THE WOFFORD WAY
FROM FIRST-YEAR STUDENT TO STUDENT LEADER TO PREPARED GRADUATE IN FOUR SHORT YEARS
At Wofford, every academic year starts and ends with a beginning. Students who just months earlier graduated from high school come to Wofford to begin college. At the end of the academic year, students who already have spent four years preparing for life after Wofford begin the next leg of their journey with Commencement.

Beginnings are exciting, but they also often bring change, uncertainty and angst. This issue of Wofford Today is all about new beginnings, but it’s also about reassurances that whether first-year student, graduating senior or anyone in between, Wofford offers support through people and programs to help ease transitions and promote success. Alumni play a vital role in this process — returning to campus to speak or network with students, hiring Wofford student interns, making gifts to The Wofford Fund or the endowment, promoting Wofford’s distinctive educational experience in their communities and even attending Wofford arts or athletics events.

With Commencement now a fond memory and the next beginning only a few months away, I invite each of you to consider how you can engage more deeply with the Wofford community. We need your involvement and look forward to seeing what you have to share.

Go, Terriers!

Nayef H. Samhat
11TH PRESIDENT OF WOFFORD COLLEGE

Red deer sanctuary
Caroline Maas ’19, an English and religion double major from Columbia, S.C., studied abroad during the spring semester in London, England. She traveled throughout Europe during her time abroad, including to the Scottish Highlands, where she visited a red deer sanctuary. According to Maas, red deer often are mistaken for reindeer.

President Nayef Samhat recognized David Beacham ’77, senior vice president for administration, for 40 years of service to the college during the Faculty-Staff Appreciation Dinner. Beacham has served in Admission and Advancement as well as for the past three Wofford presidents.
In April, Tristan Krebs ’18 went down in college history as the first student to direct a Wofford Theatre production in the new Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. Moliere’s “Tartuffe” featured excellent student performances and stunning costuming and set design. Krebs, a theatre major from Louisville, Ky., plans to continue her education in theatre and eventually start her own theatre company.
BUSBEE INTERN WITH THE JOHNSON COLLECTION

Working as a curatorial intern with The Johnson Collection was a way for Michal Busbee ’18 to apply the knowledge she’s gained at Wofford and build on her portfolio of real-world experiences. The art history major with a concentration in Asian studies from San Antonio, Texas, curated a show exploring women and traditional gender roles in the South. Continued online.

LENDING A HELPING HAND

Wofford student Catie Cronister ’20 wants to lend a hand — literally. Cronister, a mathematics and biology double major with a minor in physics from Chicago, Ill., is using one of the college’s 3D printers to build prosthetic hands and arms for Enabling the Future, an organization that assists people who are unable to afford their own prosthetics. Continued online.

WOCO FILM FESTIVAL SHOWCASES STUDENT TALENT

Four Wofford students — Mayson Liner ’19 (Best Screenplay), Andreas Sur ’19 (Best Direction), Mae Hoffman ’18 (Best Overall Film) and Tristan Gordon ’18 (Audience Award) — received awards at the inaugural Woco Film Festival, held May 4 in the Rosalind Sallinger Richardson Center for the Arts. The festival showcased student work in film and digital media. Continued online.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SLACK

Eduardo Castillo ’19, a computer science and applied mathematics double major from Maracaibo, Venezuela, is in Silicon Valley this summer interning with Slack, a multibillion-dollar collaboration software company. Although Wofford is not a Silicon Valley target school, Castillo had confidence in his education and applied anyway. He’s now proud to represent Wofford among the tech giants. Continued online.

ZIDES RECOGNIZED FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Physics instructor Steve Zides believes in interdisciplinary learning and community outreach, an attitude that factored into his receiving the 2018 Excellence in Teaching Award from South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities. Zides has been co-teaching with Wofford colleagues across disciplines for more than 15 years, and his courses include physics outreach in local elementary schools. Continued online.

QURESHI GIVES BACK TO BONNER

Aleah Qureshi ’18 is pleased to be extending her community-based learning through the summer as an intern with the Bonner Foundation of Princeton, N.J. “I wanted to give back to Bonner,” she says. After the summer experience, Qureshi, an environmental studies and Spanish double major from Sanford, Fla., will pursue a Master of Science degree in planning at Florida State University. Continued online.
UNLEASHED

Wofford student-athletes walked the red carpet this year during the 2018 Bosscars awards evening. Winning recognition for their performance this year were:

BEST TEAM COMEBACK
Football vs. Mercer

SPORTSMANSHIP
Women’s Tennis

FEMALE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
Hannah Steelman ’21, Women’s Cross Country/Track and Field

MALE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
Colin Davis ’21, Baseball

FEMALE BREAKOUT PERFORMANCE
Nicole Chin ’18, Women’s Golf

MALE BREAKOUT PERFORMANCE
Luke Carter ’20, Football

COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Trevor Stump ’20, Men’s Basketball

BEST MOTIVATOR
John Patterson ’18, Football

HOOLE AWARD/HIGHEST GPA
Katie Beuerlein ’18, Women’s Soccer

COACH OF THE YEAR
Mike Ayers, Football

ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR
Michael Wilson, Cross Country/Track and Field

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR
Rebecca Parker ’11, The Space in the Mungo Center

MOST PIVOTAL MOMENT
Clock hitting zero vs. UNC, Men’s Basketball

FAN OF THE YEAR
Jeff “Slick” Liner

FEMALE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Catie Cronister ’20, Volleyball

MALE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Fletcher Magee ’19, Men’s Basketball

MOST OUTSTANDING TEAM
Football
how to
BECOME
A TERRIER
STEP 1: LAY A GOOD FOUNDATION
Wofford is a Phi Beta Kappa college with a reputation for rigorous academics. That means to be a Terrier, you’ll need to work hard in high school. Take challenging courses and learn to study. Grades, however, are only one component. According to Brand Stille ’86, vice president for enrollment, “A lot of people assume that colleges evaluate applicants by lining prospective students up in order of academic credentials, drawing a line and saying those above the line are admitted and those below are not. That’s not completely accurate, especially not at Wofford. Colleges have goals for academic quality, diversity, athletics participation and to enhance programs such as theatre or art or music.” Wofford is interested in students who have demonstrated leadership, civic engagement and interests outside of the academic curriculum. Basically, being your best self is a good start.

STEP 2: EXPLORE DIFFERENT COLLEGES
Visiting different college campuses can be a lot of fun for you and your family and friends, but before you do that — usually starting spring of your sophomore year or fall of your junior year — visit college search websites. For example, Collegeboard.org, cappex.com, collegeconfidential.com and niche.com allow students to create profiles and refine their search using a variety of categories, from location to cost to academic interests. “The process has changed so much from parent to student,” says Stille. “The average parent today went to college pre-internet and pre-email. Now students have lots of resources. The technology encourages prospective students to think more broadly about their college experience and what they envision it to be.” Be aware, however, that college search sites are more interested in selling search information than making sure students find their perfect college match. College search sites are a good place to start, but never substitutes for a visit to campus.

STEP 3: APPLY TO WOFFORD
After you’ve visited during your junior year — maybe you’ve attended one of Wofford’s fall or spring hospitality days or you scheduled a personal visit — start preparing your application. Wofford uses the Common Application, which means you may submit this same application when applying to other Common App colleges or universities, saving you time and money. You will need an essay (something that shows your personality and fills the gaps not covered by the application), letters of recommendation (from people eager to share how awesome you are), your high school transcript and test scores (if you choose to submit them). Since Wofford is test-optional, you decide whether to submit your scores. Unsure? A good rule of thumb is to see where you fall in a college’s posted range. For example, if you fall in Wofford’s SAT Mid 50% range or higher, by all means submit. The bottom line, according to Stille: “Wofford wants students who will be successful and graduate in four years.” Usually academic success and extracurricular participation in high school determine that more than test scores.

By Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89

FIRST-YEAR PROFILE | WOFFORD.EDU/ADMISSION

HIGH SCHOOL GPA
Average GPA: 4.0

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS RANK
70% in the Top 20%

SAT/ACT INFORMATION
SAT Mid 50%: 1,180-1,330
ACT Mid 50%: 27-31

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS
330 National Honor Society/Beta Club Members | 193 Team Captains
65 Palmetto Boys/Girls State Citizens | 60 Student Body/Senior Class Officers
21 Editors of a High School Publication | 14 Eagle Scouts/Gold Award Recipients

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Average GPA 4.0

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21 Editors of a High School Publication | 14 Eagle Scouts/Gold Award Recipients
Applying to college is one thing, paying for college is another. “I always recommend that students not eliminate any college based on sticker price,” says Stille. “Ninety percent of our students pay less than our advertised cost.” Stille encourages parents to invite their students into the conversation about family finances. Consider these FAQs as a basis for a candid conversation about resources and expectations.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I EXPECT TO PAY?

Measuring the value of a college education includes more than the cost of tuition. Return on investment, graduate success rates and the time it takes to earn your degree are important considerations as well. At Wofford the average financial aid package exceeds $34,000. That number is determined by a variety of factors, including family circumstances, high school transcripts, test scores and residency. On the college’s admission webpage is a Net Price Calculator designed to give families a first glimpse at what college eventually may cost. Every college or university is required by the federal government to offer this service. Carolyn Sparks, director of financial aid, reminds families to consider tuition increases over four years when making a decision. Knowing what to expect helps with planning.

DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA?

“The FAFSA, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid, opens every opportunity for federal, state and institutional financial aid, including student employment and loans,” says Sparks. “It’s not a requirement, but it is the starting point to ensure that students get the best financial aid package available.” The FAFSA is available in October using the previous year’s income tax returns, and it usually takes less than an hour to complete.

HOW DO I KNOW I’M GETTING THE BEST FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE AVAILABLE?

At Wofford the offices of Financial Aid and Admission work closely to plan financial aid packages for prospective students. “When an aid package gets to a student, we believe that we have given our best offer based on the admission application and FAFSA,” says Sparks, who has worked in the field for 27 years. “Some people are shocked by the sticker price of college, but once aid shakes out, Wofford is surprisingly competitive.”

HOW DOES WOFFORD DETERMINE MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS?

“Wofford uses a student’s admission application to determine scholarships; there is no separate application for scholarship aid,” says Sparks. “All students who are accepted to Wofford are considered.” In addition, high school guidance counselors also are invited to nominate rising seniors to participate in the Wofford Scholars Competition. To qualify, students must rank in the top 10 percent of their class and have a combined score of 1,300 on the PSAT or SAT or a 28 on the ACT or PLAN. Although Wofford is test-optional, test scores are required for students competing for the college’s top scholarships, which range from $40,000 to $250,000 over a four-year period. Wofford does offer a few interest-specific scholarships that may require a separate application. Visit wofford.edu/financialaid to view the complete list of scholarships.

HOW DOES STUDENT EMPLOYMENT WORK?

According to Sparks, federal or institutional work study or on-campus paid internships provide wages that are deposited directly into a student’s banking account. Most students use the wages as a way to cover non-tuition expenses such as books, travel, recreation and clothing. “We encourage only 10 hours a week so students can spend ample time focusing on their studies,” says Sparks.

WHAT IF A STUDENT QUALIFIES FOR A LOAN?

“Slightly more than half of Wofford students borrow to meet the cost of college,” says Sparks. “Every student who applies for financial aid qualifies for a federal loan, but students have the option to accept.” Accepting or refusing the loan is as simple as an email to the college’s Office of Financial Aid. According to Sparks, Wofford students borrow less that the national average and Wofford graduates have extremely low loan-default rates; this is because Wofford graduates students in four years, and Wofford students enjoy positive career outcomes after graduation.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE?

The FAFSA is based on gross income and a mathematical formula that does not take into account exhausting circumstances. That’s why the college has a committee that considers special conditions, for example, in the case of loss of income, divorce or death. The college also offers emergency scholarships for students facing financial difficulties.

HOW CAN WOFFORD FINANCIAL AID COUNSELORS HELP?

“In Financial Aid we’re dealing with children and money, so we try to be sensitive,” says Sparks. “I don’t always get to say yes, but I do try to stay focused on the people part of this very fulfilling and rewarding career.” Sparks encourages families to ask questions. The staff in Financial Aid is always happy to help.
Navigating the Athletics Recruiting Process

Students planning to go through the NCAA recruiting process may have a different timeline for considering colleges and making a college decision. According to Elizabeth Wilkes Rabb ’01, associate athletics director for compliance, visiting ncaa.org/student-athletes/recruiting is a good first step. The site defines recruiting terms, provides a calendar and discusses official visits and eligibility. Much of this differs from sport to sport. Rabb also shares some advice for navigating the NCAA recruiting process.

For Prospective Student-Athletes:

If you want to be a member of an NCAA athletics team in college, it’s important to realize the commitment required. At Wofford you will be a true student-athlete and will need to devote significant time to both academics and athletics; practice balancing your time between both while you’re still in high school. When you’re in the 10th grade, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org. In many cases, until you begin the 11th grade, college coaches cannot return your call. That doesn’t mean you can’t introduce yourself in a brief email and through a one- or two-page resume. Of course, send recent athletics accomplishments, but showing academic performance with standardized test scores and GPA is also important. Wofford coaches are looking for recruits who will succeed in the classroom and on the playing field, court or course, so it’s important to show that you already are committed to the scholar-athlete model. Include references with contact information as well.

For Parents or Family Members of Prospective Student-Athletes:

Encourage your student to have fun and enjoy playing the game at whatever level. Young people learn a lot from athletics participation—time management, responsibility, teamwork, leadership, how to accept criticism, resilience and work ethic. Those characteristics transfer far beyond high school or college athletics. If you’re the parent or guardian of an elite athlete highly sought after by multiple colleges and universities, your job is to help them weigh their options. Division I, Division II and Division III competition all have different rules and different levels of commitment and funding. Again, ncaa.org is your best resource for comparative information.

For Alumni or Fans:

After years of deregulation, the NCAA is in a time of reregulation. A simple rule of thumb is “ask before you act.” Contact the Compliance Office at Wofford if you have a question. The NCAA requires Wofford to show institutional control, which means offering opportunities to educate student-athletes and coaches on academics, well-being and fairness and self-reporting when someone inadvertently violates an NCAA rule. Wofford coaches help the college build on its national reputation, increase diversity and expand the geographic distribution of the student body. Alumni and fans can best help them by becoming members of the Terrier Club and providing critical scholarship support.

Once you become a Terrier, student success is built into virtually every aspect of the Wofford experience. For four years, the college will ensure that people and programs are in place to support, guide and offer opportunities for growth. For example:

- Student success teams—made up of academic advisers, staff guides, student peer leaders and personal librarians—give students their first on-campus systems of support.
- Wofford faculty, staff, coaches and network of alumni and friends are available to mentor, guide, advise, encourage, challenge and open doors for opportunity.
- Greek life and student-led clubs and organizations provide places for students to learn leadership and organizational skills while exploring cocurricular interests and making lifelong friends.
- Wofford is a microcosm of the larger world with an infrastructure of community support—Campus Safety, Information Technology, the Sandor Teszler Library, a Wellness Center, Fitness Center and Recreational Facilities, Post Office, Maintenance Department and Food Services.
- The Office of International Programs supports international students and students studying abroad.
- The Center for Community-Based Learning offers opportunities for students to engage civically in mutually beneficial ways with local community partners.
- The Space in the Mungo Center supports students with professional development, networking and internship assistance as well as training in the art of entrepreneurial thinking.
- Participation in pre-professional programs such as ROTC, pre-med or pre-law creates opportunities for students to prepare for and explore careers.
- Donors to The Wofford Fund and Terrier Club provide resources that make possible all programs and support networks.
Van Hipp turns American defense into student success

BY ANNIE S. MITCHELL
As a young boy, Van D. Hipp Jr. ’82 was fascinated with the military.

“My father was a military policeman at Fort Gordon in Augusta, and I remember playing with his uniform,” says Hipp. “I’ve always been interested in history and politics, and since I was a kid I believed I could make a difference.”

Hipp’s childhood conviction held true. Throughout his celebrated career, Hipp, commissioned through the ROTC program at Wofford and a veteran of the U.S. Army, has been involved in defense and security matters as well as international policy issues. He served as chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, as a member of the Presidential Electoral College and as a speaker at the 1988 Republican National Convention. In 1990, Hipp became deputy assistant secretary of the Army, serving as the Army secretariat’s “point man” for the successful mobilization and demobilization of the Army’s reserve forces for Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney named Hipp principal deputy general counsel of the Navy, and Hipp’s book, “The New Terrorism: How to Fight It and Defeat It,” was published in 2015, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to scholarships for the children of American Defense International Inc. and is regularly tapped by major news networks as an expert commentator on terrorism.

Although he regularly works with kings, queens, presidents and other international leaders, Hipp’s roots remain firmly planted at Wofford College. According to Hipp, his “favorite job in the world” is being the sideline reporter for Terrier football, a position he holds rain or shine, sun or snow at every game. In 2011, Hipp founded the Hipp Lecture Series on International Affairs and National Security, designed to create ongoing, signature learning opportunities for students. From the 2011 Republican Presidential Candidate Debate to Buzz Aldrin to bringing presidential candidates Ben Carson and Donald Trump to campus in 2016, the Hipp Lecture Series has engaged student and faculty participation in history and world affairs since its inception.

"IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE A SENSE OF HISTORY.

Through a generous gift and because of Hipp’s desire to offer more opportunities to Wofford students, the college recently announced the formation of the Hipp Center for National Security and Foreign Policy. The Hipp Center offers experiential learning opportunities for Wofford students through scholarly pursuits that focus on topics and events significant to the nation. “I believe that education is a national security issue,” says Hipp. “It’s important that young people have a sense of history, what it means to be an American and an understanding of national security and foreign policy.”

Elements of the Hipp Center include student opportunities for internships in national security and foreign policy and an upcoming exchange program. “A number of Wofford students have reached out to me over the years, asking me for guidance in the national security arena,” continues Hipp. “I put them in touch with the right people, but if I figured we had a center at the college, we would have the mechanism in place with the right organizations to expose our students to singularly unique experiences.”

The center also features a new on-campus ReadyCam studio, giving the college the ability to connect its experts with broadcast networks around the world. According to Hipp, “It is important to share these experts to demonstrate the caliber of professors and leaders at Wofford to a broader audience. Also, the ability to serve as the studio for national and international interviews of non-Wofford newsmakers allows the college to provide a huge service to the news media.”

“Van Hipp has spent a lifetime working to defend America and defeat our enemies,” says Newt Gingrich, former speaker of the House of Representatives. “This new Hipp Center for National Security and Foreign Policy will help a new generation learn the key lessons that shaped Van’s life.”

Wofford College President Nayef Samhat agrees. “We are exceptionally grateful for the generosity of Van Hipp. His amazing and seemingly limitless network of connections offers the college community distinctive learning opportunities, and his personal commitment to our football program is unparalleled. We anticipate many transformational educational and experiential learning opportunities for our students as the Hipp Center continues to develop.”

“My father and grandfather were my greatest influences,” adds Hipp. “They were hardworking people who made sure the next generation had more opportunities than they had. I am dedicated to building on that legacy.”

Van Hipp launched the release of his book, “The New Terrorism: How to Fight It and Defeat It,” at Wofford College with a lecture and book signing. Van Hipp with LT. Gen. Ramesh Halgali, former deputy chief of army staff with the Indian Army, at The Queen Elizabeth II September 11th Garden Gala Dinner. Hipp was honored during the event with the Leadership Award for National Security. Halgali received the Leadership Award for the Fight Against Global Terrorism.

Hipp in his favorite role, as sideline reporter during Wofford football games.
The Wofford College Alumni Association officially welcomed the Class of 2018 following the college’s 164th Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 20, in Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium. During the event, the college conferred 418 degrees to 392 graduates. Members of the Class of 1968 led the Commencement procession and were the first to congratulate the new graduates. The Class of 1968 also celebrated its 50th college reunion during the weekend. To read more about Commencement, visit wofford.edu/woffordtoday.

President Nayef Samhat spent time talking with seniors as they prepared to process.

James Cochran ’18 majored in business economics and minored in environmental studies at Wofford. He spent his senior year Interim studying abroad in Tanzania.

Following Commencement, graduates gathered in front of Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium and enjoyed refreshments on the concourse at the basketball arena.

Dr. John Lefebvre, professor of psychology, marshaled the Class of 1968 into Commencement.
Parks Schoen ’18, an art history major and studio art minor from Greenville, S.C., finished his academic career with a senior capstone art show and recognition with the “Heart of the Terrier” Leadership Award and as a member of the Senior Order of Gnomes. He was also a student-athlete on the Wofford men’s tennis team.

Katie Reuerlein ’18 (left), a biology major with a concentration in neuroscience from Knoxville, Tenn., and Turner Rainwater ’18, a biology major from Florence, S.C., were recognized as the Class of 2018 Honor Graduates with perfect 4.0 GPAs.

The first thing new graduates do following Commencement is to walk between lines of cheering faculty mentors, advisors and friends.

Second Lt. Erin Jacobs ’18 was commissioned along with nine other Wofford ROTC cadets on Friday, May 18. Jacobs, a distinguished military graduate who majored in biology and mathematics with a minor in computer science, was pinned by her parents, Jeanne and Brian Jacobs of Birmingham, Mich.

Dr. Kaye Savage, associate professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies, was awarded the Roger Milliken Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Science.

Pierce Corpening ’18 (left), an environmental studies major from Winston-Salem, N.C., and Henry Cornelison ’18, a business economics and Spanish double major with a minor in accounting from Greenville, S.C., were met by excited family and friends following the ceremony.

Commencement speaker Dr. Douglas Wood ’90 congratulates Morgan Gilmore ’18. Wood was a contemporary of Gilmore’s parents, Jay ’91 and Alecia Waddell Gilmore ’90.
The Hon. Dennis Shedd ’75, who holds senior status as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, and Mike LeFever, retiring president and CEO of the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, were awarded honorary degrees during Commencement.

Chairman of the Wofford College Board of Trustees Mike James ’73 led the college community in congratulating graduates.

Farahnaz Afaq ’18, a mathematics major with a concentration in Middle Eastern and North African studies from Kabul, Afghanistan, and Josh Crawford ’18, a religion major from Marta, Ga., were student recipients of the Mary Mildred Sullivan and Algernon Sydney Sullivan awards.

From first-year student to graduate in four short years. Read about Commencement traditions in the From the Archives feature on pages 46-47.

President Nayef Samhat congratulates Dr. A.K. Anderson, associate professor and chairman of the Department of Religion, after Dr. Mike Sosulski, provost, presents him with the Philip Covington Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Mike Ayers, head coach of the Terriers for 30 years (now retired), and Kathy Dunleavy, CEO of the Mary Black Foundation and a champion for community wellness, were community Sullivan award recipients.
Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end...
After four years of exploring the world from Wofford, the Class of 2018 is prepared for what’s next. These 17 graduates visited The Space in the Mungo Center to share their plans, pose for photos and look toward Commencement and new beginnings.

**ANYA BUNAO ’18**
Hometown: Summerville, S.C.
Majors: Art history and finance
New beginning: Recruiter, Aerotek, Washington, D.C.

**JULIE WOODSON ’18**
Hometown: Greenville, S.C.
Major: Art history; Minor: Business economics; Concentration: Gender studies
New beginning: Young Adult Volunteer Program, Presbyterian Church U.S.A., Albuquerque, N.M.

**BENJI HEADLEY ’18**
Hometown: Lexington, Ky.
Major: Biology
New beginning: Medical school, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.

**JOHN PATTERSON ’18**
Hometown: Chicago, Ill., and Atlanta, Ga.
Majors: English and finance
New beginning: Corporate finance training program, Wells Fargo, Charlotte, N.C.

**MOLLY LEONARD ’18**
Hometown: Charlotte, N.C.
Majors: Humanities and Spanish
New beginning: Master’s degree in management, The School of Business, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.

**JULIANA RIMA ’18**
Hometown: Jackson Heights, Queens, New York
Majors: Psychology and Spanish
New beginning: Master’s degree in clinical psychology (fellowship), Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
ASRAR ALIMOHAMED '18
Hometown: Spartanburg, S.C.
Majors: Biology and Spanish; Emphasis: Computational science
New beginning: Medical school, University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Columbia, S.C.

ABIGAIL LEE '18
Hometown: York, S.C.
Majors: Anthropology and humanities
New beginning: Master’s in anthropology program with a concentration in international development (Dean’s Fellowship), George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

SEBASTIAN LUCE '18
Hometown: High Point, N.C.
Major: Physics; Minor: Mathematics
New beginning: Instructor, U.S. Navy’s Nuclear Prototype Training Unit, Goose Creek, S.C.

LINXI XU '18
Hometown: Fujian, China, and Darlington, S.C.
Majors: Chemistry and computer science; Minor: Mathematics
New beginning: Ph.D. in chemistry, Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa.

LACEY ROBINSON '18
Hometown: Columbia, S.C.
Major: Chemistry

ADRIAN THOMPSON '18
Hometown: Columbia, S.C.
Major: Biology
New beginning: Medical device sales, Crosslink, Norcross, Ga.

HANNA ALEXANDER '18
Hometown: Spartanburg, S.C.
Majors: Finance and Spanish; Minor: Accounting
New beginning: Law school, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.
Tasneem Dalal ’18 14
Hometown: Columbia, S.C.
Major: Business economics; Minor: Religion
New beginning: Master’s degree in international marketing, University of Leeds, England

Michael Roach ’18 15
Hometown: Kenosha, Wis.
Majors: Business economics and English
New beginning: Business operations and sales associate, Supervalue Inc., Chicago and Milwaukee markets; cancer research promotion with Wofford trustee Jimmy Gibbs, Gibbs International

Caitlynn Myer ’18 16
Hometown: Hickory, N.C.
Major: Sociology; Concentration: African and African-American studies
New beginning: Master’s degree in higher education administration and counseling education with a concentration in social justice (full-tuition fellowship), Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.

Drake Cassidy ’18 17
Hometown: Hartsville, S.C.
Major: Business economics
New beginning: International MBA, Darla Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

CAREER OUTCOMES RATE FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

99%
89% employed, interning or in graduate school
4% military or volunteer service
7% other*

* Taking additional courses or a gap year, seeking employment or planning to continue their education.

Half of the class of 2017 is attending graduate school in these fields:

- Medicine
- Medical School
- Law
- Arts and Sciences
- Business

Graduate schools attended by the class of 2017:
- Clemson University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- London Business School
- Louisiana State University
- Medical University of South Carolina
- Pepperdine School of Business
- South Carolina Institute of Art
- The Ohio State University
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- University of Mississippi
- University of North Carolina
- University of South Carolina
- University of Virginia
- Vanderbilt University
- Wake Forest University
- Washington and Lee University

Top employers for the class of 2017:
- American Credit Acceptance
- Blackbaud
- Boeing
- CBRE
- Ford Credit
- Fortitude Systems
- Grant Thornton LLP
- Huguenot Fuels, Inc.
- Johnson Development Associates
- Lexington Medical Center
- Live Oak Bank
- Medical University of South Carolina
- Milliken & Co.
- New York Life
- Northwestern Mutual
- OTO Development
- OTO
- Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System
- UPS
- US Bank
- Wells Fargo
SHARING THEIR EXPERTISE

FALL SPEAKERS

Chad Reed ’97, business advisory group manager of Live Oak Bank, Wilmington, N.C.

Corry Oakes ’89, president and CEO of OTO Development LLC, Spartanburg, S.C.

Jim Merklinger ’88, president of ACC Credentialing Institute, Charleston, S.C.

John Bauknight ’89, owner of RJ Rockers, broker with NAI Earl Furman, Spartanburg, S.C.

Matt Masten ’96, co-owner of Foothills Brewing, investment counselor with BB&T, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Pearce Fleming ’96, proprietor and CEO of Commonhouse Aleworks, North Charleston, S.C.


John Bauknight ’89, owner of RJ Rockers, broker with NAI Earl Furman, Spartanburg, S.C.

SPRING SPEAKERS

Madison Walter ’15, health communications specialist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Global Health Protection, Atlanta, Ga.

Hunter Miller ’07, senior vice president of Wells Fargo Bank, vice president of institutional clients group, Wells Fargo & Co., Charlotte, N.C.

Lyn Walsh ’90, access specialist, Amon, Columbia, S.C.

Tramaine Brown ’11, diversity initiatives, Apple and Thurgood Marshall Institute, Washington, D.C.

Ayden Meyer ’01, director of foreign exchange, FNC, Charlotte, N.C.

ALUMNI RETURN TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

BY JO ANN MITCHELL BRASINGTON ’89

When Margaret Key graduated from Wofford in 1996, she kept her eyes fixed on opportunity:

• Graduate school at Yonsei Graduate School of International Studies in Korea.
• In-house marketing with Hyundai.
• A brief stint in public relations for Hilton.
• Crisis communications, brand promotion and general management for Edelman Japan.
• Leadership as COO and now CEO for Burson-Marsteller Asia-Pacific.

Key has transformed workplace environments, juggled global business and family, and advised international leaders, such as Park Geun-hye, South Korea’s first female president. She even consulted on recent elections in Iraq, which meant multiple trips to Baghdad, an opportunity she never could have predicted.

This spring Key seized another opportunity — an invitation to return to Wofford as part of a lunch and learn series through The Space in the Mungo Center — and she’s quick to explain that her successes started by exposing herself to opportunity right here at Wofford.

“Get out of your comfort zone. Do things that make you feel uncomfortable. That’s when the magic happens.”
"Don’t waste your abilities. I wanted to be pre-med when I came to Wofford, but I learned that I hated physics and bio, but loved writing and thinking and traveling and learning about people. Ask yourself if what you’re doing in terms of your career really suits you. Ask yourself some hard questions."

"Work hard. I add this because I work with a lot of millennials. In Indonesia, 60 percent of the population is under the age of 25. They want to know when they will be CEO of a company or get a salary increase. That’s not something they should ask. You’re not entitled to anything. Work hard. No one owes you anything."

"For me Wofford was a basecamp from which to do other things and go other places. Push yourselves to the edge," Key advised the audience.

"You never know what you will learn about," says the finance major. "Don’t waste your abilities. I wanted to be pre-med when I came to Wofford, but I learned that I hated physics and bio, but loved writing and thinking and traveling and learning about people. Ask yourself if what you’re doing in terms of your career really suits you. Ask yourself some hard questions."

"The world continues to evolve," he says, "and spending time in an academic environment is a wonderful learning opportunity for students, “and the magic will happen.”

Tania Drahun ‘19 was one of the students listening in the audience. She lucked into the first alumni speakers series event but made a point of attending the remaining sessions. The free food didn’t hurt either.

"You never know what you will learn about," says the finance major and accounting minor from Greenville, S.C. "The opportunities are out there if we are willing to dream big. I’ve blended the diversity of speakers. Some are from here in the Upstate. They stayed to help our area grow. Some are from Washington, D.C., helping run our country. One came to Wofford all the way from Korea."

Drahun, who works breakfast and evening shifts as a bistro server at a Marriott in Greenville, particularly enjoyed Corry Oakes ‘89 because of his work in the hospitality industry. Oakes appreciates the opportunity to return to campus. He says it allows him to recruit and better understand the perspectives of college-age students.

"The world continues to evolve," he says, "and spending time in an academic environment is a wonderful learning opportunity for me. It’s critical that Wofford offer these non-classroom enriching experiences for students. They will enter into a highly competitive world after Wofford, and these opportunities to hear working-world perspectives from former students can be a tremendous part of their education."

When Wofford’s head baseball coach, Todd Interdonato, discovered that Chad Reed ‘97, a graduated student-athlete on the baseball team, was coming to talk about his path to a career in financial services with Live Oak Bank in Wilmington, N.C., Interdonato required the entire team to attend the event.

"Chad’s visit to campus this fall was a great learning experience for our players and an opportunity we did not want them to miss," says Interdonato. "His direct connection with our program makes his success story even more relatable to our players. As they progress through their careers at Wofford, they begin to understand the true value of our education and brand as they enter into postgraduate life."

Over spring break, Reid took his family to watch the Terriers play in Wilmington, continuing the reconnection.

“We recognize that students need to build their networks,” says McPhail. “What we’ve discovered is that the alumni who have come back are enjoying the experience as well. That’s one of the things that makes the Wofford community so special.”

According to McPhail, in addition to discovering potential career paths, students who attend the series have learned how to interact with people and how to ask questions. They have learned about networking and the importance of both breadth and depth of educational experiences. They have learned that major does not necessarily define a career path and that they need to recognize and be ready and willing to seize opportunities — whether at a tailgate or a job fair.

“All 16 speakers and their stories articulated the fact that life after Wofford takes a proactive approach,” says McPhail. “That’s a critical lesson and why we’re here at The Space in the Mungo Center.”

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Seven women in Atlanta have leveraged the liberal arts educational experience they gained at Wofford into fast-paced, productive—and, frankly, awesome—careers. They’ve made Wofford proud with the lives they’ve built and the contributions they make to their families, professions and communities.

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington ’89

Katina Holloman Lett ’94 decided to become an attorney when she was 5 years old watching “Perry Mason.”

“I loved the part where the defendant would say ‘OK, OK, I confess. I did it,’” she says. “I wanted to right wrongs. I still do.”

That’s why she loves her work with the American Cancer Society. Now in her third year as senior counsel in the organization’s global headquarters, Lett finds great satisfaction in her work—whether negotiating laptop leases for IT or considering legal implications with research and development.

“Most of the millions of dollars raised for research comes from people giving $25, so we are very considerate of where money is going,” she says. “Everyone has been touched in some way by cancer, which makes the people who work here passionate about furthering the mission of the organization.”

Lett grew up in Spartanburg. She’s convinced that sometimes her father would drive past Wofford’s front gates just so he could say: “You see that fountain. That’s where you’re going to college.” Wofford’s reputation for preparing future attorneys for law school was also a plus.

Lett joined ROTC at Wofford to become an Army officer and obtained a three-year scholarship. Through ROTC she gained leadership skills and overcame her share of obstacles, not the least of which was carrying a log around campus as part of ranger training.

“My Wofford memories are so heavy on ROTC … ‘Here’s the log. You’re going to carry the log. You’re going to live with the log.’ … Do they still have to carry a log around campus?” Lett smiles at the trip down memory lane. “Without challenges, though, you don’t become a stronger person.”

Lett met her husband, J., also an attorney, at the University of Georgia School of Law. They have two sons, Jason (17) and Justin (13).

“People always say do what you love, but you have to do what you love that you also can excel,” says Lett. “I’ve been really blessed with a job I love, with the experiences I’ve had and with the people I’ve met.”

"Without challenges ... you don’t become a stronger person."
Phillips is raising support for a second bus to serve another underserved school. Kids’ Doc-On-Wheels is a nonprofit, and because of need, Wilson-ADHD or elevated BMI, are learning to take responsibility for their own health. W Wheels is that children with chronic conditions, such as asthma, allergies, "We took the walls off the private practice," says Wilson-Phillips, who works telemedicine capabilities as well. make weekly rounds at the school as well as others in the district, and offers "There is no other model, even nationally," says Wilson-Phillips. The bus will continuum of quality care that many have not had access to before. "This was truly a spiritual vision," says Wilson-Phillips. It also has a family affair — from support from her three daughters (Rochelle, Ryann and Bhamseet) to business planning from her husband, Jonathan, and her niece; to continued volunteer staffing from close family friends. "It was as if God has been saying, 'Just do it. The resources will come.'" After Wofford, Wilson-Phillips graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and completed her residency at Emory University. Not long in private practice, she had the opportunity to buy Decatur Pediatrics Group PA. Her father, Decatur Wilson, advised her to invest in the real estate as well as the medical practice. She has followed that model, with one exception, and now owns and operates practices in Clarkston, Lithonia, Smyrna and Covington, all staffed by physicians who are African-American women, and she’s opening doors for others as well, including Wofford students Alayh Keda (?) and Lacey Robinson ’88, who she connected with through the Black Alumni Summit. She has met other Wofford students through the medical school mock interview program. "Wofford instilled in me confidence," she says. "I was a resident assistant in Greene, a teaching assistant for Dr. Dobbs and Dr. Hubbard, and I served on the Judicial Commission . . . My commitment to Wofford is to continue to be available to students.

Laura Thomson McCarty ‘88 came to Wofford planning to follow a pre-med track. Instead, she discovered an aptitude for making connections across disciplines — between art and politics, history and religion, literature and cultures. "It was spring, the dogwoods were blooming and George Martin’s 17th century poetry class spoke to me more than botany," says McCarty, who went to the University of Georgia after graduation to pursue a Ph.D. in comparative literature.

Now she makes connections for a living — a skill she says came out of her experiences at Wofford — as president of Georgia Humanities. Georgia Humanities is a nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities that works to preserve and promote the cultural stories, treasures and values of the state. "I always knew that I wanted something that would let me keep learning," she says. "Working in the humanities lets me do that!" According to McCarty, there is always something new to read or think about or do. Over the past few months she has mentioned National History Day students at middle and high schools across the state, attended exhibition openings, visited university campuses to help scholars with their project ideas, considered team-building strategies and met with board members to discuss new partnerships and funding opportunities.

LAURA THOMSON MCCARTY ’88 Making connections

CATHERINE HASTINGS ZILBER ’98
Promoting public health

Catherine Hastings Zilber ’98 still thanks Dr. Jack Sette, professor of government, for opening her eyes to global issues. She discovered a particular interest in public health and went to Washington, D.C., right after graduation to work in the field. After finishing graduate school at the London School of Economics and Political Science, she got the offer that she had been waiting for: an opportunity to work overseas with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

“I still can’t believe I said no at first,” she says. “I went to bed that evening realizing that I had made maybe the biggest mistake of my life. It makes me laugh now to think about how scared I was. When I emailed them back the next morning to say I had changed my mind, I thought they’d think I was crazy; instead they said, ‘Well good.’”

Zilber spent two years in Kigali, Rwanda, working with the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. There she also met her husband, who followed her and her work to Ethiopia and Jamaica. They had two children — Noa (16) and Gem (8) — while abroad.

Five years ago, Zilber and her family moved to Atlanta, where she is a team lead for programs with the CDC Foundation, a nonprofit that mobilizes private sector resources to support the work of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Zilber now helps manage a department of over 100 staff who are implementing public health programs in the United States and in 130 countries.

“I work with an amazing group of epidemiologists, researchers and program managers,” says Zilber. “I’m on the implementation side of the house, responding to a wide range of public health issues, including malaria, meningitis, Ebola, Zika — and the emergency response after last year’s hurricanes.”

In addition to majoring in government at Wofford, Zilber also graduated with a major in French, which something that definitely has come in handy on her projects in West Africa and Haiti.

“It makes a difference when you can communicate with colleagues in the ministries of health as well as local partners,” she says. “I’m constantly learning, and knowing that we are making an impact and creating new partnerships to make the world healthier and safer is definitely inspiring.”

DR. LYNETTE WILSON-PHIllIPS ’86
Serving children

Surrounded by children, answering staff questions, chatting with teachers and administrators, checking messages on her phone — Dr. Lynette Wilson-Phillips ’86 is in her element. It’s career day at Salem Middle School in Lithonia, Ga., and Kids’ Doc-On-Wheels, Wilson-Phillips’ latest venture, is a star attraction. Next year the full-service mobile pediatric clinic will serve children in the school, providing a continuum of quality care that many have not had access to before.

“There is no other model, even nationally,” says Wilson-Phillips. The bus will make weekly rounds at the school as well as others in the district, and offers telemedicine capabilities as well. “We took the walls off the private practice,” says Wilson-Phillips, who works telemedicine capabilities as well. make weekly rounds at the school as well as others in the district, and offers "There is no other model, even nationally," says Wilson-Phillips. The bus will continuum of quality care that many have not had access to before. "This was truly a spiritual vision," says Wilson-Phillips. It also has a family affair — from support from her three daughters (Rochelle, Ryann and Bhamseet) to business planning from her husband, Jonathan, and her niece; to continued volunteer staffing from close family friends. "It was as if God has been saying, 'Just do it. The resources will come.'"

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More and more McCarty finds herself fascinated by history. In 2006, she was asked to write the article on Coretta Scott King for the New Georgia Encyclopedia (www.georgiaencyclopedia.org) and has since written a reference biography on King for public libraries and schools.

“It was intimidating to summarize the accomplishments of this amazing woman, but the experience built my confidence and has led to continued research, writing and engagement in public history,” says McCarty, who has served as president of the Georgia Council for Social Studies and president of the Georgia Association of Historians. For McCarty, Wofford is a part of her history, as well as her present and future. Her father, the late Henry Mann Thomson Jr., was Class of 1960, and her sisters, Rebecca Thomson Blake ’90 and Mary Jane Thomson ’94, also carried on the family tradition. She occasionally returns to campus for Homecoming but is an avid fan of the Terriers via the internet. More recently, she has been participating in the Wofford online alumni book club. “I love seeing a Wofford sticker in Georgia,” she says. “I’m really proud to be a Wofford alum here in Atlanta.”

“I always knew that I wanted something that would let me keep learning. Working in the humanities lets me do that.”
TECHNOLOGY

When it comes to conversations on health care, Taiwanna Billups ’97 is definitely one of the smartest people in the room. After graduating from Wofford, she enrolled in the dual MBA/MHA program at Georgia State University, securing an internship and then an administrative residency as a financial consultant with Artha. That experience led to work with KPMG Consulting, BearingPoint in McLean, Va., Consulida Group/BHA International in Atlanta and now Anthem’s Diversified Business Group Insights team, based in Atlanta. She has worked in management consulting, public health and health informatics on the ways to her current position as a staff vice president within Anthem Inc. A few years ago, Billups enrolled in Thomas Jefferson University’s doctoral program in population health sciences, applied health economics and outcomes research track.

She’s fascinated by public health and finds herself talking about medical costs, risk, systems integration and affordability, even when hanging out with friends.

“People are starting to realize how broken our health care system is. In the U.S., health care is a commodity, a privilege,” she says. Billups believes that preventive health care should be a right. “The U.S. has the highest medical costs per capita in the world, but not the best health outcomes.”

Wofford volleyball teammate Courtney Howe ’97 encouraged Billups to consider a career in health care administration. Billups, who was a mathematics major on the pre-med track, hasn’t regretted the decision. She’s had opportunities to work with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, Veteran’s Affairs, major insurers and Fortune 500 corporations. After Sept. 11, 2001, public health preparedness was pushed to the forefront of science, law and national security. She was a part of the consulting team that helped structure the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s initial Office of Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response.

Now with Anthem she is playing her role in shaping consumer-centric, affordable, value-based health care, which means paying for value, not volume, something she calls “real shift in the health care market.”

Behind the long hours of work and travel, Wofford remains a constant. “Wofford has always given me a sense of community,” she says. “It has afforded me so many opportunities that I leveraged to get where I am today. That’s why I give, but that’s also why I’m an ambassador for Wofford, no matter where I am.”

MARY VICKERS ’89

Simplifying tax

As vice president of tax for Cox Enterprises Inc., Mary Vickers ’89 and her team of 60 are responsible for managing the taxes for the privately held communications, media and automotive services company and all of its subsidiaries. That means financial statement reporting, income tax, sales tax, regulatory tax, property tax, and more for more than 200 companies.

Vickers is on the books as an officer for most.

“Now with tax reform, I’ve become more popular,” she says. “My job never gets boring because we always have some new challenge. Businesses change, laws change, technologies change. I could do the same thing for 10 years, and it would not be the same.”

The ability to adapt has definitely been a key to her success, as has the ability to communicate. Vickers is in meetings at least four to six hours a day. In her current position, she does lots of presentations; she shares boardrooms with CFOs and business partners; she recommends ideas to minimize tax liability. She relies on PowerPoint stories using numbers and charts.

“I’m paid to take complicated facts and make them easy to understand,” she explains. “I give people the information they need without overwhelming them.”

“Every single thing in your life comes on a truck,” says Brewster.

As an English major at Wofford, Brewster dreamed of becoming a novelist. That ambition, however, got her in a different direction. She worked as a debt counselor for the Chapter 13 bankruptcy court, then found a job as a fleet analyst for Moen Inc. Her next opportunity came with the Cary (N.C.) Chamber of Commerce as public and governmental affairs director. A few years later Brewster was in Atlanta and read an advertisement for a public policy analyst with ATRI.

Now she spends about a third of the year on the road speaking, meeting, consulting and sharing ATRI research. Her passion for highway safety has led her to become a national expert in traffic incident management.

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The late Dr. William B. Boyster was inducted into the inaugural class of the South Carolina Educator Hall of Fame. His career and contributions to the field of education were honored at the Circle of Life Gala on April 27, 2018.

Now retired, Col. Bob Burgess and his wife, Margaret, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 23, 2018. They live in Green Cove Springs, Fla., and are the proud parents of five children, Connie, Clare, Max, Robin and Scott.

The Rev. Gary Donald Barber Sr. recently celebrated 60 years as an ordained Presbyterian minister. He previously served for 20 years as an Air Force chaplain, retiring in 1984. His son, the Rev. Don Barber ’86, and granddaughters, Stewart Barber Young ’09, Ellison Barber ’12, and Lindel Barber Waslawski ’14, all graduated from Wofford.

The Medical University of South Carolina has appointed Dr. Carroll Player to its board of visitors. Members of the board are nominated by trustees of the university and serve as ambassadors in their respective regions.

Dr. Melford Wilson retired after 40 years as a professor and vice president for academic affairs at Winthrop University. He is currently writing his fifth book, titled “The Professional Years in China.”

The Foothills Community Foundation honored Dr. Marshall L. Meadows III on March 11, 2018, as the inaugural recipient of the Robert M. Rains Philanthropy Award. Meadows is a founding partner of Primary Care Associates and medical director of NHC Anderson. His community service involvement includes work with Anderson Arts Center, the 100, Eat Smart Move More and Upstate Forever.

Judge J. Mark Hayes II received the Outstanding Contribution to Justice award from the South Carolina Association for Justice. Hayes is a circuit court judge in Spartanburg. He was given the award in recognition of his tenure in legal services as a practicing lawyer and judge.

OncoCyte Corp., a pharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of diagnostics for the early detection of cancer, announced the appointment of Ronnie Andrews to its board of directors.

After 25 years of service with the Orange County Fire Rescue Department, battalion chief Yuri Quick has retired. She plans to relax and do some fishing and traveling, which will include visits to Wofford for football, basketball and volleyball games.

Alice White was named a finalist for Lexington-Richland School District Five 2018-19 Teacher of the Year. She has been a Spanish teacher at Chapin High School since 2009.

Steve Middleton joined KeyMark, a leading enterprise content management solutions provider and value-added reseller, as vice president of human resources. Middleton has spent 23 years in human resources management.

Richard Shealy, a freelance fiction copyeditor who lives and works in Kenney, N.J., has in the past year had two clients win both the Hugo and the Nebula awards. These are the first pieces he has worked on that have directly won either award.


Dr. Tim Osborn was awarded the 2018 Frist Humanitarian Award in “recognition of exemplary service to patients and the healthcare community and in recognition of a dedicated spirit of genuine concern for the welfare of others.” Osborn lives in Charleston with his wife of 22 years, Paige, and their two children, Keilor and Emerson.

After 10 years as head of school, Harold Lawless and his wife, Sarah, have two children, daughter Ava Jean and son Locke.

South State Investment Services announced the retirement of Everett Chandler of the Chandler Law Firm. He previously served for 20 years as the firm’s chief investment officer.

Lindel Barber Waclawski ’14, a children’s book author featuring a variety of lifestyle categories. He has worked as a literary editor, author and woodworker. He and his wife, Sarah, have two children, daughter Ava Jean and son Locke.

Matthew Teague serves as editorial director for Spring House Press, a company dedicated to creating and distributing premium content featuring a variety of lifestyle categories. He also has worked as a literary editor, author and woodworker. He and his wife, Sarah, have two children, daughter Ava Jean and son Locke.

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Elizabeth Phillips has been named the new principal of Cannons Elementary School in Spartanburg, S.C. Previously she served as head of programs at the Hope Center for Children, where she remains involved as a member of the board.

With more than a decade of experience in the private, public and nonprofit sectors, Jean Cecil Frick joined NP Strategy (NPS+) as a senior strategic advisor.

Deena Batch Wallace and her husband, John, welcomed daughter Leila Lawson Wallace on Feb. 16, 2018. Leila joins big sister Grace (6) and big brother Jack (3). The family lives in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Rev. Allyn Masfield-Steele is co-executive director of the Highlander Research and Education Center, a social justice leadership training school and cultural center in New Market, Tenn.
2007
Courtney M. Chaplin is a deputy state's attorney for the state of Connecticut's Division of Criminal Justice. Since 2017, he has been responsible for calling all docks in court. Chaplin recently was nominated to fill one of 42 vacancies for judge on the Connecticut Superior Court.

Derek Tiller was named the new assistant head coach for the Cherokee High School football team in Flowery Branch, Ga.

LaRone Washington and his wife, Nicole, are proud to announce the birth of daughter Avery Denise Washington. She was born Nov. 29, 2017.

2008
The Hispanic Alliance of South Carolina appointed Megan Early-Soppa to its board of directors. Early-Soppa currently works with the Smith Moore Leatherwood law firm.

Nathan Madigan has begun working at Autumn Glen Management Group in Atlanta, Ga. The company, which develops and manages senior living properties, is owned by Mike Brown '76.

Dr. Ivy Farr McIntyre began working with the South Carolina Historical Society as the director of communications. In her new position she will edit the society's quarterly magazine, oversee website development, facilitate marketing campaigns and produce social media content.

2009
Elizabeth Lamsanne Bakker has joined the Greenville, S.C., office of Haynsworth Stiller Boyd. Her practice focuses on construction litigation.

South Risk Management welcomed Ad Boyle to its team of insurance professionals. He serves as vice president of the employee benefits division in the Columbia, S.C., office.

Turner Padgett Graham and Laney announced the addition of R. Edward Henderson to the firm’s professional liability, employment and insurance litigation teams.


Kelly Marie Turek and Christopher Paul Dutton were married on Aug. 21, 2017. The couple now lives in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

2010
Jessica M. Holcomb received her certificate in executive director education from Rutgers University. The program, sponsored by the Public Housing Authorities Directors Association, provides a comprehensive approach to professional development for housing authority executive directors. Holcomb is the deputy director of asset management and special projects for the Spartanburg Housing Authority.

2011
Grace Perry Duaghbridge joined the agents at William Means Real Estate, a luxury real estate firm in Charleston, S.C. She began in the property management field in 2011 and uses her interest in art history to showcase Charleston’s architecture.

Dr. Hannah Purcell married Dr. Drew Matter on March 24, 2018, in Augusta, Ga. Hannah is completing her residency in anesthesiology while Drew is completing his residency in obstetrics and gynecology.

2012
Neely Bailey Darr and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of their daughter, Rose Margaret Darr, born on March 15, 2018. They live in Spartanburg, S.C.

Mac Doyle was featured in tdmg.com’s 2017 30 Under 30 listing. Doyle, who played baseball for the Terriers and was recently inducted into the college’s Athletics Hall of Fame, is the area branch manager of the Charleston, S.C., region for Shelly Electrical, a division of Border States.

Charlotte Gantt and Adam Hodge were married on Aug. 19, 2017, at Prince George Winkjah Episcopal Church in Georgetown, S.C.

Monroe Griffin earned his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin and has started a career as a thin film process engineer with Trowerkan in San Antonio, Texas.

Taylor Fenig Shirley and Kyle Shirley welcomed daughter Parker on March 10, 2018.

Hallie Willis and Brooks Riediger were married on Jan. 20, 2018, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, S.C. Both are working as attorneys.

2013

Angel Nynawabera is a third-year experimenter in therapeutic psychopharmacology and systems Therapeutics Lab at the University of Toledo. She recently received a travel award to present her research at a cancer conference in Japan.

Landsrum High School has announced Taylor Baird as its new head varsity volleyball coach. Baird is an English teacher at the school and has served as head coach of the junior varsity team since 2015.

2014
Harry Alex is attending law school at Georgia State University. His studies focus on data analytics, which could be the new disruptor in law. He will graduate with his juris doctorate in 2019.

Tyrer Ratterree graduated from Vanderbilt University’s Owen Graduate School of Management with his Mac in Valuation.

2015
David Marvin has signed an undead free agent contract with the Atlanta Falcons. Marvin played his fifth year at the University of Georgia.

2016

About 'The Afterlives' and Thomas Pierce '06

Debut Novel Gets Rave Reviews in the New York Times

If this novel was a screenplay how would you describe it in one sentence?

“Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” meets “Tree of Life,” maybe.

How did you start writing this?

I was working on an altogether different novel when my wife and I had our first child, and a train in my brain clicked over to another track. This book began as a series of fragments, all narrated by a spiritual seeker-type who eventually became my protagonist, Jim Byrd, an affable bank loan officer with a heart condition. Around that same time, we were renovating a chimney and found a bunch of old letters — due bills, collection notices — hidden behind a brick, all from the 1920s. The notes suggested the people who’d lived in the house back then had been having some financial difficulties, but we didn’t know much else about them. I enjoyed imagining what their lives might have been like, who they were and so forth, and I loved the idea of trying to tell two different stories that take place in the same space but across time. The novel, really, is about time, love and memory.

Do you believe in ghosts?

Yes. Maybe. Sometimes. The word “ghost,” I suspect, is often just shorthand for an event or a feeling we can’t explain or understand. Maybe one day we’ll figure how to flip off the time switch in our heads and experience the eternal present, so-called. Then, possibly, we’ll know what ghosts are.

What are you working on now?

I’m finishing up a new collection of short stories, some of which have been published in various magazines over the past two years. I’ve got another novel underway. And I’ve been working on some screenplays recently, too.
Methodist churches in South Carolina and 2018, Turbeville, S.C. Gibbons served United
The Rev. William Murray Gibbons,
Beta Kappa chapter as a student and served as
faculty in 1963 and served as professor of math
Spartanburg, S.C. Bell joined the Wofford fac-
School for the Deaf and the Blind.
retired from Spartan Mills in 1988 and went
battle stars.
in the South Atlantic and aboard the aircraft
during World War II with the Fleet Air Wing
Samuel Asbury George Jr.,
students into alumni.
Dr. Walter Collins Robinson III
Spartanburg, S.C. Foster was a Vietnam vet
Central Georgia. After retiring as director of
Laurinburg, N.C. A member of ROTC at
nary in South Carolina to complete a small
animal surgical residency and then return to
South Carolina to provide advanced surgical
procedures to companion animals. He served as
vice chairman of the S.C. State Election
Commission. For his service, he was awarded
the Order of the Palmetto. Robinson died in an
automobile accident.
James Joseph "Jim" McAndrew II,
and a large reception afterward. Each
members of the two literary societies
festivities included a Baccalaureate
season lasted three or four days. The
receptive audience could stand.
John Alexander "Daniel," Jan. 30, 2018,
writing for eight years. As an assistant in the Office
of Residence Life
Dr. Walter Collins Robinson III
the Department of Justice before returning
Chicago, where he practiced antitrust law with

All That Dwell Below the Skies” appears
traditional Commencement hymn “From
by the faculty, to each graduate. The
president and faculty conferred
in one letter, lasted for several days. In
programs up through 1875 were printed
in Latin, so it must have been a shock
in 1876 for guests to find the program
in English. One tradition that
printed for everyone involved.
Commencement. The 1910 exercises
join the graduates at Baccalaureate and
that today in having the 50-year class
as a regular event. We somewhat reflect
slower-paced early 20th-century

making the events around graduating
the President and faculty, and the townspeople, for everyone involved.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: COMMENCEMENT SEASON
By Dr. Philip Stone ’94, college archivist

In its earliest years, Commencement season, as Dr. Henry Nelson Snyder called it in one letter, lasted for several days. In
addition to the formal exercises in which the president and faculty conferred degrees on the graduates, a series of lectures,
receptions, debates and other events marked the transition of a group of students into alumni.

Some of the college’s Commencement traditions date back to the earliest years, such as the presentation of a Bible, signed
by the faculty, to each graduate. The traditional Commencement hymn “From All That Dwell Below the Skies” appears
as early as the 1860 Commencement program. Plenty. Most of the Commencement programs up through 1875 were
printed in Latin, so it must have been a shock in 1876 for guests to find the program
printed in English. One tradition that
was abandoned in the early 19th century
was the presentation of a Bible to each
student. Hearing more
than two dozen student addresses might
have been more than even the most
receptive audience could stand.

The late-19th-century Commencement season lasted three or four days. The festivities included a Baccalaureate
sermon, often on Sunday; an address before the literary societies, often on Monday; and the presentation
between members of the two literary societies and a large reception afterward. Each society
held a graduation ceremony for its members. Commencement was on
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Tuesday, featuring the student addresses.
Actress Jodie Foster was said to have been “horrified” when John Hinckley Jr., the assailant who in 1981 shot and wounded President Ronald Reagan and two others in an attempt to gain favor with Foster, was released two years ago from the psychiatric hospital where he spent 35 years after being found not guilty by reason of insanity. Others, including Reagan’s daughter, Patti Davis, had similar reactions.

Dr. William Twitty Carpenter Jr. ’58, however, points out that had Hinckley been found guilty, he would have served less time in prison. “Twenty-two years was the maximum he would have served in prison,” says Carpenter, whose testimony as the defense’s lead psychiatric expert in the 1982 trial helped secure the insanity verdict. “Public safety was not put at risk by his acquittal by reason of insanity. With a successful acquittal such as this, there is no limit to how long a person can be incarcerated in a psychiatric facility with extensive opportunity to treat and determine when it is safe to move them to outpatient supervised clinical care.”

Carpenter, now a professor of psychiatry and pharmacology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and past director of the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center, spent 45 hours interviewing Hinckley in preparation for his defense and concluded that he suffered from schizophrenia. “I thought he would be kept at St. Elizabeth until Reagan died. He remained incarcerated a good while longer than that,” Carpenter says. “It was societal pressures that kept him there for more than three decades, not medical issues.”

Following the Hinckley verdict, many states rushed to change their laws to provide for a verdict of “guilty, but mentally ill,” which Carpenter says “releases a jury from the burden of taking mental illness into account” and allows them to send defendants to prison instead of facilities where they could get help for their illness. His testimony is credited with giving the field of psychiatry new credibility and increasing public awareness about severe mental illness. Carpenter, a Rutherfordton, N.C., native who came to Wofford on a football scholarship and also was a star basketball player, has been focused on severe mental illness, especially schizophrenia, his entire career. “I wanted to understand the pathology of schizophrenia, what’s wrong and how do we treat it,” says Carpenter, who has made original and fundamental contributions in psychopathology, assessment methodology, testing of novel treatments and research ethics. He also has been a collaborating investigator with the World Health Organization’s International Pilot Study of Schizophrenia.

Continued online at wofford.edu/woffordtoday.

AYERS HONORED BY STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On Tuesday, May 8, 2018, the South Carolina General Assembly passed a resolution honoring Mike Ayers. Rep. Scott Talley ’99 read the resolution. Attending the event were (from left) Martin Moore ’92, Jud Heldreth ’93, Lane Heldreth, Seth Reynolds ’95, Ayers, Julie Ayers, Talley, Carolyn Heldreth and Todd Heldreth ’65. The field at Gibbs Stadium will be named in honor of Ayers during Family Weekend, on Saturday, Oct. 27.

CLASS NOTES

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On the cover

2017-18 AND 2018-19 CAMPUS UNION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DRAKE MCCORMICK ’18 (2017-18 PRESIDENT)
McCormick is a finance major from Sumter, S.C. He is now in Charleston working in financial services with Synovus.

JURNEE JONES ’21 (2018-19 SECRETARY)
Jones is an economics and government double major from Bluffton, S.C.

ZAINAB BHAGHAT ’20 (2018-19 CO-VICE PRESIDENT)
Bhaghat is a finance major with minors in English and business economics from Irmo, S.C.

FREDY MADRID ’20 (2018-19 PRESIDENT)
Madrid is an economics and international affairs double major (pre-law program) from San Redro Sula, Honduras.

TREY WILLIAMS ’19 (2018-19 TREASURER, SECOND TERM)
Williams is an economics and international affairs double major from Myrtle Beach, S.C.

BALI CHANNA ’20 (2018-19 CO-VICE PRESIDENT)
Channa is a biology and Spanish double major from Boiling Springs, S.C.

WILL RANDALL ’19 (2017-18 VICE PRESIDENT)
Randall is a biology and Spanish double major from Simpsonville, S.C.