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University adopts student-driven integrity pledge

Furman University

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Furman Fellows named; Year of Global Citizenship begins

FURMAN LAUNCHED the “Year of Global Citizenship” at its Opening Convocation September 2.

What does global citizenship mean? The Furman community will find out through programs, seminars and lectures designed to determine how our actions as individuals and groups impact the world around us. (To learn more, visit www.furman.edu/globalcitizen.)

Katie Shultz '11 (middle in photo), a political science major pursuing concentrations in poverty studies and environmental studies, is spearheading the student-led effort to analyze what it is to be a global citizen in today's world. As the keynote speaker at convocation, she outlined the plans for the program, whose goal is to promote “critical evaluation and responsible citizenship.”

Shultz, from Hoover, Ala., is also one of this year's Furman Fellows, all of whom were recognized at convocation. The Fellows program, established by trustee Bob Buckman and his wife, Joyce Mollerup, recognizes five seniors each year for their contributions to the university and their potential for future success. Fellows are selected

because of their ability to think creatively and imaginatively and for their potential to make a difference in the world and in the lives of others. They receive \$7,500.

In addition to Shultz, the Furman Fellows for the Class of 2011 are, from left:



■ Chemistry major Angela Zeigler of Seneca, S.C. A Hollingsworth Scholar who aspires to be a pediatrician, she spent the summer doing research at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. She has also captained the women's rugby team and been a volunteer with several Greenville agencies.

■ Reece Lyerly, an earth and environmental sciences major from Roswell, Ga. He is the recipient of a Udall Fellowship, one of the nation's most prestigious awards for students planning careers in environmental work, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and of Quaternion, the university's select men's leadership organization.

■ Michael Chiu of Johns Creek, Ga. He is majoring in history and communication studies, and plans to pursue a career in communications and counseling. He is on the board of directors of Greenville Forward and was instrumental in the creation of Furman Forward, a project that links Furman students with community endeavors.

■ Shannon Cantwell, an economics and political science major from Fairhope, Ala. She is senior class president, a Furman Bisher Scholar and a member of the track team. She has participated in several international mission trips and over the summer led four fellow Furman athletes on a service trip to Swaziland, Africa.

More from Opening Convocation on page 37.

Photo by Jeremy Fleming.

University adopts student-driven integrity pledge

“It is the desire of Furman University to unite its members in a collective commitment to integrity. In so doing, Furman University strives to teach its members to live lives of humility, respect, and responsibility. Therefore, it is the expectation that all members of the Furman University community will conduct themselves with integrity in all endeavors. In honoring these values and ideals as Furman University's foundation, it is with utmost faithfulness and dignity that I will ascribe to them.”

By reciting these words in unison at Opening Convocation September 2, Furman students, faculty and staff gave voice to an “integrity pledge” to demonstrate, in a tangible way, that they hold themselves and each other to

a high level of behavior. The pledge had been in the works for several years. The student-driven initiative was approved overwhelmingly during the 2009–10 academic year.

The purpose of the pledge is to formalize the character and principles that are already implicit at Furman. As a guide, it is meant to be an overarching representation of the more extensive and intricate rules and regulations that govern Furman academics. It is not to be mistaken for an honor code, although it is a possible step in that direction. (Furman students voted against creating an honor code in the 1990s.)

The pledge has been posted in classrooms, residence halls and public areas around campus.