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## A helping hand for young alums

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# Furman alumni news

## A helping hand for young alums

The Young Alumni Council strives to assist and support Furman by:

■ *Fostering fellowship among young alumni and encouraging participation in Furman Club activities.*

■ *Counseling the university on matters concerning young alumni.*

■ *Welcoming new graduates into the Alumni Association.*

About the time this issue of *Furman* magazine hit the mail, another 600 students received their diplomas and joined the expanding family of Furman alumni, now 26,000 strong.

These new graduates face the challenge of staying connected to alma mater while getting used to new cities, new jobs and new friends. The Young Alumni Council can help them.

The council represents the concerns of young alumni — graduates of the last 15 years — to the Furman administration. In doing so, it offers them a way to maintain ties to Furman and have a voice in university affairs.

The council has 30 members, each of whom serves for three years. The group meets three times per year, or once each academic term. The fall meeting is typically held during Family Weekend, and the spring meeting usually coincides with Founders Week.

Council committees meet more regularly and are responsible for developing activities designed to maintain an open relationship between alumni, the administration and current students. The committees focus primarily on four areas: young alumni interaction, student interaction, development and marketing.

While the Young Alumni Council's most visible event is the Family Weekend Fun Run, the group organizes other programs throughout the year. For example, we initiated a networking event for alumni and Furman seniors,



offering them the chance to mix and mingle in a casual, informal setting. The program is beneficial for the students and alumni alike. The council is also a major sponsor of the year-end senior picnic.

One of the most rewarding aspects of being involved with the Young Alumni Council is that we have the chance to highlight the work of outstanding alumni. The council chooses the recipient of the Outstanding Young Alumni Award, which is presented at the annual awards breakfast during Homecoming Weekend.

The Young Alumni Council serves many purposes, but its most meaningful one is to help recent alumni maintain ties with Furman. The Young Alumni Council is the perfect starting point for them to continue their commitment to Furman, and it often serves as the gateway to a lifetime of active service to alma mater.

Every year, we look for new people to serve on the Young Alumni Council. If you are interested and have graduated from Furman since 1990, follow the links from the alumni Web site at [www.alumni.furman.edu](http://www.alumni.furman.edu) for an on-line application, or call 1-800-787-4853.

— Matthew Miller '99

*The author, a financial representative with Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Greenville, recently completed a two-year term as president of the Young Alumni Council.*

## ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

### Reunion committees hard at work

Did you graduate in a year that ends in 0 or 5? If so, then it's time for your class reunion!

Homecoming 2005 will be October 21-23. Registration information will be sent to you in the near future. You can also register and check up-to-date information on the Alumni Association Web site at [www.alumni.furman.edu](http://www.alumni.furman.edu).

Reunion committees are already hard at work planning a memorable weekend. If you would like to help with your reunion or have questions about Homecoming, e-mail Melanie Krone Armstrong '94, associate director of the Alumni Association, at [melanie.armstrong@furman.edu](mailto:melanie.armstrong@furman.edu), or call her at 1-800-PURPLE3.

This year's reunion chairs:

1950: Jessie Fowke Sims

1955: Jimmy Senn, Bernie Waitt

1960: Alice Dean Pugh

1965: George Linney

1970: Glenn Stewart, Kay Plemmons Zimmerman

1975: Eric Kaufmann, Ginger Malone Sauls

1980: Carol Powell Bettencourt

1985: Kent Igleheart

1990: David Cobb

1995: Ellie Corbett Hammond,

Michelle Martin Burnett

2000: Nicole Pascoe

### Furman Club updates

The Alumni Association welcomes our newest Furman Clubs!

Minneapolis/St. Paul: Paul '01 and Mary Robertson McKie '00 are co-presidents. Paul is a fourth-year medical student at Dartmouth but is taking a year to do a cardiology research fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. Mary is a veterinary student at the University of Minnesota.

Indianapolis: Mark Mitchell '83, general manager for Enterprise in Indianapolis, is serving as this club's first president.

In addition, the following Furman Clubs have new leaders: Derek '98 and Amy Maris Bruff '99 (Boston), Adam Bert '94 (Central Florida), Whitney Goodwin Bouknight '01 (Charlotte), Leo Fackler '03 (Chicago), Kristie McWilliams '03 (Clemson), Jeff Hayes '00 (Central Savannah River Area), Julie Mancini Bankston '99 and Douglas Stinson '01 (Knoxville), Carol Asalon '04 and Paul Santos '04 (New Horizons Club), Reid Hawkins '00 (New York City), Steve O'Dell '75 (Richmond), Kristen M. Andersen '02 (St. Louis), Jennifer Davie Johnson '93 (Spartanburg).

And a special note to alumni in Wilmington, N.C.: If you are interested in helping establish a club in your area, contact Jenny Yates '65 at (910) 256-5681, or by e-mail, [yates91@aol.com](mailto:yates91@aol.com).

For more information about Furman Club events in your area, visit [www.alumni.furman.edu](http://www.alumni.furman.edu) or contact Jane Dungan, associate director of the Alumni Association, by e-mail ([jane.dungan@furman.edu](mailto:jane.dungan@furman.edu)) or by calling 1-800-PURPLE3.