

BIRTH: Herman Holt (M.S. ’93) and Karen Buchmueller, a daughter, Olivia Hazel Holt, March 27. Karen teaches chemistry at Furman, and Herman teaches chemistry at the University of North Carolina-Ashville.

95

Steve Ahn, a biology and earth science teacher at Abingdon (Va.) High School, received the 2013 McLaughlin Award for Teaching at the secondary level. The $25,000 award goes to educators from the Appalachian regions of Virginia, Tennessee, West Virginia and Kentucky. Recipients are required to use part of their award for international travel; Steve plans to visit schools in Norway and Finland.

96

Leanna Kelley Fuller completed her Ph.D. in religion, psychology and culture at Vanderbilt University this spring. She has been named assistant professor of pastoral care at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Scott Graves of Blythewood, S.C., has been named president and chief operating officer of BlueChoice HealthPlan of South Carolina. He is also treasurer of the South Carolina Alliance of Health Plans and a board member of the South Carolina Association of Non-Profit Organizations. Sarah Moses, professor of religion at the University of Mississippi in Oxford since 2008, received the Cora Lee Graham Award for Outstanding Teaching of Freshmen at the school’s spring Commencement. The award includes a prize of $1,000.

97

William Priestley earned a master’s degree in education from Campbell University in December. He recently became broadcasting and digital media coordinator for the school’s athletic program.

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Carrie Jones of East Lansing, Mich., is executive director of the Michigan Venture Capital Association, for which she oversees operations, member activities and outreach to media legislators.

Arica James Smith earned a master’s degree in education from Winthrop University this spring.

99


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Whitney Lowery-Jackson Howell, a freelance writer in Durham, N.C., specializing in science and medicine, was awarded a 2013 World Health Organization/United Nations Foundation Press Fellowship in Global Health, which provides journalists access to leading health experts and up-to-date information on global health issues.

The fellowship enabled her to attend the World Health Assembly meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, in May.

Christ Hospital Health Network in Cincinnati, Ohio, has named Casey Liddy executive director and chief business improvement officer. He was previously chief analytics officer for the Medical University of South Carolina.

Ashley Kelley Thaba’s story “African Adventures” is included in the recently published Chicken Soup for the Soul: Inspiration for Writers. The anthology features stories from people who have successfully pursued their writing dreams. Ashley, a missionary in Botswana, is the author of Conquering the Giants, which recounts the story of her son’s traumatic birth and subsequent survival.

87

Christine Hiley Donohue has become a purchasing analyst with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County (Fla.). She has also been admitted to the Florida Bar.

88

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

MARRIAGE: Mary Gilbreath and Hugh Pope, October 6. They live in Atlanta.

89

Judge Frederic Rand Wallis of Orlando, Fla., has been appointed to the 5th District Court of Appeal by Gov. Rick Scott. Rand had been a circuit judge with the state’s Ninth Judicial Circuit.

90

Marti Miles Bluestein of the Bluestein, Nichols, Thompson and Delgado law firm in Columbia and J. Tod Hyche of the Smith Moore Leatherwood law firm in Greenville were named to the 2013 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers.

Kirby Mitchell of Greenville has been named statewide senior litigation attorney for South Carolina Legal Services. He represents low-income clients in SCL’s federal and state trial and appellate litigation across the state.

91

Mark Bakker of the Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham law firm in Greenville was named to the 2013 list of South Carolina Super Lawyers.

92

William F. Roach, Jr. (M.A. ’97) received his Ph.D. in educational leadership from the University of South Carolina. He is principal and executive director of Greer Middle College in Taylors, S.C.
02

Josh Cooper of Tallahassee, Fla., received one of Maverick PAC’s inaugural “40 Under 40” awards, which recognize young conservative professionals in politics, business, law and entrepreneurialism. Maverick PAC is a national group that works to engage young conservatives in the political process. Josh is a founding partner with Strategic Information Consultants and managing member of NG Strategies, a communications and public relations firm. The Augusta (Ga.) Metro Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Augusta Magazine, named Adam King to its 2013 list of “10 Young Professionals to Watch.” The winners were featured in the magazine’s June/July issue and were nominated for Georgia Trend magazine’s “40 Under 40” list for 2013. Adam is an associate attorney with Nicholson Revel LLP.

Ryan Koon, a middle school science and history teacher at St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Greenville, received the 2013 Deacon Robert Brady Middle School Excellence in Teaching Award, chosen by the eighth grade class. The award goes to a middle school teacher who demonstrates commitment to the school and exemplifies the spirit of teaching in all walks of life.


BIRTHS: Matthew and Abigail Boylston, a daughter, Maeva Heller Boylston, March 13. Matt has been named dean of the School of Fine Arts at Houston (Texas) Baptist University.

Andrews and Emily Wilson Lawrenz, a son, Nils Benjamin, October 28. They live in Munich, Germany.

Joe and Gretchen Middour, a son, Isaac Luther Olesen Middour, April 3, Spartanburg, S.C.

David and Jenny Milhous Scott, a son, Glenn David, September 6, 2012, Columbia, S.C.

12 NEW MEMBERS JOIN ALUMNI BOARD

The Alumni Association Board of Directors, which provides counsel and guidance to the university on behalf of alumni, welcomes 12 new members and a new chair, Leslie Smith ’91, to its ranks this fall. Smith, a resident of Jacksonville, Fla., is finance director with Genesee & Wyoming, a rail services company. She takes the gavel from J. Chris Brown ’89.

The 12 newcomers represent one of the board’s largest first-year “classes” in many years. They are: Henry Barton ’84 (Elgin, S.C.), director of legislative and regulatory relations with SCANA Corporation of South Carolina; Laura Wahoske Benz ’00 (Sharpsburg, Ga.), an attorney with the firm of William Thomas Craig; Bryan Fox ’93 (Columbia, S.C.), director of special projects with Palmetto Health and founder of Athletic Performance Excellence; Russell Gambrell ’79 (Martinez, Ga.), telecommunications specialist with the U.S. Army at Fort Gordon; Cal Hurst ’04 (Greenville), vice president/commercial relationship manager with PNC Bank; Richard Hyman ’77 (Weston, Conn.), vice president of national account sales for Global Imaging Systems.

Also, Steve Price ’86 (Bradenton, Fla.), co-pastor, Harvest United Methodist Church; Chris Smith ’95 (Blythewood, S.C.), owner of Moe’s and Smashburger restaurants; Kevin Spears ’92 (Decatur, Ga.), development officer for Visiting Nurse Health System, a home healthcare and hospice provider; Doug Stinson ’01 (Knoxville, Tenn.), sales and marketing representative for England, a La-Z-Boy company; Lizzie Wherry ’01 (Charleston, S.C.), outside sales representative for Dealers Supply & Lumber Co.; and Beth Goodlet Williams ’91 (Charlotte, N.C.), director of youth ministries at First Presbyterian Church.
SEE WHAT’S ON EDGE

WHEN YOU SEE THE EDGE symbol with any story in this issue, you’ll know that digital additions and enhancements related to the article (video clips, slide shows, etc.) are available online at edge.furman.edu.

The EDGE site is meant to enhance and complement the print magazine and is especially compatible with smart phones and tablets. In addition to Furman magazine, EDGE contains an ever-changing collection of stories and photo features about university life.

EDGE also includes a link to Furman magazine in its traditional PDF form (furman.edu/furmag). That's where class notes is available and where you can see archived issues, submit news for class notes, or complete a quick survey.

Those who would prefer to receive the magazine in electronic form only should email alumni@furman.edu.

03 THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
Matt and Katherine Poss Albert live in Savannah, Ga. Katherine received the Historic Savannah Foundation’s Nichola Parker Cee Volunteer of the Year Award for her work with the organization’s inaugural Preservation Festival, which promoted the value of historic preservation. She is on the board of the foundation’s 13th Colony, a group for preservation-minded young professionals, and is pursuing a master’s degree in public history at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Matt is a senior sales representative with Coviden and is on the board of the Coastal Conservation Association.

Allison Sparks Fain has joined the staff of Shriners Hospital for Children in Lexington, Ky. A registered nurse, she serves as patient services coordinator.

Billy Napier has rejoined the football staff at the University of Alabama as wide receivers coach. He was assistant head coach and quarterbacks coach at Colorado State University in 2012 after serving as an offensive analyst for Alabama’s 2011 national champions.

MARRIAGE: Cole Hubka, Jr., and Jenna Jones, October 13. Cole is a vice president and commercial insurance consultant/risk manager for Insurance Office of America. They live in West Palm Beach, Fla.

BIRTHS: Eric and Mary Frances Snodgrass Christiansen, a daughter, Mary Jane, November 9. They live in Sandy Springs, Ga.

Jonathan and Angela Christian Jones, a son, Christian Alexander, May 25. They live in Mauldin, S.C.

04 Kimberly Gross Freeman, head of the world languages department at Lexington (S.C.) Middle School, is the Lexington District 1 teacher of the year. She specializes in Latin.

Becky Lane lives in Salisbury, N.C., where she is marketing projects coordinator for Power Curbers, the world leader in slip-form concrete paving equipment. She was formerly videographer and assistant director of Web marketing at Furman.

Carmen Band Sawyers has joined First Coast Oncology in Jacksonville, Fla., as a clinical medical physicist. Her husband, Jim, is a project manager at Florida Blue.

05 MARRIAGES: Robert Andrew Coody and Hannah McBride Richard, May 4. Robert is a product manager in the liquidity management services unit of CitiGroup in New York.

Laura Beth Gibbs and Brock Medley, November 3. They live in Greenville where Laura Beth is a senior human resources generalist with Canal Insurance Company. Brock is an attorney.

BIRTHS: Nicholas and Christina Minotty Bruce, twins, a daughter, Carlisle Reagan, and a son, Samuel Paul, January 8. They live in Vero Beach, Fla. (This corrects an item from the spring issue.)

Adam and Lindsay Skains Eason, a son, Parker Thomas, May 24. They live in Birmingham, Ala., where Adam has become asset manager for EGS Commercial Real Estate, Inc.

Blake and Lauren Kiser Meekins, a daughter, Avery Elizabeth, August 20, 2012, Columbia, S.C.

Thomas and Gabrielle Roberts Sweets, a son, Isaac Wesley, December 12, Chattanooga, Tenn.

06 BIRTHS: Craig and Jessalyn Davis Garvey, a son, Ford Parker, March 19, Chicago.

Andrew and Lauren Williams Raber, a son, Aaron Ford, September 11, 2012. They live in Waipahu, Hawaii.

Matt and Kristina Fletcher Summey, a daughter, Kinsley Layne, March 14, Lexington, S.C.

07 Jacqueline Pilch O’Kane of Marietta, Ga., earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the Georgia campus of Philadelphia (Pa.) College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is continuing her medical training in family medicine with Spartanburg (S.C.) Regional Healthcare System.

Kartikeya Singh, a Ph.D. student at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Medford, Mass., is one of 110 graduate students from 526 applicants nationwide to be awarded a David L. Boren Fellowship for 2013-14. The award supports his travel to India, where he is scheduled to study HindI/Urdu and conduct research in energy access and innovation. The fellowship, sponsored by the National Security Education Program, is designed to build a more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills. In exchange for the award, Boren recipients agree to work in the federal government for at least one year.

Jessica Taylor of Arlington, Va., now writes for “The Daily Rundown” and “NBC Politics” websites. She was previously with Rothenberg Political Report.

MARRIAGE: Ashley Elizabeth Berkland and Ron VonderBecke, April 13. She is a program manager with Greenville Literacy. Ron is sales manager with CPI Security.

BIRTH: A.J. ’06 and Whitney Purser Davidliuk, a daughter, Adelaide Rose, May 14. They live in Jacksonville, Fla., where A.J. is completing his medical residency in urology at the Mayo Clinic and Whitney is manager of real estate for Stein Mart.

08 THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Tyler Bandy and his brother started a mobile application development company, focusing on iPhone and iPad games. They recently released their second title, “Flizzy Factory,” a puzzle game available for free.

Kristen Capogrossi, an economist with Laurits R. Christensen Associates in Madison, Wis., was an ATHENA nominee in Madison. ATHENA recognizes efforts to help women reach their full potential. Kristen also received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from Virginia Tech for her doctoral work.
Zachary Corrigan has earned a master's degree in communication studies, focusing on rhetoric and public relations, from Northern Illinois University.

Kathleen McDavid has been named in-house counsel at First Citizens Bank in Columbia, S.C.

Adam Pajan, a doctoral candidate in organ (church music emphasis) at the University of Oklahoma's American Organ Institute, finished second in the inaugural Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition, held in June in Kennett Square, Pa. He was awarded the Firmin Swinnen Prize of $15,000.

William M. Pryor earned his medical degree from the University of South Carolina in May. He is doing his general surgery residency training at East Tennessee State University while on active duty as a captain in the U.S. Air Force.

Megan Remmel has joined the faculty of Norwich University in Northfield, Vt., as an assistant professor in the Department of History and Political Science. She recently completed her Ph.D. in political science at the University of Illinois.

Hugh Williamson of Monroe, Ga., has become partnership outreach manager for Atlantic Engineering Group, a leader in telecommunications and fiber optic design.

MARRIAGES: Megan Perry and Kevin Williams, February 2. They live in St. Augustine, Fla.

Virginia Preston Gross and John Wesley Queen III, March 16. They live in Greenville.

09

Evan and Jodi Schneidewind Dingle have graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and begun their residencies at Vanderbilt University.

Meighan L. Dixon graduated summa cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine and is practicing at the Cleveland Park Animal Hospital in Greenville.

Maureen Megan has joined the staff of Brains on Fire, a Greenville marketing firm, as a community manager.

Kerianne Springer graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and has begun her residency in internal medicine at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Emily S. Tigner graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in May. She has started an otolaryngology residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

MARRIAGES: Andrew Hoke and Lauren Chandler '11, May 18. Having earned a degree from Elon University School of Law, Andrew practices with Sessoms & Rogers, P.A. Lauren is a server with Lucky 32 Southern Kitchen. They live in Durham, N.C.

Katherine Lyons and Jason Young, May 18. They live in Charleston, S.C.

Molly Parker and Carter Wallace, May 4. Carter has completed his second year of medical school at Mercer University in Macon, Ga.

Derek Pitman has become director of music at Maple Street Baptist Church in Cleveland, Tenn. He also works for Federal Express in Chattanooga. He earned a master's degree in church music from Lee University.

Andrew Yowler is an internal advisor sales consultant at Franklin Templeton Investments in St. Petersburg, Fla.

MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Lineback and Anthony G. Goodin, May 4. They live in Greenville.

Stephanie Serravezza and Brent Joshua Moseley, March 9. They live in Atlanta, where Stephanie is advancement office manager and alumni coordinator for Whitefield Academy and Brent is a sales analyst at Tsys.

11

Rebecca Garrett graduated from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, with a Master of Sacred Music degree.


Lindsay Kay Schwob and Justin Squires Flint, November 3. They live in Greenville.


Jason completed a master's degree and is pursuing a doctorate in aerospace engineering at Auburn University.

13

Sarah Johnson, Amanda Michalski and Anastasia Spratley have been awarded English teaching assistantships from the Fulbright Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Sarah will teach in Taiwan, Amanda in Germany and Anastasia in South Korea. The Fulbright is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government.

DEATHS

Elizabeth McDonald Cleveland '35, April 27, Cleveland, S.C.


Mary Courtney Wilson '38, July 11, 2012, Jacksonville, Fla. She was a retired teacher with Aiken (S.C.) County Schools, and was a member of the Sheffield Club and the Red Hat Society.

Evelyn Sloan McMaster '39, May 27, Winnsboro, S.C. She earned a degree in fine arts and education from the Woman's College of North Carolina in Greensboro.

She also studied at the Traphagen School of Fashion Design in New York City and went on to be an elementary teacher in South Carolina schools for 38 years.

Eugenia Hunt Bryan '40, April 20, Greenville. She earned a master's degree from Converse College and taught English in Greenville County schools.

Deborah Hollingsworth Mauldin Southerlin '42, April 27, Columbia, S.C. She held a master's degree from Columbia University in New York and retired as director of children and family services in South Carolina.

Walter Eugene Callahan, Sr. '43, April 8, Greenville. He was a veteran of World War II and was a retired credit manager for the Greenville Hospital System.

Robert A. Estes '43, May 11, Louisville, Ky. He earned master's degrees from the University of Louisville and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from New York University. He went on to a 40-year career as an elementary school principal and economics professor, then retired from education and worked another 10 years in real estate sales. He was also pastor of Sloansville Baptist Church and served as president of the Louisville AARP and the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association.

Carol McDaniel Hipp '44, March 23, Greenwood, S.C. She was an elementary school teacher in South Carolina public schools and retired from Greenwood School District 50.
35 YEARS OF KEEPING FURMAN SAFE

WHEN BOB MILLER retired in May as director of public safety, he completed a 35-year Furman career during which student interests and concerns were his top priority.

“Bob respected the dignity of everyone, no matter how difficult the interactions,” says Harry Shucker ’66, retired vice president for student affairs.

Miller and his team handled a host of responsibilities, from campus law enforcement to 24-hour communications, physical security, crime prevention and awareness programs, support services for events, and traffic and parking. Known as a progressive thinker, he brought a variety of technological innovations to Furman, from video monitoring to card access to buildings, computerized dispatch, and traffic and parking management.

Miller began his career with the Ocean City Police Department in Maryland. He served in military intelligence in the U.S. Army in the late 1960s, when much of his work involved handling civil rights demonstrations in the South. He also worked for public safety departments at several colleges before coming to Furman in 1978.

Luther Conway Shelton, Jr. ’44, June 1, Greenville. Skip left Furman after one year to join the U.S. Army Air Corps and flew 17 bombing missions over France and Germany during World War II. After the war he joined the Greenville Police Department for eight years, during which time he also worked as a disc jockey and artist. In 1956 he returned to aviation as a pilot, working for Milliken Mills, Spartan Mills, Stevens Aviation and U.S. Shelter Corporation. He retired from commercial aviation in 1999 to become a full-time artist in Greenwood, S.C., where he ran the Skip Shelton Art Studio. He published the book Into the Wild Blue Humor, was a columnist for the Laurens (S.C.) Advertiser, and served on the Ninety Six (S.C.) Tourism Board and on the board of the Boys Home of the South. He was an Eagle Scout.

Louise Cooper Bell Bentley ’45, March 2, Fountain Inn, S.C. She was co-owner of Fountain Inn Warehouse/Transfer Co.

Carolyn McCollum Lindsay ’45, March 26, Clemson, S.C. In 1993 she was honored as the Clemson University Tiger Brotherhood’s Mother of the Year. She was a member of the Clemson Cotillion Club, Clan Lindsay USA and the Saint Andrews Society.


Helen Taylor Barnett ’46, April 17, Greenwood, S.C.

Virginia Elizabeth Hutto Rickborn ’46, February 7, Chamblee, Ga. She was an elementary school teacher and a talented vocalist, having studied at the Juilliard School in New York during her undergraduate days.

Clarence Sidney Burts ’47, May 24, Columbia, S.C. Sid served in the U.S. Navy during World War II before becoming a public school teacher. He later entered the business world, serving as a partner in Burts Hardware and as president of Belt Line Drive-In Theater. After retiring he worked for several years at the Babcock Center.


William L. Culbertson ’47, May 14, Kennesville, N.C. He served with the U.S. Army in the South Pacific during World War II, after which he finished his education at Furman and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He ministered churches in Texas and the Carolinas before retiring in 1990. He later taught at Montgomery County Community College in Troy, N.C., and pastored Eldorado (N.C.) Baptist Church.

Jean Garrison Howard ’48, June 8, Greenville. She held a master’s degree in counseling from the University of Georgia and retired as a guidance counselor at Bryson Middle School in Simpsonville, S.C. She was a member of Alpha Delta Kappa honorary sorority for women educators.

Virginia Waddill Garrett ’49, May 7, Greenville.

George Dewey Hayes, Jr. ’49, April 23, Greenville. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving in intelligence in both World War II and Korea. After the war he completed his Furman degree and worked with Liberty Life Insurance Co. and The Greenville News.

Alexander Owens Simmons ’49, May 22, Greenville. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, he graduated from Northern Illinois College of Optometry and went on to practice optometry in Greenville County for more than 50 years.

Rowena Powell Waters Hall ’50, June 11, Wachaw, N.C.

Kenneth Richard Powell ’50, April 17, Murfreesboro, Tenn. He served in World War II as a B-17 pilot and was a prisoner of war. After graduating from Furman he earned degrees from Pratt Art Institute and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He spent his career in the art department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Frances Louise Mitchell Riley ’50, April 26, Orangeburg, S.C.

James Guy Timms, Jr. ’50, March 25, Piedmont, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was then promoted to sergeant first class in the Army Chemical Corps. He became chief of the 3rd Army Chemical, Biological and Radiological School for officers and non-commissioned officers. Afterward he returned to Aiken, S.C., where he was a health-physics engineer at the Savannah River Plant. He later assisted in the operation of the Timms Dairy Farm and worked for 30 years for the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Harold Marshall Price ’51, April 23, Greenwood, S.C. He was an accountant and co-owner of Starnes Club Forrest with his wife, Katie.

Kenneth R. Casstevens ’52, May 19, Memphis, Tenn. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1946-47 before completing his education at Furman and at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He worked at churches in Washington, N.C., and Norfolk, Va. In 1967 he began work for the U.S. Navy in Norfolk, then finished his Navy career in Millington, Tenn. He worked in personnel training and developed and taught management seminars, and also served as West Tennessee coordinator for the AARP Driver Safety Program.

Horace Homer McKown, Jr. ’52, April 6, Greenville. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, a retired U.S. probation officer and owner of McKown’s Florist, LLC. He was former chair of the City of Greer (S.C.) Zoning Committee.

Daniel Purdy Juengst ’53, April 14, Willington, S.C. He graduated from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia in 1956, and in 1957 was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA). He was a missionary in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. After earning a master’s degree in African studies from Howard University and a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Florida, he taught at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton for 16 years. During retirement in Willington he served
as president of the Mims Community Center and chair of the McCormick County Democratic Party, and was a member of the McCormick County Soil and Water Commission.

Jesse Norris Kinion ’53, April 11, Greenville. At the age of 14, Norris passed the Civil Service exam and was hired to work at the Charleston (S.C.) Navy Base. At 15 he signed on with the Merchant Marines and sailed to England to pick up wounded veterans from the Battle of the Bulge. He joined the U.S. Navy at 16 and served two years, after which he returned to civilian life. He was owner of Kinion Sheet Metal Works for 10 years, then worked for the Champion Spark Plug Company for 22 years. He was active in the American Legion, serving as post commander several times and as state commander in 1990–91. He planned and conducted many Veterans Day and Memorial Day events for veterans and also helped plan the 1989 parade for the Furman football team after it won the I-AA national title. Active in the S.C. State Guard as a recruitment officer, he was a charter member of the National Hot Rod Association and life member of the National Rifle Association.

Charles Kenneth Kuykendall, Sr. ’53, April 8, Anderson, S.C. Ken had a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy, having served in World War II.

Charles Albert Short ’53, April 10, Marietta, S.C. He was employed by J.E. Sirrine Company, Professional Engineering and Fuller Engineering.

Benjamin Tillman Green, Jr. ’54, May 6, Greer, S.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, an employee of Penn National, and a minister of music at two Baptist churches.

Martha Rodgers Keller ’54, April 30, Troy, S.C. She taught for 48 years in South Carolina schools, retiring from Long Cane Academy in McCormick.

O.Z. White ’54, M.A. ’61, April 11, San Antonio, Texas. He was a member of the U.S. Maritime Service during World War II. In addition to his Furman degrees, he earned a Master of Divinity degree from Erskine Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from Emory University. He was an assistant professor and chaplain at Erskine and an instructor at Georgia State College before joining the faculty of Trinity University in San Antonio in 1964. There he was professor and chair of the department of sociology and anthropology before retiring in 1992. He served as a consultant to the San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Rio Grande Council, and for many years was a volunteer counselor at Christian Assistance Ministries and San Antonio Metropolitan Ministries.

Walter Harrison Ragsdale ’55, March 30, Greenville. He served in the U.S. Navy and the Naval Reserve, rising to the rank of commander as an acrobatic flight instructor from 1955 to 1966. He flew hazardous night missions in the North Atlantic and received three letters of commendation. An accomplished musician and published poet, he went on to own Martin Printing Company in Easley, S.C.

Jeanne Saunders Davis ’56, April 25, Lexington, N.C. She was a devoted Furman alumna, serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Advisory Council. She received the Alumni Service Award in 1999 and the Bell Tower Award, the university's second-highest honor, in 2010. A talented musician, she taught piano and voice in her home and was minister of music at three Baptist churches in North Carolina. She was active in the Lexington Music Study Club, Charity League, Community Concerts, Hospital Auxiliary and Actors Charity Theatre. For her contributions to civic life in Lexington, she was presented the Athena Award in 2005. She and her husband endowed the Saunders-Davis Music Scholarship at Furman.

Margaret Anne Snuggs Hallman ’56, March 16, White House, Tenn. She retired as a trust officer with First Citizens Bank in Columbia, S.C., where for 46 years she was also church organist at Kilbourne Park Baptist Church. More recently she played for Immanuel Baptist Church in Portland, Tenn.

Robert A. Jeffries ’56, May 6, Wilmington, N.C. Bobbie was active in the parent-teacher organization at College Park Elementary School and tutored students at Noble Junior High School. She was a volunteer at New Hanover Regional Medical Center and Davis Health Care Center.

Billie Pauline Ludwig ’56, May 2, Greenville. She taught for 39 years at East North Street Elementary School, during which time she was selected teacher of the year. She was a member of Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Peggy Bagwell Merck ’56, April 9, Piedmont, S.C. She taught in Anderson County (S.C.) for more than 30 years.

Frankie Norris Eppes ’57, May 23, Greenville.

Steve Bruce Tate, Sr., ’57, March 20. He was a masonry contractor and also worked with 3M Company and with Hertz. A football player at Furman, he coached Little League football and was a referee for Greenville County high school football.

Martha Arrington Wickliffe ’57, January 15, Martinsville, Va.

HAMRICK PROVIDED STRONG LEADERSHIP

WHEN FURMAN AWARDED James L. Hamrick an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 1996, it recognized him as "a man of unfailing good humor, quiet modesty and great wisdom."

He was also a loyal alumus, textile executive and community leader, a man of integrity and honor. When he died May 23 at the age of 89, the university lost a valued counselor and friend.

Born in Shelby, N.C., Hamrick served in the U.S. Army during World War II, seeing action in France and fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. Upon his return to the States he enrolled at Furman, where he received a degree in mathematics in 1950, was a student leader and was elected to Quatemion, the select men’s honorary society.

He went on to earn a master’s degree in political science from Duke University and then joined Milliken & Company in Spartanburg, S.C., where for 40 years he provided outstanding service in various executive positions. After retiring in 1993 as vice president of corporate financial planning, he continued to serve the company for almost 20 years as a consultant and as executive director of the Milliken Foundation.

Active in civic and cultural affairs in Spartanburg, he was a longtime Furman trustee and a two-time chair of the board. Known for his firm, steady leadership, he presided over the 1995 inauguration of David E. Shi as the university's 10th president.

Hamrick was a member of the political science department’s Hall of Fame, a founding member of the Richard Furman Society, and was active in the Paladin Club, Partners Program and Heritage Society. With his wife and college sweetheart, the late Peggy Cater Hamrick ’50, he endowed scholarships for students in music and political science.
Starke Hagood Bishop ’58, June 11, Jacksonville, Fla. She graduated from the Katharine Gibbs School in New York City. After moving to Jacksonville in 1972 she became active in community work, serving as a docent at the Cummer Museum of Art, joining the Alysium Garden Circle and the Travel Club, and working with a certified therapy dog to provide comfort to patients in hospitals and elderly care.

Margaret Moss Watson Lundgren ’58, May 28, Orangeburg, S.C. She worked for a time in the hematology department of Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Mo. She later earned an associate degree in art. She worked with Stephen Ministries while living in Olathe, Kan., before returning to Orangeburg, her hometown, where she was active with the Moultie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Orangeburg German-Swiss Genealogical Society, the Orangeburg Historical Society and the Azalea Garden Club, which she served as chaplain.

Marjorie Anderson Bennett ’60, M.A. ’83, May 16, Belton, S.C. She taught in public schools for 38 years, retiring from teaching music and drama at Greenville High. She was also organist for Neal’s Creek Baptist Church and was active in Senior Follies and the Red Hot Club.

Linda Casey Wigginton ’63, January 3, Piedmont, S.C. She retired from Anderson School District 1 after 30 years of teaching.

Alvin H. Hawkins, Jr. ’64, April 12, Aiken, S.C. Al was in timber sales and was a member of Masonic Lodge 156 and the American Legion.

Delmer Lemoynne Lawrence ’64, April 18, Camden, Maine. A U.S. Army veteran, he was called back to serve in Operation Desert Storm as a logistics specialist and earned the Legion of Merit, among other honors. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1992. After his initial military service he became a management intern for NASA and later worked as a management analyst for the Food and Drug Administration. He also pursued a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Oklahoma. In 1982 he was appointed executive director for a Health Care Task Force under Florida Gov. Bob Graham. In 1984 he and his family purchased The Nutmeg Inn, a bed and breakfast in Wilmington, Vt., which they operated until 1996. They later operated another bed and breakfast.

Robert Kenneth Sprouse ’64, April 10, Travelers Rest, S.C. Ken owned Sprouse Accounting Service, Inc.

Keith Harrington Platt ’65, May 14, Gastonia, N.C. He worked at Talon for 31 years as an industrial engineer and then spent 10 years with Wtx-Afflria. He also spent 17 years in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Sandra Elizabeth Jones Archer ’66, April 21, Raleigh, N.C. She taught in the public schools, tutored privately in her home, volunteered as a Spanish translator and was the clerk of the New Hope Presbyterian Commission, where she helped to start the first Hispanic church in Wake County. In 1981 she moved to Raleigh and started Kennedy Archer, a multi-service marketing and advertising firm. She served on the board of Urban Ministries and became the agency’s first development director. She was also a board member of Camp Oak Hill and of St. Savior’s Center where she was communications chair. She received the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Award in 2009.

George Norwood Funderburk ’66, March 24, Greenville. He earned a law degree from the University of South Carolina and went on to practice for 30 years. He was a commissioner with the S.C. Workers Compensation Commission for six years, was active in Democratic Party politics, and was a legal aide for U.S. Representative James B. Mann from 1968-71.

Nancy Edwards Franzen, M.A. ’66, May 21, Duluth, Ga. She retired from DeKalb County schools after many years as a reading specialist at Hambrick Elementary School.

Roy D. Greene, M.A. ’67, March 20, Greenville. As a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent of education in Greenville County, he created programs for the development of the whole child. After his retirement he helped to develop the FULIR (now OLLI) program at Furman.

Guy Stevens ’70, April 13, Greenville. Guy was a renowned artist and a mainstay in Greenville’s arts community. An avid traveler, he displayed his work regularly at local businesses, galleries and museums.

Shirley Ann Arrowood Osman ’71, April 15, Greenville.

Mary Schuyler Campbell, M.A. ’72, May 24, Southampton, N.Y. She taught for a time at Greenville High School. Other interests included the Westminster Kennel Club and Dog Show and the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Richard Warren Cooper ’74, May 28, Greenville.

John Henry Zabel III ’76, April 30, Tega Cay, S.C. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War, during which he served with the 1st Air Cavalry Unit as a combat helicopter pilot. He transitioned from active duty to the South Carolina National Guard, serving for more than 20 years. He worked with Daniel Construction Company and later with Parsons Corporation, managing domestic and international assignments in the Middle East and Asia.

Alan Stacey Altman ’79, March 26, Pawleys Island, S.C. He worked in real estate as broker in charge of Pawleys Island Realty and the Georgetown Agency, co-owner of Pawleys Island Enterprises and owner of PawleysLitchfield Services. In 1999 he received the Realtor Image Award. His civic and community involvement included service as president of the Georgetown County Board of Visitors and state director of the S.C. Association of Realtors. He was a member of the Blue Ribbon Committee to review state coastal regulations and served on the boards of the Bunnelle Foundation, Pawleys Island Montessori Day School, Waccamaw Neck Civic Association and Kids Voting. In 2012 he received a Lifetime Leadership Award from the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce and was also awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent, South Carolina’s highest community service award. He was an Eagle Scout.

Wells Daniel Holland ’81, May 24, Hilton Head Island, S.C. He worked in the banking profession.

Dale Gooch Cantrell, M.A. ’85, May 7, Greenville. She retired from the Pickens County (S.C.) School District, where she taught for many years before becoming a librarian. She was active with Al-Anon and was a leader in the Red Hat Society.

David Earl Petrikin ’87, March 17, Concord, Calif. He worked as a music teacher in Atlanta and in San Juan, Puerto Rico. While in Puerto Rico he also worked for Amsun until a transfer took him to California in 2010. At the time of his death he was employed by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Timothy Paul Sowles ’94, April 10, Greenville. He worked as a computer analyst for Michelin and IBM.

Ashley Moore Hart, M.A. ’01, May 5, Hickory, N.C. She was a National Board certified teacher and most recently worked as an exceptional children’s instructional specialist for Catawba County (N.C.) Schools.

Eric Anderson Weigel ’13, June 5, Asheville, N.C. He died during a kayaking accident on the north fork of the Pigeatte River near Banks, Idaho, shortly after earning his Furman degree. A National Merit Scholar, he was an accomplished pianist and was winner of the Asheville Area Pano Forum Competition’s Advanced Division in 2007. In 2009, while working as a lifeguard, he was recognized by the city of Asheville as a “Community Hero” for saving the life of a three-year-old. He had planned to travel to Peru this September as a volunteer on a medical boat through Project Amazonas.

Helen Youngblood Kendrick, May 14. She managed the audio-visual department at Furman for many years before retiring in 1989. She also served as secretary of the Greenville Country Club Women’s Golf Association. Her husband, Moffett Kendrick, is a former vice president for development at Furman.
CROSSING BORDERS: JUST COFFEE, JUST WAGES

IF YOU STAND IN THE RIGHT PLACE in Agua Prieta, Sonora, you’ll have one foot in Mexico and the other in Arizona. And you’ll be standing on a major border crossing point for migrants.

It’s also where Mark Adams ’93 has worked and lived for the last 15 years as U.S. coordinator of Frontera de Cristo, a Presbyterian border ministry that offers healthcare, counseling, drug rehabilitation and other support to local residents. It serves as a point of light as to how members of a border community can come together and, in a small but telling way, develop a model for addressing the issue of immigration.

Through Café Justo (Just Coffee), a coffee-growing-and-selling co-operative, Adams and friends Tommy Bassett and Daniel Cifuentes have helped Mexican farmers establish a business that allows them to remain in their homes, work their land, process their product and provide for their families. The three men further model how disparate people can find common ground and cooperate to promote the larger good.

There’s the soft-spoken Presbyterian minister (Adams), the not so ministerial businessman (Bassett, who has described himself as a “recovering hippie industrialist”), and Cifuentes, a displaced coffee grower from southern Mexico.

Adams says the co-op idea began percolating in the late 1990s. Because of the decline of corn and coffee prices in Chiapas, a state in southern Mexico, migrants were heading north to the factories of Agua Prieta, or continuing across the border to find work in the States.

Eduardo Perez Verdugo was one of those migrants, but after being caught, roughed up and sent back to Mexico, he wound up seeking help from Cifuentes and Adams. During their conversations, Adams says, Verdugo pointed out that if the farmers could have more control over the production and sale of their coffee, their profits would be higher and they would have less reason to migrate.

Cifuentes and Adams saw possibilities in Verdugo’s idea but realized they needed someone with business experience to help put it into play. Enter Bassett, who had lived in the area since the early 1990s. Together the trio developed a plan, and in 2002 Frontera de Cristo provided a $20,000 loan to launch the co-op.

Here’s how the steadily growing business works: Coffee farmers (the co-op now includes more than 100 families) in Mexico pick, process and store their beans, then ship them to Agua Prieta, where they are roasted, ground, bagged and packed. Fresh from the roaster they go to UPS trucks, which take their Fair Trade blends throughout the States for sale and distribution. The growers control all aspects of the business, which means no middlemen, more jobs, higher profit margins, larger incomes and more stable family lives.

According to the Arizona Daily Star, sales of Café Justo surpass 50,000 pounds a year. Says Adams, “Tommy has now started his own business, supported by Frontera, to focus on increasing sales outside of the area.” One spot that Adams cites as a big supporter: Trinity Presbyterian Church in Travelers Rest, S.C.

Adams and Bassett have even written a book about the project. Just Coffee: Caffeine with a Conscience was published in 2009.

A native of small-town Clover, S.C., Adams majored in history at Furman and initially intended to teach. But for years, he says, he had grappled with such issues as how faith and life intersect, and with the inequalities in economics, race and class.

Because of a scheduling quirk he did his student teaching in the fall of 1993. He didn’t want to take a teaching job in the middle of the year, and since the church he served as a youth director in college had a relationship with Amistad, a sister ministry of Frontera de Cristo on the Texas Coahuila border, he went there for six months. “From that experience,” he says, “the scriptures awoke in me. I felt I would be back someday.”

After teaching for a year, he enrolled at Columbia Theological Seminary and earned a divinity degree. Right out of seminary, a position opened up with Frontera. “It was meant to be,” he says. He’s been there ever since.

His work has not gone unrecognized. A few years ago the seminary presented him its Pioneer in Ministry Award. During the 2013 spring semester, he was invited back to Furman by the Center for Vocational Reflection to visit with students and to deliver the Ed and Peggy Good Lecture on the topic “The Spiritual Discipline of Crossing Borders.”

Adams says, “We share life and ministry with our sisters and brothers in Mexico. We don’t do anything alone. Where we have the most impact is working across borders, whether religious, economic or political, and partnering with others. Our focus is on relationships — building bridges, sharing talents and gifts.”

One such gift is Café Justo, which in its own specific way helps combat the problem of illegal immigration. At least in Adams’ corner of the world, such a simple thing as a cup of coffee can make a big difference.

— JIM STEWART

Learn more at cafejusto.org and fronteradecristo.org.
THE LAST WORD

Agua del Pueblo: Water for Guatemalans

BRUCE CLEMENS HAS ALWAYS wanted to move mountains. This year, he enlisted the help of 10 Furman students to help him to do just that.

Teamwork with an industrious group of villagers, they moved rocks and boulders through a combination of ropes, levers and raw manpower. Their mission: to build a road to access a new mountain community being built in Guatemala.

For Clemens, a professor in Furman’s business and accounting department who focuses on strategy and sustainability, the road to Furman began four decades ago in Guatemala. Shortly after graduating from Cornell University in 1972 with an engineering degree, he bought a one-way ticket to Guatemala with the goal of eliminating poverty.

With the encouragement of a Catholic priest, the late Father Greg Schaeffer, Clemens and a team of volunteers formed a non-profit consulting firm, Agua del Pueblo. Since its beginning in the 1970s, the organization has completed more than 700 potable water projects, bringing water to more than 20 percent of Guatemala’s rural population.

As part of a three-week May Experience course this year, Clemens and Bill Ranson of the earth and environmental sciences department accompanied the students on a trip to study sustainability issues in the rural communities around San Lucas Tolimán, a city of about 17,000 surrounded by three volcanoes. Part of the students’ research included interviews with 40 Kaqchikel-speaking families to gather economic and public health data. With the help of translators, they learned firsthand about the challenges faced by the local families.

“We had the opportunity to eat in their homes, converse with them, hold their children, work with the men and learn from their perspective,” says Darby Woodard ‘15.

For many women in the city, up to four hours of their daily routine consists of hauling water in tinajas (clay water vessels) from the shores of Lake Atitlán to 55-gallon storage drums at their homes. Up to 10 people may live in a single home, some of which are one simple room, 15 feet wide by 15 feet long. The average family income in the area is $100 a month, although some live on as little as $1 a day.

Nearly 200 families hope to make their way out of San Lucas Tolimán in the near future. They have bought acreage on the slopes of the Tolimán volcano, a few hours’ walk from their current homes in the city.

On weekends these families volunteer to move rocks and boulders to build a mountain road to the new villages of Sanik-Ya and Chitulul. They hope the road will mean the beginning of new lives for them as coffee farmers. After the road is built, they’ll need water for drinking and other domestic uses. But that’s another mountain to be moved.

The cost of the waterline, a three-inch PVC pipe running two kilometers up the side of the volcano, is $100,000 — a hefty price for the humble community.

Clemens, Ranson and the Furman students have committed themselves to helping to raise money for the project. Thus far they’ve collected $26,000 through a Duke Endowment grant and through Furman’s annual Water Walk program, in which participants carry water in various-sized containers along a selected route on campus — much like the families in San Lucas Tolimán.

Seeing the Guatemalan people cope with their challenges on a daily basis, while maintaining their enthusiasm for the future, affected students and faculty deeply. “It gave me a heart for sustainable projects such as this, where two groups of people can pool their resources to make change happen,” Woodard says.

“The spirit of the people there is just unbelievable,” says Ranson, who was accompanied on the trip by his wife, Allison. “It’s a privilege to be able to help in such a concrete way.”

— ERIKAH HAAVIE

Reprinted from edge.furman.edu. To support the water project on San Lucas Tolimán, visit furmanwaterwalk2013.com. The author is an assistant in Furman’s education department and a contributor to university publications. Photos by James Rodriguez (top) and Darby Woodard.
“Furman provided the foundation for my success. My gift to Furman should be equally impactful.”

—Kimberly Chappell '88

Improving lives is Kimberly Chappell’s business. A director in Medical Affairs at Bristol-Myers Squibb, she is a doctor of pharmacy, scientist, and educator whose mission depends on continued research and learning—principles she honed as a biology major at Furman.

Kimberly believes in the power of a Furman education. That’s why she’s given to the Furman Standard, Furman United, and has now made a planned gift that will support Furman students in the future.

You can support Furman and achieve your financial, philanthropic, and estate planning goals in several creative ways. Learn more by visiting furman.planyourlegacy.org or by contacting Steve Perry, director of planned giving, 864.294.2458 or steve.perry@furman.edu.