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Five professors complete their Furman careers: Arnold was devoted to students' welfare

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Not content to offer accounting instruction just in the classroom, Bob Arnold has provided it on our highways, too. For many years, he has proudly displayed the letters DR and CR (the abbreviations for debit and credit) as his South Carolina license plate.

Throughout his 12-year tenure at Furman, Bob was a dedicated teacher and advisor. He taught an array of accounting courses in both the day and evening programs and was always willing to help the department in any way he could, often teaching a course overload or adding students to his sections to meet demand.

Bob's classes offered students a blend of theory with practical applications. As a result, he often kindled an interest in accounting among students who may not have been considering accounting as a potential career. In class, he demanded that students be active learners and placed a high value on helping them develop their oral communication skills.

During class, Bob was able to draw out even the most reserved Furman student. He was effective in teaching students from a range of abilities — those to whom the material came easily and those who may have struggled. All realized their highest potential in Bob's courses. He never gave up on a student, and he never let students give up on themselves.

Bob truly cared about the welfare of students, and students knew it. He counseled students not only about their academic progress and professional goals, but also about their personal lives. He helped many secure employment, both part time and full time. He was not content until each graduating accounting major had either been accepted to graduate school or had a job offer securely in hand. At departmental receptions at Homecoming, alumni always seek out Professor Arnold.

Bob received his Bachelor of Science degree from Miami University of Ohio and later, a Master of Arts degree from Gannon University in Erie, Pa. In addition, he is a Certified Public Accountant. Prior to coming to Furman, he had accumulated extensive experience in public accounting, in industry and in university teaching. He also served in the U.S. Army.

He is an avid golfer. He and Gloria built a home that looks out on Greenville's Pebble Creek Golf Course — clearly a cost-efficient way of maintaining a good supply of golf balls. In the past several years, they have gone on a number of interesting cruises. In retirement, they expect to continue their travels; this summer they toured the Mediterranean. Bob is also a devout fan of Cleveland sports teams, which has taught him the valuable lesson of accepting defeat graciously and often.

Bob's colleagues at Furman will miss seeing him on a daily basis. Fortunately, he'll be just a chip shot away.

— Lawrence Kessler
Professor of Accounting