MEET LISA DE FREITAS

As the new director of gift planning, I look forward to working with individuals to find ways to meet their personal goals while impacting Wofford in meaningful ways.

I am originally from Alabama, but came to Wofford in the fall of 1984 as a first-year student. I graduated from Wofford in 1988 and returned a year later to work in the Office of Annual Giving, where I spent the first 26 years of my career.

My husband, Pablo, was a soccer player at Wofford. We met on campus and now have two children: a daughter, Deanna, who is a senior interior design major at Converse College, and a son, Tanner, who is a senior finance and Spanish major at Wofford. He is a student-athlete on the Wofford Men’s Soccer Team, making him and Pablo the college’s first soccer legacy. Can you tell I’m proud?

I am eager to begin meeting more Wofford folks, both on campus and as I take gift planning on the road. Please feel free to give me a call or stop by next time you’re on campus. I love hearing Wofford stories, and I look forward to hearing yours.

Lisa

Contact Lisa De Freitas
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LOOKING FOR ESTATE PLANNERS IN THE WOFFORD COMMUNITY


The Office of Gift Planning invites your input. Some ideas for ways you can become involved include writing a guest column for a “Remembering Wofford” newsletter, sharing insights during a seminar for the Wofford community, or simply adding your name to a list of preferred professionals in your area.

To get involved, contact Lisa De Freitas at defreitaslh@wofford.edu or 864-597-4203.
WHAT IS THE BENJAMIN WOFFORD SOCIETY?

The Benjamin Wofford Society (formerly the Legacy Society) recognizes those individuals who have made the ultimate expression of their faith in the college by remembering Wofford in their estate plans. Few people have the opportunity to leave the kind of legacy that Benjamin Wofford did, however, more than 160 years after his death, we honor Wofford alumni and friends who follow his example and make a lasting impact on the Wofford community through membership in the Benjamin Wofford Society.

To learn more: www.wofford.edu/supportwofford/benjaminwoffordsociety/

“Elizabeth and I updated our estate plans when we had children. We realized we had an opportunity to include charities that are important to us knowing we wanted to take care of our family first. Though we could not be impactful as major gift donors at this point in our lives, we felt we could make this decision to include Wofford as a contingency. It is our hope to move Wofford up the priority list as we progress, but know this was a good start for our current stage of life.”

—WILL WILLIMON ’98

“I established an endowed scholarship in 1997 at Wofford because I want to ensure that my college continues to provide opportunities for students underrepresented in higher education. They are important for Wofford, and Wofford is important for them. I make outright gifts so that the scholarship benefits students now, but I’ve also included Wofford College in my will so that the scholarship will eventually make an even bigger impact for the generations of students to follow.”

—ALBERT GRAY ’71

“It’s never too early to start thinking about doing a will. Keeping Wofford in mind when you do is a small thing that could pay off large dividends for the college later.”

—MATT ’10 AND KINLI BARE ABEE ’08
SHERON MATHEW ’17 chose Wofford because of the college’s academic reputation and the small student-to-faculty ratio. “I really value the time spent with my professors,” he says. “The open communication and academic challenge that they offer is very important to me.” Mathew, a biology and Spanish major from Spartanburg, serves as vice president of APO service fraternity. He co-chaired the Wofford Dance Marathon to raise funds for the Greenville Children’s Hospital. He started his own freelance photography business, Shisam Productions, and works as a photographer for the Wofford College Bohemian yearbook.

Mathew, a Sarah S. Butler Scholar, has worked as a volunteer intern in the emergency room at Spartanburg Regional. He plans to attend graduate school to become a physician’s assistant after he graduates from Wofford.

The Sarah S. Butler Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2004 with a gift from the estate of Sarah S. Butler. A long-time resident of Spartanburg and a generous friend of the college, Butler’s interests often centered on beautification of the campus grounds. First preference for awards from the fund goes to worthy students in the field of botany or the study of biology.

QUINTIN PILE ’18, a finance and accounting major with a minor in business from Tyler, Texas, wanted the opportunity to play baseball, travel and challenge himself academically. The C. B. and Lillian Mooneyham Endowed Scholarship has allowed him to do all three.

In his first year as a Terrier, Pile was named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll. He stays busy juggling academic and athletic responsibilities, but says he always takes time out to volunteer with the Carolina’s Miracle League. “Giving back to those kids through baseball and developing relationships with them has been such a blessing,” says Pile.

This January, Pile and other members of the Terrier baseball team traveled to Italy where they visited the Vatican, the Colosseum, the Sistine Chapel, Pompeii and other sites to study the art, religion and culture of the Rome, Florence, Bologna and Venice area. Pile, who eventually plans to attend graduate school back in Texas to earn an M.B.A., called the experience “incredible.”

The C. B. and Lillian Mooneyham Endowed Scholarship was fully funded in 2007 with a gift from the estate of Lillian Champion Mooneyham. She wanted to ensure that her husband, C. B. “Slim” Mooneyham ’34, remained connected to the college that he loved. Mooneyham played basketball and baseball at Wofford, so the scholarship supports a student-athlete on either the college’s men’s basketball or baseball team.
Q: **What is a bequest?**

A: A charitable bequest is a distribution from your estate through your will. A bequest allows people — both those of modest means and great wealth — to distribute assets to loved ones and to charitable organizations like Wofford. To ensure that your will accomplishes all of your goals, we recommend the professional counsel of an attorney or qualified estate planner.

Q: **Why is it important for me to create a will?**

A: Without a will, the state determines the distribution of your assets. Having an outdated will might result in your current intentions not being honored. Everyone should execute a will and review it regularly as changes occur in their life.

Q: **At what age do I need to create a will?**

A: It’s never too early to create a will. Many people feel that they aren’t old enough or don’t have enough assets to require a will. Even recent graduates, however, have possessions and assets to distribute. Find an executor who will carry out the wishes expressed in your will.

Q: **What are the types of bequests?**

A: » **Specific Bequest** – a gift of a particular thing or asset. This could be a specified sum of cash or an object (such as a home, a piece of art, a car, etc.)

» **Percentage Bequest** – a gift of a percentage of the overall estate.

» **Contingent Bequest** – a gift that is dependent on something else happening first. For example, Wofford might receive 10 percent of someone’s estate if their spouse predeceases them.

» **Remainder Bequest** – a gift of anything that is left after all specific distributions are made.

Q: **How can I ensure my bequest makes an impact where it matters to me?**

A: When you create your bequest, you have the ability to designate your gift to a particular program or area of interest that is important to you. Whether you’re interested in establishing an endowed scholarship, an endowed professorship, funding for a particular program or funding capital improvements, signing a fund agreement now assures your intentions will be followed.

Q: **What if I already have a will and would like to add Wofford as a beneficiary?**

A: If you have a will already, you can add a simple amendment adding Wofford to the existing document. Sample Bequest Language is available on our website, wofford.edu/supportwofford/giftplanning. Make sure that you share this with your professional estate planner.

Q: **I have named Wofford as a beneficiary in my will. What are my next steps?**

A: If you have chosen to include Wofford as a beneficiary in your will but have not notified us, please give us a call so we can recognize you as a member of the Benjamin Wofford Society. By sharing your wishes now, you ensure that your gift will be designated in a way that’s most meaningful to you.

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**WHAT’S NEXT?**

1. Return the enclosed response card, and someone will be in touch with you soon.

2. Visit wofford.edu/supportwofford/giftplanning for a wealth of information on a variety of gift planning options. The site also includes sample bequest language.

3. Contact Lisa De Freitas directly at 864-597-4203 or defreitaslh@wofford.edu with questions.

4. Schedule an appointment with an attorney to execute or update your will.