9/11: Reflections on the Decade

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With orientation just over, I had spent a week being wholly self-absorbed, engrossed in making new friends and being away from home. The morning of September 11, 2001, reminded me that there was a bigger world than my manicured campus. I think it was the first time my generation was ever challenged to look beyond ourselves. Suddenly we had to face the reality of war and we were no longer invincible. It was a sobering beginning to college and it caused me to re-evaluate my views. I cannot say that where I am today connects directly to those events but I can say that 9/11 and its aftermath drew me closer to my family and that the heroism displayed by a variety of "ordinary" individuals challenged me to seek opportunities in my own life to go beyond the easiest route. Eileen Gilbert

Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." During the tough times and the traumatic events people rose up to the challenge and dared to help one another. We all became "brothers" through one unifying event. Dylan Rebillot

It wasn't something I could really fathom. What did this mean? Was this the beginning of attacks that were going to happen all over the United States?
10 Years After
As the nation marks the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, five alumni share their perspectives on the day and its aftermath.

The Standard Bearers
BY VINCE MOORE
Fifty years ago, Furman’s cross country and track and field teams emerged as the class of the Southern Conference — and of the Southeast.

An Elegant Life
BY JIM STEWART
A celebration of the remarkable life and many contributions to Furman of Beatrice Dennis Plyler.

A Legacy of Service
BY JIM STEWART
Through his life and works, Max Heller reminded us that living is more than just existing. Living is giving.

Because Furman Matters
The university enters the final phase of its $400 million fundraising campaign poised to fulfill its historic mission in new and exciting ways.

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ON THE COVER: The university’s 9/11 Memorial, located at the main Furman Mall entrance to Furman Hall. Photo by Nathan Guinn ’09.
Like everyone else in America, I was at work on the morning of September 11, 2001. My comfortable job was that of a clinical, surgical and forensic pathologist at the community hospital of Fort Campbell, Ky. I was an Army colonel, a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, and nearing the end of a satisfying military career.

When the day began, we were an Army at peace. Then everything changed.

In my laboratory’s waiting room I watched television in detached awe as the World Trade Center events unfolded. But things became much more personal when the Pentagon was targeted by the terrorists aboard American Airlines Flight 77. I knew right away that I would be involved.

The Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES) is semi-centralized, with most forensic pathologists headquartered in Rockville, Md. The rest of us are regional medical examiners at military (Army, Navy and Air Force) hospitals in the United States, Okinawa and Germany. AFRMS needed us to rally. Because the commercial airlines and all of general aviation stopped flying that morning, the “nationwide” had to drive from as far as San Diego to the Dover Air Force Base Port Mortuary in Delaware, where the remains of the Pentagon victims were transported. Many of us drove within sight of the Pentagon to get to Delaware. Others flew space-available “boats” on military aircraft.

At Dover we began the grim job of the autopsies. This was unlike any natural disaster such as a flood, hurricane or tornado, where identification and return of remains to the families would be simple tasks. We were investigating a crime unprecedented in American history.

Among the rubble of the aircraft, offices and concrete building were the remains of five terrorists who launched the flight crew and passengers with box cutters. As we performed the autopsies, we were mindful of the need to be meticulous as we collected evidence — and of the future prosecutions of co-conspirators at which we would be the expert witnesses. This was no ordinary autopsy suite. In attendance were criminal investigators from the FBI, National Transportation Safety Board, Federal Aviation Administration and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. There were disaster liaison personnel from American Airlines and forensic anthropologists from the Department of Defense’s Central Identification Laboratory and the Smithsonian Institute. The Red Cross and USO tended to the emotional needs of the body handlers and those restoring personal effects, many of them incapacitated and very young. Grief and stress reaction teams were needed and welcomed. We received visitors from the highest levels of every branch and agency of government.

The recovery took about two weeks. Twice daily, a CH-47 Chinook helicopter transported human remains from the Pentagon to Dover. Office occupants who were not in the direct path of the aircraft were likely to be intact; they died from burns or smoke inhalation. Other remains were charred, and bodies were calcined. Still other remains were so fragmented that the anatomic sites of the disassociated body parts were uncertain. Oftentimes a single Ziploc bag held all that remained of one or more persons.

The most disturbing 2,000 square feet of the morgue were the tables where personal effects were sorted and cleaned before being returned to family members. There were passports, photo IDs, cell phones, wedding rings and children’s toys. All were cleaned of blood, jet fuel and firefighting residue. All analog watches had stopped at 9:37 a.m.

One hundred eighty-nine people perished when American Airlines Flight 77 became a weapon against the Pentagon. One hundred twenty-five of them were in the Pentagon, and 59 were aboard the aircraft. Five people — four at the Pentagon and one passenger — disappeared. Not a trace of their DNA was found.

Five DNA profiles did not match known decedents. All were male and of Middle Eastern descent. DNA has the power to elucidate ancestry.

I had my hands on two of those hijackers.

— ERIC BORG

The writer, a 1974 graduate, is a retired colonel who now works as a civilian employee for the Army. He lives in Clarksville, Tenn.
The two things I remember most about 9/11 are the devastating confiscation of the middle-class small towns, like the Upper West Side in New York, for use as temporary memorials, and desperate “missing” signs, with haunting pictures. I was under attack we rushed to the playground — only to be assured by the principal that they were perfectly safe, and that it was best to leave the students alone and not alarm them.

Most parents financially gasped their kids away, but we tried to stay calm. When we couldn’t take it anymore and took our children out, only four other students were left. My 5-year-old, his eyes huge, told me to turn on the television because a plane had just crashed into the Twin Towers. My kids, 5 and 6, were in school, and when it was clear that New York was under attack we rushed to the playground — only to be assured by the principal that they were perfectly safe, and that it was best to leave the students alone and not alarm them.

The writer, a 1969 graduate, is professor of English and director of American Studies at Rider University.

The morning of September 11, 2001, found me going about my usual tasks: getting the kids to school, making a grocery list, thinking about my next mutual fund column. That sense of normality was shattered when the phone rang, and my husband told me to turn on the television because a plane had just crashed into the World Trade Center.

As events unfolded on that heart-wrenching day, the attack on the first tower was just beginning. Both towers fell, the Pentagon was aflame, and the heroes and heroines of Flight 93 perished in the countryside of western Pennsylvania, only a few hours from my home in Erie.

When I picked up my kids from school that afternoon, I struggled with what to tell them and how to make sense of it all. Trying to frame the unimaginable in a context that would make sense to two boys, 11 and 9, was no easy task. I’m not sure my stumbling explanation made any sense, but I had to try to answer questions that were, in many ways, unanswerable.

In the weeks after the attack, I turned inward, focusing on my family. I have no doubt that what the events of that morning and evening did, however, was to make me a bit prouder of America. In the world that followed, the American character proved stronger than the American landscape. The people of the United States, indeed, will stay away from the gross exploitation. The best way to answer questions that were, in many ways, unanswerable.

I’ve been fortunate that none of my relatives or friends was directly impacted by the 9/11 attacks, so I can’t know or imagine the pain suffered by the loved ones of those who were killed. I also don’t know what it’s like to lose a family member in combat. But in my own universe, I’ve experienced painful issues that can’t be easily, quickly or inexpensively resolved.

I’ve seen my youngest son struggle with debilitating depression, had my own battles with anxiety, and experienced sky-high medical expenses and related financial distress. These — along with 9/11 and the financial crisis — have taken me to a place where I believe that nothing can ever be the same. I found it difficult to write about the events of September 11 in the United States, invade Afghanistan and Iraq, enact the Patriot Act, and create the Department of Homeland Security in an attempt to stomp out terrorism and make the world safe again. While I shared the sense of outrage regarding the attacks — the lives lost, all the lost potential — I wasn’t sure that waging two wars and wiretapping citizens at home would prevent further attacks.

On the wider stage, much has also changed. The wars have dragged on, with American, Afghan and Iraqi casualties steadily climbing, and the economy has soared, crashed and now laboriously tries to keep growing. Since 2007 millions of Americans have become unemployed, many on a long-term basis, and millions more have lost their homes to foreclosures. Thankfully, there have been no more terrorist attacks here, and both Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein are dead.

But I’m not sure if we as a society, or my family as individuals, are safe. I’ve become convinced, based not only on what’s happened on the wider stage but also in my own life, that safety, security and control are illusions. Bad things do happen. It’s just a matter of degree and, in some areas, extent, but luck.

I used to do my mornings in the private universe to try to do the right thing, to act with integrity and make the most of each moment. I can do that as a society, that’s all we can do as well. We can take sensible precautions against threats, but there is no guarantee that they will succeed.

— AMY BUTTLE
September 11, 2001, was indirectly the beginning of my relationship with the military and with my husband.

That morning, the first day of classes at Furman that year, I had to call someone in the military science department for advice about an ROTC cadet who was in one of my classes.

I was worried about this student because he had taken my class before, and I had to work even harder to make sure that my philosophical lessons were relevant. I had a new “teachable moment.”

Ten years later, I teach in the same (though now renovated) Furman Hall classrooms that I did that inauspicious day, and my world has changed, but my students have changed, too. Although 9/11 is one of those “historical” dates — people remember clearly where they were when they learned about the attacks — most members of the 2011 freshman class were born in 1993 and were only 8 when the planes crashed. They do not remember the New York City skyline with the Twin Towers, and they do not remember clearly what America was like before the attack. They know what their parents tell them, and they learn in significance in history class, along with the Challenger explosion and the Vietnam War. It is all ancient history for them.

I eventually became an “Army wife.” Not really, though, since my husband tells me regularly that I married him and not the Army. And not really, since he was “sucked” in to the Reserves.

I stood in awe of the 58,209 names inscribed in the black stone, and I could understand just a little of my father’s past.

I was hopeful that the memorial would reveal to me something of those deep memories he held within. My young fingers traced over the names of friends he lost in the war. I stood in one of the 9,229 names inscribed in the black stone, and I could understand just a little of my father’s past.

Little did I know at the time that, years later, I would have the honor of designing a memorial myself — the 9/11 Memorial on Furman’s campus, which was the senior gift provided by the Class of 2005.

Most of us have asked our parents or grandparents where they were when Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon, when Challenger exploded, when the Berlin Wall fell, or when Pearl Harbor was raided. But all of us have our own memories of where we were when the terrorists launched their attacks 10 years ago. My classmates and I had the unique experience of being excited, nervous freshmen starting our first day of college classes on September 11, 2001. What a mix of emotions we felt.

A memorial tells a story and represents a piece of history. It was a challenge to design a sculpture in memory of the 9/11 attacks, and as I did so I couldn’t help but think of the impact the Vietnam War Memorial had on me. I tried to create something that would honor the memory of the almost 3,000 people who died, and the effect it had on our country.

This fall, as part of the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of 9/11, the Office of the Chaplain is sponsoring a program titled “From the Ground Up.” In addition to formal ceremonies on September 11, the series will feature lectures about different faith traditions and a university-wide service project. Learn more at www.fromthegroundupfurman.com.
Led by a dynamic coach who knew how to bring out the best in his charges, a talented team came together 50 years ago and opened the door for championship athletics at Furman.

Dave Segal was a 22-year-old runner living in London, England, when he received an offer to attend a university he had never heard of in a part of the United States about which he was equally clueless. It was the summer of 1959, and Segal was being courted by a young American coach named Chuck Rohe, who headed the track and field program at Furman.

Segal was no ordinary runner, not by a long shot. A world-class sprinter, he had competed for the British Olympic team at the 1956 Summer Games in Melbourne, Australia, and he would represent Britain again at the 1960 Games in Rome. He was a two-time British champion in the 220-yard sprint and a silver medalist in two events at the 1958 European Championships. At the Rome Olympics, he would win a bronze medal as part of the 4x100-meter relay team.

But Rohe was no ordinary coach, either. Even though he was only 27 and a rookie college coach when he arrived at Furman in 1957, he was building a program that was quickly becoming one of the best in the Southeast. And his contacts were good enough that he counted Peter Wilson, sports editor of the London Daily Mirror, among his friends—which is how he and Segal came to be in touch with one another.

Now that Segal was in his early 20s and had his first Olympic Games behind him, he was interested in attending college in the United States. A few years earlier he had received scholarship offers from such track powerhouses as the University of California, UCLA and Villanova, but the timing wasn’t right for him. Now, though, he had an offer from a small school in South Carolina, and he was intrigued from the very beginning, especially with this coach whose confident demeanor was evident even over the phone.

So Segal packed his bags and running shoes and crossed the Atlantic in January of 1960 to begin his college career.
For such a small school, Furman has accomplished some amazing things in the athletic arena. There are basketball towing periods — the mid-’70s, featuring the high-scoring teams led by Frank Selvy ’54 and Darrell Floyd ’56, and the early ’70s, with the powerhouse squads coached by Joe Williams. There is football’s three-decade run of conference championships and national title game appearances. There is golf’s ultimate foursome of Betty King ’77, Beth Daniel ’75, Brad Faxon ’83 and Dentie Pepper ’77. And there’s men’s basketball from the early 2000s, when future NBA stars like Rasheed Wallace, John Salmons and Donte Stallworth were the team’s main weapons.

But the forerunner to all this is the cross country and track and field program, which began to take shape after the university became a member of the Southern Conference in 1952 without winning a championship. But that changed on February 25, 1961, when the men’s indoor track and field team beat Virginia Military Institute, the three-time defending champion, for the university’s first league title.

That was just the beginning. Furman also won the cross country title in 1961 and would go on to win the league’s indoor and outdoor track and field championships in 1962 and 1963. In all, the cross country and track and field squads won Furman’s first eight conference titles between 1961 and 1965.

“I can tell you why we were so good,” Rohe says. “We had the best athletes, pure and simple. We were a well-rounded team, and we were able to score in most events. Those guys were just better than everybody else.”

Segal performed like the Olympic-caliber athlete he was. Before graduating in 1963, he claimed nine individual conference championships and was instrumental in helping Furman to five league titles. As a senior he won the 60-yard, 100-yard and 220-yard dashes. He still holds Furman records in 130-meter hurdles (6.2 seconds) and as a member of the mile relay team (3:17).

But he was not alone. Between 1958 and 1965, 29 Furman runners earned all-conference status in cross country and indoor and outdoor track. They combined to claim first place in 72 events, with 41 of those titles coming during the golden period of 1961 through 1963.

Three members of the team during that era — runners Segal, Fleck and Loustalot ’65 — are in the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame. Other runners who won multiple events during their careers were Armstrong, Pat Anderson ’65, Jim Martin ’61, Avery Sayer ’66, Thad Talley ’62, Tommy Thompson ’64, Dave Tyler ’64, Coppley ’65, Ken Garrett ’60 (shot put), Bill Keel ’63 and Ed Moore ’64 (shot put) won multiple indoor events.

Rohe was indeed a master recruiter who went far and wide to attract athletes to Furman. Talley and Loustalot were from Mississippi, Martin and Moore from Texas, Vickers from Tennessee, and Keel from Illinois. Armstrong grew up in Johnson City, Tenn., in the pouring rain, was just two-tenths of a second off the existing world record. Segal points out, though, that he was affected, as many runners are, by the solitude that is inherent in such a solitary sport.

“Coach Rohe changed my life,” he says. “I was self-centered when I came to Furman. I was a runner, and running is a very lonely thing. But he taught me how to move beyond that self-centeredness and be part of a team, and that changed everything for me.”

He also discovered the joys of being a good teammate. Although Segal says that running a quarter-mile was, and still is, the stuff of his nightmares, he ran the distance anyway as a member of the mile relay team.

“I got a call at home out of the blue,” says Armstrong, who today lives in Summerville, S.C., and is retired from IBM Corporation. “I had never heard of Furman and wasn’t planning on leaving the state to go to college. But by the time I put off the phone with Coach Rohe, I had decided I would be going to Furman.”

Furman may have had the athletes to become a dominant team, but Rohe was the driving force behind the program’s success. To this day, some 50 years later, both Segal and Armstrong refer to him as “Coach.” They describe him as a dynamic mentor who brought out the best in his athletes, and whose influence went far beyond the field of competition.

“He got more out of a group of guys than you can ever imagine,” Armstrong says. “It was very demanding, but also very reasonable. There are certain leaders you will follow anywhere, and Coach Rohe was one of those people.”

But what exactly was Rohe going to teach a British Olympian who had competed at the highest level all over the world? Segal admits that one of the reasons he chose Furman was to be a “big fish in a small pond” — and, in fact, his times improved while he was at Furman. His best time of 9.5 in the 100-yard dash, run on a dirt track in Johnson City, Tenn., in the pouring rain, was just two-tenths of a second off the existing world record.

Furman Track Team Makes Bid To Be Called Greatest

Rohe’s teams opened the door for championship athletics at Furman. The university had been a member of the Southern Conference since 1952 without winning a championship. But that changed on February 25, 1961, when the men’s indoor track and field team beat Virginia Military Institute, the three-time defending champion, for the university’s first league title.

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Rohe lives in the Orlando, Fla., area, just a few streets away.

The author is director of news and media relations at Furman.

Furman seemed to attract people of superior character, and I knew I needed to raise my game every time, but with three other people depending on me I would do the best I could.”

While wildly successful, Rohe’s term at Furman was relatively short. The run the program established during the early 1960s and crested by the latter part of the decade.

It should come as no surprise that Rohe continued to enjoy success. He coached Tennessee to 21 consecutive SEC team championship over the next 46 years — cross country, and the championships. They talk mainly about what it was like for a group of athletes to band together and achieve things they didn’t believe were possible.

For his part, Segal is less interested in discussing his running career than he is in describing how, a natural-born loner, joined a fraternity and edited the school newspaper while at Furman. And that may be the program’s greatest legacy — that it made many young men better than they expected to be.

The truth is, Furman had a 15-yard lead entering the last leg — an excellent foursome. A victory would ensure the title, and Furman had a 15-yard leaf entering the last leg — until the baton fell on the ground; in the form of a dropped baton, snuffed the opportunity.

When I saw that baton fall on the ground, for a moment I looked like everything had come out of me, Coach Chuck Rohe said after the meet. The miscue meant that everything would be decided in the pole vault. Furman’s hopes rested with Bill Keel 63, who needed to tie or win in the team was to take the championship. The March 4 issue of The Hornet provided this breathless account of what happened in the perspective of a team member, who wrote anonymously:

“T he 1984 Southern Conference indoor track and field meet in Lexington, Va., came down to the final event. Upstart Furman and Virginia Military Institute, the three-time defending champion, battled for the championship throughout the late February weekend, even with the FU Roadrunners, as the student newspaper. The Hornet, called them, suffering through various misfortunes. Injuries hampered the performance of one of the team’s top scorers, the Furman runners in the 480 were thrown off rhythm by two false starts and wound up back in the pack, and, for short time, all but the last of the squad were off form.

Still, their teammates picked up the slack, and as the meet wound down Furman was in solid position to win. VMU led by one point with two events remaining. But up next was the mile relay, in which Furman had an excellent foursome. A victory would ensure the title, and Furman had a 15-yard leaf entering the last leg — until the baton fell on the ground; in the form of a dropped baton, snuffed the opportunity.

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“Dramatically, a bush settled over the field house. Keel nervously rubbed his hands as he stood in the center of the pole vault run-up with the pole resting on his right shoulder. He came smoothly to attention, tensed the flexibility of the pole, and began his run. The patter of spikes in the cinders echoed throughout the field house as rain would on an iron roof. Suddenly the rain stopped and Keel sailed majestically through the air and over the bar to bring Furman its first Conference Championship ever.

But as Rohe says today, “The first championship is always the best. What an exciting event that was, when our guys battled through a lot of adversity to win the first conference championship in any sport for Furman. All the hard work and dedication by those athletes finally paid off, and today they can be justifiably proud of the program they established.”

And of the tradition they started.

— JUDE PRINCE PARK

Breakthrough Victory

The author, a 1996 graduate, is a sports information assistant at Furman.
During a visit abroad in 1949, Beatrice Dennis Plyler and her husband, Furman president John L. Plyler, stopped at Versailles, the royal palace in France. At the time, Furman was planning to move to a new location because of space limitations and the desire to unite the men's and women's campuses in downtown Greenville on one site.

“That was a big dream, as you can imagine, to be able to build a new campus when Furman didn’t have money in reserve to do it,” Mrs. Plyler said years later. “But John used to say, ‘Dream no small dreams.’”

The Plylers felt it was important that the new campus provide not only the finest in facilities and services for faculty, students and staff, but be attractive as well. “I wanted everything [at Furman] to be beautiful,” Mrs. Plyler said.

While she and her husband admired the beauty of Versailles — and without yet knowing where the new Furman would be — they talked about the charm and distinctiveness that water features could bring to a college campus. During the same trip they visited England and was impressed by the country’s lush, landscaped gardens.

Several years later, during a family trip to New England, the Plylers visited noted private colleges such as Amherst, Williams and others. They returned from all of these trips with ideas that could be incorporated into the new Furman campus. The beauty of today’s Furman speaks to the success of their travels.

John Plyler was president of Furman for 25 years, from 1939 to 1964 — longer than any other president in the university’s history. Beatrice Plyler was a full and supportive partner in his work.

When she died June 11 at the age of 100, she had lived a life in which many of her own dreams had been realized, and in which her husband’s vision for Furman had matched perhaps even surpassed their high expectations.

As she said in a 2001 speech during Furman’s 175th anniversary celebration, “I’m often asked what John Plyler would say if he saw Furman today. I usually answer that he would be very pleased with what has transpired, but I’m always tempted to say that he had seen Furman as it is today.”

Born in McBath, S.C., in 1911, Beatrice Dennis married John Plyler in 1932. She was 17 years his junior.

Just seven years later, he would become president of Furman.

She took on her new duties with poise and self-assurance. “I wanted John to have all the support he needed, and I wanted to be that support,” she said.

One person who knew her as an undergraduate and, later, as part of the statehood of presidents’ wives was Martha Mauney. John’s sister, Martha Mauney Johns ’47, wife of John Johns, Furman’s 55th president, said, “She was one of the most beautiful women I’ve ever seen. I was somewhat in awe of her.”

Mrs. Johns says, “I remember going to her home on University Ridge with a fellow student, Betty Mann, whose father was a law partner of Bea’s husband before he became president. I was 19 years old, sitting beside Bea, trying to look sophisticated and “admired her beauty and charm as the president’s wife. I wasn’t privileged to have much time with her, but she was always friendly even though she was busy raising three young sons. I could never visit in my wretched dreams have thought of following in her footsteps. But in 1976 she did — and they immediately embarked on a close friendship. “She took me under her wing,” Mrs. Johns says. “We walked the campus, and she pointed out important things to me.”

“She showed me where a new president’s home had originally been planned on a hill at the north end of the lake, and how a curved rock bridge had been built based on one she and Dr. Plyler had seen in Scotland. We all know that the rose garden was her idea, and the beauty of the entire campus reflects her inherent good taste.”

Indeed, as the 2004 citation for Mrs. Plyler’s honorary Doctor of Humanities degree stated, “Her influence is evident throughout the campus landscape and in the decor and furnishings of the library, Trustees Dining Room and residence hall parlors. She cultivated countless friends for Furman, and by her very nature she taught generations of students the arts of graciousness and hospitality.”

Furman also presented Mrs. Plyler the Mary Mildred Sullivan Award in 1977 for nobility of character and commitment to service, and in 1996 the fountain opposite the Charles E. Daniel Chapel was dedicated in her honor.

Following her husband’s death in 1966, she remained an elegant presence on campus. She lived a life centered on her faith — she was active in Greenville’s First Baptist Church for 79 years — her family, and Furman, and she was instrumental in setting the high standards by which the university continues to be measured.

Furman president Rod Smolla said, “All of us join with the Plyler family in celebrating her remarkable life and all she has meant to the community and those who loved her.”

Martha Johns added the appropriate coda: “Bea’s love for Furman was unwavering.”

Beatrice Dennis Plyler is survived by sons John, Jr. ’56 (Caroline), Jim ’58 (Chartee Muckenfuss ’59), and Keith ’64 (Jeannie Bell ); seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a large extended family. Memorials: Beatrice Dennis Plyler Scholarship, Furman University, 3320 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, S.C. 29601; or a charity of one’s choice. — Jim Stewart

Bea Plyler helped set the bar for the high standards by which the university continues to be measured.

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A Legacy of Service

The June 13 death of Max Heller, a Furman trustee and former mayor of Greenville, was followed by a chorus of accolades, reminiscences and words of appreciation about a man recognized and admired for, as his obituary stated, his “good heart, kind deeds and humanitarism.”

The Greenville News called him “one of the visionaries behind Greenville’s European-style rebirth.” The Greenville Journal hailed him as “the patron saint of the city’s downtown renaissance” and said that Greenville is “known nationally as a shining example of revitalization.” As mayor in the 1970s and as a community leader for years, Heller was deeply involved in the efforts to transform the downtown area, which 30 years ago was little more than a ghost town marked by vacant stores and empty streets. His commitment (and the resulting renaissance) was remarkable; today Greenville’s Main Street and West End are alive with restaurants, retail stores, parks and courtyards, a gleaming theater center, and high-end condominium developments and hotels, and the city is packed with people day and night.

Max Heller was a Jew who in 1938 escaped the growing Nazi oppression in Austria with the assistance of Mary Mills, a friend from Greenville who helped him arrange to immigrate to the States. Soon after his arrival he landed a job as a stock boy at Greenville’s Piedmont Shirt Company. There, he was introduced to Furman.

One day a colleague tracked him down and told him, “A judge wants to see you.” In recalling the incident, Heller said he didn’t like the sound of this summons and wondered, “Why would a judge want to see me?”

The judge happened to be John L. Plyler, president of Furman from 1939 to 1964. Having heard Heller’s story and knowing of the young man’s work ethic, Plyler became his mentor and arranged for Heller to take English lessons. “It was most touching,” Heller said, “and it’s something you don’t forget.”

The Plyler-Heller connection marked the start of a lasting relationship between the Heller family and the university. Heller would go on to build a successful business, he elected to Greenville City Council, and eventually serve two terms as mayor. With his wife, Trude, who also immigrated from Austria, he maintained and expanded his ties with Furman, establishing scholarships and supporting many university programs. He and Trude received honorary degrees from the university, and Max would serve several terms on the board of trustees.

“As Richard W. Riley ’54, current chair of the Furman board and former governor of South Carolina, told the Greenville Journal, “Most people don’t realize how much Max did for Furman.”

The Furman cause with which the Hellers are most closely linked is Service Corps, the volunteer organization that is one of the university’s best known and most active student groups. The Hellers were good friends with Barry Altvater, the group’s founder, and during the early years they worked to establish many of the relationships Service Corps maintains to this day.

In 2002 Furman announced that a $1.5 million endowment, provided by family and the university. Heller would go on to start of a lasting relationship between the Heller

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The Plyler-Heller connection marked the start of a lasting relationship between the Heller family and the university. Heller would go on to build a successful business, he elected to Greenville City Council, and eventually serve two terms as mayor. With his wife, Trude, who also immigrated from Austria, he maintained and expanded his ties with Furman, establishing scholarships and supporting many university programs. He and Trude received honorary degrees from the university, and Max would serve several terms on the board of trustees.

“As Richard W. Riley ’54, current chair of the Furman board and former governor of South Carolina, told the Greenville Journal, “Most people don’t realize how much Max did for Furman.”

The Furman cause with which the Hellers are most closely linked is Service Corps, the volunteer organization that is one of the university’s best known and most active student groups. The Hellers were good friends with Barry Altvater, the group’s founder, and during the early years they worked to establish many of the relationships Service Corps maintains to this day.

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Furman and Greenville are better places thanks to the vision and leadership of Max Heller. How of his own miracle — his chance meeting with his “angel,” Mary Mills, at a dance in Austria — led to his escape from Nazi oppression. It also, he said, helped shape his philosophy of “sharing oneself with others.”

“All of us search for a way to understand what our role in life is,” he said that day. “How do we serve? And how do we serve God? In my opinion, the best way is to serve his children. And what you in Service Corps do — you’re doing God’s work. You have made people better, and you have become better people while learning what life is all about.”

A few days after Heller’s death, former Service Corps leaders Andrew Barnhill ’10 and Conner Degen ’09 wrote an editorial for The Greenville News extolling Heller’s contributions and impact. They concluded with these words:

“As we move into the second decade of the 21st century, we are reminded of the overwhelming needs of our community. We are reminded of the people with disabilities seeking opportunities to exercise their own agency in our places of work and play. We are reminded of the children, these without mentors and guardians teaching them to read and helping them navigate the challenges of adolescence.

“And we are reminded of the projects not yet born, seeking a Furman student or Greenville resident to bring them to life. But most of all, we are reminded of Max Heller — his propensity for action, and his legacy of service. As he reminded us, living is more than just existing. Living is giving.”

Max Heller died at the age of 92. “Popi Max” is survived by his wife; daughters Francie Heller (a member of the Furman board) and Susan Heller Shaw; son Steven Heller and wife Margaret; six grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorials: Max and Trude Heller Scholarship Fund at Congregation Beth Israel, 425 Summit Dr., Greenville 29609; and the Max and Trude Heller Service Corps, Furman University, 1300 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville 29613, or the Max and Trude Heller Education Fund at Congregation Beth Israel, 425 Summit Dr., Greenville 29609.

— AM D’SMITH

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“...And how do we serve? And how do we serve God? In my opinion, the best way is to serve his children.” — Max Heller

The Greenville News called him “one of the visionaries behind Greenville’s European-style rebirth.” The Greenville Journal hailed him as “the patron saint of the city’s downtown renaissance” and said that Greenville is “known nationally as a shining example of revitalization.” As mayor in the 1970s and as a community leader for years, Heller was deeply involved in the efforts to transform the downtown area, which 30 years ago was little more than a ghost town marked by vacant stores and empty streets. His commitment (and the resulting renaissance) was remarkable; today Greenville’s Main Street and West End are alive with restaurants, retail stores, parks and courtyards, a gleaming theater center, and high-end condominium developments and hotels, and the city is packed with people day and night.

Max Heller was a Jew who in 1938 escaped the growing Nazi oppression in Austria with the assistance of Mary Mills, a friend from Greenville who helped him arrange to immigrate to the States. Soon after his arrival he landed a job as a stock boy at Greenville’s Piedmont Shirt Company. There, he was introduced to Furman.

One day a colleague tracked him down and told him, “A judge wants to see you.” In recalling the incident, Heller said he didn’t like the sound of this summons and wondered, “Why would a judge want to see me?”

The judge happened to be John L. Plyler, president of Furman from 1939 to 1964. Having heard Heller’s story and knowing of the young man’s work ethic, Plyler became his mentor and arranged for Heller to take English lessons. “It was most touching,” Heller said, “and it’s something you don’t forget.”

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Prospectus for Completion of the Comprehensive Fundraising Campaign

Because Furman Matters

www.becausefurmanmatters.com
Dear Friends:

In June 2011, I completed my first year as Furman’s president — too soon to have reached any particular destination, but time enough to perceive the winds of change and to chart a course for the future. From the vantage of what has been an exhilarating year, I am pleased to report that Furman is poised to step out of the ordinary, and to realize its historic mission in new and exciting ways.

Much of this optimism is being driven by the development of a strategic plan that has involved the campus community, alumni, parents and friends in broadly inclusive and frank discussions about Furman’s values, identity and, perhaps most importantly, its aspirations. In April, the Strategic Planning Committee issued a preliminary report suggesting directions in four critical areas:

- The growth of the mind and the spirit.
- A mission-focused approach to admission and financial aid.
- Commitment to meaningful diversity and equality.
- Engagement with the larger community.

The preliminary report candidly asserts, “Without money, there is no mission. Without mission, there is no money.” This statement clearly underscores the pressing need to complete the $400 million Because Furman Matters campaign, which to date has more than $325 million in commitments.

Since the campaign’s public launch in 2007, we have focused on strengthening our endowment, and we have been successful. We will continue to pursue this goal, but we have sharpened our fundraising priorities to bring them into closer alignment with the emerging strategic plan.

On the following pages, you will find a number of opportunities for meaningful involvement in this historic campaign. My hope is that you will identify some that will resonate with you.

Sincerely,

Rodney A. Smolla

Engaging the Mind and the Spirit

Strategic plans have provided the impetus and the direction for a series of successful fundraising campaigns at Furman over the past several decades. The Because Furman Matters campaign is in the unique position of bridging two planning efforts: one conceived during the presidency of David Shi, and a second now emerging under the leadership of his successor, Rodney Smolla. Each is distinguished by creative interpretations of the university’s strengths and opportunities, as well as its aspirations for the future. Most important, each is linked by an abiding commitment to Furman’s mission.

The current strategic planning initiative — with its emphasis on mind and spirit, renewed commitment to fiscal discipline, and world-embracing approach to opportunity and service — is mirrored in the evolving agenda of needs for the closing phase of the comprehensive campaign, which seeks at least $100 million to reach and surpass the $400 million goal.

As it counts down toward its final $100 million, the campaign offers a variety of opportunities for donors to be meaningfully engaged in Furman’s future, grouped within four priority areas:

- Strengthening academic excellence and access to the Furman experience ($45 million).
- Transforming the student experience: educating for character ($20 million).
- Uniting and collaborating with the community ($15 million).
- Renewing excellence in intercollegiate athletics ($20 million).

“...we have reached a crossroads, where one direction leads us to a path often chosen, and the other to rarer opportunities that may make all the difference.”

Preliminary Report of the Strategic Planning Committee
April 2011
Strengthening Academic Excellence and Access to the Furman Experience

Supporting academic achievement is the standard for all colleges and universities and is the centerpiece of any fundraising campaign. At Furman, the historic commitment to undergraduate teaching, intellectual mentoring, and active engagement through research, study abroad and internships requires sustained advocacy at a level commensurate with the university’s distinguished record of accomplishment — and its ambitions.

This area of priority seeks commitments of $45 million to support:

- Creation of endowed professorships to stimulate teaching and scholarship and enhance the curriculum.
- Funding for faculty development and student internship and research programs.
- Expansion of international education opportunities to broaden students’ cultural awareness and capacity to participate in the global economy, with emphases on study away, recruitment of international students, and advancing Furman’s national leadership position in Asian Studies.
- Concentrated efforts to increase student and faculty diversity.
- Additional financial aid to attract and retain students who can benefit most from and contribute to the Furman experience, and to alleviate pressure on the university’s operating budget.

Poverty and the Power of One

A first-year seminar titled Origins of Global Poverty, taught by Erik Ching, inspired Emily Wirzba ’13 to pursue a degree in philosophy with a concentration in poverty studies.

“He was a tough teacher, and he made me re-think issues like trade policy and the ways history is read and interpreted,” the Hillsborough, N.C., resident says.

One of the first group of 10 Charles H. Townes Scholars — academically talented out-of-state students who receive significant scholarship support thanks to a $17 million grant from The Duke Endowment — Emily is a member of the cross country and track teams, the student chapter of Amnesty International, the Environmental Action Group and the Global Citizenship Program. In the summer of 2011 she took advantage of a $1,500 stipend provided by the Townes program and worked with the homeless at Urban Ministries of Durham, N.C., where she also administered a homelessness prevention survey.

“I’ve learned to be patient and committed,” she says, “and that one person really can make a difference. There’s a lot to do, and room for more.”
Transforming the Student Experience:
Educating for Character

Furman has a well-established reputation for its signature approach to the liberal arts, an educational model combining challenging academics with practical applications through research, internships, service and study away. As the university seeks to develop both mind and spirit, it will take deliberate steps to help students gain a sense of purpose, deepen their moral and spiritual grounding and direction, and cultivate leadership in their chosen fields and among their families, communities and nation.

This area of priority seeks commitments of $20 million to support:

- Reconfiguration of South Housing (formerly the men’s residence halls) to develop a freshman residential village.
- Renovation of the University Center to establish a more dynamic hub for student activities outside the classroom.
- Additional funding for the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection to strengthen student discernment of fundamental questions of identity and spirituality that complement intellectual development.
- Continued growth of services to support career discernment and placement, the Shucker Leadership Institute, Heller Service Corps, multicultural affairs, club and intramural sports, and other student life activities.

Building Stronger Bonds

Furman’s living and learning environment has historically promoted strong peer relationships and brought students into close contact with faculty and other mentors.

Now the university seeks to enhance its residential life program for first-year students to provide an immersive setting that supports development of mind and spirit and is more fully integrated with students’ academic lives. Focusing on South Housing (formerly the men’s residence halls), Furman plans to create a freshman village by adding at least one residence hall and reconfiguring existing facilities to support more active centers of learning.

Classroom and advising space will be incorporated, and the architecture and surrounding landscape will create gathering points for individual reflection and group interaction. To strengthen the intellectual and social bonds among students and their mentors, Faculty Fellows and their families will be invited to live in the complex as “faculty masters.”

In borrowing from the classic Oxford University model, Furman believes this plan will bolster student success and retention, enhance the sense of community and mutual support among first-year students, and ultimately strengthen their loyalty not only to their class but to the university.
Sustainability and the Long View

Andy Wallin ’12 has combined a longstanding affection for music and an abiding belief in environmental sustainability into a double major, but it is his summer experience as a Shi Center Student Fellow that may have the most significant effect on his professional and personal life.

Funded by the Arthur Vinings Davis Foundation, the competitive community fellowship helped the Mauldin, S.C., resident work with the chief staff member of Greenville’s Green Ribbon Advisory Committee during the summer of 2011, supporting a municipal effort to apply sustainable and responsible practices in the design and construction of new buildings and city operations.

Student fellowships, faculty development experiences, a dynamic speakers series and a Community Conservation Corps are just some of the initiatives funded by gifts to Because Furman Matters from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and The Duke Endowment, among other organizations and individuals. Early gifts to the campaign also provided $5 million to construct and endow the operations of Cliffs Cottage, a LEED Gold-certified facility that houses Furman’s nationally recognized sustainability programs.

“What we’re doing at Furman is for the future,” Wallin says. “I probably won’t see all of the benefits — they will come in 30, 50 or 100 years. And that is deeply rewarding.”

Uniting and Collaborating with the Community

“Town-gown” should be more than shorthand for conflict between institutions and the communities in which they reside. Furman has enjoyed a strong relationship with Greenville and South Carolina, and seeks to enhance its role as a key partner in the region’s intellectual, cultural and economic development. A number of important partnerships already exist, and strengthening those relationships while exploring new opportunities will be important to instilling in students an ongoing sense of responsibility to the larger world.

This area of priority seeks commitments of $15 million to support:

- A stronger presence in Greenville through cultural, commercial and service leadership initiatives, including partnerships with prominent arts organizations.
- Ongoing enhancement of the Shi Center’s leadership role in environmental education and stewardship.
- Greater opportunities and a new facility for Continuing Education programs (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Corporate and Professional Development, Bridges to a Brighter Future, Undergraduate Evening Studies and Learning For You).
- Program development for the Riley Institute at Furman.
- Expanded community service programs.
Renewing Excellence in Intercollegiate Athletics

College athletics have long been an avenue of opportunity for talented student-athletes, a source of pride and distinction for the institutions themselves, and an engine that drives school spirit. Furman has proven it can combine competitive success with the intellectual and character growth of its student-athletes. In 2010, for example, Furman ranked third nationally among the 212 NCAA Division I institutions in graduation rate of student-athletes.

A challenge going forward will be providing resources to support athletics and to bring Furman to national prominence in all sports, which will in turn support student recruitment, upward mobility for student-athletes, greater cultural diversity on campus, and connection with alumni, donors and friends.

This area of priority seeks commitments of $20 million to support:

- Expansion and renovation of facilities, including the football stadium, fieldhouse and press box, and the baseball, soccer, golf and softball facilities.
- Funding to enhance resources for coaching, recruiting and retaining student-athletes.
- Scholarship funding to recruit talented student-athletes.

Blue Shoes: Paying It Forward

Furman’s track and cross country programs are on the move thanks in large part to the impact of the Blue Shoes Scholarship fund drive.

Launched with a founding gift from Chris Borch ’78 (a California businessman and former Paladin runner) and his wife, Andrea, and bolstered by donations from hundreds of contributors and a series of fundraising events, the program has, in six years, raised approximately $2.5 million to endow scholarships for Furman’s cross country and track and field student-athletes.

Borch named the program after the blue Onitsuka Tiger running shoes given to members of the track team his second day as a Furman student. He still has the shoes.

He says, “My running days at Furman taught me lessons about setting a goal, working hard and not giving up. Through Blue Shoes, Andrea and I want to be sure the opportunity to run and learn such lessons is there for other young men and women.”

The Borchs will contribute $500,000 over the next several years to support the program’s operational costs. Their gift will provide start-up funding for several scholarship-raising initiatives and will help Furman and ZAP Fitness extend a partnership that began two years ago. ZAP, which operates a training camp for Olympic hopefuls in the mountains of North Carolina, will use Furman as a winter training site for its elite distance runners.

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Because Furman Matters

**Milestones**

- **225 million** in commitments at the October 2007 public campaign launch
- **115** incoming students who have participated in the Lilly Center’s “Connections”
- **213 thousand square feet** in the Townes Center
- **328 million** in commitments through August 2011
- **70%** of alumni participating through August 2011
- **32.2 million** in commitments to the $63 million Townes Center for Science (completed in 2008)
- **195** million through August 2011 for endowed scholarships
- **116** students who have received scholarship aid through the Furman United fund
- **2009** Shi Center for Sustainability established and located in Cliffs Cottage (completed in 2008)
- **170** million — estimated value of the Hollingsworth Estate bequest in 2004

**Depth, Breadth and the Big Bang**

In the fall of 2008, the $63 million Charles H. Townes Center for Science ushered in a new era for an already celebrated sciences program at Furman. The centerpiece of the early fundraising for Because Furman Matters, the Townes Center includes a renovated John L. Pyler Hall, the incorporation of Richard W. Riley Hall, and construction of two new buildings, Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Hall and South Hall. It has brought together the natural and physical sciences with mathematics and computer science while opening new opportunities for study and research.

Here’s what faculty members say about the Townes Center:

- The new building was like another Big Bang event, launching the sciences into a new future. It actually had a sense of being a new beginning for us.
  — Bill Baker, Physics
- It affords so many attractive areas for displaying student work that even a brief tour announces loud and clear that our students do a considerable amount of out-of-class learning.
  — Lon Knight, Chemistry
- All the windows into labs and classrooms make apparent to current and future students the breadth and sheer activity of learning and research going on here.
  — Eli Hestermann, Biology
- At the same time Furman has opened this wonderful new facility, we have been successful in raising more than $7 million to support research, curriculum development, professional development and outreach through grants from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and Merck Foundation/American Association for Advancement of Science.
  — John Wheeler, Chemistry
- The Townes Center has reinvigorated our existing science departments and contributed to the development of new and innovative majors, including neurobiology and sustainability.
  — Wade Worthen, Biology
- A walk with my class through the rock garden often turns into a discussion on geologic and landscape history of the Uplands of South Carolina and its significance to natural hazards or natural resources distribution.
  — Suresh Muthukrishnan, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Through August 2011, $5.8 million toward the building’s ongoing support, opportunity, education and hope will be distributed:

- Scholarships (52%)
- Endowed (18%)
- Capital (12%)
- Campaign Leadership (6%)
- Campaign Advisory Board (6%)
- Lilly Center Task Force (4%)
- Shí Center Task Force (3%)
- Townes Steering Committee (2%)
- Asian Studies Task Force (1%)
- Paladin for Furman’s Future (1%)
- Richard Furman Society (1%)
- Faculty and Friends (1%)
- Donors to the Lilly Endowed Chair (1%)

With the help of a generous naming gift from longtime Furman trustee Gordon Herring ’65 and his wife, Sarah Weaver Herring ’66, and the enthusiastic fundraising efforts of members of the Other Lilly Lifelong (OLL) program, Furman’s rapidly expanding Division of Continuing Education will soon be housed under one roof.

When ground was broken August 25 for the 22,000-square-foot Herring Center for Lifelong Learning, the ceremony represented an early success story for the Because Furman Matters campaign.

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Hallmarks of Furman’s 2011 retirees: Commitment, foresight and integrity

At the close of the 2010-11 academic year, Furman said farewell to five faculty members who worked at the university for a combined 173 years. As a tribute to the retirees, all of whom have been awarded emeritus status, Furman magazine asked departmental colleagues (and, in two cases, former students) to comment on their careers and contributions.

JIM EDWARDS

In all, Jim Edwards has spent 45 years on Furman’s campus—first as a student and, since 1970, all on the faculty. He has had an impact on everything from the dorm rooms to the classrooms, and he has the singular honor of being the only Furman professor to have won the Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching twice—in 1975 and again in 2011. What Jim will be remembered for most, though, is his deep love of ideas. He thinks in a way that the rest of us aspire to. I remember seeing him after class long ago, and he was visibly agitated. I learned that he was struggling with a problem in Descartes’ Meditations that had come up in his Introduction to Philosophy course. After 40 years of teaching this introductory course, he still thought seriously about such issues.

Jim struck a rare balance between the demands of teaching and of scholarship. He has been an extremely caring and influential teacher and, at the same time, an incredibly productive scholar. His book Ethics Without Philosophy: Wittgenstein and the Moral Life is a standard worth keeping.

— BETTY KELLY

NOEL KANE-MAGUIRE

“Bloody ripper!”

Director of the Furman chemistry department and those words from Australia native Noel Kane-Maguire—KM to his students and colleagues—sum up and define his career.

KM first arrived at Furman in the fall of 1979. He was following in the footsteps of his wife, Betty, when she had also returned to the library, where she had worked as a student before graduating in 1967. Now she was head of technical services.

For 32 years, he ran the department that served students and faculty available to give someone is that they are “drop dead smart.” Jim himself is drop dead smart, and every student that people will probably remember him for is that they are “drop dead smart.” Jim himself is drop dead smart, and

— RICHARDSON

FRANK POWELL

As professor of health sciences at Furman since 1974 and, more recently, as director of sustainability, Frank Powell has often been asked to explain Furman’s role in environmental issues.

Always committed to social and environmental policy change, he spoke out early and fearlessly about health and environmental causes—protesting rivers, lakes and forests, promoting plant-based diets—that are now widely accepted but were considered radical when he proposed them.

In the 1980s Frank began the Senior Activist Recreation Program, in which he preached the value of rigorous activity for senior citizens. Instead of promoting the virtues of walking and light exercise, he spurred senior citizens to live large and jump high, throw the shot put and discus, run sprints, and train for state and national competitions. The results were profound, and Frank’s work gained national attention. Of course, today publications from Time to the Wall Street Journal routinely tout the virtues of vigorous activity into old age. Soon after arriving at Furman, Frank collaborated with the late Sander Meltzer to develop a course concept that replaced the traditional physical skills courses that Furman and most liberal arts schools required. Their efforts laid the foundation for a course that has been a hallmark of Furman’s curriculum for nearly 40 years. For two decades he also coached the divers on Furman’s intercollegiate team, and many students learned the basics of gymnastics and swimming, and picked up popular skills class. In both actions and words, Frank has been a pioneer—and often has proven to be a visionary.

— BILL PERCE
The revised policy, adopted in April of 2010, followed two earlier revisions, one in 2007 that permitted alcohol to be served at the grill, core, alumni house, Timmons Arena and Events Conference Center, and the other in 2009 that allowed of-age students living in The Vinings (which Furman owns) on Duncan Chapel Road to possess alcohol in their apartments. The latest revision, authored by a committee of trustees, students, administration, faculty and alumni and approved by the trustees after extensive study and research, mandates an online alcohol education course for freshmen, prohibits bulk quantities of alcohol from being served, and provides strict penalties for those who commit infractions. It subjects anyone caught playing drinking games or displaying alcohol paraphernalia to stop times and educational intervention.

Carnon says the revised policy makes the university’s rules more consistent while maintaining a controlled, closely monitored environment. The results for 2011-12, the first year of the policy’s no significant changes in alcohol-related incidents, underage drinking or creation for public intoxication. Furman’s disciplinary sanctions are strict compared to those at most colleges. Underage students found in possession of alcohol face an initial $100 fine, written warning, alcohol education and parental notification. The fine for providing alcohol to anyone under 21 is $200, as is for having a party where alcohol is served.

Alcohol continues to be prohibited in South Housing and Lakehouse Housing, where most first- and second-year students live.

— JOHN ROBERTS

For more about Furman’s alcohol and substance abuse policies, visit www.furman.edu, click on “Student Life,” and follow the links.

Now for the rest of the story . . .

NOW THAT I’VE WIPED most of the egg from my face, here’s the follow-up to “Sing Along to the Victory Song.”

Wardies who probably can still play the song in their sleep. Did they ever. Less than 24 hours after the magazine hit the mail, I heard from John Beckford, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, who in his former life was a music professor and announcer for football halftime shows.

He informed me that the band has actually been showcasing the “Victory Song” at Paladin games for, oh, about 20 years. John Carmichael, band director in the early 1990s, discovered the music in the archives and did an instrumental arrangement. I go to lots of Furman games. I’ve heard the “Time for the Furman Victory Song” announcement. But I didn’t make the connection, probably because it was out of context and because I was thinking “choir work.” Why didn’t I have someone actually play the piece, I don’t know.

Thoroughly embarrassed, I prepared for an onslaught of complaints from outraged band alumni.

There was no onslaught or outrage. But a number of readers did write to express confusion, surprise and/or shock that I didn’t know what song I was talking about. I felt a little better, though, after reading such comments as “We [band members] always wondered where it came from” and “We never knew it had words.” And even one “I liked the article.”

So I spoke to a couple of the local musicians who probably can still play the song in their sleep. Did they ever. Here’s what they said.

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He told me that the song was news to me — and I’ve worked at Furman for 25 years, plus I’m an alumnu, plus some consider me the institutional memory, so I should have known.

As a word and history guy, my curiosity was piqued by this 10-year-old composition. And since Waring, a famous choral director, wrote it, I saw it as a choral work. In trying to uncover the story behind the music, I checked with the James B. Duke Library and the Robert J. Maxwell, Jr., Music Media Center and Library. Inquiries also went to a member of the music department staff, to a current and a former member of the choral faculty, and to a few more enunciated Furman luminaries than I.

The libraries had the sheet music but no other information. A few people had heard of the song but knew nothing else. I found no mention of it in the most recent university history or the history of choral music at Furman. So I wrote up what I had and included the words, figuring someone might help fill in the blanks.

Then I heard from John Beckford, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, who in his former life was a music professor and announcer for football halftime shows.

He informed me that the band has actually been showcasing the “Victory Song” at Paladin games for, oh, about 20 years. John Carmichael, band director in the early 1990s, discovered the music in the archives and did an instrumental arrangement. I go to lots of Furman games. I’ve heard the “Time for the Furman Victory Song” announcement. But I didn’t make the connection, probably because it was out of context and because I was thinking “choir work.” Why didn’t I have someone actually play the piece, I don’t know.

Thoroughly embarrassed, I prepared for an onslaught of complaints from outraged band alumni.

There was no onslaught or outrage. But a number of readers did write to express confusion, surprise and shock that I didn’t know what song I was talking about. I felt a little better, though, after reading such comments as “We [band members] always wondered where it came from” and “We never knew it had words.” And even one “I liked the article.”

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Kubler shared lessons about research — and about life

RICHARD E. HYMAN (’77), Founding Editor of the Donald G. Kubler and C. Stuart Patterson Fund for Undergraduate Research in Chemistry, established in 2002, provides Research in Chemistry, established in 2002, provides financial support to students for global citizenship through self-reflection and exploration of Hispanic cultures and communities. A video program and online practice test on the topic of relations among analog films as “The Ring,”

Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty and vacancy to chemistry students.

SANDRA FREEMAN JONES ’35 and Maurice Jones, Great Expectations: Pregnancy Journal & Planner (revised edition) and Great Expectations: Pregnancy Journal & Planner Sleep Solutions for You & Your Baby (both from Sterling, 2010). Jones is a career counselor and the author of “The Total Beauty of the Motherhood Project,” a烦恼 of how, when and under what circumstances babies sleep in a way that will comfort and reassure weary parents. Sandy Jones lives in Beaufort, N.C., and is author or co-author of more than 10 books on parenting. Her new book focuses on toddlers and is scheduled for publication in the fall.

Robert Whitlow ’78, “Hotel Lady’s Edge (Thomas Nelson, 2011). Whitlow, who lives in Charlotte, N.C., is the best-selling author of a host of legal novels set in the South. As a practicing attorney, he is a past winner of the prestigious Christy Award for Christian fiction. His latest book centers on attorney Tom Crane, who is about to become the first sheep farmer in the city law. One final matter has to be cleared from his docket — the closing of his deceased father’s small-town law practice. But within 24 hours, Tom loses his job, his girlfriend and his car, and discovers that he plans to quietly shut down his father’s practice and drink out of town has hit a roadblock — $2 million stashed in a secret bank account. The money leads to a web of lies, theft and offshore financial transactions manipulated by powerful men who will do anything to stop Tom from discovering the truth.

Kubler was surly by his wife, Rose Bannister Kubler ’48, their sons, and a daughter.

—Jim Stewart

Richard E. Kubler is a middle school science teacher in Silver Spring, Md. is a middle school science teacher in Silver Spring, Md. is a middle school science teacher in Silver Spring, Md. is a middle school science teacher in Silver Spring, Md.

Rutgers University Press (CreateSpace, 2011). The author, who has taught French at Furman since 2009, has published the

Vincent J. Hausmann, Cinema, Technologies of Vitality, and the Aesthetics of Desire (Palgrave MacMillan, 2011). This book explores the desire/alive figure in such films as “The Ring,” “American Beauty” and “The Elephant Man.” It charts the spectacular redaction of psychic life and assesses calls for sheltering an psychical tender zone that safe from the potentially narcotic drivers to language. Drawing on expansive histories of cinema, the book demonstrates that confessions of psychic intensities remain intertwined with notions of cinematic motion and emotive, in narratives of relations among analog and digital art/architectures. Hausmann, an associate professor of English who teaches cinema studies and literary narrative, has taught at Furman since 1993. He is the moderator of the university’s independent film society.

Akan Malic, Mark Schauer and Steven G. Walker, Refocusing Foreign Policy Analysis: States, Leaders, and the Microfoundations of Behavioral International Relations ( Routledge, 2010). Furman political science professor Malic and his co-editors, Walker (Arizona State) and Schauer (Louisiana State), present a definitive, social psychological approach to understanding processes of foreign policy analysis and international relations. The essays address the agent-centered, micro-political study of decision by leaders and the structure-oriented, macro-politics study of state interactions. The book also introduces an adaptive system. A Cooper_ Drury of the University of Missouri says, “This book is equal reading for students of international relations and foreign policy alike.”
Conference names Arguello Female Athlete of Year

MONICA ARGUELLO ‘11, who in 2011 posted an 18-5 record at No. 1 singles, including a 10-0 mark in league matches, was chosen the Southern Conference Female Athlete of the Year. The award, selected by conference athletics directors and a media representative, recognizes athletic achievement, academic performance and civic involvement.

Arguello was the seventh Paladin to win the award and the fourth Furman tennis player to do so, joining Megan Daniels ‘02, Mary Nall Hagedorn ’05 and Laura Goss ’09. Arguello was also the Women’s Tennis Player of the Year and the Female Athlete of the Year.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., she finished the spring season on a 12-match winning streak and was ranked 67th nationally by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, the highest ranking for any Southern Conference player. She completed her four-year career with a 38-1 record in league matches and was a four-time first-team all-conference selection.

She won 67 career singles matches, the ninth-highest total in Furman history, and was named the league’s Freshman of the Year in 2006. She competed in the 2011 NCAA championships, losing in the Round of 64.

An education major, Arguello was named to the 2011 Capital One Academic All-District Team, the Academic All-Southeast Women’s Tennis Team and the ITA All-Academic Team. Her work extended to such causes as the Greenville Humane Society, Relay for Life, St. Anthony’s Church and Furman’s Heller Service Corps Fall Festival. She plans to earn a master’s degree and become a child life specialist.

Club sports make noise on national scene

THANKS TO ANDY BAKER ’12, the Furman cycling team continues to earn national attention — and titles.

Baker, a history major from Enley, S.C., captained the USA Division II national collegiate cycling race road championship May 6 in Madison, Wis., outdistancing 78 other riders by completing the 74-mile course in a time of three hours, 18 minutes and 21 seconds.

Since Furman launched cycling as a club sport in 2007, Furman riders have won two national team title races and two individual championships. Chris Butler ’10 was the 2008 road race champion.

The Wisconsin course featured a number of grueling hills. Baker took charge toward the end and wound up winning by nearly five minutes. His time was also three minutes faster than that of the Division I champion.

“It’s a really hard course that was well-suited to my abilities, and it just worked out really well,” said Baker, who finished fourth in the same event in 2010. As the only rider from Furman to compete, he scored enough points to give the Paladins a 16th-place overall finish. He finished fourth among individual riders.

Baker competes professionally for Besell Pro Cycling during the spring and summer.

THE CLU BASEBALL TEAM also had the chance to pursue a national title this spring in the Division II Club Baseball World Series in Johnstown, Pa.

The Paladins were the No. 3 seed after winning the Division IV regional championship. They wound up losing their two games in the double-elimination national tournament, falling to the University of Wisconsin, 14-5, and Texas State University, 8-3, to complete the season with a 16-5 record.

This was the first time the club team qualified for post-season play.

WHEN KAVIS REED graduated from Furman in 1995, the Canadian Football League didn’t seem like a world away — and not because the young Paladin cornerback was exceptionally worldly. Quite the opposite, in fact; he had never even heard of the Canadian Football League.

“An agent phoned and asked if I was interested in pursuing an opportunity to play there, and I quickly ran to the library and researched it. I did not know about the CFL,” Reed said.

What he discovered was that America’s neighbors to the north actually planned something that didn’t involved skis or skates. More importantly, they wanted to pay him to play with them. That fact alone prompted Reed to start packing his bags, even though the Georgetown, S.C., native scarcely knew more about the country itself than he did about its football league.

Reed laughs at the memory of seeing Canadian license plates at Mary Beach when he was a kid and assuming a fair number of the tourists owned their own igloos. Those days, he could probably teach a class on the nation and its football.

His five-year CFL playing career laid the groundwork for a coaching climb that recently reached its zenith when he was named head coach of Edmonton’s Eskimos.

“For me I think it was the chance just to be away from the states and be in a country that was just different, you know,” said Baker, who in 2011 posted an 18-5 record at No. 1 singles, including a 10-0 mark in league matches, was chosen the Southern Conference Female Athlete of the Year. The award, selected by conference athletics directors and a media representative, recognizes athletic achievement, academic performance and civic involvement.

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FURMAN SUMMER 2011

FURMAN UNIVERSITY NEWS

ALUMNI HAVE KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING FURMAN REACH ITS GOALS

IT ISN’T HARD TO NOTICE
One of Furman’s strategic initiatives is to increase the quality and diversity of the student body. This provides an exciting challenge, and in the coming months you will hear about ways to become involved.

However, all of us can support our recruitment efforts because we are some of the best recruiters Furman could have. By sharing our stories with prospective students and their parents, we can personalize the Furman experience and provide the insight and understanding they can’t get from anyone else.

If we want Furman to continue to cultivate its special learning environment for undergraduates, we need to be vigilant in identifying and recruiting young men and women who possess the potential to thrive in the Furman environment. If we are willing to accept this challenge, then we can serve as role models for the next generation of Furman alumni.

Our roles may have changed since our student days, but our responsibility to the university and to the Furman community is greater than ever. I hope you will join our Alumni Association Board of Directors in being the engaged, enthusiastic supporters Furman needs us to be.

SPEAKING OF THE ALUMNI BOARD, we have welcomed eight new members for 2011–12. They are:

Tracy Haley Brown ’00, a Greenville attorney. A graduate of Furman’s Master of Laws program, Tracy is also clerking with the U.S. District Court and has been active with Furman’s Mock Trial program.

Kevin R. Bryant ’85, a Greenville businessman. Kevin, who played basketball at Furman, is the resident managing director of Aon Risk South Inc., a provider of risk management services, insurance and reinsurance brokerage, and human capital consulting.

O. Vernon Burton ’93, professor of history and director of the Cyberstudies at Clemson University. An accomplished scholar and Pulitzer Prize nominee, he was selected the 1999 national teacher of the year for research and doctoral universities by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. At that time he taught at the University of Illinois. He has also taught at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., and, since 2010, at Clemson.

Chad Hardy ’85, a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors in Asheville, N.C. Chad has been a member of the executive committee of Furman’s Young Alumni Foundation and served three terms on the board of the MARRAK Fund.

Jimmie Harrel ’58, associate minister at Taylor First Baptist Church in Greenville, where he recently served as interim pastor. Jimmie is a lifelong leader among South Carolina Baptists and has four children who attended Furman.

Tommy Marshall ’77, director of athletics at Mars Hill College. Tommy played football during his undergraduate days. Before going to Mars Hill, he was an assistant football coach and assistant director of athletics at Furman.

Leon Short ’81, a Baptist minister from Kennesaw, N.C. Leon holds a doctorate from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a former president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention and of the Association of Southern Baptist State Convention Presidents.

George Short ’64, a retired Greenville accountant. George, who worked with Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, is a life member of the Furman-Fordham Council and a dedicated community volunteer. He is active in Presbyterian church work.

The author, a member of the Class of ’89, is an attorney in Greensboro.

CLASS NOTES, SUMMER 2011

60 The chapel at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., was dedicated February 13 in memory of Ronald D. Lackey, a former professor of religious studies, dean of student affairs and chaplain at the university. The chapel also presents the Ronald D. Lackey Service Award each year to the graduating senior who has excelled in service to the university and the community. Ron died in 1989.

62 Having retired from the practice of law, Thomas Player ’86, an assistant professor of political science at the University of South Carolina, and his wife, Sandy Player, will join your Alumni Association Board of Directors in being the engaged, enthusiastic supporters Furman needs us to be.

63 Bill Mackey retired May 31 as executive director and treasurer of the Presbyterian Order of Deaconess. He had led the order since 1989. He received the Campbell University Leadership Award at the University’s May 20 commencement, where he was the speaker.

64 J. “Bull” Alley Jr., of Brentwood, Tenn., recently earned a master’s degree in history from Middle Tennessee State University.

65 David Barkdole, an assistant basketball coach at Mountain State University in Beckley, W.Va., for the last seven years and a highly successful high school coach in the Beckley area in the 1980s and ’90s, received the Buckeye-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce 2011 Community Service Award May 20 for his contributions to the lives of the area’s youth as a teacher and coach. He lived Weldon Wilson High to啸州 state titles in the 1990s, and this year Mountain State advanced to the NCAA national championship game. The basketball court at Buckeye-Raleigh County Convention Center is named in his honor.

70 Lloyd Linney has been promoted to professor of music at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

73 Thomas B. “Bo” Carter has been named chair of the advisory board of directors and chief development officer with ServisFirst Bank. Penincinna. Bo retired as president of Bank of Penincinna/Coastal Bank & Trust in 2010. He is a member of the Penincinna Downtown Rotary Club and was a member of the Penincinna Mayor Transition Team 2010. He is a past appointee of the Escambia County (Fla.) Community Development Advisory Board. He is a member of the Naval Aviation Foundation Finance Committee.

On June 4, Kenneth L. Shigley was named president of the 42,000-member State Bar of Georgia and appointed to the state’s Criminal Justice Reform Council. His law practice in Atlanta focuses on commercial fraud and business litigation.

85 Advance America, the country’s leading provider of non-bank cash advance services, has named James Ovenden of Johnston Island, S.C., its chief financial officer and executive vice president. Since 2002 Jim has been the principal consultant with CFO Solutions of South Carolina, a financial consulting business for middle market companies.

86 THIS YEAR IS REUNION! Preston Smith has been appointed music director and conductor of the Perley Boy and Girl Choristers, an auditioned chorus of 65 middle schools in New York City sponsored by the Victor A. Perley Foundation. He continues as organist and director of music at the Church of the Ascension, accompanying for New York University’s voice department, and private piano teacher.

87 Mary Beth DeCroos Langley has been named an accounting analyst with A.T. Lowe, a Greenville firm. She has more than 20 years of experience in accounting and financial analysis and is founder of a successful Web-based crafts business. Alan E. Thomas was one of 13 pediatrics nominated by his fellow physicians to the 2010–11 New Jersey Top Doctors list published in New Jersey Monthly magazine. Alan practices at Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights.

91 RECENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS: Andy and Leslie Stevens Bulluck, a husband and wife law firm of Bulluck, have been named an accounting analyst with A.T. Lowe, a Greenville firm. She has more than 20 years of experience in accounting and financial analysis and is founder of a successful Web-based crafts business. Alan E. Thomas was one of 13 pediatricians nominated by his fellow physicians to the 2010–11 New Jersey Top Doctors list published in New Jersey Monthly magazine. Alan practices at Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights.

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FURMAN SUMMER 2011
88 Dale Allens of Buford, S.C., has been named by South Carolina Super Lawyers magazine as one of the top attorneys in the state for 2011. In April, he and his wife, Richy D. Crowe, became executive director of the Washington, D.C., Baptist Convention, a cooperative of more than 150 churches. Previously he was minister of administration and missions at Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Columbus, Ga., and head of the Birthingman (Ala.) Baptist Association.

MARRIAGES: Melissa Seaton and Benjamin Valena, March 20, 2010. Melissa teaches at The Howard School in Atlanta, and Ben is a program manager at Emory Adventist Hospital.

89 Gina Garrett Jones is registrar at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C.

90 Li Col. David Jewell invited several of the seniors at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. BIRTH: Reggy and Sally Sajebian, a daughter, Gabriella Sophia, May 3, Naples, Fla.

93 Craig McCoy recently assumed duties as chief executive officer of Emory Johns Creek Hospital near Atlanta. He previously served as president and CEO of Paradise Valley Hospital in Phoenix, Ariz.

94 Régine O’Sheehy has been appointed general counsel of Franklin County in Lawrenceville, Ga., where he is also a senior vice president.

95 MARRIAGE: Jennifer Laura Spencer and Mark David Wild, December 11. She is employed with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, and he is a physician with Three Rivers OB-GYN Associates. They live in Cleveland.

94 Mariah Brown Spencer, a licensed mental health counselor, opened Transitions Counseling and Wellness in Greenville, S.C. She earned her doctorate in mental health counseling from the University of Florida.

95 BIRTHS: Daniel and Allison Welch Bennett, a son, Luke Daniel, October 30. They live in Montevallo, N.C. Lauren and Jennifer Chae 16 Chandler, a son, Lauren Lee, January 20, Cordova, Tenn. Ramson and Colin Gildea, a son, a son, Weber Church United Methodist Church in Nashville, Tenn. They live in Van Alstyne, Ga., where Randy is a parish assistant in S.C., law of Florida, and he is a physician with Three Rivers OB-GYN Associates. They live in Cleveland.

94 MARRIAGE: Karen Eden Glasgow of Atlanta has joined O’Connor Communications Group as a group vice president and senior strategist. Karen previously was non-profit healthcare and agency experience.

95 BIRTHS: George and Kristina Koldoff Christy, a daughter, Berenice Catherine, April 27. They live in Atlanta, where they work for Turner Broadcasting.


96 THIS YEAR IS REUNION: Jonathan F. Bassett of Greenwood, S.C., was named emeritus professor of history and director of the John C. Calhoun Center for Leadership Charleston. Aiko and Samuel R. Bassett, a daughter, Amy Cooper Pickney, December 22. They live in Evans, Ga.

97 Kelly Uldrick Pew, Ph.D., is the new assistant superintendent of instructional programs in the Pickens County (S.C.) school district. She had been the district’s assistant superintendent of human resource services since 2009. A seasoned excellence in Teaching award from South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

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95 BIRTHS: George and Kristina Koldoff Christy, a daughter, Berenice Catherine, April 27. They live in Atlanta, where they work for Turner Broadcasting.

99 Tim Acuña, a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service in Miami, Fla., was awarded the Attorney General’s Special Commendation Award during National Missing Children’s Day ceremonies May 25 in Washington, D.C. He was honored for his part in identifying, locating and arresting a child molester in Miami, and in locating four child victims.

Josy Espinosa recently accepted a job with the newly launched Boys & Girls Clubs in Allendale, S.C. The club provides after-school programming and all-day summer camping for children who live in Allendale County, a rural and under-re-sourced region of the state.

Autumn Vazey has joined the staff of the U.S. Senate’s Agriculture Committee. She is responsible for specialty crops, food safety, organic and market order. She previously worked as an attorney for the United Fresh Produce Association.


JERRY THOMAS

ONE PROFESSOR’S INFLUENCE: RUTH REID

WHEN I ARRIVED AT FURMAN in the fall of 1973, Ruth Reid was already a fixture in what was then the Department of Physical Education (now Health Sciences). I was certain that because I was a football player and had to miss class occasionally on Friday and Saturday, yes, but she had had the same class for 15 years — that Ruth did of course, I never called her Ruth when I was a student and could not for many years afterward would fail me in all her classes. She expected her students to attend class every day and had no sympathy for football players.

Ruth was a good basketball player and particularly liked to beat those of us who were athletes. It was not until I was a senior that I could beat her. She did not accept that particularly well, but I sure enjoyed it.

Back then, a physical education major also had to take water safety with Ruth. I put this off until my senior year, when I finally had no choice, and managed to get through the course.

When I look back at my time at Furman, I realize how much Ruth meant to my academic and professional development. As a freshman, I didn’t like Ruth very much. By my senior year, I thought maybe she was OK. When I went to graduate school, I learned she had really taught me — and how valuable it was.

Ruth was dedicated to Furman and to the physical education program. I learned that hard and made it clear when she did not think you were giving your very best.

When I was the speaker at Ruth’s retirement in 1985. I value Dr. Ruth Reid and — JERRY THOMAS

The author, a 1963 graduate, is professor of kinesiology and dean of the College of Education at the University of North Texas in Denton.

Kristin Stultz was awarded her Ph.D. in theatre from the University of Georgia in May. She lives in Greensboro and still teaches theatre courses at Furman this fall.

MARRIAGES: Robin Travis Doerrman and Elizabeth Wiskow, June 4. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

BIRTHS: Matt and Sarah Blosser Blackwell, a son, Thomas Malcolm, February 19, Matthews, N.C. Paul and Megan Foste Monsky, a son, Matthew Nichole, October 22. Megan is an attorney with the Board of Immigration Appeals of the U.S. Department of Justice. They live in Alexandria, Va.
FURMAN ALUMNI NEWS

00 Craig Hunter recently became a senior research scientist in the Lilly’s Global Health Outcomes group in Indianapolis. MARRIAGE: Jason Wilson and Mary Beth Burnley, April 29. Having completed his fellowship in surgical oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY, Jason plans to return to practice in Hampton, VA, in August.

BIRTHS: Keith 9th and Ashly Hostetler Claxton, a daughter, Madison Ada, May 9, 2015, Atlanta, GA. Travis and Natalie Muro 12th Flair, a daughter, Trinity Jane, March 3, Durham, NC 10th and Liz Edgar Kendal, a daughter, Anne-Carlynn, May 24. They live in Simpsonville, SC.

Furman and Allison Stack hug a son, Owen George, March 16, 2010. They live in Point of Rocks, MD. Allison is senior marketing manager for Toll Brothers, Inc.

01 THIS YEAR IS REUNION

Kat Fulton of Del Mar, Calif., is a board- certified integrative psychiatrist and clinic coordinator. She combines with music therapy and wellness practices to promote healthy living, especially among older adults. She recently was quoted in a Wall Street Journal about dementia and music therapy. Visit https://www.sandiegoacupuncture.com. Kelley Benning Huskay of Dallas, GA, has been elected to the board of Benning Construction Company, which specializes in grocery-anchor retail centers, medical office buildings, educational facilities, multimarket restaurants and community centers. Kelley is the granddaughter of the company’s co-founder and the daughter of its president. She previously worked with the company in accounting, procurement on job sites, and now is a grant writer.

MARRIAGES: Christianne Charles, and Karl Eric Carter, March 5. They live in Fort Lauderdale, FL. The Learning Tree, Inc., May 1 to benefit The Learning Tree, Inc., and has been promoted by The Learning Tree, Inc., to the rank of chaplain candidate in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Angelica Christina Astin, May 20, and J. Justin Patrick Holofchak, August 7, 2010. They live in Greenville, SC.

02 MARRIAGES: Charlie Bertalain, and Michael Marie Keiser, March 5. They live in Fort Worth, TX. They are co-founders of Shift360, a multi-location facility in Alabama for youngsters with mental, emotional and behavioral issues.

Andy 85 and Kimberly Anderson Kieft, a daughter, Emily Douglas Kieft, February 14, Jacksonville, FL. Josh and Natalie Patterson, a son, Emory James Patterson, March 25. They are an assistant principal at Bishop Spring Intermediate School in Spartanburg (SC) District 2.

Paul S. Landin and Susan Elizabeth Sellars, May 14. Paul is a clerk with the Haywood Law Firm in Greenville. Lauren Simmons and Stephen Slingluff, May 22, 2010. They live in Swath, Wilt. Lauren named a Master of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary and is seeking to call a position with Foothills Presbytery. Stephen is an accountant for executive development with FedEx.

Mary Frances Segraves and Richard Telford, July 15, 2010. They live in Sandy Spring, Ga. Brian and Betty Hubbard Vance, a daughter, Hannah Kathryn, September 24, 2010. They live in Chicago. Wilt is a senior project of investment-only sales with Denbigh Funds.

Shahzad Khan, a daughter, Camille Rose, March 23. They live in Greenville, SC.

Brian and Kelly Shedd ’05 Goppa live in Charlotte, N.C., where he works at his own firm, Wilt is a graduate of Gallatin, TN and Bapel, PA, as an associate in the business and commercial group.

Amanda Christina Musil, March 23, 2010. She recently received a Jefferson Award for Public Service. She was nominated for the award through the Jefferson Center for volunteer work vol with Brothers Big Sisters and Carolina Youth Development. Sean Foster has been promoted by HealthCarePartners to the company’s Salt Lake City market. They live in the markets of Gallivan, White & Fayssoux Law Firm in Greenville. Rebeckah Ballard, a daughter, Addison Marie, March 22, Raleigh, NC.

Steven E. Buckingham has joined the Greenville law firm of Gallivan, White & Brantley, PA, as an associate in the business and commercial group.

Amber Marie Kier, a daughter, July 8, 2010. They live in Greenville, SC.

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MARRIAGES: Martha Elizabeth Baggett and Matthew Oliver Riddle, May 21. They live in Charleston, SC, where they are both practices in the primary care physicians. Suzanne Branyon and Bryan Kline, November 20, 2010. They live in Washington, D.C. 

Andrew Rodrick Antonio Elkins and Rebecca Ann Rush Elkins, July 11, 2010. They live in Greenville, SC.

Kat Fulton, a daughter, Madison Ada, May 9, 2015, Atlanta, GA. Travis and Natalie Muro 12th Flair, a daughter, Trinity Jane, March 3, Durham, NC.

04 Brian and Kelly Shedd ’05 Goppa live in Charlotte, N.C. Brian has been promoted to director of clinical affairs as part of the medical and wellness operations team covering disease and prevention management for Primary PhysicianCare, Inc., a third party administrator and corporate wellness firm. Matthew Heathman was ordained by Second Presbyterian Church in the Presbyterian Church USA. He is a chaplain candidate in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

MARRIAGES: Martha Elizabeth Baggett and Matthew Oliver Riddle, May 21. They live in Charleston, SC, where they are both practices in the primary care physicians.

Prince Philip of Blackburn, Va., was named the outstanding doctoral student in the College of Science and Tech for 2010-10. He is pursuing a PhD in geophysics, with a focus on the geomorphic evolution of the Appalachian Mountains. He has published a manuscript in the Journal of Geomorphology and has a time two recipient of the university’s Tilman Award for Continued Excellence in Teaching. Mary Elizabeth Thompson received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in flute performance from the University of Kansas in May. She has accepted a Fulbright grant for her study for the 2011-2012 academic year to conduct postdoctoral research in Mexico City on contemporary Mexican music for flute.

Whitney Leigh Marum and Justin Picollo Waldath, August 7, 2010. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

05 Ashley Gimle lives in Charlotte, N.C. and has been named director of marketing for the South Region of Carolina Healthcare System.


Katie Anderton Kidd, February 16, 2010. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

06 THIS YEAR IS REUNION

Christie Campbell manages the corporate affairs of Allianz Global, which provides financial and advisory services for investment-ready social businesses in collaboration with governmental businesses, private philanthropies and other organizations. Based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, SHOLOSS aims to promote social justice and economic empowerment. Virginia Ridgeway earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the Georgia College of Dental Medicine at the University of Georgia and has completed a residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Daniel Sperry of Arlington, VA., has entered his third year of serving the family of King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and currently works as an advisor to Prince Mohammed bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

Tine Marie Prado ’04 and Patrick Sprague ’03, March 12. They live in Mobile, AL.

Kirsten Morgan Huggins and Eugene Huggins got married April 10, 2010. She is a sales and marketing representative for The Simmons Group, Inc., and has a son, Ettan Davis in Charleston, SC.

Peter Mackenzie and Katie Johnson, May 28, 2010. She received the Top-Advocate Under 40 Award presented by the Charlotte chapter of the National Association of Insurance &

07 Furman Alumni News SUMMER 2011
Belcher Named Western Carolina Chancellor; Newman Retires at Shorter

David D. Belcher, a 1979 Furman graduate who had been provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, became chancellor of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C., on July 1. He succeeded John W. Bardo, who retired after 16 years at WCU.

In announcing the appointment, Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said that Belcher “brings to the task more than two decades of academic and leadership experience at highly respected public universities. He is known to be an energetic and effective leader who understands the importance of thinking, promotes collaboration and inclusiveness, and makes student success a university-wide responsibility.”

A native of Barnwell, S.C., Belcher earned his Furman degree in piano performance. He went on to earn a master’s degree at the University of Michigan and a doctorate at the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music.

Belcher’s academic career began in 1988 at Missouri State University, where he began his academic career. In 1993, he moved to Arkansas-Little Rock in 2003. He later moved to the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, where he served as associate provost and dean of student affairs.

At Western Carolina, Belcher will focus on fiscal responsibility and financial sustainability, as well as on building a culture of excellence and achievement in the insur- ance and financial services field. He also has a strong track record of fundraising, including at the University of North Carolina system.

Belcher has served as a senior executive at various institutions, including as provost and executive vice president at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and as executive vice president and provost at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He also served as interim chancellor of Western Carolina from 2017 to 2018.

Belcher is a native of Barnwell, S.C., and has two children. He earned his Furman degree in piano performance, and went on to earn a master’s degree at the University of Michigan and a doctorate at the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music.

Belcher joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 1994, and was named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 2010. He later served as interim chancellor of Western Carolina from 2017 to 2018.

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DEATHS

Lou Frances Coleman Lide ’13, March 19, Neasby, S.C. She taught in the Newbern County public schools for more than 30 years.

Mary Robert Thermwell Stallworth Kapir ’15, March 24, Mommopsa, Minn. Before moving to Minneapolis she lived in Louisville, Ky., where she was president of Episcopal Church Women at Calvary Episcopal Church. She was active in the American Association of University Women, Colonial Daughters XV, Daughters of the American Revolution, and United Daughters of the Confederacy.

John P. Parks ’13, May 4, Laurens, S.C. In 1999 he became superintendent of the school district, serving in that position until he resigned to join the Navy. He went on to serve in both the Atlantic and Pacific theatres and was awarded the Purple Heart. He returned to Laurens after the war and became vice president of Laurens Glass and executive vice president of Indian Head Glass Container Group. He was active in the Laurens Rotary Club, serving as president, district governor, a Paul Harris fellow, and a member of the Heritage and History International Fellowship. A strong advocate for the Boy Scouts, he was president of the Blue Ridge Council and a representative to the National Office, and he received the Silver Beaver and Good Shepherd awards. He was a file member of Palmetto Lodge 109, a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Class of 1930 Laurens County Hall of Heroes.

Margaret Skinner Farrell ’16, March 15, 2010, Aiken, S.C. She was a retired teacher and football coach at Mitchell County High School in Cullari, Ga. She served with the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Margaret Kyley Green ’10, May 21, 2010, Columbus, Ohio. She was head of the garden section of the Woman’s Club of Columbus.

Wade Hampton Hale ’42, April 24, Greenville. He retired from North Greenville Junior College (now University) after 35 years as an instructor in the religion department. He also served as director of the Baptist Student Union for 25 years and was interim pastor in a number of churches in upstate South Carolina.

Stephen Ellis Julyan ’45, November 10, Port Saint John, Fla. He was a Baptist minister who led churches in South Carolina, Texas and Florida. He also served as director of missions in Marathon, Fla. Jean Wilkerson Mimmonga ’47, March 25, Clifton, S.C. He was a charter member of the Clinton Cotillion Club and served as its secretary, coordinator of debutante presentations, and chair of the 1975 Debutante Ball. She was an avid bridge player.

In case you haven’t done so yet, join the more than 84,000 people (as of late July) who have visited YouTube to watch the Furman Flash Mob, recorded in Greenville’s Falls Park April 30. For those over 30 years old, flash mobs occur when a group of people suddenly appear in public, perform a dance or song or other group activity, then quickly disappear. In this case, more than 200 Furman students learned (or sort of learned) a dance, coordinated by Dan Weidner and Juliana Batterman, both members of the Class of ’11. They then took the park and entertained amoured onlookers to Cee Lo Green’s “Forget You.” She family friendly,CMS ኪወዎ ከሎጋ ከወርች መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መሪያ ከጹፋ ከምል መ.
She was also an academic advisor, and in 2005 she became the moniker that allowed her to wear many hats and to oversee or advise everything the student in my of Chiles, who said, “There is no piece of paper on my desk more important than needed at exactly the right time. And she was always on call. As was noted at her have “saved” more students than anyone at Furman. Carol Daniels ended her remarks at her June 10 retirement party with this

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**THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, CD**

“BECAUSE I KNEW YOU, I have been changed for good.” Carol Daniels ended her remarks at her June 10 retirement party with this line from the musical “Wicked.” Those in attendance — and hundreds of Furman students through the years — could easily have responded with one word: “ Ditto.”

Since arriving at Furman as a secretary in the early 1970s, and especially since 1974, when she moved to the Office of Student Affairs/Services, Carol may well have “saved” more students than anyone at Furman. Whether it was a hand to hold, a shoulder to cry on (or cry with), a gentle nudge or a kick in the butt, Carol had a knack for knowing exactly what a student needed at exactly the right time. And she was always on call. As was noted at her party, she would often quote one of her Furman mentors, the legendary Maegrithe Chiles, who said, “There is no piece of paper on my desk more important than the student in my office.”

Her official title at retirement was coordinator of student life, a catch-all moniker that allowed her to wear many hats and to oversee or advise everything from freshman orientation to student publications and sororities and fraternities. She was also an academic advisor, and in 2005 she became the first non-faculty member to receive the Alistor G. Furman, Jr., and Jane Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Advising. She is the only two-time winner of the Chiles-Harrill Award for devotion to students and is an honorary member of Senior Order, the select women’s leadership society. She is also an alum, having earned her degree while working full time.

A colleague once said of Carol, “There are numerous students who would not have been at Furman without her experience and expertise. She has a very warm and inviting presence that makes even the most troubled student feel comfortable with her.” Carol herself has said, “It’s those students who for whatever reason are not performing as well as they can that I seem most drawn to. It’s wonderful to see them make progress and become more confident. And it’s such a pleasure to have a job in which I can devote my time to students’ interests.”

Many were on hand June 10 to enjoy the festivities, which included a rather extracurricular serenade, a performance of “YMCA” by the semi-hunky men of the Bulge. He went on to graduate from the University of Miami in 1967, where he worked full time.

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FURMAN ALUMNI NEWS

SUMMER 2011

Mildred Cats Bailey '54, October 12, Raleigh, NC. She began her career in 1950 as a nurse in emergency care at Greenville General Hospital. She served as a public health nurse in Richmond Parish of Louisiana from 1957 to 1962 and was regional manager and nursing supervisor for handicapped children from 1962 to 1976. She retired as director of nurses at the Graham Memorial for the Elderly in Murrells Inlet, SC. A member of numerous nursing associations, she received many awards and recognitions, including a listing in Who’s Who in American Nursing in 1986.

Mildred Zett Zewe '45, April 15, Greenville.

Billy Eugene Huff '50, April 27, Greenwood, SC. He was a U.S. Army veteran. After graduating from South Greenville Elementary School, he worked as a sales representative for heavy construction equipment. For most of his career, he was a team representative. For most of his career, he was a team representative. Eventually, he and his wife started First Petroleum Inc., a book about the heyday of the Hollywood cowboy and the development of new technology in the area of beating heart mitral valve repair,” says Thourani, associate professor of surgery and associate director of the structural heart center at Emory University’s Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. “They were doing work with Georgia Tech and needed a surgeon to help out on the project. They asked me if I would be a part.”

Greene, a 1981 graduate, eventually sold Mitol Solutions to St. Jude Medical. After he died, he had the opportunity to partner with former classmate and current Oconee State Bank employee Jorge Jimenez, a biomedical engineer at Georgia Tech and Emory, and Ajit Yoganathan, a distinguished professor in biomedical engineering at the schools, were preparing to launch a cardiovascular medical device company and needed a CEO.

So Greene came on board as head of Apica Cardiovascular, which was founded in 2009 based on technology invented by Jimmye Thourani, Yoganathan and Thomas Vissledal, an associate professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Emory. The company, which began in Georgia Tech’s VentureLab program, has developed a system to simplify and standardize the technique for opening and closing the beating heart during cardiac surgery.

According to Thourani, the system minimizes the size of the incision needed to gain access to the heart and eliminates the need for conventional sutures, thus improving the speed of recovery and reducing time spent in the operating room.

Apica has licensed the technology and will continue to develop the system, which will make the transapical access and closure procedure required for delivering therapeutic devices to the heart more routine. The goal is to expand the use of surgical techniques that are less invasive and do not require stopping the heart. The idea originated from Thourani’s participation in a transatheral valve trial—the only such trial in the South and one of the top five in the country—before he joined Apica.

“Every day after finishing surgery, the patient—a person in their 80s—had lost a lot of units of blood. I went back to Georgia Tech, the lab, wishing there was a way to not lose as much blood. Jorge said he may have something that could help me, and that’s where I started,” Thourani says. “It was basically a clinician seeing a problem in the operating room, taking it as research. finding a solution to the problem, and taking it back to the bedside. By the end of this year, we’ll have a device that will be able to help people.”

The improved heart surgery system consists of a catheter with proprietary technology mode that allows the device to be securely attached to the beating heart. Surgeons can then deliver therapeutic devices, such as heart valves and ventricular assist devices, into the beating heart without loss of blood or exposure to air. Once the surgery is complete, the system closes and seals the access site with a biocompatible implant. The closure site can be reopened if necessary.

With research and development support from the Coulter Foundation, Translational Research Program and the Georgia Research Alliance VentureLab program, Apica has completed a series of pre-clinical studies to test the feasibility and biocompatibility of the device. In March, Apica received a $5.1 million investment from Ireland-based Sensia Kernel Life Sciences and Israel-based TriVentures, with which it will continue to conduct research and pre-clinical trials in Atlanta. The testing is expected to lead to regulatory approval. Says Greene, “When you bring a new product to the FDA, there are two questions: Does it work? And is it safer than what’s out there? If it doesn’t do both of those, then you’ve got your answer. It’s not going to be approved and you’re back to one redesigning the product. Just as in life, there’s no guarantee in business that just because it’s a cool idea it’s going to be anything that is commercially viable, or there’s not another competitor out there that’s developed a better mousetrap.”

But in this case, thanks to the combination of technological and clinical expertise from his colleagues at Emory and Georgia Tech, Greene believes that Apica’s technology “has the potential to revolutionize the delivery of different types of medical devices to the heart, including aortic and mitral valves.”
THE LAST WORD

A legend steps down

It’s hard to imagine Furman without Paul Scarpa.

As Ron Wagner wrote in a feature commemorating Scarpa’s 40th year as men’s tennis coach, “When you’ve been around Furman University longer than just about anything but the oaks that line Furman Mall, you’re bound to leave a legacy.”

Scarpa has done so — of championship tennis, of outstanding student-athletes, of contributions to the game, of sustained excellence, and of loyalty to Furman.

Now, after 45 years, he has decided to retire.

In making the announcement July 26, the 73-year-old Scarpa said the decision was “tough and somewhat sad, but one I needed to make in order to spend more time with my wife [Sandy] and extended family. I am so proud of what our program has been able to accomplish with the resources we have had. We have been able to establish a nationally recognized program through our recruitment of quality individuals.”

Hired in 1967 from the U.S. Naval Academy by President Gordon Blackwell, Scarpa retires with more wins — 853 — than any men’s tennis coach in NCAA Division I. All but 36 of those wins came at Furman, where his teams captured 17 regular-season Southern Conference titles and 14 league tournament championships. He is a member of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of fame, the United States Tennis Association Southern Hall of Fame, and the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame. The stadium court at Furman’s Mickel Tennis Center is named in his honor.

“Honestly, I never chased records,” Scarpa told Greg Garber of ESPN.com in 2009 after a win over Yale gave him his record-setting 820th victory. “If I had waited around 46 years just trying to break the record, (believe I would have given up. There are a lot of great coaches that I admire. Maybe they retired too early along the way. Just kept going.”

Scarpa’s impact extended to other areas. His popular summer camps have for years helped young players learn the fundamentals of the game. He invented and patented Tenex tape, which is used to mark clay courts throughout the world. And his teaching and playing ability over years helped young players learn the fundamentals of the game. He invented and patented Tenex tape, which is used to mark clay courts throughout the world. And his teaching and playing ability over years helped young players learn the fundamentals of the game.

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Much of the information in this article provided by Furman sports information. For more on Scarpa, visit www.furmanpaladins.com.