WITH THIS ISSUE, Furman magazine is taking a leap into the forefront of a new digital era.

Furman recently introduced a new website called EDGE (http://edge.furman.edu). EDGE, which covers all aspects of Furman life, boasts what’s known as “responsive design,” which means that the site shapes content to custom-fit whatever screen or device you’re using. EDGE adapts to all applications and mobile browsers, and provides the kinds of online enhancements (video clips, slide shows, etc.) to which today’s audiences are accustomed.

Through EDGE you can enjoy the Furman experience — and Furman magazine — on your smart phone or tablet. Just upload the easily accessible button from the site.

EDGE emerged over the last year after the university learned that among the applicants for the Class of 2016, 36 percent said they used their phones as their primary Internet access. Since those numbers will only increase as time goes by, Furman decided to revisit how it communicates with its most important audience.

So to meet students where they are, Furman developed EDGE through a collaboration between Merge, a Greenville-based Web design firm, and the university’s departments of Marketing and Public Relations and Information Technology Services.

EDGE is designed to be easily accessible; in short, it travels. And since Furman magazine was looking for an opportunity to update its digital presence, we came along for the ride.

You can find this issue on the EDGE site. Just click on the Furman magazine tab.

The digital Furman has the same look and feel as the rest of EDGE. When you see the EDGE symbol alongside stories on these pages, you’ll know there’s related content online.

Among this issue’s special-to-EDGE features:

- President Rod Smolla’s interviews with two experts on how the Internet has changed mass media — and what this could portend for higher education. Read his column on Page 2 (or online), then watch his conversations with Shelby Coffey, a longtime journalist and current vice chair of the Newseum in Washington, D.C., and Bruce Brown, one of Washington’s top First Amendment and media lawyers.

- An inside glimpse at the revamped Trone Student Center (page 8).

- A slide show of the press box demolition at Paladin Stadium (page 35).

- Chats with young alumni working at National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C., which tie into our cover story about Peter Gwin ’88. (Thanks to Becky Lane ’04, the university’s videographer and assistant director of Web marketing, and to David Hotell ’11 and Taylor Crouch ’13 for their work on the D.C. projects.)

EDGE will also include a link to Furman magazine in its traditional PDF form at www.furman.edu/fumag, where you can see the full printed spreads. That’s where Class Notes will be available, and where we plan to continue to include archives of past issues and forms for you to submit news and to complete a survey.

The EDGE site is meant to enhance and complement the print magazine. And for those who would prefer to receive the magazine in electronic form only, they now have a better option.

While the Furman magazine online content will remain constant between issues, EDGE offers additional variety because it will change weekly, even daily. The Marketing and Public Relations staff and our student reporters and photographers are set to provide a steady stream of features to keep the site fresh and to maintain reader interest.

Given the constant advancements in digital technology, we look forward to the possibilities EDGE offers. We also look forward to hearing your comments as we work to improve the site.

— JIM STEWART, editor
FROM THE PRESIDENT

“IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES, it was the worst of times . . . .”

So open Charles Dickens’ A Tale of Two Cities. This essay is a tale of two worlds, journalism and higher education, and a reflection on how, for those who populate those two worlds, it is the best of times, and the worst of times.

The Internet has transformed journalism, for better or for worse, and it could soon transform higher education, for better or for worse. This edition of Furman magazine is being published in print and in an enhanced digital form, precisely to try to illuminate the changes that the Internet has wrought already in mass media and the changes it now perhaps portends for higher education.

Print media in its traditional forms — newspapers, magazines, journals and books — held a virtual monopoly on the life of the mind from Gutenberg to the invention of radio. In the 20th century the field was enriched by electronic media. Yet those media were generally not treated as complete substitutes for the content available in print.

In the early days of television broadcasting, when only three major networks existed, many Americans made it a habit to watch the nightly news on ABC, NBC or CBS, but well-informed citizens also read national and local newspapers because they contained far broader and deeper content than could possibly be squeezed into 30 minutes of television. It was a golden age for weekly news magazines — Time, Newsweek, U.S. News & World Report — and scores of other national magazines also flourished.

Concomitantly, the powerful leaders of those elite news organizations — their presidents, publishers, editors and journalists — were influential gatekeepers, exerting great sway over issues that surfaced to the top of the American agenda and over how those issues were framed and presented.

Matters began to change, slowly at first, as the number of television outlets exploded from three to some 300 through changes in the structure of broadcast, cable and satellite television. Entrants such as FOX and CNN, augmented by scores of other news and information channels, let alone the hundreds devoted to sports and entertainment, began the process of fragmentation. As more voices in the marketplace of ideas emerged, the power of the oligarchy of media elites gradually diminished. But they were still making money.
Whatever deep loyalty to the printed page many generations of Americans may feel, an ever-enlarging segment of the populace does not feel it anymore, and may never have felt it.

The Internet changed everything. Newspapers at first were living beyond their means, and then began dying beyond their means. Their business model imploded. The Internet brought new and more efficient ways for people to sell and buy cars, advertise and look for jobs, and promote sales and services of all kinds and descriptions. The advertising revenue that had sustained the massive infrastructure required to maintain print newspapers — the printing presses, the newsprint, the distribution and delivery networks, the multiple layers of reporters and editors — was all but lost. And newspapers, for so long the soul of American community and democracy, began to disappear.

They are not entirely gone yet. And perhaps, through some blend of philanthropy and entrepreneurial reinvention, they may yet re-emerge in a new and sustainable form. But in their old form and format, in their old business model, they are gone.

The impact of the Internet on the business model was not the only salient factor pushing change. The notions of “gatekeepers” and “opinion makers” and “agenda setters” were altered as well. The Internet democratized the marketplace of ideas, as anyone could suddenly lay claim to being a publisher or broadcaster.

THE GOOD NEWS was that this was democratizing. The bad news was that this new, journalistic wild, wild west lacked for much in the nature of the rule of law or the moral conscience of the community. Lost were the ethical norms, the editorial checks and balances, the training in professionalism, and the legal accountability of the “legacy media.”

The digital revolution also unleashed larger generational and cultural forces, forces that worked changes on how information is received and processed by an emergent “i-generation” reared on electronic freedom. Whatever deep loyalty to the printed page many generations of Americans may feel, an ever-enlarging segment of the populace does not feel it anymore, and may never have felt it.

The students we are recruiting to attend Furman this year have known Facebook and Google and Twitter and texting as their communicative and community “normal” throughout their lives, as if these marvels had always been with us. For some of them a newspaper is as quaint and curious as a typewriter or pay telephone booth. It is not clear that this generation receives information, or even learns, quite like generations before; it is not clear they would read newspapers even if they could survive. (And without a new generation of readers — can we talk? — how can print newspapers survive?)

The question I wish to poke you with here (in good cheer), explored in the video to which you may link in the digital version of this issue, is whether the story of the rise and fall of traditional American journalism, as we once knew it, offers any cautionary tale portending the rise and fall of traditional American higher education, as we now know it.

I don’t want to give away the story in print — the whole point of this tease is to encourage you to go online and watch the video. But to further entice you, let’s ask a few questions:

In what ways are the forces that led to the transformation of journalism like the forces that may push the future transformation of higher education? In what ways are they different?

If the Internet has forever altered our commerce, our politics, our culture, surely we must expect that it will inexorably press some stress for change on higher education as well. Yet that does not mean that residential higher education is doomed, and certainly does not mean, and for the sake of the country and the world must not mean, that the magnificent transformational educational experience offered by the country’s great liberal arts universities such as Furman will be doomed.

But it does mean that we must adapt. It does mean that we must respond. And the goal of this revamped magazine, published in print and digital form, is to spur the imaginative powers of the Furman family to think creatively about those adaptations and responses.

Looping back to Charles Dickens, the quote continues: “...it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the age of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity...”

So click in, and think on, with wisdom, foolishness, belief and incredulity! And have some fun along the way. I welcome your suggestions, so feel free to write or call.

— ROD SMOLLA
Entreprenurial Spirit

David Trone is building one of the nation’s top retail chains.

By Andy Peters

David Trone walks past a display featuring holiday wine suggestions. He sees an assistant manager standing behind the customer-service desk at the McLean, Va., location of Total Wine & More and asks him to put on his name tag. As a check-out line lengths, Trone calls on the staff to open another register.

Later, in the wine classroom, Trone asks the store’s wine expert what varietals will be served at that evening’s event for its VIP customers, people who spend thousands of dollars per year on wine.

Shortly thereafter Trone demonstrates how a customer can use a smartphone to scan a QR code, positioned in front of bottles of Dogfish Head Indian Brown Ale, to call up a video of the head brewer describing the product. Before the video can start, spam infiltrates Trone’s iPhone. He pulls out a pocket voice recorder and dictates a reminder to query his technology staff about how to block spammers.

Welcome to the new world of selling beverages to adults. To put it another way, this isn’t your grandfather’s liquor store.

TRONE, A 1977 FURMAN GRADUATE whose family name now adorns the university’s remodeled student center thanks to a $3.5 million gift from him and his wife, June, is creating one of the nation’s top retail chains. Since 1991, when the first Total Wine & More opened, Trone and his brother, Robert, have built a business with about $1.2 billion in yearly sales and more than 85 locations in 14 states. The store in Claymont, Del., just off Interstate 95, is the company’s busiest, posting $80 million in sales per year. The Trone brothers remain the only owners of the business.

Some craft brewers and small-scale vintners have developed their brands — and expanded their own small businesses — by clinging to the coattails of Total Wine’s increasingly extensive retail footprint.

“There are other retailers we work with — Whole Foods, Wegmans — but our sales at Total are significantly greater on a per-store basis” than any other retailer, says Jim Caruso, general partner and chief executive of Flying Dog Brewery in Frederick, Md.

In short order, Total Wine has become the nation’s biggest pure-play alcoholic beverage retailer, according to Beer Marketer’s Insights, a Suffern, N.Y.-based trade publication for the industry. (The warehouse club chain Costco posts higher alcohol sales overall, but it also sells food, clothing and many other products.) Insights says Total Wine is probably at least twice as large as the second-biggest pure-play alcohol retailer, ABC Fine Wine & Spirits of Orlando, Fla.

For those who knew Trone during his days at Furman, his success as an entrepreneur is anything but surprising. When the Bonhonic needed a business manager for the yearbook, Trone volunteered and “went all-in,” says a Furman friend, Richard Barr ’78. Failure was not an option.

“He acted like it was his own business, selling ads — and he can be persuasive — and collecting money,” says Barr, a principal with an engineering and urban planning firm in Tallahassee, Fla. “He loved to win. He hated losing.”
The alcohol-retail industry magazine *Market Watch* gave the Trone brothers its "Retailers of the Year" award in 2006 and predicted rapid growth for the chain. The magazine's prediction came true.

Trone initially wanted to go to law school, but his childhood experiences drew him back into the world of entrepreneurship. His father was an egg farmer in Adams County, Pa., where Trone grew up, although he had other businesses as well. "He was a serial entrepreneur," Trone says. One of those side gigs was running a small grocery store, which was designed mostly to sell his eggs. The store eventually grew into a small beer distributor. After Trone's parents divorced, his mother took the beer retailer and Trone took the farm.

After graduating from Furman magna cum laude, Trone enrolled at the Wharton School of Business of the University of Pennsylvania. He juggled going to school for an MBA with running his father's farming business, which at that point was losing money. His father eventually went bankrupt — which taught Trone a lesson.

"He didn't put enough attention to the income statement," Trone says. "I learned that you can't get overextended or overleveraged. Sometimes, when bad things happen, it makes people more aware of what needs to be done."

Trone liquidated his father's business, which included the family home. Shortly thereafter, while still at Wharton, Trone launched the first business of his own, a beer store in Harrisburg, Pa., called Beer World. He soon opened another store in Pittsburgh. The predecessor to Total Wine was born.

**TRONE SIGNED UP FOR CLASSES**
on state laws for alcohol sales while attending Wharton, knowing he would need that knowledge for his business venture. It's perhaps something of an understatement to describe alcohol sales as a highly regulated industry, although Trone describes the rules landscape for his business in slightly different terms.

"There is a myriad of anti-competitive laws that serve as barriers to entry to the alcoholic beverage retail industry that are different in every state," he says. "The United States is not one country with one set of alcohol laws, like France. It's 50 states with 50 different sets of laws."

Trone has become something of an expert on this subject, with litigation and lobbying integral parts of his expansion strategy. He sued Pennsylvania alcohol regulators over the state's laws on advertising the price of its beer. He's lobbied legislatures in several states, including South Carolina, to allow for the sale of beer with higher alcohol levels. In Total Wine's longest-running legal battle, a federal appeals court ruled in 2009 that the state of Maryland's laws banning volume discounts amounted to restraints on trade. That ruling could have an impact on Total Wine's sales across the country.

The melange of state and federal laws created by the ratification of the 21st Amendment, which repealed Prohibition, is a blessing in disguise for Total Wine. The lack of a uniform, nationwide set of rules for all states means that no one can become the Amazon of alcohol sales. Thus, Total Wine does not face the type of serious threat from online sales as do such retailers as Barnes & Noble or JCPenney.

"Largely because of the 21st Amendment, we're inoculated from what's happening with Amazon destroying the electronics business at Best Buy and the office supply business at Staples," Trone says.

Total Wine conducts online sales to about a dozen states, where the practice is legal. But the main goal of Total Wine's online strategy is to educate its customers about wine, beer and spirits. The company is spending about $6 million to improve its website and provide more opportunities for interaction with customers.

"The mission is to drive bricks-and-mortar sales," Trone says.

Technology is deployed strategically inside Total Wine stores. At the McLean location, situated in an affluent area of the northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C., an iPad is prominently displayed at an information desk in the wine section. Shoppers can punch in their dinner plans — pork, beef or fish — and receive customized suggestions as to whether to pair the meat with a Pinot Noir or a Gewürztraminer.

"It will spit out choices, and you scroll down and pick the one you want," Trone says.

**REAL ESTATE IS ANOTHER important part of the Trone business playbook. If you're going to run an upscale alcoholic-beverage retailer, Trone surmises, it's probably a good idea to keep respectable neighbors. He instructs his real estate-scouting department to find store sites that are as close as possible to high-end retailers like Bed Bath & Beyond or the Container Store.**

The company's product inventory reflects the desire to appeal to high-income, educated customers. Step inside a Total Wine store and you'll
have a difficult (if not impossible) time trying to locate dirt-cheap beer or jug wine. Instead, one of the first things a customer sees is a wall taken up by a large, glass-doored display room, kept at the ideal temperature for storing wine. Inside are some truly top-notch wines. Fancy a $2,999 bottle of Bordeaux, anyone?

“They turn 30,000 square feet of selling space from what could be an average warehouse wine store into a beautiful specialty store experience,” says Kip Tindell, chair and chief executive of the Container Store.

Trone’s success hasn’t gone unnoticed. The alcohol-retail industry magazine Market Watch gave the Trone brothers its “Retailers of the Year” award in 2006 and predicted rapid growth for the chain, partly because of its willingness to engage in litigation to seek more favorable laws. The magazine’s prediction came true.

Beer is the fastest-growing product at Total Wine, specifically craft beer, with sales increasing at an annual clip of about 26 percent, Trone says. Total Wine is also a major player in the national explosion in popularity of craft brewing. The company offers hundreds, if not thousands, of items from brewers across the country and the world, in styles ranging from Belgian quadruples to imperial stouts.

That’s a critical element to the success of the Flying Dog brand, Caruso says. If people can’t easily find Flying Dog’s products, they’re not going to buy them.

“They make a huge effort to carry all of our products, all of the time,” Caruso says. That’s not a simple task. Flying Dog makes 10 core products that are sold year-round, like Old Scratch Amber Lager, plus seasonal offerings like K-9 Winter Ale and one-time offerings like St. EADman, a Belgian-style dark ale.

Don’t expect to see any new retail ventures from Trone anytime soon. There’s no Anvils “R” Us on the horizon, no Widget Depot, no new variations on the pet store theme. He’s got plenty of room across the continental United States for expanding Total Wine before he moves into any other business, and he says there’s too much “white space” to fill up before he launches any new store concepts.

For the time being, he’s focused on expanding Total Wine in Texas. He also has California in his sights; he recently opened a new store near Sacramento.

TRONE ISN’T OPPOSED to the concept of selling his company, headquartered in Potomac, Md., to an outside investment firm, or even to a larger retail company. An Initial Public Offering could also be in the cards, although it isn’t at the top of his list.

“It’s always something to think about, but I think we’re better off to grow at a judicious pace,” he says.

More pressing is the final prong of Trone’s business strategy — community involvement. That shouldn’t be a surprise, considering his generosity to Furman.

In addition to their contribution toward the student center, he and June have donated $1.5 million to cover start-up costs for Furman’s men’s and women’s lacrosse teams, which open varsity play in 2014. Their other gifts include a $500,000 pledge toward endowing the Riley Institute (page 28). Trone also serves on the board of trustees and routinely donates Total Wine products to Furman events.

The charitable giving extends to the communities where Total Wine does business. The company partnered with law enforcement officials in the Tampa, Fla., area in November to raise awareness about the dangers of drunk driving during the holiday season. Total Wine has also worked with Jack Daniel’s to promote the use of designated drivers.

“The money we make, we put back into the community,” Trone says.

His generosity extends to friends and former classmates. Richard Barr says Trone has paid for his family to attend World Series games, pro basketball games, concerts and more.

“These are things I would never have done, if it weren’t for Dave,” Barr says. [I]

The author, a 1992 graduate, lives in Washington, D.C., and writes for American Banker, a newspaper covering the financial industry.

Turn the page to see how the Trone Center is being transformed.
**THE RENOVATIONS** to the Trone Student Center are well on their way to completion. When spring semester began January 7, students found the upstairs transformed, with spacious new offices and richly appointed gathering spots.

Among the additions are an expanded student organization commons, new administrative and student media suites, modern signage, and a new wing on the dining hall side (lower right photo) that houses offices for Career Services, Undergraduate Research and Internships, Study Away and International Education, Student Life, and the Center for Vocational Reflection (Lilly Center).

The highlight of the upstairs renovations is the front entrance, where students walk in to find a large “living room” and atrium, replete with video wall and fireplace. The atrium was provided by trustee Robert Hill and his wife, Margaret Platt Hill, both 1983 graduates.

The building’s new look has also created expanded sight lines to the lake and rose garden. J. Scott Derrick, director of the Trone Student Center, says, “One of the main thrusts behind this renovation and expansion was to reconnect the students with the lake, as well as to provide student organizations with appropriate collaborative space and to give the student body as a whole more space to hang out.”

The last phase of the renovations — revamping the downstairs food court, adding a restaurant, and reconfiguring the outdoor space on the building’s lower level — is scheduled for this summer. Once completed, the building will have increased in size by 6,000 square feet.

Contact patricia.carswell@furman.edu to support the $6.75 million student center project. Photos by Jeremy Fleming.
Top: Senior Order 1969, from the Bonhomie. To see the group today, turn to page 12.
Bottom: Dorothy Anderson Robelot ’38, a member of the first Senior Order class, met the newest inductees at the 50th reunion in 1987 (photo by David Crosby).
Opposite: Senior Order icons Virginia Thomas (left) and Marguerite Chiles. Thomas photo courtesy Furman Special Collections and Archives/Digicenter.
ORDER OF MERIT

MORE THAN 75 YEARS AFTER ITS FOUNDING, SENIOR ORDER CONTINUES TO CELEBRATE FURMAN WOMEN.

BY JIM STEWART

Virginia Thomas' appointment in 1931 as dean of Greenville Woman's College proved to be an inspired choice.

She took the job during difficult times. The Depression had left GWC in a precarious financial position — to the point that, to save the school and its assets (and to help their own budgetary woes), the Furman trustees voted in 1933 to coordinate with GWC and consolidate the schools' administrations and faculty while maintaining separate campuses in downtown Greenville.

Thomas, who had joined the GWC English faculty in 1921, was known for her tact and gentility, which came in handy as the schools struggled to adapt to their new relationship. Once the merits of the merger became evident, especially in terms of finances and enrollment, its success eased the concerns of those who weren't initially sold on consolidation — including Furman president Bennette E. Geer.

While her people skills helped the schools bridge their cross-town gap, Thomas never lost sight of GWC as an entity itself. In *Academy and College: The History of the Woman's College of Furman University*, Judith Bainbridge, professor emerita of English, describes how Thomas "placed an indelible stamp on the manners, morale and aspirations of the women" during her tenure, especially in fostering a sense of identity and culture.

Thomas was a staunch supporter of such activities as GWC's May Day festival, complete with games and a queen. May Day eventually moved from GWC to the men's campus (and later, for a time, to the current campus). She introduced the "Hanging of the Greens," annual Christmas celebrations that featured elaborate pageants and a campus adorned with garlands of laurel, cedar and holly. She brought a "rustic mountain cabin" to GWC and turned it into a snack bar and meeting place known as "The Shack." Today it sits beside the lake as part of Furman's Greenbelt residential community — and is the only GWC building that survives.

Thomas could not have known that GWC and Furman would eventually unite on one campus outside Greenville. And she would probably have been dismayed to learn that virtually all traces of GWC — from its celebrations and publications to its alma mater, ring, and school colors of blue and gold — would ultimately fade away at the new, coeducational Furman.

All except one.

Senior Order, established by Thomas in 1937 as a select leadership organization for women, stands today, three quarters of a century later, as a time-honored link between past and present. With close to 1,000 members (dead and alive), Senior Order reveres and recognizes such qualities as humility, character, scholarship, service and responsibility.

Election to the group is among the highest honors a Furman woman can receive.

Thomas envisioned Senior Order as an advocacy group for women's points of view at Furman. She chose the first members from the Class of '38, selecting women with "outstanding abilities" who "rendered meritorious service either in the college or community" (1938 *Bonhomie*).

The dean would not, however, have much time to help the group grow and mature. She became seriously ill in 1941 and resigned in 1943.

But it was Furman's — and Senior Order's — good fortune that her protégé, Marguerite Chiles '40, was on hand.

Thomas hired Chiles, a member of the third Senior Order class, as her secretary in 1940. After a time Chiles went to graduate school, then returned in 1945 as director of student personnel for women and advisor to Senior Order.

For the next 35 years, as she climbed the ranks to become vice president for student affairs — the first woman vice president in Furman history — Chiles planned events, coordinated campus activities, and oversaw programs designed to help students embrace the full benefits of college life.

Chiles, a student favorite, was especially admired by the women of Senior Order, with whom she shared many adventures. She modeled the group's ideals through her wisdom, compassion and love for the university, and she fostered a true sense of camaraderie among the women.

After she retired in 1980 she remained close to Furman and to Senior Order, returning often for the group's annual Homecoming brunch. In return the women of Senior Order made sure that Chiles was not forgotten by leading efforts to establish the Marguerite Chiles Scholarship, and to name a residence hall in her honor. The board of trustees did so in 1997.
TRADITIONS, OLD & NEW

Senior Order’s prominence at Furman has varied through the years. At first it functioned almost like a sorority. Members met weekly, assisted with orientation and admission programs, decorated the campus for the holidays and raised money for charitable causes. More recently the group has become primarily an honorary organization, with a loosely defined structure.

At GWC Senior Order would meet in a room where the china collection of Gordon Poteat, president of Furman from 1903-18, was displayed. One piece, a bowl decorated with a dragon, spawned a Senior Order legend that, to ensure the safety of the student body, a woman must be sacrificed to the dragon each year. The members soon designated themselves as “Daughters of the Dragon” because of their sacrificial commitment to the school — which is how the group’s symbol features the Greek Delta letters “DD.”

New members are elected each spring by the graduating cohort. In the early years eight women were chosen; today the average is 15.

Members admit that the election process is not an easy task, and on occasion it results in complaints or bruised feelings. In 1964, for example, The Paladin, upset that some women had, from its perspective, been unfairly excluded, published an editorial naming additional members to a “Senior disorder” list.

For years new members were “tapped” into the organization during a solemn, all-women convocation that was followed by a weekend retreat in the mountains. Nowadays things are less formal, and it’s not unusual for the neophytes to be welcomed to the club by being “hijacked” in the middle of the night, usually with the help of complicit roommates.

Helen Athanasiadis ’82, who traveled from Greece in the fall to attend her 30th reunion, spoke at the Homecoming brunch about her initiation experience: “I was a commuter, and when they came to my house to get me, my mother was afraid I was being kidnapped. They had to explain to her that I was really being honored.”

Ah, the brunch — probably Senior Order’s most meaningful tradition. It frequently takes on the qualities of a religious experience, as Peggy Haymes ’82 attests in the accompanying article.

Some Senior Order groups remain close and stage annual gatherings. Others come together occasionally. Last summer all but one member from the Class of ’69 met for a reunion on Hilton Head Island, S.C. “We still thought like Furman women,” said Mary Ann Klutz Hanna. “We all had done things and all of us had grown, but we still had a special connection with each other, and with Furman.”

As for the 16 members from the Class of 2013, their selection launched a new era for Senior Order: its second 75 years.

They are now part of an elite Furman organization. No matter what follows, they will always have this group, and this place, in common.

This spring they will choose the new class and, after enjoying the lighter rites of initiation, will host a banquet for their successors and their families. The new members will hear testimonials to their worthiness, receive their symbolic, black and yellow scarf, and add their signatures to the Senior Order roll of honor.

Perhaps Virginia Thomas, who died in 1962, or Marguerite Chiles, who died in 2007, envisioned this kind of enduring legacy, one that has continued under the leadership of Carol Daniels ’82 and now Casey Crisp ’09.

In any case, they would likely be pleased to know that, in a time when tradition is often dismissed and ceremony mocked, Senior Order continues to celebrate such virtues as discipline, service and character, and to serve as a standard of excellence for Furman women.

This story owes a major debt to Julianna Battenfield (Senior Order Class of ’11), who as an undergraduate did extensive research about the group. Her work is available in the university archives section of the Special Collections and Archives website at library.furman.edu.
HERE'S TO THE LADIES WHO BRUNCH

I WALK INTO THE ROOM with the usual tables and linens and a breakfast buffet down one side. Sometimes I see people I know and eagerly greet them. Most of the time, many of these women are strangers to me. Still, this is the thing more than any other that pulls my heart back to Furman at Homecoming.

I love the football. I weep like the silly alumni we used to make fun of when I see the fountains and Bell Tower and lake and Paris Mountain. I love the quirky thing that time does during reunion years when decades fall away at the drop of a hat and we are all 20 again.

But the thing that pulls me most, the thing that makes me try to make it possible to go back home to Furman for Homecoming, is the Senior Order brunch. When I was inducted in 1981 someone said to me, “This is the best honor of all to receive,” and I didn’t quite understand it then. I do now.

The women’s honorary society is the last tradition from Greenville Woman’s College that is still celebrated at Furman. It was begun in 1937 by Dean Virginia Thomas. Requirements for membership include scholarship, character, leadership and service to the university. It is a high honor for a Furman woman to receive. But it’s much more than that.

Every year Senior Order members gather on the Saturday of Homecoming for brunch, and the range of ages is quite amazing. Because of various life demands I’ve not been able to attend for the last few years. But when I was last there, we had a member from the Class of 1947. And of course, the newly inducted members of the Class of 2008.

Every year the program is quite simple. We take turns standing up and briefly telling the group what we’ve been up to since the last time we were there. Maybe it doesn’t sound like much, but let me tell you — it’s magical.

There are the stories of life transitions, like marriages and graduate schools and babies and retirements and moves joyous and moves hard. There is always someone who is making such a contribution in this world that it takes your breath away for the strength of their heart and their head and their will of spirit. I always walk away from the brunch glad. And hopeful. And grateful.

Sometimes they’re stories of accomplishment. Sometimes they’re stories of struggle. One thing is consistent: They are all the truth of the stories of our lives.

The temptation of reunions is for our lives to assume a Lake Wobegon glow: We’re all doing just great. In the Senior Order brunch we can be as honest among this group of women as we are with our old roommate, late at night when it’s just the two of us.

Sometimes life is just great. And sometimes the lump is malignant. Sometimes our days are blessed and joyous, and sometimes they are just plain challenging. Sometimes we have taken fabulous trips, and sometimes we’ve been rehabbing that broken hip. Joyous, hard or heartbreaking, it doesn’t matter. It’s life, and we live it.

There aren’t many places in our segmented culture where women of such a wide range of ages get to hang out together. Some women tell stories of being admonished because “no self-respecting Furman girl would want to learn the twist.” And some tell us of achieving things that would have been undreamed of, much less unheard of, a generation or two ago.

It’s not often you get to have breakfast with those on whose shoulders you stand. And it’s not often you get to have breakfast with those who are seeing with fresh eyes, creating and making new and astounding ways in the world.

Some of us were Furman girls and some of us were Furman women (along with those who came from the Woman’s College days). We’re a part of Furman, and Furman is a part of us.

And every year we gather for brunch with sisters we’ve just met.

— PEGGY HAYMES

POLITICS

A D.C. INSIDER WARNS THAT THE FUTURE DOESN’T LOOK ROSY FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS, GIVEN THE PREVAILING ANTI-PATHY TOWARD COMPROMISE AND COLLABORATION.

BY JESSICA TAYLOR
A few months ago, some Furman alumni and I met for dinner in Washington, D.C. Gathered for barbecue and sweet tea, reminiscent of our Southern roots, many of us had arrived after work from jobs in politics, on Capitol Hill, or with former Democratic presidential candidates or GOP cabinet members.

We all held differing viewpoints, and the presidential election was just a month away. But little, if any, of our conversation turned on politics. And the varying political views represented at that long table had no bearing on our years-long friendships.

It was the same way when we were students at Furman. Whether we were involved in student government, the student newspaper, or opposing sides during campaigns or political science simulations, our political stripes — or lack thereof — never seemed to matter. We could agree or disagree with one another, respect our differences, and still be friends.

In Congress, just a few blocks down First Street from my office at the Rothenberg Political Report, where I am a senior analyst and reporter, good luck getting members of opposing parties — and even some within the same party — to break bread together or exchange a cordial word. During the second presidential debate, it even looked as if President Barack Obama and GOP nominee Mitt Romney wanted to take a swing at each other.

When I came to D.C. from Greenville in 2007, fresh out of Furman, I soon realized that bipartisan accord was practiced better in ivory towers than on Capitol Hill.

NO WAVES IN 2012

Two thousand twelve marked the third full national election cycle I’ve covered. While by many measures I’m still a neophyte, in talking with colleagues who have been keen observers for some time, the level of vitriol in 2012 was nastier than ever. We’ve seen each party move further toward its own extremes, especially in the past two years, and the differences grew more stark during the most recent election cycle. This vitriol isn’t anything new, but it has had an impact on the past few very different and dynamic elections.

The year 2010 brought a third consecutive “wave” election cycle in national politics. While the elections of 2006 and 2008 produced huge, sweeping victories for Democrats, largely in response to dissatisfaction with the outgoing Bush administration, the midterm elections in President Obama’s first term proved very different. After Democrats, who had controlled both chambers of Congress, joined with the White House to push through sweeping healthcare legislation and government bailouts, they suffered record losses. Republicans gained 63 seats in the House.

But the bright-eyed rookies received a rude awakening when they arrived on Capitol Hill. Although such ideas as cutting billions of dollars from the budget and slashing federal programs made for good campaign fodder, they discovered that, in reality, it was much harder to affect Congress as one of 435 members. In Washington, everything moves at a snail’s pace (traffic included), and for many freshman legislators, their ideas about cutting government weren’t moving fast enough.

Washington has found itself at the edge of the cliff several times these past two years. Seemingly simple votes, such as funding the government, have turned into ideological battles, with small-government conservatives wanting to push through reforms while the other side makes them scapegoats. Groups such as the anti-tax Club for Growth or Americans for Tax Reform promise primary challenges and loss of support if members don’t vote the way they’re expected to. Raising the debt ceiling used to be a routine vote. Now it’s an all-out war.

As 2012 wound down, the possibility of going over the fiscal cliff came down to the wire yet again. Neither side wanted to give an inch, partly for fear of retribution within their own ranks. Republicans were in disarray. Speaker John Boehner couldn’t hold his caucus together to pass his own legislation, which was designed to avoid the looming economic calamity by raising taxes on the wealthiest Americans — even though the proposal would have been dead on arrival in the Senate, or with Obama. At the 11th hour, a deal was narrowly struck.

Quick question: Can you name one meaningful piece of national legislation passed in 2012? In the end, the 112th Congress passed the fewest number of bills since the Great Depression — about 80 years ago.

But on November 6, little, if any, frustration was evident at the voting booth. Voters re-elected the same president and a Democratic Senate, and left Republicans in control of the House. For all the hand-wringing and grumbling and bickering — not to mention the billions of dollars spent by each side — everything stayed pretty much the same.
POLITICALLY THERE'S LITTLE INCENTIVE TO SEEK ANYTHING BUT GRIDLOCK — WHICH MAY BE THE WORST OUTCOME FOR THE COUNTRY, YET IS PROBABLY THE BEST OUTCOME FOR INDIVIDUAL POLITICIANS AND THEIR RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

So, does a seemingly status quo election mean that voters accept the status quo?

In the end, the absence of a wave election meant that for the first time in six years, voter sentiment wasn't with one side or the other. For Democrats, the effort to take control of Congress in 2012 was much harder than for Republicans in 2010, as redistricting had shored up districts for many vulnerable members and produced fewer competitive seats.

PRESIDENTIAL DYNAMICS

With the presidential election, everyone believed the result would come down to the economy. Given the nation's lengthy battle with high unemployment and a staggering job market, Obama looked for a while as if he would be a one-term president.

But as much as voters want to vote against something or someone, they want to vote for something as well. During primary season the GOP went through so many iterations and frontrunners that when Mitt Romney finally emerged as the nominee, he was more damaged than battle-tested. The once moderate former governor of Massachusetts had been pulled to the extreme right of his party, which hurt his chances to woo voters in the middle who may have grown disenchanted with Obama. As a result, he could never find a niche — a problem that played out across the GOP spectrum.

The Obama campaign, flush with sophisticated voter lists and a massive turnout operation, proved far superior to anything the Republicans had built. And Obama succeeded in another key area: by defining Romney as an out-of-touch millionaire who couldn't relate to the hardships the country faced. Voters didn't remember the stories about Romney's service in the Mormon Church, or how he helped struggling families, or his business successes. Instead they remembered his bank accounts in the Cayman Islands and the layoffs he'd overseen when turning around companies at Bain Capital.

According to national exit poll data on Election Day, Romney edged Obama 49 to 48 percent on the topic of which candidate would better handle the economy. But when people were asked who was more in touch with people like them, Obama won, 53 to 43 percent.

Perhaps the most defining moment of the election wasn't in Romney's failure to define himself or in Obama's bumbling performance in the first debate, but at the Democratic National Convention. While these heavily staged party gatherings typically succeed at wooing no one, when former president Bill Clinton took the stage in Charlotte, N.C., a different narrative emerged.

I watched from the press gallery as the thousands of delegates cheered the former president. And in all his "humbleness," Clinton stated that even he, who oversaw the booming economy of the 1990s, couldn't have turned around the economic mess Obama inherited in just four years. Obama got a convention bounce he never completely lost, even after the lackluster first debate, and Romney never caught up. And in the exit polls, when voters were asked who was to blame for the current economic conditions, 53 percent said former president George W. Bush, while just 38 percent said Obama.

Republicans also failed to recognize a changing electorate — one that was more similar to 2008 than it was to their successful midterm year of 2010. Four years ago, young voters turned out in record numbers, and a drop-off this year was expected. But among 18- to 29-year-olds, there was a slight uptick to 19 percent of the electorate. Hispanic and even Asian-American voters continued to grow as a key demographic group, and both went overwhelmingly for President Obama.

GOP polling failed to foresee these new dynamics as part of the likely turnout model —
and contributed to the Republicans’ shock when Romney lost so decisively. The GOP will have much soul-searching to do over the next few years, not just on how to reach out and communicate to key voting blocs, but on issues of emerging importance.

PLAY TO THE BASE
It’s not by accident that a new generation of Republican leaders is already becoming very vocal about such topics as immigration — and somewhat more temperate on spending issues. The GOP has a more diverse flock waiting in the wings, including Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and straight-talking New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. And you can expect newly appointed South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott, now the only African American in the Senate and the first black Republican senator since 1979, to be a star for the GOP. While he comes from the same conservative orthodoxy as his predecessor, Jim DeMint, his outreach value to minority voters can’t be denied.

In many instances, Democrats did better at pulling crossover voters to their side in more conservative states in the House and Senate elections than Republicans did in turning blue states red. Their success was aided by some less-than-stellar performances by GOP candidates.

In Missouri, Republicans nominated Todd Akin, their most conservative candidate, to run against Claire McCaskill, a highly vulnerable Democratic incumbent. But Akin’s comments on “legitimate rape” just a few weeks into the campaign, and his refusal to exit the race despite pressure from his own party, made McCaskill, once a sure goner, a virtual lock for re-election. In Indiana, six-term moderate GOP senator Richard Lugar was ousted in the primary at the hands of powerful conservative groups. But after missteps and ill-considered comments about rape, abortion and “God’s will,” Lugar’s conqueror, Richard Mourdock, lost to moderate Democrat Joe Donnelly.

It seems that any departure from party orthodoxy may endear you to the other side or to voters in the middle, but good luck with your supposed allies. Just ask Greenville’s own former congressman, Republican Bob Inglis, how compromise and pragmatism worked for him in 2010.

Inglis’ overall voting score was extremely conservative, but after he voted against Bush’s troop surge and began to move more toward the center on such issues as energy and the environment, he fell victim to a more conservative challenger, Trey Gowdy. Inglis was booted at town halls around the Upstate for telling constituents to turn off conservative commentator Glenn Beck.

As Inglis learned, and as other incumbents and centrist GOP candidates have learned in recent years, “moderate” has become a dirty word to most of the party base. There’s little incentive to compromise, and if you do, you may be staring at electoral doom.

Conservatives aren’t the only ones who have to wrestle with these issues, but the problem has been less severe for Democrats. Progressive groups have sprung up to try to get more liberal members through primaries, although they have not worked as hard to challenge sitting incumbents. Progressives succeeded at pushing through their candidates in more urban and liberal states or districts, where they had less of a need to appeal to independents.

HOPES VS. REALITY
So with a status quo election and a frustrated and somewhat confused electorate, what does this mean for the next two, or four, or 10 years? The future, unfortunately, isn’t too rosy for moving anything forward in Congress if things continue along the same trajectory.

Politicians can’t find common ground and have often been forced by the extremes of their own parties to fall in line — or face electoral consequences. As for collegiality and cordiality across the political aisle? Politically there’s little incentive to seek anything but gridlock — which may be the worst outcome for the country, yet is probably the best outcome for individual politicians and their re-election campaigns.

In more than 100 interviews conducted in recent months by the Rothenberg Political Report, we asked many soon-to-be members of Congress about their hopes for compromise and for reach-
ing out to their political foes. Some, perhaps too wishfully, talked about ways they could forge relationships and seek out strong ideas, even if they came from the other party. But almost all of those who made such comments were from competitive districts and needed some crossover appeal to win.

With redistricting having produced fewer competitive seats, there's less incentive to work together or to admit that in compromise and debate, one party rarely gets everything it wants. Rep. Tom Rice, from South Carolina's new 7th District, was one who did sound pragmatic and realistic when asked about negotiating in Congress, pointing out that as a tax attorney, he never got everything he wanted in a deal. Rice won a crowded primary in which many conservative groups stayed on the sidelines, but if he puts his outlook into practice, he and other like-minded members know they'll come under scrutiny from their supposed allies.

Perhaps we could all take to heart the words that David Shi, former president of Furman, delivered at the 2008 Commencement, when the university's invitation to President Bush to speak created a great deal of rancor on and off campus. Shi sounded this conciliatory note:

"Regardless of our diplomas and degrees, none of us has all the answers, no matter how loudly we speak or how certain we seem or how brashly we behave. The humility embedded in our imperfection should prompt us, at least occasionally, to reassess our dogmas, harness our arrogance, and slow our keystroke rush to judgment."

"Liberally educated people are those who have learned to practice tolerance and self-criticism and embody civility and humility. This doesn't mean that we should not be confident or forthright in our convictions. It does mean that we should not contemptuously dismiss the convictions of others."

Good luck, for now, getting those words to ring true anywhere near Washington. [F]
I almost didn’t make it, thanks to Hurricane Sandy.

That was how things began for me on Election Weekend — the most important days of the year, a time that we, as political analysts and junkies, had been anticipating since 2010. But despite the superstorm ravaging the East Coast and leaving much of New York City and the surrounding metro areas without power, I was able to catch one of the first Amtrak trains out of Washington, D.C., to the Big Apple to work as an Election Night consultant with CBS News.

It was my first prolonged foray into the behind-the-scenes workings of television news. I was joining a cadre of other political analysts, strategists from both sides of the aisle, and correspondents pulled from diverse beats to cover this once-every-four-years blowout.

I’d spent past election nights hammering away in print newsrooms, tracking Congressional races and feverishly writing and tweeting for the Web. To my readers, details and minutiae were important, as we were the strange junkies obsessing over every race in the country.

But now, my job was to assist in making sense of the 2012 battle for control of the House and Senate — a battle that would be somewhat overshadowed by the race for president.

It was a bit strange to run through rehearsals before Election Night, pretending in real time that each possible outcome — either President Barack Obama or President Mitt Romney — was happening. From our vantage point at the House and Senate desk, a few of our races would garner attention, but it was clear that determining who would reach the 270 electoral votes first was the biggest story of the night.

When Election Night finally arrived, it almost seemed anticlimactic. As political analysts and journalists, we had worked for two years toward this day, just like every politician and staffer whose fates would be held in limbo until they knew the results.

At CBS, we started receiving embargoed exit poll data at 5 p.m. — an exclusive first glance at what the voters were thinking and saying. While the outcome looked close, the polls appeared to show that the country was leaning toward President Obama. Television likes to cover the fight for the House and the Senate, but it loves the presidential race.

Our House and Senate group was sequestered in the “60 Minutes” studio, far down the hall from the actual, historic CBS newsroom. But I had to sneak a peek — and wound up getting goose bumps. I had grown up watching the “CBS Evening News” with my family, and I remembered Dan Rather sitting in that very chair. Watching him was how I first developed my love of news. Now I was standing in the same halls Walter Cronkite and Edward R. Murrow had walked. And the news was about to begin.

Once the voting closed there was a flurry of excitement, but I was huddled with my laptop in a corner behind a green screen onto which, through the magic of television, we could project all the fancy graphics supporting the reports from our correspondent.

There weren’t many surprises early on with the Senate, and it quickly became a good night for Democrats. By winning seats in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Virginia, they were making it hard for Republicans to pick up the majority in the Senate chamber that they so coveted.

The presidential race, of course, dominated coverage. The exit polls and subsequent results weren’t moving in Romney’s direction, and some of the biggest surprises to me were that Virginia and Florida, which I expected to go the GOP’s way, weren’t.

Just after 11:30 p.m., CBS and most other networks had declared Obama the winner after putting Ohio in the incumbent’s column. It all happened in a flash, while our group was still focused on tracking how many seats each party would win or lose in the House or Senate. But not much from our desk mattered in the next hour, with concession and victory speeches to come.

The long, strange trip ended for me around 4 a.m., as I kept zeroing in on undecided House races, some of which would remain in recount purgatory for weeks to come. After about two hours of sleep and a frantic rush to catch the train back to D.C., we were ready to begin making sense of what it all meant.

And then, it was on to 2014. . . .

— Jessica Taylor
On the Road with Peter Gwin

An award-winning journalist travels the world to share stories of the exotic, the mysterious and the downright dangerous.

By Tina Underwood
PETER GWIN REMEMBERS VIVIDLY the first time he experienced the thrill of sudden, bright-white clarity.

While on a Furman study abroad trip to the United Kingdom, he and some friends decided to visit the European continent. "We had some free time to travel, so we went to Rome," he says. "We landed around 2 a.m. and got the classic taxi rip-off from the airport — it was raining, we paid way more than we should have, and got dropped in the middle of nowhere with no clue where we'd sleep that night."

Wandering aimlessly through a dark labyrinth of alleys and unknown streets, Gwin and Co. suddenly happened upon Rome's famous Trevi Fountain in all its resplendent glory. "It was spectacular —- this massive golden fountain shimmering in the darkness, and we were the only ones there at the moment. It was like we had found buried treasure.

"That's when I knew," he says. "I recognized that feeling of discovery you get from the unexpected — turning a corner and finding a wonderful surprise."

Today, almost three decades later, Gwin says those moments of blind, raw discovery happen frequently when he's on assignment as a senior writer for National Geographic.

"I never know where they're going to come from," he says, then adds, "I live for those moments. In fact, I sort of tease my wife that I don't have a drug problem, but I do have this travel problem. I'm addicted to those moments."

They've occurred while he's consortied with pirates in the Strait of Malacca. They've occurred during his investigation of the lost manuscripts of Timbuktu, his encounters with Shaolin Kung Fu masters, and his research into rhino poaching in southern Africa.

These are only a handful of the wide-ranging stories Peter Gwin '88 has covered for the iconic, maize-rimmed monthly magazine. Inside its hallowed covers, National Geographic has for 125 years brought the world to our living rooms and captivated us with engaging stories married with stunning photography. Gwin has been part of that world since 2003.

FOR ANY ASPIRING JOURNALIST, a writing post with such a prestigious publication has to be one of the plum jobs. The road to National Geographic was long and arduous, but Gwin says that it was well worth the effort.

For Gwin, the notion that a love of reading, literature and adventure could actually be parlayed into a career began to percolate during his high school days in Peachtree City, Ga. An English teacher introduced him to the works of Hemingway and Twain, and later he actually met another favorite, poet and novelist James Dickey (Deliverance). As a young man growing up in the South with a penchant for hunting and sports, Gwin was inspired by these and other writers whose robust literary styles were filled with tales of outdoor exploits.

Gwin's liberal arts bent eventually drew him to Furman in what he says was an "intuitive" choice. He was an English major, wrote for The Paladin and was a contributor to and editor of the Echo, the student literary magazine. In addition to the United Kingdom, he also participated in the study away program to China.

While he focused on writing and literature, Gwin says, "All the classes I took — philosophy, world history, etc. — they were all important pieces of this quilt of learning. The great lesson of the liberal arts is that you learn how to learn about a variety of subjects and to think critically in the world, and that's basically what I do for a living.

"When Geographic hands me a new assignment — from paleontology to indigenous cultures to astronomy, for example — those are not necessarily my specialties, but I feel fairly confident in finding the experts and translating their expertise into an engaging story for a general audience."

As an undergraduate Gwin also had the chance to intern for the local NBC affiliate, where he gained experience in production research while working for "PM Magazine," a nationally syndicated program. Again, he says, the experience was excellent preparation for his current work.

"For 'PM' I would go to the Furman library to research the location the local hosts would be profiling and learn everything there is to know about New Zealand, for example. Now I'll get an assignment about, say, the Tuareg ethnic group in the Sahara, and one of the first places I go is the Geographic library — which is amazing — and get every book I can on the subject."

The prospect of working for National Geographic gained traction through Gwin's contact with Nancy Seidule (now Hauth), a 1986 graduate and fellow English major who worked on the editorial staff at the magazine. She gave Gwin tips on how to land a job there — although it would be years before he could do so. In the meantime, he would amass a boatload of experiences that eventually led him to the holy grail of journalism.
After graduating from Furman and spending the summer traveling around the United States, Canada and Mexico, Gwin headed to Botswana in southern Africa. There he taught English through World Teach, an education program for developing countries. When he wasn’t teaching he hitchhiked around the region and sent dispatches about his travels to his hometown paper, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. He wrote about the Botswana election, the diamond industry and other events — but none of his stories were picked up.

This disappointment helped him learn one of the fundamental tenets of journalism: know your audience. “I didn’t make the stories particularly relevant to the people of Atlanta — or the United States for that matter,” he says. “There was no local hook” — a key detail the Journal’s editor shared with Gwin upon his return to the States. It was an important lesson, he says, and one that prepared him for the challenges that lay ahead.

With National Geographic still in his sights, and after fulfilling his one-year teaching commitment, Gwin moved to Washington, D.C., and began freelancing for a range of small publications. Unfortunately, his first attempt to get a backdoor interview with National Geographic went awry. The story, which he laughs about now, includes an encounter with security.

Emerging from this episode jobless but relatively unscathed, Gwin sat down with a directory of Washington media outlets and methodically, painstakingly began making calls. He finally hit paydirt with Europe Magazine, whose editor-in-chief happened to pick up the phone that day.

Above: In Timbuktu with a Tuareg rebel, one of the “blue men of the desert.” Right: These snapshots, and the ones on the following pages, are from Gwin’s summer 2012 experiences in China and Vietnam. The captions are Gwin’s descriptions of each image.

This is about the umpteenth photo I’ve taken with someone who wanted their picture taken with a random foreigner. And she is the second person who told me I reminded her of Voldemort. “Voldemort?” I asked. “From Harry Potter,” she said. “Voldemort, you look just like him.”

After all these years she still makes me laugh.
Writing for *Europe Magazine*, Gwin says, helped groom him for *National Geographic*. He was part of a skeleton crew that produced the small monthly, which aimed to explain to its American audience what was then known as the European Community.

"It was a great place for me to start. Everyone had to wear lots of different hats, from researching and writing to tracking down sources and editing stringers," says Gwin. "My first few months on the job the Soviet Union began to unravel and suddenly Europe was changing dramatically, and then came the Balkans wars and the rise of the single currency, and on and on. It was a great place for a young journalist to be."

Gwin worked for the publication for about a decade, eventually rising to managing editor. But he never took his eyes off the prize.

He had a couple of chances to "audition" for *National Geographic* in the form of "legend writing tests" — legends being Geographic parlance for photo captions. Legend work, which combines artful writing and reporting, is the magazine's time-honored entry-level position for writers. Gwin didn't make the cut on his first try, but on his second attempt, in 2003, he got the job. It didn't hurt that the test involved South Africa, about which he had firsthand knowledge.

Since that time, Gwin has researched and written a number of stories about far-flung people and places. His "Battle for the Soul of Kung Fu" (March 2011) described the changing world of martial arts in China's venerable Shaolin Temple. The story led to a Fulbright grant to return to China in 2012 to study aging Kung Fu masters.

Gwin filmed dozens of elderly masters telling their life stories. The men, he says, were like walking time capsules, with their 70- to 80-year perspectives on history. "They have witnessed an epic sweep of Chinese history, from the warlord era to the Japanese occupation, the Cultural Revolution, and now the opening," Gwin, forever trawling for material, says China is fertile ground for many follow-on stories, and he hopes to channel his research into a documentary at some point.

Another assignment took him to Malaysia, which borders the Strait of Malacca, a chokepoint linking the Indian and Pacific oceans — and a place pirates have haunted for centuries. There he interviewed one of 10 prisoners captured by police following the 2005 hijacking of the *Neptune Delima*, a tanker that carried seven tons of diesel fuel worth $3 million.

"Dark Passage" (October 2007) chronicled the heist and the exploits of machete-wielding pirates with names like Johnny Batam and Beach Boy. The pirates actually showed Gwin how to commandeer a ship by shimmying up the stern with a bamboo pole.

The article caught the attention of filmmaker Michael Mann, producer of *The Aviator* and director of *Heat*, *The Insider* and *Collateral*, among others. He and Gwin met to discuss making a feature film about modern piracy and setting the film in the region. Gwin says the film is in the early stages of development and is thrilled that Mann, a stickler for detail, is at the helm.

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Left: A former member of the Viet Cong told me that during the war he'd used Saigon's labyrinth of alleyways to move through the city undetected. "We always knew we could escape into the small streets," he told me. Note the sliver of light at the top created by a few inches of space between the balconies of buildings facing each other. Hopefully, the neighbors like each other and don't mind being seen in their underwear.
NO STRANGER to edgy, dark and downright dangerous places, Gwin has also covered the Sahara since 2005, when he traveled to Niger to report on an archaeology dig in the desert. That led to an assignment covering a rebellion by Niger’s Tuareg population, the famous “blue men of the desert.” He and a photographer embedded with a band of Tuareg rebels in the Air Mountains, where they navigated mine-littered byways and spent much of their time scanning the skies for Niger military helicopters hunting the rebels. As he says, “When you’re crossing long stretches of massive sand dunes, there really isn’t any place to hide.”

The story of the Tuareg led him to Timbuktu, the ancient desert city in neighboring Mali. His January 2011 article, “The Telltale Scribes of Timbuktu,” was selected for inclusion in The Best American Travel Writing 2012 and earned the Lowell Thomas Award from the Society of American Travel Writers for best foreign travel story. The judges praised Gwin’s work, describing his writing as “so filled with atmosphere and memorable people it might have been written by John le Carré. The name itself is a veritable synonym for a place so far removed it epitomizes the other side of the world. And the writer takes us there — with facts, history and unforgettable descriptions.”

Gwin’s article begins with how Islamic terrorists over the years had established bases in Northern Mali’s vast desert wilderness and were kidnapping Westerners and holding them for ransom, a situation that had practically strangled tourism in the city. It then moves elegantly into complex sub-stories about ancient and cherished fragments of books, letters and manuscripts recovered from caravans or housed in private libraries that remained after the Moroccan army looted and dispersed the city’s great libraries in the 16th century.

Gwin also managed to weave in threads of romance by telling the story of a Green Beret sent to Timbuktu to train Malian soldiers to fight the terrorists. The serviceman met a local woman, fell in love and converted to Islam so that they would be allowed to marry, although in the end the marriage did not take place.

Through the years — and numerous visits — Gwin has developed close ties with people in the region. “Watching what’s happening there is really painful because Timbuktu and the rest of northern Mali have been taken over by the extremists,” he says. “Now a branch of Al Qaeda controls the area. It’s a tragedy. A lot of the people I know have had to flee. They’ve lost everything — homes, businesses, livestock. Others are being forced to live under an extreme interpretation of Sharia. In some cases the terrorists have forced their sons to join them.”

Gwin says he’s eager to get back to the region, but gaining access to Timbuktu and the surrounding occupied areas is highly dangerous. “Not just for me, but for any of my friends there who would try to help me,” he says. “It’s just not worth the risk.”

RISK IS SOMETHING both Gwin and his wife, Cathy, have adjusted to. “My wife, in addition to being the love of my life, has been incredibly supportive about my assignments. She’s never flinched, never once,” he says. “I’ll come home and say, ‘Honey, I’m going away to do a story on pirates!’ She’s never freaked out or told me not to go. We have this understanding that I won’t do anything crazy. On the other hand, she’s never asked me to define what crazy is.”

Gwin, the father of two young girls, gets the “How dangerous is your job?” question often. The unglamorous truth, he says, is that the dangers
that keep him awake before a trip are things that people don’t think about, such as weird diseases you might contract in a place where there’s little healthcare, or car accidents that happen as a result of poorly maintained roads or “hellhound” drivers.

One of his recent stories, “Rhino Wars” (March 2012), took him deep into the Zimbabwean bush to follow a game ranger and his recruits as they hunted for rhinoceros poachers. Tagging along on a nighttime patrol, Gwin heard gunshots reverberating in the darkness — and suddenly found himself joining in hot pursuit of the suspected poachers.

Poachers hunt and kill rhinos for their prized horns, which on the Asian black market can rival the price of gold or cocaine, according to Gwin. The coveted horns are ground up and used for traditional Asian medicines that some believe can help cancer patients, reduce fevers, improve circulation and prevent strokes, among other things. For the story Gwin interviewed an incarcerated rhino poacher, a user of Asian medicines, members of the medical community, and a South African farmer who raises rhinos to sustainably (and humanely) harvest rhino horn.

Considering the conservation and cultural issues surrounding rhino horn, the story opened the door to the complex nature of the subject. Says Gwin, “At first I thought it was a straightforward poaching story, but the deeper I got into it the more I began to realize it was much more than just one magazine story.” Since the story came out last spring, Gwin has continued to research the subject and follow many of the characters he profiled in the magazine for a book to be published by National Geographic Books. As rhino poaching reaches “epidemic” proportions, with 668 rhinos slaughtered in South Africa alone last year, the timing for the tome couldn’t be better.

GWIN IS CLEARLY GRATEFUL for the opportunities National Geographic has given him to see the world and meet fascinating people, and for the meticulous planning that permeates each article and each issue.

He recalls one of the earliest projects he contributed to for National Geographic: “It was one of those maps that fell in your lap when you open up the magazine. The work that goes into those things is unbelievable.” Gwin and a team of experts crafted a map supplement depicting Native American history. Cartographers, Native American leaders, historians, artists and fact checkers collaborated on the project, which took nearly two months to complete. “This is the kind of thing I would have taped up in my bedroom when I was a kid,” he says. “The thought of that map helping to shape some kid’s sense of the world and spark his or her imagination is very satisfying.”

Working at National Geographic has helped Gwin appreciate his chance to be part of the magazine’s heritage and legacy. “Occasionally I’ll get to meet some of our retired writers and photographers, who always have amazing stories about exploring the Amazon or the Himalayas in the 1940s and ’50s. The place is steeped in the lore of exploration.”

Respected and lauded for its storytelling, craftsmanship and attention to detail, National Geographic has earned the trust of generations of readers. Gwin points out that almost 70 years ago, “[General] Eisenhower came to Geographic for maps when planning the Allied invasion of France. The badge of National Geographic is a good one and has a long history.”

It’s a badge that Peter Gwin is proud to wear.

Tina Underwood lives in Greenville and writes for the Department of Marketing and Public Relations at Furman.
BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY: NADIA SAVOVA

TRAVELER MAGAZINE, published by National Geographic, recently launched a “Travelers of the Year” program to recognize “individuals who explore the world with passion and purpose.” Contributing editor George W. Stone described the 10 inaugural recipients as “dedicated voluntourists, green-minded adventurers and culture-embracing pilgrims [who] remind us that we have the power to reach beyond the bubble of our daily lives, learn from locals in far-flung places and make a difference both around the world and in our own neighborhoods.”

One of the honorees was Nadezhda (Nadia) Savova ’06, a world traveler since her Furman days, during which she spent time in Spain, Cuba, Peru, Mexico, South Korea and points between and beyond. Her academic talent, energy and high-octane personality helped her earn the Donaldson-Watkins Medal for General Excellence when she graduated. And her interest in travel obviously never waned during her years of graduate work at Princeton University.

Here’s Stone’s article about her, reprinted with permission from the November-December issue of TRAVELER.

“Travel has taught me that the best things that happen to us are those we never planned for or could even imagine,” says 29-year-old Nadezhda Savova. When she inherited her great-grandmother’s crumbling house in Gabrovo, in her native Bulgaria, the budding anthropologist turned a burden into an opportunity.

She organized a team of local volunteers and rebuilt the structure into a community-owned Bread and Cultural Center where neighbors could come to bake loaves and form friendships. The project was such a success that the peripatetic Princeton Ph.D. student (she’s traveled to 76 countries) established similar programs in a dozen countries, from Israel to Brazil, Russia, South Korea and the United States.

“Making bread is extremely low-cost and merely takes time, creating the perfect opportunity to talk, listen, and learn,” Savova says. “By breaking bread with people of all walks of life, even feuding groups could come together.”

The Bread Houses Network has evolved into a community-development model that can be replicated almost anywhere, provided there’s an oven and an open mind.

“One of my favorite exchanges was in Cape Town,” Savova says. “An elderly white man and a young black orphan, who otherwise would never meet, laughed, joked, and baked for hours. In a short time, they formed a fascinating relationship, almost like grandparent to grandchild.”

NGT: Who is your hero and why?
NS: I am deeply inspired by the women I’ve met in some of the poorest places in the world. From the favelas in Brazil to the shantytowns in India, from the descendants of the Maya in Mexico to the Bedouin tribes in Morocco, the women often do both men’s and women’s work, yet ceaselessly find the strength to smile and show genuine hospitality to strangers.

NGT: What do you never leave home without when you travel?
NS: A small bread stamp, in the Orthodox Christian tradition, with the image of St. Nicholas, the protector saint of travelers.

NGT: What was your most surprising food experience on your travels?
NS: Beyond experiences like crispy grasshoppers in Mexico and fried tarantulas in Laos, the food that surprised me most was dipping French fries into a Frosty — my “rite of passage” into American college culture.

NGT: What inspired you to travel in the way that has resulted in your being chosen as a Traveler of the Year?
NS: I have always been instinctively drawn to bakeries when I travel because the soothing aroma of hot bread makes me feel at home. Over the past three years, I got more interested in breadmaking and began using it to bring diverse, even feuding, people together.

NGT: Name three places that you’d like to visit before you die.
NS: Syria’s Saydnaya Holy Mountain. It’s one of the most holy places for Christians in the Middle East, where locals still speak Aramaic, the language of Christ. New Zealand for its fascinating Maori culture and majestic natural beauty. Timbuktu. It was described in a book of African tales my mom read to me as a child and gave us both a rare outlet for imagined travel while we were locked behind the Iron Curtain in Communist Bulgaria.

NGT: Name one place you’ve been to that you think everyone should visit.
NS: I must mention two places, since both are amazing and in the same part of the world: Cappadocia in Turkey is a valley of wind-eroded yellow sandstone formations dotted with caves and rock-hewn monasteries, while Bulgaria’s Rose Valley is a plain of lavish green and pink when the roses bloom in May.
NGT: What’s next?

NS: I will be developing five new Bread House programs across Bulgaria funded by an American foundation that supports our efforts to help strengthen civil society after socialism. [F]

UPDATE: In a recent email Nadia expanded on her new project: “I just defended my Ph.D. in cultural anthropology, and my topic was researching sustainable development and the role of community arts for local social cohesions. This is where I discovered the key role of traditional foods and their effectiveness in nurturing community.

“Why bread? It is perhaps the most universally known food (bread being made across the globe not from wheat alone but also gluten-free ingredients), and bread is also a uniquely cherished, special food, often considered sacred for the multiple transformations it undertakes from the grain and for its archetypal associations with notions and memories of home, family, safety, fellowship and care.

“Collective bread-making is also among the most universal art forms, resembling pottery and sculpture, conducive to sculpting and decorating, attracting people of all ages and walks of life. It does not require any special skills, talent, or education, making it a very effective tool for inter-generational and inter-cultural dialogue and for integration of people with disabilities. We also employ collective bread-making as an educational tool to teach about nutrition, in particular on issues of gluten-free breads and baking, linking bread to all other foods, such as vegetables, fruits, cheeses, soups, etc., pointing to a holistically healthy lifestyle.”

Learn more at www.breadhousesnetwork.org.

Nadia Savova with loaves of bread decorated with traditional Bulgarian patterns.
Raising up Riley: An endowment for the Riley Institute

"I am continually honored, humbled and proud of this remarkable organization for giving young people at Furman the opportunity to develop civic leadership and public service — all to the wonderful benefit of our state and our nation."

— RICHARD W. RILEY

YOU CAN'T GO FAR in South Carolina without hearing the name Dick Riley, a two-term governor and former U.S. Secretary of Education. The 1954 Furman graduate is also the immediate past chair of the university's board of trustees, and his name graces Furman's mathematics and computer science building.

Since 1999, the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership at Furman has sponsored an array of programs, symposia and conferences about important public policy issues. The institute, whose work brings top names and major attention to Furman, is dedicated to the belief that education and economic development are inextricably linked.

In addition to the international leaders the institute hosts and its central place in public discussions about important topics, it involves students in all of its activities, which include opportunities to meet such prominent leaders as John Glenn, Newt Gingrich, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Tom Brokaw and Marian Wright Edelman. Furman alumni such as Mike McConnell '66 (former Director of National Intelligence) and Alexander Stubb '92 (Minister for European Affairs and Foreign Trade of Finland) have also participated in Riley-sponsored events.

These programs are strong recruiting tools for Furman, as is the institute's Emerging Public Leaders program, which brings high school seniors to campus during the summer for a week of in-depth sessions and conversations with local, state and national leaders in public life.

The institute is working to build a $5 million endowment to sustain its work in four critical areas: refining strategies for public education, extending a network of innovative high schools, expanding the Diversity Leaders Initiative, and strengthening economic and social change.

“We hope it will become the premier small institute for education and diversity policy in the country,” says Jacki Martin, the Riley Institute's associate director.

To date more than $2 million has been raised. Says institute director Don Gordon, professor of political science, “Dick Riley's focus on people-centered public policy, his vision for bringing everyone into the social and economic mainstream, and his attention to common sense and practical ways for making the state and country a better place are of great importance. With the endowment's help, the Riley Institute will sustain and build upon this remarkable legacy.”

Part of that legacy is the Diversity Leaders Initiative, which over the years has brought together 1,100 leaders from the corporate, public and nonprofit sectors of South Carolina. Participants have engaged in 120 service projects across the state, addressing such needs as housing, education and the environment. The graduates remain in touch through the One Carolina organization and often become some of the university's most avid advocates.

The institute has also spearheaded a public-private education partnership, resulting in a $3 million grant in 2011 that has established two science-technology-engineering-mathematics high schools in South Carolina's impoverished 1-95 corridor. They are part of a nationwide network that transforms schools into innovative learning environments through powerful teaching and an emphasis on technology. In so doing they help to create intellectual capital and new opportunities for students.

Fundraising for the endowment kicked off with a $500,000 lead gift from David Trone '77 and his wife, June (page 4). Trone, who served on the Furman board with Riley, says, “Dick Riley is that rare man who has made tremendous achievements in policymaking and earned the affection and admiration of everyone his life has touched. He is one of Furman's most prominent alumni, and his work to change the lives of children and others in South Carolina and across the nation will long reflect positively on the university.

"It is an honor for Furman to continue his work through the Riley Institute. June and I wanted to set in motion the fundraising necessary to sustain that work — and his legacy."

Contact mike.gatchell@furman.edu to learn more. Because Furman Matters stories by Kate Hoffer Dabbs '09, Web communications coordinator.
Athletics upgrades illustrate donor dollars at work

"IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME." This quote, made famous in the 1989 film *Field of Dreams*, is also applicable to Furman. Only in the Furman version, it plays more like, “If they fund it, it will come.”

Furman relies on the generosity of donors to support capital projects and building upgrades. Several athletics projects have recently benefited from designated contributions, and are still seeking support.

**REK Center for Intercollegiate Golf:**
Phase I of the golf center revitalization is complete, with a new short-game facility and renovated practice putting greens. Phase II of the $1.32 million project focuses on expanding the REK Center and a proposed learning center.

**Baseball:** This spring baseball unveiled a spacious new clubhouse, located down the first base line at Latham Stadium. It features indoor batting cages, coaches’ offices and locker rooms. Other additions to the complex will include an expanded press box and improvements in concessions and seating. To date, $1.85 million has been raised toward the $3.5 million goal.

**Pepsi Stadium:** The recently completed, $615,000 softball stadium press box provides enhanced coaches’ offices and additional game-day amenities.

**Soccer Fieldhouse (coming soon):**
The $1.5 million, 5,300-square-foot facility will be located between the west end of Stone Stadium and Latham Stadium. It will have locker rooms, an officials room, concession stands, and a second-story viewing deck. Furman has raised approximately $1.2 million toward its goal, with a $450,000 lead gift from Graham Seagaves ’00 and his wife, Jarrell Starnes Seagaves ’00.

**Football Complex:** Late November brought the demolition of the Paladin Stadium press box. Taking its place will be a $12 million, four-story complex (see page 35).

To support the athletics upgrades, contact clint.hill@furman.edu or ken.pettus@furman.edu.

Fine arts initiative helps strengthen town-grown ties

WHEN FURMAN WAS BASED in downtown Greenville, it was the epicenter of the city’s cultural scene, frequently playing host to orchestral productions, concerts, plays and festivals. Now, through the impetus of Furman’s Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, gifts from university benefactors and two major grants — $800,000 from the Mellon Foundation and $2 million from The Duke Endowment — a fine arts initiative reconnecting Furman and Greenville is under way.

A key aspect of the initiative is Partners in the Arts, coordinated by Anna Barbre Joiner of the music faculty. It connects Furman to the Peace Center for the Performing Arts, the Upcountry History Museum and other organizations to strengthen students’ access to the professional arts field. More Furman arts events will be held downtown, and Partners in the Arts is collaborating with the Peace Center to sponsor such programs as February’s appearance by the Boston Pops, conducted by Keith Lockhart ’81. At the Upcountry History Museum, campus departments will have an ongoing presence through exhibits, speaker series and other collaborations.

Mellon Foundation funds have allowed the music department to hire a musicologist, and it is working to add a position in arts administration. Theatre arts has used grant funds to provide enhanced acting instruction for students and upgrades of its stage equipment.

Thanks to a donation from trustee Todd Ruppert and his wife, Karen, the art department is involved in a major project with Peter Wexler, a New York artist and Broadway set designer. Furman is digitizing much of Wexler’s professional work, including sculptures, set models, sketches, paintings and photos. An exhibit of Wexler’s work is scheduled this fall at the Upcountry History Museum.

Furman also recently hired Marta Lanier, an admission counselor devoted to recruiting fine arts students, and adopted a marketing strategy to highlight the university’s strength in the arts.

Contact anna.joiner@furman.edu to learn more about Partners in the Arts. To learn more about the overall arts initiative, contact john.beckford@furman.edu.
Shaner leaves legacy of leadership, strong teaching

DAVID SHANER may have “retired” as Herring Professor of Philosophy and Asian Studies at the close of fall semester, but he is moving to an even more time-consuming and demanding job that he has created for himself.

He will continue his management consulting work, helping American businesses retain and increase American jobs — a worthy cause if there ever was one. He has consulted for Duracell, Gillette, JW Aluminum, Ryobi, and Owens Corning Composites, to name a few, and has helped them to better understand the correlation of workplace happiness, retention and profit.

He leaves quite a legacy at Furman. Most people on campus have heard the tales of the philosopher who barely sleeps (he only “breathes”), eats one meal a day, served as a deputy sheriff, was Olympic Valley USA ski team material, is an Aikido master, and could pin any one of us on the floor with a single arm sweep.

The legends are true, but even better is the reality that we’ve seen every day. Since joining the philosophy faculty in 1982, David has been a caring teacher, a prolific writer and editor, and a leader and role model for faculty and students alike. He was philosophy department chair for 15 years, during which we grew from four full-time philosophers to eight.

He was also one of the founding members of Furman’s Asian Studies department, now a vibrant program. And he brought the Peace of Place, a beautiful former Buddhist temple, from Japan to Furman — an undertaking that involved fundraising, consciousness raising, and five years of hard work.

We will miss David’s leadership, strength and wit. As one of his former students — I took the introductory philosophy course from him in 1990 — I know firsthand the impact of this dedicated and caring teacher. I would not be in the department without him, and I would likely not even be a philosopher.

The power of good teaching is the real legacy that he leaves for all of us.

— SARAH WORTH

The author, a 1992 graduate, is chair of the philosophy department.

In case you needed confirmation

THE FURMAN CAMPUS was recently named one of the 10 “Prettiest College Campuses in the World” by Delta’s Sky magazine, and listed among “America’s Most Beautiful College Campuses” by Forbes and Travel & Leisure. Forbes said: “Even if it wasn’t a college, the natural beauty of the lush South Carolina landscape, Asia-inspired gardens and sparkling lake at Furman University would be deemed postcard perfect. Add to this a collection of buildings as diverse as a former Buddhist temple, an environmentally sustainable show home, the school’s signature Bell Tower and some very fine examples of Georgian architecture, and you have a beautiful spot to invest the next four years of study.”
Meritorious advisor: Jessica Hennessey

A Q&A with the assistant professor of economics, a recipient of the 2012 Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Advising.

Hometown: “My dad was in the Air Force, so I never had one.”

Degrees: Carleton College (undergraduate), University of Maryland (Ph.D.)

Arrived at Furman: 2009

Some might call your alma mater, Carleton, the Furman of Minnesota. How do the schools compare?

The difference in weather is probably the most striking. While I miss having an outdoor ice skating rink in the middle of campus, I really enjoy sun and warmer winters here! Carleton and Furman are similar when it comes to what I consider the important characteristics of a college: small, engaging classes, meaningful student-faculty interactions, and a sense of community.

What’s the best piece of advice you ever received?

Don’t be afraid to admit that you don’t know something. Someone told me this as I was preparing for my first formal interviews as a senior in college. If you don’t know something, then that opens the door to learning more. That’s when having a liberal arts background — being able to ask good questions, to be resourceful — has value.

As a student, did you have an advisor who was especially effective?

Two faculty members at Carleton played important advising roles in my life. One was my formal academic advisor, the other a faculty member with whom I developed a connection over the years. The most important thing I learned from them was to have confidence in my own decision-making; to do my research, ask good questions, and then rely on my instincts. As long as you do that it’s hard to make a bad decision. Now I recognize other lessons they taught me, and I appreciate that the advising relationship doesn’t end when students graduate. This is why it was important for me to come to a smaller school — I wanted to find a place that valued building those lasting connections.

You worked for several years with Lexcon, an economic consulting firm, before entering graduate school. How does this experience inform your teaching and advising?

Lexcon provides expert witness testimony on a variety of legal cases. The work is directly related to topics we discuss in class. I refer to price-fixing cases when talking about oligopolies and talk about how we tested for discrimination in lending practices when we review binary dependent variable regression models. While it’s interesting to bring this real world experience to classes, I think it has been equally valuable to draw on my private sector experience when talking with students about what they can do with an economics major. I can also talk about the application and interview experience — from both sides.

If you hadn’t gone into academia, what other career might you have pursued?

One of the things I loved while working at Lexcon was working with large datasets. It sounds nerdy, but I had fun programming and solving data puzzles. I think I would have continued in this area, whether it was working on policy research or for a private firm.

Excerpt from a letter nominating Jessica Hennessey for the award:

“Beyond her office hours with student advisees, Dr. Hennessey does everything she can to help and assist students in making their time at Furman as meaningful as it can be, with her end goal that they be as successful as possible after graduation. She transcends all roles as a mentor to any Furman student who crosses her path.”
Meritorious advisor: Brett Barclay

A Q&A with the assistant director of continuing education, a recipient of the 2012 A Lester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Advising.

Hometown: Boston, Mass.

Degrees: Pennsylvania State University (undergraduate), Widener University (M.Ed.)

Arrived at Furman: 2007

To what do you attribute the growth of Undergraduate Evening Studies at Furman?
There’s a rapidly changing job market where people are looking to make themselves more marketable, more secure in their existing position, or more “promotable.” Also, we have managed to stay financially competitive through moderate tuition increases and by avoiding the addition of fees. Probably the most important factor, though, is our commitment to promoting Furman’s reputation and history of academic excellence. We also enjoy exceptional support and guidance from faculty and administration — academic vice president and dean John Beckford, senior associate dean Marianne Pierce, Suzanne Summers of business and accounting, and Brad Bechtold, executive director of continuing education.

Describe the typical UES student.
That’s hard: we have a very diverse student population. What they have in common is that all have made a strong commitment to completing their degree. Most of our students are between 28 and 35 years old. More than 75 percent are married, and more than 80 percent have children. Roughly 93 percent work full time. Their professions range from accounting to finance, law, hospitality, sales, and a variety of other fields.

What sparked your interest in working with nontraditional students?
It really stems from my experience of working and going to school at the same time. I also changed my profession after working in a different field for more than 10 years. When I was in graduate school, my research interests centered on how nontraditional students learn and how various teaching methods and emerging technologies can improve and enhance the learning process. Many of these teaching principles still intrigue me.

As a student, did you have an advisor who was especially effective?
Dr. Rob Rager was my major advisor. One of the most impactful was that I needed to consider the development of a valid purpose for my life, and by doing so to consider my academic competencies and personal life goals as well as the career options available to me.

What’s the best piece of advice (academic or otherwise) you ever received?
Understand the process you use when making decisions. Whether the decision is academic, personal or professional, they are all intrinsically linked, so the process you use to decide in one will undoubtedly have an effect on the others. Understanding your process will help you determine the best path to take and the resources you’ll need to arrive at your destination.

What’s the most common question you get from students in the advising process?
It would focus on the opportunities available after graduating from Furman. This is always a great opportunity to talk about how to market their liberal arts education — how their skills and abilities in critical analysis, problem-solving and communication make them a more valuable asset to potential employers.

Excerpt from a letter nominating Brett Barclay for the award:
“Brett knows all UES students personally and works with them individually not just to craft a course of study, but to place them with professors who will work well with them. He is very sensitive to the special needs and concerns of adult learners, but does not let them use their circumstances as an excuse. He wants them to get a quality, Furman-level education, and holds them to their responsibilities.”
JAMES L. CRENSHAW “55, Reading Job: A Literary and Theological Commentary
(Smyth & Helwys, 2012). The author is the Robert L. Flowers Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Duke University and is a leading scholar on Old Testament wisdom literature. Leo G. Perdue of Brite Divinity School says Reading Job is “rich in insight and a brilliant contribution to scholarship . . . this volume should be found on the bookshelves of every biblical scholar who is interested in wisdom literature and the interpretation of Job.” Carol Newsom of Candler Theological Seminary at Emory University says, “Crenshaw has written a commentary marked not only by careful exegetical but also by deep insight into the many perennial issues raised by the book of Job.” Reading Job is part of the publisher’s “Reading the Old Testament” commentary series.

PHYLLIS TICKLE, M.A. ’61, Emergence Christianity (Baker Books, 2012). Tickle has written more than two dozen books on religion and is founding editor of the religion department at Publishers Weekly. Emergence examines the current state and future direction of Christianity. Philip Clayton, dean of Claremont School of Theology, says, “Take a heart practiced in faith. Add the mind of a finely trained historian and the eye of a keen observer of religion. Add gifted writing, unfailing bluntness, and deep wisdom, and you get Phyllis Tickle. These pages offer you nothing less than the future of the church, chronicle by an author who welcomes this ‘great emergence’ without an ounce of fear. It’s a story you can’t afford to miss.” Visit www.phyllistickle.com.

JACK CASSADY ’62, The Best of Monday Funnies and More (Xlibris, 2012). Cassady, a past member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, is an artist, cartoonist, writer, art director and retired Army lieutenant colonel. This collection includes some of his best visual and verbal humor based on his long-running Internet/email weekly feature, “Cassady’s Monday Funnies.” A resident of Murphy, N.C., and part-time instructor at the J.C. Campbell Folk School, he has published his work throughout the United States and abroad. He is a regular contributor to Heartland Boating magazine and manages a distance learning program for aspiring cartoonists. Visit www.toonmaker.com.

GEORGE SINGLETON ’80, Stray Decorum (Dzanc Books, 2012). The Atlanta Journal-Constitution has called Singleton “the unchallenged king of the comic Southern short story.” Novelist Ron Rash says, “Nobody writes like George, and, to me, that’s a rare thing. If somebody just pulled a page out and asked me to read a paragraph, I would know it was his.” In his fifth collection of short stories, Singleton presents 11 tales that bring small-town South Carolina alive. All were previously published in such journals as Atlantic Monthly, Oxford American and The Georgia Review. Singleton teaches creative writing at the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville. Visit www.georgeesingleton.net.

DOTTIE PEPPER ’87 and Scott Fuller, Bogey Tees Off: A Lesson About Being Truthful (Scout Pines Publishing, 2012). This children’s book, illustrated by Kenneth Templeton, is the first in a planned series of 18. It tells the story of Bogey the Range Ball, who is tired of his dead-end job at the practice range until John the Ball Washer helps Bogey pursue his life’s passion to become a pro tour golf ball. The publisher says the book “offers a unique way for kids and families to be introduced to the game of golf while promoting life lessons and values that are applicable on and off the golf course.” Twenty percent of the book’s proceeds benefit Junior Golf initiatives. Pepper, a longtime star on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour and more recently a television commentator, has been named an independent director of the PGA of America Board of Directors.

DAVID MATHIS ’03 and John Piper, co-editors, Finish the Mission: Bringing the Gospel to the Unreached and Unengaged (Crossway, 2012). The publisher describes this work as “no ordinary missions book” and says, “From astronomy to exegesis, from apologetics to the Global South, from being missional at home to employing our resources in the global cause, Finish the Mission aims to breathe fresh missionary fire into a new generation.” Mathis is an elder at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, and executive pastoral assistant to Piper. Visit www.desiringgod.org.

FROM FACULTY

AARON PASSELL, Building the New Urbanism: Places, Professions, and Profits In the American Metropolitan Landscape (Routledge, 2012). Passell, who joined the sociology department this year, writes about the New Urbanism movement and its recent influence on suburban design, planning and development. The book situates the growth of the New Urbanism in the history of urban and suburban policy and development. It builds an account of the movement’s founding and development, linking its progress to the making of new places, and investigates how the movement capitalized upon dynamics within architecture, planning and the home-buying public to recruit support from among those groups. The book’s target audience is scholars and students of urban and suburban development, sociology, geography and planning.

PAUL THOMAS, editor, Becoming and Being a Teacher: Controverting Traditional Norms to Create New Democratic Realities (Peter Lang, 2012). Education professor Thomas’ latest book features chapters from Furman colleagues Scott Henderson, Dawn Mitchell, Katie Stover and Mike Svec, plus contributions from more than 30 other educators. The editor says, “The book unmasks tensions among economic, political and educational goals in the context of becoming and being a teacher. Chapters frame becoming and being a teacher within commitments to democracy and political literacy while confronting neoliberal assumptions about American society, universal public education, and education reform. A wide variety of teachers and scholars discuss teacher preparation and teaching through evidence-based examinations of complex problems and solutions facing teachers, education policy, the public, and students.”
Commentary

“The data is clear. Daily PE is not only going to promote longevity of life and quality of life, but why kids are in school to begin with — to learn.”

— HEALTH SCIENCES PROFESSOR JULIAN REED, IN A GREENVILLE NEWS ARTICLE ON RESEARCH THAT LINKS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY WITH IMPROVED BRAIN FUNCTION.

“[Tim Scott] can say all the things Jim DeMint says, which when Jim says it can sound sometimes to the outside world as pretty harsh. Tim says exactly the same things as Jim does, but he talks about his upbringing and the mentor who taught him the principles of making it in the world. He’s really credible as a conservative who has a heart for disadvantaged people.”

— BRENT NELSEN, POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, IN A POLITICO STORY AFTER SCOTT WAS APPOINTED TO SUCCEED DEMINT AS THE JUNIOR SENATOR FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

“We can no longer escape the indictment that we are, at least in part, a violent people, or that to be an American now means being as addicted to spectacles of destruction as we are to trans fats or smart phones. Nor can we deny that the language we use to describe the acts (‘unimaginable,’ ‘horrible,’ ‘incomprehensible,’ ‘heinous’) or the persons responsible (‘demonic,’ ‘diabolical,’ ‘sick,’ ‘demented,’ ‘disturbed’) has with overuse gradually lost its power to move or teach us, or to illuminate for us the path ahead . . . we may well have become numb to that which is slowly destroying us, anesthetized against the enduring pain and outrage that can lead to sustained change and improvement.”

— COMMUNICATION STUDIES PROFESSOR SEAN O’ROURKE, IN A GREENVILLE NEWS OP-ED AFTER THE SCHOOL SHOOTINGS IN NEWTOWN, CONN.

“You are excluding a quarter of mankind when you say Islam is incompatible with democracy. It’s important to step back and give people the room to define for themselves what it means to be democratic and Muslim.”

— ABDULLAH AHMED AN-NAIM, PROFESSOR OF LAW AT EMORY UNIVERSITY, SPEAKING IN FURMAN’S WORLD RELIGIONS SYMPOSIUM SERIES.

“We want poverty to no longer be an abstraction. We want students to learn and remember the stories of those in poverty.”

— SUSAN ZEGER, DIRECTOR OF INTERNSHIPS, ON A $40,000 GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION TO SUPPORT INTERNSHIPS FOR POVERTY STUDIES STUDENTS.

“To be voted to the Pro Bowl by your peers, the coaches and the fans, that is something that is always in the back of your mind as a player, but to have it come true means so much . . . When you have a back like Adrian Peterson, running the ball is going to be your [team’s] identity. I’m just happy I’ve been able to contribute to the team this year and Adrian’s season.”

— JEROME FELTON ’07, FULLBACK FOR THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS, ON WWW.VIKINGS.COM. FELTON, WHO DID NOT HAVE A RUSHING ATTEMPT DURING THE SEASON, MADE THE PRO BOWL FOR HIS BLOCKING PROWESS, WHICH HELPED PETERSON GAIN 2,097 YARDS.

“Being accepted [in Europe] as a great artist, through reviews and opportunities . . . was the pinnacle. I’m just humbled by it . . . I always was thankful and grateful and knew that these were blessings.”

— SARAH REESE ’71, INTERNATIONAL OPERA PERFORMER NOW TEACHING IN THE GREENVILLE AREA, IN THE GREENVILLE NEWS.

“Furman takes the security and privacy of information seriously. We know that hackers probe Furman systems looking for vulnerabilities, and we need to remain vigilant.”

— FRED MILLER, FURMAN’S CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, AFTER AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A SERIOUS DATA BREACH AT THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.
Soccer style: Zimmerman drafted, DeVita honored

WALKER ZIMMERMAN (right) has made major contributions to Furman soccer during the past two years, and now he’s prepared to move on to the next level.

Zimmerman, a center back, member of Furman’s Class of ’15 and All-America performer, was the seventh selection by FC Dallas, in the Major League Soccer SuperDraft January 17. The two-time All-Southern Conference star was also a regular for the United States U-20 national team in 2012.

The Lawrenceville, Ga., native described draft day as “a dream come true. Today marks the end of my youth career and the beginning of my professional career.”

Paladin coach Doug Allison said, “Walker has represented Furman with class on and off the field over the last two years and I know he will do the same in Dallas.”

Furman compiled a 26-8-7 record during Zimmerman’s two years. He is the eighth Furman product since 2000 to be selected in the MLS SuperDraft and the first since 2008. FC Dallas opened its season March 2.

On the women’s side, Stephanie DeVita ’16 was named Southern Conference Player of the Year for 2012 and made the National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-Southeast Region second team.

A forward from Simpsonville, S.C., DeVita was also the conference’s Freshman of the Year after pacing the league with 19 goals and 42 points. She led all NCAA Division I freshmen in goals, points and match-winning goals (7), and scored at least one goal in 16 of Furman’s 22 matches. The Lady Paladins finished with a 16-3-3 record.

Out with the old . . .

AFTER 31 YEARS of service to the university, media and football program, the press box at Paladin Stadium came to a crashing end November 28 to make way for a new, much improved version.

At 44,000 square feet it will be seven times larger than its predecessor. The four-story building will include a two-story operations complex, locker rooms, coaches’ offices, meeting space, a fan-friendly Heritage Hall, club-level area with concessions, a presidential suite, and a high-tech press box.

Furman has almost reached its fundraising goal of $12 million for the press box, but donations are still sought for the facility.

To support the new press box, contact ken.pettus@furman.edu or clint.hill@furman.edu.
PLANS IN WORKS FOR NEW ALUMNI DIRECTORY

GREETINGS FROM CHERRYDALE! If you’re reading this, the Mayan calendar was wrong, the world did not end, and presumably the country has not stepped off the fiscal cliff.

And life goes on at Furman, with the Office of Admission working hard to enroll the Class of 2017. Applications are in; now we just have to entice them to come.

Several campus construction projects, among them the football stadium and Trone Student Center, are progressing well. Winter sports are winding down and spring sports are swinging into gear, and students are once again breaking out the shorts and T-shirts. Of course, some of them wear shorts and T-shirts all the time. Ah, youth.

LET ME TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY to fill you in on a couple of projects the Alumni Association is pursuing.

The Furman database has more than 35,000 names of alumni, parents and friends. Lots of marketers would love to get their hands on it. I probably get three or four requests a week from companies that tell me how much money we could make if they were allowed to market to the folks in our database. Trust me, we are very protective of your information.

That being said, we recently entered into contracts with two companies that will be contacting you in 2013. We have thoroughly researched these companies and are confident that they can be trusted with your information.

One is Publishing Concepts, also known as PCI. This is a family-owned company that has been publishing alumni directories since 1921.

We published our most recent alumni directory in 2006, and at the time we assumed that it would be our last printed directory, figuring that in the ensuing years technology would be advanced enough that individuals with proper clearance would be able to access our database and find limited information about their fellow alumni. But we’re not quite there yet.

We believe PCI will produce a directory that will be well-organized, serve as a good networking tool, and benefit both alumni and Furman. For the university, it allows us to update our database all at once. We are constantly updating piecemeal as we get individual pieces of information, but large projects like directories bring in a tremendous amount of information in a timely, organized manner. Plus, despite the advent of tablets and Kindles and smart phones and whatever, many people still like to have a hard copy that they can reference at their leisure.

PCI will be contacting you via email and postcard. The easiest thing for you to do will be to visit the company’s secure website and update your information. If you do not use the website, someone from the company will call you. If you have any concerns about the process or the company, please contact me (tom.triplitt@furman.edu, 1-800-787-7533).

You may also be hearing from Liberty Mutual Insurance. Furman works with a group called Collegiate Insurance Resources, and they represent Liberty Mutual to their clients. Because college graduates are good insurance risks, Liberty Mutual can offer you discounts on home and auto insurance. We are not trying to replace your local agent, but we believe Liberty Mutual offers good value, and the products would be especially useful with our very mobile young alumni. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have about our relationship with Liberty Mutual.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES: The Alumni Office is planning a mini-cruise for the fall of 2013. It’s on a small, 130-passenger ship named The Yorktown, which can navigate shallow rivers and harbors.

The trip will leave from Charleston, S.C., November 14 and end in Jacksonville, Fla., November 21. It’s a beautiful cruise along the Intracoastal Waterway and will offer shore opportunities to study the history and architecture of the area and to play golf at some amazing courses. Watch for information in the mail and on our website, http://alumni.furman.edu.

We are also partnering with Beth Crews, the enthusiastic new director of Furman’s Learning for You program, to offer expanded travel opportunities for alumni. Beth and the Learning for You folks already have some exciting plans in the works, so watch for news from them.

HOMECOMING 2013: Even though it’s nine months away, it’s never too early to begin planning for Homecoming 2013. Furman has a late date for Homecoming this year; it won’t happen until November 8–10, so you’ll almost certainly need your warm clothes. Classes ending in 3 and 8 will celebrate milestone reunions, but everyone is encouraged to return and enjoy the festivities. And you’ll get a close-up view of the revamped and renovated Paladin Stadium as Furman takes on Southern Conference foe Samford.

— TOM TRIPLIJT

The author, a 1976 graduate, is executive director of constituent relations and alumni programs.
56
Jim Keller, who for 45 years has had a
dand in writing most of Furman’s computer
programs, retired from the information
technology services department at the end
of fall semester. Jim was associate director of
the fledgling computer center when the
university’s first computer arrived in 1967,
and from that point he made extensive
contributions to the growth of technology
at Furman. He served as a mathematics
instructor at the university from 1958–60,
then worked for IBM and NASA before
returning. A reception was held in his
honor November 30.

58
Harry Eskew of Macon, Ga., writes hymn
histories for “Noteworthy,” the newsletter of
the Department of Music and Worship
of the Georgia Baptist Convention. The
histories are included on his website,
Singwithunderstanding.com.

64
Roger Capps, a retired missionary,
became interim pastor of Sea Island Chapel
on Hilton Head Island, S.C., in September.

Nancy Barker DuPree of Tuscaloosa,
Ala., continues to work at the University of
Alabama libraries. She is curator of the A.S.
Williams III Americana Collection of books,
maps, manuscripts, photographs and other
materials.

67
John Durst of Columbia, S.C., is the new
president and chief executive officer of the
South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging
Association, formerly the South Carolina
Hospitality Association. He is a former head
of the state Department of Parks, Recreation
and Tourism and worked most recently as
an executive with a public relations firm.

73
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
John Fricks of Jacksonville, Fla., founder
of Atlanta’s Fricks/Forestone Advertising
and principal with the FrixGroup, Inc., has been
named president of Scott-McRae Advertis-
ing, the oldest agency currently operating
in Jacksonville with expertise in financial,
legal, nonprofit, real estate, and travel and
tourism.

76
B. Michael Williams, professor of
percussion at Winthrop University in Rock
Hill, S.C., directed the Winthrop World
Percussion Ensemble in a showcase concert
at the Percussive Arts Society International
Convention in Austin, Texas, November 1,
as winners of the Percussive Arts Society
International World Percussion Competition.
Michael presented a clinic at the convention
titled “Mabira Connections: Harare to San
Francisco.” He recently published six new
compositions for percussion with Bachovich
Music Publications and authored an article
in Percussive Notes magazine titled “John
Bergamo: Percussive Renaissance Man.”

77
Lee Jones Farrar recently retired as
coordinator of the parish nurse ministry
at Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville.

79
John S. Green has completed his MBA
degree in marketing at Strayer University.
His wife, Jen, completed her Ph.D. from
the University of Connecticut. They have
relocated to Bellingham, Wash., where she
is an assistant professor of second language
acquisition in the Department of Elementary
Education at Western Washington Univer-
sity. John plans to work in early childhood
education.

81
Frank Granger received his Ph.D. in adult
education from the University of Georgia in
December. The title of his dissertation was
“Ministry as Collaborative Engagement:
Organizational Learning in Teaching Con-
gregations.” Frank is minister of education
at First Baptist Church of Athens.

MARRIAGE: Cecily Bradford Morris
and Robert Craig Ferguson, February 28, 2012. She is executive director of
Greenwood-Landor Performing Arts
in Greenwood, S.C.

82
Barry L. Ellis, director of bands at the
University of Wisconsin-Pasteville, culmi-
nated his recent sabbatical with the release
of a CD, “The Music and Art of J. Clifton
Williams,” at the Wisconsin Music Educators
Convention in October. The CD features
a number of previously released works by the
American composer, plus newly discovered
pieces. It includes two movements of “Sym-
phonic Dances” that had never been scored
for winds, one of which was scored by
Michael Brown ’84, staff arranger with the
U.S. Army Band’s “Pershing’s Own.”

The CD is available on iTunes and also at

Steve Scott of Durham, N.C., has been
promoted to brigadier general in the
Virginia National Guard. He is the assistant
adjutant general and director of the joint
staff for Joint Force Headquarters in Vir-
ginia, and has more than 30 years of service
in the U.S. Army and Army National Guard.

Ron Williams has joined the Coca-Cola
Company in Atlanta as a principal scientist
in the Corporate Scientific and Regulatory
Affairs group.

83
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
Ronald Cook of Weymouth, Mass., works
with Allscripts, a healthcare software solu-
tions company. He is part of the server
support team for ambulatory deployments.

84
BB&T Insurance Services in Cape Coral,
Fla., promoted David B. Owen to vice
president and director in the company’s
commercial lines department.

Scott Royal is division vice president of
the U.S. Health Division of Azt Associates,
a global research and program implemen-
tation firm headquartered in Cambridge,
Mass. He oversees studies and projects
concerning many of the country’s pressing
health issues, including HIV/AIDS, maternal
and child health, reproductive health,
pain management, post-traumatic stress
and other mental health problems, and
long-term care. Scott works in the firm’s
Baltimore, Md., office.

Embassy National Bank in Lawrenceville,
Ga., has named Steven Walker senior vice
president. Steven has almost 25 years of
banking experience, most recently as
senior vice president and lending officer
at NOA Bank in Duluth, Ga. He is active
in Rotary and the Gwinnett Chamber of
Commerce.

86
Viversa, a Dallas, Texas-based health
management company, has added Mike
Lamb to its executive leadership team
as chief operating officer. Mike previously
spent 20 years in executive positions
at Automatic Data Processing.

Donna Duke Morrison of Tampa, Fla.,
was included in Watercolor Artist
magazine’s 2012 “Ones to Watch” list,
published in the December issue. The
magazine’s editors recognized 10 up-and-
coming watercolorists who demonstrate
exceptional technical skill and unique quali-
ties of self-expression. Those recognized
were nominated by top instructors and
exhibition jurors. Visit Donna’s website,
www.donnamorrison.net.

Paula Wright Prince, a first grade
teacher at Berea Elementary School
in Greenville, was named the school’s
Teacher of the Year.
2012–13 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Chris Brown ’89, president; Leslie L. Smith ’91, president-elect; Rebecca Ann Armacost ’89, vice president; Clare Folio Morris ’83, past president; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. ’75; Marilyn Mayfield Blackwell ’65; Sidney R. Bland ’59; Tracy Halsey Bond ’90; Kevin R. Bryant ’85; William M. Burtless ’84; O. Vernon Burton ’69; Mamie Susan Caffey ’81; Michael L. Guyin ’91; Jimmie E. Harley ’58; Charles D. Hardy ’89; Gregory W. Haselden ’94; Shannon Scruby Henderson ’75; Gail Laible Hughes ’83; Gwinn Earle Kneeland ’89; C. Todd Malo ’95; Thomas A. Marshall 77; James N. Martin ’79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. ’79; Andrew C. Medlyn ’97; Matthew A. Miller ’99; William P. Morrow, Jr. ’54; Emmett L. Patrick ’56; Scott W. Raebor ’92; Kenneth A. Sargent ’62; Gordon D. Seay ’61; E. Leon Smith ’61; George O. Shot ’54; T. David Tribble ’76.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: Rod Smolla, president; Mike Gatchell ’91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt ’76, executive director of alumni programs and constituent relations; Tina Hayes Ballew ’78, associate director of alumni programs; Leo Fackler ’03, associate director of alumni programs; Carl Hurst ’04, president, Young Alumni Council; Kattin Parham ’13, president; Student Alumni Council; David Hathaway ’13, president, Student Government Association; Stephen Tagert ’13, president, Senior Class.

Kelly Jackson Davis has been elected to a two-year term as a director at large on the national board of the Public Relations Society of America. Kelly is founder and chief executive officer of Davis Public Relations and Marketing, a full-service communications firm based in Columbia, S.C.

MARRIAGE: David Cook and Cynthia Fowler, September 29. They live in Saluda, N.C.

BIRTH: Bradley and Lila Anna Sauls, twin sons, Graeme Ginotian and Heath McManus, September 10, Columbia, S.C.

Jeffrey Hammer of Simpsonville, S.C., is the area manager for North and South Carolina with SMART Technologies, a leading provider of collaborative solutions and a global leader in interactive whiteboards. Donald Raber assumed duties as provost of Presbyterian College in Clinton, S.C., in January. He has worked at the school since 2002, serving as chair of the political science department and most recently as dean of academic programs. He was president of the South Carolina Political Science Association from 2007–08 and editor of its Journal of Political Science from 2008–12.

This year is reunion!

Marina Weber Dittman has become vice president of academic affairs at Georgia Piedmont Technical College in Clarkston. She was previously dean of curriculum and special projects for Savannah (Ga.) Technical College.

BIRTH: Frank III and Laura Blanchard, a son, Daniel F. Blanchard IV, January 27, 2012. Frank is an equity member in the Charleston, S.C., law firm of Rosan Haggard, and Laura is a staff writer with Select Health of South Carolina.

Rachel and Amy Collett, owners of Bright-Star Care of Chattanooga, Tenn., received the Brand Advocate of the Year award at the 2012 BrightStar Care National Conference in Nashville, Tenn. BrightStar Care is a home healthcare and staffing provider of medical and non-medical homecare for private and corporate clients. The award recognizes the franchise as a future leader who consistently looks beyond their franchise to help others grow and succeed.

Tomiko Brown-Nagin’s book Courage to Dissent received the Zora Neale Hurston/ Richard Wright Foundation 2012 Legacy Award for nonfiction. The Legacy Award recognizes exemplary works of literature by black writers. The book, which has received several other major honors, offers a sweeping history of the civil rights movement in Atlanta. Tomiko is a professor of law and history at Harvard University. Artist Katie Walker, who regularly shows in galleries throughout the Southeast, had an exhibit titled “Journal Entries” in the Thompson Gallery at Furman in October.

United Drugs, the largest national member-owned Pharmacy Services Administrative Organization (PSAO), has named Rob McManus president. He leads the PSAO services arm of American Associated Pharmacies through its United Drugs subsidiary located in Phoenix, Ariz. Prior to joining United Drugs, Rob served as vice president of clinical pharmacy operations for Amerigroup Corporation.

Susannah Rose recently co-authored “A Randomized Study of How Physicians Interpret Research Funding Disclosures,” published in The New England Journal of Medicine. She is a staff member in the Department of Bioethics at the Cleveland (Ohio) Clinic’s Center for Ethics, Humanities and Spiritual Care, and an assistant professor at Case Western Reserve University. She is also a fellow at the Saffra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, where she earned her doctorate.

Wesley Dunaway graduated magna cum laude from Florida A&M University College of Law in March 2012 and was admitted to the Florida Bar. He practices law in Orlando in the areas of estate planning, elder law, personal injury, commercial litigation and employment law.

Patty Walters Laine of Gainesville, Ga., was elected probate court judge of Hall County in November.

Jim Pattillo has been named chair of the Defense Research Institute’s (DRI) Young Lawyers Committee. DRI is the largest organization in the country dedicated to the defense bar; its Young Lawyers Committee consists of 3,000 young defense lawyers from across the nation. Jim is a partner in the Birmingham, Ala., firm of Norman, Wood, Kendrick & Turner.

Brian Nick has joined the public affairs team of the Moore & Van Allen law firm in Charlotte, N.C. Brian handled communications strategy for Pat McCrory’s victorious campaign for governor of North Carolina in 2012. Brian has also worked for Vice President Dan Quayle, U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, and other GOP campaigns.

After more than five and a half years with Heart of Florida United Way, Brec Rosser has assumed the role of Florida region president of CredAbility, a leading nonprofit financial counseling and education agency. Brec lives in Orlando.

Andrew Severson passed the Nevada Bar exam and has moved to Las Vegas to continue the practice of law.
FOR MARY HUFF '99 and the New York City Children's Chorus, the week began with an opportunity to sing with a musical icon on NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

It became a time to help the nation heal from the horror of the shootings in Newtown, Conn., that left 26 children and adults dead.

Huff, the chorus' co-founder and artistic director, received a call from SNL on Monday, December 10, inviting the choir to provide backup for Paul McCartney and his song "Wonderful Christmastime" on the December 15 Christmas show. After taking care of assorted bureaucratic requirements, such as performance permits for the children, the select choir, ranging from fourth-graders to high-schoolers, was ready to rock and roll with the Beatles legend.

"The children were excited about being on 'Saturday Night Live,'" Huff says. "Their parents were excited that they were singing with Paul McCartney."

Following a 45-minute rehearsal on Thursday — after which McCartney dubbed Huff "Choir Boss Lady" — everything seemed set for Saturday night.

Until Friday, when the unthinkable happened in Connecticut.

Saturday morning, Huff awoke to a slew of messages from SNL staff. Could the choir sing something that night to honor the victims? What's possible? Perhaps "Silent Night?" Oh, and could they open the show?

"Our Christmas concert was scheduled the next [Sunday] afternoon, so we had rehearsed the hymn," says Huff. And having worked with many of the children for years and prepared them for performances at Carnegie Hall and other major venues, she was confident they could handle the moment.

So at 11:30 p.m. December 15, "Saturday Night Live" opened not with a crazy skit, but with the New York City Children's Chorus' poignant rendition of "Silent Night."

A minute and 35 seconds later, the carol ended and the picture faded to black — only to return seconds later on the choir, which then had the honor of shouting the show's trademark opening line, "Live from New York! It's Saturday Night!" They returned at the close of the show to sing with McCartney. "He was lovely to me and the children," says Huff. "He's a trained choral musician, and he knows his choral music."

Critics praised the chorus and the show for the simple, moving way they acknowledged the Newtown tragedy. Huff says she received appreciative comments from around the country, thanking the choir for its touching performance — which it reprised on NBC's "Today" program the following Monday morning.

Huff has a long history of working with young people. Holder of a master's degree from Yale University, she was director of the children's and high school choirs at Saint Ignatius Loyola Church in New York from 2004-12, during which time participation quadrupled. She is now associate director of music at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, where her husband, Andrew Henderson, is music director and organist.

They launched the New York City Children's Chorus last fall, attracting many of the children Huff had worked with at both churches. "There was no community-based children's chorus in New York steeped in the Western classical music tradition," she says. "There are fantastic children's choirs that have different missions, but nothing like this. Even Greenville has its Chocora Voices."

Interest in the program, which supports seven choirs for children ages 4-18, has jumped since the national television appearances.

Huff sees it as part of the ministry of the church and says, "We've created the kind of choir we wish we could have had as children."

And the kind that brings solace to a country in mourning.

— JIM STEWART

"Angel," a CD of anthems recorded by the Saint Ignatius Children's Choir under Mary Huff's direction, is online at www.msrcd.com/catalog/cd/MS1399. Photos provided by Mary Huff.
99
Karmyn Laverghetta Garcia has earned a Master of Public Health degree in environmental health from San Diego State University.

00
Brad and Allison Berry George live in Newtown Square, Pa. Brad has been made partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers in the firm's tax practice in Philadelphia.
BIRTH: Clay and Lauren Hupp Garner, a son, Benjamin Heves, October 2, Atlanta.

01
Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe has become a shareholder with Bush Ross, P.A., a full-service law firm in Tampa, Fla. She serves as secretary of the Tampa Bay chapter of the Federal Bar Association and was recently named to the 2013 edition of Best Lawyers in America.
Courtney Denning and Bil Heflin, a son, William Blair Heflin, October 10. They live in Annapolis, Md.

02
MARRIAGE: Cara Hamm and John Stanton, August 18. Cara is an optometrist in New Bern, N.C., and John is a Navy SEAL.
BIRTHS: Bobby and Joscelyn Fletcher Cox, a son, Seth Joseph, October 11. They live in Woodbridge, Va., where Bobby is an Army Congressional Fellow.
Mark ’03 and Laura Stirm Dubois, a son, Auden Beau, March 5, 2012. They live in Durham, N.C.

BIRTHS: Grant and Arica James Smith, a son, Wyatt Lee, June 13, Woodbridge, Va.
Michael and Amy Clapproad Testa, a daughter, Mia Elisabeth, July 18. They live in Durango, Colo.

Ben and Dulaney Wible Farkas, a son, Holden George, August 31. They live in Cockeysville, Md.
Eric and Carolyn Filimon, a son, Reid Paul, July 26. They live in Orlando, Fla. Eric works for Charles Schwab.
Michael and Garner Lee Stead Green, a daughter, Allison Grace, November 14. They live in Morgan Hill, Calif. Mike works in finance at Apple Inc., and Garner Lee works for Rocketship Education.
Erik and Chelsea Berry Iliff ’01, a son, Grayson William, September 24, Fort Irwin, Calif. Erik was promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army in August.
Andrew and Gretchen Snavely, a daughter, Caroline Elizabeth, September 25, Charlotte, N.C. Andrew is a Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Department of State, currently serving in Baghdad.

03
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!
Jennifer Kopp has been named president of the board of directors for the Georgia branch of the International Dyslexia Association. She specializes in working with students that struggle with reading and writing and continues to teach elementary students at St. Francis School in Roswell.
BIRTHS: Cameron and Katie Mathews Garvin, a son, James Calder, September 13. They live in Macon, Ga., where both Katie and Cameron are dentists.
Ben and Linda Bertling Meade, a son, Powell Benjamin, May 27. They live in Asheville, N.C.
Dan and Jennifer Murphy McInnis, a daughter, Quinn Marjorie, November 2. Jennifer teaches high school Spanish, and Dan is an elementary school principal. They live in Asheboro, N.C.
Daniel and Meridith Lybrand Robinson, a son, John Daniel, February 26, 2012. They live in Arlington, Va., where Meridith works with students who have chronic illnesses.

Thomas ‘02 and Leslie Duesenberg Wyatt, a daughter, Leighton Anne, September 14, Alken, S.C.

04
MARRIAGE: Anne Michelle Letkeman and Mark Jared Angstadt, October 7. Anne is a museum technician at the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum in Atlanta, and Jared is a flight dispatcher for ExpressJet Airlines.
BIRTHS: Ryan ’05 and Joanna Richard Henderson, a daughter, Elliana Crab Henderson, June 11. Joanna is director of work practice for the Cameron School of Business at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. Ryan completed his MBA degree in May from UNC-Wilmington and is a branch manager at Scottsdale.
Cameron and Haley Howard, a son, Cannon Monroe, September 22. They live in Tampa, Fla. Cameron is a diplomat with the American Board of Endodontics.
Robert and Debra Granberry ’05 Milam, a son, Clifford “Ford” Hoffer Milam, November 27. They live in Dallas, Texas.

05
Brian Bratton, a wide receiver for the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League, was named the winner of the 2012 Tom Pato Award at the CFL gala in November. The award honors a player who displays outstanding sportsmanship and has made a significant contribution to his community. Brian has also started the Brian Bratton Football Academy in Greenville, a clinic that teaches young players the fundamentals of football in a safe and positive environment.
Tatiana Clay is a consultant with New Orleans entrepreneurs at the Louisiana Small Business Development Center. Brian Fisher has been named vice president and general counsel with Greenville-based Regional Management Corp., a consumer finance company. Brian previously worked with the Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice PLLC firm in Greenville.

MARRIAGES: Lauren Fincher and Joshua Paul DeVine, September 8. They live in Nashville, Tenn., where Lauren works as a nurse practitioner in pediatrics and Josh is a television reporter.
Emily Geer and David Shively, November 3. They live in Dallas, Texas, where they are both architects, Emily with Gensler and David with Page Southerland Page.
Amanda Michelle Windley and Robin Herrin Hood, August 25. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where Amanda is employed at Carolinas Medical Center. Robin is a business development manager with Milliken and Co.
Brian ’91 and Kristin Kuehner Cox, a daughter, Adelaide Grace Ann, September 22, Atlanta.
Nathaniel and Kathryn Koczwar Hatcher ’06, a daughter, Adelaide Grace Ann, July 26, 2011. They live in St. Petersburg, Fla.
Geoff and Emily Greyard Mitchell, a daughter, Grace Anne, April 27. They live in Tucson, Ariz.

06
Shelly Jackson graduated with an MBA degree, specializing in museum management, from John F. Kennedy University in Berkeley, Calif., and is now the programs manager at Marin History Museum in San Rafael, Calif. She was recently awarded a NextGen Arts Professional Development Grant, which goes to emerging arts leaders.
Amanda Pascoe Streib graduated from Georgia Tech in May with a Ph.D. in algorithms, combinatorics and optimization. She and her husband have started postdoctoral studies at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md.
BIRTH: Ben and Carrie Wallace, a son, Wade Barnett, August 31, Macon, Ga.
AWARD-WINNING HORSLEY STUDIES SKIN’S MYSTERIES

TWO THOUSAND TWELVE was an especially good year for biologist Valerie Horsley ’98.

First, the Yale University professor won a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, which comes with research funding, national recognition and an opportunity to meet the president. Within weeks after meeting President Obama in Washington in July, Horsley learned that she’d won a second major prize, the Rosalind Franklin Young Investigator Award. This prestigious honor, named for a researcher who helped discover the structure of DNA, is given just once every three years to two women scientists for creative research in genetics.

Horsley studies how biological tissues form and maintain themselves. “The reasons that our bodies work so well is that all our tissues work together,” she says. Problems with tissues can lead to diseases, she says, so understanding how those cells work together can help researchers design therapies to correct problems.

As a Ph.D. student, Horsley studied muscle tissues. More recently, she has focused on how skin forms and functions, which could lead to treatments for skin diseases, hair loss and cancer.

At first Horsley considered becoming a physician, but by her sophomore year at Furman she realized that her fundamental interest in science wasn’t fueled by a desire to treat sick patients. So she started thinking about other options, particularly teaching.

Her advisor at Furman, biology professor Joe Pollard, remembers her as a mature, articulate student who wasn’t shy about speaking up. “She was able to organize her thoughts and present a good argument,” he says.

After Furman, Horsley went to Emory University for her Ph.D. Working with Grace Pavlath, she studied how muscle cells grow and develop and served as a teaching assistant. Although she enjoyed passing along knowledge to students, she says, “Learning new things [in the laboratory] is really fun.” She soon realized that her passion for science grew out of that time at the laboratory bench.

The road to a research career in biology typically involves completing a Ph.D., followed by several years of postdoctoral training. For her postdoctoral studies Horsley decided that she wanted to work on a new tissue. She landed a position working on skin with Elaine Fuchs at Rockefeller University in New York City.

In 2009 she took a faculty position at Yale, where she now leads a laboratory of eight researchers and teaches biology courses. She and her team study how skin develops before birth, how fat cells help skin heal and regenerate, and how the tug of cells between individual skin cells influence the development of this vital tissue.

Horsley’s mentors are far from surprised by her success and recent recognition. “She was productive and a good multitasker,” says Pavlath. “She had very broad interests even early on.”

Fuchs describes Horsley as “the complete package.” Running a successful lab involves a combination of analytical skills and focus in the laboratory and the ability to organize others. “Valerie has natural leadership instincts. She’s really skilled at mentoring people,” Fuchs adds.

Horsley sees herself in part as a cheerleader for her students and postdocs. “Science is really hard because experiments don’t work all the time. On one hand we want to be critical and assess the science, but on the other hand you have to pick yourself up every day and do the experiment again even though it didn’t work the day before,” she says.

Horsley’s mentoring has even reached back to the Furman community. As an undergraduate, she was a regular babysitter for Pollard’s young children. This year, Pollard says, when his daughter Beth was applying to Ph.D. programs in molecular biology, Horsley returned the advising favor.

As a recipient of an award named for a famous female scientist, Horsley represents a generation of women scientists who are trying to make research careers more appealing to more women. “I had a lot of smart friends in graduate school who didn’t stay in academia,” she says.

A primary challenge for young scientists, she says, is the desire to raise children while pursuing a demanding career that involves many years of training. Horsley and her husband, Matt Rodeheffer, also a Yale biology professor, have two young daughters, Avery and Evelyn, ages 6 and 1½.

Women, in particular, need more role models, Horsley says. “Part of what motivates me is that I hope that people see that I have a family and I do good work, and that you can be successful and have a life outside of work.”

— SARAH WEBB

The author, a 1996 graduate, is a freelance science writer in Chattanooga, Tenn. She is a contributor to The Science Writers’ Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Pitch, Publish and Prosper in the Digital Age (Da Capo Press, 2013), and is chief editor of the book’s website, pitchpublishprosper.com. Photo by Michael Marsland.
'UNSUNG HERO' EARS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

As a student at Furman, Steven Weeks ’08 once received the "Unsung Hero Award" at the spring awards banquet for his behind-the-scenes contributions to campus activities and commitment to enhancing student life.

Fast forward to the fall of 2012. There Weeks was again, receiving another “Unsung Hero” award. Only this time he was honored on a national level.

Weeks and four others were recognized by Communities in Schools, a leading early intervention/dropout prevention program with close to 200 affiliates nationwide. The organization’s website says the Unsung Heroes Award goes “to site coordinators who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to students most in need of integrated services. With acts of love and transformation, these Unsung Heroes are the best in the country at what they do.”

Weeks, a site coordinator at Greer (S.C.) Middle School, works to identify at-risk students and ensure that they have the academic and emotional support they need. The Communities in Schools affiliate in Greenville nominated him for the award. He and the other winners, from Florida, New Mexico, Texas and Washington, were feted at a dinner in Arlington, Va., in September.

Weeks says winning the award was “a shock. You don’t really aim for rewards in the nonprofit field, but it was a huge honor.”

The Communities in Schools website says, “It seems Steven Weeks was born with the helping-youth gene deeply embedded in his DNA. Steven works tirelessly with more than 40 at-risk students. His passion to see youth overcome obstacles, be empowered, and achieve in life means building strong relationships, learning what each student’s unique needs are, and providing the services that remove barriers standing between the student and high school graduation.”

Weeks does a little of everything for the students he works with, serving as a father figure, tutor, college advisor, guidance counselor, mentor and friend.

He makes home visits to better understand the challenges students and their parents face, and he follows up with former students to check on their progress.

“Some of my students have truly depressing home situations,” he says. "They are often moving around, and at least 90 percent are on free and reduced lunch. We work to teach them to become confident and self-motivated. We tell them to aim really high.

“You see yourself in the kids sometimes and really care about their futures. These are my kids.”

Weeks earned his Furman degree in philosophy and religion and considered becoming a youth minister before deciding he’d prefer to work in a school setting. He joined the Greer Middle staff in August 2008.

Amy Clifton Keely, after-school programs director for Communities in Schools in Greenville, told The Greenville News, “Steven is always willing to take on whatever role or responsibility he needs to take on to help a child become successful. He really just doesn’t look at failure as an option for the kids that he serves. He really believes in them and does whatever he can to help them believe in themselves.”

Nancy Cooper, longtime coordinator for volunteer services at Furman, agrees. “Steven has a servant’s heart,” she says. “He always puts others first and is always the first person to help someone. He never wants to be in the spotlight, but he is always shining the light on others.”

Adapted from an article by Kate Hofer Dabbs ’09 for the Alumni Association website. Photo courtesy Amy Clifton Photography.

Margarete Allio graduated from Charleston (S.C.) School of Law in May and was sworn into the South Carolina Bar in November. She has joined the Charleston office of Stasmeyer, Inc.

Courtney Thomas completed her Ph.D. in chemistry at UCLA and is starting a post-doctoral fellowship at the École Polytechnique Fédérale in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Marriages: Ashely Hogge and Brett Schneider, October 6. They live in Portland, Ore.

Shannon Stark and Bryan Taylor, June 23. They live in Phoenix, Ariz. Bryan is a management consultant with Deloitte, and Shannon is pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Arizona State University.

Laura Wall and Brooks Lindsey, September 29. They live in Macon, Ga.

Birth: Sam and Linda Ketsche Williamson, a son, Bennett Mozley, May 25, Greenville.

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Maryanne Henderson of Durham, N.C., is pursuing Master of Divinity and Master of Social Work degrees in the dual degree graduate programs at Duke University and the University of North Carolina.

Jenna Buckman is one of three recipients of the 2012 Scheuerhorn Scholarship presented by the University of Texas Southwestern School of Health Professions in Dallas. Recipients of the $500 award are selected based on academic excellence, leadership and volunteer work. Jenna is studying physical therapy.

Matt Casella, a first-year chemistry teacher at Travelers Rest (S.C.) High School, is one of two recipients of the 2012 Childers Education Foundation Teaching Excellence Award from Furman. The $1,500 award recognizes effective teaching and dedication and commitment to the teaching profession. It was established by Alfred G. Childers ’80 and his wife, Marybeth Bunting ’80 Childers.

Eric Chamberlin passed the Tennessee Bar exam and has been licensed as an attorney in the state. He is general counsel for Cumberland Medical Center, an acute care hospital in Crossville.
Evelyn Diane McKinney has joined the law firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham, Ala., as a first-year associate. She is a member of the corporate and securities practice group.

MARRIAGE: Dixon Dabbs and Kate Hofler, November 3. Kate is web communications coordinator at Furman, and Dixon is operations manager with GloryCycles.com.

DEATHS
Mary Givens Hankinson ’38, October 13, Apollo Beach, Fla. She was an elementary school teacher in the Pinellas County (Fla.) School System for 20 years and was retired from the Internal Revenue Service.

Leslie Eugene Matheson ’40, July 31, Cheraw, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was retired from Jackson Oil Company as an accountant.

Marie Elizabeth Taylor Smith ’40, November 23, Columbia, S.C. She was an elementary school teacher and an avid golfer and bridge player, and was active in church and civic organizations.

Catherine Mann Truesdale ’40, December 4, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Kittie was retired from a 20-year career as a teacher in Greenville County.

Elizabeth Montague Gaffney Tyson ’41, October 24, Greenville. She worked at Woodlawn Memorial Park for more than 40 years and was a lifetime member of the Greenville Women’s Club.

Dorothy Mae Noblett McLawhorn ’42, September 14, Greenville. She was a piano teacher and church organist and was active in local garden clubs.

Lucy Buckheister Bettis ’43, October 16, Buffalo, Wyo. She worked in education and became a librarian in rural McCoil, S.C. In 1970 she joined the staff at the Lancaster (S.C.) County Library and continued to work there until she retired in 1986. She was active in United Methodist Women.

Myers Hampton Hicks ’43, November 2, Florence, S.C. He attended Furman on a football scholarship but left in 1942 and completed his bachelor’s and medical degrees at the University of Virginia. He interned at Duke University and did his residency at the University of Virginia. He went on to practice internal medicine until 1988, after which he started Mercy Medicine Clinic, where he treated those in need of medical services who could not afford care.

He was a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and served terms as chief of staff at McLeod Memorial and Florence General hospitals. He was director of Lay Renewal Ministries for Presbyterians for Renewal, was president of the Florence Rotary Club, worked for Habitat for Humanity, and led the financial campaign for the Florence Family YMCA.

Richard Graybill is pursuing a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry at the University of Illinois. He is a lab partner with James Wade, who was also his lab partner at Furman.

Adelaide Haase has joined the staff at G55, LLC in Dumfries, Va., as an intelligence analyst. She interned with the company last summer. The company provides management and technical services to a range of clients across federal and commercial markets.

Allison Harwood, a first-year third-grade teacher at Lone Oak Elementary School in Spartanburg, S.C., is one of two recipients of the 2012 Childers Education Foundation Teaching Excellence Award from Furman. The $1,500 award recognizes effective teaching and dedication and commitment to the teaching profession. It was established by Alfred G. Childers ’80 and his wife, Marybeth Bunting ’80 Childers.

DAYTON RIDDLE WAS LONGTIME TEAM PHYSICIAN

AS TEAM PHYSICIAN for Furman athletics for more than 40 years, C. Dayton Riddle, Jr. ’53 was a familiar figure along the sidelines at Paladin games both home and away.

And while his talents were highly regarded by the university, he was a leader in the Greenville medical community as well. For many years he was in private practice with the Piedmont Orthopaedic Clinic, was academic chair of the orthopaedic surgery department in the Greenville Hospital System, and was assistant chief of staff at Shriners Hospital. When he died January 17, he was chair emeritus of orthopaedic surgery at GHS.

Riddle, the son of a longtime Furman biology professor, served as an examiner for the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, as president of the South Carolina Orthopaedic Association, as a member of the South Carolina State Board of Medical Examiners and the House of Delegates for the South Carolina Medical Association, and as treasurer of the Greenville County Medical Society.

He earned the Bradshaw-Feaster Medal for General Excellence upon graduating from Furman and went on to be first honor graduate at the Medical University of South Carolina. He completed military service as a team physician at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Furman honored him in 1987 with the Algernon Sidney Sullivan Award for his high ideals and service to others, and MUSC presented him its Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2004. The Frank H. Stelling and C. Dayton Riddle Orthopaedic Education and Research Laboratory at the Clemson University Biomedical and Bioengineering Translation Research Center was established in 2010, and the Clemson/Greenville Hospital System Pat evac campus sponsors a lecture series that bears his name.

He is survived by his wife, Anne, three children and three grandchildren. Memorials may be made to the C. Dayton Riddle, Jr., Endowed Scholarship at Furman.
Mary Evelyn Goodly McCrary ’43, October 31, Greenville. She was the first cellist to earn a bachelor's degree from Furman and went on to play with the Greenville Symphony Orchestra for 40 years. She was also a member of the Footlight Symphony and played in the Berea First Baptist Symphony. She was director of the weekday kindergarten at John Knox Presbyterian Church for many years and taught music both privately and in the public schools.

Dorothy David Browning ’44, November 21, Greenville. She was active in Greenville Women’s Club and Stone Lake Garden Club.

Virginia Merritt Hawkins’44, December 4, Columbia, S.C. She was a kindergarten teacher and a preschool leader for the South Carolina Baptist Convention. She was a past president of the Ministers Wives Association of Greenville.

Edward Lowry Babb ’45, May 5, Charlotte, N.C. Lou served in the U.S. Army in World War II and during the Korean War. Following his military service, he held sales and management positions in the textile and chemical industries. He was a longtime member of Dilworth Rotary Club, which he served as president. He volunteered at the Shepherd’s Center and was an Eagle Scout.

Ruth Walton Kemp ’45, October 26, Pompton Plains, N.J. She worked in various positions in the advertising industry in New York City.

Dorothy Cook Riddle ’45, November 6, Mount Pleasant, S.C. She worked with Providence-Jarrard Company in Greenville for a number of years. She was active in book, bridge and golf groups, and was a member-at-large of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mary Frances Woodward Dennis ’46, November 7, Atlanta. In both Greenville and Atlanta she was actively involved in volunteer work through the Junior League and various other organizations.

Mildred Crenshaw Johnson ’46, October 1, Moore, S.C. She was retired from the Milliken Jordan Plant in Greenville with 35 years of service.

Jeanne Thomason Newton ’46, September 19, Muhlenberg Township, Pa.

Cora Parks Shipman ’46, October 7, Matthews, N.C. “Cookie” worked as a salesperson for Ivey’s Department Store, as a bookkeeper for Southern Bakery, and as a secretary for United Way. She was a gifted craftsman.

Howell Cantrell Tooley ’46, November 24, Greer, S.C. Hal was a retired realtor and automobile salesperson and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Frances Genevieve Smith Dabbs ’47, September 29, Charlotte, N.C. She retired as a claims supervisor after 30 years in the insurance industry.

Mills Ferguson Nunn ’47, November 13, West Columbia, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and retired as a commissioned officer from the U.S. Air Force Reserve, Office of the Judge Advocate General. He earned a law degree from the University of South Carolina and was a member of the South Carolina Bar for more than 60 years. He was active with the Columbia Executive Club, the American Legion, and the Colonel Thomas Taylor Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

Margaret Lipscomb Ulmer ’47, September 25, Lexington, Ky. She was a member of several women’s clubs and of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Wallace A. Mullinax’49, October 13, Greenville. Wally served in World War II as a U.S. Navy hospital corpsman attached to the 2nd Marine Division. He began a career in radio in 1944 and joined WESC in Greenville in 1949, remaining there for 41 years and retiring as vice president of sales. While at WESC he aired one of the first rhythm and blues programs in the Carolinas, was a pioneer talk show host, and in the 1960s was among the first broadcasters to program a full-time country music format. He also helped make broadcasts of motorsports and college football games available through syndication. After leaving WESC he co-founded WMTY in Greenwood, S.C.

He was president of the South Carolina Broadcasters Association (SCBA) and of its Educational Foundation and was elected to its Hall of Fame. In 2012 the SCBA established a scholarship in his name at Furman. His civic contributions included service on the Greenville County Council, the Greenville Memorial Auditorium Board of Directors and the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission. He was a trustee of North Greenville University, where he taught broadcasting and media sales. He also served as a member of the Scottish Rite Centers for Language Disorders in Greenville and of the James E. Daniel Post #3 of the American Legion, and was among the founders of Crime Stoppers of Greenville County. He was president of the Greenville Sales and Marketing Association. Among the many honors he received were the G. Richard Shufford Award for Journalism from the University of South Carolina, the Silver Medal Award from the Greenville Advertising Federation, an Abe Lincoln Merit Award from the Southern Baptist Radio/Television Commission, and the South Carolina American Legion Service Award. In 1992 he was included in Who’s Who in American Advertising.

**JANIS CROWE: A GENEROUS SPIRIT**

**JANIS ADAMS CROWE,** longtime instructor in the Furman English department, died December 23 after an extended battle with endometrial cancer.

Born in California, she earned her undergraduate degree summa cum laude from Vassar College and a master's degree from Washington University in St. Louis. Besides Furman, she taught for several years at Clemson University.

Gil Allen, Crowe's departmental colleague, described her as "a generous spirit" who worked "to convince freshmen that good essays needn't conform to the simplistic five-paragraph template they'd learned in high school. She had genuine affection for her students, and she gently but firmly demanded the best work they were capable of producing."

Active with the Greenville Literacy Association and the county Democratic Party, Crowe served for six years on the book selection committee of the South Carolina Association of Librarians. She sang with the Greenville Chorale and the local Quodlibet Singers, and was described in her obituary as "a lifelong animal lover, a supporter of humane farming, and a loyal fan of the Atlanta Braves."

In addition, she was a U.S. figure skating test judge at the gold level in singles and pairs and at the international level in ice dancing. She was president of the Greenville Figure Skating Club for seven years and was an ice skating instructor with Special Olympics.

She is survived by her husband, Stanley Crowe, professor emeritus of English at Furman, and by her children, Simon ’96 and Kirkie.
MARY SIMMS FURMAN LEAVES GENTLE LEGACY

WHEN FURMAN AWARDED Mary Simms Oliphant Furman an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 2007, it recognized her as a “dignified and intellectually vibrant woman” who demonstrated “a lifelong love of learning, and a lifelong generosity to her community and her alma mater.” With her husband Alester G. Furman III, a member of the university’s founding family, she contributed much toward the betterment of the school and the community.

When she died January 22 in Greenville, she left an extensive educational, civic and cultural legacy.

She was the great-granddaughter of William Gilmore Simms, the South’s leading antebellum poet, novelist and historian. She and her mother, Mary Simms Oliphant, were co-authors of several editions of The History of South Carolina and South Carolina: From the Mountains to the Sea, textbooks used by generations of students in the state.

Mrs. Furman was influential in developing Greenville’s first arts festival and worked on a number of local restoration projects. She was active in the Carolina foothills Garden Club and the Junior League, serving both as president, and with her husband provided generous support to the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities, the Upcountry History Museum, the S.C. Nature Conservancy and Greenville’s Peace Center for the Performing Arts. She was a member of the Tuesday Study Club, the Cercle Franco Américain, the Debutante Club of Greenville, the Assembly and the Quadrille.

She attended Greenville Woman’s College for two years in the late 1930s, then studied for a year at the Sorbonne in Paris before earning a bachelor’s degree from the University of South Carolina. She later received a master’s in French literature from the University of North Carolina, where she performed with the Martha Graham Dance Company.

She helped plan and design several Furman buildings, including Daniel Chapel and Earle Infirmary. Furman Mall, the main campus thoroughfare, is named for her and her husband. Their four daughters established a scholarship in their honor at the university.

In addition to her daughters, Mrs. Furman is survived by five grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one step-great-grandchild.

Memorials: Mary Simms Oliphant and Alester Garden Furman III Scholarship at Furman; Christ Church Episcopal, 10 N. Church St., Greenville 29601; or a charity of one’s choice.

Connie Purser Stalnaker ’49, September 17, Abbeville, S.C. She held various office positions in the Abbeville area and retired from the Milliken-Sharon Plant.

Percy Frank Walters ’49, November 9, Monroe, N.C. He graduated from the Baltimore School of Dental Surgery and won the Dr. Kelsey Award for professional demeanor. He was a member of the Gorgas Odontological Honorary Society, Psi Omega fraternity, and the Phi Chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, a national honorary dental society. After working as a dentist in the U.S. Navy and supporting the Marines in Korea and Japan, he began his private practice in Monroe in 1955 and became known as the “gentle dentist” to local families. He continued to practice dentistry into 2012. He was president of the Optimist Club, the Cancer Society and the Friends of Union County Library. In 2005 he published a novel, Scott’s Ark.

Hazel Gaddy Bumgarner ’50, October 18, Tallahassee, Fla. She earned a master’s degree from Arizona State University and was a teacher and librarian in public schools in North Carolina, Nevada and Arizona. For several years she was an adjunct faculty member in library science at Western Carolina University. She also taught at the University of South Carolina.

Landrum H. Fowler ’50, February 26, 2012, North Augusta, S.C. He was a Baptist minister who served churches in Thomson and Langley, S.C. He was also secretary for the Kilpatrick Baptist Association for many years. He was a Navy veteran of World War II, having served in the Pacific Theater.

Robert I. Miller ’50, November 22, Greenville. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Merchant Marine. After his military service he was a co-founder of and partner in AAA Supply Company. He was a former president of the Pleasantburg Settlers Club and was an avid tennis player and hiker.

Blossom Craft Burgamy ’51, October 1, Macon, Ga. She studied voice at the Juilliard School and performed as an opera singer in New York. She went on to teach music in Bibb County (Ga.) schools for more than 27 years. She was a regent of the Mary Hammond Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Syderras Ross Sanders ’51, September 30, Elgin, S.C. She was for many years an educator in Greer, S.C., and in Elgin. She was a gifted musician and served as organist at Blaney Baptist Church.

William C. League ’52, October 29, Fairfax, Va. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Master of Arts degree from Pepperdine University, then served 22 years as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy, 20 of those on assignments with the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon retiring from the Navy he practiced real estate in North Carolina and taught real estate for 18 years in Northern Virginia.

Paul M. Pridgen, Jr. ’53, October 28, Chapin, S.C. He graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and was ordained to the ministry at First Baptist Church of North Charleston, S.C., in 1951. He was a fourth-generation Baptist minister and served churches and institutions in the Carolinas. In 1962 he succeeded his father as pastor of First Baptist Church of North Charleston. Together they served the church for 62 consecutive years. He was a strong advocate for religious liberty and the separation of church and state and worked to build bridges of understanding across race, religion, class and gender. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Baptist College of Charleston (now Charleston Southern University) in recognition of his leadership and ministry in the church and community.

Mary Gage Hammond Dobbins ’54, November 15, Greenville. She was retired from Gage’s gift store.
CLASS NOTES POLICY

BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER of submissions and clippings Furman receives for the magazine’s class notes section and the time needed to review, compile and edit so much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements.

When sending news for class notes, please include your spouse’s or child’s name, whether your spouse is a Furman graduate, and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

When sent electronically, news about alumni couples who graduated in different years is included under the graduation date of the submitter. In other cases it goes under the earliest graduation date. It is not listed with both classes.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or email to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the online alumni registry (http://alumni.furman.edu) is included in class notes.

Clark Eugene Bennett, M.A. ’62, November 2, Charlotte, N.C. Gene served in the U.S. Army from 1943-45 and received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. Afterward he became a tool maker and machinist for BMW in Endicott, N.Y., and was program director for the Boys Club of Greater Endicott. He earned his master’s degree in psychology from Furman and went on to be executive director for the Cherokee County Boys Club in Gaffney, S.C., assistant superintendent of John De La Howe School in McCormick, S.C., and psychologist-therapist for the Alexander Children’s Center in Charlotte. He was a life member of the American Psychological Association, the Mecklenburg Psychological Association and the North Carolina Psychological Association.


Eugene McGill ’65, September 29, Snellville, Ga. He was a star high school athlete and a member of the first Lincoln County state championship football team in 1960. After completing his college education, Butch spent many years in industrial sales and pursued several other occupations, including operating a barbecue restaurant. He also worked in designing and installing marble and tile and opened the McGill Tiling Company.

Elizabeth Howell McElrath, M.A. ’68, October 23, Greenville. She retired as principal at Crestview Elementary School. A member of Delta Kappa Gamma, she volunteered with the Greenville Hospital System’s Allen Bennett Hospital and with Meals on Wheels.

Donald Arren Waldrep ’72, November 14, St. George, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

John Wilson Hines Clark ’73, October 16, Charlotte, N.C. Chip worked for Ford Motor Co. and for Walmart.

Eugenia Jones Potter, M.A. ’74, October 20, Greenville. As a military wife, she accompanied her husband to various duty stations before they returned to Greenville in 1960. She taught elementary school for 10 years and was headmistress of the Lower School at Christ Church Episcopal School. She also served one year as interim head administrator for St. Joseph’s High School. In retirement she was a guardian ad litem and chaired special events for various non-profit organizations. She began several small businesses, including a mediation firm and a service offering etiquette classes to young executives of local companies. At the age of 75 she completed the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C.

Arthur E. Anderson III ’78, September 27, Bernardsville, N.J. Artie embarked on a career in sales that took him all over the continental United States and Europe. He worked in the consumer package industry for multinational companies such as Coca Cola, Uniliver and Dannon before forming his own specialty food importing company, Bri-Al.

William Carl Schilling ’79, October 27, Bluffton, S.C. He became a charter fisherman at the Boca Ratón (Fla.) Hotel and The Cove. From 1985 until 2006 he managed the in-water, dry storage and refurbishing operations of Schilling Boathouse on Hilton Head Island, S.C. In recent years “Captain Bill” participated in various Hilton Head Island events and ran fishing charters.

Robert A. Jones ’80, November 18, Whiteboro, N.Y. He was employed by FedEx.

Wilbur Kent Greer, MBA ’82, October 10, Greenville. He served in the U.S. Army before beginning a career with Union Carbide in Charleston, W.Va. He eventually retired from Cognis as a chemical engineer. He was a charter member of the Mauldin Rotary Club.

Robert Gerd Ridgeway ’82, M.A. ’86, October 10, Greenville. He was owner and operator of Gehrt, Inc., and a lobbyist with Sol Invictus Project. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Piedmont Area MENS.

Scott Frederick Miller ’84, September 20, Statesboro, Ga. After a 20-year career in the food and beverage industry, he turned his love of coffee and his hobby of roasting coffee beans into a new career, the Ogeechee River Coffee Company.
A DIFFERING OPINION

IN "FAITH, HERITAGE AND FURMAN" in the Fall 2012 magazine, a line states, "As fundamen-
talist leaders came to power in the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979, they started systematically
taking power in the denomination's seminaries, notably requiring that professors espouse and
challenge the inerrancy of the Bible."

The line would suggest that prior to 1979, pro-
dressors weren't supposed to believe and teach the inerrancy of the Bible. That's just not true. Professors were ALWAYS required to sign a statement saying they believed in and would teach in accordance with "The Baptist Faith and Message." The first statement of this document has ALWAYS been the inerrancy of scripture.

In 1963 it read, "The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the
record of God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and will
remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ."

In 1925 it read, "We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for
its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried."

— CHRISTINA THOMPSON SZRAMA '07
Greenville

CONFessions of a LAKE HERO

I ENJOYED THE "RUMor HAS IT" story about
campus myths in the fall issue and want to share
some of my memories of the days when mere mortals
regularly took the plunge, willingly and without health
repercussions, in the Furman lake.

During my years at Furman, not only was swimming
allowed in the lake, there was a dock across from
the cafeteria. I attended summer classes
between my junior and senior years, and was head lifeguard at the dock. It was
a pretty sweet gig. The hardest I worked in that job was when dozens of children
from the various camps would come to swim. In fact, in all my years of lifeguarding,
the only time I saved someone was the day a child almost drowned after jumping off
of that dock. I can still picture his wide, terrified eyes as he looked up at me. He was
actually standing on the bottom of the lake. All I did was reach in and pull him out,
but, at least with his counselors, that qualified me as a hero for the rest of that day.

It's hard to believe that the water was that clear, but another of my memories
confirms it. Charlotte Thomas of Charleston once lost her mother's Furman ring
in the lake when it fell off her hand as she stood on the dock and pointed at some-
thing. She was extraordinarily upset when she showed up at my dorm room, but she
was composed enough to blurt out that she needed to borrow my swimming goggles.
I went down to the lake with her. It was really cold that day, but I jumped in and, by
some act of providence, found the ring on the bottom of the lake the first time

I looked. It was wonderful to see Charlotte so happy, and it became the second time
I was dubbed a lake hero.

Maybe one day the lake will be restored to the point that Furman students and
others can swim there again.

— LEE HUGHES '86
Savannah, Ga.

TRIATHLON MEMORY

NICE ARTICLE about Furman rumors in the fall magazine. Just a note about the
water in the lake: I attended Furman from 1986–90. We jumped off the dock into
the water once in a while. More interestingly, on May 22, 1990, I competed in my
first triathlon and we SWAM in the lake for almost one mile (about a 25-minute
swim for me), and somehow I finished the race.

The water could not have been that polluted back then (even though the presence of
goose poop was obvious). Too bad the lake is unswimmable now because Furman
is the perfect venue for triathlon.

— MICHAEL G. SCOTT '90
Scituate, Mass.

"Rumor Has It" writer Melanie Krone Armstrong '94 received several similar notes
sharing memories of swimming in the lake.
Travel, education and multicultural perspectives

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes."
—MARCEL PROUST

THE MOST PROFOUND GIFT my Furman education gave me was replacing provincial eyes with global wonder.

With the help of many advocates, including professors Glen Halva-Neubauer and Judy Bainbridge and dean Charles Brock, my Furman trail meandered far from the oak-studded, idyllic campus in Greenville. My mentors facilitated a mishmash of internships and study away opportunities that allowed me to travel the world, from Norway to the Mediterranean, Canada and England. My parents often joked that my major was "study abroad."

The quality and breadth of my true major, political science, enhanced my understanding of the Parliamentary systems of Canada and England and piqued my interest in pursuing a degree in international relations at the London School of Economics. Before pursuing my master's degree there, I decided to do something very British and take a gap year, deferring my acceptance.

But my best-laid plans took an even more circuitous route than I could have ever imagined. During my year "off," I received a better offer, and Jake and I were married the day I had anticipated arriving at Heathrow Airport to begin my graduate studies.

Starting a family made me re-evaluate my career choice, and I decided to pursue another passion: English. Having completed my master's degree and taught briefly on the college level, I now teach an Advanced Placement non-fiction course and direct the Writer's Center at Brookstone School in Columbus, Ga.

During spring break for the past two years, a colleague and I have taken a group of seniors to Oxford, England, for a mini-immersion experience in all things British. We plan to go again this spring.

While last year's highlights included having a student serenade Ramin Karimloo (Jean Valjean in Les Misérables on the London stage) and watching Furman soccer alum Clint Dempsey score for Fulham, the most rewarding pedagogical moments were those of students' simple reflections and small revelations: "Look at how much smaller the cars are and how much more expensive gas is here!" "I can't wait to study abroad during college!" "Please let us stay just one more day. I'll tell my parents I lost my passport!"

Thanks to my strong academic foundation from Furman and my diverse education from travel, I am motivated to teach my eager students and my young sons, Jack and William, with an enriched, multicultural perspective. If I am able to give "new eyes" to one student who elects to study abroad in college, then I've done for my students what my mentors did for me.

While I may not have a degree from the London School of Economics, the intangibles are what I'm most proud of with my life choices, and that's what I imagine my Paladin professors and mentors would applaud.

Almost 11 years after graduating from Furman in 2002, I'm forever grateful for my world-class education and indebted to those who inspired me.

— ANNA KING FLOURNOY
I know what I give matters.

I may not give thousands—or even hundreds—but Furman gave me one of the best experiences of my life. I want to give back to something I love. —Lauren Brown ’07

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