Five join Alumni Association Board of Directors

Tom Triplitt ’76

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The Alumni Association welcomes five new members to its Board of Directors this fall. The board provides support, guidance and leadership to Furman, represents the opinions, needs and interests of the entire alumni constituency to the university, and promotes alumni involvement in Furman activities.

The new members, nominated by the board at the spring meeting, agreed to serve five-year terms. They are:

- **Loy Yates Johnson, Jr. ’59,** Spartanburg, S.C. Yates is founder and chief executive officer of Yates Johnson & Company, a yarn brokerage firm. He is active in the Spartanburg Rotary Club and the Episcopal Church of the Advent. He has also been involved with the Alston Wilkes Society, which works with prison inmates and their families, having served on the group’s state board of directors and as a chapter president.

- **Joseph C. Moon ’76,** Monroe, Ga. Joe, who is dean of campus life at Oxford College of Emory University, holds master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Georgia. He is an elder at First Presbyterian Church of Covington, Ga., is on the board of the Newton County Chamber of Commerce and is a past board member of Newton County Literacy Volunteers.

- **Cynthia Black Sparks ’80,** Columbus, Ga. Cindy, who for the last five years has been college coordinator at Brookstone School, recently assumed duties as head of the school’s servant leadership program. A deacon at First Baptist Church, she is active with various non-profit groups in Columbus. She is a former admissions counselor at Furman and has been active as a class agent.

- **Rebecca Ann Armacost ’89,** Tucson, Ariz. Becca received Furman’s Alumni Service Award for 2005. She is corporate director for management training and development at Tucson Medical Center and was previously an assistant vice president for diversity and corporate relations with Georgia Power. Active with Habitat for Humanity and the American Cancer Society, she has been president of the Atlanta Furman Club, a class agent and a mock interviewer for the Office of Career Services.

- **Ellison Leon Smith, Jr. ’89,** Asheville, N.C. Ellison, who earned his medical degree from the University of North Carolina, is a rheumatologist with the University of North Carolina Rheumatology Association. He was included in Best Doctors in America 2005-06 and has taught at Harvard University and at UNC. He is active with the Hall Pass Outdoor Adventure Racing Team.

The board also wishes to express appreciation to those who completed their terms of service this year: Ginger Malone Sauls ’75, Paul Nix ’77, Steve Smith ’83, David Schilli ’85 and Rebecca Hood Becherer ’89. Special thanks is extended as well to outgoing president Jim Simkins ’78 for his energetic leadership and hard work.

In addition, the board bids farewell to Davin Welter ’89, who has assumed a different set of Furman-related duties: he is now one of the university’s senior major gifts officers.

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**Tom Triplitt ’76**  
Director, Alumni Association