Mercer Expands Offerings in Graduate Programs

A wide variety of new graduate programs — including business, education, music and health care — are being introduced over the next year at Mercer’s campuses in Macon and Atlanta and at the Regional Academic Center in Henry County.

The Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics will introduce two new programs in January. An innovative MBA program designed specifically for physicians begins classes in Macon. The Mercer MBA for Physicians is for doctors who want more expertise in areas of business on both the professional and personal level. The 19-month academic program is presented in an executive-education format that concentrates classes into Friday-Saturday sessions held every other week.

Stetson has expanded its successful Executive MBA (EMBA) program to the Regional Academic Center in Henry County, with the University offering the first graduate business program in the metro Atlanta’s southern crescent. The program, which will continue to be taught on Mercer’s Atlanta campus, is designed for business professionals with at least seven years of business experience.

EMBA students attend class every other weekend on Friday evenings and all-day Saturdays for 21 months, including a 10-day trip abroad to other countries. In early December, the 16 members of the inaugural class attended their preparatory “boot camp,” which is designed to refresh their basic study and math skills, and received from Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey their individual Hewitt Packard (IPQ) that they will use throughout the program.

M.Ed. in Educational Leadership

Also launching in January is the Master of Education in Educational Leadership Program. Offered by Tift College of Education at Mercer’s Macon and Atlanta campuses and the Regional Academic Center in Henry County, the new degree program is designed for in-service teachers who want to become school administrators based on the most current national standards in educational leadership — those of the Education Leadership Constituent Consortium — the Tift program blends theory with practice by requiring all leadership candidates to participate in internships each semester, which will give them hands-on experience in dealing with current issues faced by educational leaders.

For educators who already have the M.Ed. degree, the College will offer “add-on” certification in educational leadership.

Graduate Programs in Church Music

Mercer will offer three new graduate degree programs in church music through The Townsend Institute, which represents a collaboration of the College of Liberal Arts’ Department of Music in Macon and McAfee School of Theology in Atlanta. Accepting students for Fall 2005, the Department of Music will offer the master of music performance in church music degree and the master of music in performance degree with an emphasis in church music. McAfee School of Theology will offer the master of divinity degree with a concentration in church music.

The master of music in church music degree is designed to prepare students for the practice of church music ministry and is primarily for musicians who focus on choral conducting. The master of music in performance degree with an emphasis in church music is for vocalists and organists who wish to be in a church music educational environment without losing the intensity of a performance degree.

The master of divinity degree with a concentration in church music is for individuals who will work with musicians and ministers of music in their ministerial calling, with an emphasis placed on how to incorporate music into the worship service and congregational life of a church. The curriculum will be structured so students, who so desire, can pursue a dual master’s degree in music after completing their master of divinity degree.

The Townsend Institute has been made possible through a gift from James and Carolyn McElre. The Institute is named in honor and memory of Mrs. Mckee’s parents, Sophia Malfin Townsend and Raymond Clay Townsend.

New Healthcare Program

The School of Medicine recently announced post-master’s certificate programs in Medical Family Therapy and Pediatric Family Therapy, which are designed to prepare clinicians to practice in specialty areas of family therapy. Whereas the Medical Family Therapy program is focused on learning to help individuals and their families adjust to issues of death and dying and manage life with chronic illness, the Pediatric Family Therapy certificate provides specialized training in the treatment of child and adolescent mental and physical illnesses. In addition to the family therapy programs, the School of Medicine is teaming up with the Medical Center of Central Georgia to address the severe shortage of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) throughout the country.

Applications are now being accepted for a new master’s program, which will begin fall 2005, that will train nurse anesthetists in a 28-month, seven-segment program that will offer courses in anatomy, pharmacology, anesthesia, physiology, research and leadership, among others.

Stetson is also announcing that students, who arrive on Mercer’s Macon campus in August, will be some of the University’s most distinguished students in Georgia. History will surely record that Mercer’s Board of Trustees and a cultural transition for the next future. The promise of the University, achieving Mercer’s highest and best potential, has never been greater, and I will always be eager to support the programs of the University. I will continue to be an ambassador for Mercer and active in civic and professional affairs.”

On July 1, 1979, he was named the University’s 15th president. He became the longest-serving president in the University’s history last summer and reached a similar milestone in Georgia’s current university presidents a few years ago.

“Kirby Godsey is the most dynamic president in Mercer University’s history and perhaps in the entire state today,” said James A. Bishop, chairman of Mercer’s Board of Trustees and a Brunswick attorney. “He has taken a good university and made it one of the best in the nation. His vision and leadership have reached well beyond the University, leaving an indelible imprint on Georgia. History will surely record Kirby Godsey as one of Georgia’s finest citizens and educational leaders. The search for his successor will be a difficult task.”

Longtime Mercer trustee and Augusta attorney David Hudson will head the search committee for the new president. The national search will begin next spring.

Godsey Asks Trustees to Begin Search for Next President

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Continued on page 3
Mercer Alum in the Fast Lane

by Nancy R. Fullbright

MCALEEVAWARDS

Mercer University recognized six alumni for outstanding service and commitment to the University, the denomination, the church and humanity at the James and Carolyn McAliever School of Theology luncheon on Nov. 15 at the Airport Westin Hotel in Atlanta. The event brought together more than 150 alumni and friends attending the Georgia Baptist Convention annual meeting and the Georgia Cooperative Fellowship meetings. The recipients received a framed limited-edition print of a commissioned painting of the stained glass windows in Newton Chapel.

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Plan a Road Trip to Mercer for Homecoming ’05

G

as up your car and cruise

on back to the Macon cam-
pus the week of Jan. 23-29
to enjoy Mercer Homecoming 2005. Using the theme of “Cruisin’ USA” On the Road Since 1913,” activities will center on themed road trips to various cities. Highlights of the week include televised men’s and women’s basketball games, the annual parade, the naming of the Homecoming King and Queen and the induction of alumni into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

The 2005 Homecoming Court finalists will be announced at halftime of the women’s basketball team’s game against Gardner-Webb University on Thursday, Jan. 27. The game begins at 7 p.m. in the University Center Arena. The theme for Thursday is Indianapolis, so consider pulling out your favorite racing outfits — just make sure it’s Mercer orange.

On Friday, Jan. 28, the men’s basketball team will play their top state rival, Georgia State University, at 7 p.m. in the University Center Arena. The theme for the day is Miami, so don’t forget your sun-glasses and your Mercer orange cap. The Alumni Office will host a pre-game Athletic Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony at 5:30 p.m. in the University Center. For more information on this event, contact Kristi Dobkins at (478) 301-2189.

The Bears’ Friday game will also be televised, and the Mercer community is encouraged to wear orange and black to show their Mercer spirit. At halftime, the Homecoming Court winners and the new inductees to the Athletic Hall of Fame will be announced.

For the 15th consecutive year, Mercer has named 10 schools and colleges, campuses in Macon and Atlanta, plus regional academic centers in Douglas County, Henry County and Eastman, teaching hospitals in Macon and Savannah, an academic press in Macon and an engineering research center in Warner Robins.

Construction has been a major accomplishment. More than 50 buildings have been constructed or restored, along with a major campus improvement program that included a five-year, $100-million campus improvement program. The University’s largest facility — the $40 million, 230,000-square-foot University Center — was completed this year on the Macon campus.

One never to accept status quo, Godsey has challenged administrators, faculty, staff and even students to reach further — to cut new paths — to explore new possibilities. As a result, the University continues to reach milestones that assure its place among the top universities in the nation. Mercer today attracts some of the nation’s most talented students, with SAT scores for the freshman class among the highest in the state. In the professional schools, application pools are as high as 14 applicants per seat in the entering class. The faculty has been strengthened in terms of number and credentials, with more than 90 percent of Mercer’s 665 faculty members holding doctorates or the highest attainable degree in their academic field.

For the 15th consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report has named Mercer among the leading universities in the South. The Princeton Review has listed Mercer among The Best 357 Colleges in North America, which places the University among the top 10 percent in institutions of higher education. His leadership style is one of inclusion and collaboration, not only within the institution, but also outside. Godsey has partnered the University through leadership, volunteer service and financial support in countless efforts designed to strengthen communities as well as Mercer. Whether it is providing volunteer tutors to elementary schools, or offering financial incentives to faculty and staff to buy and renovate homes in nearby neglected neighborhoods, or awarding scholarships to community service volunteers, he has kept Mercer connected to others by reaching beyond the campus.

Knowing the importance of a strong financial foundation, Godsey and his administrative colleagues at Mercer are respected leaders in fundraising for the University. In 2004, the largest number of alumni donors in history was recorded. In 2002, the largest gift in the history of the University, a bequest of $62 million, was procured. Presently, the University is conducting Phase III of the $350 million Advancing the Vision campaign, of which more than $245.5 million has been raised or pledged.

Godsey has been recognized nationally by his colleagues and other organizations for his accomplishments. In 2002, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) recognized him as the Southeast’s CEO of the Year. In 2003, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) presented him with its Meritorious Service Award, the organization’s recognition for distinctive and effective leadership for his work with the accreditation review process, which resets the standards and the accreditation processes for all colleges and schools in the Southern region. Georgia Trend magazine named him as one of the “100 Most Influential Georgians” for the years 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2003. Also in 2003, he was named the Citizen of the Year by the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce.

Cecil B. Day Organ Dedicated

D
nuring the Eighth Annual Convocation of McAfee School of Theology, Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey dedicated the pipe organ in the auditorium of Cecil B. Day Hall. A gift of Mercer alumnus Dean Day Sanders and the Cecil B. Day Foundation, the organ was named for the late Cecil Burke Day, who was a church statesman, successful business leader and devout Christian.

Designed and built by The Noack Organ Company especially for the Cecil B. Day Hall auditorium, the organ is based on the 18th century style, similar to those played by composer George Frederick Handel.

Two outstanding organists — Glen Sloan, the pianist at Johns Creek Baptist Church in Alpharetta, and Dr. Robert Parry, the Charles B. Thompson Professor of Music and University Organist of Mercer University — performed a variety of musical works on the organ in a dedicatory concert.

“We honor one of Mercer University’s most distinguished alumni and benefactors with the naming and dedication of this beautifully crafted musical instrument,” President Godsey told the gathering of students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni and friends.

Click on “Community,”
Click on “University Advancement,”
Click on “University Relations & Marketing,”
Click on “URM Photos,”
Just select the event you would like to view!
Williams, a National Leader in Radiology

By Rachel Garza

The real testimony to the validity of this program is the depth of dedication among the faculty. We could not adequately educate our students without their help. I am so grateful to all of the department chairs for making their faculty members available to us. Because of them, we are able to give our students a well-rounded view of Women’s Studies,” said Morgan.

Morgan says there are many goals that the faculty plans to accomplish over the next few years, the first of which is promoting awareness and creating an accurate perception of the program.

“When we first started WGS, the overarching perception was that we held classes in ‘male bashing.’ Actually, about one-third of our students are males and it is always interesting to see their attitudes change over the course of the semester. They are surprised to learn that masculinity can be as much of a confining and restrictive social construction as femininity. It is great to see many of our male students have ‘ah-ha’ experiences. “

Morgan alumni Brian Drake, CLA ’00, was one such student. While pursuing a major in political science, he decided to take a WGS course with his fiancée.

“It struck me that many of the issues discussed in the introductory WGS course, while inherently political, were not considered serious academic thought within the general field of political science. The nature of the political science literature bore a solid disrepect for the study of feminism and the important political role women occupy in history,” wrote a student in support of creating the WGS major.

Morgan says that the goal of the curriculum is to elevate the understanding of the social construction of gender and sexual orientation. There has been a revision of history and scholarship in many areas to become more inclusive where students can put into practice the ideas and theories that they learn in class. With a major in WGS, graduates can pursue careers in just about any field. Possible vocational paths include art, business, community activism, education, health care, journalism/media studies, law, ministry and social work.

Alumni Brian Drake agrees that his decision to add a concentration of WGS to his political science major gave him a competitive edge.

“I am certain that if I did not have a WGS concentration, I would not be where I am today. The distinctiveness of my major made my application to graduate school attractive, and I gained acceptance to all of the schools to which I applied. I am currently considering my graduate studies at Georgetown University, while also working for one of the most prestigious defense firms in the Washington, D.C. area,” he wrote.

Students will remain a driving force behind the evolution of the program as other students will serve representative on the WGS program advisory committee. As contemporary issues arise, new topics will be added to the list of available courses. While the role of women in society continues to change, it is just as important to understand the past as it is to understand the past and make educated predictions for the future. Drake sums up the mission of the WGS program in one sentence.

“Creating an official WGS major at Mercer University will open the hearts and minds of many on campus to the idea that women are people, too.”

For more information about the Women and Gender Studies Major, please contact Dr. Mary Alice Morgan by phone at (478) 301-2571 or by e-mail at morgan_ma@mercer.edu

Chemical Society Chapter Receives National Award

Morgan’s student chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) received the Outstanding Award for its chapter activities during the 2003-2004 academic year. The American Chemical Society (ACS) received the Outstanding Award for its chapter activities during the 2003-2004 academic year. The American Chemical Society, a national organization, is the largest professional society in the world. The chapter was one of the 26 chapters out of more than 960 in the nation selected. Chapters are selected based upon a review of their annual report that details the chapter activities for the academic year.

In addition to other activities, the Mercer chapter continued many traditions in the 2003-2004 year, including sending college students into the elementary schools to do hands-on science activities with elementary students, hosting a Boy Scout Merit Badge Day and promoting National Chemistry Week. The chapter also started a new book share program in which they sent donated science books overseas to a school in need of textbooks.

Chapter members also attended the Southeast Regional Meeting of the ACS. Four students presented undergraduate research posters, and the past president and advisor participated in a successful Student Chemists’ Career Session. The 2003-2004 student officers were Ron Kuster, president; Kenisha Patlaw, vice president; Holly Carney, secretary; and Delain McMillian, treasurer. The chapter advisors are assistant professors of chemistry Dr. Nancy Duple and Dr. Arthur Salcio.
The Odyssey employs three veterinary ophthalmologists in providing health care to animals as well as zoos and wildlife creatures by restoring their sight and treating their eye diseases.

This year the Florida Veterinary Medical Association acknowledged his outstanding work and dedication by awarding him its Gold Star Award in recognition of the free ophthalmologic service he’s provided to pets that otherwise could not have received care, the active role he’s played in working with Jacksonville’s city leaders in providing health care to animals and his services as past president of the Jacksonville Veterinary Medical Association.

Brogdon is president and chief ophthalmologist at the Jacksonville (Fla.) Animal Eye Clinic, P.A., which employs three veterinary ophthalmologists and conducts clinics across Florida in Jacksonville, Orange Park, Yalaahassie, Daytona Beach and Pensacola as well as in Savannah, Ga.

"Ophthalmology for animals is different than for humans — we don’t correct refraction for them because they see differently than we do,” he explains. “They don’t read newspapers, and they don’t focus that close. “They also don’t need to see to drive,” he added with a smile. “But they do need to be able to see well enough to avoid danger and survive in the wild and to go up and down stairs, walk across streets and avoid falling in the pool in domestication.”

Brogdon’s regular customers are other veterinarians who refer their patients to the animal eye clinic.

Most often his patients are family pets, but many unusual pets have benefited from Dr. Brogdon’s expertise and service. Pro bono patients range from elephants and birds at the Jacksonville Zoo to porpoises, penguins, dolphins and seals at Marineland, Fla. He’s treated patients in the White Ibis wildlife preserve in Savannah as well as cranes on St. Thomas Island, to name a few.

Brogdon has even performed cataract surgery on two blind fawns found by hunters outside Thomasville, Ga., and on rare baleen herons. He also volunteers his services to Shari-Pri and Greyhound rescue organizations.

“For my undergraduate education at Mercer is the foundation from which my career has evolved … our professors stressed that learning doesn’t stop in the classroom — that we should study hard and then go away and be successful.”

“My undergraduate education at Mercer is the foundation from which my career has evolved,” says the Georgia native, who was born in Savannah and lived in south Georgia until the eighth grade, when his family moved to Atlanta.

“I was fortunate enough to be on campus from 1967 to 1971, when there were only about 2,000 students on campus, and our professors stressed that learning doesn’t stop in the classroom — that we should study hard and then go away and be successful,” he says. “I especially am grateful for Professor Ware (biology professor Gordon L. [Les] Ware’), who piqued my curiosity and challenged me to use it to solve problems throughout my life.”

Following graduation from Mercer, Brogdon received his doctor of veterinary medicine (DVM) degree from the University of Georgia in 1978. Between 1983 and 1986, he attended graduate school, completed an ophthalmology residency and earned a master’s degree in comparative ophthalmology at the University of Illinois. He attended the Basic Eye Course at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif., in 1985.

Board certified by the American College of Ophthalmologists and the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, Brogdon spent 20 years in the U.S. Army, where he served as the military’s only veterinary ophthalmologist, and retired as a colonel. His assignments included clinical research and command positions both in the United States and overseas.

He and his wife of 28 years, Janet McConnell Brogdon, live in Skidaway Island, near Savannah, and in Jacksonville. They have three grown children — Julie, Lisa and James — and three grandchildren, with another on the way.

“I am so blessed to be living out my passion of surgery and medicine,” says Brogdon. “It’s fun to go to work, and the fun is all about service. I’m truly living my dream, and I believe I receive more blessings than my patients do,” he added.

To watch her grow as a writer.”

Emily has a fabulous imagination, long as I can remember,” she said. “I always enjoyed writing.

After she graduates, Hill plans to work as a newspaper or magazine reporter. “I like journalism because you keep learning,” she said of why she has selected this field.
President Godsey Speaks with New Henry County EMBA Students

Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey welcomed students on Dec. 3 to the Stetson School of Business and Economics’s new Executive MBA program (EMBA) in Henry County. The 16 men and women are participating in the first graduate-level business program in Henry County, one of the fastest-growing counties in the U.S.

In his remarks to the first class of students, Godsey said that all good leaders, in business, education and government, never stop trying to learn more about their work. “It’s not important enough just to do our jobs. Thinking about our jobs is also important.”

Godsey told the students during a luncheon at the inn at Eagle’s Landing in Stockbridge, “Learning and listening are the keys to leading.”

The luncheon was part of the program’s four-day seminar, also known as “boot camp,” to give the new EMBA students an introduction to Mercer’s resources, as well as provide knowledge of basic business tools.

Students accepted into the graduate program must have a minimum of seven years of business experience, including managerial and supervisory positions. With classes held every other weekend for 21 months at Mercer’s regional academic centers in McDonough, the program’s schedule ensures the students to work their full-time jobs as they earn their degree.

Godsey, who is serving in his 25th year as Mercer’s president, told the EMBA students that leadership is built on a combination of priorities, autonomy, collaboration and energy. “Leadership is not a spectator sport,” Godsey said. “It is about investing ourselves and about people willing to spend an extra hour and staying focused even when they are weary.”

Each EMBA student was given a Hewlett-Packard iPAQ to use during coursework. Upon successful completion of the graduate program, they will be allowed to keep the handheld personal computers.

The new students live in Henry County, Macon and various parts of metro Atlanta and represent a wide array of professions and industries, including banking, transportation, utilities, business services and government.

The 16 students in the new EMBA program are: Chip Cherry of the Department of Education; Jason Hayes of Lithonia Lighting; Elie Hillyer of First National Bank of Griffin; Michael Hottinger of PACKAIR Parts; Trion King of Southern Co.; Jennifer McGuiness of IKON Office Solutions; Chuck McPherson of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, biostatistician; Gery Owens of J.B. Hunt Transport Services; Robert Sanders of Fresh Express; Jarvis Sims of the City of East Point; Thermando Stephens of Georgia Power; Shawn Williams of the Eagle’s Landing location of SunTrust Banks.

Godsey attended the luncheon along with Mercer Senior Vice President for University Advancement, Dr. Spero C. Peppas, professor of International Business and director of the Center for International Business Relations on Mercer’s Cecil B. Day Campus in Atlanta, was honored this past academic year as the Atlanta chapter recipient of the Stetson School of Business and Economics Distinguished Faculty Award. Students on the Atlanta campus who chose Peppas for the award praised him for his outstanding classroom performance.

One student commented, “Dr. Peppas is an outstanding teacher. He is not only concerned about classroom understanding, but is also concerned for the individual. I highly respect him as a professor and an individual, and feel that he is very deserving of this award.” Another said, “Dr. Peppas is a phenomenal professor.” These comments are consistent with those reflected in all of his course evaluations. He was also awarded this honor in 1998.

“I am very honored to be chosen by the students for this award,” Peppas said. “I have always felt that as a good professor, my role was not only to educate, but also to help students realize their full potential. To be recognized by them in this way means that they, too, have come to understand why I have always set the bar high and have refused to accept anything but their best efforts.”

In his role with the Center for International Business Relations, Peppas works with members of the business community on training and services related to globalization. He also directs the Business School’s Studies Abroad Program.

“Every spring, we take a group of students to Europe to visit international companies and meet key European industry and business leaders,” the business professor explained. “This opportunity gives students hands-on experience in the international business arena.”

A native Atlanta, Peppas received his BBA in marketing from Emory University and his MBA in marketing and Ph.D. in international business from Georgia State University. Prior to coming to Mercer, he spent more than a decade in Europe in business and university settings.
Executive Forum Celebrates 25-Year Milestone

For the past quarter century, Mercer has provided the Atlanta and Macon communities with a valuable resource — the Executive Forum speaker series. Celebrating its 25th anniversary season this year, Mercer’s Executive Forum provides an opportunity for the Macon and Atlanta business communities to hear from some of the country’s most-sought after speakers while interacting with other business leaders.

Since its establishment in 1979 as a business outreach program of Mercer’s Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and the Office of Advancement, the Executive Forum has become one of Georgia’s premier business enrichment series.

Over the years, the Forum has brought such speakers as Forbes CEO and President Steve Forbes; Georgia Secretary of State Cathy Cox; Former United States Senators Sam Nunn and Bob Dole; Congresswoman Jackie Speier; and Mercer’s Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and the Office of Advancement, the Executive Forum has become one of Georgia’s premier business enrichment series.

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The Forum has also hosted former U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and George W. Bush, as well as former Secretary of State Colin Powell and former Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

In addition to hosting high-profile names, the Executive Forum has also provided a platform for Mercer’s own faculty members to share their expertise with audiences across the country.

Today, the Executive Forum continues to be a valuable resource for the Atlanta and Macon business communities, offering a unique opportunity for business leaders to engage with thought leaders from around the world.
Mercer Alumnus Selected as Teacher of the Year

By Jon Gillooly, Marietta Daily Journal, Reprinted with permission

EDITOR’S NOTE: The story was published prior to the awards ceremony on June 26.

A Rocky Mount Elementary School teacher who goes out of her way to give extra help to children with disabilities has received statewide recognition for her work. The Georgia Sensory Assistance Project, which provides assistance to children with hearing and vision loss, has selected Kay Swanson as “Teacher of the Year,” an award she will receive at a ceremony June 26.

Ms. Swanson’s experience with special-needs children dates back to her own childhood. Her older sister, Beth, had a learning disability.

“Although her parents knew something was wrong, they were simply told Beth had a learning disability.”

It wasn’t until Ms. Swanson was in college that she realized her then-24-year-old self was autistic, Ms. Swanson said.

“When you grow up in a situation like that, you take it for what it is,” she said. “You grow up with a patience and tolerance of others.”

“My relationship with her has given me the patience and hope that all kids can learn.”

Inspired by her sister’s example, Ms. Swanson studied the subject of learning disabilities at Mercer University in Macon before marrying her husband, Don, and moving to Cobb County in 1997.

She finished her master’s degree in special education at Kennesaw State University in 2000 and is now a special-needs preschool teacher.

But her involvement with children doesn’t stop here. Ms. Swanson also works as a special instructor for families with special-needs children at Babies Can’t Wait — a state program for infants with developmental disabilities — at and Georgia Pines, where she is a parent advisor who works with families whose children have vision or hearing loss.

“Some teachers tutor, and that’s what I do, but instead of tutoring for math, I teach them life skills,” Ms. Swanson said. “It’s fun. You go into a family’s home, and you play with the kids.”

“If we can help those children early on, we can prevent future problems.”

She said she keeps in mind that each child is different and requires a unique strategy.

“It’s a constant game trying to figure out what works with each child, and while it can become frustrating, the joys outweigh the frustrations,” she said.

For Ms. Swanson, those joys include watching the children grow over a period of time and being a part of the children’s families.

“That’s the best thank-you of all, to know I impacted a child for life,” she said.

Ms. Swanson said she would like to see people make more of an effort to understand special-needs children.

“I wish people would be patient because not all children acting up in public are doing it as a behavior problem,” she said. “When an autistic child acts up in public, people look at the parents, wondering why they’re not doing anything, when the parents are doing the best they can.”

She also said the parents of a special-needs child probably will go through a growing process for their child for the rest of their lives, particularly during times when the children of friends graduate high school and college and get married. But she said those parents with special-needs children should realize that their child isn’t necessarily unhappy.

“My sister got a bicycle at 22 when she could have gotten a Porsche,” Ms. Swanson said. “They don’t know what they’re missing. They don’t have the pressures of society.

“You just have to look at the happiness of the child or adult. My sister has taught me how to appreciate the little things, and it’s a happier way to live.”

Former Superintendent Teaching in Education Leadership Program

By Jenny Butkus

As a former Walton County (Ga.) Schools Superintendent, Kathy Arnett, Ed.D., knows how crucial it is to have good leadership in schools. She also is acutely aware of the problems today’s school systems face in acquiring qualified leaders.

“In dealing with administrators and hiring administrators, I knew there was a real critical need for quality administrators in Georgia,” she said. “In Walton County, most of the top administrators could retire within three years. We received a lot of applicants, but many of them were not qualified for the positions.”

She also observed quite a few of the teachers in Walton County who were seeking degrees in educational leadership were taking their courses from institutions outside of the Georgia.

So when she learned that Mercer’s Tift College of Education was designing a new program in educational leadership, she decided she wanted to be a part of the building process.

Arnett joined the Mercer family over the summer as an assistant professor of educational leadership, and she is eager for the launch of this new program in January. Designed for teachers who want to become administrators, the educational leadership program will be offered at the Macon campus, the Atlanta campus and the Henry County Regional Academic Center.

Arnett said she is excited about being a part of the Mercer community because she knows what quality programming the University offers.

“When I would recruit teachers, the Mercer graduates always stood out,” she said of her time with Walton County Schools.

“They were really mature and always had their head on straight.”

Arnett has 33 years of experience in public education. She began her career as an elementary school teacher in Northfield, Ohio, in the Nordonia Hills School System. She then went on to teach at Hudson Local Schools in Hudson, Ohio, before moving to Georgia and being a part of all of this.’

Kathy Arnett

We have stars coming into this program, and we are going to have stars going out. It is very exciting to be a part of all of this.”

For more information on the educational leadership program, visit www.mercer.edu/education or call (678) 547-6563.
TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Education Students Study Abroad in Scotland

By Jenny Studius

In recent years, various types of classroom environments have become a requirement of teacher education students at most colleges and universities. Mercer University’s Tift College of Education recently added a twist to this common practice. Six education majors, along with two professors, spent 11 days in Scotland and England. While there, they took classes at the University of Paisley and visited classrooms at three Scottish elementary schools. The Scotland trip was one of several faculty-led summer study abroad programs for undergraduate students in 2004. Other faculty-led summer study abroad programs included trip for sociology students to Senegal, a psychology trip to Japan and an ecology trip for science students to do fieldwork in Tanzania.

At Mercer’s Tift College of Education, we strive to teach our students to embrace the diversity of today’s classrooms,” said Dr. Margaret Morris, an associate professor of early childhood education at Mercer and one of the faculty members who organized the trip. “This trip provided our students an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of other cultures, and in turn, they will be better teachers.”

Upon return from the trip, the six students gave presentations on the differences and similarities between Scottish and American schools as well as what they gained from their experience abroad.

Kelly Quinlan, a senior early childhood education major at Mercer, said while there were differences in the curriculum and the classroom atmosphere, it was interesting to see that the children in Scotland have the same struggles as the children in the United States.

“I wanted then to see that the need for education is international — that children have similar needs the world over,” Morris said.

Quinlan said she enjoyed interacting with the Scottish students, one of whom asked if she knew Britney Spears. “I think anytime you travel it opens your eyes,” she said. “This experience made me realize that whether I’m in Scotland or America, I experience made me realize that this is my favorite event.”

Amanda Coder, Christy Mitchell, Kelly Quinlan and Haywood Richardson.

“Now these students will have greater empathy with people globally. They have escaped their comfort zones and broadened their perspectives.”

“Apart from their experiences in the classroom, the six education majors from Mercer had an opportunity to see the sights of Scotland and also to tour London.”

“The beauty and the history of the Scottish castles was overwhelming,” Mitchell said.

Morris said this part of the trip was also important for the Mercer students. “Being able to understand other cultures is especially important today,” she said. “Now these students will have greater empathy with people globally. They have escaped their comfort zones and broadened their perspectives. When they become teachers, they’ll be able to prepare their students to become global citizens.”

Mercer’s Tift College of Education is planning another study abroad trip to Scotland for summer 2005. Other faculty-led study abroad programs for undergraduate students planned for summer 2005 include: Language Studies in Germany, African American Studies in Senegal, Sociology in Japan, Christianity in Greece, Christianity in Scotland, Psychology in Europe and Business in Europe. For more information on study abroad opportunities at Mercer, call the Study Abroad office at (478) 301-2573.

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

Book Lovers Lunch and Learn in Atlanta

By Nancy R. Fullbright

Literary talent was abundant at Mercer University’s 15th Annual Authors Luncheon held Nov. 13, 2004, in Atlanta. The program, emceed by King & Spalding Senior Partner Robert L. Steed ’58, ’61, featured five authors who spoke at the event: Frederick Allen, author of A Decent, Underlyng Luncheon: The Montana Vigilantes; Ron Chernow, author of Alexander Hamilton; Hollis Gillespie, author of Tales from a Bad Neighborhood; Louise Dodd, author of Eating from the White House to the Jailhouse; and Haywood Smith, author of The Rutherford Cipher. Various other authors also spoke at the event.

Several authors were feted at the 15th Annual Authors Luncheon. Pictured from left to right: Hollos Gillespie, Bob Steele, R. Kirby Godsey, Lucy Corin, Terry Kay, Raya Richardson, Amanda Coder, Christy Mitchell, Kelly Quinlan and Haywood Richardson.

The authors luncheon is the premier literary event in Atlanta, and it makes the Press known not only to Atlanta, but also to the entire state. Its importance would be impossible to estimate,” said Dr. Marc Jolley, director of Mercer University Press. He added that more than 320 book lovers were in attendance this year.


“I asked to come back to be a part of the Mercer Press Authors Luncheon,” Chernow said. “Out of all the book signings I’ve done, this is my favorite event.”

Other authors signing books were Steve Berry ’80, author of The Romanee Prophecy; David Bottoms ’71, Georgia state poet laureate and author of Walking Through the Endtime; James F. Gook, author of Carl Vinson: Patriarch of the Armed Forces; Lucy Corin, Everyday Psychologists; Louise Dodd, author of Eating from the White House to the Jailhouse; Buck Melton, Sr., author of Closing Arguments: A Memoir; William Rawlings Jr., author of Rutherford Cipher; and Haywood Smith, author of The Red Hat Club.

Mercer University Press, established in 1978, has published more than 1,000 books. Operated by an eight-member staff, the press publishes more than 40 books annually.
More Than 300 Leadership Supporters Enjoy Fall Event

The Mercer University President’s Club was established in 1964 to recognize alumni and friends who provide substantial support to the University. Over the years, the support provided by this group of alumni and friends represents nearly three-quarters of the gifts received from individuals for annual support.

Membership includes all friends and alumni of Mercer who contribute $1,000 or more during the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). The President’s Club members are recognized in University publications and receive invitations to Mercer University events. Each year, the Club hosts a special recognition event that includes a golf tournament, a Friday dinner and a Saturday brunch.

This year the tournament was held at the Capital City Country Club in Crabapple, the dinner and dance was at the Four Seasons Hotel in Midtown Atlanta, and the brunch and recognition program was at the Piedmont Driving Club in Midtown Atlanta.

The 2005 event is already on the calendar for Oct. 28 – 29 at Atlanta’s newest Buckhead hotel, the InterContinental, and The Piedmont Driving Club.

Bill and Monika Stripling of Norcross at the Saturday morning brunch at the Piedmont Driving Club. Mr. Stripling is a former Mercer trustee and president of The President’s Club.

Bill and Caroline Verdery Galloway of Stone Mountain were among the more than 300 who attended Friday night’s reception, dinner and dance at the Four Seasons. The Louise Hamilton Verdery Endowed Scholarship in the Tift College of Education is named after Mrs. Galloway’s mother.

Joy Callaway of Conyers and guest Hal Medlin pause during Friday night’s reception at the Four Seasons Hotel in Midtown. Ms. Callaway is president of the Tift College Alumnae Association.

Bill and Judy Roberts of Fayetteville enjoy activities at The President’s Club weekend. Mr. Roberts is the chair of the University Center component of the Advancing the Vision Campaign.
Mercer Unveils New Portrait at The President's Club Luncheon

Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey unveiled a portrait of Fred W. and Aileen K. Borrish of Dunwoody during the annual luncheon of The President’s Club held in October. The portrait, painted by well-known artist Rossin of Atlanta, will be hung at Mercer’s Regional Academic Center in Douglas County, of which the Borrishes have been generous benefactors.

Also during the luncheon, the Borrishes were recognized as Life Members of The President’s Club.

Mr. Borrish is retired from Delta Air Lines, and Mrs. Borrish is retired from Southern Bell’s controller department. She is one of the first two women to hold membership in the Institute of Internal Auditors. The Borrishes are members of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church.

The University’s Regional Academic Center in Douglas County offers undergraduate degree programs of the Tift College of Education, Stetson School of Business and the College of College and Professional Studies. The Center also has non-credit programs in professional development.

10 New Life Members Recognized at Annual President’s Club Event

Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey stands with the newly inducted Life Members of The President’s Club for 2003-2004. They are (front row) Pougie and Lois Bowen of Macon, David Sapp, representing Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Howard and Gladys Giddens of Macon; (second row) Mary Jane Cardwell of Waycross, Leroy and Linda Toliver of Suwanee, and Tommy and Beth Ann Roland of Alpharetta. Life Members of the Club have given at least $100,000 to the University over their lifetimes.

President’s Club Officers Elected

Elijah Morgan, ’83, of Forsyth, was elected president for the University’s prestigious giving club for 2004-2005. Other officers are Tommy T. Holland, ’60, ’62, of Jonesboro, president-elect; Teresa Bennett of Tucker, officer-at-large; Dawn R. Trygg, ’92, of Roswell, officer-at-large; Stephanie Godsey Jansen, ’02, Atlanta, officer-at-large; Tony Moya, ’73, of McDonough, officer-at-large; Mary Jane Cardwell, ’77, ’80, ’87, of Waycross, who was president for 2003-2004, presented Morgan the gavel during the luncheon program.
School of Engineering

Professor Wins International Award for Research

By Jenny Butkus

Dr. Clayton R. Paul, Sam Nunn Eminent Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Mercer University, was recently named the recipient of the 2005 Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Electromagnetics Award.

The largest technical society in the world, IEEE gives only one such award worldwide each year. The award consists of a bronze medal, certificate and $10,000. Paul was nominated for this honor by his colleagues in the Electromagnetic Compatibility Society, a division of the IEEE. He will be formally recognized for this honor during the 2005 IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility at the Navy Pier in Chicago, Ill., in August of 2005.

The IEEE Board of Directors cited Paul “for excellence in the advancement of electromagnetic theory towards solving crosstalk problems in transmission lines and cable assemblies.”

Paul has dedicated 35 years of research to modeling and solving crosstalk problems between wires, and said this award means a great deal to him. “Being awarded the only such award given out worldwide by my premier professional organization is the largest honor I have or probably ever will receive in my professional career,” he said. “I am deeply humbled by it as a tribute to over 35 years of my research.”

An example of crosstalk problems, Paul explains, is when people are talking on a cell phone and they hear a faint conversation in the background. This happens because a pair of wires in the telephone line have been placed close to a pair of wires carrying the conversation. Electric and magnetic fields from one line interact with the other line and unintentionally induce a signal in the other line.

While this crosstalk problem only results in a nuisance in this example, it can be devastating when it happens with wiring on U.S. aircraft and Navy ships during combat. Paul said. Over the years, he has worked on numerous governmental contracts with the U.S. Air Force, Navy and Army to prevent crosstalk. He has also worked on a similar problem in commercial vehicles for Ford Motor Co. Since 1984, he has concentrated his research in the commercial sector, including a one-year sabbatical with IBM’s Information Products Division and serving as a consultant to IBM and Lexmark on crosstalk in high-speed digital devices, such as computers and printers.

Paul has published 11 books and six chapters in books on electrical engineering topics. He taught electrical engineering at the University of Kentucky from 1971 to 1998 and now holds the title of Emeritus Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Kentucky. He joined Mercer University School of Engineering in 1998 as the Sam Nunn Eminent Professor of Aerospace Engineering.

Paul stresses teaching is his first love, and he feels his research has helped him to be a better educator. “Doing this research has made it possible to bring my experiences into the classroom to give what I am teaching a sense of credibility and relevance to the students.”

School Ranked 12th Nationally in Percentage of Female Undergraduates

By Jenny Butkus

Mercer University ranks 12th nationally in the percentage of female undergraduates enrolled in engineering programs, according to the most recent report from the Engineering Workforce Commission of the American Association of Engineering Societies.

“At 30.6 percent, Mercer University is 12.6 points above the national average of 18 percent in this area,” the report states.

School of Engineering Dean M. Dayne Aldridge was pleased to learn of this new ranking. “The School of Engineering is proud of its long-standing commitment to providing engineering and related educational opportunities to females and minorities,” he said. “Being recognized by the Engineering Workforce Commission in their national rankings provides evidence of the success of the ongoing efforts of our faculty and admissions staff.”

Engineering student Stephanie R. Jackson said she chose to attend Mercer because the University has both a strong liberal arts program and a quality engineering school. In addition, she was attracted to the School of Engineering because of its close-knit environment.

“Mercer’s professors are always available and approachable,” the senior biomedical engineering student said. “Students get both personal attention and a challenge here.”

A participant in the Engineering Honors Program, Jackson said while she knows stereotypes still exist that women should not pursue fields like engineering, she has never felt like the “odd man out” in Mercer’s engineering program. “I feel completely comfortable. Everyone treats me just like any other person here,” the Memphis, Tenn., native said. “Mercer has become my home away from home.”

The report is titled Engineering & Technology Enrollments, Fall 2003. Each year the Engineering Workforce Commission surveys all the engineering colleges with ABET-accredited engineering programs for this report.

Bear Motorsports!

A team of engineering students is designing and building a formula racecar to compete in the Formula SAE 2005 Competition, sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers International. The national competition will take place May 18-22 in Pontiac, Mich. The team’s name is Bear Motorsports. Team President Scott McCormack is pictured in the workshop with members of the National Engineering Advisory Board. Anyone interested in supporting this project should contact Gloria Marshall at (470) 301-2173 or marshall.g@mercer.edu.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

W.M. Keck Engineering Analysis Center Dedicated

By Jenny Butkus

Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey formally dedicated the W.M. Keck Engineering Analysis Center in October. The dedication was done in conjunction with the National Engineering Advisory Board’s bi-annual meeting.

The Center, which was made possible by a grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation, is a computational laboratory for mechanical, biomedical and computer engineering. “The focus on the center is to use computer aided engineering to nurture curiosity, stimulate creative thinking and utilize student synergy in support of all forms of scholarship throughout the school,” explained M. Dayne Aldridge, dean of the School of Engineering.

The Center exposes Mercer engineering students to state-of-the-art engineering software applications, including ANSYS — software used to teach finite element analysis; Cadence — software used to teach the design of digital circuits; and CFX — software used to teach computational fluid dynamics and more. By being exposed to these advanced computer programs early in their academic careers, students will produce higher quality senior design projects, and they will be better prepared to serve as practicing engineers.

Associate Professor of Engineering Dr. Loren Sumner serves as the principal investigator of the project that designed, implemented and is now assessing the Keck Center. “The interactive nature of lectures in the Center has proven to be a powerful teaching technique,” Sumner said. “Students are exposed to state-of-the-art computer aided-engineering tools, while three-dimensional dynamic visualizations, controlled by the student, help clarify select concepts in traditional courses. Students seem intrigued by the potential for intricate solutions to complicated problems. Many cornerstone senior design projects utilize the software in the Center. Overall, the resources of the Keck Center enhance teaching, learning and scholarship at the School of Engineering.”

MERC Expanding Facilities to Meet Growing Customer Demand

The Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) will undergo a $6 million expansion over the next year in order to meet the growing needs of its clients. MERC purchased land adjacent to its Warner Robins facility in September.

Since its establishment as the research arm for Mercer School of Engineering in 1987, MERC has performed approximately $178 million in research for governmental and industrial clients. MERC’s clients include Lockheed Martin, Raytheon Co., Jacobs Sverdrup, the U. S. Navy and Marine Corps, and Air Force activities including the Ohio-based Air Force Research Laboratory and the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center at nearby Robins Air Force Base.

MERC currently homes its 160 employees in its 52,500-square-foot building. The new facility, which will be attached to the current facility via a breezeway, will add another 53,200 square feet. This will allow MERC to triple the size of its electronics lab and to double the size of its mechanical engineering lab. It will also provide office space for the estimated 60 new employees MERC plans to add within the next three to five years.

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The W.M. Keck Engineering Analysis Center was dedicated in October. From left are Mercer National Engineering Advisory Board Chairman Don LaTorre, Associate Professor of Engineering Loren Sumner, Engineering Dean M. Dayne Aldridge and President R. Kirby Godsey.

Please complete the form, detach and mail to Mercer University.
Mercer may not have fielded a football team in more than 50 years, but a second alumnus is making his mark in the ranks of modern-day football competition. A couple of years ago, alumnus Bill Yost was the subject of a popular movie, “Remember the Titans,” based on his illustrious high school coaching career in Virginia.

Now, a second alum is breaking new ground in the competitive world of football. Phil Jones, BA ’68, is charged with the task of beginning a college football program from scratch at Shorter College in Rome, Ga. Jones certainly has the football credentials for such a monumental task. Most recently, he served as assistant head coach at Gardner-Webb, where he helped the Bulldogs win back-to-back Big South Conference titles. He also served as an assistant coach at Southern Methodist for a year as an assistant. University of Georgia fans remember him as an assistant for Jim Donnan from 1997-2001.

However, Jones made an even bigger impact at the high school level where, at Winder-Barrow, Ga., his teams compiled a record of 81-58-2 and made the state playoffs eight times. While serving as head coach and athletic director at Dooly County from 1980-84, his teams earned an impressive 31-7 record. From 1975-79, he was head coach and athletic director at Fitzgerald High School after assuming his first head coaching job in 1973 at Jeff Davis High in Hazlehurst, Ga.

“The excitement of starting a football program from scratch and seeing your footprints is something you always dream about,” the Thomaston, Ga., native said. “I’ve been able to keep in contact with the coaches in Georgia. You’ve got a tremendous recruiting base in Georgia.”

The Shorter program, to be known as the Hawks, will begin play on the NAIA level in 2005.

“The excitement of starting a football program from scratch and seeing your footprints is something you always dream about.”
– Phil Jones, BA ’68
**Pitcher Leads Canada to World Championship Playoffs**

**By Richard Cameron**

Opponents of last year’s Mercer’s softball team knew the odds of defeating the Bears diminished greatly when junior Katie Rosentreter was on the mound.

The Winnipeg, Manitoba, native led Mercer’s pitching staff in 2004 with 57 appearances, 21 wins, 215 strikeouts and an earned run average of 1.19. Rosentreter also posted impressive offensive numbers as she finished second on the team with 10 home runs. Her .346 batting average, 42 hits, 54 total bases and a slugging percentage of .569 led Mercer’s pitching staff in 2004.

Japanese batters gave up two hits and struck out nine in seven innings against Australia to advance the Canadian squad. She pitched the Canadians to a 1-0 shutout over Australia in their opening game. Rosentreter pitched an outstanding game and threw all seven innings against Australia to advance the Canadian squad. She gave up two hits and struck out nine Australian batters.

The next day, Rosentreter and Team Canada were in action against Japan in the second round of the playoffs. Japan won the elimination game by a score of 3-1.

“Katie is a great ambassador for Canada and for our program here at Mercer.”

**Jones Named Sports Information Director**

Mercer Director of Athletics Bobby Pope has named Randy Jones as the University’s new sports information director and “Voice of the Bears” on radio broadcasts. Jones comes from Lexington, Ky., where he worked with Host Communications. He also worked at Drake University and at the University of Kentucky.

He completed requirements for the media communications major at Ashbury College in Wilmore, Ky., and earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Kentucky.

“I am very excited to be a part of Mercer Athletics. It’s an exciting time for a program that is rich in tradition both on the court and in the classroom,” Jones said. “I appreciate Bobby Pope giving me the opportunity to be a part of the Mercer family. I sincerely believe it is an outstanding opportunity for anyone interested in athletics in general and, specifically, sports information.”

Jones began work on Dec. 6 and broadcasted his first complete game for the men’s basketball team from Ohio State on Dec. 22. Games can be heard live on the Mercer Web site (MercerBears.com) or on Macon radio station WMAC (AM 940). He replaced Joel Lamp, who accepted a position with the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

**Student Wins Mercer Maniac Mobile**

Richard Pipe, a freshman from Palm Harbor, Fla., was the winner of the Mercer Maniac Mobile, given away Oct. 15 during Mercer Madness at the University Center. Starting with a group of 20 students selected at random from the large crowd in attendance, competitors went through four rounds of elimination before Pipe emerged as the winner of the orange Mustang.
Alumnus ‘Renovates’ Reality TV Show Family

D r. David G. Goodchild (CLA ’88) was recently selected by the FOX Broadcasting Company to provide cosmetic dentistry for the reality television show “Renovate My Family.” Hosted by Jay McGraw (son of talk show host and self-help guru Dr. Phil McGraw), “Renovate My Family” bills itself as a life improvement program for families who have encountered daunting obstacles.

While at Mercer, Goodchild majored in sociology and was frequently on the Dean’s List. He was a Mercer ambassador, a Judicial Council Justice and a member of Lambda Chi Alpha, where he served as treasurer and vice-president, was named Most Outstanding Athlete and was recognized for having the highest Big Brother/Little Brother grade point average.

Following his graduation from Mercer, Goodchild attended the University of Georgia School of Law and subsequently spent five years defending doctors in malpractice cases with the firm of Sullivan, Hall, Booth and Smith. In 1996, he shifted his focus to dentistry and enrolled at the Medical College of Georgia. In 1998, Goodchild completed an externship with the oral surgery department at Grady Hospital in Atlanta. He currently resides in Dunwoody, where he has a private cosmetic and family dental practice.

ACHEEEMENTS

1944 J.T. Hogan Jr., Macon, announced his retirement Nov. 17 from the practice of medicine.

1964 Karen Andrew Kennedy King, BA, has accepted a position as director of the Parsons County Museum of History in Buena, N.C.

1972 Robert W. Hauser Jr., BA, Statesboro, has been named executive assistant to the president at Georgia College and State University.

1980 Mary Lynn Blanton Gabbard, BA ‘80 (see 1981)

1981 Angelo R. Hunter, BA, Powder Springs, is an ordained minister and senior chaplain of a fire department with more than 600 volunteers. He has been married to Gloria A. Montgomery for 25 years.

1985 Bill Gabbard, BA, and his wife, Mary Lynn Blanton Gabbard, BA ’80, announce the appointment of their son, Benjamin, to the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

1987 Lester T. Johnston Jr., BA, South Bend, Ind., is pursuing a doctorate in political science at Notre Dame University.

1997 Luther Johnson, BA, South Bend, Ind., is pursuing a doctorate in political science at Georgia State University.

1987 R. Kevin Kennelly, BA, and his wife, Heidi Aleson Kennedy, BS, recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in Greensboro.

1997 William L. Sheppard, BA, and his wife, Anna C. Sheppard, BA, celebrated their 90th wedding anniversary in Greensboro.


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Marriages, Anniversaries & Births

1944 William L. Sheppard, BA, and his wife, Anna C. Sheppard, BA, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Greensboro.

1976 R. Kevin Kennelly, BS, and his wife, Heidi Adelson Kennedy, B.S., recently celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary.

1977 The couple resides in Guntersville, Was., where he is a clinical professor of the Marquette University physician assistant program. Their oldest son, Kyle, is a senior at the University of Minnesota.

1986 Michael E. Vaughn, BA, Roberta, recently married Amy Johnson, EDU 95.

1997 J. Allen Matthews Hill, BA, and his wife, Bob, announce the birth of their son, James Davis, April 23, 2000. They have another son, Robert. The family resides in Atlanta, where Ellen is the director of admissions for The Westminster School.


1993 Elizabeth Fussell Fonner, MSM, BA, Macon, and her husband announce the birth of their daughter, Carly Josephine, on Aug. 25.

1997 Lester T. Johnson, Jr., BA, and his wife, Amy Cowart Johnson, BA ‘98, announce the birth of their son, Lester “Trey” III, July 15. Lester is completing his residency at Orlando Regional Medical Center and has accepted a position with MedLink Georgia. The family resides in Orlando, Fla.

1998 Ryan H. Dodd, BA, JD ’04, Macon, announced his appointment as director of marketing for Morro Bay Realty’s Cayucos office after one year.

2000 Matthew S. Younce, BS, was hired by the Department of Geological at the University of Southern Mississippi as an instructor for summer semester 2003. In June, Younce was certified in Mississippi as a geologist in training.

2001 Ryan H. Dodd, BA, JD ’04, Macon, was selected in summer 2004 for active duty service in the Staff Judge Advocate General Corps.

2002 Jessica Felmeier, BA, Oslo, Norway, received her master’s degree in foreign languages and literatures from Washington State University.

2005 Emily Bradfute Mantere, BA, and her husband, Jerald Mantere, were married June 2001 in Columbus, Ga. The couple resides in Macon, where Emily is attending the Walter E. Greene College of Law.

U N I V E R S I T Y 
N E W S 
B R I E F S

Mercer Athletics

Treat your Valentine to a ticket to the 20th Annual Mercer University Big Dance, sponsored by Riverside Ford. This year’s Big Dance, featuring The Tams—The Drifters and The Grassmen, will be held Saturday, Feb. 12, 2005, at the Macon Centreplex. Doors open at 6 p.m.; music begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tables of eight are $100; individual tickets are $25. All proceeds benefit the Mercer Athletic Department. Call (478) 301-2733 or e-mail camerons@mercer.edu for details and reservations.

McAfee School of Theology

Lilly Endowment Inc. of Indianapolis, through its “Making Connections Initiative” program, has awarded a grant to Mercer’s McAfee School of Theology. The grant of nearly $2 million will allow McAfee to work with congregations in the Southeast to establish approximately 30 two-year residencies for graduates who are preparing to be pastors. The program, which starts in June, will benefit churches as well as McAfee graduates while they work with experienced pastors as they transition from the classroom to the field.

McAfee will also work with the Care and Counseling Center of Atlanta, the Pantanal Institute in Columbus and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia to train as many as 15 ministry coaches to work with McAfee alumni, other ministers and their churches.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Arthur Salido, assistant professor of chemistry in Mercer’s College of Liberal Arts, was recently awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation’s “Graduate, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement” program. Titled “$102,000,” the grant will purchase an Inductively-Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometry (ICP-OES), a cutting-edge instrument used in determining metals in samples and investigating air and water contamination. The ICP-OES will be used by the Chemistry Department and the Environmental Science and Environmental Engineering departments at Mercer. The Chemistry Department will also invite groups of local high school science students to work with it.

Southern School of Pharmacy

Mercer’s Southern School of Pharmacy took top honors at the National Community Pharmacist Association’s (NCPA) 2004 annual convention in Boston, Mass. The student NCPA chapter won the first Peanut Schute Student Business Plan Competition, aimed at motivating pharmacy students to develop a business plan for opening a new community pharmacy or for purchasing an existing one. A four-person team from Mercer’s student NCPA chapter developed a 60-page plan for a new community pharmacy. As one of the three finalists, the students presented their business plans to five judges acting as a bank board approving a loan request. They also presented their proposal in front of an audience of about 100 people attending the national convention.

Walter E. George School of Law

Mercer Law School graduates represented their alma mater well when 94.2 percent passed the July 2004 bar exam on their first attempt. This outstanding performance was the best among all the Georgia law schools, and it was sig- nificantly better than the national overall pass rate of 87.4 percent.
SSBE CLASS NOTES

Achievements

2004
Gennifer Sacco, BBA, Atlanta, has moved to Milan to pursue a master's degree at the European School of Economics.

MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS

2000
April V. Schwartz, BBA, and her husband, Jesse, Orlando, Fla., announce the birth of their third son, Hunter, on Feb. 23. They have two other sons, Spencer, II, and Harrison, 5.

1993

1999
Robert D. Wallace, MBA, and his wife, Staci, Marietta, announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Isabella Journey, March 11.

2001
Anna V. Broune Davis, BBA, married Chad Davis. BSE '96, on Dec. 20, 2003. The couple resides in Macon, where Anna is a senior administrative assistant for the Religious Life Center at Mercer.

2002
Beverly Jones White, MSHA and her husband, Dr. Alonzo T. White, Atlanta, announce the birth of their son, Alonzo Thomas.

Class Notes

2004

IN SYMPATHY

1946
Beverlee R. Kendrick, Riverdale, died Aug. 29.

1953
Miriam M. Brewer, Ab, Wasilla, Ak., died Aug. 15.

1954
Patrick V. Chambliss Jr., Ab, Sebring, Fla., died Sept. 3.

1965

1966

1967
T. Leon Skinner, Gainesville, died Feb. 27.

1968
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

1969
Howard C. Derrick Jr., Milledgeville, died June 19.

1970
Michael M. Veal, Ringgold, died Oct. 30.

1980
Alonzo T. White, Macon, died Aug. 5.

1981
Robert E. Graham, Macon, died Aug. 17.

1984
Michael M. Dempsey, Macon, died Dec. 30.

1985
Ronald Eugene Sawyer, Macon, died July 9.

1986
The Rev. Joseph Bell, Macon, died July 4.

1987
Wallace M. Dorn III, Ab, Martinez, died July 24.

1988
Shirley S. Collier, Dacula, died Oct. 30.

1989
Gerald A. Lewis, Atlanta, died Aug. 5.

1990
The Rev. Lester E. Pritchett, Jonesboro, died Jan. 6.

1991

1992
Ronald S. Blank, Ab, Texarkana, Ark., died Aug. 15.

1993
Billie S. Allen, Macon, died Aug. 15.

1994
Dorothy H. Feagin, Macon, died Aug. 15.

1995
Virginia H. Cadden, Macon, died Aug. 15.

1996
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001
C. Leroy Little Jr., Trumle, died June 17.

2002
The Rev. Joe B. Good, Ba, Huntsville, Tenn., died June 24.

2003
The Rev. Lester E. Pritchett, Jonesboro, died Jan. 6.

2004
The Rev. E. Willard Baxter Jr., Ba, Gainesville, died June 28.

2005

2006

2007
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2008

2009
David E. Casey, Ba, of Marietta, Ga., died Sept. 19.

2010
Dexter, Ga., died Nov. 9.

2011
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2012
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2013
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2014
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2015
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2016
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2017
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2018
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2019
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2020
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2021
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2022
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2023
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2024
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2025
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2028
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2032
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2033
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

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D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2039
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2040
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2041
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2042
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2043
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.

2044
D. Ashley Lanier, Macon, died July 6.
**ACHIEVEMENTS**

2004

April D. Thompson, BSE, Valdosta, is pursuing a master’s degree in electrical engineering at Michigan State University.

**MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS**

1995

Kristina P. Wenger, BSE, and her husband, Tony, announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail Nicole, June 26. Kristina graduated from UAMS Medical School in May 2000, completed residency and now practices in Paragould, Ark.

2000

Chad Davis, BSE, married Anna Broom Davis, BBA ’91, on Dec. 20, 2003. The couple resides in Macon, where Chad is an electronics engineer at Warner Robbins Air Force Base, and Anna is a senior administrative assistant for the Religious Life Center at Mercer.

**TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

1987

J. Ellen Matthews Hill, BA, and her husband, Rob Hill, BA ’87, Atlanta, announce the birth of their son, James Datus, on April 23, 2010. They have another son, Robert.

1995

Amy Johnson Vaughn, BA, Roberta, recently married Michael E. Vaughn, BA ’86.

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**Applying Mercer MBA Studies to Career Brings Success to Reynolds**

When 33-year-old Jamie Reynolds enrolled in Mercer’s MBA program in Atlanta, he never suspected it would lead to a new title and a six-figure salary even before he earned his degree. In November, he wrote Dr. Frank Ghannadian, associate dean for International Finance, “What I learned in the International Finance course was helpful when Wal-Mart Canada asked us to lock in on an exchange rate helpful when Wal-Mart Canada asked us to lock in on an exchange rate.”

Reynolds enrolled in Reynolds’s MBA school you graduate from, but how you use that education on your job.

“I chose Mercer because of all the finance electives that are offered. It has paid off because I have been building financial pro forms [financial statements] similar to the structure we were taught in [Dr. Jim Weisel’s] Managerial Accounting class. Our VP will not let Marketing make a decision on new products or product transitions without seeing an IFO pro forma from me.

“A few months back, one of our major customers put one of our product lines up for an online bid process. I created a model very similar to the ‘Sabatical Marine’ case in Weisel’s class using Solver in Excel to predict what our Contribution and Profit Margins would be with various bids. This model also included the impact to other customers and channels of business that would have to experience pricing adjustments based on our bid.

“Several VPs and even the president of the division were invited to see this model. To make a long story short, we were able to retain this business, and I offered a promotion. A couple months later, many leaders of our company knew my name and were familiar with my analyses of various strategic business decisions. So, I was offered a position supporting our company’s trade strategy through advanced analytics, beating out an Ivy League MBA and a 6-sigma black belt.

“Today, I am moving into that position (three doors down from the president) and will be making a six-figure salary for the first time! Please feel free to pass this on to other students or faculty to help other students understand the importance of ‘learning and applying the material’ as opposed to just concentrating on receiving an ‘A’. Thanks.”

Reynolds’s new position is manager — Trade Analysis. He and a co-worker are responsible for providing the president of the division with advanced analytics surrounding strategic pricing decisions of a multi-billion dollar division and management of a $900 million Trade Marketing budget.

A graduate of Radford University in Va., he holds a MBA degree in Operations Management. Most of his career experience has been as a business analyst in many different functions, such as accounting, finance, inventory management, quality control, and sales and marketing support.

He and his wife, Jennifer, have a 4-year-old daughter, Madelyn, and live in McDonough, Ga. “It is tough going to school while working and balancing a family life,” said Reynolds, who has three more courses before earning his MBA degree this spring. “But I have been blessed with a wonderful and very supportive wife.”

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**Mercury University Miniatures Through Alumni Services**

Mercury University Miniatures are reproductions from original sculptures created by Ridgewood Collectables for Mercer University. Each piece is cast using marble and porcelain powder mixed with resin and is hand painted under careful quality and artistic standards. These limited edition productions are available only while supplies last.

Sizes:

- A. Mercer Administration Building: 7 1/4” x 5 1/2” x 8”
- B. Jesse Mercer Plaza: 6” diameter x 5 1/2”
- C. Mercer Christmas Ornament: 4” diameter
- D. Tift College Arch: 7 3/4” x 1 3/4” x 6”
- E. Mercer School of Law: 11” x 7 1/2” x 6”

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City State Zip

Phone

County in which vehicle is registered

Visa □ Mastercard □ American Express Card 

Expiration date 

Signature 

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**Mercury University Miniatures Through Alumni Services**

Name

Address

City State Zip

E-mail

Daytime phone (_______) E-mail

Please indicate your selections (costs include all sales tax and insured shipping and handling): □ A. Mercer Administration Building — $55 No. of items ___________ @ $55 =

□ B. Jesse Mercer Plaza — $20 No. of items ___________ @ $20 =

□ C. Mercer Christmas Ornament — $12 No. of items ___________ @ $12 =

□ D. Tift College Archs — $28 No. of items ___________ @ $28 =

□ E. Mercer School of Law — $55 No. of items ___________ @ $55 =

TOTAL ___________________________

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□ Visa □ Mastercard □ American Express

Card 4 __________________________

**Expiration date ___________**

Signature __________________________

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No? Well, why not?

This secure service is provided at no cost to you by the Mercer Alumni Association!

You can...
- search for other alumni
- update your record
- receive a permanent e-mail address
- post and read class notes
- receive e-mail about your Alma Mater

How to Access the Online Community

Visit www.mercer.edu, click on the Alumni Menu and choose the Directory link. This link takes you to the Alumni Online Community. There you can register by using your unique Mercer Alumni Identification Number. The six-digit number that you need to register for the online community is the last six digits of your Alumni Identification Number, located on the top of the address label on the back of this publication.

If you have any problems accessing or registering in the Alumni Online Directory, call Kristi Dobbins at 1-800-837-2911, ext. 2189 or dobbins_kl@mercer.edu.
IN THE MERCERIAN
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Alumni Services would like to keep your classmates up to date on your latest news. If you’ve recently moved or are planning to relocate, please send in this form so we can keep our records current. We also want to know if you have recently married, had a baby, received a promotion, retired or accomplished something else noteworthy.
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Name ____________________________________________________
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Degree ____________________________________________________
Fraternity/Sorority ____________________________________________
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Home Phone ( _____ ) ... Name _______________________________________
Title ______________________________________________________

Business Address _____________________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________________________
Business Phone ( _____ ) ______________________________________
E-mail _____________________________________________________

Please list any family members who are Mercer alumni.
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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