

ISSUE #161 | APRIL 11, 2024 | FROM THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

## Atkins endows director of athletics position



Wofford College's Director of Athletics Scott Kull, left, and Robby Atkins '65.

In a history-making gesture of generosity, Robby Atkins '65 has endowed the director of athletics position at Wofford College. The \$3 million investment creates the first endowed fund to support a coaching or staff position at the college.

This places Wofford among the 12% of Division I Football Bowl Subdivision institutions to have an endowed director of athletics position. Scott Kull, Wofford's new director of athletics, is first to hold the Robert D. Atkins '65 Director of Athletics position.

"What a gift! To step onto campus for my first official day of work as director of athletics and be able to thank Robby Atkins for this remarkable contribution is the stuff of legend," says Kull. "I'll work every day to live up to the honor and responsibility of this new endowed position."

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## Tomkins' TED-Ed lesson illuminates ancient Egypt



Dr. Jessica Tomkins, assistant professor of history, created a TED-Ed video exploring the legacy of Pharaoh Ramesses II.

Dr. Jessica Tomkins' **TED-Ed video** has captivated more than 370,000 viewers (and counting) on YouTube.

In the video, Tomkins, assistant professor of history, explores whether the controversial Pharaoh Ramesses II was a model leader or a master of propaganda in a courtroom drama.

"I've always used these short little videos in my classes," says Tomkins, an Egyptologist who specializes in the Old Kingdom, also known as the Pyramid Age. "Compared with other online sources, TED-Ed tends to produce videos with correct information. So, one day I came across an email address on their website for somebody to get in touch with if you have ideas and decided to submit my own idea."

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# Wofford to host former U.S. Ambassador to China Terry Branstad on April 22



Terry Branstad, the former U.S. ambassador to China, will speak during a fireside chat with Van Hipp, chairman of American Defense International and founder of the Hipp Lecture Series on International Affairs and National Security, at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 22, in Leonard Auditorium.

Branstad is the longest-serving governor in American history, chairman of the American Free Enterprise Chamber of Commerce and president of the World Food Prize Foundation. He will share insights on international affairs and national security. This event is part of the Hipp Lecture Series on International Affairs and National Security. It is free and open to the public.

Attendees are invited to a reception immediately following Branstad's chat.



## **Students spark Wofford Women's Health Coalition**



From left: Gabby Gecan '25, Madelyn Wilson '25 and Mary Charles Burke '25 at the Wofford Women's Health Coalition's period product drive on March 14.

Three Wofford College students are leading women's health outreach on campus and in the surrounding community.

Madelyn Wilson '25, Gabby Gecan '25 and Mary Charles Burke '25 have founded the Wofford Women's Health Coalition with the aim of combining education and awareness on women's health topics with monthly service opportunities in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

"We needed a space where we can talk about women's health, benefit the community and promote education," says Wilson, a psychology and Spanish major from Apex, North Carolina, who is serving as the coalition's co-president.

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# Shared Worlds establishes endowed fund to support financial aid for campers



The next installment of Shared Worlds, a science fiction/fantasy teen writing summer camp, will be held at Wofford July 14-27.

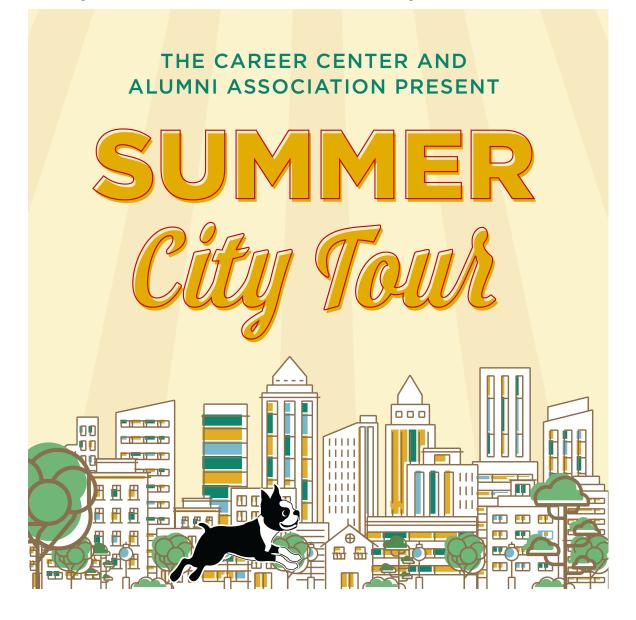
A new endowed fund aims to provide aspiring teen writers with monetary support that will enable them to hone their skills at Wofford College.

In December, Shared Worlds, a science fiction/fantasy teen writing summer camp, gave \$75,000 to establish the endowed fund. Proceeds from the fund will be used to provide financial aid to campers annually beginning in 2025. The cost of the camp is currently about \$2,600 per participant.

"Our goal is to ensure that everyone who wants to participate in Shared Worlds, can," says Dr. Joseph Spivey, associate professor of mathematics and the camp's director. "This fund also gives Shared Worlds alumnae and other friends a way to pay it forward."



## Mark your calendars for the Summer City Tour!



The Wofford College Alumni Association and Career Center are taking it on the road for the 2024 Summer City Tour. Join us for some networking and socializing with local alumni, Wofford staff, families and current/incoming students in these cities:

#### Charlotte, North Carolina

5 p.m. Saturday, May 25 Frothy Beard Brewing and Bank of America Stadium

#### Columbia, South Carolina

5 p.m. Sunday, June 9 Segra Park

#### Atlanta, Georgia 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 20

SweetWater Brewing Co.

#### Washington, D.C.

4-7 p.m. Friday, June 28 Nucor Public Affairs Inc.

#### Charleston, South Carolina

5:30-7:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4 Home of Morgan and Catherine Templeton '93

### Winston-Salem, North Carolina

5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15 Foothills Brewing Tasting Room

#### Greenville, South Carolina

6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21 Home of Elliott '00 and Emily '01 Goldsmith

### Director of Athletics on the Road: Alumni Clubs and Terrier Club



Join us and welcome Wofford's new Director of Athletics, Scott Kull, to the college! Attend any of these events hosted by the Alumni Clubs and Terrier Club in the following cities:

Spartanburg, South Carolina 3:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, April 26 Downtown Spartanburg

Charleston, South Carolina 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 8 The Terrace at Stars on King Street

Greenville, South Carolina 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 21 Hoppin' Greenville

## **Athletics updates**

Jasmine Jefferson named Socon Track Athlete of the Week. Marshall Toole tabbed SoCon Player of the Week. Zac Cowan named Socon Pitcher of the Month. Track and Field competes at South Florida.

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