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Endowed professorship recognizes Vick's legacy with Furman Singers

Furman University

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Because Furman Matters.

Endowed professorship recognizes Vicks' legacy with Furman Singers

The weekend was perfect — great weather, good fellowship, a surprise proposal (she said yes) — and, best of all, beautiful music.

On July 24-26, 350 Furman Singers returned to Greenville to participate in the group's biannual reunion — and to perform one last time under the direction of Bingham L. Vick, Jr., who will retire in June after 40 years as conductor of the Singers. The reunion concert was held at Greenville's First Baptist Church.

The highlight of the reunion weekend was the announcement that the Singers Alumni Association has created a professorship recognizing Bing Vick and his wife, Judy, for their service to the university and the Furman Singers. In addition

to honoring the Vicks, the professorship will permanently endow the position of director of the Furman Singers, thus ensuring that the legacy of excellence established in 1946 by the group's founder, DuPre Rhame, and continued under Bing Vick's direction since 1970 will live on in perpetuity.

A minimum of \$1 million is needed to activate the professorship. To date more than \$400,000 has been committed, and a campaign is under way to raise additional funds.

If you'd like to support the Vick Professorship of Music, contact betsy.moseley@furman.edu, (864) 294-3491. Photo by Jeremy Fleming.



Students hit Bermuda for marine research

Lia Campbell '11, Andrew Cohen '12 and Brendan Talwar '12 benefited from a dream opportunity over the summer — three weeks in Bermuda, all expenses paid.

Of course, they had to do a little work — 12 hours daily, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — but the program and the setting couldn't have been better.

Thanks to the support of Jim and Janet Stanard of Chatham, N.J., whose gift provided funds to cover the students' tuition, room, board and travel, the Furman trio enrolled in the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, which specializes in ocean research. They were joined by 12 other students from around the world in an intensive program of lectures, readings, laboratory and field work, all centered on coral reef ecology.

Says Cohen, "Before this class, I did not know there were so many opportunities for marine biologists. Now I am aware of how significant science based around the ocean truly is."

Joe Pollard, chair of the biology department, says, "We have many students interested in marine biology, but being more than 200 miles from a coast limits our opportunities for actual field study. We are grateful to the Stanards for making this available to our students."

The Stanards' daughter, Sarah, is a 2008 Furman graduate. Jim Stanard is the former CEO of Renaissance Reinsurance.

To learn more about supporting student research and internships, contact susan.brady@furman.edu, (864) 294-3693. Photos by Andrew Cohen.