FEATURES

2  Windows on the World
Furman’s annual study away photo exhibit celebrates a milestone anniversary.

8  Could We Have Some Privacy, Please?
BY DANIELLE VINSON
Despite media demands and our own expectations, we need to remember that sometimes it’s OK for politicians to retreat behind closed doors.

12  Royal Encounter
Prince Edward’s appearance at the Scottish Games on campus in May was a highlight of his four-day visit to Greenville.

14  How I Spent My Summer Vacation
BY RODNEY A. SMOLLA
Furman’s new president offers a light-hearted twist on — and new insights into — a stock, formulaic school assignment.

20  Life as Performance
BY HANNAH BLEVINS HARVEY
Performance studies is an emerging academic discipline that analyzes both traditional art forms and everyday experience as “performance.”

DEPARTMENTS

24  BECAUSE FURMAN MATTERS
34  ALUMNI NEWS
26  FURMAN REPORTS
48  THE LAST WORD
32  ATHLETICS
Ellen Gillis ’11
Psychology

While in England I decided to visit Haworth, home of the Brontë sisters. I discovered that the only way to reach this quaint village in Yorkshire was by steam engine. When the train started to go around a corner, I decided to hold my camera out the window to get a good photo of the entire train as it made its way around the bend.

Emily Blinn ’13
Psychology/Education

We had been walking in the heat all day and I was just putting my camera away when we came across these two little girls as we were leaving the Forbidden City in Beijing. One of my tripmates leaned over and said, “Ni hao” — “Hello” — as that was the extent of our Chinese language ability. The girls looked at one another, one said something to the other, and they burst into giggles. Apparently we were very funny or at least different enough to draw a smile. I fumbled in my bag for my camera and snapped them mid-giggle.

Ten years ago, Furman sponsored its first photo exhibit featuring student photographs from study away experiences.

The original exhibit, displayed in the Hallway Gallery of Roe Art Building, proved to be a major success — so much so that it has become a spring tradition on campus.

The idea, conceived by Jim Leavell, now Herring Professor Emeritus of Asian Studies, was to encourage students to appreciate photographic aesthetics, view the world through a more thoughtful, critical lens, and promote Furman’s variety of study away programs.

The first study away exhibit was featured in the Spring 2000 Furman magazine. To celebrate the 10th anniversary, we have chosen to highlight it again.

The photographs presented here are from programs held during the last academic year. They are representative of the full exhibition that was on display in Johns Hall in March. The photographers provided a short description of the circumstances surrounding their photo. [1]

For more on study away at Furman, see page 24.

For more on study away at Furman, see page 24.

Lauren Kabat ’11
Biology

I took this photograph while on the “Wild Semester,” a Furman program that includes classes in field zoology, natural resource management and ecology, as well as many field research activities. I was returning from a backpacking trip in the Aldo Leopold wilderness to our base camp in the ghost town of Hermosa, New Mexico. We had hiked quickly to avoid the coming thunderstorm but paused for a minute to take in the beauty of the impending storm, blooming wildflowers and grazing mules. I particularly like this scene because it embodies the feel of the Old West.
Matt Dowling ’10
Biology

At Mountain Zebra National Park in South Africa, vervet monkeys would always come into the campground looking for scraps of food from the previous night’s dinner. They were extremely cantankerous and bold. They were cleaning up scraps right outside our food tent and were so intent on finding these treats that I was able to get close to them.

Cory Pansing ’10
Economics/Political Science

We had just spent four days in Brussels with a packed schedule of briefings and lectures, and we had driven to Bruges for two days to relax. I took the photo that first night when I was wandering around town, decompressing from the previous few days. Everything was calm and quiet and still.

Marissa Pavia ’11
Spanish/Economics

At La Almudaina Royal Palace in Mallorca, Spain, this breathtaking view just beyond the darkened walls was perfectly previewed through the door frame.

Amanda Evans ’10 *
Communication Studies

After spending the morning touring the ruins of the Acropolis in Athens, Greece, a few of us were wandering the back streets of the city. I saw this wrinkled man and snoring dog and snapped a quick photo. It was the only shot I took of him. To me, this seemingly insignificant scene really captured the culture of the city. (This photo won second place, the Provost’s Award.)

P.J. Moore ’11 *
Political Science

I came across these two brothers sitting in the entry gate of Jama Masjid, a mosque located amid the chaos of Old Delhi, India. (This photo won first place, the Office for Study Away and International Education Award.)
Hillary Rodgers ’13

Undecided

As our group was crossing over a canal in Tongli, one of China’s oldest villages, I spotted a woman squatting over the murky waters, nonchalantly washing a raw chicken — presumably for dinner that evening. In that moment, I found myself as far from my familiar American culture as I have ever been.

Hillary Kies ’10 *

History

In the fall of 2009 I participated in the Brussels internship program. During our break the first week in November, my apartment mates and I went to Paris. After a few troubles due to railway strikes, we finally made it, and over the next few days we did some hard-core touring. This picture was taken in the Louvre. It was an amazing time to visit Paris and the museums because no one was there. At times we were the only people in a room. (This photo won third place, the Dean of Faculty Award.)

Jonathan Britt ’10

Religion/Music

Two pilgrims visit the Hosios Loukas Monastery near Mount Helicon in the mountains of Greece. The rainy day made it perfect for taking photos with lots of detail. While walking up to the courtyard outside the sanctuary of the monastery, I thought the arch made a perfect frame for the arched windows on the back wall, creating a sense of repetition. While I was framing the shot, these two elderly ladies walked up to go into the sanctuary. So as not to get in their way, I let them pass. I kept my shot framed while they passed through and snapped the shot right before they helped each other down off the wooden walkway. I thought the pilgrims added a reverent aspect to the picture, while all the arches make the photo work on an entirely different level. The fountain, umbrellas and water-soaked, reflective wooden walkway created a quiet tone that tied the entire photo together. While it stands alone as a beautiful photograph, the picture holds an added sentimental value, which I’ll keep to myself.
In an era in which information (or misinformation) spreads in seconds and ‘new media’ drive the message, we could learn some valuable lessons from the Founding Fathers.

Last summer, as Sen. Charles Grassley was venting his frustrations about health care reform and President Obama via Twitter, and as cable news and the Internet were fixated on the possibility of death panels in the health care bill, I found myself wondering if today’s new media outlets are ruining American politics.

Although there is much to be said for the benefits of news on demand and the amount of political information available through today’s media, there is also cause for concern. While the Internet and cable news may encourage political interest and participation, they also appear to discourage deliberation. And deliberation is essential to the American political system, even if we don’t talk about it as much as participation.

In January 2010 the House and Senate had both passed versions of health care reform, and the process was at a crossroads as Democratic Party leaders tried to decide how to proceed. C-SPAN requested that negotiations between the House and the Senate to reconcile the different versions of the bill be open to C-SPAN cameras. House speaker Nancy Pelosi emphatically said no. Reporters, Republicans, pundits and the public voiced frustration and even outrage over Pelosi’s decision, demanding transparency and citing their need to know what would take place during the closed meetings.

Silently thanking Pelosi for sparing us the media spectacle and speculation that surely would have followed had cameras been privy to such discussions, I was reminded of another time in which the nation’s leaders shut out the press to make major decisions that would profoundly affect the country’s future.

When the Founding Fathers gathered to write the Constitution, they met in a room, closed the windows and shut the doors to keep out the press and the public. They agreed not to discuss matters with those outside the meetings and reportedly assigned someone to stay close to Benjamin Franklin to keep him from divulging information after hours.

Representatives offered a variety of justifications for their secrecy. Some worried about premature public reaction or misrepresentation of the discussions. In John R. Brown’s “The Miracle of 1787: Could It? Would It? Happen Again?” (published in Loyola Law Review 33, 1988), he quotes George Mason of Virginia as saying that privacy was necessary “to prevent mistakes and misrepresentation until the business shall have been completed, when the whole may have a very different complexion from that in which the several crude and undigested parts might, in their first shape, appear if submitted to the public eye.” Brown also quotes Alexander Martin of North Carolina as advocating secrecy “lest unfavorable representations might be made by imprudent printers of the many crude matters and things daily uttered and produced in this body, which are unavoidable.”

Others recognized the need for the delegates to have room to deliberate and compromise. As noted in The Records of the Federal Convention (Yale University Press, 1913), James Madison said that “the minds of members were changing, and much was to be gained by a yielding and accommodating spirit. Had the members committed themselves publicly at first, they would have afterwards supposed consistency required them to maintain their ground.”

The Founders, then, recognized that delegates needed room to offer policies and receive feedback, make compromises and change their minds without being subjected to immediate reactions by those outside the proceedings — and their potential impact on the public.

“Let us not hear of such grand divisions...as if Congress were a mere legislative assembly...It is the business of Congress to deliberate...”

—THOMAS JEFFERSON

**DON’T TREAD ON THIS...**

© COPYRIGHT 2010 A.D. MYGLIS AND TREVORY REAL, UNITED STATES BUREAU OF ENGRAVING.
imagining the issues that might have arisen had the Constitutional Convention been open to the press reveals the validity of the Founders’ concerns and the wisdom of their insistence on secrecy until the document was complete. Would the small states have resolved at the initial suggestion that Congress be a unicameral body with representation based on population? What would the opponents of amendments have done when Alexander Hamilton advocated allowing the president to serve for life? And what would have been the public reaction to debates over the existence of slavery, and how to count slaves for the purpose of taxation and representation? It seems likely some of the outcomes would have been altered, possibly undermining the existence of the union. And if the Founders’ concerns about press coverage were legitimate in an era where news took weeks to travel across the media environment, they have changed...
Royal Encounter

Prince Edward gives this year’s Scottish Games a regal presence.

And a member of the British royal family to boot.

It turned out to be a landmark Memorial Day weekend for Greenville and a brilliant May 29 at Furman, when the university played host for the fifth time to the area’s annual Scottish Games. This year, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, third son of Queen Elizabeth and seventh in line to the British throne, was on hand for the festivities.

The 46-year-old prince’s four-day visit to the Upstate marked the first time a senior royal had attended a Scottish Games outside of Scotland. The queen’s youngest child was treated to a weekend of Southern hospitality (including a campfire featuring s’mores), an American celebration of all things Scottish, and an audience with Miss America and a host of Miss South Carolina contestants to whom he presented Duke of Edinburgh Awards, which encourage and promote such values as fitness and community service.

Despite the heat and humidity at the Games, the prince coped splendidly. Looking dashing in a suit and wide-brimmed hat, he moved through the crowd cheerfully, chatted amiably with visitors and participants in the Games’ various events, and genuinely appeared to enjoy himself.

The Games sponsored an international “pipe tune” contest for individuals interested in creating a musical competition in the prince’s honor. He described it as “a lovely thought” and, in a press conference before his departure, thanked Greenville for its hospitality.

“From what I saw, you’ve got a beautiful city here,” he said. “I have to say that the people have been absolutely wonderful. I’ve been overwhelmed by the welcome I’ve received.”

For the Scottish Games, it all amounted to a first-rate show. Perhaps the prince, or another of the Windsors, will decide to visit again someday.

Photos by Jeremy Fleming.
It is mid-June, and I am on summer vacation. In two weeks I will be assuming the presidency of Furman.

For the moment, however, I am with family and friends in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. I had promised to write this essay for Furman magazine and had been counting on the reflective quietude of two weeks by the ocean to bring me inspiration and profundity.

What could I have been thinking? Since when have two weeks with scores of rambunctious kids, relatives and friends in a rambling beach house been a time for reflection?

With the deadline for this essay pressing on me, I took a long walk, alone, along the shore. From all the books I’d read on the topic, I knew that this is what you do for enlightenment when you visit the beach.

And it worked. I had not walked a hundred yards before I experienced a brilliant flash of inspiration. With pelicans flying low in V-formation, dolphins rolling languidly in silver silhouette against the slate-blue horizon, and the shell-strewn sands crunching beneath my bare feet, it came to me. The title of my essay would be: “How I Spent My Summer Vacation.”
OK, now I hear you thinking, “How cliché! What a dumb title! This is the brilliant insight of our new president? Couldn’t he at least have tried writing another hundred yards?”

Don’t worry. I’ve thought of most of these objections (that’s what I did over the next hundred yards), and I have answers for all of them.

There are good reasons for considering how we spend our summer vacations. It’s no accident that this is the stock essay most of us were asked to write sometime in middle school, just as it’s no accident that we treasure our summer vacations as precious and powerful restoratives to our energy and spirit.

In my case, the story of how I spent my summer vacation has a moral to it. Now, I don’t think a good story requires a moral. I’ve read many books and seen many movies that had no particularly discernible moral, and some of them were darn entertaining. But I do think that a great story requires a moral. And as Ron Colman, author of the inspirational book From Gigolò to Great, reminds us, the real prize resides in the spiritual growth.

It was also a thrill for the Smolla family to welcome our large family contingent to the Furman campus. We were asked to write some time ago about the ways in which our family vacation can be a moral, but I do think that a great story requires a moral. And as Ron Colman, author of the inspirational book From Gigolò to Great, reminds us, the real prize resides in the spiritual growth.
the devoted faculty who serve as teachers, scholars, mentors and counselors, the dedicated staff who labor conscientiously to provide the myriad services that support them in their education and well-being, the alumni, trustees and other friends of Furman who donate their money, time and energy to its service — all of this is done to create an extraordinary experience for the students in that bright college years. And so it may well seem, I told the students, that “It’s all about you.” Yet the secret to the good life, the core value that is at the center of Furman’s mission, as I told them, is “to help you realize, deep in your hearts, that this experience is not about you.” I also said, “The most important lesson you can learn while you are here is that for your life to have authentic meaning, fulfillment and consequence, you must learn the importance of connection to forces larger and greater than yourself — to larger causes, and to the greater community.” Back to the beach. Of all the songs we sang, few meant more to us than an old bluegrass gospel spiritual, “Will the Circle Be Unbroken.” Spending time at the beach as a parent, as I contemplated taking on the responsibilities of leading Furman, I realized the importance of keeping the circle unbroken. I realized that “It’s all about you.” Yet the secret to the good life, the core value that is at the center of Furman’s mission, as I told them, was “to help you realize, deep in your hearts, that this experience is not about you.”

The Smollas have joined the Furman community and to their new home, White Hall. Michele, 49, says she is glad to put down roots in Greenville and to have moved in with foster parents. She left the workforce after Sarah was born. But she continued to work with children as a volunteer, tutoring third- and fourth-grade students in Richmond City Schools through a mentoring program sponsored by her church. She has also been a volunteer at the Mary’s Cancer Institute.

Always athletic, Smolla grew up playing field hockey, lacrosse and rugby. Later she took up tennis and skiing until two knee injuries forced her to limit her physical activities to golf and walking. “I tore both of my ACLs (anterior cruciate ligaments) skiing,” she says. “I lost one in the Grand Tetons and the other in the Rockies.” After their two-week vacation at North Carolina’s Outer Banks in mid-June, the Smollas began the process of transferring their family to White Hall and became acclimated to the Upstate summers. 

“Do you ever get used to your glasses fogging up?” she laughs.

The biggest challenge so far, she says, will be setting priorities. “We are moving to a community where everyone is so accepting,” she says. “You want to do so many things, to meet so many people. You want to get to know everyone.”

Adapted from an article in the Spring 2010 issue of Inside Furman, the university’s internal newsletter.
Imagine, if you will, a powerful link:

A link between cultural anthropology, sociology, drama, and interpretation of literature, literary criticism, folklore, mythology and psychology.

A link between the creative process of making art and the critical process of analyzing performances — both staged performances, such as plays in which a trained artist applies a skill, and community events, those ritual-like performances — both staged performances, making art and the critical process of analyzing psychology.

By Hannah Blevins Harvey

Almost everyone who attended Furman has a special memory about an activity, organization or program in which they were involved. One of my fondest memories was developing my own major through the Individualized Curriculum Program, which typifies the kind of engaged learning and personalized academic experience that attracted many of us to Furman in the first place. My major in “Communication, Writing and Performance” propelled me into graduate studies, international performances and intercultural storytelling, all of which are directly linked to the interdisciplinary spirit that an ICP encourages and inspires.

Recently I had the opportunity to teach a series of workshops and public performances based on their interview partners’ family trees, discussing their relatives and work histories. They then shared stories about their family trees, discussing their relatives and work histories. We hoped that our oral history collaborations with Hassan II would encourage and inspire. Though impoverished, the neighborhood is rich in cultural heritage. Kennesaw State has partnered with Hassan II University in Casablanca. The tin roofs of some homes were held in place by heavy stones, and women stood on the balconies of their apartments hanging colorful purple, red and yellow fabrics to dry on drying lines. This neighborhood had developed as a housing area for immigrants from Morocco’s drought-ridden interior region. Abdelmajid Kaddouri, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences, told us, “You know the true Morocco, because you are coming to a poorer place.”

In Morocco, the author (above, second from right) and Kennesaw State students joined 20 native graduate students for workshops and public performances.

Design my own major. I didn’t know it at the time, but this “learning” for something that crossed disciplines — to analyze and interpret the human experience through the holistic lens of performance — was actually the burgeoning field of performance studies, which I studied further while pursuing my Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina.

Performance studies is a relatively new and evolving academic discipline that analyzes not just traditional art forms but everyday experience as “performance.” Looking at the various roles we play (mother, son, co-worker), the costumes we wear, the scripts we follow, the rituals of daily life, the “given circumstances.” Humans are storytelling creatures, and through our daily experiences we tell personal and cultural stories to one another. These stories shape our identities and help us better understand each other. Performance studies emerged from the fields of theatre, anthropology and communication studies, preparing students to pursue careers that connect advocacy and academic inquiry. Graduates are often called “scholar-artists” who create original performance works highlighting the concerns of both local and global communities. They have developed thriving theatres in Chicago, become professional actors and directors, and pursued careers as folklorists, playwrights and teachers.

Cultural exchange

Last summer, a colleague and I were invited to Morocco to teach performance studies at Hassan II University. Located in the Ben M’Sik community, the largest and poorest of Casablanca’s six districts, Hassan II offers a high-quality education to a traditionally underserved population. Hassan II also sponsors an annual international university-based performance festival with participants from Poland, France, Spain, Morocco and other parts of Africa. Ours was the first American group to be invited to the festival, and we wanted to do more than just “bring a show overseas.” We wanted our students to interact with their counterparts at Hassan II. Workshops in storytelling and oral history seemed the perfect opportunity to forge these connections. We partnered our 10-member cast of undergraduate students with about 20 graduate students in American Studies at Hassan II who spoke fluent English. Our workshops culminated in a public performance of each other’s stories.

As Hassan University professor Samir El Achar told me on the drive from the Casablanca airport to Hotel Darou, “There are many Casablanca in Casablanca.” Samir took us on a tour of Hassan II, then drove us through the Ben M’Sik neighborhood. Ben M’Sik is the most densely populated district in Casablanca. The tin roofs of some homes were held in place by heavy stones, and women stood on the balconies of their apartments hanging colorful purple, red and yellow fabrics to dry on drying lines. This neighborhood had developed as a housing area for immigrants from Morocco’s drought-ridden interior region. Abdelmajid Kaddouri, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences, told us, “You know the true Morocco, because you are coming to a poorer place.” Though impoverished, the neighborhood is rich in cultural heritage. Kennesaw State has partnered with Hassan II over the past six years to help develop a museum to honor the area’s rich oral histories and serve the local community. The museum will be the first of its kind in the Islamic world. We hoped that our oral history collaborations with Hassan II students — most of whom are second-generation residents of Ben M’Sik — and the cultivating public performance would contribute to the growing archives of the community museum.

During our first two workshops, students worked in small groups in which they talked about culturally specific customs, costumes, superstitions and rules. They then shared stories about their family trees, discussing their relatives and working from specifics of people, places, characters, objects, action and time. The small groups developed short storytelling performances based on their interview partners’ family histories — each telling the other’s story. The goal of such collaborative performance is to better

An alumna shows students how our daily experiences reveal personal and cultural stories that shape our identities — and to help to promote greater understanding.
know others and ourselves, and to use stories to travel to each others’ worlds. When you perform someone else’s story, you become them during the moment of performance — much as characters in a scripted play do. Such performances help us enter into dialogue with one another, examine our differences, and see ourselves from another person’s vantage point.

Sean, a Kennesaw State student, described his experience:

Sean: A Kennesaw State student, described his experience during these first workshops: “I had a partner named Waafa. She and I had a conversation about love. She kinda blew my mind. Here’s how it went:

Sean: I believe love is a wondrous thing. You have to appreciate it but know it may not last forever.

Waafa: That is not right. If you love someone, hold on to them.

Sean: Well, I believe that if you hold on to something you will crush it.

Waafa: But you are being selfish. You would say to your love, “I love you today, but maybe not tomorrow.”

Sean: That is not a way to know!

Waafa: If it is your true love you will know.

Sean: Yes, because you have one only heart.

Sean: But I have been in love with more than one person.

Waafa: You are not really in love with them.

Sean: How can you say that? You do not know what I felt.

Waafa: Are you still in a relationship with them?

Sean: No.

Waafa: Then it was not true love. If it was true, you would have fought with everything and not given up to be with them.

Sean: But what about holding on! You can’t argue that holding on too tightly can be destructive to individuals. It would make them feel bound to you and they could lose their inability to grow individually. Right?

Waafa: Then don’t hold on too tightly.

We had hoped that our workshops would enable students to have meaningful conversations and debates with their partners. As a result of this dialogues, beyond the friction between them — Sean’s respect for Waafa grew, and he may even have broadened his mind about a few things.

In the context of troubled United States-Arab relations and increasing tensions between the Muslim world and the West, this moment had a profound effect on Sean. After we returned home, he and Waafa continued their discussion over Facebook. We also saw the students begin to shift roles, becoming co-performers with each other. Sean moved from observing from a detached distance to engaging with Waafa as a unique individual.

Ahah! moments

The third workshop, in which students partnered and returned to telling each other’s stories, proved to be a turning point for the group, as the relationships between the students seemed to crystallize. Learning each other’s personal narratives was revelatory for many, as they found unexpected commonalities among poignant experiences, such as moving physically and culturally from rural to urban space; twice of passage, as when a student named Hakima described waiting on her university entrance exam test scores; and the ways that students experienced and remembered loss (such as Sean and Waafa’s shared loss of loved ones who had died) — remembered via the keepsakes each carried that had belonged to those loved ones.

We reviewed our experiences from the workshops and explained to the students that the various exercises — sharing culturally specific gestures, customs, superstitions and rules; bringing and sharing with partners an object that had special meaning; telling partners about an embarrassing moment and significant memory; discussing family rituals — had all been seeds for stories.

We asked the students to consider what difference it makes to experience these emotional reactions with each other. How does live storytelling (and listening) deepen your understanding of one another? After considering these questions, we asked the students to write down two specific moments from the workshops that had been particularly compelling or meaningful to them. We also asked them to write down one emotion, or “Ahah!” moment — a moment when they understood something new about themselves, their culture or another’s.

One student found similarities between his experiences and values growing up in rural Georgia with those of his partner, a young man raised in a conservative rural community outside Casablanca. The Moroccan man’s cultural heritage was Amazigh, or native Moroccan, one of three main cultural groups in Morocco. The American student came to understand, through these shared values, how similar America’s “Southern gentleman” and Morocco’s “Amazigh” can be.

Another student’s epiphany came through learning his partner’s perspective. Hakima told Ralph, her American partner, “I actually used to be really afraid of foreigners. But since I met my friends from Canada, I treat them as family. I realized through them that foreigners weren’t mean or angry; they were like me. Like you were, they differed, but not as scary as I thought.” Hakima’s honesty made Ralph reconsider his own trepidation about coming to this “foreign” place. Hakima’s honesty made Ralph reconsider his own trepidation about coming to this “foreign” place.

In groups of four, the students shared what they had written, each person choosing one thing to tell their group. The groups then created a “still pose” for each of the stories. One person verbally explained the pose as the other three shaped themselves as parts of or characters in the story, standing in relation to one another with frozen gestures, facial expressions and postures. Each member of the still pose could then share the belief, values, struggle or desire they were expressing.

The students performed some of these tableau-stories, in addition to folktales and other stories, in public on the Hassan II campus. Their presentations, and the act of rehearsing and creating these performances, enabled them to demonstrate to each other how co-performance can generate dialogue, debate and shared understanding.

The performances by our Moroccan and American students exist as a fleeting installation in the growing exhibits of the Ben M’Sik Community Museum. In thinking about our work with Hassan II, which has continued thanks to a generous grant from the U.S. Department of State, I am grateful to the faculty and programs at Furman that encourage and inspire interdisciplinary work, engagement with the global community, and dialogue across borders.

Furman fostered an environment in which students could see between disciplines to create something new for ourselves and for others. I look forward to collaborating on other projects similar to the one with Hassan II. Every time I do, I know I’ll be drawing on what Furman gave me.”

Visit www.kennesaw.edu/theatre to learn more about the discipline of performance studies. The introduction to this article and descriptions of performance studies are taken from the website, with permission.

Hannah Blevins Harvey is managing editor of the journal Storytelling, Self, Society, and president of Storytelling in Higher Education, a special interest group of the National Storytelling Network. She and her husband, Joseph, now live on their working farm in Kingsport, Tenn. They welcomed a son, Caleb, on April 28.

After sharing their stories, the students created ‘still poses’ and expressed the belief, value, struggle or desire represented by the poses. Photos courtesy Hannah Harvey.
Study away: An experience not to be missed

SINCE 1969, when Furman students first set foot abroad as part of a university-sponsored travel-study trip, the sun has yet to set on the university’s study away programs. Whether you’re talking traditional overseas travel experiences or internship and research programs within the United States, hundreds of students past and present have benefited from opportunities to spend a few weeks or a semester enjoying Furman away from Furman. And nowadays more of them are taking advantage of the options available: the average number of participants has increased over the last decade from approximately 200 students per year to 300.

As Furman’s approach to study away evolves in many ways distinct from that of other institutions because the majority of trips are led by Furman faculty, says Kudlah Kudlah, assistant dean for study away and international education, “When Furman faculty are the primary travel-study instructors, we guarantee that the program’s instruction and coursework meet the university’s high standards and ensure that the academic experience merges cohesively with departmental curriculums and our broader educational mission.”

For many students, the study away experience proves to be transformative. Jenny Adamson Moorhead ’99, an attorney in Greenville, still remembers vivid details of her winter 1999 trip to the Baltics, led by political science professor Cleve Fraser and history professor of that delicate balance between, on the one hand, boring them to death, and on the other, letting them run amok. Not only did the history we’d studied while being alive come alive for us on that trip, but the places themselves came fully alive: living, breathing, functioning, modern and functioning. And now we’ve come alive for us on that trip, but the places themselves came fully alive: living, breathing, functioning, modern and functioning, and as an account coordinator with Sterling Hager, a public relations group.

Justus, a 1998 Phi Beta Kappa graduate who earned degrees in history and political science, was a recipient of the Herman W. Lay Scholarship, Furman’s most prestigious academic award. Today she lives with her husband, Brent, and two children in Oxford, Va.

In large part because of the scholarship support Justus received as an undergraduate, she and Brent have chosen to become members of Young Benefactors, a group of 120 alumni who graduated within the last 20 years and who make annual contributions of $1,000 or more. The generosity of Young Benefactors is vital to the university’s ability to fund scholarships that support Furman students, 80 percent of whom receive some sort of financial aid, particularly in today’s difficult economic times.

“Indeed, as much as the walking, that kept us warm that day.”

One of Furman’s goals is to encourage (and provide the means for even more students to benefit from a study away program. Because operational and travel costs are increasing, the Because Furman Matters campaign is seeking to raise $10 million to endow scholarship support that will help accommodate all interested students. As Jessica Taylor V97 wrote after spending winter term of her senior year in Austria, “Experiencing your worldview through different cultures and environments is an experience that should not be missed.”

Visit www.furman.edu/international to discover the variety of travel-study options available to today’s students.

“I know that our professors were informal and experienced travelers, but for many of us it was the trip of a lifetime and one from which we returned having become friends in a way that only a shared extraordinary experience can create. Friendly enough, anyway, to have forgiven Dr. Lavoy for that ‘short little walk’ through the open-air market in Moscow, in February, without our coats. He was so excited to share the spectacle of the transformation of a former Soviet parade ground into a thriving capitalist marketplace, it was hard to contest. Perhaps it was his boundless enthusiasm, as much as the walking, that kept us warm that day.”

Students at the ancient Roman theater in Aspendos during the 2010 May Experience trip to Turkey, where they explored early Christian and Byzantine sites.

Justus accept challenge as Young Benefactors

JAYDA BIDDIX JUSTUS says she has no doubt that her academic preparation at Furman, along with her study away internship on Capitol Hill and another internship with a public relations firm in Greenville, equipped her well for her career opportunities. She has served as a legislative assistant to North Carolina Congresswoman Sue Myrick and as an account coordinator with Sterling Hager, a public relations group.

Justus, a 1998 Phi Beta Kappa graduate who earned degrees in history and political science, was a recipient of the Herman W. Lay Scholarship, Furman’s most prestigious academic award. Today she lives with her husband, Brent, and two children in Oxford, Va.

One reason the Justuses became Young Benefactors is because they understand, firsthand the importance of financial aid, particularly in today’s difficult economic times.

“The next generation of philanthropy for Furman lies on the Young Benefactors’ shoulders, and we need to accept the challenge.” Justus says. “I want to strongly believe that education is the key to our future. There is no better way to put this belief into action than to make that dream possible for others.”

Contact john.kemp@furman.edu, (864) 294-3717, to learn more about Young Benefactors.
Cheryl Patterson holds two distinctions among Furman’s 26 retiree faculty members: she was the last chair of one department (economics and business administration), which split in 2000 and is now the chair of a new one, business and accounting. Departmental colleague Marianne Pianc notes that Patterson, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Alabama who came to Furman in 1986, was the ideal person to lead the transition. “Cheryl played the pivotal role in successfully establishing the new department and taking us forward during the critical formative time.”

Kirk Warkins, current department chair, describes Patterson as “the unique academician who could function simultaneously as leader and consummate team player.” He points out that she developed and taught in study away programs in Jamaica and Ireland with colleagues in computer science and sociology, thereby setting an example for interdepartmental cooperation on campus.

Former students frequently express appreciation for how well Patterson’s courses prepared them for the professional world. Her classroom approach, which featured experiential exercises and group projects, is now standard in most business administration courses.

In retirement, Patterson will no doubt enjoy having more time to spend with family — and given its makeup, she’ll likely stay in close contact with Furman. Her children, Mark ’90 and Kristen ’93, were both chemistry majors who married Furman chemistry majors — Trisha Enloe ’99 and Joy Shenk ’99, respectively. They have four children between them.

She and her husband, Wayne, will also devote more time to the humanitarian work they began in Mississippi and Louisiana almost five years ago, after Hurricane Katrina.
Duke Endowment awards $1 million to support sustainability

THE DUKE ENDOWMENT has awarded Furman $1 million to support the work of the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability. The Shi Center promotes the study of sustainability both on campus and in the Greenville community. Located in Cliff Cottages, it is named in honor of Shi, who retired June 30 after 16 years as president of Furman.

In all, more than 300 donors have provided support for the Shi Center. Since 2007, Furman has received $11.7 million toward its sustainability goals, including donations for the construction of Cliff Cottages and a $2.5 million U.S. Department of Energy grant to install geothermal systems at the North Village apartments on campus. Furman is one of four educational institutions to receive potential funding from the Duke Endowment. The Endowment seeks to fulfill James B. Duke’s legacy by enriching communities in the Carolinas through higher education, health care, rural churches and children’s services.

In 1974, McArthur came to Furman to develop a school leadership program. HARL Harris, his colleague in the education department, says, “He brought a tremendous amount of real world experience with him, and he had the foundation for the program on which others were dependent on him to build.”

During his nine years on the faculty McArthur was well known for his outgoing personality, charity nature and gentle manner. Nelly Hacker, current department chair, recalls one of her first conversations with McArthur after she arrived at Furman, in which he emphasized how important it was for her, as a new faculty member, to invest herself immediately in the work of the department.

“He had a fairaly way about him, but it wasn’t paternalistic,” she says. “He was very collegial, and mentoring was his strength.”

Lesley Quast, now an assistant dean at Furman, recalls McArthur’s sincerity and interest in others. “I never saw him in a bad mood,” she says. “He was very warm and courteous, the epitome of a Southern gentleman. He met my parents once when they visited, and after that he would never fail to ask me how they were doing. Those kinds of personal touches were typical of Currie.”

McArthur’s legacy is “hailed as significant of the desegregation of schools,” Harris says. “He was also a great listener.” Harris says, “He was very warm and courteous, the epitome of a Southern gentleman. He met my parents once when they visited, and after that he would never fail to ask me how they were doing. Those kinds of personal touches were typical of Currie.”

He was remembered fondly by colleagues and students alike. Hazel Harris, his colleague in the education department, says, “He brought a tremendous amount of real world experience with him, and he had the foundation for the program on which others were dependent on him to build.”

In addition to his wife, Currie’s legacy is supported by a signifiant gift from his friend, Janie Barron. “Sure enough,” Harris says, “Carrie called after about an hour. Carrie then asked me if I thought he’d talked too long, and I said no, not at all. So he called me in a little違う." Harris adds, “Carrie left quite a legacy, and Anne was a significant part of it.”

In addition to his wife, McArthur is survived by sons Laurin Currie McArthur III (Nancy) and John Barron McArthur (Barbara House McArthur ’80); daughter Sally McArthur Shigley ’79 (Ken ’78), six grandchildren, and a brother.
A premiere piece to celebrate the percussive arts

BRYAN CRIBB ’83, Speaking on the Bond of Shield: Form and Message of Old Testament Death. Stony Brook: Stony Brook Press, 2009. Morton’s Webster Almanac offers criticism as “a method of determining the source and history of biblical narratives through analysis of the writings in terms of ancient literary form and oral traditions [as] a process, paradigm, and procedure.” The publisher says this book shows that “If one thing has much to add to Old Testament studies. Using a synchronic and inductive approach to the text, Cribb engages in a form critical study of new ‘death stories’ [and] not only provides substantial support for the existence of this genre, which Hofttlob has not been identified by form critics, but also shows how remarkably fruitful such a study can be in revealing the messages of these stories.” Cribb was recently named assistant professor of Christian studies at Anderson (S.C.) University.

MASSACHUSETTS ROONEY ’93, Ultimate Warrior Workouts: Training for Warriors. Fitness Secrets of the Martial Arts Masters. Paperbacks, 2010. A fitness coach and author of Training for Warriors, Rooney told Crenshaw Media, “As good with this book is to preserve the physical training techniques of mixed martial arts component martial arts for future fighters, and to demonstrate how to properly physically train for these components.” To do so, Rooney said he spent two years “traveling like the fighters did of the world, focusing on the individual art of each mixed martial artist who believes that mixed martial arts are the future of war.” Rooney, who is a professional martial artist, has extensive martial arts training, traveled to Brazil, Russia, Japan, among other countries, in compiling the book. He lives in Fair Lawn, N.J. Visit www.trainingforwarriors.com.

MARTHE LASSITER ’82 and Joseph Cribb, editors, The Myth of Southern Zionophobia (Oxford University Press, 2009). The publisher says this collection of essays “challenges the idea of Southern distinctiveness in order to offer a new way of thinking about American history. For too long, the belief in an exceptional South has encouraged distortions and generalizations about the nation’s other liberal traditions, especially by compartmentalizing themes of race, segregation, and political conservatism in one section of the country. This volume examines popular binaries — of the facts versus de jure segregation, red state versus blue state, liberation, the “South” versus the “North” — to rewrite the history of region and nation alike.” Lassiter is a history professor at the University of Michigan and author of The Silent Majority: Suburban Politics in the Sunbelt South. Cribb teaches history at Emory University.

FREDRICK TUCKER ’81, Vela Follon (HarperCollins, 2010). Known for her voice work on six Walt Disney animated features, Vella Follon enjoyed a 65-year show business career that crossed into television and radio. She was nominated for an Emmy Award twice and was a regular on the 1950s situation comedy “December Bride,” and on radio she worked with such stars as Jack Benny and Red Skelton. The publisher says the author chronicles fellow actor’s life to fans of “from phenomenal child star to her final quarter century as one of Hollywood’s most beloved character actresses. The book also feature an abundance of new photographs.” Tucker is a sixth grade history teacher at Berry Shoals Intermediate School in Duncan, S.C.

GARY E. PASTER ’78, The Constantine Conspiracy (Revell, 2010). The latest novel of Paster, a biographer and past Christ Award finalist for Christian fiction, is considered “as good as today’s highest literary achievement to become the main suspect in a murder investigation.” Even Rick’s powerful family is implicated. The publisher asks, “In a place where no one is who they say they are and danger lurks around every corner, who can Rick trust? Will he risk his fortune, his life and possibly his family to expose the truth?” Readers will be swept up in this thrilling tale of conspiracy, international intrigue and the power of truth.” Paster, who has written more than 15 novels, lives in Suwanee, Ga.

JERRY AUTRY ’68 and RAY AUTRY, Brothers: A Somewhat True Memoir. 2010. Two brothers present a light-hearted and life-affirming family memoir that is a tribute to their parents and their upbringing with four siblings on a North Carolina tobacco farm. Col. Jerry Autry, who lives in San Francisco, is a 29-year military veteran, retired pastor and author of two other books. Ray Autry, a newspaper columnist, is warned of children’s books and “gentleman farmers,” lives in tiny Rural Retreat, Va. Proceeds from the book’s sale go to assorted charities.

ALLISON HURST, The Butler of Academic Success: Lafayette, Amenities, and Double Agents (Lexington Books, 2010). Hurst, who joined the sociology department in 2009, explores working-class college students’ understandings of class and social mobility. The publisher describes the book as “a compelling read for students and a much-needed addition to our understanding of how class operates today, both inside and outside of the classroom.” Linda Fuller of the University of Oregon says the book offers “a sharp, insightful, and moving account of strategies working-class college students devise to manage the gulf between their own class cultures, identities, and communities and the decidedly middle-class cultures, orientations, and preoccupations of the institution where they study. It is a law degree from Pepperdine University and a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon.

THE OUTDOOR CONCERT started at one in the afternoon with the sound of the wind, thanks to a half-dozen percussionists blowing air through paper tubes as they wandered from place to place. That was followed by the sounds of rocks being rubbed together, the rattle of maracas, the various frequencies of whirly tubes in motion, and bass from assorted conch shells. Then drummers and more traditional percussionists, who were spread out over several yards, played rockHPercussionists, who were spread out over several yards, played rocks being rubbed together, the rattle of maracas, the various frequencies of whirly tubes in motion, and bass from assorted conch shells.

Then drummers and more traditional percussionists, who were spread out over several yards, played rocks being rubbed together, the rattle of maracas, the various frequencies of whirly tubes in motion, and bass from assorted conch shells. Furman Percussion Ensemble and 35 guest performers from seven states. Among them was Steven Schick, Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California at San Diego and Consulting Artistic Director of Percussion at the Manhattan School of Music. Approximately 200 listeners were encouragreed to wander freely through the performance area during the concert. As Adams has written, “This work is intended to expand our awareness of the never-ending music of the world in which we live, transforming seemingly empty space into a more fully experienced place.” Adams, who was on hand for the performance, is known for his interest in matching music to landscape or some other aspect of nature. He was the subject of a profile in The New Yorker two years ago and received the 2010 Michael Ludwig Honors Prize in Music Composition.

“...the interesting thing about Inukatsiaq was that the performance site gave just as much life to the performance as the performance itself,” says Steven Schick, Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California at San Diego and Consulting Artistic Director of Percussion at the Manhattan School of Music. Approximately 200 listeners were encouraged to wander freely through the performance area during the concert. As Adams has written, “This work is intended to expand our awareness of the never-ending music of the world in which we live, transforming seemingly empty space into a more fully experienced place.” Adams, who was on hand for the performance, is known for his interest in matching music to landscape or some other aspect of nature. He was the subject of a profile in The New Yorker two years ago and received the 2010 Michael Ludwig Honors Prize in Music Composition.

“The interesting thing about Inukatsiaq was that the performance site gave just as much life to the piece as the performers themselves,” says Steven Schick, Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California at San Diego and Consulting Artistic Director of Percussion at the Manhattan School of Music. Approximately 200 listeners were encouraged to wander freely through the performance area during the concert. As Adams has written, “This work is intended to expand our awareness of the never-ending music of the world in which we live, transforming seemingly empty space into a more fully experienced place.” Adams, who was on hand for the performance, is known for his interest in matching music to landscape or some other aspect of nature. He was the subject of a profile in The New Yorker two years ago and received the 2010 Michael Ludwig Honors Prize in Music Composition.

THE OUTDOOR CONCERT started at one in the afternoon with the sound of the wind, thanks to a half-dozen percussionists blowing air through paper tubes as they wandered from place to place. That was followed by the sounds of rocks being rubbed together, the rattle of maracas, the various frequencies of whirly tubes in motion, and bass from assorted conch shells. Then drummers and more traditional percussionists, who were spread out over several yards, played rocks being rubbed together, the rattle of maracas, the various frequencies of whirly tubes in motion, and bass from assorted conch shells.
awards posted in their respective sports for the past four years. A total of 23 players represented Furman in each of the 14 Football Championship Subdivision (formerly NCAA Division I-AA) conferences that have the highest Academic Progress Rate scores over the NCAA’s most recent four-year time period. Furman’s APR of 977 was 43 points higher than the Southern Conference average of 934 and 42 points higher than the FCS average.

NCAA member colleges and universities recently adopted a comprehensive academic reform package designed to improve the academic success and graduation rates of all student-athletes. The centerpiece of the reforms is the APR. The APR awards two points each term to student-athletes who meet academic-eligibility standards and who remain with the institution. A team’s APR is determined by the total points it earns at a given time divided by the total points possible.

The NCAA also honored five Furman teams with public recognition awards for their APR. The men’s golf, women’s basketball, women’s cross country, and women’s indoor and outdoor track squads were recognized for posting APR scores in the top 10 percent of all schools in their respective sports for the past four years. A total of 841 teams representing 228 Division I institutions were recognized by the NCAA. High-performing teams receiving awards posted APR scores ranging from 978 to a perfect 1,000.

Carson proves you can go home again

WHEN JACQUE SMITH CARSON was introduced at a press conference this spring as the new women’s basketball coach at Furman, it took all of two minutes to realize that patience and a long-suffering temperament might not rate high on Carson’s list of virtues. After all, a few remarks about how nice it was to be back on campus and see familiar faces, Carson got down to business. “I’m going to show you how it’s supposed to be,” she said, mentioning toward a group of Lady Paladin players who were sitting near the back of the room. “We’re going to go through things in the right direction.”

For those who remember the resolute intensity Carson displayed on the court during her stellar career at Furman, it’s no surprise that she would cut to the heart of the matter. And who could argue that she doesn’t know how it’s supposed to be done? When she played from 1996 to 2000, Furman was in a fierce in the Southern Conference, winning 44 league games and taking the regular season conference championship in 1997 and the tournament in 2000. The 6-foot-1 Carson had much to do with that success. She was first-team all-conference her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. She was the conference Player of the Year her sophomore and junior years, was team captain her final two seasons, and was named Furman’s Edna Harmon Female Athlete of the Year in 1999. She finished her career as the second leading scorer and rebounder in school history. For good measure, the health and exercise science major made the conference Academic Honor Roll three times. She was elected to the university’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005.

To be reminded of Carson’s contributions, her players need only look to the rafters of Timmons Arena, where her jersey (22) hangs. She is one of only three Furman women’s records to have her number retired.

The last time Furman won the Southern Conference championship was my senior year, and I hope to continue where I left off,” says Carson, who succeeded Sam Dixon as coach. “The program has fallen off a little bit [124 last season], but I know we can get back to where we were. We just have to work hard and not be afraid to fail.”

After graduating in 2000, Carson played professionally in Belgium and Israel for two years. She enjoyed the traveling and the basketball, but not the uncertainty that the lifestyle entailed. “I’m the type who likes to have her ducks in a row,” she says. “I would come home from playing overseas and I didn’t have medical insurance or any kind of stability. That was the part I didn’t like.”

She returned home to northern Virginia and began working toward a degree as a physician assistant. But she couldn’t let go of basketball altogether, so she volunteered as an assistant coach for a girls’ 15-year-old AAU team that won a national championship and produced three future Atlantic Coast Conference stars.

Soon, without any college coaching experience, she was offered an assistant’s job at Bucknell University in 2004. Two years later she moved to James Madison University in Virginia, where she was recruited to be an assistant coach for this year’s World Cup. She had inducted into the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005, become the first former Furman athlete to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated when he joined World Cup teammate Landon Donovan and Tim Howard on the front of the June 7 issue.

To remind of Carson’s contributions, her players need only look to the rafters of Timmons Arena, where her jersey (22) hangs. She is one of only three Furman women’s records to have her number retired. “The last time Furman won the Southern Conference championship was my senior year, and I hope to continue where I left off,” says Carson, who succeeded Sam Dixon as coach. “The program has fallen off a little bit [124 last season], but I know we can get back to where we were. We just have to work hard and not be afraid to fail.”

After graduating in 2000, Carson played professionally in Belgium and Israel for two years. She enjoyed the traveling and the basketball, but not the uncertainty that the lifestyle entailed. “I’m the type who likes to have her ducks in a row,” she says. “I would come home from playing overseas and I didn’t have medical insurance or any kind of stability. That was the part I didn’t like.”

She returned home to northern Virginia and began working toward a degree as a physician assistant. But she couldn’t let go of basketball altogether, so she volunteered as an assistant coach for a girls’ 15-year-old AAU team that won a national championship and produced three future Atlantic Coast Conference stars.

Soon, without any college coaching experience, she was offered an assistant’s job at Bucknell University in 2004. Two years later she moved to James Madison University in Virginia, where she was recruited to be an assistant coach for this year’s World Cup. She had inducted into the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005, become the first former Furman athlete to appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated when he joined World Cup teammate Landon Donovan and Tim Howard on the front of the June 7 issue.

To remind of Carson’s contributions, her players need only look to the rafters of Timmons Arena, where her jersey (22) hangs. She is one of only three Furman women’s records to have her number retired.
THE FURMAN NETWORK IN ACTION

LAST NOVEMBER, Furman’s Young Alumni Council joined forces with the Alumni Association, career services and the internship office to sponsor a career networking event for students and alumni. The first hour gave alumni a chance to get to know each other and exchange contact information. During the second hour, students were invited to talk with the alumni about their work.

At one point two graduates, Tom LeGrand ‘94 and Mandarillas Robinson ’06, struck up a conversation. Tom, a former Furman football player, current Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church. Manie, a Furman parent and son of two alumni, is the youth minister at Inman (S.C.) First Baptist Church.

In June I had the pleasure of traveling to China with the chair of Furman’s Department of Asian Studies, Kate Nartker Kaup, and 11 alumni and friends. During our two-week journey we spent time in Suzhou, Shanghai, Tibet, Xi’an and Beijing.

Kate, who holds a dual appointment in Asian Studies and political science (and was profiled in the fall 2009 issue of this magazine), is wonderfully well-connected in China, so we got to know the country much more intimately than the average tourist. We also met with eight young Furman alumni who were living and working in China.

After we returned from China, we saw another example of Asian Studies in action. In July Furman sponsored an intensive two-week Chinese language and culture camp for high school students who have taken at least one year of Chinese. The Startalk Chinese Language Camp was designed to help the participants take their language skills to new levels. Students studied and lived with native Chinese teachers, interacted via webcast with high school partners in China, and worked with Chinese-speaking camp counselors.

Students did everything from making dumplings to preparing authentic Chinese food. And they were able to keep their webcams so they can stay in touch with their language partners in Suzhou. The camp was supported by a National Critical Language Initiative Startalk grant.

This special program is yet another selling point alumni can use to help the university recruit outstanding students. One of Furman’s strategic goals is to increase its applicant pool, and alumni can help spread the good news. So make sure to encourage any prospective college students you know to consider Furman. They’ll like what they see!

PRESIDENTIAL VISITS

New Furman president Rod Smolla, who took office July 1, will be traveling the country during the next few months, looking to meet as many alumni as possible. His schedule is still being determined, but be on the lookout for an announcement about an event in your area — and then plan to attend.

— TOM TRIPPLIT ’76
Directors, Alumni Association

CLASS NOTES, SUMMER 2010

59
Charles W. Linder, a former member of the Furman Alumni Board, has received the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine’s 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award for Loyalty. He is a retired associate dean and professor emeritus of pediatrics at the medical college, where he completed a fellowship in 1969. He then joined the faculty and went on to serve as assistant hospital administrator, chief of staff and medical director of McGaw in addition to his academic duties. Since his retirement in 2001, he has served as a volunteer faculty member.

62
Elisabeth Harrill Mitchell, president of the Marine Senate and the first woman in America to serve as both a state Senate president and state House speaker, won the Democratic nomination for governor in the June primary. She will face Republican Paul LePage and three independent candidates in the November elections.

65
THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Donald Cherry, longtime professor of biological sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, has been named professor emeritus. He began working at Virginia Tech in 1973 and is author or co-author of more than 200 research publications in the field of eco-toxicology. He has made a number of presentations at national and international conferences and been the principal investigator for grants and contracts exceeding $4 million. He also served as president of the Environmental Toxicology Group of the Society for Eco-toxicology.

Michael D. Stewart, professor emeritus in the College of Business Administration, was selected in May. He teaches at the School of Management.

73
Mike Blackmon received the Emmett Hurts Service to Education Award given by the South Carolina Dames and Dandies and Traffic Safety Education Association. Mike is a teacher and coach at Wade Hampton High School in Greenville.

78
Gene Goding of Columbia, S.C., has earned a bachelor of Public Health degree from the University of South Carolina.

79
Suzhou-based Akinase Brewing Co., founded and owned by Geoff and Mary Bradley Larson, was named for the second time to Outside magazine’s annual “Best Places to Work.” It is the only Alaskan business selected. The magazine compiled the list with the help of the Outdoor Industry Association and Best Companies Group. Companies were selected because of their efforts to enhance their employees’ enjoyment of environmental and social investment and action endeavors.

83
David Talbott became the president of the Mecklenburg County (N.C.) Bar Association and Best Companies Group. Companies were selected because of their efforts to enhance their employees’ enjoyment of environmental and social investment and action endeavors.

86
Richard W. Riley is an education administrator professor at the University of South Carolina since 2005, has been named the school’s faculty athletics representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association. He taught education at Furman from 1951-08, during which time he won the Abbeer-G. Furman, ‘51, and Jane Earte Furman Award for Mentous Teaching. He also served briefly as director of the Furman Club.

88
Carol D. Stewart received an M.D. in history from the University of Kansas in May. She teaches at the School of Advanced Military Studies in Fort Leavenworth.

89
Blair Bass of Charlotte, N.C., became vice president of the Transaction Operations Group with UnitedHealthCare in April. He was formerly a principal of Akin Consulting USA, Ltd.

97
Dottie Pepper was inducted into the Palm Beach County (Fla.) Sports Hall of Fame in March. A three-time All-America golfer at Furman, she won the USGA Women’s Amateur twice and was named to the U.S. Women’s Open team. She is now a television golf analyst.
2010–11 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Clay Follis-Mott '13, president; J. Chris Brown '89, president-elect; Harold Wilt '74, past president; Rebecca Ann Amorn '18, Lynn Bailey '78, N. Stilten Bell '11, Frank W. Blackwell '90, Sidney D. Bland '50, Mary Lois Cade '68, Trina Morgan Cardwell '92, Paul D. Goforth '60; Michael L. Goury '95; Shannon Scoular Henderson '75; Gail Libbre-Hughes '82; T. Yates Johnson '14; Ginni Earle Kneeland '13; Todd Malo '91; James J. Martin '90; Herman A. Mathews '79; Andrea C. Menden '07; Matthew A. Miller '99; Joseph C. Moser '78; William P. Morris '14; Brett Patrick '16; Scott W. Raster '92; Dordon D. Saw '61; Elborn L. Smith '90; Lisa M. Smith '91; Cynthia Black Sparks '80; Corina Garrett Williams '74.

Ex-Officers and Other Members: Rodney Smulla, president; Michael Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Togtli '79, director of Alumni Association; Jane Durkan, associate director of Alumni Association; Tinas Hayes Ballew '79, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurlt '94, president; Young Alumni Council; Kyle Volkman '11, president; Student Alumni Council; Patrick Wallen '71, president; Association of Furman Students; Shannon Cantwell '11, president, Senior Class.

MARRIAGE: Emily Thayer and Brian Crenshaw, April 10. They live in Atlanta. She is a finance manager at AT&T Mobility and he works in consulting for CGI.

Crisis Lynn Smith and Bryan Wood, March. She is in accounting supervisor at Coca Cola and he is senior officer for St. Paul’s Fire District.

Karen Kuehnert and Wade Walling, May 8. She is a member of the Family Violence Center and he is a member of the Magnolia Park School PTO. 

BIRTH: Danielle Kral '05, May 8. They live in Atlanta. She is a member of the Trial Lawyers section. He is the managing partner of the Atlanta office of the firm.

ASSOC

89

Angelo Richardson earned a Master of Science degree in natural resource strategy from the National Defense University’s Industrial College of the Armed Forces, which provides graduate level education to senior officers of the U.S. armed forces, government civilians, foreign nationals and private industry.

Prior to joining GrayRobinson, he practiced financial management investment committee. He has been named one of 39 Atlanta-based accounting and audit firms included in The Greenville News 40 Under 40 Class of 2010, which recognizes his accomplishments as a business and community leader. In 2009 he was named a fellow and K&K Rising Star by his peers. He serves on the board of the Family Violence Center and is a member of the Student Alumni Council.

PAGE 86 FURMAN ALUMNI NEWS

77

MEREDITH Wilson, director of the Furman Civic Development Center, has been named one of three new directors for Sanford Schools for 2010. She provides feedback to the publisher about the types of books that families and children are interested in and about how to help children develop home libraries. She is a member of the state board of the South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children and serves on an educational advisory panel at North Greenville University. She is also the interim head of Furman Gaud School in Charleston, S.C., since June of 2009, Debdue Egleston, Jr., was appointed head of school in March.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD ADDS FOUR MEMBERS

(The Alumni Association welcomes four new members to its board for 2010–11, Sidney Bland '50, Patricia Morgan Cardwell '82, Gail Libbre-Hughes '82 and Todd Malo '95 (left to right). Bland recently retired after 45 years as a history professor at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., where an endowed scholarship bears his name. Holder of a Ph.D. from The George Washington University, he co-chaired the IMU American Studies program for 23 years and was president of the Huntington-Richmond Historical Society from 1981 to 1997. Bland is a partner with Husch Blackwell Sand Frieden, while his former family law firm in Springfield, Mo., was included in Springfield Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2010, which recognizes his accomplishments as a business and community leader. In 2009 he was named a fellow and K&K Rising Star by his peers. He serves on the board of the Family Violence Center and is a member of the Student Alumni Council.

PAGE 87
DATING AND WAITING: One Woman’s Quest for the ‘One’

Megan Carson graduated from Furman in 2000 with an excellent education, great friends, and a fairy tale vision of the man she hoped to marry: tall, mannerly, and Christian.

Even possessing those traits seemed common during her college years, when she wasn’t ready to settle into a relationship, but they became more difficult to find once she moved back to her California hometown and began to navigate the complex world of dating.

Her dating rituals became a blog that had her friends in stitches or groaning in sympathy. Soon, an acquaintance’s father was offering her a book deal.


The experience didn’t go quite as she had hoped, but she was grateful for what she learned. “Before, I wanted to speed up the process,” she says, of finding her soul mate. “But I don’t have that sense of urgency anymore. It’s going to happen with the right person at the right time.”

Carson still enjoys dating, despite some disastrous encounters in which men who seemed so sweet in the book’s warm nicknames like F-Bomb Bill, Messy Hands Mike and Penthouse Pete — “they were not the same person I met when I signed near the mailbox at Furman where I used to get my mail,” she says. “It was an out-of-body experience.”

She was originally reluctant about trying a dating service but was quickly swayed by the number of people who found love online. “If it could work for them, it could work for me,” she says. So she signed up — and hoped that only her close family and friends would find out.

Carson went on a few interesting dates, but they got progressively worse. Friends found her musings so entertaining that they encouraged her to blog about her experiences, and the year of dating she began in secret became public information.

She was surprised to find that writing about each date was helpful. “It became so therapeutic for me, to process it in that way,” she says. After a few months she hadn’t found the man of her dreams, but she had something beyond her wildest dreams — a book deal. The book’s success has her feels so far, and she really made me feel like they wanted me to be there,” she says. Brother Drew attended Furman as well and graduated in 2003.

The book showcases her love for her Furman years — especially its style. “I fell in love with the South and its preppy culture,” she writes. “Crewe rhinestones, polo shirts with popped collars, loafer with plaid skirts, khakis — what’s not to love!”

She soon realized, though, that the outlook for Southern-loving fashion sense and old-fashioned values had not always mesh with her California-style expression. “I was trying too hard, and these sweet Southern boys saw right through my efforts,” she writes.

Carson continues to write — she still blogs at http://megancarson.com — but hasn’t decided on her next project. “The first one just came to me,” she says with a laugh. “A book about actually meeting her match would make an ideal sequel, but perhaps that story would be better left untold.”

“I may want to keep that between the gentleman and me,” she says with a laugh.

In the meantime, in addition to promoting the book, Carson teaches Advanced Placement world history at Capitano High School, her alma mater in Mission Viejo, Calif. She’s earned a master’s degree in education from Concordia University while finishing her year of Blind Dates.

Although the book doesn’t have a fairy tale ending, Carson says: “I used to think my life would be great once I had the right relationship, but now I know the same issues will be going on. I’ve learned about myself in that relationship and I’m not so single, but at the same time, I’m really enjoying my life where it is right now.”

— Leigh Savage

Leigh Gauthier Savage ’94 is a freelance writer in Simpsonville, S.C.
Colberg, Pharmacy and Health Sciences with MARRIAGES: Retention and Advancement.

computer and other prizes. She will also Along with the award, she received Elementary School in Greenville County.

2010. She teaches Spanish at Fork Shoals South Carolina Teacher of the Year for

is a resident physician in family medicine.

Grant Nicholinson and Rwena Cleveland, April 23. They live in Atlanta where he is director of sales and marketing for the private wealth management Atlanta district of SunTrust Bank.

Jansen Thompson and Lindsey Anna Hembrough, May 15. They live in Greenville where Jansen is employed by Michelin North America and Lindsey by the Greenville General Medical Clinic. BIRTHS: Buddy and Sarah-Aann Turpen Deahl, a son, Troy, January 19. They live in Brentwood, Tenn., where Buddy is completing his residency in orthopedics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Jim and Carmen Band Sawyer, a son, Noah Crawford, January 18, Winterville, N.C.

炭 FOR THIS YEAR IS REUNION

Adam and Diana Estates Llegier have moved to Charlotte, N.C., where Adam, a graduate of Eastern Virginia Medical School, has begun a residency at the Carolinas Medical Center. Diana recently

graduated from Old Dominion University with a Master of Arts degree in applied linguistics. In May, Kenneth Surkin received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School, where he will complete his residency.

Joe Waters of Tolland, S.C., is the new director of Admissions at the Community School of Innovation.

MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Basley and Grady Brutts, December 18. They live in S.C.

Hamiton Bridges and Mary Ann Barrett, February 6. They live in Atlanta.

Charles Trevor Hall and Meghan Diane Haukensolland, September 12, 2010. They live in Charleston, S.C., where she is employed with the first United Sohets office and he with Enterprise Corporation.

Robby Hendry and Sidney Cummings, April 11. Robby and Sidney received their M.D. degrees from the Medical University of South Carolina in May. They have made their home in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he is a resident physician in neurology and she is a resident physician in family medicine.

 Element of Science degree in clinical investigation. For the past two years she was a post-doctoral fellow. Emily graduated

Washington University School of Medicine.

Jim and his wife, Venus, a graduate of Duke University in 1996, is the resident concierge at The Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Lake Oconee in Greensboro, Ga. She previously held a similar position at The Ritz-Carlton in Atlanta.

Ericy Hendry received his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in May. She is now practicing dentistry in Polson, S.C.

Patrick Arnett has earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the Medical College of Georgia. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in Valdosta, Ga., where he is completing a residency and she is a resident physician in internal medicine.

Kate Atwood received a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in June.


Meredith Elthen Pittman and Jonathan Fowler, April 30. She graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in May with an M.D. degree and a Master of Science degree in clinical investigation. She is pursuing a residency in pediatrics at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.

BIRTHS: Josh and Meredith Edwards Green, a son, Henry Dayton, February 19. Josh is a graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and practice in the capital region of McGraw-Wood LLP. Meredith is scheduled to graduate from Wake Forest University School of Law this fall. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Geoffrey and Emily Greyard Mitchell, a son, Cameron Greyard Mitchell, March 28, Tuscarora, Ariz. Geoff earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in cancer biology from the University of Arizona, where he will be a post-doctoral fellow. Emily graduated from the University of Arizona with a Master of Education degree and works as a publisher’s representative with Pearson Higher Education.

Eric Helms begins this fall toward his Master of Arts degree in poetry at Columbia University School of the Arts in New York City.

Bruce Alan Nessler, Jr. has earned his J.D. degree from the Thomas Coogler Jones School of Law at the University of Virginia in Richmond, Va. As he was first in his class and graduated summa cum laude, Ed Westbrook and his father are building a micro-brewery in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Westbrook Brewery, Inc. is expected to open in September. According to the Charleston Post and Courier, Ed started brewing beer in his senior year at Furman and continued the practice while pursuing a master’s degree in business administration at Clemson University.

MARRIAGES: Bonnie Leigh Baird and Matthew Hixford Stabler, March 6. They live in Columbia, S.C. Bonnie is a leasing agent at Columbia Property Management and Matt recently completed law school at the University of South Carolina.

Amanda Griffin and Gregory Butts, May 18. They live in Atlanta.

Linda Katske and Sam Williamsson, May 8. Having recently graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University's Master of Health Administration program, Sam is now working for Bon Secours St. Francis Health System in Greenville. Fama Olivia Somers and Kenneth Bennett Dorman, April 30. She is scheduled to receive a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of South Carolina in December. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where he is employed as a financial specialist with Wachovia Bank.

With her Scott and Darlyne Baily Conklin, a son, John Wheel, April 27, Greenville.

Sarah Clay Bryant graduated from Duke University's Accelerated Bachelor of Nursing program and works as an oncology nurse at Duke Hospital. Eva Sillipon is pursuing a double master's degree in art history and library and informational sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Courtney Stewart Gossman has been named assistant volleyball coach at Radford (Va.) University. For the past two years she was a graduate assistant at the University of Delaware, where she earned a master's degree in institutional leadership.

MARRIAGES: Amy Lynn Greenwell (M.A.) and William Thompson Bryan, May 1. They live in Summerville, S.C. She teaches second grade at Waldford Elementary School and he is sales manager of Outdoors In Luxe Products.

Matthew MacCaughettle and Stephanie MacDonald, April 10. They reside in Colfax, N.C.

Ted McClellan and Sally Heckethorn '19, October 24. They live in Bradenton, Fl.

Caitlin Montgomery and Timothy McLell, August 21, 2010. They live in Bloomington, Ind.

William Rosenblatt and Myra Dennis '19, May 30. William is a medical student at the University of Missouri-Missouri Center in Jackson, and Myra is pursuing a Doctor of Optometry degree at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Ashley Neumann has become a full- time concierge at the Ritz-Carlton Reynolds, Plantation in Greensboro, Ga. She previously held a similar job in Colorado.

MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Kell and David Sederl, May 27. They live in Sarasota, Fl.
I received the invitation to become part of the University of Central Missouri. He was president of the University of North Carolina’s flagship international campus as a private tutor. The Fulbright is the assistantship to support graduate study in 1871 and has approximately 11,000 undergraduate students. In 2003 he and his wife, Kristen Allen Ambrose of Spartanburg, S.C., were elected general secretary-treasurer of the state convention, and as a member of the Upper Piedmont and Spartanburg Urban Development Corporation in 1969 and held that position until 1982. During his tenure, he reorganized the medical school, membership grew by 53,000, and donations to the Cooperative Program tripled. He oversaw the planning of the convention’s White Oak Conference Center in Winnsboro and was credited with starting an annual conference on biblical study and preaching that continues each summer at Anderson University. From 1962 to 1969, he was assistant general secretary-treasurer of the state convention, and before that he was state student director in both South Carolina and North Carolina. He also served as executive secretary of the North Carolina Council of Campus Ministries. Later, in 2005, he became assistant business manager and manager of the University School of Nursing, she served on the university hospital’s nursing staff. She joined the university’s staff in 1954 as a payroll specialist, became involved in recruiting, and served on the personnel board of directors and as an officer of the local chapter of the American Dental Hygienists Association. She taught at Soochow University. She taught English at Soochow University. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She taught school for 39 years. She trained in the United States’ Flagship international campus at that time. The Fulbright is the assistantship to support graduate study.
Sarah Elizabeth Sims ’12, March 9, Greenville. She spent her career teaching elementary school and retired from Byrtha Elementary, where she taught fourth and fifth grades.

William Patterson Peebles ’13, March 27, Sturman, S.C. He was U.S. Army Air Force veteran of the Korean War and retired from Mayfair Mill 38 years after service. He was a member of the Spartanburg County District 5 School Board for 13 years and was a past member of Wilkesville Golf Club.

Charles “Dusty” Rhodes ’14, March 31, Greenville. He was a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, during which time he was a petty officer of the Nurse Corps in the United States and served as a member of the fleet. He was past president and a member of the Faulk.

Robert Nelson Shigley ’59, May 27, Atlanta. He joined the Army Air Corps and during World War II flew 36 combat missions as a B-17 waist gunner based in Italy. After earning his college degree he taught in high schools in Alabama and Georgia and was a principal of schools in those states and in Tennessee. He earned his doctorate from the university of Alabama and went on to serve as assistant school superintendent in Douglas County, Ga. From 1969 to 1972 he was a division director of the Georgia Department of Education, where his responsibilities included financial aid and development of Fendall Service Center and the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, supervision of the Governor’s School program, and other programs dealing with special education, teacher education and certification. He was principal of Douglas County Comprehensive High School from 1972 to 1974 and then served as director of Douglas Regional Educational Services Administration. After retiring from Georgia public education in 1978, he worked with schools in Alabama and served as a superintendent in Home.

Fannion Marion Darby Burnett ’51, March 17, Athens, N.C. She was a veteran of World War II and served in the Women’s Army Corps during World War II. She was co-owner of Burnett Antiques in Athens and also taught at a number of schools in the Athens area until retiring in 1980. She graduated from Furman and was a member of Gamma Sigma Sigma Sorority, Class of 1939. She was named to the Hall of Fame.

Hiram Lloyd McElrath ’56, March 21, Greenville. He was owner and operator of McElrath & Company in Greenville. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He served in the U.S. Navy, during which time he was a petty officer of the Nurse Corps in the United States and served as a member of the fleet.

Gary Edward Livingood ’58, April 9, Greenville. He was a 31-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served two tours of duty in the U.S. Navy, then went into the ministry and was a pastor of churches in South Carolina and Georgia. He was senior pastor emeritus of Georgetown First Baptist Church.

Sara Elizabeth Privette ’58, March 15, Concord, N.C. He was a pastor of Baptist churches in several states and was a co-founder in the Architectural Department at the Baptist Sunday School Board in North Carolina. He spent 21 years at a professor of Christian education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member of the Georgia Baptist Convention. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.
CLASS NOTES POLICY

Because of the large number of submissions and deadlines, Furman reserves for the magazine's class notes section the time needed to review, compile and edit much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements. When sending news for class notes, please include your spouse's or child's name, whether your spouse is a Furman graduate, and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

When sent electronically, news about alumni couples who graduated in different years is included under the graduation date of the last-degree holder. In other cases it goes under the earliest graduation date. It is not listed with both classes.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3302 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the online alumni registry (http://alumni.furman.edu) is included in class notes.

1987-88. In 1997 he retired from Dalhaun Memorial, which he co-founded with his daughter. In retirement he sang with Sierra Vista and served as the group’s president. He was a long-time Mason and Shriner, was a member of the Elk Lodge and Veterans of Foreign Wars, was a former president of the Augusta Road Ruritan Club, and was a high school sports official. The Charles E. Lynch Bridge in Smith Mountain, Va., was dedicated in his honor in 1998.

Robert Reid Breckenridge was an assistant in the Department of Advertising Agency in Greenville and later to receive a chemistry scholarship to Furman University, 3302 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the online alumni registry (http://alumni.furman.edu) is included in class notes.

Harold Edward Davis, Jr., May 1, Concord, Va. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving as a medic in the Korean Conflict. After graduating from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1965, he was a pastor from 1965 to 1989. In 1970 he changed careers and became a sani- torian for the Lynchburg (Va.) Health District, where he worked until his retirement in 1995.

Beth George Wright, May 10, 1961, May 10, Sherman-Downs, Texas. The first woman to receive a chemistry scholarship to Furman, she began her career at the Agricultural Research Service Laboratory in Wakulla, Ga., and then moved to the National Animal Disease Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. Later she worked as a research chemist with Eastman Kodak in Rochester, N.Y., and taught chemistry at the College of Charleston (S.C.).

James Olin Robinson, Jr., March 11, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army during the Korean War and was retired from Anchor Motor Lines.

Robert Reid Breckenridge MBA ’75, May 22, Georgetown, S.C. He worked for Jacobs Engineering-Group, for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Huntsville, Ala., and for Lockheed Martin Corp. in Marietta, Ga.

Sallie Jean Button Callaway ’76, April 23, Greenville. She earned post- graduate certificates with honors in art history and languages at both the Goethe Institute in Frankfurt, Germany, and the University of Vienna. She was a translator for international businesses, trade associations and other concerns while living in Austria, and taught German, Spanish and English at Eastlake High School in Greenville. She moved to Massa- chusetts, where she taught nursery school arts and served many commissions for her art work. She was active in community theater, and worked with fitness and nutrition business in the Upstate.

Cynthia Marie Yakin May ’83, May 19, Greenville. She worked for Bausch and Lomb, Durham Chemical Company and Amosco.

Leon Jackson “Jay” Harvey III ’87, April 18, Gaffney, S.C. He was owner and operator of Harvey’s Drive-In and a church music director.

Jennifer Damron  ’10, March 11, Virginia Beach, Va. He passed the Virginia Bar in 1993 and practiced law in the Tidewater area.

Furman ALUMNI NEWS

SUMMER 2010

BEST PRACTICES FOR SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOLS

In 2007, the Riley Institute at Furman completed a wide-ranging study of public education in South Carolina. The study revealed that the greatest majority of South Carolinians believe it is crucial to provide the state’s children with the best public education system possible.

The institute and its Center for Education Policy and Leadership (CEPL) have now taken the study a step further and provided a clear, actionable framework for policymakers and educators. “WhatWorksSC” will help legislators develop public education policy, inform businesses and non-profits about how best to assist schools, and show educators how to model the most successful practices in their districts, schools and classrooms.

In South Carolina, that framework is WhatWorksSC, the state’s guide to actionable research. It is available online (http://whatworkssc.org) and in print (http://riley.furman.edu/education/). The study’s action plans focus on transforming public schools into community learning centers, improving learning in the early years, incentives to recruit, retain and support effective teachers, successful dropout prevention strategies, building strong school leadership, individualizing education for students, and helping students overcome academic challenges.

The Charleston County School District recently announced early results of special new initiatives to address troubling rates of illiteracy among students. The program’s goal is to improve students’ reading by at least two grade levels in one year.

The initial outcomes show nearly a third of the students in the program making gains of more than one grade in reading from fall to winter. District chief academic officer Doug Goodfield said he is pleased in some respects but will make adjustments in others. The Charleston district’s experience can help inform similar initiatives across the state.

And WhatWorksSC can help lawmakers maximize the positive impact of education funding — a particularly critical challenge with continuing shortfalls in state revenue leaving partial cuts in education funding.

The research also can save businesses and non-profits the way toward more effective private-sector support for public education. School partners should be more willing to lend a financial hand if they are more confident their dollars will make a difference.

Over the next eight months, the institute will release policy papers and case studies in seven areas, including early education, transforming public schools into community learning centers, recruiting and retaining effective teachers, and dropout prevention. Every car manufacturer says it has the best car for you. But you wouldn’t buy one without a test drive and more research.

Education decisions deserve at least that same scrutiny. The Riley Institute is to be commended for providing a resource to help school officials learn what works to improve public education in our state.
Furman University is committed to providing equal access to its educational programs, activities, and facilities to all other qualified students without discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other category protected by applicable state or federal law. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, Furman also affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination in its employment policies and practices. For information about the university’s compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and the I.R.S. Anti-Bias Regulations, contact the Director of Human Resources, (864) 294-3015, 3300 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, S.C. 29613. For information about Furman’s compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, contact the Disability Services Coordinator, (864) 294-2320, 3300 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, S.C. 29613.

Share your stories about your Furman Heroes

Look up the word “hero” in Merriam-Webster’s on-line dictionary and one definition jumps out: “An object of extreme admiration and devotion.”

Now, think back on your Furman years.

It’s likely that most if not all of us have a Furman hero, or even heroes — those people without whom our college experience would not have been the same, whose words of wisdom still resonate, and who we will always admire and appreciate for their devotion to students’ best interests. Whether you’re talking about a brief moment of inspiration or a pattern of assistance and support that spanned your college career, stories abound about the influence of Furman teachers and mentors on our lives.

There’s the professor whose advice, counsel or tough love helped you discover what your strengths were . . . the administrator or staff member who listened, reached out and provided a helping hand (or maybe just a shoulder to cry on) . . . the coach who saw your potential and gave you a chance to show what you could do on the playing field.

A few brief examples: The university’s previous two presidents, John Johns and David Shi, have spoken eloquently of the importance to their lives and careers of history professors D.H. Gilpatrick and Bill Lavurette, respectively. One need only attend the biennial Furman Singers reunion concerts to see the influence such individuals as DuPre Rhame and Bing Vix have had on generations of Furman students. Hundreds of alumni who worked in Collegiate Educational Service Corps (now Heller Service Corps) continue to be inspired by the example of Betty Akerson, the group’s founder and longtime director, who was a model of leadership and support. Others credit Benny Walker, former vice president for enrollment and director of financial aid, with keeping them in school by working tirelessly to help them find the funding they needed. Tales abound about Marguerite Chiles, a student services administrator for almost four decades who opened her heart, home and office to everyone.

Stories about these and so many others deserve to be preserved for posterity, because in the end Furman is not about books, or classes, or papers, or exams. It’s about people.

So we’re asking you to draw on the skills you developed in freshman composition, write down your “Furman Hero” story, and send it to us.

We’re hoping this idea will draw the kind of interest that the “Six-Word Memoirs” inspired for the Fall 2009 issue, when we received more than 275 responses. This time, though, you’re not limited to six words. Tell your story in 50 words or 500 — whatever it takes.

Assuming a strong response, we’ll use selected stories in an article in a future issue (or issues) of the magazine. And we’ll post all of them on the Alumni Association website (http://alumni.furman.edu).

You can e-mail your “Furman Hero” story to jim.stewart@furman.edu or alumni@furman.edu, fax it to (864) 294-3023, or send it by snail mail to Furman magazine, Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, Greenville, S.C. 29613. We look forward to receiving your submissions — and to stories that will entertain, enlighten and inspire.

— Jim Stewart ’76, editor

Photos, from left: DuPre Rhame, Betty Akerson, D.H. Gilpatrick, Bill Lavurette, Marguerite Chiles.

Furman University is committed to providing equal access to its educational programs, activities, and facilities to all otherwise qualified students without discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other category protected by applicable state or federal law. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, Furman also affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination in its employment policies and practices. For information about the university’s compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and the I.R.S. Anti-Bias Regulation, contact the Director of Human Resources, (864) 294-3015, 3300 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, S.C. 29613. For information about Furman’s compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, contact the Disability Services Coordinator, (864) 294-3020, 3300 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, S.C. 29613.