

WAKEFOREST

MAGAZINE

SPRING 2025

Human Connection

caring

WF

STARS

URECA

THE
MENTORING
ISSUE

Curiosity

VISION

COREFour

ThinkPads

38

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?*By Kerry M. King ('85)*

Mentoring relationships at Wake Forest can coalesce for the long haul.



2

GETTING HERE*By Katherine Laws Waters ('20)*

Everyone surely can remember an important mentor who offered guidance about careers or life. We wanted to know about Wake Forest leaders' mentoring memories, so we asked.



14

TURNING THE TABLES ON TEACHING*By Kelly Greene ('91)*

In the internet's early days, when professors needed to get up to speed on computers, and do it fast, student mentors saved the day — with funding from a secret billionaire.



32

GENERATION WE*By Maria Henson ('82)*

A collaboration between an older alum and a younger alum provided lessons for both and a treasured, recorded conversation for history's sake.



46

IS MENTORING PASSÉ IN A SEMIVIRTUAL WORLD?*By Andy Chan*

Vice President Andy Chan, who oversees the University's career development office, makes the case for the value of mentorship amid rapid changes in work and study settings.



48

FIND A MENTOR. BE A MENTOR.*By Maria Henson ('82)*

With expertise from mentoring go-to Allison McWilliams ('95), we offer a guide highlighting a sample of myriad resources for mentoring on campus — and beyond.



72

CONSTANT & TRUE*By Roscoe Bell III ('23)*

A Wake Forest Fellow reflects on the life lessons he learned at the piano while studying with his mentor, Assistant Professor of Music Larry Weng.

DEPARTMENTS

52 Around the Quad

55 Philanthropy

56 Class Notes

WAKEFOREST

MAGAZINE

2019 ROBERT SIBLEY
MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

SPRING 2025 | VOLUME 72 | NUMBER 2

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR-AT-LARGE
Maria Henson ('82)

MANAGING EDITOR
Kelly Greene ('91)

SENIOR EDITOR
Kerry M. King ('85)

DEPUTY EDITOR
Katherine Laws Waters ('20)

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Hayes Henderson

DESIGNER
Julie Helsabeck

PHOTOGRAPHER
Lyndsie Schlink

PRINTING
The Lane Press, Inc.

Wake Forest University Magazine (ISSN 0279-3946) is published three times a year in the Spring, Summer and Fall by Wake Forest University, P.O. Box 7227, Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7227. It is sent to alumni, donors and friends of the University. The magazine is part of University Advancement, led by Senior Vice President Mark A. Petersen.

magazine@wfu.edu
magazine.wfu.edu
facebook.com/wakeforestmagazine
instagram.com/wakeforestmagazine

Send address changes or cancellation requests to:
Wake Forest Magazine Alumni Records
1834 Wake Forest Road
P.O. Box 7227
Winston-Salem, NC 27109
alumrec@wfu.edu
1.800.752.8568

© 2025

Class years: Alumni have years of graduation in parentheses. A "P" indicates a parent of a graduate.

ON THE COVER

Illustration by Noah Woods

FROM *The* PRESIDENT

DR. MAYA ANGELOU'S (L.H.D. '77) words can always be counted on to enlighten us with wisdom and simple truths. She once said, "In order to be a mentor, and an effective one, one must care."

When we each think of our life's greatest mentors, their words and their actions, the moments in which they guided us and the times that they let us find our own way, make it clear that they cared. They cared how we were doing. They cared about our plans. They cared about us in the fullness of our own humanity,

as much as they cared about our academic and professional success.

As a first-year college student, I sat across from an academic adviser who looked at my declared major and my first semester schedule and then asked me to think bigger about my future. Because she

took the time to ask, because she encouraged me to keep my options open rather than rubber-stamping the schedule and shuffling me out the door, I pushed myself harder and discovered a small biochemistry program with fewer than 30 students and personalized mentorship by faculty. Because she cared to ask, I found both my passion for science and for higher education.

Across my many conversations with our students and alumni, I hear again and again of the importance of the personal care and connection with faculty and advisers that are hallmarks of Wake Forest's identity. It surprises some, then, when I remind them that Wake Forest is not small in size, nor in stature or impact nationally and internationally as a comprehensive university. What we are is relational. We view our students as whole people and ensure they are known and seen as individuals throughout their educational experiences.

Wake Forest has and will continue to lead in our commitment to close mentorship and support, coupled with our deeply rooted ethic of care that makes it possible for all students at Wake Forest to reach their fullest potential.

In this issue, you will find stories of the close collaboration and connections that are vital to Wake Forest's relational culture. Vice President Andy Chan offers his perspective on the need for person-to-person mentoring in the digital age, and there is even a great story on a few students who flipped the script on mentoring and helped our faculty transition in the tech boom at the turn of the millennium. I hope you will enjoy reading about the mentoring relationships that are the core of what makes Wake Forest so distinctive, and what makes our time together as members of this community truly transformative.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Wentz, Ph.D.







GETTING HERE

The title 'GETTING HERE' is rendered in large, bold, textured letters. 'GETTING' is in teal and 'HERE' is in red. The letters are scattered across the page with various forest-themed illustrations: a red mushroom with a yellow stem near the first 'G', yellow grass blades near the 'E' and 'N', and another red mushroom with a yellow stem near the 'H'. Small blue dots are scattered throughout the background.

Everyone surely
can remember an
important mentor who offered
guidance about careers or life.
We wanted to know about
Wake Forest leaders'
mentoring memories,
so we asked.

BY KATHERINE LAWS WATERS ('20)
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOE ANDERSON

AS A RECENT ALUMNA, I look up to our many leaders on campus, awed by their accomplishments and their impact on the University. Anyone would be curious about how these leaders moved from being students themselves to careers helping current students create their own paths.

I spent my first year after graduation working as a Wake Forest Fellow in the Office of Personal & Career Development, which included the opportunity to co-author a book, "Year One: How Young Professionals (And Their Managers) Can Thrive in Their First Job After College," with Allison McWilliams ('95), who was assigned as my mentor during the fellowship and remains one today. I listened to campus and community leaders share their wisdom with our fellows group during a series of "lunch and learns." My experiences that year gave me a love for mentoring stories. I could not help but feel energized to pursue my own mentoring relationships after hearing how mentors, formal and informal, work their magic.

For this issue's focus on mentoring, I sought out more of those stories from our deans and the provost. What were their special memories of how mentors guided them? Their experiences seemed more numerous than they could recount.

"It almost takes a village of mentors," said Dean of the School of Business Annette Ranft.

Here, in excerpts from my conversations with campus leaders, the mentoring stories illuminate a moment or a lesson — a stepping stone on a path. As I learned as a Fellow, careers are built, after all, one stepping stone at a time.

Excerpts have been edited for clarity and brevity.

-Katherine Laws Waters ('20), Wake Forest Magazine deputy editor

**HERE,
IN EXCERPTS
FROM MY
CONVERSATIONS
WITH CAMPUS
LEADERS, THE
MENTORING STORIES
ILLUMINATE
A MOMENT
OR A LESSON —
A STEPPING STONE
ON A PATH.**

Gillespie met Professor of History Jim Barefield when she interviewed at Wake Forest in 1999, and he became a "dear mentor" and close friend as he shared the wisdom he had collected since arriving in Winston-Salem in 1963. They talked in their Tribble Hall offices or, most often, over iced tea on the back porch of Barefield's home near campus, discussing "ways to ignite students' imaginations around the past in all its complexity," Gillespie says. Barefield, who is now professor emeritus of history and a recipient of the Medallion of Merit, the University's highest honor, was famous for teaching about the comic view and irony. "I love irony," Gillespie says, "and I also think humor is really, really important in what you do." Always "a teacher-scholar at heart," Gillespie says Barefield's lessons continue to guide her in her role as provost.



MICHELE GILLESPIE

**PROVOST AND
PRESIDENTIAL
ENDOWED PROFESSOR
OF SOUTHERN
HISTORY**

One of the things he always reminded me is (that) what happens at a university boils down to a relationship between a faculty member and a student. ... And really, he will tell you, all you need, at the end of the day, is a log for the two of you to sit (on) and to talk about the ideas, answering questions together and thinking together in sort of exciting, powerful ways in a mentoring relationship. ... What separates a university from all other institutions that support people is that relationship at the heart of it.

...

The other thing that Jim shared with me as we talked about the challenges of juggling courses, the challenges of juggling the politics of a department or the politics of a college or the politics of a university: At the end of the day, what always carries you through is to do the work. To dig in, to learn, to study, to ask questions. ... And in the very act of doing the work and being in relationship with my students and my colleagues, and seeing the good that we can do, I come through whatever these larger challenges are.

...

He has so many students who are alums who look back and know and can tell me what a transformative role he had in their lives, in their formation as full human beings who embrace humanist values and go out and make a difference in the world. ... That's what I hoped to do as a faculty member. ... I want to empower all faculty to have that same kind of influence and that same kind of touch.

JACKIE KRASAS



**DEAN OF THE COLLEGE
AND THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
AND PROFESSOR OF
WOMEN'S, GENDER,
AND SEXUALITY STUDIES**

As director of the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program at Lehigh University, Krasas helped organize regular gatherings of faculty members from many different fields of study to talk, often over appetizers. The idea was to create an outlet for interdisciplinary mentoring among peers in an informal environment, where Krasas has found "some of the most collectively influential mentoring" for herself. While she has had several mentors at more senior levels, Krasas emphasized the importance of mentoring among those on the same level of an organizational chart.

This informal, cross-disciplinary, multiacademic, generational approach was great because it really felt nonthreatening, an open space where the informal nature of it was really, I think, one of the reasons people just kept coming back. We felt we could raise anything with each other.

...

People would rotate in and rotate out, and it just was a very nice positive thing, even if what we were talking about was very difficult. It was just a place where people felt (like), "I'm outside of my normal setting." We've got this vast repository of experiences.

And nobody has anything to gain from that conversation. ... We're here to sort of help talk you through and let you gain from our experience here or elsewhere.

...

(I think about) all of those — they're so numerous, I can't count them — but all of those moments of popping into someone's office and saying, "Can I sit down and have you walk me through this?" Or having someone text me an "SOS! I need to talk through this with someone and get some advice." ... The formal programs are really important, but sometimes I think we sort of stop there. ... Learning happens everywhere, not just in the classroom. So, mentoring happens everywhere.



CHARLES

DEAN OF
THE SCHOOL OF
PROFESSIONAL
STUDIES AND
VICE PROVOST
FOR CHARLOTTE
PROGRAMS



IACOVOU

Iacovou reflected as far back as possible to think of an early moment of mentoring, and he thought of his mother and his grandmother teaching him a formative lesson that became part of his value system — a lesson that informs the way he leads the School of Professional Studies.

I landed on an early lesson that I learned from my grandmother and my mom, actually. I'm Greek; I come from Cyprus. My mom was a teacher. We lived in a part of the world where many cultures come together, and there are always dynamics when many cultures come together. There's in-group, out-group dynamics and human biases coming into play and all of that.

And I remember early on as a kid, my grandma was sitting there, and she was teaching me that I have to treat everybody with respect. It doesn't matter what their color is, their

experiences, how tall, what their size was, it didn't matter. And whatever I have been picking up from other kids was not going to be an acceptable set of behaviors going forward.

And that was really reinforced, very honored by my mom, always taking us to homes of people who are different from us to be respectful in sharing what we had with them, but doing it in their home, where they felt comfortable. So early on I learned the value of being inclusive, of treating people always with the same respect, no matter what their journeys may have been.

...

(At the School of Professional Studies) a commitment to ensure that human dignity and respect is a core value in what we do. And I feel very privileged to be among a great team of colleagues who share that commitment. ...

The School of Professional Studies offers graduate degree and non-degree programs to working professionals across a wide range of studies, from health innovation to analytics and counseling, to name a few. In October, Iacovou shared that, of the approximately 500 students at SPS, the majority are women, and more than half come from marginalized communities.

I think part of all of that is the intentional commitment that ... the University has in ensuring that there's going to be a home to a broader community of learners. They're all working professionals — adults — so they differ in a number of ways, but this is a way of extending what we do at Wake Forest and doing it so well into a broader part of our community that surrounds us.

As a doctoral student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ranft was intimidated by her first seminar professor. He was Carl Zeithaml, then-interim dean of the business school and a specialist in the strategic management field – “really renowned, very thoughtful, purposeful, challenged your thinking,” Ranft says.

“I was terrified of him,” Ranft says, “absolutely terrified.” Yet, he became one of the mentors who set her on a path to deanship and someone she still calls for advice. Ranft shared the surprising moment that became a turning point for her relationship with Zeithaml and for her career.

I was with my cohort. ... There were three of us that were sharing an office. We had a bookshelf (where) one of the shelves had collapsed, and everything was tumbling down. One individual in our office was just complaining about it. ... The other individual in our office had taken all of her stuff off the shelf and put it in another place to work. And Carl happened to be walking down the hall when I said, “Let’s just fix the shelf.” I pulled it up and stuck the little brace back in and fixed the shelf.

Well, this imposing man that I was terrified of stuck his head in our office and said, “That’s why you’re going to be a dean, and they’re going to be scholars.”

And I was really offended by it because I was there to learn to be a teacher-scholar. And in that moment, I thought, “Oh no, that really hurts my feelings.” Well, guess what? Twenty years later, I’m a dean. ...

His observation of behavior and his intentionality about saying something about it made me think about the possibility of doing something different. What were my strengths that I could bring to a scholarly community? Yes, I can do great scholarship, and I love teaching, but maybe there’s a problem-solving bone in me that could be helpful in another capacity. So that was a seed that was planted.

Ranft would ask Zeithaml to be her Ph.D. adviser; Ranft’s dissertation won a national award. “He was so kind in that moment and so touched by just the appreciation of the work that we had done together,” Ranft says.



ANNETTE L. RANFT

DEAN OF
THE SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS
AND PROFESSOR
OF STRATEGIC
MANAGEMENT

DR. EBONY BOULWARE

While working as a professor, division chief and then a vice dean at her alma mater, Duke University School of Medicine, Boulware worked with a dean, Dr. Nancy Andrews, who she says was both a mentor and a sponsor for her. Mentors help you develop your skill set, and sponsors "identify you and say, 'Hey, here's an opportunity I think could be good for you.' And they put your name out there; they get you known; they get you seen," she says. Andrews also gave Boulware a close view of a dean's work, which helped Boulware see a path to become a dean herself.

(Andrews) was really wonderful. She was important in helping recruit me there and supporting me. But then she also identified other leadership opportunities beyond those that I was recruited for and saw that I would have potential for these roles. And that really was critically influential to me because she kind of took me under her wing and said, "Hey, I'm going to help you identify some opportunities." And she's done that for a number of different people. You can see people's careers have just really (expanded) under her mentorship and sponsorship, because that's something that she's devoted herself to.

...

**DEAN OF
THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
AND CHIEF SCIENCE
OFFICER AND
VICE CHIEF
ACADEMIC OFFICER
OF ADVOCATE HEALTH**



I think once I saw what a dean did, ... I developed an understanding and realized I could do it. ... I think seeing your mentor in action is very powerful. You can see what they're doing, and you kind of model yourself after those people, and that's another way that they help you. It's not just through the advice. They're role modeling it for you.

...

Without mentorship, I wouldn't have learned about how to get involved in research or how to study, what kind of skill set I needed, all of that — because not everything that you do in your career is prescribed. A lot of it is experience or apprenticeship. ... There gets to be a point where you've done all the formal training, but there's still more you need to learn to get to the path. And that's where mentoring becomes really important.



TIM PYATT

DEAN OF
Z. SMITH REYNOLDS
LIBRARY

In graduate school, Pyatt studied a book called "Modern Manuscripts," replete with worn pages and dozens of Post-It notes sticking out from the edges. It remains on Pyatt's bookshelf. The book's author was Ken Duckett, curator of special collections at the University of Oregon at the time and, as Pyatt says, the "guru" of the field. As luck would have it, Duckett hired Pyatt for his first job as a newly minted librarian and was, Pyatt says, "the most colorful person I ever worked for." They had coffee together most afternoons at the Kinko's copy center in Eugene, Oregon, which had a small outdoor cafe. And, surprisingly, "the best coffee in town."

This was the guy who I felt like I had studied and talked about in class, and now he's my boss. He's a World War II veteran ... kind of gruff, had a big (Army) tattoo on his arm, but just the nicest person. ... (He) saw me as this blank canvas that he needed to really help fill in the gaps of my knowledge to help me progress in the field.

He was just such a generous person. We would have coffee together almost every afternoon. He was a storyteller, and he would tell me a story from something he'd done in his career. ... I almost felt like those were my little master classes, having the coffees with him. I used to really look forward to that: "What am I going to learn today from Ken?"

One of the real interesting things about him was, in the '60s, when he was curator at the Ohio Historical Society, they had part of the papers of former President Warren Harding. (There were) these love letters with (Harding's) mistress there, and the family wanted them destroyed, and Ken refused to destroy them. ... He secretly bought a microfilm camera — this is obviously before photocopyers — and micro-filmed all the letters so that if they got destroyed, there would be a copy there. He sent copies to people he knew around the country so that they couldn't get destroyed. ...

The Harding family sued (Ken Duckett) for a million dollars for doing this, and ... the governor fired him from his job. So here's this guy, in his early 40s at that time with a young family. But American Heritage magazine took on his cause. ... They basically supported him for the legal fees to get the story. ...

Duckett's quest prevailed. A compromise meant that the family agreed not to destroy the letters under the condition that the Library of Congress keep them private until 2014. Duckett died just a week before the letters became public.

I wrote up a case study about this because ... Ken always talked about doing the right thing, even when it's hard, and really taking the strong ethical stance. ... So I feel like (this is) my tie back to his book now. Students are using my story about Ken in their classes.



In the early part of his career, Walker worked in financial services. A key mentor in steering his switch to academia was his wife, Carthene R. Bazemore-Walker (P '25), now an associate teaching professor of chemistry at Wake Forest. "That relationship for 30 years now has been central to my intellectual identity," Walker says. "It's been a mentoring marriage." And now, he says, the relationship "goes both ways" as they constantly learn from one another. Early on, though, Bazemore-Walker would give Walker feedback on his writing during graduate school, sometimes sending back his papers marked up in red pen. "She was a model for me for how to become an intellectual and how to become a scholar and a researcher and a professor," Walker says.

Walker pointed to a pivotal moment for his career shift when his wife worked on her doctorate at the University of Virginia.

She began to introduce me to a group of graduate students and graduate-student life that I've just never seen and never experienced. Here are all these African American graduate students, and we go to gatherings with them, and everyone's talking about their work and ideas. ... I'm in this sort of bifurcated world. I'm going to work every day, but yet I have this rich intellectual community. ... I see these folks all happy, and their freedom of just engaging the life of the mind. And so, eventually, I wanted to join them. ...

And the person who gave me the courage and the support to then embark on a career in the academy was none other than Carthene Rolanda Bazemore-Walker. If I didn't have that support, and if she didn't build that courage in me, ... I would still have kept with the safety of what I knew. I knew financial services. I knew the business world. I was successful at it. In this (academic) world, I would risk that. I would start over, and I would have to prove myself again.

Mentoring at its best facilitates a risk taking, because mentors can see something in you that you can't see yourself. ... She built that courage for me to take that step. "Yes, you can go to graduate school." ...

It just opened up a whole new world. I mean, I can't imagine my life otherwise.

COREY D.B. WALKER (P '25)

**DEAN OF
THE SCHOOL
OF DIVINITY,
WAKE FOREST PROFESSOR
OF THE HUMANITIES,
DIRECTOR OF
THE PROGRAM IN
AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**



Klein met Jerry Bepko, then chancellor of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), when he first arrived as a faculty member at Indiana University's McKinney School of Law. Besides being law professors, they both were from Chicago and, according to Klein, "rabid Cubs fans." Later, when Bepko returned to the law school to teach classes and Klein was dean of the law school, Bepko became Klein's "oracle of wisdom," always with an open door for a conversation. Bepko and Klein became especially close while co-teaching a course called "Leadership and Law" in the late 2010s. Bepko died in 2023. In a remembrance about Bepko, Klein wrote of the course: "I was as much Jerry's student as I was an instructor."



ANDREW KLEIN

DEAN
OF THE
SCHOOL OF LAW
AND PROFESSOR
OF LAW

(Bepko) described himself as a servant leader. ... Everyone uses that term today, right? You hear that term thrown around all the time. People don't think about it.

But he did. So he was influenced by an individual named Robert Greenleaf (who wrote about servant leadership in the 1970s and founded the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership). ... But when you read this stuff, and what Jerry taught me — taught the students — is that the real essence of being a servant leader is to measure your success not by what you accomplish but by what the people you lead accomplish. And that's really what a servant leader does. So it doesn't matter what I did. What's cool to me is what someone that I had the opportunity to lead accomplishes. And that's how a servant leader should view themselves.

And so that sticks with me all the time. So at the law school, you'll ask people about me, and they'll say I'm about the students because I'm going to view my success here by what the students do. And my staff, too. One of the things I'm really proud of is that the first two people who were my vice deans (in Indianapolis), they're now deans in their own schools, too.

HIGH TECHNOLOGY HIGH PERFORMANCE



m/logo_banner

/home><img
tton.jpg>
/page2><im
tton.jpg>

</ht>

about us...



Wake Forest June 1999

color:b
<center>

TURNING THE 2318AT ON TEACHING

In the internet's early days, when professors
needed to get up to speed on computers,
and do it fast, student mentors saved the day —
with funding from a secretive billionaire.

BY KELLY GREENE ('91)
ILLUSTRATIONS BY VALERIE CHIANG

IN THE JJA7 OF 1996,

On the previous page: Back in 1996, then-President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. (L.H.D. '04), left, called Wake Forest's tech push "unexplored territory for most universities." **Above:** Rick Matthews, a physics professor, works with students using ThinkPads in a lab.

Rick Matthews photo by Ken Bennett

back when email, websites and "getting wired" were new ideas, Wake Forest issued a laptop to every incoming freshman. Handing IBM ThinkPads to about 950 first-year students was part of a bold, visionary plan to personalize learning and send technologically savvy graduates into the world.

But what no one fully realized was just how much help some professors would need to do their part in advancing that vision.

Take Patricia Dixon, a music instructor internationally acclaimed as a classical guitarist and expert on the music of protest movements. She had been teaching at Wake Forest for nearly two decades when she was asked to integrate technology into her teaching.

"I was desperate," recalls Dixon, now retired. "We were musicians and teachers. What did we know about computers?"

Other faculty members were digging in their heels. "If we're going to teach Aristotle, what does that have to do with computers?" argued Bob Brehme (P '82), a longtime physics

professor, now deceased, in a 1995 article in the local newspaper, the Winston-Salem Journal.

Recognizing the widespread need to win over reluctant faculty members and provide tech support to many others, University leaders scrambled to create a technology “acceleration” plan to support the broader “Plan for the Class of 2000.”

This is the mentoring story that, for the most part, hasn’t been told: How a motley, ingenious band of students deemed “Student Technology Advisors,” or STARS, taught their teachers to use computers in the classroom as the new millennium dawned. Through their under-the-radar contributions, the students helped Wake Forest win national accolades — most notably the No. 1 ranking in “America’s 100 Most Wired

Colleges” for liberal arts institutions in Yahoo!’s 1999 survey.

And it couldn’t have happened without funding from a secretive billionaire. His identity remained a mystery to many STARS until only a few years ago. Their manager, Nancy Crouch (MAEd ’90, P ’09), recalls that at the program’s start, “the students would ask me who it was, and I didn’t even know.”

Revealed at last

That changed in 2023, when the benefactor died. The students, now alumni in their 40s, learned through social media tributes that philanthropist Charles Feeney, who died at age 92, had provided their backing. Feeney co-founded luxury retailer Duty Free Shoppers, later selling it to LVMH and



Nancy Crouch
(MAEd '90, P '09),
the STARS program's
first director

starting The Atlantic Philanthropies that over 37 years would give away more than \$8 billion of Feeney's fortune.

The first of his Irish American family to go to college, Feeney believed that you should "use your wealth to help people." Spurning the trappings of wealth in later life, he rented a two-bedroom apartment, flew coach and used a shopping bag instead of a briefcase. His name appeared on none of the 1,000 buildings his foundation funded with \$2.7 billion, according to The New York Times, leaving the prestige of naming rights for other donors.

Feeney won praise from billionaire Bill Gates for being "the ultimate example of giving while living." To investor extraordinaire Warren Buffett, Feeney "should be everybody's hero."

Feeney's operation first connected with the University through parents of Wake Forest students in New York City

Secretive billionaire Charles Feeney (top) funded STARS through his Atlantic Philanthropies. Joseph Volpe ('99) helped Professor Ralph Tower incorporate technology into his tax courses (middle). Amanda Epstein Musson ('00) helped Patricia Dixon, an internationally acclaimed guitarist and music instructor, get comfortable using a computer (bottom).

who hosted a capital campaign event in the early 1990s, recalls Robert D. Mills ('71, MBA '80, P '04), a retired associate vice president of University Advancement. The parents encouraged him to invite Raymond Handlan, president of what was then called Atlantic Philanthropic Service; Mills followed up with Handlan to talk more about Wake Forest's embrace of technology across all academic departments.

By 1995, Atlantic — which was starting to support technology initiatives in higher education — had invited Wake Forest to apply for funding, according to University correspondence.

In October 1996, just a few months after first-year students received their own laptops, the University submitted a proposal to Atlantic asking for \$1.2 million toward a four-year "Acceleration Plan in the Use of Information Technology." Wake Forest would "enable the most talented and knowledgeable students to become coaches and consultants to faculty," the proposal said.

"This is unexplored territory for most universities," then-President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. (L.H.D. '04) wrote in a letter introducing the request. "Wake Forest is privileged to be a pioneer."

Atlantic awarded the grant, and in early 1997 the University tapped Crouch as the program's first director. She rounded up eight STARS for a test run in the spring semester — including students in the class of 1999 who had not received laptops and needed loaners.

"I WAS DESPERATE,"
RECALLS DIXON.
"WE WERE MUSICIANS
AND TEACHERS.
WHAT DID WE KNOW
ABOUT COMPUTERS?"

ThinkPad program up and running

By PATRICK McDONOUGH
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

The Class of 2000 has arrived, and with it, a new wave of computers. For the first time in university history, incoming freshmen receive an IBM ThinkPad laptop as part of the Plan for the Century.

Many freshmen are already familiar with the computer. Almost half of the 950 freshmen will pick up their ThinkPad at home this summer. The freshmen will pick up their ThinkPads in the Reynolds Gymnasium and have introductory basic computer operations on Tuesday.

Freshman Kelly Kilgore did not receive a computer at home, but felt confident that she would be proficient in its use, since she is familiar with most of the ThinkPad software.

Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.

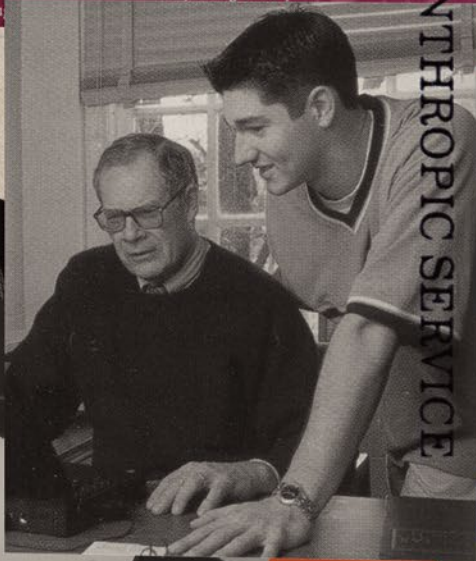
Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.

Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.

Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.

Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.

Smith, who had his ThinkPad last summer, said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected. Smith said that his major surprise was how well it operated and beyond what he expected.



"Life-changing" paychecks

Crouch positioned the role for students as a lucrative one with connections to future opportunities: STARS made \$8.50 an hour, which was double North Carolina's minimum wage. She required attendance at weekly training sessions, often provided by tech giants from IBM to Microsoft, and encouraged the students to apply for summer internships.

"I had been working at Pizza Inn making \$3.75 an hour. (Being a STAR) was life-changing," says Wes Waters ('01), a STAR who returned to work at Wake Forest in information technology and is now assistant vice president, Advancement Information Technology.

Most of the first STARS came from families of early tech adopters — those with dads who arrived home with

computers from RadioShack to tinker with on the dining room table or teacher moms who got early access to the internet and shared it with their kids.

Waters remembers learning HTML with his brother in high school and hosting all sorts of websites. Another STAR, Trinity Manning ('02), was obsessed with learning Microsoft Windows on his best friend's PC.



MANY STUDENTS TODAY
HAVE NO IDEA THAT THEIR
PREDECESSORS WERE THRILLED
TO GET IBM THINKPADS
WEIGHING ABOUT FIVE POUNDS.

"I HAD BEEN
WORKING AT
PIZZA INN
MAKING \$3.75
AN HOUR.
(BEING A STAR)
WAS LIFE-
CHANGING."

-Wes Waters ('01)



Wesley Waters
Art History

The STARS all spent time one-on-one with accomplished professors they typically would have interacted with only in class or during office hours. "It created some interesting relationships with our faculty members and provided us an opportunity to engage with them in just a different way," Waters says.

"We ended up teaching all kinds of these new technical concepts to them, and some of them stuck, but I think we were there to just sort of soften the blow and guide and hold their hands through something that was going to be hard. They just had to go through the reps to get comfortable," he says.

At first, Crouch found it challenging to get faculty to raise their hands for help, despite their need for it. "They had to apply and tell us what they wanted

to work on," she says, "and they were afraid that what they might say was too elementary."

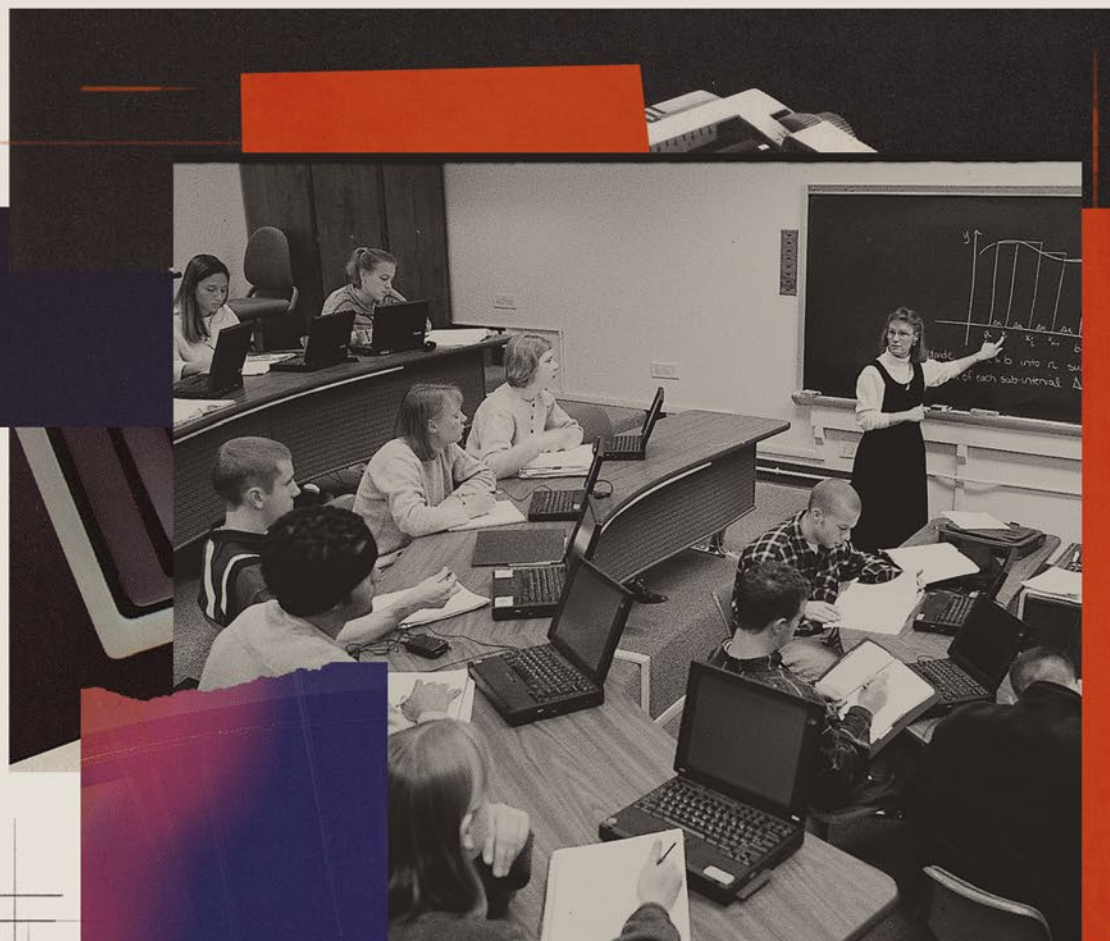
Ryan Scholl ('01, MBA '05) credits the professors who volunteered early on with "being humble and saying, 'I'm going to open myself up and let you teach me.' It gave me a lot of confidence as well to say, 'I can walk in to see this person who is a generation ahead of me and teach them something I know.'"

Videos and footlongs

Rick Matthews, a physics professor famous among students for dressing as Darth Vader to make a point in class, became the program's "proselytizer," Crouch says. Two STARS — Susan Boling ('99), who has changed her name to Angelica Rose, and Scholl, now a senior project manager for Wake Forest, helped Matthews create a video library of his visual lessons.

"It is only with classroom demonstrations that students can observe physical phenomena, propose models and test the models they develop," says Matthews, later named associate provost for information systems and chief information officer, and now retired. Since his physics lessons often happened fast, he wanted students to be able to go back and "watch as often as they like, watch in slow motion and discuss with classmates."

The *Plan for the Class of 2000* creates numerous opportunities to enhance the personal relationships between teachers and students. The information technology plan, with its



Students had their ThinkPads at the ready in a 1998 math class.

Rose and Scholl, who had taken Matthews' class, built a web page where the popular professor freely shared the videos — and for years, the page was believed to be the most visited page on the University's entire website. It turned out that science teachers and physics students across the country had discovered Matthews' videos and were watching them, too.

"We went into the classroom and recorded all the demos on video, and we worked on how to do the shots and then posted them online," Scholl says. "(Matthews) would take one of those foam airplanes and throw it at me in the camera, and you would see how the wind would come over the wing."

Scholl's favorite: To describe an equal and opposite reaction, Matthews sat on a cart, put on a hardhat, picked up a fire extinguisher and pulled the pin, propelling him backward.

Rose remembers working with Matthews on editing and posting the clips in sessions where "we would just hang out and suddenly go, 'We're hungry. Why don't we go to the Little Red Caboose?' And then Nancy (Crouch) would come, and (Matthews) would come, and suddenly there would be a bunch of people getting footlong hotdogs."

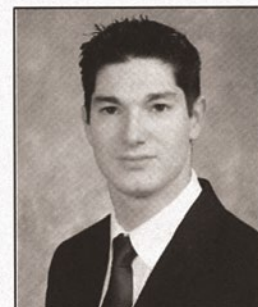
Presidential surfing

Seeing the success of early adopters, more faculty started asking for help, and Crouch hired 35 STARS for fall 1997.

"We were just figuring this stuff out on our own, and then we were helping (the professors) come up with creative ways to implement all this new technology to facilitate learning — and trying to discourage them from doing things that would impede learning," recalls Joseph Volpe ('99). "We've all heard of PowerPoint paralysis at this point, but back then, it was new. Some of them started doing every lecture as a PowerPoint, at the expense of group projects and activities, and we had to tell them not to."

"WE WERE JUST FIGURING
THIS STUFF OUT ON
OUR OWN, AND THEN
WE WERE HELPING (THE
PROFESSORS) COME UP
WITH CREATIVE WAYS
TO IMPLEMENT ALL THIS
NEW TECHNOLOGY TO
FACILITATE LEARNING —
AND TRYING TO
DISCOURAGE THEM FROM
DOING THINGS THAT
WOULD IMPEDE LEARNING."

-Joseph Volpe ('99)



Joseph M. Volpe
Computer Science

“

AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS PROJECT, THE MAJORITY OF THE PARTNERSHIPS WERE CONCENTRATED ON BASIC OFFICE SKILLS. THE FACULTY SIMPLY DESIRED TO LEARN

HOW TO USE 32UOOM

AND CREATE EXCEL SPREADSHEETS. THE SAME FACULTY ARE DELVING INTO WEB DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES.

”

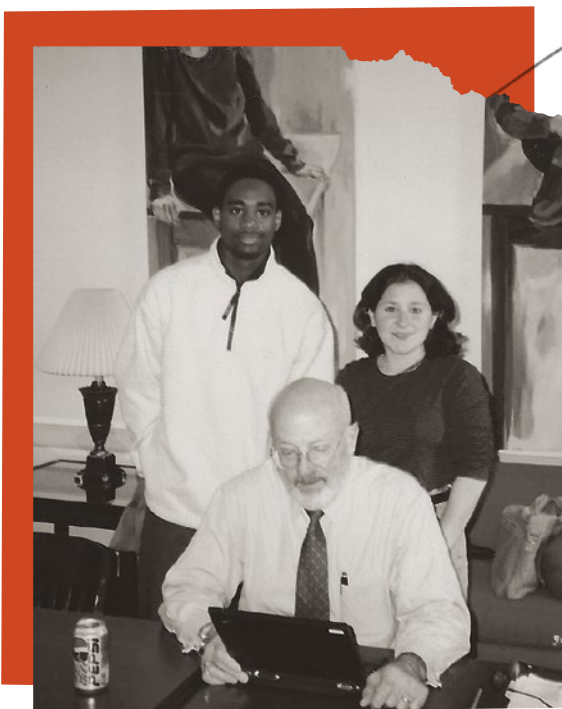
-Andrea Ellis (MAEd '04)

It wasn't just the professors who sought the STARS' advice. So did the University's top administrators, including then-President Hearn. In the fall of 1997, Hearn was teaching a first-year seminar on leadership, and Volpe was assigned to help him integrate technology into his class. But Volpe found himself providing more expansive tech support as Hearn got interested in doing his own online research.

Volpe, now Labcorp's senior director for neurology, remembers the day the president's assistant summoned him to Hearn's office with great urgency. He recalls Hearn, distressed, saying: "I keep reading about how the internet is this trove of information, but I don't know how to find things that I'm looking for. ...I tried to find out how our women's tennis team was doing, and what I ended up with was not anything that the president of the University should have on his computer and certainly not anything that our students should be looking at on the internet, either."

Hearn had typed "college women tennis" into an early-stage search engine, Volpe says. The student found himself explaining that the order of words in web queries at that point influenced the answers, "and that you need to be very careful about what alternative meanings these words imply." At that point, Volpe redirected Hearn to ESPN.com. (Hearn died in 2008.)

STARS Derrick Thompson ('03) and Amanda Epstein Musson ('00) in 1999 with John Anderson (MAEd '00), then vice president of finance and administration



Confidence booster

As the program became better known, it got easier to attract students. Derrick Thompson ('03) was so enthusiastic about applying to become a STAR that he got his father to drive him to campus from Robeson County, in eastern North Carolina, so he could interview in person in the spring of 1999 — before he even graduated from high school.

Thompson got the job and wound up working so closely on technology projects with John Anderson (MAEd '00), then vice president of finance and administration, that they frequently ate lunch together — and Anderson, years later, attended Thompson's wedding.

"He was powerful in the University but really humble when it came to being willing to listen," Thompson says. "And for me, just a country guy from Lumberton, North Carolina, to be heard

and appreciated, and then to be able to add value at that stage of my life, was a confidence booster.”

Thompson, who has worked in New York, California and North Carolina for IBM, Citrix, Google and Microsoft, was one of several students who created an outgrowth of STARS called “Knowledge 2 Work.” Through that venture, which lasted several years, they built websites for Winston-Salem’s housing authority and the local United Way, among other nonprofits.

Explosion of Ideas

As professors became more familiar with technology’s potential, they challenged the STARS with more interesting projects. Candelas Gala, then chair of the Department of Romance Languages, tapped Erin Anderson Nowell (’00) to help her create a range of resources providing cultural background and context for Spanish literature.

Nowell helped Gala learn how to create online presentations with hyperlinks to examples of music, art and architecture from the time of the literary work, along with the text itself. Next, Nowell taught Gala how to add video clips from popular works, such as “Don Quixote.” They also created online study guides for students to help them prepare for in-class discussion.

“I was very intrigued about the way the technology worked and to be able to find the works and connect them,” Gala

recalls. “I thought this was amazing, because in the olden days you had to use slides, and that was the worst stuff. It was static.”

“She just ran with it,” Nowell recalls. “She would have ideas, and we’d figure out how to implement them in the class, and when it would work, she would get so excited. Being a young college student interacting with high-level faculty members on a collegial basis really made a difference.”

The impact

No one could have anticipated how much the experience of mentoring their professors would influence the STARS after graduation.

In addition to earning generous pay, STARS had access to training in what was then cutting-edge software from the likes of Microsoft, Lotus and Java — and

“I WAS VERY
INTRIGUED ABOUT
THE WAY THE
TECHNOLOGY WORKED
AND TO BE ABLE TO
FIND THE WORKS AND
CONNECT THEM... IN
THE OLDEN DAYS YOU
HAD TO USE SLIDES,
AND THAT WAS THE
WORST STUFF. IT WAS
STATIC.”

—Candelas Gala

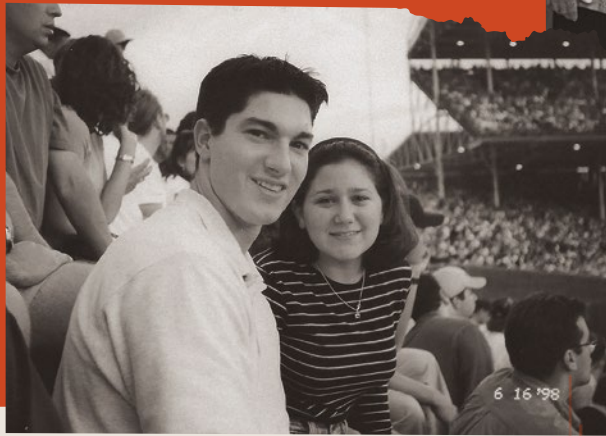
```

1  <!DOCTYPE ht
2  <html>
3    <head>
4      <tit
5      <lin
6    </head>
7    <body>
8      <h1>
9
10     </h1>
11     <nav
12
13     <a href="two/" >Two</a>
14     <a href="three/">Three</a>
15   </nav>

```



Derrick Thompson ('03), standing, with Stuart Bracken ('03, MSA '04), helped create a STARS spinoff, Knowledge 2 Work.



Top, from left: Ron Crouch (P '09) and Nancy Crouch (MAEd '90, P '09) grew so close to STARS Angelica Rose ('99), then Susan Boles, and Erin Honeycutt ('99), that they attended their wedding. **Below:** Joseph Volpe ('99) and Amanda Epstein Musson ('00) take a break from their Chicago internships at a Cubs baseball game.

internships with corporate giants in big cities. Amanda Epstein Musson ('00) and Volpe spent a summer in luxury high-rise apartments in Chicago while helping Aon plc get ready for changing over technology for the year 2000, or Y2K, which required many corporations to rewrite reams of code.

Nowell, a Dallas attorney and former appellate court judge, regularly flew in company jets during an internship with a networking contractor, forcing her to face her fear of flying while also providing practice in how to interact with powerful executives.

STARS helped a few students find their calling: Musson's internship led to a lifelong career in technology project management, which she continues today with Conduent, a business services firm

in Florham Park, New Jersey. (She works from home in Marietta, Georgia.)

Angelica Rose and fellow STAR Erin Honeycutt ('99), who married the summer after graduation, started their first jobs together at Microsoft Corp. in Charlotte before moving to the company's headquarters in Redmond, Washington. (For Honeycutt, it's been a lifelong career; Rose left to teach yoga and homeschool their daughter.)

Manning remembers feeling "like a kid in a candy store," because the STARS got to test all kinds of technology tools and toys — remember the PalmPilot? — and frequently got to upgrade their laptops. He developed a knack for quickly building websites in HTML.

Not only did he do so as a STAR for academic departments, from theatre to the sciences, but also as a side hustle for local businesses. When Manning was only a sophomore, one company paid him \$8,000 for a website — most of which he spent on a 42-inch flat-screen TV. "It was the dumbest thing I'd ever done," he says, shaking his head.

He continued building websites, and while working on one for a neighbor who ran a company in the mental health industry, he turned her voluminous paper accordion files into an electronic medical records system. “STARS was my link to all the stuff I ended up doing,” he says.

National recognition

The STARS program itself became a national model: In a 2001 letter to The Atlantic Philanthropies, Hearn shared that “100s of colleges and secondary schools are studying our STARS program, and dozens have used it as a model for developing their own.”

About 250 student-mentors in all participated through 2005, peaking with 40 student advisers in fall 1999. Although the Atlantic funding for STARS ended in 2001, it had sparked funding to double the program’s lifetime thanks to technology companies eager to experiment with training professors, along with students, to incorporate technology into their teaching and student interaction.

In a January 2002 letter to The Atlantic Philanthropies, STARS’ second director, Andrea Ellis (MAEd ’04), wrote: “It is amazing to see the difference in the level of expertise in the faculty from 1997 to present. At the beginning of this project, the majority of the partnerships were concentrated on basic office skills. The faculty simply desired to learn how to use a mouse and create Excel spreadsheets. The same faculty are delving into web design and programming languages.

TRINITY MANNING REMEMBERS
FEELING “LIKE A KID IN A CANDY
STORE,” BECAUSE THE STARS GOT
TO TEST ALL KINDS OF TECHNOLOGY
TOOLS AND TOYS — REMEMBER THE
PALMPILOT? — AND FREQUENTLY
GOT TO UPGRADE THEIR LAPTOPS.

"STARS is a remarkable program," wrote Ellis, now associate vice president, strategy and operations, and chief of staff to the chief administrative officer of Advocate Health. "The students gained invaluable experience and marketable skills to use outside of the University. ... The faculty has embraced technology."

Role reversal

All these years later, professors and their student mentors can recall in a relaxed fashion the challenging days that required teachers to become students and students to become teachers. Dixon, the guitar instructor intimidated by the new focus on using computers to teach, was paired with Musson, who sang in the University choir and was minoring in music. Musson still remembers the awe she felt listening to Dixon play the guitar — and how that talent contrasted with Dixon's all-but-paralyzing fear of computers.

The student coached the senior lecturer through building her own website, posting music clips for students to listen to outside of class — and followed up with homework to ensure that Dixon could continue building on those lessons.

"It was a role reversal, where the professors I worked with were afraid that pushing the wrong button on the keyboard could cause a catastrophe," Musson says. "But Pat and I became very close over the years, and it became more about the friendship that developed while you built a website together. ... It made the professors less afraid," she says.

Dixon sums up her feelings toward Musson in one word: "Grateful."

Eventually, the University stopped issuing uniform laptops to incoming freshmen, as students started arriving with their own computer preferences and know-how. Many students today

"PAT AND I BECAME
VERY CLOSE OVER
THE YEARS, AND IT
BECAME MORE ABOUT
THE FRIENDSHIP THAT
DEVELOPED WHILE
YOU BUILT A WEBSITE
TOGETHER."

-Amanda Epstein Musson ('00)



2000; the Plan's information technology component, and our proposal for our Acceleration Plan with the two component programs, STARS and FAS-TECH.



Nancy Crouch, the first STARS director, encouraged the students to immerse themselves in new technology.

have no idea that their predecessors were thrilled to get IBM ThinkPads weighing about five pounds. And they certainly don't know about the student mentors who taught their professors how to use email, make PowerPoint presentations, build web pages and so much more.

For the STARS-turned-alumni called up in that historic moment, one thing will never change, even though a quarter-century has passed: They remain, and

always expect to be, their parents' and co-workers' personal help desks.

"I was just on a Zoom call the other day where we had to rename ourselves, and I saw an older colleague trying to figure out what to do," Nowell, the former judge, says with a laugh. She called her then-fellow judge and walked him through it. "I'm still that person side-texting that it's OK. We can figure it out and make it work."



W E GENERATION

A collaboration between an older alum and a younger alum provided lessons for both and a treasured, recorded conversation for history's sake.

By Maria Henson ('82)

Illustrations by
John Jay Cabuay



EDITOR'S NOTE:

WAKE

Forest is known for connections and how alumni are ever ready to help each other, even across generations.

I met Parker Beverly ('23, MFA '25) of Pensacola, Florida, when she was an undergraduate working on a classroom assignment that turned into a documentary, "I'm a Woman, Phenomenally: A History of Wake Forest Women." I hadn't met Warren Anderson until he and Beverly came to my office to describe projects they were undertaking together — two alums who grew up in Florida decades apart but now helping and learning from each other in Winston-Salem.

Anderson is a 1974 graduate who played on the men's golf team. He became a lawyer in Jacksonville, Florida, and moved a few years ago to Faculty Drive in Winston-Salem. There, he met his neighbor, Debbie Best ('70, MA '72), Wake Forest's first female dean of the College and

a psychology professor who taught for 51 years until her retirement in 2023. Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson ('43, P '91, '93) lived in the neighborhood, too. Anderson had been his "admirer for over half a century."

Wilson at some point became known as "Mr. Wake Forest," a title he was too modest to embrace. But if he were deemed "Mr. Wake Forest," then Wilson remarked that Best should be known as "Ms. Wake Forest" — that's how Anderson remembered Wilson's quick aside that got him thinking about the future. Best and Wilson were dear friends, and Anderson surmised the two had stories to tell that needed to be preserved, especially as Wilson approached 100.

That's why the two alumni showed up in my office. In August 2022, they had filmed a session with Best and Wilson, interviewing them and encouraging the conversation to unfold between the two friends. They presented to me the project's article, "Deac to Deac: A Conversation with Dr. Ed Wilson & Dr. Debbie Best." It arrived in time. Wilson died on March 13, 2024, at 101, but the project created by the two alumni from Florida will last.

Here's how Anderson, a person accustomed to taking depositions, and Beverly, a budding documentarian, say they became a team.
— *Maria Henson* ('82)

Warren Anderson: I remember going to (a sports) banquet and not knowing very many people at all. I got lucky because Parker got assigned to my table. ... She's a very easy person to talk to, and we just struck up a conversation, and I was struck by her interest in video and what she'd already done — documenting legacy, which is really important to me.

I went, "Wow. This is a name I need to remember — put on my Rolodex," to use the term you and I would understand but Parker would laugh at.

Previous page: Alums Parker Beverly and Warren Anderson teamed up for storytelling.

I remembered that, and then I went back to Parker later when this Debbie Best-Ed Wilson plan started getting some momentum.

Parker Beverly: When I got the message from Warren, I was completely on board. I'd always heard of Dr. Wilson, and working in the library, I always knew the Wilson Wing. I would pass the little bust of him and the painting of him all the time. And I had always loved hearing about people's stories of Mr. Wake Forest. ... (The project) kind of combined both my passions for stories but also my love of Wake Forest.

PB: There was a good bit of planning (with Anderson) between me going back home to Florida and then coming back for classes. ... We met a lot in person,

but also communicated via email, phone, especially about the questions, the things we were going to want to ask them both about and what we were looking to capture in a time capsule of Wake Forest. ...

For the most part, we were swimming in tandem, I would say, especially when it came to what we wanted to get out of the project, which was mainly to get two people ... for a while to talk about their experiences.

WA: So that was the strategy that Parker helped me with because I wanted to throw out the questions. I had an idea of what topics I wanted them to talk about. Parker and I were discussing, "How do you minimize the interviewer?" We figured out a way to do that, and we encouraged Debbie to not wait for a question if Ed said something: "Jump

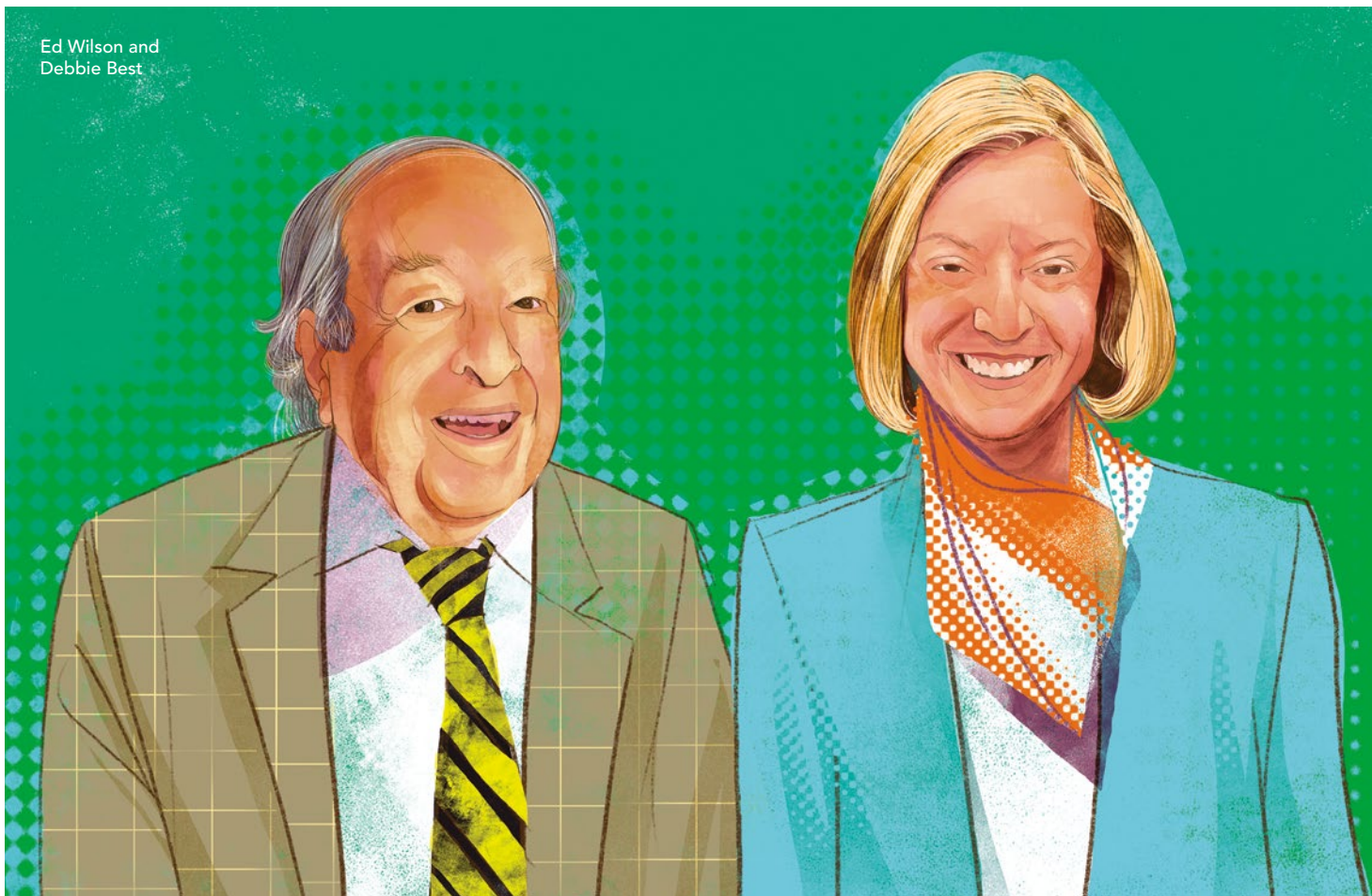
on it." And that ultimately turned out to be really cool.

PB: Let them interview each other, basically. Because ultimately, Debbie and Dr. Wilson have a rich history together, so why not just get them in the same place, give them a couple of questions to get them going, and then just look.

WA: That was a great way. They're so affectionate toward each other, Debbie and Ed, and that came across. ... And it was good, and Parker advised me how to do that.

(Anderson and Beverly showed up at Wilson's house on Timberlake Lane. Wilson sat in his comfy chair, Best in a chair beside him. Beverly was behind the camera and near the end asked a

Ed Wilson and
Debbie Best



few questions. Anderson served as the main interviewer when needed. The session lasted about two hours. Then, weeks went by as Beverly worked on the footage, gathered photos and handled transcription. Anderson condensed the material and wrote the article. Through it all, the process engendered respect for each person's creative gifts.)

PB: I would say having this professional working relationship was something new for me, learning how to approach interviews in a different way. I'm used to being the one doing all the coordination, the interviewing, the camera work and everything. ...

I think I learned a lot about life, too. This is where I'm going to get a little philosophical because I think when you have an age difference between two people, you bring different things to the table. He has a lot more experience under his belt than I do. So, you can learn a lot about working with people — not just working with Warren — but working with the subjects.

WA: I see greatness, and I want to touch it. ... The project she's worked on with me here, she's had an opportunity. I mean, you get to dive in deep with it: "Ed Wilson, tell me about the Holy Grail." So, she got to witness that and to talk about Debbie Best telling Tim Duncan what to do. I mean Tim Duncan's the greatest basketball player in the history of Wake Forest!

(Anderson added in a separate email to me: "Parker is a star in her own right — smart, reflective, industrious, compassionate — and she loves Wake Forest University. Surely, she will pass on these qualities to others in her life. I'm grateful I've been able to share some of these special times with her.")

Tim Duncan ('97)
and Debbie Best



MENTORING MATTERS

Following are edited highlights from Anderson and Beverly's "Deac to Deac: A Conversation with Dr. Ed Wilson & Dr. Debbie Best."

On professor-student connections

Ed Wilson: I was sitting one day in the hall outside my classroom when I was a Wake student. I was trying to decide how I was going to shape my life in college. Dr. Edgar Folk (1921, P '47, '50) came by; he didn't know me. But he saw me sitting there, noticed I was by myself and didn't seem to be taking part in the world around me. He came over and asked me what I did. I told him I was an English major. He taught English. He said, "Do you ever think about writing?" ... And he said: "I want you to come to the Old Gold & Black office one day, and I'll give you a story so you can take that story and make it into a story of news value."

So, in that one moment, I became introduced to the newspaper world at Wake Forest. And I then wrote a column for our newspaper. As it turned out, that would not have happened if this one good man had not, for no particular reason, sought me out. ... I think that is that kind of experience which ought to be at the heart of college life — an experience which embraces the world we live in, the world we would like to live in and the world we want to be a part of — and the world that somehow will encompass us and bring us together through love.

Debbie Best: Both Ed and I have had students to our homes, so they understand who we are, how we live,

what's important to us, and they feel comfortable. I have had a number of students that have graduated, and their children come to Wake Forest. I've taught generations now of students. They will show up at my door and say: "Professor Best, my son or daughter is now here at Wake — I want you to show them the magic that I found."

On an unexpected, delightful advising role

DB: It all started with (then-coach) Dave Odom calling me and saying, "I have this basketball player. He wants to be a psych major, and he would like to have an adviser who understands what it's all about. You are the department chair; will you please take him on?" I said, "Absolutely."

I was sitting at my desk one day, and this shadow comes over my desk, and it's Tim (Duncan '97) walking in the door. He was almost 7 feet tall — so there's a shadow on my desk, and I turn, and we chat. We talked for a long time.

A few weeks later, we needed to meet, but I had to be home because my son was sick. ... So, he walked to my house from the campus and came upstairs to see Eric, my son, and told him, "I hope you'll get to feeling better" and that sort of thing. Well, they connected. Eric was 9 at the time.

A few weeks later, Tim and I were talking about his studies, and he

said, "Would it be OK if I just visited occasionally and saw your son?" And I said, "Of course. Come on."

So, I would get home from work some days, and my son and Tim would be upstairs playing. He ended up staying for dinner fairly often. He would sit on the floor in my kitchen with his feet up on the cabinets while talking with us. I realized he was so tired of looking down at people, (that) it was probably nice for him to look up. ...

He's been a lovely friend. We got to visit him fairly often in San Antonio (where Duncan was a star NBA player for the Spurs). I've been to his house, played with his kids, met his family and have just really enjoyed him. Just like Ed said, he brought these wonderful values with him to Wake Forest, nurtured them at Wake Forest and has never changed as a quality person.

On clues to the Holy Grail

EW: Well first, put your head (into) what the Holy Grail is. You might decide that the Holy Grail is the cup out of which Jesus drank. But you might decide that it is the cup that is in your hand whatever your religious beliefs might be.

I think the Grail involves a kind of commitment that you have spent a life that has been valuable. ...

Read the full interview at bit.ly/WilsonBestInterview2022





**Where
are**

they

now

*Mentoring relationships
at Wake Forest can
coalesce for the long haul.*

By Kerry M. King ('85)

Illustration by Jean-Manuel Duvivier

Mentoring often starts simply. During a class in Olin Physical Laboratory. A study-abroad experience. A chance encounter outside Reynolds Gymnasium. Those moments when a professor and students connect can inspire students to do things they never considered possible.

As Professor Pete Brubaker (MA '86, P '17) describes it, the connections can come in a flash, in “30-second, unplanned conversations.”

Thirteen years ago, Wake Forest Magazine featured stories of students and the professors who challenged, guided and inspired them. We reached out to several of them recently to learn if their mentoring relationships have continued.

Some of the students — now alumni — and professors have built on those bonds to become lifelong friends and collaborators. While they might not talk every week or see each other that often, they know they can depend on each other. The professors continue to offer career and life advice, but now they reach out to their former students for help as well. The alumni are paying it forward by becoming mentors for the next generation of students.



Jurchescu and Goetz in 2012



Oana Jurchescu

Baker Family Professor of Physics

Katelyn Goetz ('11, Ph.D. '16)



Research scientist, National Institute
of Standards and Technology

KATELYN GOETZ WAS a physics major determined to focus on what she wanted to do when she started working with Professor Oana Jurchescu in 2010. “I was very opinionated about which project I wanted to work on,” she says.

Her professor welcomed Goetz into her research group in the physics department, where they found that their personalities, research interests and scientific philosophies meshed.

“I was quite impressed to see an undergraduate having such a well-defined vision on what they like to work on,” Jurchescu says.

Their undergrad student-professor relationship grew. Soon, with Jurchescu’s guidance, Goetz was making a presentation at an international conference in Dresden, Germany. Goetz stayed at Wake Forest for her doctorate and received National Science Foundation fellowships to continue her work with Jurchescu, who was amassing Wake Forest awards for excellence in teaching, research and mentoring. The two women co-authored 19 articles in scientific journals and one book chapter while Goetz was at Wake Forest.

Goetz spent four years in Germany in post-doctoral positions before she returned to the United States and joined the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Washington, D.C. She and her husband, Alex Taylor ('09, Ph.D. '16), also a physicist, live in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Goetz’s research focuses on how to use organic semiconductors for sensing applications, including electric or magnetic fields. Jurchescu researches organic electronic materials and exploits the main attributes of plastic to create wearable electronics and flexible electronics such as solar panels, devices for medical applications and rollable displays for smartphones and TVs.

Goetz’s work in Jurchescu’s lab influences Goetz’s research today. “It was very fortuitous for me to work with Oana,” she says. “Her research ... fit my interests very well, and I have more or less stuck with the area since then.”

There’s no greater reward than seeing a curious, eager student become a confident researcher, Jurchescu says: “The best part of my job is mentoring and being part of the (students’) growth process and guiding them.”

Mentoring has a ripple effect. Goetz mentored younger students at Wake Forest when she was a Ph.D. student and won the physics department’s outstanding peer-mentor award. She has also mentored community college students at NIST and recruited one of Jurchescu’s students to work with her at NIST. She learned from Jurchescu to give students trust, respect and the time and space to learn from their own experiments — and mistakes — in the lab.

Goetz and Jurchescu remain in close contact. “Oana has gone from my boss and mentor guiding my research, and now we’ve grown into collaborators and friends,” Goetz says.

“The way Katelyn has grown her expertise does not perfectly overlap with my expertise,” Jurchescu says. “If I need something, and I know that Katelyn can do it, I’ll say, ‘Katelyn, here’s what we need. Can you help us with this?’”



Pete Brubaker

(MA '86, P '17)

Professor and chair of
health and exercise science

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, then-sophomore Rob Musci was leaving Reynolds Gymnasium when he ran into his physiology professor, Pete Brubaker. Musci had a question for him: Can I help you with any research?

Brubaker, who was investigating the effects of a Mediterranean lifestyle on cardiovascular health, had the perfect project for him. He asked Musci, who's fluent in Italian, to translate a pile of surveys completed by residents of Venice.

"There was just something about Rob," Brubaker says. "Sometimes, it's those 30-second, unplanned conversations that just happen at the right time that can be life changing."

Musci and Brubaker bonded over similar interests and a love of running and the ultimate challenge — fighting through fire, water and mud along a 10-mile Tough Mudder obstacle course designed by British special forces.

Musci might not have known it then, but he had found a mentor and role model. That opened the door for what followed in his education and professional journey, he says. "Every step of the way, I've talked to Pete."

As their relationship grew from student-professor to collaborators, Brubaker encouraged Musci to spend time in Venice and research Venetians' patterns

Rob Musci

(12)



Assistant professor of
health and human sciences,
Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles

of physical activity and their risk for chronic diseases. Musci studied at Casa Artom as an undergraduate and was a resident assistant there after he graduated.

Musci earned his master's degree from Colorado State University and received a Fulbright award to conduct research in Italy and build on Brubaker's work. Brubaker happened to be teaching at Casa Artom at the same time, and he asked Musci to help him teach a class.

"That was really the starting point of the evolution" in becoming a teacher, Musci says. "The same goes with the research in Venice, where I made so many mistakes and learned so much along the way. Pete was always guiding me."

When Musci was completing his doctorate in human bioenergetics at Colorado State, Brubaker worried that his mentee was making a mistake as he moved toward a career in research. But it wasn't his place to tell Musci that. Instead, he reminded Musci how much he loved teaching and working with students.

Musci took that advice to heart. He had always admired how Brubaker balanced career and family, teaching and research, and building relationships with students and colleagues. He wanted the same balance and found it at Loyola Marymount, where he teaches undergraduates and researches aging and chronic diseases.

He still looks to Brubaker for inspiration as he mentors his own students. Brubaker now calls Musci for help, too. "At some point, the mentor becomes the student; the student becomes the mentor," Brubaker says. "I can admit that Rob knows a whole lot more about (some areas) than I do, and I can learn from him. Part of being a good mentor is realizing that it can be flipped the other way."

When Brubaker found out that he was going to be teaching at Casa Artom in the spring of 2026, one of his first calls was to Musci. Why don't you join me? Brubaker asked. Stay tuned.



Musci in 2011



Brubaker and Musci in 2011



Ananda Mitra with Kendall Hack (standing), Rachel Handel and Carrie Stokes Holst in 2011.

A CLASS IN INDIA 15 years ago when Kendall Hack was an undergraduate — and the continuing support of Professor Ananda Mitra — shaped her career path in education and social change.

Hack made her first trip to India in 2010 for a summer study-abroad class taught by Mitra and got to know the people in Ladakh, an isolated region in the Himalayas. The next year, Hack and two other students who had taken Mitra's course, Rachel Handel ('12) and Carrie Stokes Holst ('12), returned to Ladakh. With Mitra's guidance, they researched the country's education system, the particular challenges facing schools in Ladakh and how Wake Forest students could work with schools to improve outcomes.

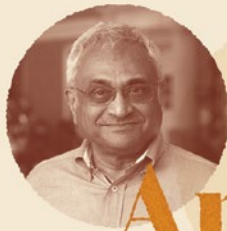
Hack and Holst — by then both alumnae — returned again to Ladakh in 2012 to launch a service-learning project, Wake the Himalayas, for Wake Forest students to help students in





Kendall Hack (11)

Head of customer success, Ceresa



Ananda Mitra (MA '87)

Professor of Communication

Mitra, who grew up in Kolkata, uses the Indian word “ashram” — a small group of students and their teacher living and learning together — to describe his approach to mentoring. Hack, like other students during Mitra’s 30 years at Wake Forest, became part of the family with Mitra’s wife and son, Srijoy Basu Mitra. Mentoring “is a two-way street, and I include my wife in that,” Mitra says. “This is about the relationships that you build.”

As their relationship has evolved, Mitra and Hack both say their gratitude and respect for one another has grown. “I know that if I need something, there are a few people I can turn to, and one of them will always be Kendall,” Mitra says.

Hack says that Mitra will remain a trusted adviser and friend. “I’ve learned you need different types of mentors to help you navigate life,” she says. “It means a lot to have someone who has known me for this long, who can draw on my values and dreams from over the years, who has seen me try new things, who has seen me question different paths, who has seen me through different highs and lows. That perspective is really rare and special.”

Ladakh improve their English literacy skills. They designed the program to be a capstone project for students in Mitra’s study-abroad class.

That formative experience and continued encouragement from Mitra and his wife, Swati Basu, led to Hack’s next steps. She received a Fulbright Teaching Assistant Award to teach English in Malaysia and earned a master’s in public administration from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Hack returned to India in 2019 to reconnect with the people she had met in Ladakh. Since then, she’s followed her passion to use education and innovation to bring about social change. Now living in Brooklyn, New York, she is the head of customer success at Ceresa, which provides leadership development and mentoring to underrepresented professionals to increase diversity in management positions.

Hack appreciates what she calls the “Ananda way.” “He always encouraged my questions and curiosity and new (way of) thinking without pushing a particular path or agenda. That led to authentic choices because I had that safe space to reflect and think and grapple with questions. His way is to draw it out of you, and then he is in your corner.”



IS

PASSÉ

MENTO

IN

A SEM

By Andy Chan

Illustration by Kyle Webster

IN THE WHIRLWIND of today's high-tech, semivirtual world, one might think the age-old concept of mentoring is a relic. With digital platforms offering advice at our fingertips, from podcasts to TikTok, the situation begets the question: Why seek guidance from a live human being, especially one whose life pre-dates the internet?

However, amid the rapid changes in work and study settings, the value of mentorship remains as potent as ever. Mentorship isn't just about imparting knowledge; it's a transformative experience, offering growth and enlightenment to students and professionals alike.

My own journey at Wake Forest in 2009 exemplified this truth. Univer-

DRING

IVIRTUAL WORLD?

sity trustee Don Flow (MBA '83) introduced me to Rick Woolworth, who founded the Telemachus Network, a nonprofit created to elevate mentoring and intergenerational friendships for leaders. The relationship left an indelible mark on my path. Rick's investment in me ignited a passion for mentoring others and propelled me to support their journeys, as mentees or mentors.

Coincidentally — or perhaps by divine design — my tenure at Wake Forest aligned with the institution's strategic initiative to establish a "national model for mentoring." Allison E. McWilliams ('95), with a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Georgia and ample experience in leadership

development, heeded the call and returned to Wake Forest in 2010 to create the Mentoring Resource Center (MRC). Under her leadership, the MRC flourished, empowering countless students to forge meaningful mentorship connections — a testament to Wake Forest's commitment to holistic education.

In a world dominated by algorithms and artificial intelligence, the significance of human connection cannot be overstated. At Wake Forest, mentorship isn't just a checkbox on a strategic plan; it's a cornerstone of the University's ethos — a testament to the power of human relationships in shaping lives and nurturing potential.

Indeed, Wake Forest's essence lies not just in its academic prowess or pic-

turesque campus but in its people — the faculty, staff, alumni and students who embody the spirit of Pro Humanitate. From the intimate camaraderie of small classes to the compassionate guidance of mentors, Wake Forest offers a college experience unlike any other — a place where students are not just educated but truly known.

In the words of Oprah Winfrey, "A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself." At Wake Forest, mentors serve as intellectual confidants, empathetic listeners and gentle provocateurs, nudging students towards their fullest potential.

Mentoring with compassion and care is a core value of Wake Forest's intimate, tight community. It's a value and desire that individuals bring upon arrival at Wake Forest and nurture throughout their time on campus and beyond.

When people ask me about Wake Forest, I reply, "At Wake Forest, college is the way it was meant to be!" It's a place where faculty and staff pour their hearts, minds and time into each student, fostering growth, reflection and the value of relationships.

As we navigate the uncertain terrain of the future, one thing remains clear: As long as individuals are committed to guiding, inspiring and uplifting one another, the flame of mentorship will continue to burn brightly, illuminating the path for generations to come.

There are fears that human connection will decline and mentoring will fade. But at Wake Forest, where genuine relationships thrive, mentoring is alive and well — and will continue to be going forward.

Vice President Andy Chan oversees the University's Office of Personal & Career Development, Mentoring Resource Center and Pre-College Programs.

1834

1956

2006

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

PRO HUMANITATE

Find a Mentor. Be a Mentor.

A Wake Forest go-to person about mentoring is Allison McWilliams '95, an assistant vice president who leads the University's Mentoring Resource Center (at right) and the Alumni Personal & Career Development Center. She also writes regularly about mentoring in *Psychology Today*. Examples that she and others provided about mentoring involving Wake Foresters are too numerous to list, but this guide shows myriad highlights.

Illustration by Nick Lu

Campuswide

While the **Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Center (URECA)** doesn't have an office with a sign on the door, undergraduates know this website, ureca.wfu.edu, is a hub where they can discover opportunities to partner with faculty members on scholarly and creative activities. Collaboration abounds through Wake Forest Research Fellowships and Wake Forest Arts & Humanities Fellowships.

Tribble Hall

The **Wake Forest Scholars Program** helps students develop their intellectual capabilities, share their talents and develop close relationships with faculty mentors. The program also works closely with Magnolia and Signature Scholars.

Reynolda Hall

Mentoring Resource Center: Serving in a consultative role to students, faculty, staff and alumni involved in formal and informal mentoring relationships.

Sutton Center

URECA Day in the fall semester showcases undergraduate research and creative work and recognizes faculty support. In a recent year, 140 students presented posters or gave presentations about their projects, which ranged from research involving acacia tree seedlings to the Japanese Ukiyo-e woodblock print genre as a metaphor for the discipline of history.

TRIBBLE HALL



Reynolda Hall

Global Ambassadors, representing the Center for Global Programs and Studies, share their experience in study-abroad programs by guiding fellow students and groups interested in jetting off for courses.

Abroad

Undergraduate and graduate students selected as **Richter Scholars** initiate and engage in globally minded research projects and “life-changing experiences” guided by a faculty mentor. Examples: “In the Footsteps of Frederic Chopin, a Polish-French composer,” and an investigation of health effects of chemicals released by wildfires in Greece.

Wake Washington Center

At the center, on Dupont Circle, students can connect with alumni mentors in D.C.



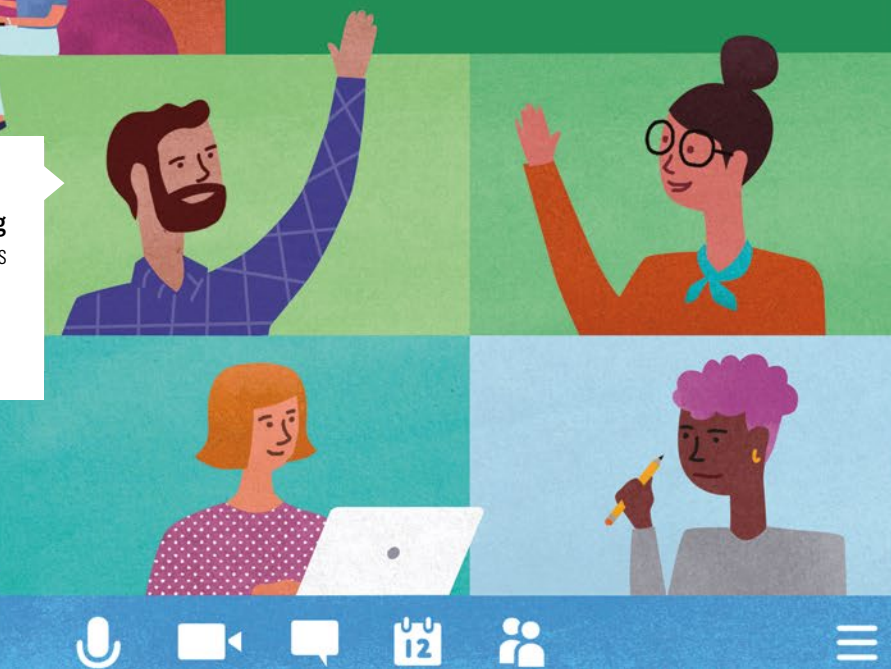
Reynolda Hall

Wake Forest Fellows: Through a competitive process, typically 10 students spend the year after graduation assigned to Wake Forest administrator-mentors. Fellows work full time and learn about the inner workings of higher education. You’ll see Wake Forest Fellows gathering regularly in the Autumn Room for lunches with campus leaders, leading to more mentoring moments.



Online

February brings an annual, self-paced **mentoring certificate course**, which addresses such topics as how to be an effective mentor and mentee. The course is open to all Wake Foresters, including alumni.



An illustration depicting various student activities at Wake Forest University. At the top left, a woman is shown in a Zoom window, holding a smartphone. Below her, a group of four students (three men and one woman) are gathered around a table, looking at laptops. In the background, there are stylized buildings, including one with 'J.R. TOB Co' written vertically. A large pink tree is on the left. In the middle left, a woman is standing and talking to a group of students. At the bottom, three students are walking past a large orange box; one is carrying a bag with 'WAKE' on it. In the background, a large red building is labeled 'SALEM HALL'. On the right, a student is sitting on a bench. The sky is green with a white cloud.

On Zoom

Young alumni mentoring groups meet in facilitated sessions to make meaningful connections about life and work.

Wake Downtown

Wake Forest Lab Experiences: Academics and Professions (LEAP) helps local high school juniors and seniors explore STEM interests, lab etiquette and scientific research principles. During the six-week program, participants are paired with a faculty mentor and a graduate or undergraduate student co-mentor.

Salem Hall and Kirby Hall, et al.

The **URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship in Research and Creative Work in the Sciences and Social Sciences** commands respect. Recent award winners include Professor of Chemistry Uli Bierbach, Associate Professor of Politics and International Affairs Betina Wilkinson and Associate Professor of Economics John Dalton.

Academic Buildings

Applaud recipients of the **URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentored Scholarship in the Arts and Humanities**. A few recent winners: Associate Professor of History Qiong Zhang, Professor of Theatre Rob Eastman-Mullins and Associate Professor of English Zak Lancaster.



Campuswide

COREFour are skill areas that the Mentoring Resource Center recommends that every student develop and apply, including in life beyond college: Build relationships; set goals; seek feedback and reflect on experiences.

Campuswide

Honors programs within departments often provide the one-on-one mentored experiences for students excelling in their final projects.



1 The University launched its seven-year plan that President **Susan R. Wente** calls “the most significant renewal of the Reynolda Campus core academic spaces since the University moved to Winston-Salem in 1956.” The plan aims to create 35% more academic space and 50% more space for student gathering and dining. Alumni Hall will be renovated and re-open as early as summer 2026 to house the entrepreneurship program and the departments of philosophy, education and computer science. That project will allow consideration of the renewal of Benson University Center as an academic building and the construction of a new state-of-the-art student center, Wente said in a fall address.

The University invested more than \$2.5 million over the past two summers to refresh 43 classrooms and learning spaces, including 20 classrooms in Greene Hall in summer 2024. A campus master planning effort getting underway will incorporate plans to improve Scales Fine Arts Center and make other state-of-the-art improvements, said **Jackie Travisano**, executive vice president and chief financial officer. *More at bit.ly/CampusSpacePlan*

2 The **Center for Entrepreneurship** received a \$30 million gift from an anonymous donor to expand and enhance opportunities for undergraduates. The investment will allow Wake Forest to increase the number of experienced entrepreneurship faculty, develop new courses and fund the construction of state-of-the-art space, including homes for Deacon Springboard, an early-stage accelerator, and Startup Lab, a program for the next steps in startup development. More than 400 students enrolled in entrepreneurship courses last fall. The gift means the program will be able to nearly double the number of course offerings to meet the growing demand while also reducing class sizes. *More at bit.ly/CenterforEntrepreneurshipGift*

3 Two real estate firms, Carter and Front Street Capital, in partnership with the University and City of Winston-Salem, broke ground on a 100-acre, mixed-use development named **The Grounds** in the area adjacent to Allegacy Federal Credit Union Stadium and Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Adam Parker ('10), a vice president with Atlanta-based Carter, and **Coleman Team ('09)**, president and managing partner of Winston-Salem's Front Street Capital, are leading the development team.

Intended as a gathering place for Wake Foresters and the broader community, it includes a 100,000-square-foot office building the University would lease, a 40,000-plus-square-foot retail village and 240 apartments. A \$35 million state grant will help pay for road improvements, the restoration of Silas Creek and construction of a paved walking trail. University Advancement and University Marketing and Communications, which moved temporarily to the University Corporate Center, will be among the University's first tenants in the office building when it opens in 2026. *More at bit.ly/GroundsDevelopment*

4 The School of Divinity received two gifts totaling nearly \$10 million from the family of **Edward Kent Griffin**. A significant portion of the funds will support the Wake Div Promise, an initiative providing full-tuition scholarships to all graduate students enrolled in the Master of Divinity



program. The most recent gift, \$6.6 million from the Griffin Family Trust, is the largest individual donation in the school's 25-year history. *More at bit.ly/DivinityGift*

5 Wake Forest named **Mary Muchane (P '19)** the University's first assistant provost for faculty development. She joined Sept. 1 from Davidson College, where she was assistant dean for research development and director of sponsored programs. Muchane is working closely with Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs **Stacie Petter** to enhance faculty development, promote research excellence and foster faculty support at all career stages. **Betsy Barre** added assistant provost to her title of executive director of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching after demonstrating "exceptional leadership within the CAT, providing invaluable guidance to faculty on emerging topics such as generative AI and innovative teaching methodologies," said Provost **Michele Gillespie**. *More at bit.ly/AssistantProvosts*

6 Four faculty members were named 2024 endowed professors: **Mark**

Curtis, Reynolds Professor of Economics; **Win-chiat Lee**, Reynolds Professor of Philosophy; **Patricia Dos Santos**, Wake Forest Professor of Chemistry; and **Christina Soriano**, Reynolds Professor of Dance. *More at bit.ly/EndowedProfessors*

7 Associate Professor of Chemistry **John Lukesh** received Wake Forest's first National Institutes of Health R35 MIRA (Maximizing Investigators' Research Award). The five-year award, worth an anticipated \$1.8 million, supports research into biomedical applications of reactive sulfur and selenium species. *More at bit.ly/NIHaward*

8 **Ovidiu Csillik**, a remote sensing expert and assistant professor in the environmental and sustainability studies program, is co-investigator on a project that received \$1 million in NASA funding to research carbon storage over time in tropical forests. *More at bit.ly/NASACsillik*

9 Winston-Salem State University Chancellor **Bonita Brown ('94, JD '97)** and Wake Forest Law Dean

Andrew Klein signed an agreement in October to create a pathway for Winston-Salem State students to pursue law degrees at Wake Forest. *More at bit.ly/WSSUAgreement*

10 The University received a **record amount of external support** — more than \$18 million in the 2024 fiscal year — for research and scholarly activities, excluding social sciences and humanities scholarships. And more than 130 undergraduate students representing more than 30 majors and 120 faculty mentors participated in **URECA Day**, with students presenting research projects on which they collaborated with faculty in posters and talks. *More at bit.ly/RecordResearchFunding and bit.ly/ureca2024*

11 Wake Forest Law alumni have raised more than \$100,000 for the **Dr. Ralph Peebles Law Scholarship** in memory of Peebles, who taught from 1979 to 2018. The scholarship will be awarded each year to a student with financial need. *More at bit.ly/PeeblesScholarship*



17



21

17 Sarah Moore, assistant teaching professor of counseling, received the Jane E. Myers Wellness Counseling Award from the North Carolina Counseling Association. *More at bit.ly/CounselingMoore*

18 The Atlantic Coast Conference named **Bill Hayes**, the first Black assistant football coach at Wake Forest and in the ACC, and **Dianne Dailey**, longtime head women's golf coach and director of women's athletics, as Wake Forest's winners of the 2024 ACC UNITE Award, which honors people who have made a significant impact in racial and social justice. *More at bit.ly/ACCUNITE*

19 Wake Forest's marching band, the **Spirit of the Old Gold and Black**, joined forces with NC State's band at the Oct. 5 football game to play "Amazing Grace" in tribute to Hurricane Helene victims. NBC's "Today" show and ABC's "World News Tonight with David Muir" featured the performance. Many departments and organizations contributed to relief efforts, quickly collecting and distributing supplies, and the University hosted a community day of action on Nov. 16. *More at bit.ly/HeleneBands and bit.ly/OutreachHelene*

20 Despite steady rain, students, faculty and staff raised more than \$303,000 for cancer research on Sept. 26 at **Hit the Bricks**, an all-day relay event honoring **Brian Piccolo ('65, P '87, '89)**. *More at hitthebricks.wfu.edu*

21 **Carolyn Whitehead** joined University Advancement as vice president of development and alumni engagement. She previously oversaw advancement and development at the University of Colorado Boulder for 15 years. *More at bit.ly/CarolynWhitehead*

22 Wake Forest named Washington State University coach **Jake Dickert** as head football coach, replacing **Dave Clawson**, who resigned in December after 11 seasons. Clawson led the Demon Deacons to seven straight bowl appearances, an Atlantic Division title in 2021 and the program's first-ever Top 10 national ranking. He will remain at Wake Forest as special adviser to Vice President & Director of Athletics **John Currie ('93)**. Dickert, 41, was 23-20 in four seasons as head coach at Washington State. *More at bit.ly/JDickert*

12 The Sports Hall of Fame plans to induct the late men's basketball head coach and 2003 ACC Coach of the Year **Skip Prosser**; women's soccer icons **Katie Stengel ('14)** and **Aubrey Bledsoe Kingsbury ('14)**; 2007 NCAA National Champion men's soccer player **Ike Opara ('11)**; football fullback **Ovie Mughelli ('03)**, who went on to play in the NFL for a decade; 2023 Trailblazer Award recipient and women's basketball player **Keeva Jackson-Breland ('85)** and renowned golf course designer **Bill Coore ('68)**. *More at bit.ly/2025SportsHallOfFame*

13 Z. Smith Reynolds Library welcomed **Sandy Rodriguez** as an associate dean. She previously was associate dean of Special Collections & Archives at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and was a 2024 University of California, Los Angeles Library Senior Fellow. *More at bit.ly/SandyRodriguez*

14 Three assistant chaplains joined the University to help meet multi-faith needs of students, faculty and staff: **Akshay Gupta**, assistant chaplain for Hindu Life and Religious Engagement, most recently a researcher at Bhaktivedanta Institute and priest at New Goloka Temple in Hillsborough, North Carolina; **Imran Haq**, assistant chaplain for Muslim Life, previously a chaplain in Washington, D.C.; and **Stephanie Marshall**, assistant

chaplain for Jewish Life, who was Jewish education manager at the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston. *More at bit.ly/AssistantChaplains*

15 The Face to Face Speaker Forum kicked off the season with two-time Super Bowl-winning quarterback **Peyton Manning**, who shared that he stayed at the University of Tennessee to play a fourth year rather than going pro after basketball star **Tim Duncan ('97)** told Manning it was OK to wait a year. Other speakers so far this season were CNN's **Anderson Cooper**, fresh off the election, and award-winning novelist **Jesmyn Ward**. *More at facetoface.wfu.edu*

16 Wake Forest Magazine won five Best of CASE District III Awards: for general interest magazine; for **Carol Hanner's** "The Letters" about professors helping to solve a family's Holocaust mystery; for her "A Secret History in Plain Sight" detailing **Laura Ware Adlington's ('10)** historic findings about the Canterbury Cathedral's stained glass; for **Kerry King's ('85)** "He's Everywhere — And Home" about **John Currie ('93)**, vice president & director of athletics; and for **Maria Henson's ('82)** "Humor Him" about **E. J. Masicampo**, an associate professor of psychology, and how his award-winning standup comedy intersects with his teaching and vice versa. *More at bit.ly/2024CaseMagazineAwards*

Sleeves up for saving at-risk ancestral lands and homes

By Maria Henson ('82)

A LAW SCHOOL CLINIC helping mainly minority and low-income North Carolinians who have inherited property without formal legal documents has received a boost from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

The one-year foundation grant of \$300,000 will support Wake Forest's Heirs' Property Project, which is part of the University's Environmental Law & Policy Clinic. The project, which partners with several community organizations, launched in 2022 to give students hands-on experience practicing law to address what law professor and clinic director Scott Schang calls a "classic environmental justice issue."

Schang co-leads the Heirs' Property Project with law fellow Miles Malbrough and supervises students doing the pro bono work for clients who otherwise couldn't afford representation. The project helps North Carolina residents to preserve their homes and family legacies as well as advance state and national policy solutions to tangled titles.

On "The Legal Deac" podcast, Schang outlined the issue:

"Heirs' property is property that's passed to family members by inheritance either without a will or through a will leaving the property to multiple family members. Oftentimes, these family groups tend to continue to own the land over time with informal understandings about who has the right to use it, and when people hold land this way as what's called tenants in common, each person has the right to use the land. In addition, each owner can sell their portion of the land or their ownership in the land to someone else. Each person also has a duty to help with the upkeep of the land like paying the taxes. So, over time, this can result in what we refer to as 'tangled title.'"

In those cases, according to the podcast, the living heirs' names don't appear on any deed, leaving heirs without clear proof of ownership rights. That, in turn, makes it hard to get

a mortgage or use the land as collateral. The tangled titles also create barriers to getting federal assistance after a natural disaster or for obtaining federal farming aid.

More than 70,000 properties valued at \$5.5 billion in North Carolina are held as heirs' property, according to the project. Heirs' property owners, who are predominantly Black or Native American and low-income, often struggle with access to capital, government assistance and expertise. They also frequently suffer predatory dispossession, according to the podcast.

Through their work for heirs' property owners, Wake Forest law students gain significant experience in the law, building relationships and thinking creatively about how to meet a client's needs. Project work has been labor intensive, requiring deep engagement with heirs often across multiple generations and a collaborative, cross-disciplinary approach.

Jay Everette, Wells Fargo's national director of community relations, praised the project as a means to preserve homeownership and build generational wealth.

"As the Bank of Doing, we believe everyone should have access to a quality, affordable home," he said. "More than ever, we need to be intentional about scaling solutions for addressing heirs' property issues and empowering people to maintain home ownership from one generation to the next."

The Wells Fargo Foundation grant will empower the clinic to serve as a hub for clinical legal and academic research on heirs' property issues, help similar clinical efforts take root across the United States and train the next generation of heirs' property experts and practicing lawyers. It also will support the project's ongoing work to directly assist North Carolina heirs embroiled in legal challenges.

"Heirs' property issues disproportionately affect rural communities of color and low-income families," said Provost Michele Gillespie. "Wake Forest Law students are doing path-breaking work to help people hold onto their land. I am grateful for the Wells Fargo Foundation's support of the project and for their investment in North Carolina communities."

To learn more about the Heirs' Property Project visit go.wfu.edu/heirs or listen to the Heirs' Property Project episode of "The Legal Deac" podcast.



Schang



Malbrough

WAKE FOREST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

My husband, David Holden ('99), and I are fortunate to live close enough to campus to enjoy athletics and arts events, visit Reynolda Gardens or simply take a walk around Hearn Plaza. And with our daughter, Joanna, a third-generation Demon Deacon, joining the Class of 2029 in the fall, we look forward to being on campus even more often.

But even if you don't live close to campus, there are so many ways to connect with Wake Forest and Wake Foresters, wherever you live. I'm pleased to present here a few of the many ways that alumni can stay involved and connected.

— Shelley Slaughter Holden ('00, JD '03), Winston-Salem
President, Wake Forest Alumni Council



WAKECommunities

wakecommunities.wfu.edu

WAKECommunities deliver the spirit of Wake Forest to the places you call home. In 27 "hubs" with large numbers of alumni, families and friends and countless other locations around the world, you can connect with fellow Demon Deacons and support the University. Update your contact information in WakeNetwork (wakenetwork.wfu.edu) to stay connected and receive invitations to local events, industry or career related opportunities and events specific to your life stage.

Personal and Career Advice

alumni.opcd.wfu.edu

There's an entire team dedicated to helping alumni navigate their personal and professional lives after college. Check out the wonderful resources provided by the Alumni Personal & Career Development Center, including career coaches; young alumni and new manager mentoring groups in select cities; virtual industry panels and alumni career clinics; free online courses for recent graduates; and Wednesday Webinars that offer practical information on career and life topics.

Veterans Tailgate

More than 75 alumni veterans, current service members and other alumni, and students attended a tailgate before a football game last fall. The Wake Forest Veterans Network (formerly Decorated Deacs) is one of nine affinity groups with shared interests.



LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Have a question? Contact the Alumni Engagement Office at 800-752-8568 or alumni.wfu.edu.

The Alumni Engagement Office has moved! We're now located in the University Corporate Center near Allegacy Stadium. Please reach out to us if you'd like to visit.

GET INVOLVED

Save the date for Pro Humanitate Days, our annual days of service, in your community, March 29-April 6.

Participate in local events like Pro Humanitate Days, game watch parties, Lovefeast gatherings and more: wakecommunities.wfu.edu

Join an affinity group and connect to fellow Wake Foresters with shared professions, interests or identities: bit.ly/Affinitygroups

Give back to the funds that matter most to you and create life-changing opportunities for students: giving.wfu.edu

Volunteer for your reunion campaign. Classes ending in 0 and 5 will celebrate at Homecoming/Reunion Weekend in the fall: homecoming.wfu.edu/reunions

Submit a class note to share your personal and career updates with your classmates in Wake Forest Magazine: magazine.wfu.edu/submit

Take a class through the Lifelong Learning program. Schedule for spring classes: bit.ly/LifelongLearningClasses

Listen to the Wake Women podcast. Fifth-generation alumna Mary Tribble ('82, MA '19) interviews inspiring alumnae: wakewomen.alumni.wfu.edu

Travel with the Deacs on a trip of a lifetime in 2025, from the U.S. National Parks to Peru to Italy: bit.ly/Deacontravel

1960s

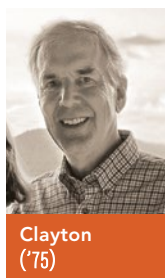
Bob McCreary ('61) was inducted into the American Home Furnishings Hall of Fame. McCreary is the founder of McCreary Modern Inc., a top manufacturer of upholstered furniture. He is one of the most generous donors to the University and the largest donor to Wake Forest Athletics, with lead gifts toward construction of McCreary Football Complex and McCreary Field House on the Reynolda campus, and McCreary Tower and the Bob McCreary Video Board Honoring the Class of 1961 at Allegacy Stadium. He lives in Newton, NC.

Richard Beavers ('67, P '93) was appointed to the board of trustees of Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown, NC. He retired as an endodontist in 2020 and lives in Greensboro, NC.

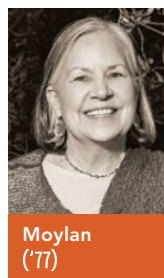
Bill Coore ('68) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. A world-renowned golf-course architect, he was honored with the Donald Ross Award by the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Among his most notable projects was the restoration of the No. 2 course at Pinehurst Resort, which hosted the U.S. Open in 1999, 2005, 2014 and 2024. *More at bit.ly/BillCoore*



Howerton
(73)



Clayton
(75)



Moylan
(77)



Cahill
(81)



Martin
(81)



Smyth
(JD '81)

est University Center for Private Business, which helps private businesses become more successful. He is continuing in his other role, as president of business strategy for TowneBank after a 42-year career with Wachovia and Wells Fargo. He and his wife, **Mary McElwee Clayton ('75, PA '76, P '09)**, live in Raleigh and have three sons. "Most importantly," Clayton says, they have six grandchildren "who are always great fun."

Mary "Misty" Talbert Mowrey ('75) retired after 20 years teaching English at East Lee Middle School in Sanford, NC. She was ordained by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 2006 after graduating with a Master of Divinity degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. She preaches several Sundays a month at small churches.

Knox White ('76) has been the mayor of Greenville, SC, for nearly 30 years. He hosted a walking tour of the city in June for guests including classmates **Malina Reed Gaynor ('76)**, **Janet McDonald ('76)**, **Patricia Jordan Powell ('76)**, **Karen Grove Sherman ('76, P '06, '10)** and **Kathy McMurtry Snead ('76, P '11)**.

Martha Brockinton Gibson-Wolfe ('77, PA '83) is enjoying retirement in Ocala, FL, where she competes in eventing with her horse, Zingaro, and plays in the Golden Ocala tennis league. She retired in 2021 after 36 years as a physician assistant. Her husband, Tom Wolfe, retired as a lawyer.

J. Ann Moylan ('77) retired as professor of family studies and human development after 37 years at California State University, Sacramento. She was most recently director of the Community Engagement Center. She still works part time at the university and serves on the board of directors of the Northern California Children's Therapy Center.

Cameron Kent ('79) was inducted into the Silver Circle by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for distinguished service to television journalism and reporting. Kent had a long career as an anchor and reporter at WXII 12 in Winston-Salem. He is also the author of six novels. He and his wife, **Sue Satrom Kent ('78)**, live in Winston-Salem.

public relations and communications for law enforcement and higher education. Kruea lives in Myrtle Beach.

Tony Cahill ('81) won his age group and placed 47th overall out of 406 participants in the 15th Annual Myrtle Beach Coastal 5K in October. He has logged more than 5,000 hours of barefoot beach running since 2005.

Perry Mandanis ('81) wrote "ADHDable: 50 Proven Strategies to Live Better with ADHD." The publication is a deck of illustrated cards that includes tips for improving functions and self-esteem. His Instagram account has more than 250,000 followers and offers daily strategies for improving life with ADHD. Mandanis also gives presentations and workshops to educators, students and parents. He lives in Hampton, CT.

John D. Martin ('81) was named Lawyer of the Year for litigation (insurance) in the Wilmington, NC, area in the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Martin is managing partner of the Wilmington office of Cranfill Sumner LLP.

Julia Myers O'Brien ('81, P '10) retired from Lancaster Theological Seminary after 27 years as the Paul H. and Grace L. Stern Professor of Hebrew Bible. She is the author and editor of numerous books, including "Prophets Beyond Activism: Rethinking the Prophetic Roots of Social Justice." She lives in Lancaster, PA.

Ted Smyth (JD '81) received the 2024 Core Value Award from Cranfill Sumner LLP for his embodiment of the law firm's core values of client service, teamwork and reputation. He is of

1970s

Virginia "Ginny" Niblock Britt ('70, MAED '73, DDiv '96, P '09) received a 7 Over Seventy award from Senior Services of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, which recognized seven individuals age 70 and above who have made the community a better place. Britt co-founded Crisis Control Ministry, an emergency assistance provider in Forsyth County, in 1973. She was assistant director of Crisis Control from 1974 to 1977 and executive director from 1977 to 1996. She also co-founded Advocacy for the Poor and helped expand free breakfast programs at local schools.

Nan Holbrook Griswold ('70) received a 7 Over Seventy award from Senior Services of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, which recognized seven individuals age 70 and above who have made the community a better place. Griswold was the founding executive director of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina, which she led from 1982 until retiring in 2008. She oversaw the organization's growth from a small warehouse to a nonprofit serving 18 counties.

Janice Pope Howerton ('73) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. After careers in education and interior design, she and her husband, **Richard Howerton III ('73)**, have retired and live in Winston-Salem.

Jack Clayton ('75, P '09) retired after five years as the Triangle regional director of the Wake For-

1980s

Mark Kruea ('80) retired from the City of Myrtle Beach (SC) after 26 years as public information director. His early career included radio and television news in both Carolinas, along with

Wake Forest Magazine welcomes Class Notes submissions from alumni. There are three ways to submit information:



STANDARD MAIL:

Wake Forest Magazine
1834 Wake Forest Road
P.O. Box 7227
Winston-Salem, NC 27109



EMAIL:

classnotes@wfu.edu



ONLINE:

magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/



Spence
(JD '82)



Farmer
(’84, MBA ’91)



Johnson
(JD ’84)



Pollock
(’84)



Rosebrook
(’85)



Larsen
(JD ’87)



Moskowitz
(JD ’89)



Phillips
(’89)

counsel in the firm’s Raleigh office. He was also named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, insurance law and personal injury litigation (defendants and plaintiffs).

Andy Avram (’82, JD ’90) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Steve Beam (’82) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. He is owner/principal of Beam Strategic Consulting Group LLC. He and his wife, **Joanne O’Brien Beam (’84)**, live in Charlotte.

Maria Henson (’82), associate vice president and editor-at-large in Wake Forest University Advancement, won a Best of CASE District III award for “Humor Him,” a summer 2023 article about associate psychology professor E.J. Masicampo and how his award-winning standup comedy intersects with his teaching. *More at bit.ly/HumorHim*

Eric R. Spence (JD ’82) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in commercial real estate law. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Warren Bishop (’83) wrote a book, “Learn By Heart,” and an accompanying set of Bible verse flashcards. He lives in New Bern, NC.

Rob Griffin (’83, JD ’86) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in litigation (insurance). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Noni Waite-Kucera (’83, P ’14, ’14) retired after nearly 25 years as executive director of Eagle’s Nest Foundation. The foundation oversees Eagle’s Nest Camp in Pisgah Forest, NC, and several other outdoor programs. Her paternal grandfather purchased the camp in the 1940s, and a Waite family member has been at the helm for nearly 80 years. *More at bit.ly/NoniWaite-Kucera*

Curtis C. Farmer (’84, MBA ’91, P ’16) was named a 2025 Dallas Business Hall of Fame Laureate by Junior Achievement of Dallas. Farmer is chairman, president and CEO of Comerica Inc. and Comerica Bank and a vice chair of the Wake Forest Board of Trustees. He is also on the board of directors of Texas Instruments Inc.

Wayne Johnson (JD ’84) is director of higher education at the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority, the agency that administers

the state’s grant, scholarship and student loan programs for post-secondary education.

William W. Pollock (’84) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in commercial litigation, construction litigation, insurance litigation and product liability litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Rhonda Kahan Amoroso (JD ’85, P ’97) is CEO of simply francis publishing co., a publishing company that combines aspects of traditional and self-publishing, in Wrightsville Beach, NC.

David Daggett (JD ’85) completed his 10th Ironman World Championship (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run) in Hawaii in October. He first completed the Hawaii Ironman in 1990. Daggett is managing partner of Daggett Shuler Attorneys at Law in Winston-Salem.

Keeva Jackson-Breland (’85) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. She was an honorable mention All-American in women’s basketball. She and teammate **Sonya Henderson (’02)** were the first Black female scholarship athletes at Wake Forest in the 1980s. They received Wake Forest Athletics’ Robert Grant and Kenneth “Butch” Henry Trailblazer Award in 2023. In three seasons, Jackson-Breland led the Demon Deacons in scoring twice, rebounding three times and steals twice.

Kerry M. King (’85), senior editor of Wake Forest Magazine, won a Best of CASE District III Award for “He’s Everywhere — And Home,” a spring 2023 story about Director of Athletics **John Currie (’93)** and his energetic approach to leading Wake Forest athletics. *More at bit.ly/ADJohnCurrie*

Stuart Rosebrook (’85) was named executive director of the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, AZ. Rosebrook is a professional historian and former editor of True West magazine. He was previously secretary of the museum’s board.

Russell Shilling (’85) joined the Medical and Science Advisory Board for Autism Speaks, where he advises on accessibility and emerging technologies. He consults with organizations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and with software developers to improve education and psychological health through game-based learning, extended reality and AI. He is a member of the National Security Leaders for America.

Nick Ellis (JD ’86) was selected to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in seven categories and was named Raleigh Lawyer of the Year in litigation (municipal). He is a partner and chair of the litigation section at Poyner Spruill LLP.

Brenda Corrie Kuehn (’86) won the senior division of the Maryland Women’s Open in October. Her daughter, **Rachel Kuehn (’23, MA ’24)**, was the top amateur and finished third overall in the tournament.

David Larsen (JD ’87) was recognized in the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America as Detroit Lawyer of the Year for trust and estates. Larsen is the senior member of Bodman PLC’s high net worth practice group.

Patrick Woodie (’87, JD ’90) is president and CEO of the NC Rural Center, a Raleigh-based nonprofit that develops economic strategies to bolster the quality of life for rural North Carolinians. *More at bit.ly/PatrickWoodie*

David Rhoades (MBA ’88, JD ’89) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

John Arthur “Art” Hagler (’89, P ’21) retired from the U.S. Department of Defense as chief financial officer of the Defense Logistics Agency in Fort Belvoir, VA, after a 30-year civil service career. For the last 13 years, he held various senior executive positions, primarily with the U.S. Army at the Pentagon. He is now a research staff member at the Institute for Defense Analyses, a nonprofit research and development group.

Kara Fisher Moskowitz (JD ’89) was named interim CEO of the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, after serving as director of the consumer protection program since 2012. She has spent her career in public interest law and was a managing attorney at Atlanta Legal Aid for 10 years.

Chris Phillips (’89) retired from Lowe’s Companies after 31 years. He spent the majority of his career in store planning as Lowe’s opened more than 1,300 new stores and expanded from a regional home improvement retailer to a national chain. At Wake Forest, he was a pitcher on the baseball team.

Nick Valaoras (’89, JD ’92) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

1990s

Hani Sie Brooks ('90) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is a community volunteer and a former neonatal intensive care unit nurse. She and her husband, **Richard Brooks ('90)**, a pediatric dentist, live in Cary, NC. Their son **Henry Brooks** graduated from Wake Forest in 2022, and son **James Brooks** is a junior.

Pat Flanagan (JD '90) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in civil rights law, employment law (management) and litigation (insurance, labor and employment, and municipal). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Derek Lance Furr ('90) wrote "Love Story with Birds," a collection of poetry and prose. Furr is a literature professor and dean of teacher education at Bard College.

David Brett Graves ('90) joined the National Park Service as civil/structural engineer for Yosemite National Park after a 30-year engineering career in consulting, manufacturing and construction.

Karin L. Zipf ('90) wrote "Exposing the Masculinist Narrative in Federal Antislavery Law: A History

of U.S. v. Tony Booker (1980)," in the March 2024 issue of The Journal of American History. Zipf is a professor of history at East Carolina University.

Scott Klenzak ('91) was elected president of the North Carolina Psychiatric Association, which represents over 1,000 psychiatrists in the state. He is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Campbell University's Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine and the new Methodist University Cape Fear Valley Health School of Medicine. He is the founding program director of the psychiatry residency at Cape Fear Valley, which has 35 residents and fellows in training. He lives in Fayetteville, NC, with his wife and children.

Amy Peacock Trojanowski ('91) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is vice president and chief financial officer of TW Metals

LLC. She and her husband, Brian Trojanowski, and three sons live in Kennett Square, PA.

W. Lee Allen III (JD '92) was inducted into the North Carolina American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame for more than 20 years of dedication and leadership as Post 39 commander and as a member of its athletic committee. Allen is of counsel at Colombo Kitchin Attorneys in Greenville, NC.

Robert J. Ramseur Jr. ('92, JD '95, P '23) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in real estate law. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Lisa Sponcler Norman ('93) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is a surgical pathologist in Winston-Salem. She and her husband, **Keith Norman ('93)**, have four children;



Zipf
('90)



Trojanowski
('91)



Ramseur
('92, JD '95)

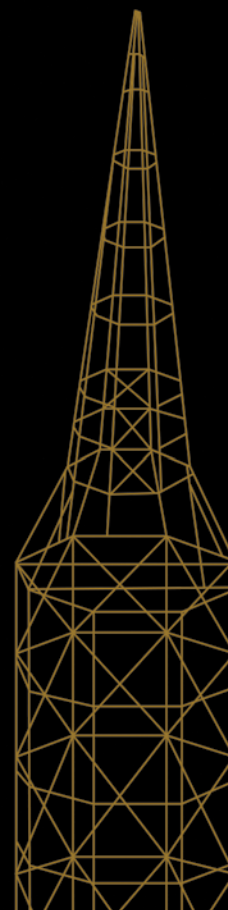


Norman
('93)

FRAMING OUR FUTURE

Tradition once again meets innovation as Wake Forest charts a course for the future, ensuring that our graduates will honor and advance the mission of *Pro Humanitate* both at home and in the world.

To learn more about the strategic framework, shared vision and thematic goals, or to monitor its progress, we invite you to visit framework.wfu.edu





Starnes
(’93, MBA ’14)



Nigrelli
(’94)



Stewart
(’94)



Harrell
(’95)



Schuettelpelz
(JD ’98)



Sivon
(’98)



Williams
(JD ’98)

their son, **Jack Norman**, is a first-year student at Wake Forest. She is also the author of seven children’s books. *More at bit.ly/WritingPromise*

Marci Shore (’93) is publisher of Johns Island Living magazine in Johns Island, SC, outside Charleston.

Kelly Starnes (’93, MBA ’14) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is a leadership coach and consultant and lives in Mount Pleasant, SC.

Amy Nigrelli (’94) was named chief marketing officer of Ent Credit Union in Colorado. She was CMO of New Mexico’s largest credit union. She and her family live in Colorado Springs.

Ashley Ray (’94) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in real estate law. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Amy Wallace Stewart (’94) was elected vice chair of the American Bar Association’s litigation section. Stewart is founding partner of Stewart Law Group PLLC in Dallas.

Anne Cherry Stone (MAEd ’94) joined the South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Adult Education, as an educational associate to support College and Career Navigators across the state.

Brian Harrell (’95) was promoted to president of A Cleaner World. He has been with the company for 28 years as a store manager, district manager and vice president and is a certified garment care professional with the Dry Cleaning and Laundry Institute. Harrell is also vice president of government affairs with the North Carolina Association of Launderers and Cleaners. He lives in Winston-Salem.

Dan Katzenbach (JD ’97) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in construction law, litigation (construction), personal injury litigation (defendants), product liability litigation (defendants) and professional malpractice law (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Molly Fitzpatrick (’98) is co-founder and co-chair of the board of the Amazing Maasai Girls Project. The program raises funds through a marathon in Kenya and other sponsored runs to support girls’ education in the Maasai communities of Laikipia, Kenya. Fitzpatrick is a go-to-market strategy and business operations leader in Denver.

Shane Harris (’98) joined The Atlantic as a staff writer covering national security and intelligence. He was a staff writer at The Washington Post, where he covered Ukraine and the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. He was part of the team that won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for stories about the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol. He lives in Washington, DC.

Todd King (’98, JD ’02) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in personal injury litigation (defendants) and product liability litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Tom Schuettelpelz (JD ’98) was promoted to vice president/trust officer for National Exchange Bank & Trust in Fond du Lac, WI. He joined the bank in 2019 as a trust and wealth management officer. He is a native of Fond du Lac.

Amie Fonville Sivon (’98) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in appellate practice, construction litigation and insurance litigation. She is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Carlton Ward (’98) is a National Geographic Explorer and photographer. He produced a film about the endangered Florida panther, “Path of the Panther,” which won a 2024 Emmy Award for Outstanding Nature Documentary.

Kevin G. Williams (JD ’98) was elected vice president of the North Carolina State Bar. He is president of Bell, Davis & Pitt PA and a member of the firm’s litigation section. He lives in Winston-Salem.

James Black (JD ’99) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

Ryan Shuirman (JD ’99) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in medical malpractice law (defendants) and personal injury litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Raleigh.

2000s

Janine Jacob (JD ’01) was appointed co-commissioner of accounts overseeing estates and trusts for Patrick County (VA). She was a partner at Daniel, Medley & Kirby PC for 15 years before opening her own law office in 2017. Jacob is also a substitute judge in the general district court and

juvenile and domestic relations district courts. She lives in Martinsville, VA, with her husband, Robert Lackey, and their two sons.

Katie Parsons Kurtz (’02, MSA ’03) was named CEO of Denholtz Properties, a commercial real estate development and investment company based in Red Bank, NJ. She was previously co-chief investment officer and chief financial officer for Silverstein Properties. She has 20 years of institutional real estate, capital markets and investment experience.

Coker Powell (MA ’02) was named executive vice president and chief revenue officer of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. She joined the organization in 2015.

Eugene “Beau” Schweikert (MBA ’02) joined the Beatty Companies as chief financial officer and head of family office. The company owns commercial real estate in the mid-Atlantic and Carolinas. He and his family live in McLean, VA.

David Tann (’02) was named the first designer-in-residence at Museum of Design Atlanta. He is the founder and CEO of Tantrum Agency, a brand-first creative agency in Atlanta. Tann spoke to several marketing and entrepreneurship classes at Wake Forest in October. *More at bit.ly/DavidTann*

John Bowen “Bo” Walker (’02) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in construction litigation, insurance litigation and personal injury litigation (defendants). He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett in Raleigh.

Alice Green Brown (’03) is chair of the Wake Forest College Board of Visitors. She is the founder of flip-flop company GoodSteps, a social enterprise that fights hunger. She, her husband and three children live in Atlanta. *More at bit.ly/AliceGreenBrown*

Elizabeth Avery Foster (MA ’03) was appointed vice provost for academic affairs at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She has taught at UT since 2006 and was most recently director of the Tombras School of Advertising and Public Relations. She lives in Knoxville.

Ovie Mughelli (’03) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. He played football at Wake Forest and earned first-team All-ACC honors as a senior. He was ranked the No. 1 fullback by USA Today before being drafted in the fourth round by Baltimore in the 2003 NFL draft. He also played for Atlanta and was named



Kurtz
(’02, MSA ’03)



Walker
(’02)



Munroe
(’03, JD ’09)



Mann
(’04)



Werrenrath
(’04)



Loring
(JD ’06)



Duncan
(’07)

to the Pro Bowl twice during his 10-year professional career.

Anna Warburton Munroe (’03, JD ’09) was named a 2025 North Carolina Super Lawyer and recognized in the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in family law. She is a shareholder at Allman Spry Leggett Crumpler & Horn PA in Winston-Salem.

Marcy Dodge Bull (’04, MBA ’08) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She and her husband, Richard Bull, and their three daughters live in La Jolla, CA.

Keenon Mann (’04) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. He is president of the Association of Wake Forest University Black Alumni and a program manager for Reach Out and Read, a national early literacy organization working with pediatric care providers, from his home state of Delaware.

Eric F. Werrenrath (’04) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in two areas: real estate law, and bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization law. He is an attorney at Winderweede, Haines, Ward & Woodman PA in Winter Park, FL.

Brian Benton (MBA ’05) joined Compass Group as a business insights analyst in Charlotte. He will help the company complete a consolidation and upgrade of their Systems Applications and Products software system. He was in Duke Energy’s customer connect program, where he helped consolidate four legacy billing systems. He lives in Tega Cay, SC.

Ashley Austin Edwards (’05) was named a United States bankruptcy judge for the Western District of North Carolina. She was an attorney at Parker Poe law firm. She and her husband, **Hunter Edwards (’05)**, and their two children live in Charlotte. On spring weekends, they can be found at David F. Couch Ballpark cheering on the Diamond Deacs.

Bradley Kline (JD ’05) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). He is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.

Jonathan McCracken (’05) is state director for Ohio for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. Previously, he held positions in the U.S. Senate in agriculture, economic development, food, nutrition, energy and environmental policy. An Ohio native, he lives in Columbus

with his wife, Katie Vinopal, and daughters Louisa (4) and Hazel (2).

Samantha Larkin Stoddard (’05) was named executive vice president, CFO of JELD-WEN, a global manufacturer of interior and exterior doors, windows and related products, based in Charlotte. She was previously North America CFO and head of global financial planning and analysis. She and her husband, Troy Stoddard, live in Van Wyck, SC.

Jill Bader Thompson (’05) was named executive director of the Painting Contractors Association, a 140-year-old trade association. She lives in Nashville, TN.

Brett Harris (’06) presented a lecture, “Where Two or Three Are Gathered: Reconsidering Community and Conversation with Will Campbell,” at a celebration of Campbell’s 100th birthday at The University of Southern Mississippi. **Campbell (’48, P ’81, LHD ’84)**, a Baptist minister, was a supporter of the Civil Rights Movement and wrote 17 books, including his autobiographical work, “Brother to a Dragonfly,” a 1978 National Book Award finalist. Harris, a former Baptist pastor and host of the podcast “God Knows Where,” has taught students at Southern Mississippi about Campbell’s legacy through the collection of Campbell’s papers housed at the university.

Anna Ball Hodge (’06) joined the Wake Forest University Center for Private Business as market manager, Triangle & Eastern Carolina, responsible for outreach, recruitment and membership in the area. She has served on the Center’s Triangle advisory board and on the advisory board of the University’s Face to Face Speaker Forum. She is also a full-time real estate broker with Hodge & Kittrell Sotheby’s International Realty in Raleigh.

Jason Loring (JD ’06) joined law firm Jones Walker LLP as a partner in the corporate practice group and a member of the commercial transactions team. He co-leads the privacy, data strategy and artificial intelligence team and is based in Atlanta.

Steve Marshall (JD ’06) joined Covington & Burling LLP in Washington, DC, as of counsel. He has nearly 20 years of experience in patent litigation.

Matthew Zakreski (’06) wrote his first book, “The Neurodiversity Playbook: How Neurodivergent People Can Crack the Code of Living in a Neurotypical World.” He is a clinical psychologist who specializes in working with gifted and neurodivergent children and teenagers. He has given more than 800 talks worldwide and has been fea-

tured on NPR and in The New York Times. He lives in Succasunna, NJ, with his wife and two children.

Jane Beasley Duncan (’07) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. She is founder and principal of JBD Insight, a brand and marketing consultancy in Winston-Salem. She and her husband, Griffin Duncan, and their daughter and son live in Winston-Salem.

Stuart Whatley (’07) co-authored “How to Think about Progress: A Skeptic’s Guide to Technology.” He argues that we put too much faith in finding new technologies to fix problems we could tackle with the tools we have already. *More at bit.ly/StuartWhatley*

Courtney (Gregory) Battista (’08) wrote “Reflections: An Interactive Guide for Clinical Supervision.” It offers practical insights to providing and receiving feedback, understanding ethical practices and developing multicultural humility. Battista is a psychotherapist and owner of Mindful Life Therapy LLC in Somerville, NJ.

Bethany Chafin (’08, MA ’11) was promoted to editorial director at 88.5 WFDD. She joined WFDD in 2012 and was most recently assistant news director.

Caitlin Berry (’09) was appointed the inaugural director of the Irene and Richard Frary Gallery at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center in Washington, DC. She was previously the inaugural director of the Rubell Museum DC.

Kimberly Franklin (MBA ’09) was promoted to vice president and general manager, Hanes Kids & Socks, at Hanesbrands Inc. She was previously director and general manager for Kids Innerwear & Babywear. She lives in Clemmons, NC.

Caldwell Tanner (’09) is a comedian and host of “Not Another D&D Podcast” about the fantasy tabletop role-playing game. The podcast has 1.5 to 2 million downloads a month and live, in-person shows, including at Carnegie Hall. Tanner previously worked for CollegeHumor (now Dropout) and was a storyboard artist for Disney Channel. *More at bit.ly/CaldwellTanner*

2010s

Jerri Simmons (JD ’10) was named to the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law (employers). She is a partner at Cranfill Sumner LLP in Charlotte.



Cano
(MSM '11)



Bell
(JD '12)



Hoyt
(12)



Banks
(18, MSM '19)

Christopher Steighner (MBA '10) is a U.S. Army Reserve officer. He was named deputy commanding officer, 97th Brigade, 100th Division in the U.S. Army Reserve.

John Cano (MSM '11) was installed as governor-elect of the Texas-Oklahoma District of Kiwanis International and begins his term as the 111th CEO in October. The district includes more than 200 clubs with nearly 5,000 members. Cano also joined the board of the Texas-Oklahoma Kiwanis Foundation, which awards academic scholarships. He lives in Austin, TX.

Laura Pinnie Joye ('11) joined Leeds Illuminate Advisors LP, a New York and North Carolina-based private equity firm, as a managing director on its investment team. She is also a member of the board of trustees at the Metropolitan State University of Denver and lives in Denver with her husband and their newborn daughter.

Ike Opara ('11) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. He was a multiple first-team All-American and All-ACC record-setting soccer player. He was named to Soccer America's All Freshman team during Wake Forest's National Championship run in 2007. Professionally, he played for the San Jose Earthquakes, Sporting Kansas City and Minnesota United FC and earned MLS Defender of the Year honors twice.

Stephen Bell (JD '12) was named to the 2025 edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America in professional malpractice law. He is a partner in Cranfill Sumner LLP's Wilmington office.

Megan Bosworth Hoyt ('12) was named the inaugural executive director of REACH Women's Network, a Winston-Salem group creating opportunities for working women to strengthen their skills and connect with other women. She has more than a decade of experience in nonprofits, fundraising and career development. She and her husband, **Cody Hoyt (MBA '14)**, live in Winston-Salem with their daughter and son.

Tiffany Rene Johnson (JD '12) was nominated as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. She has been an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia since 2017. Previously, she was a litigation associate at Atlanta law firm Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs LLP.

Evan Beck ('13) won the U.S. Mid-Amateur championship in Virginia in September and qualified for the U.S. Open and the Masters. Beck was

an All-American and two-time All-ACC golfer at Wake Forest.

Mattie DelVecchio ('14) was promoted to director of brand marketing at Marriott International. She was previously a senior brand marketing manager. She and her husband, **Steven Thompson ('14)**, live in Fairfax, VA.

Taryn Walker Harper (JD '14) was named to The Legal 500 United States 2024 Edition. She is a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig LLP, where she focuses on product liability litigation, including pharmaceutical, medical device, cosmetics and personal care products. She and her husband, **Nick Harper (JD/MBA '14)**, live in Atlanta.

Aubrey Bledsoe Kingsbury ('14) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. She was a three-time All-American and All-ACC goalkeeper and Wake Forest's first Capital One Academic All-American. She started every game during her four seasons and holds a number of career records. Professionally, she has played for the Washington Spirit since 2018 and has won the NWSL Goalkeeper of the Year award twice.

Katie Stengel ('14) was named to the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame. She played soccer at Wake Forest and was a four-time All-ACC selection and three-time NSCAA All-American. She helped lead the United States to the 2012 FIFA Under-20 World Cup championship in Japan and was the first Demon Deacon player to be called up to the U-20s. As a professional, she has played with FC Bayern Munich, Liverpool FC and Gotham FC.

Bill Zandi ('14) was named to the Wake Forest Alumni Council. He is co-founder of Helm BIM, a pre-construction consulting firm specializing in building information modeling to drive cost-effective outcomes for developers. He is also the founder and president of Students Helping Students, a nonprofit that supports under-resourced K-12 schools. At Wake Forest, he majored in philosophy and minored in entrepreneurship and social enterprise. He lives in Philadelphia.

Rachel Roth Aldhizer ('15) received a Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship through The Fund for American Studies to produce a book manuscript on the fertility crisis. Aldhizer is an independent journalist covering disability, abortion policy and assisted reproductive technologies. Her reporting and opinion have been featured in First Things magazine, National Review, Plough, The American Conservative, The Federalist and Newsweek. She and her husband, **George Aldhizer ('15, MSA '16)**, live in Winston-Salem with their children.

Dearica Hamby ('15) won a bronze medal on the U.S. women's 3x3 basketball team at the Paris Summer Games. She is the first Wake Forest women's athlete to win an Olympic medal. *More at bit.ly/DearicaHambyOlympics*

Diane Hodson (MFA '15) was named an assistant professor of radio, television and film at Hofstra University's Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, where she coordinates the new podcasting and audio storytelling bachelor of arts degree. She is also senior story editor and executive producer of the podcast "Empire City: The Untold Origin Story of the NYPD" and story editor of "Hysterical." Both podcasts were named to Vulture's list of "The Best Podcasts of 2024 (So Far)." "Hysterical" was named Apple Podcasts' 2024 Show of the Year.

Hannah Duane ('16) was named event operations and project manager on University Advancement's donor events team at Wake Forest. She has worked at Wake Forest since 2018 and was previously assistant director, engagement programs. She lives in Winston-Salem.

Buck Hinman ('16) joined WLWT in Cincinnati as an executive producer.

Dan Kalter ('17) joined Ogletree Deakins law firm as an associate in the Tampa office.

Corinne Sugino ('17) wrote "Making the Human: Race, Allegory, and Asian Americans." Sugino is an assistant professor at Ohio State University in the English department and the Center for Ethnic Studies.

Jordan Banks ('18, MSM '19) joined Sports International Group Inc. as marketing manager. She works with NBA, WNBA, FIBA and NIL clients.

Laura Carisa Gardea (MA '18) leads Proxevita, a Winston-Salem-based band that champions sustainability and social change through their music and nonprofit work. The band placed fourth in the quarterfinals of Rolling Stone's America's Next Top Hitmaker competition in August. Gardea is also the founder of Southside Food Forest, a community garden in Winston-Salem. The garden meets 10 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and was recognized at the 2024 U.N. Summit of the Future in New York.

Cody Burke ('19) is a middle school English teacher and high school percussion director in Greenville, SC. He earned his doctorate in education at the University of Louisiana Monroe last fall. His father, Bob Burke, an attorney and author in Oklahoma City, donated a large collection of documents and signatures from every U.S. president and most first ladies to the Z. Smith Reynolds Library's Special Collections & Archives. *More at bit.ly/BurkePresidentialCollection*

Jennifer Kupcho ('19), a professional golfer, helped Team USA win the Solheim Cup in September at Robert Trent Jones Golf Club in Gainesville, VA, claiming the U.S. team's first Solheim Cup victory since 2017.

Helen Morgan ('19, MA '23) joined EY as a people consultant, working with clients primarily in the financial services industry. She lives in Charlotte.

Xiaohuan Xue (MA '19) received the 2024 Love of Learning Award from Phi Kappa Phi, a collegiate honor society. The award helps fund professional development. He also received the award in 2022.

2020s

Jackson Blodgett ('20) was named chief clerk for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture. He was a hearing clerk for the U.S. Senate. He lives in Washington, DC.

Kristin Knight ('20, MSM '21, MBA '24) joined the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District as a retail strategist. She is working with property owners and retail operators to revitalize the Golden Triangle neighborhood in Washington, DC.

Erik Schultz ('20, MSM '21) was promoted to senior eCommerce retail specialist at Flywheel, a cloud-based digital commerce platform. He lives in Winston-Salem.

Anna Hogewood Cole ('21) was promoted to senior leadership gift officer in Wake Forest University Advancement. She and her husband, **Jackson Cole ('22)**, live in Winston-Salem.

Kaylie Jessup ('21, JD '24) joined Bell, Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem. She focuses on real estate matters, banking and financial services, creditors' rights and general business law.

Doug Maier ('21) and **Dixie Finley Maier ('20)** have traveled to 10 countries in three years by turning their credit-card points into plane tickets. More at bit.ly/DougMaier

Tyler Myers ('21) graduated from Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law and joined Eckert Seamans law firm as an associate in the aviation practice group. He lives in Washington, DC.

Stephanie Raborn (JD '21) designs jewelry for her curated line, Las Lobas, and is an employee benefits compliance officer. After years of designing jewelry, she studied lost wax casting at Sawtooth School for Visual Arts during law school and uses the metal casting technique to create much of her jewelry. She lives in Winston-Salem.

Kaylah Bozkurtian ('22) designed book-sharing boxes for a collaboration between Penguin Random House and Little Free Library. The boxes will be placed in high-need communities across the country. Penguin Random House is providing more than 2,000 banned and diverse books. Bozkurtian is a junior designer, brand and communications, at Penguin Random House.

Lexi Colan ('22) was promoted to senior analyst of omnichannel marketing at Kraft Heinz Away



Xue
(MA '19)



Myers
('21)



Cook
(JD '22)



Maloney
(MSBA '22)



LaScala
(MSBA '23)

From Home foodservice division. She was a marketing analyst for Velveeta and Claussen brands at Kraft Heinz. She lives in Chicago.

Cara Cook (JD '22) joined Cranfill Sumner LLP in Wilmington, NC, as an associate attorney. She focuses on civil litigation. At Wake Forest, she was a teaching assistant and managing editor of the Journal of Business and Intellectual Property Law. She also participated in the Environmental Law & Policy Clinic.

Graham Jeal (MBA '22) was promoted to senior managing consultant at Mastercard in Charlotte. He is also a foreign liaison officer for Wake Forest's ROTC program.

Tim Maguire (JD '22) joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as attorney advisor. He was a law clerk for the Colorado Court of Appeals. He lives in Denver.

Sean Maloney (MSBA '22) was promoted to director, financial planning and analysis, at Driven Brands, an automotive services company. He lives in Charlotte.

Abby Merk ('22) is a professional poker player and content creator with a fast-growing Instagram and YouTube following. She taught her friends poker and held weekly tournaments in Magnolia dorm when she was a student. More at bit.ly/AbbyMerkPoker

Rachel Kuehn ('23, MA '24) was the top amateur and finished third overall at the Maryland Women's Open in October. Her mother, **Brenda Corrie Kuehn ('86)**, won the senior division.

Phil LaScala (MSBA '23) was promoted to manager, sales tools & analytics, at Altria. He lives in Elgin, SC.

Cooper Isakson (JD '24) joined law firm Critchfield, Critchfield & Johnston, based in Wooster, OH, as an associate.

Cleve Packer Jr. (MSM '24) was named a Virginia Management Fellow, a two-year program at Virginia Tech's Institute for Policy and Governance to develop the next generation of state leaders.

Mimi Rhodes ('24) won her first professional golf tournament on the LET Access Series in September at the Lavaux Ladies Open in Switzerland, two weeks after winning the Curtis Cup with the Great Britain and Ireland team and turning professional. She was an All-American and All-ACC golfer at Wake Forest.



A SIGNATURE VIDEO SERIES

Wake Forest faculty are making strides in teaching and scholarship.

Join President Susan R. Wente as she walks and talks with outstanding teacher-scholars.



go.wfu.edu/walkwithwente

Marriages

Helen Adair King ('03) and David Jayne, 8/1/23 in Charlotte, where they live.

Sandhya Ghanta ('12) and Siddharth Misra, 8/7/24 in Morganville, NJ. They live in Scotch Plains, NJ.

Vanessa Gabrielle Schwartz ('12, MSL '13) and William "Lloyd" Firth, 6/29/24 in Palm Beach, FL. A celebration was held in Washington, DC, where they live.

James Braiden Rex ('13) and Akansha Mishra, 7/29/2023 in Dana Point, CA. They live in New York. The wedding party included Charles E. Klug III ('12) and Blake E. Taylor ('13).

Bailey Marie Stinson ('14, MSM '15, MBA '19) and Richard Dorian Stockton, 8/24/24 in Pinnacle, NC. They live in Winston-Salem. The wedding party included Kristen McConnell Gogoli ('14), Nora Kane-Reich ('15, MSM '21), Xuejiao "Katie" Wang Jorgenson (MSM '15, MBA '19), Kaitlyn Cooper (MBA '19) and Meredith Martinez (MBA '20).

Dakota Mackenzie Lee ('16) and Elizabeth Marie Lamm, 9/14/24 in Orlando, FL, where they live. The wedding party included Chandler Dunklin ('14), Halston Kirkpatrick ('14), John Allen Riggins ('14, JD '18), Owen Stone ('14), Chester Bedell II ('15), Kyle Webb ('15), Hunter Honnessy ('16), William Hardy V ('17), Cameron Silverglate ('17), Cliff Benson IV ('19), Luis Herrera ('19), Thomas Fitzpatrick (MD '20) and Coleman Greene ('20). Bret Allen ('83) and Ben Milner ('93) officiated.

Woody Axelson ('17) and **Ashton Caudle ('17)**, 5/11/24 in Palmetto Bluff, SC. They live in Charleston, SC. The wedding party included Liz-zie Axelson ('14), Sarah Burke Butler ('16), Sarah Bonner ('17), Taylor Bryan ('17), Courtney Case ('17), Charlie Jonas ('17), Brian Lightcap ('17), Katie Moran ('17), Eleanor Raether ('17), Giles Richetta ('17, MSM '18), Graham Shue ('17) and Trent VanHorn ('17, MD '21).

Laura Draughn ('20) and **Jackson Siktberg ('20)**, 6/8/24 in Nashville, TN, where they live. The wedding party included Andrew Enzor ('20), Olivia DeVos Griffioen ('20), Meredith Happy ('20), Spencer Jenkins ('20), Nick Monette ('20), Julia Sprofera ('20) and Alex Stevens ('20).

Dixie Marie Finley ('20) and **Douglas "Doug" William Maier Jr. ('21)**, 6/15/24 in Bermuda. They live in Austin, TX. The bride is the daughter of Duke Finley ('80, MBA '83). The groom is the son of Doug Maier ('89) and the brother of McKenzie Maier ('23).

Peter Buchanan Bryant ('22) and **Elise Marie Burger ('22, MSA '23)**, 8/3/24 in Winston-Salem. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included David Deerin ('20), Caroline Bryant ('21), Emmy Harman ('21), Lexi Colan ('22), Peter Gilbert ('22), Andrew Mauney ('22), Maddy

Waltemath Myers ('22), Libby Welborn ('22) and Noah Bryant ('25).

Thomas Frazier Laws ('22) and Katherine "Kate" Elizabeth May, 11/3/24 in Trinity, NC. They live in Greensboro, NC. The wedding party included Katherine Laws Waters ('20), Reid Anderson ('22), Remy Butts ('22), Jackson Cole ('22), Peter Gilbert ('22), Andrew Mauney ('22), Danny Myers ('22), Ross Thomas ('22) and Sallie Perry ('23). The groom is the son of Kevin Laws ('89).

Births

Helen Adair King ('03) and David Jayne, Charlotte: a daughter, Eden Adair Jayne. 6/24/24. She joined her siblings, Noah, Natalie, Haley, Austin and Blake.

Katie Rigby Oliver ('04) and Alex Oliver, Atlanta: a daughter, Enola Lucille Oliver. 8/16/24. She joined her brother, Pennington (2).

Mary Patterson Broome Fenn ('05) and John Fenn, Greenville, SC: a daughter, Laney Frances Fenn. 3/24/23

Tiana Perry Johnson ('06) and Nathanael Johnson, Bothell, WA: a daughter, Lake Linda Johnson. 9/1/23

Kelsey Indorf Soukup ('06, MSA '07) and Bryan Jeffrey Soukup, Cold Spring Harbor, NY: a daughter, Elle Alexandria Soukup. 6/8/24. She joined her brothers, Ford Bryan (3) and Blake Thatcher (2).

Joy Meeder Crook ('08) and Brian Crook, Madison, GA: a son, John "Miles" Crook. 8/7/24. He joined his sister, Madeleine Louise (2).

Robert Wilder Harte ('10) and Caroline Marie Scrantom, Columbia, SC: a daughter, Nichols Wilder Harte. 7/13/24

Austin Tharrington Cox ('11) and **David William Cox ('11)**, Greensboro, NC: a daughter, Nella Austin Cox. 5/27/24. She joined her sister, Coley Marie (3). She is the granddaughter of Richard Lowe Cox Sr. ('76) and Perry Rickman Tharrington III ('79) and the great-granddaughter of Jewell Brinkley Tharrington ('51).

Cara Phillips Frye ('11) and **Charlie Frye ('11)**, Winston-Salem: a son, Charles Alexander "Huck" Frye. 9/18/24. He joined his brother, William (1). He is the grandson of Chuck Frye ('79, JD '82) and Sarah Early Frye ('79).

Elizabeth Armstrong Owen ('11) and **Jack Walden Owen III ('11)**, Powell, OH: a daughter, Caroline Emily Owen. 8/9/24. She joined her brother, William (5), and sister, Anna (3).

John Christian Keller ('12) and **Rachel Eason Keller ('12)**, Lookout Mountain, GA: a daughter, Caroline Christian Keller. 9/15/24. She joined her sister, Catherine (2). She is the granddaughter of Paul Eason ('84) and the niece of Stephen Eason ('15) and Brian Keller ('15).

Casey Thomas Carey ('14) and Nick Carey, Charlotte: a son, Jack Thomas Carey. 5/23/24. He joined his sister, Ellie (2).

Alex Godinho ('14, MSM '15) and **Emily Man-non Godinho ('14)**, Tampa, FL: a daughter, Lydia Melinda Godinho. 5/3/24

Brendan Patrick Whalen ('14, MSA '15) and **Megan Elizabeth Werner Whalen ('14)**, West Chester, PA: a daughter, Paige Collins Whalen. 9/15/24

Alec Gibson Trub ('15) and **Catherine Jachthuber Trub ('15)**, Durham, NC: a son, Elliott William Trub. 10/8/24

Rocco Esposito ('17) and **Lauren Gilvar Esposito ('18)**, Winston-Salem: a son, Emmett James Esposito. 10/1/24

Caitlin Herlihy Hickman ('17, JD '20) and **Harris Walker Hickman ('17, MSA '18)**, Charlotte: a son, Walker Daniel Hickman. 4/24/24

Maggie Lancaster Martinez ('20, MSM '21) and Zach Martinez, Alexandria, VA: a daughter, Vivienne James Martinez. 8/27/24

Deaths

Roy Edward "Ed" Davenport Jr. ('46), Sept. 6, 2024, Farmville, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a businessman.

Helen Adelaide Braswell Vernon ('46), Oct. 2, 2024, Whitakers, NC. She was a teacher. She was preceded in death by her son, **Homer Braswell Vernon ('72)**.

Virginia Best Hollingsworth ('48), July 23, 2024, Cary, NC. She was an operating room nurse.

William "Bill" Leonard Denning ('49), Sept. 8, 2024, Smithfield, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He owned Denning Furniture Store in Smithfield. He was preceded in death by brothers **John N. Denning ('37)** and **Hubert V. Denning ('39)**.

Samuel Emerson Britt ('50, JD '52), Aug. 23, 2024, Lumberton, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a Special Superior Court judge for North Carolina and Chief Superior Court judge of the 16th Judicial District. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Elsie Gentry Britt ('50)**. Survivors include sons **Samuel Emerson Britt II ('76, MD '80)** and **Daniel Gentry Britt ('89)** and grandson **Samuel Emerson Britt III ('09)**.

Iris Harrington Efird ('50), Aug. 17, 2024, Kannapolis, NC. She was a founder of the Bible Teaching Association in Kannapolis, a past state president of the Gideons Auxiliary and a founding officer of the Christian Women's Club in Cabarrus County (NC). She was preceded in death by her husband, **Don Efird ('52)**.

Dorothy "Dot" Raynor Ennis ('51), July 26, 2024, Fayetteville, NC. She taught high school French and English and worked with her late husband, **Earl Ennis Sr. ('51)**, breeding and showing Arabian horses. Survivors include daughter **Julie Ennis ('76)**.

George A. Kahdy ('51), Sept. 15, 2023, Wendell, NC. He served as a fighter pilot during World War II. He was executive director of the North Carolina Business Committee for Education and an education adviser to Governors **James G. Martin ('95, LLD '87)** and **Jim B. Hunt (P '88, '90, LLD '82)**. He was also assistant state superintendent for public instruction. Survivors include grandson **Fred Stone III ('04)**.

John Julian Lewis ('51), Aug. 15, 2024, Elizabeth City, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was in banking. Survivors include daughter **Lee Lewis Leidy ('85)**.

Isabelle Goodson Mallory ('51), Nov. 20, 2024, Mount Olive, NC. She was a teacher for 30 years.

Robert Lee Savage Jr. ('51, JD '53), Oct. 6, 2024, Apex, NC. He was a real estate lawyer.

Robert "Bob" Scalf ('51), Aug. 16, 2024, Bath, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was chief

probation officer for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Don Scalf ('58, P '80)**.

Basil M. Watkins Jr. ('51), Oct. 3, 2024, Concord, NC. He worked for NCBN, now Bank of America, in Charlotte for 40 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Martha Hobbs Watkins ('56)**, and his father, **Basil M. Watkins Sr. (1915)**.

Fred S. Landess ('53), Sept. 29, 2024, Charlottesville, VA. He was a real estate lawyer.

Virginia Louis "Lou" Newsome Overman ('53), July 4, 2024, Manteo, NC. She was in the marching band and the Philomathesian Literary Society at Wake Forest. She was a genealogist and a past member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council. Her husband, **William Jackson "Jack" Overman ('53)**, died on July 21, 2024.

William Jackson "Jack" Overman Jr. ('53), July 21, 2024, Manteo, NC. He was in the marching band at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years flying blimps and seaplanes, as a combat officer aboard an aircraft carrier during the Vietnam War and as commanding officer of the naval air facility in the Bahamas. He worked at Peterbilt Motors Co. and was on the Wake Forest Alumni Council. He was preceded

in death by his wife, **Virginia "Lou" Newsome Overman ('53)**.

Charles E. Buchanan Jr. ('54), Sept. 10, 2024, Johnson City, TN. He served in the U.S. Army. He was vice president of operations at Penn-Dixie Cement Co. and founded Roan Industries Inc.

Newman Maxville "Max" Lewis ('54, MD '57), Aug. 14, 2024, Statesville, NC. He practiced internal medicine for nearly 40 years. He was preceded in death by his father, **Newman Lewis Sr. (1928)**. Survivors include son **Dewey Lewis ('82)**.

Beatrice "Bea" Elizabeth McNeill McRae ('54), Aug. 19, 2024, Winston-Salem. She was a past president of the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina. Survivors include son **Bradford Lawrence McRae ('87)** and grandson **Gavin Everett McRae ('23)**.

Robert Harrison Sasser Jr. ('54), Oct. 26, 2024, Culpeper, VA. At Wake Forest, he was treasurer of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He served in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Navy Reserve. He retired from Union Camp Corp. as director of international development in the fine paper division. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Douglas Sasser ('59)**. Survivors include son **Robert Harrison Sasser III ('80, JD '83)**.



DEACSGIVE.WFU.EDU

TUESDAY APRIL 8



ONE DAY | ALL FOR WAKE FOREST

Carol Carlton Anderson ('55), Sept. 8, 2024, Fredericksburg, VA. She retired from The (Fredericksburg) Free Lance-Star newspaper.

James Paul Tyndall ('55), Oct. 22, 2024, Midland, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was treasurer of his church.

E.T. Vinson ('55), Sept. 22, 2024, Greenville, NC. He was a Southern Baptist minister in North Carolina.

John Henry Wilson Jr. ('55), Aug. 12, 2024, Oxford, NC. He was a retired professor in pesticide education at NC State University.

Russell Marvin Bartholomew ('56), May 8, 2024, Kinston, NC. He served in the U.S. military and retired from the U.S. Social Security Administration after 35 years.

Gray Thomas Boyette ('56, MD '60), Sept. 29, 2024, Winston-Salem. At Wake Forest, he was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity and business manager of the Old Gold & Black. He served in the U.S. Army and founded Maplewood Internal Medicine in Winston-Salem. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society, and he and his wife established the Dr. Gray T. Boyette Athletic Endowment Fund at Wake Forest. Survivors include his wife, **Sandra Combs Boyette (MBA '95)**, retired vice president for Public Affairs and University Advancement at Wake Forest.

Kenneth Ray Doyle Sr. ('56), Aug. 18, 2024, Angier, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He was accounting director at Dorothea Dix Hospital for 31 years.

Jack Edward Klass (JD '56), Sept. 8, 2024, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a lawyer and district court judge. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Harry Mazman ('56), Nov. 11, 2024, Saugus, MA. He played football at Wake Forest and was in ROTC. He was named Saugus Person of the Year and received the Saugus Public Library leadership award.

William "Bill" Blakeley Mills (JD '56), Aug. 23, 2024, Thomasville and Mint Hill, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a judge advocate general in the U.S. Air Force Reserve during his three-decade military career and retired as a colonel. He practiced law for 66 years. He received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest award for service.

Robert E. Overstreet ('56), Oct. 9, 2024, Pittsburgh. At Wake Forest, he was active in the radio station and Baptist Student Union and was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He was a Baptist minister. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Vivian Butler Overstreet ('57)**. Survivors include granddaughter **Chelsea Overstreet Bradley ('11)**.

Ben Dixon Routh Sr. ('56), Oct. 24, 2024, Huntersville, NC. He was in banking for more than 50 years and assisted with community development

initiatives. He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, **E. Willys Hooper ('48, JD '51)**. Survivors include niece **Celia Routh Hooper ('73)**.

Kenneth "Ken" Guy Tomberlin ('56, MD '60), Nov. 9, 2024, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was an orthopaedic surgeon for more than 50 years. Survivors include son **Marcus Tomberlin (MD '87)** and daughter **Julie Tomberlin ('84)**.

John Henderson Hasty ('57, JD '60), Nov. 15, 2024, Gastonia, NC. He was a lawyer in Charlotte for 55 years.

Stanley Harold Lamm ('57), July 30, 2024, Martinsville, VA. He was superintendent of Martinsville City Public Schools.

Nell Haynes Sharpe ('57), Sept. 14, 2024, Cleveland, TN. She was a teacher and worked in a Mars candy factory, where she printed the "Ms" on M&M's. She was preceded in death by her sister, **Edna Haynes Honeycutt ('59)**.

Richard "Rusty" C. Beck ('58), Oct. 10, 2024, Wellington, AL. He served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot instructor.

Keith Marshall Fink ('58), Oct. 21, 2024, Concord, NC. He worked in pharmaceutical sales and research. Survivors include son **Jeff Fink ('81)**.

Nancy Josephine Smith Thomas ('58), Oct. 17, 2024, Winston-Salem. She was a teacher and the author of "Moravian Christmas in the South."

David Henry Wilcox III ('58), Aug. 3, 2024, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army and worked at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and RJR International in financial management. Survivors include sister **Jan Wilcox Whittle ('59)**.

Robert "Bobby" Morris Hines ('59), Sept. 5, 2024, Raleigh. He was head manager of the football team at Wake Forest and founded US Floor Systems Inc. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Reca Sanders Hines ('61)**. Survivors include his daughters, **Allison Hines Ficken ('81)**, **Leigh Hines Baker ('82)** and **Barrie Hines Shavlik ('87)**.

Johnny E. Presson ('59), Nov. 5, 2024, Winston-Salem. He retired after 30 years as a teacher, coach, principal and superintendent of Shelby (NC) City Schools. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Elizabeth Ann Julian Abadie ('60), July 30, 2024, Oxford, MS. She was associate director emerita of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. She was also a founder of the annual Oxford Conference for the Book and co-editor of the Mississippi Encyclopedia, the Encyclopedia of Southern Culture and the 24-volume New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture.

Sandra Tucker Culp ('60), Oct. 20, 2024, Charlotte. She was a teacher and owned a tutoring business.

Elwood Cox "Woody" Peele Jr. ('60), Sept. 12, 2024, Winterville, NC. He was sports editor of the Old Gold & Black at Wake Forest. He was sports editor and a senior writer for The Daily Reflector (Pitt County) for 40 years and helped found the athletics hall of fame at East Carolina University.

Jerry Wayne West ('60), Sept. 22, 2024, Winston-Salem. He played baseball at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Army. He worked at RJR Archer Inc. He was a former president of the Deacon Club and a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

James Earl Flinn ('61), June 21, 2024, Virginia Beach, VA. He worked in the restaurant and automotive industries.

William Gibson Harris, Jr. ('61, MD '65), July 31, 2024, Mullica Hill, NJ. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and practiced family medicine.

Robert George Smith ('61), Nov. 20, 2024, Estero, FL. He played football at Wake Forest. He was a high school teacher and coach for 36 years.

Claude Lee "C.L." Webster Jr. ('61), Sept. 25, 2024, Pinehurst, NC. He worked in sales at Coca-Cola.

Thomas Settle Boyd Jr. ('62), Oct. 5, 2024, Easley, SC. He served in the U.S. Army and was vice president of human resources for the Long Co., a cooperative for wholesale bakeries.

Donald Moore Duncan ('62), Oct. 20, 2024, San Antonio. At Wake Forest, he was a member of the marching band, Sigma Chi fraternity and ROTC. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an air weapons controller.

Natalie Lee Clark Heid ('62), Feb. 13, 2023, Louisville, KY.

James Daniel Johnson ('62), Nov. 9, 2024, Fayetteville, NC. He played football at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army for 20 years as a chaplain and was minister of counseling at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church.

Mollie Stell Wiggins Ottina ('62), Aug. 15, 2024, Naples, FL. She was on the board of Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, VA, and supported other arts and education organizations. She was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society. In honor of her mother, she established the Aline Johnson Wiggins and Mollie Wiggins Ottina Scholarship Fund.

Robert Lloyd Sondej ('62), Aug. 18, 2024, Portsmouth, VA. He was a legal officer in the U.S. Coast Guard and practiced law in Portsmouth and Norfolk, VA.

Richard Vail ('62), Aug. 25, 2024, Lakewood, NJ. He was a member of Theta Chi fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for the Social Security Administration.

Bobby "Bob" Rae Bailey ('63), March 18, 2023, Bristol, TN. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was drafted by the Brooklyn Dodgers. He coached the Bristol Commercial College baseball team and was a middle and high school teacher and coach.

Jerry Dwight Knotts ('63), Sept. 23, 2024, Naples, FL. He was a teacher and high school principal.

Craig D. Nation ('64), July 30, 2024, Avon, Ct. He served in the U.S. Army and worked in insurance and real estate. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Bruce Nation ('61)**.

Jefferson "Jeff" Haywood Bruton (JD '65), Nov. 2, 2024, Hendersonville, NC. He was an attorney.

Jerry L. Eagle (JD '65), Oct. 4, 2024, Summerfield, NC. He worked in the legal department of Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co. and its successor, Jefferson-Pilot, for 26 years and was a guardian ad litem for abused and neglected children. Survivors include daughter **Shana Eagle Hurt ('95, JD '99)**.

Andy Jones ('65), Nov. 12, 2024, Charleston, SC. He was a realtor for two decades in Charleston and a Wall Street executive and consultant to Fortune 500 companies.

William "Bill" Conrad McMurray ('65), Nov. 12, 2024, Yadkinville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a field engineer at IBM.

Alexander "Alex" G. Speer ('65), Feb. 27, 2024, Charlotte. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a professional playwright and retired from the U.S. Postal Service.

Carson Douglas "Doug" Culbreth ('66), Oct. 20, 2024, Raleigh. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest. He retired as director of the energy division for the North Carolina Department of Commerce. Survivors include daughter **Phyllis "Devan" Culbreth ('99, JD '04)**.

Gregory "Greg" Lawson Knott ('66), Sept. 18, 2024, Arlington, VA. He retired as a senior executive in human resources with the federal government after 34 years. He was also a human resources consultant with the Transportation Security Administration.

Gilbert H. Larson III ('66), Sept. 22, 2024, Kaneohe, HI. He served in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Navy Reserve. He was a dentist and chief of the dental department at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Honolulu.

Susan Horney Layman ('66), Nov. 4, 2024, Winston-Salem. She was a member of Strings society at Wake Forest. She was a retired high school English teacher. Survivors include daughter **Jennifer "Jenny" Layman Hulse ('92)**.

George Perry Miller ('66), July 23, 2024, Pinehurst, NC. He played baseball at Wake Forest and served in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam. He

worked in the textile industry. Survivors include his wife, **Diane Kimel Miller ('66)**.

Zachary R. Tribble ('66), Oct. 16, 2024, DeLand, FL. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and worked in the Volusia County Property Appraiser's Office for 25 years. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Ed Tribble ('68)**.

Suzanne Bowles Kolodziej ('67), Nov. 3, 2024, Greensboro, NC. She was a guidance counselor and debate coach at Thomasville (NC) Senior High School. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Bob Kolodziej (MBA '87)**.

William G. Randolph ('67), Aug. 19, 2024, Huntington, WV. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Wake Forest. He served in the U.S. Army and was a teacher.

Donald Gray Roberson ('67), Sept. 22, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was a social worker with the Forsyth County Department of Social Services for 30 years. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Ken Roberson ('64)**.

Irma Browder Bagby ('68), Sept. 28, 2024, Mount Pleasant, SC. She was a certified public accountant and lead auditor at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Rebecca "Becky" Brandon Knowles ('68), Oct. 8, 2024, Pittsboro, NC. She was a certified public accountant and an IRS agent for three decades. Survivors include her daughter, **Sarah Brandon Knowles ('95)**.

Richard L. Stanley ('68, JD '70), Aug. 16, 2024, Beaufort, NC. He was a judge advocate general and armor officer in the U.S. Army. He practiced law for more than four decades, was town attorney of Emerald Isle, NC, for 43 years and was mayor of Beaufort, NC, from 2007-2017. Gov. Roy Cooper awarded him The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civilian award for service. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Howard Davis Foster ('69), Feb. 10, 2024, Durham, NC.

Philip Warren Gasaway ('69, JD '72), Sept. 18, 2024, Winston-Salem. Survivors include son **Kenneth "Sonny" W. Gasaway ('99)**.

Eline "Ellie" Nieuwenhuis Kniffin ('69), Aug. 25, 2024, Seattle.

Patricia "Pat" Foust Tweedy ('69), April 17, 2024, Greensboro, NC. She was a school counselor and an employment evaluator for Goodwill Industries. Survivors include her husband, **Edward Tweedy ('67)**, whom she met in the bookstore line at Wake Forest in 1965.

Richard E. Corritore Jr. ('71), Sept. 22, 2024, Hillside, NJ. He was a pharmacist.

Lydia Hall Law ('71), Sept. 6, 2024, Houston. She held leadership roles in her church.

Floyd Eugene "Gene" Stewart Jr. ('71), Oct. 3, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He worked at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital as president of Triad Radiographic Imaging.

Kenneth Walter Honeycutt (JD '72), Aug. 23, 2024, Monroe, NC.

Terrance M. Kuharchek ('72), Nov. 16, 2024, Davidsville, PA. He played football at Wake Forest and was on the 1970 ACC Championship team.

Robert "Bob" S. Chiles Sr. (MBA '73), Nov. 11, 2024, Greensboro, NC. He was chair, president and CEO of Greensboro National Bank.

Orren Beaty III (PhD '74), Oct. 28, 2024, Asheville, NC. He helped start a pediatric oncology program to treat children in western North Carolina. Survivors include his wife, **Norma Lang Beaty (MS '73)**.

Duncan A. McMillan ('74), Aug. 27, 2024, Raleigh. He was a lawyer once described as Raleigh's Atticus Finch for representing many of his clients for free. Survivors include children **Evan McMillan ('07)** and **Campbell McMillan**; siblings **Doug McMillan ('73, P '13)**, **Rebecca McMillan Sparrow ('77)**, **Lewis McMillan ('85)** and **May McMillan Bensen**; brother-in-law **David Sparrow ('75)**; and uncle **Doug Maynard ('55, MD '59, P '88)**. He was preceded in death by his father, **Robert McMillan ('43)**, in July, and his uncle, **Archibald Alexander McMillan ('41)**.

Samuel Andrew "Andy" Cain ('75), Sept. 26, 2024, Columbia, SC. He worked in the textile and automotive industries.

Chrys Jay Harris (MAEd '75), Nov. 2, 2024, Greer, SC. He was a helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army and a marriage and family therapist.

Jo Anne Green Marino ('75), Oct. 1, 2024, Dunwoody, GA. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority at Wake Forest. She was a teacher and basketball coach and assistant general manager of Suwanee (GA) Sports Academy. Survivors include son **Scott Marino ('05)**.

Henry Foy "Hank" Woodall ('75), Oct. 19, 2024, Winston-Salem. He worked in the textile industry and owned several businesses.

Michael Warren Drye (JD '76), Oct. 1, 2024, Asheville, NC. He died in Hurricane Helene's floodwaters, along with his wife, **Nora Drye**, and grandson **Micah Drye**. He was an attorney and mediator for more than 40 years.

Linda Ekstrom Stanley (JD '76), Aug. 17, 2024, Cambridge, MA. She was a bankruptcy attorney in San Francisco and an adjunct professor at the University of California Hastings College of the Law.

Tamyra Bonay Caple ('77), Aug. 27, 2024, Eden, NC. She retired as a computer systems analyst.

Keith Lennart Alm Sr. (MBA '78), Aug. 12, 2024, Kansas City, MO, and Lake Norman, NC.

He founded and was president and CEO of the Hanes Printables Division of Hanesbrands Inc. He later was an executive at Sara Lee Corp. and president of Hallmark International. He was on the Wake Forest Board of Visitors. He and his wife established the Alm Family Scholarship for business students at Wake Forest. Survivors include his wife, **Elizabeth "Beth" Ritchie Alm (MBA '78)**, and son **Keith Alm Jr. ('03)**.

Bobby Jackson "Jack" Padgett (MBA '79), June 15, 2023, Hampstead, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was a vice president in a mortgage insurance company.

Thomas "Jud" Judson Clary Sr. ('80), Sept. 25, 2024, Winston-Salem. He owned Sportsman's Supply Co., a sporting goods business started by his father.

Cynthia Ennis Mitchell ('81), Oct. 14, 2024, Alexandria, VA. She studied at Casa Artom when she was a student. She was a senior administrative assistant for academic affairs at Marymount University.

Robert "Bobby" Angus Bryan Jr. (JD '82), Sept. 24, 2024, Garner, NC. He retired from the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings.

Dean Franklin Murphy ('82), Aug. 23, 2024, Cary, NC. He was a lawyer and certified public accountant.

John A. Rudolph Jr. (JD '84), Oct. 29, 2024, Tallahassee, FL. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and was a lawyer. Survivors include his wife, **Rheesa Hipp Rudolph (JD '85)**.

Janet Russell Warner ('84), April 9, 2023, Cary, NC. She was a pharmaceutical scientist at Research Triangle Institute and GlaxoSmithKline. Survivors include her husband, **Dick Warner ('84)**.

Bette Lou Winchester Glance (MAEd '86), Aug. 28, 2024, Winston-Salem. She was a teacher and a Reynolda House docent.

Clifton Merritt Mount (JD '88), Sept. 26, 2024, Washington, DC. He was a lawyer and a member of the Wake Forest Law Board of Visitors and the Wake Forest Legacy Society.

Elizabeth "Beth" Leonard Szymeczek ('89), Aug. 19, 2024, Wilmington, NC. She was an artist. Survivors include her father, **Don Leonard ('65)**, sister **Anne Leonard Pagnani ('92, P '21, '24)** and daughter **Mary Anne Szymeczek Piepmeyer ('18)**.

Shawn Raynard Alexander ('90), Aug. 21, 2024, Winston-Salem. He was a physician, hospitalist and chief of staff at Hampton Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Virginia.

Blake Buckingham ('93), Aug. 15, 2024, Brookeville, MD. He loved cheering for his favorite sports teams and spending time with his wife and four sons. Survivors include his wife, **Amy Chance Buckingham ('92)**.

James "Jim" Edwin Speir ('93), Feb. 7, 2024, Dominican Republic. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Wake Forest. He was a veterinarian who had his own practice in California and later practiced in underserved areas in the Dominican Republic.

Albert "Bert" Boardman Butler V (MBA '97), Oct. 1, 2024, Charlottesville, VA. He was a senior financial analyst in the dean's office at the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

Aurora Darlene Smith ('98), Sept. 4, 2024, Columbia, SC. She was in the Wake Forest Dance Company.

Jennifer Edwards Devor (JD '04), July 23, 2024, Richmond, VA. She was an attorney.

Arthur Ronald "Ron" Smith, Jr. (MBA '05), Aug. 25, 2024, Beaufort, NC. Survivors include his wife, Susan S. Smith, retired associate dean of Z. Smith Reynolds Library, and son **Josh Smith (PA '04)**.

Brian Aaron Martin Clark (MA '09), Oct. 1, 2024, Oaxaca, Mexico. He was assistant director of assessment and research in the Division of Student Life at the University of Oregon and a founding member of Ember Cooperative, a public benefit cooperative.

John Joseph Byron (JD '11), Sept. 2, 2024, Chicago. He was a partner at Steptoe law firm and a member of the Rose Council, Wake Forest School of Law's young alumni group.

Holly Elizabeth Fuller ('12), Nov. 17, 2024, Washington, DC. At Wake Forest, she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Pi Sigma Alpha political science honor society and Theta Alpha Kappa religious studies honor society. She was a planning section chief for FEMA and was deployed to presidential inaugurations, State of the Union addresses and hurricane response teams.

Tyra Marie Whitehead ('19), Oct. 7, 2024, Richmond, VA. She played basketball at Wake Forest and professionally in Sweden, Australia, the United Kingdom and Romania. She also coached young athletes. Survivors include her parents, Toni Greer and Byron Whitehead Sr.

Andrew Spencer McNeal Faris ('21), Oct. 2, 2024, Charlotte. He worked with his father in a business investment firm. Survivors include his parents, David Faris and Lisa Faris, and his older brother, David Faris Jr.

Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

Lisa Ann Porterfield Auten, Oct. 15, 2024, Clemmons, NC. She was a protection officer at Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Robert Steven "Steve" Carithers, Aug. 21, 2024, Rural Hall, NC. He retired from Wake Forest after 25 years in Facilities & Campus Services.

Bruce Carson, Aug. 5, 2024, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army and was on the custodial staff at Wake Forest.

Mikey Huffman Cauthen, Nov. 28, 2024, Kernersville, NC. She was a paralegal at Wake Forest for more than 20 years.

Carolyn Shelton Disney, Oct. 13, 2024, Walkertown, NC. She welcomed visitors to the Wake Forest Tennis Center as the front desk assistant for more than 12 years.

James Andrews Gardner, Oct. 7, 2024, East Bend, NC. He was a retired service technician in Facilities & Campus Services at Wake Forest. Survivors include daughter **Kathryn Gardner ('10)**.

Michele McCreary, Aug. 21, 2024, Newton, NC. She and her husband, **Bob McCreary ('61)**, who survives her, founded McCreary Modern furniture company. A devoted philanthropist, she supported numerous organizations including Catawba Valley Memorial Hospital, McCreary Cancer Center and Caldwell Memorial Hospital McCreary Surgery unit in Lenoir, NC, the Old Post Office Playhouse of Newton and Catawba County's Humane Society.

Kester Sink, Aug. 28, 2024, Mount Airy, NC. He was 100. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. Sink was a Surry County farmer, businessman, real estate developer and philanthropist. He was a member of the Wake Forest Legacy Society, and along with his daughter, Wake Forest Life Trustee **Adelaide "Alex" Sink ('70)**, he established the Adelaide Alexander Sink and Kester A. Sink scholarships. Survivors include daughters Alex Sink and Dottie Sink Sykes, son-in-law **Charlie Sykes (MD '77)**, stepson **Clinton "C.D." Cater ('89)**, granddaughter **Lexi McBride Crawford ('11)** and stepgrandson **Cody Cater ('24)**.

Gary Anthony "Sergio" Ward, Aug. 21, 2024, Kernersville, NC. He was a security officer at Wake Forest for 18 years. He also was a radio DJ, personal trainer, life coach and ordained minister.

Robert Hugh Weaver III, Aug. 21, 2024, Broadlands, VA. He was a student in Wake Forest's Master of Science in Business Analytics program and was the deputy data manager at the National Reconnaissance Office.



A MAGICAL WISH COMES TRUE

By Kim McGrath

Seven-year-old playwright and actress Gracie shined as she starred in her story, “Queen Cinderella and the Rainbow Magic.” The 15-minute play was performed before a packed audience in Wake Forest’s Ring Theatre on Nov. 9.

When Make-A-Wish reached out to area theater companies for help in granting the little girl’s wish to write and perform in her own play, Wake Forest theatre students and faculty jumped in to help fulfill Gracie’s dream.

“We proposed to help Gracie create an original play involving our students and faculty and using what resources we had available to give it the best

production quality possible,” said Jonathan Herbert, an assistant professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

Gracie shared her ideas for the play, and three student scriptwriters, sophomore Nola Adepoju and juniors Alyssa Cheng and Taylor Nisbet, each drafted a script based on Gracie’s imagination.

“Every idea Gracie shared was written down, and everything Gracie suggested went into the performance,” said Herbert.

The story that resulted from their combined efforts begins when Cinderella and Prince Charming have been crowned king and queen and are enjoying their lives with their three daugh-

ters. But their happy-ever-after is interrupted by their power-hungry goat, Rainbow Sparkles, who steals some of Cinderella’s rainbow magic and uses it to wreak havoc on the land.

“We each wrote our own version of the play and synthesized the three into one,” said Adepoju, who shared that her favorite part of the performance occurred at the end of the play when the entire cast acted out a choreographed food fight with squishy fruits, vegetables and baguettes.

More than 50 faculty members and theatre students volunteered to bring “Queen Cinderella and the Rainbow Magic” to life.



PHOTOS / LYNDSIE SCHLINK

Junior Joe Bruno, who played King Charming to Gracie's Queen Cinderella, said the best part of the experience was watching Gracie open up during rehearsals. "I was worried we might be asking too much of her, but after a couple of hours she started blossoming and really enjoying herself."

While Gracie was entertaining the audience in the Ring Theatre – rushing to pick up her “babies” from their carriage, delivering witty lines, playing hostess by serving food to her subjects and twirling around the stage – volunteers were also working at her home.

Theatre students and staff from R.J. Reynolds High School, Make-A-Wish volunteers and people from Gracie's hometown transformed the family garage into a “stage fit for a Queen,” said Triad Wish Specialist Lissette Cox.

“Gracie's wish could not have been possible without the outpouring of love from the Winston-Salem community,” said Cox.

Editor's note: In keeping with Make-A-Wish policy, Gracie's last name has been omitted from the story.

More than 50 faculty members and theatre students helped fulfill 7-year-old Gracie's dream to write and perform in her own play.



Scales of possibility

By Roscoe Bell III ('23)

I WAS A JUNIOR when I crossed the threshold into Assistant Professor of Music Larry Weng's classroom, and a familiar blend of excitement and apprehension washed over me. Surrounded by this pianist's many global accolades and accomplishments in classical music, I felt both dwarfed and inspired, especially as I was mostly self-taught. My musical foundation wasn't built on young, disciplined practice and recitals but was a gift from my mother, whose voice had the power to penetrate both silence and darkness. It was this unique connection to music that I wanted to explore further and refine with Dr. Weng's help.

The first task was choosing a piece for me to learn, which I quickly discovered was more complicated than simply picking one off a list. Dr. Weng first challenged me to articulate why I wanted to play music. I tried to explain that I always yearned to play something that mirrored the complexities of life — both shadows and light, simple and complex, but my why probably sounded more like an existential crisis. The unspoken depth of human emotion and struggle is what I sought to find in music — you can hear someone's heart shatter or soar without a single word uttered. I chose Beethoven's "Piano Sonata No. 14" in C-sharp minor, familiarly known as the "Moonlight Sonata," as it matched my desire. That concluded the first lesson: defining your why.

As my practice deepened, the sonata grew increasingly complex, each session bringing yet another hill to overcome. During one session, panic ensued with every misstep; I was making desperate attempts at fixing things, only making them worse. "Stop! Observe!" Dr. Weng said, forcing me in that moment to pause when everything in me just wanted to push blindly forward. Lesson two taught me something profound about approaching life's obstacles: Observe, understand and then proceed with intention.



Roscoe Bell practices piano as mentor Larry Weng teaches him life lessons beyond the music.

Amid all the sessions about how to play notes better emerged another kind of lesson. How to breathe better struck me as odd, because I play piano, not a wind instrument. When I rushed into Dr. Weng's office one day bubbling with stress and ready to pop, my professor didn't give much advice at all except, "Breathe." And so we did together ... just for a second ... just long enough for tranquility to settle over every part of me cowering behind layers of anxiety and frustration.

"Breathe," he whispered again as the fire died down, my mind now quiet. "Whenever you start to feel overwhelmed," he told me, "just breathe." And I did.

Dr. Weng's mentoring lessons — observing why you're doing something, addressing mistakes with carefulness and taking deep breaths — transformed my view of not only what is possible in piano, but also in the world. I soon dreamed of what was possible at Wake Forest.

Dr. Weng's guidance, coupled with my newfound confidence, led me to organize students and create the inaugural Wakeville Arts Festival my senior year. A celebration of art and commu-

nity that demanded us to understand our collective why, a strategic problem-solving and logistics planning method and the courage to breathe through any kind of challenge thrown at us. Each individual lesson with Dr. Weng, every error we corrected along the way made this dream tangible, transforming it into life's melodies observed and celebrated by a quarter of our student body in April 2023.

Recalling my time in the piano classroom, I've realized that Dr. Weng's mentorship was something extraordinary and went beyond the usual boundaries. Dr. Weng didn't just teach me; he traveled alongside me as we discovered expression and enlightenment. Blending lessons in music with life, I found more than a mentor. Dr. Weng has been a guiding light to follow not only through musical notes, but also in illuminating the intricate steps of existence itself.

—
Roscoe Bell ('23), a psychology and music graduate and a second-year Wake Forest Fellow, is an advocate for healthcare access, mental health and the arts. He is a program coordinator for the Program for Leadership and Character while aiming for a career as a physician.



Today

PRO HUMANITATE

is still Wake Forest's much cherished motto.

IT TELLS US TO BE FRIENDS
TO ALL HUMANITY,
to teach, to help, to serve.
WAKE FOREST REALLY
HAS NO PEERS.

We succeed or we fail only insofar as we are true
to our commitments, to our ambitions, with
FRIENDSHIP AND HONOR.

WAKE FOREST PROVOST EMERITUS EDWIN G. WILSON

To learn more about *Pro Humanitate* and why our motto means so much to the
Wake Forest community, please visit OurMottoMeansMore.com



WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Office of University Advancement
1834 Wake Forest Road
P.O. Box 7227
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Non Profit Org.
U.S Postage
PAID
Burlington, VT 05401
Permit #59



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WAKE FOREST ATHLETICS

Cheering Our Champions

We're celebrating an exciting season of soccer — and ACC championships!

Wake Forest's men's and women's soccer teams both played their way into the Elite Eight nationally last fall. The women went on to their first NCAA Championship appearance and second College Cup trip in program history. They finished No. 2 nationally after falling 1-0 in the final game to the University of North Carolina.

Coach Tony da Luz (P '10) has led the team for 28 of its 31 seasons, building the program into a national powerhouse.

The men's soccer team claimed their fourth ACC crown — the third in the decade led by Coach Bobby Muuss. And they did it in a thrilling 7-6 penalty kick victory over Clemson University. That performance earned them a No. 8 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament, where

they fell 3-0 to No. 1-seeded The Ohio State University.

The men's cross country team won its ACC championship as well, ending the season in the top five nationally. To top it off, the ACC named John Hayes as the league's coach of the year, the second time the cross country coach has won in three seasons. Go Deacs!