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Furman University

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The Woodlands at Furman retirement community opens its doors

When The Woodlands at Furman retirement community held its opening dedication ceremony May 20, it marked both the completion and the beginning of a project that had been 10 years in the making.

Since 1999, Furman had envisioned the development of a community near campus that would allow retired employees, alumni and others with longtime connections to the school to remain involved in university life. With the help of Irving, Texas-based Greystone Communities, Inc., the vision has become reality — and represents the first partnership in South Carolina between a university and a retirement community.

The \$55 million Woodlands at Furman, whose mission is “to be the retirement community of choice by nurturing a distinctive culture of enrichment for our residents,” provides a variety of lifestyle options. It features 132 independent living residences, 32 assisted living apartments, 16 memory support suites and 30 skilled nursing suites.

Independent living residents may choose from 12 different apartment styles, ranging in size from 717 to 2,060 square feet. Other on-site amenities include a fitness room, salon, spa and library.

While The Woodlands has much to offer on its 23-acre site, it also provides residents the chance to expand and enhance their physical, mental and spiritual growth. Through the retirement community’s proximity to Furman — less than a mile out the back gate, off Old Roe Ford Road — residents have easy access to campus events, from concerts and plays to lectures, football games, exercise facilities and programs sponsored by Furman’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. In addition, The Woodlands offers opportunities for ongoing interaction between Furman students and the residents.



Furman president David Shi said at the dedication, “The relationship between the university and The Woodlands makes so much sense. As I tell freshmen on their first day on campus, Furman is all about nurturing a commitment to lifelong learning.”

And as Troy Cannaday, executive director of The Woodlands, has said, “The relationship between Furman and The Woodlands will grow and develop. We are looking forward to having a close working relationship with the Furman campus on multiple levels.”

The Woodlands is also affiliated with the nearby Cliffs Communities, offering residents access to the Cliffs’ seven residential projects.

As a not-for-profit entity, The Woodlands will funnel its revenue back into the senior living community and the surrounding area, re-investing resources to meet the needs of residents as they move through the continuum of care.

To learn more about The Woodlands, visit www.thewoodlandsatfurman.org or call (864) 371-3100.