

seasons

THE MAGAZINE OF SAMFORD UNIVERSITY *JUNE 2014*



Contents



4

Ukraine: An Unfinished Nation

In May of 2010, Samford law professor Bob Greene sat in an outdoor café in Odessa, Ukraine, enjoying the old-world charm of the city. In May of 2014, he watched on his computer as people rioted and died on the same street. The Fulbright Scholar looks at how the country's fortunes changed so dramatically.



6

Samford and China: Then and Now

Twenty-five years ago, a Samford group left China in a hurry after the Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing. The episode is in stark contrast to today, when faculty and students routinely travel to China and Samford actively recruits Chinese students to study on campus.



40

Spotlight on Research

Why do people make the moral judgments they do? Why do some parents value obedience over autonomy in their children? Samford students asked these and other questions in their annual Spotlight on Undergraduate Research. Read this article to learn more.

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | From the President | 17 | New Pharmacy Dean | 34 | Making Water Safe |
| 3 | Samford Report | 18 | Eight Faculty Retire | 36 | In Memoriam |
| 9 | Faculty Spotlight: Lyle Dorsett | 21 | School of Education Newsletter | 39 | Campus News |
| 10 | Centennial Celebration | 30 | Alumnus Spotlight: Justin Rudd | 42 | Sports |
| 12 | Commencement | 31 | Class Notes | 45 | Tributes |
| 16 | New Nursing Dean | 33 | New Arrivals | 49 | Calendar |

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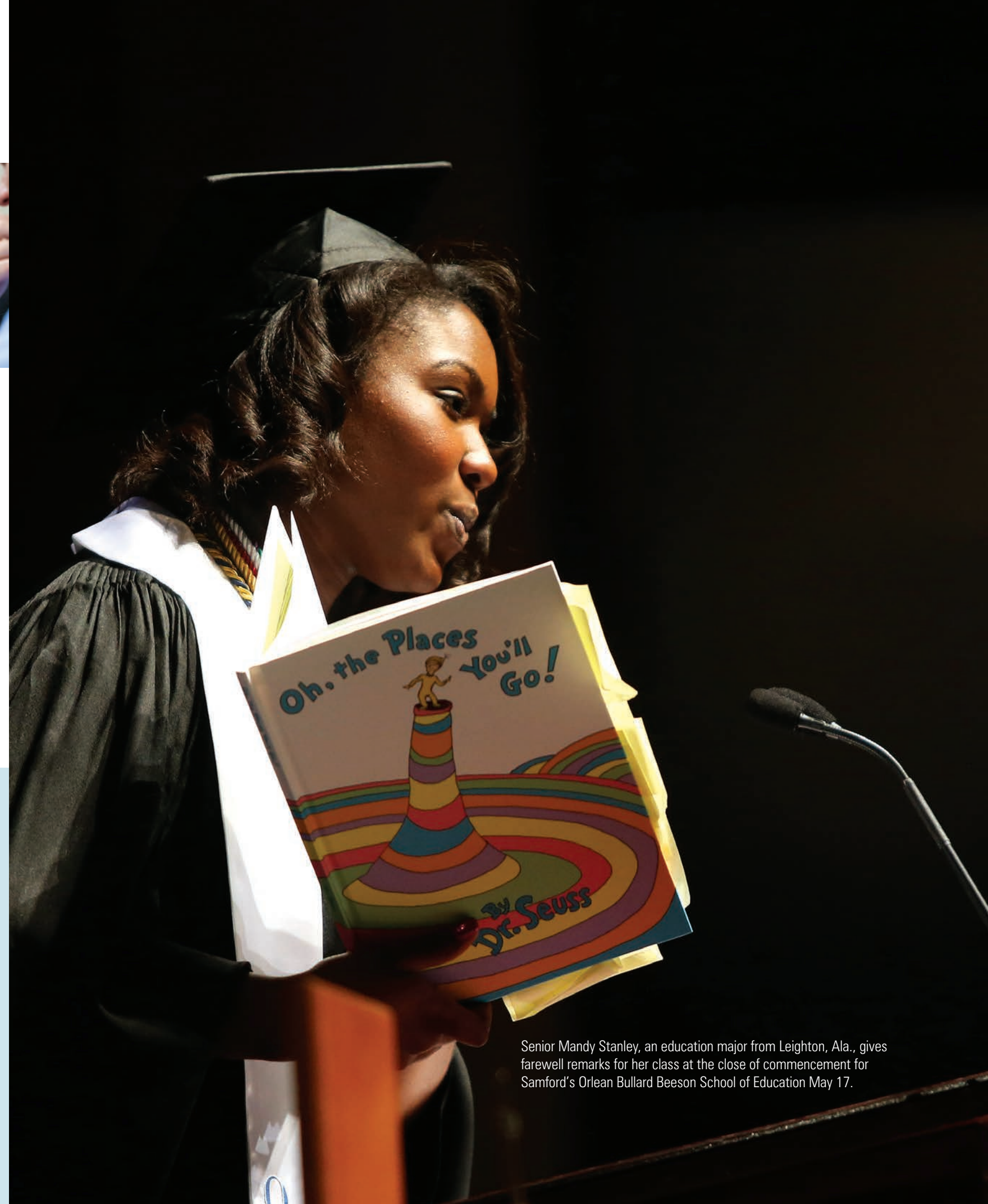
Cover: Retiring art professor Lowell Vann leads the procession at his final commencement after 45 years on the faculty. He developed the wooden mace that he is carrying more than 40 years ago.

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Senior Mandy Stanley, an education major from Leighton, Ala., gives farewell remarks for her class at the close of commencement for Sanford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education May 17.

From the President



Celebrating the Present, Looking to the Future

We have just concluded another academic year, culminating in seven commencement ceremonies honoring more than 900 graduates. Academics are at the heart of our mission, and it always is thrilling to see our graduates finish this phase of their lives and eagerly move to the next part of their journey. Parents, grandparents, siblings and other family members were on campus during May to share in this time of celebration. The individual and collective stories of these graduates add to the rich heritage of Samford that now spans 173 years.

By the time you read this issue of *Seasons*, we will have welcomed more than 700 new students to campus for Bulldog Days, our summer orientation for first-time students. More will join us in August. This is an exciting time for those students and their families, and we welcome them as they begin their years at Samford, adding to the fabric of our history.

During the summer, we will continue working on a new strategic plan for Samford's future. We have reported on that process in previous issues of *Seasons*, and the process is headed to an early fall completion of an initial report. The goals and strategies in this plan will guide us through the next few years.

One of the important aspects of the strategic plan is communication, and we want to solicit your help. Included in this issue is a brief survey about *Seasons* and how the university communicates with you. Please take a moment to complete the survey and return it to us. Your opinions and suggestions are important, and we want to hear from you. Or you can take the survey online at <http://samford.edu/go/seasons-survey>.

As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.

Andrew Westmoreland
President

New Institute for Continued Learning Offers Certificates, Other Programs

Samford University launched a new Institute for Continued Learning in May to meet the continuing education and lifelong learning needs of alumni and other community patrons.

The new institute includes community learning programs, a revamped Ministry Training Institute and the Academy of the Arts. Programs and classes are available online and on-campus.

According to Chris McCaghren, assistant to the president for external programs, the institute resulted from the vision of Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, who “saw the need for an entity that could be nimbly responsive to the continuing education needs of Samford alums and the world beyond in a quickly changing higher education environment and business marketplace.”

The institute joins together many of the noncredit programs already in existence, McCaghren explained, including continuing education in law, pharmacy and nursing, and adds to those a variety of new classes and certificates for lifelong learners and those looking to gain an edge in their careers.

New certificates include software development, technology training, social media, biblical studies, pastoral ministry and several international languages.

“These innovative certificates allow individuals and organizations to quickly gain the essential skills they need to compete in today’s fast-paced marketplace,” McCaghren said. “They can be completed at an individualized pace for a fraction of the cost of other programs. Our vision is to bring cutting-edge learning to people wherever they are.”

To provide constituents with real-world learning experiences, Samford has partnered with area companies to provide educational content that is easily accessible and applicable, McCaghren added.

One partner is ThinkData Solutions in Birmingham, which is offering the software development and technology training certificates. McCaghren said these certificates can be completed either in person at ThinkData’s state-of-the-art lab at the Innovation Depot in downtown Birmingham or online in as few as three months.

The new Ministry Training Institute incorporates learning opportunities previously provided through the Samford Extension Division and offers nondegree certificate programs for ministers and lay leaders through 32 teaching locations in Alabama. It is coordinated by Kevin Blackwell, assistant to the president for church relations.

The Academy of the Arts was launched earlier this year and provides classes and programs for all ages (see Seasons, March 2014). It is a collaborative initiative of the Institute for Continued Learning and Samford’s School of the Arts. In addition to expanded learning opportunities, it includes the Preparatory Music Program, as well as classes and arts-related certificate programs previously offered through Samford After Sundown. ▀

For a full listing of classes and times, go to www.samford.edu/continued-learning. For more information, contact Dedra Greene at 205-726-4055.

For Academy of the Arts offerings, go to www.samford.edu/academy-of-the-arts.

3 Samford Students Earn Fulbrights

Samford University graduates Chris Barbee ’13 and Zach Brown ’14, and freshman Stone Hendrickson have received prestigious grants from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, the flagship international educational exchange program designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

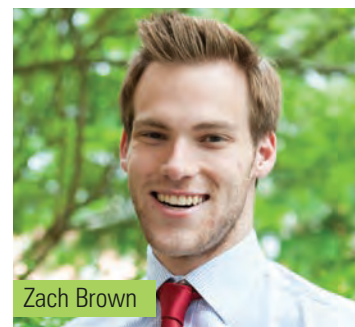
Barbee, a music education major from Trussville, Ala., will use his grant to study choral conducting and music education at the Jazeps Vītols Latvian National Conservatory. He also possibly will work with the Riga Dom Choir School.

Brown, a history and University Fellows honors alumnus from Franklin, Tenn., received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship for Tajikistan in the 2014–15 academic year. He was editor in chief of the *Samford Crimson* during his senior year. He said Samford history professor Jim Brown’s Modern Russia course increased his interest in the central Asian region that was once a part of the Soviet Union.

Hendrickson, a University Fellow from Edmond, Okla., was accepted to the four-week Fulbright Summer Institute at England’s Durham University. The theme of the 2014 institute is “The Northern Borders of Empire to the Making of the Middle Ages.” ▀



Chris Barbee



Zach Brown



Stone Hendrickson

UKRAINE: An Unfinished

by Bob Greene



Author Greene overlooks Black Sea Fleet, Sevastopol

In May of 2010, I sat in an outdoor café in Odessa, Ukraine, soaking up the spring air and the old-world charm of the fading but elegant city. My friends and I discussed a number of problems facing Ukraine, but there was a pervasive feeling of optimism that all was manageable. In May of 2014, I sat glued to my computer screen, watching dozens of angry people rioting on the very same street and then dying, trapped in a burning building. How did the fortunes of Ukraine change so dramatically?

Ukraine as a nation has only been independent since 1991. Andrew Wilson points to this when he describes Ukraine as a state that is still fragile with no firmly established sense of nationhood. Commentators emphasize the same idea when they point to the dramatic differences between eastern and western Ukraine—a geographical division roughly defined by the Dnieper River.

The facts of the current unrest are fairly easily recounted. After years of negotiation, on Nov. 21, 2013, Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich rejected an association agreement with the European Union [EU]. At best, it would have been a prickly arrangement and not universally supported. However, in the western part of the country, closer ties with Europe were seen as Ukraine's best hope for political and economic development. The eastern part of the country preferred keeping closer ties with Russia.

The rejection led to demonstrations in the Maidan (Independence Square) in Kiev—peaceful at first, but then becoming more violent and ultimately resulting in deaths and the flight of President Yanukovich from Ukraine Feb. 21–22. A week later, Russian troops from the Black



Independence Square, Kiev



National Law Academy, Odessa

Sea Fleet in Sevastopol began occupying Crimea. On March 16, Crimea voted to be annexed by Russia. Since then, there have been sustained seizures of government buildings throughout the eastern regions of

Ukraine by pro-Russian militias generally thought to be actively supported by Russian military elements.

How and why did the initial protests spin so tragically out of control? Part of the story is historical. Russia and Ukraine (as well as Belarus) trace their historical origins to the Kievan Rus who prospered in the first millennium CE. Kiev and the Rus fell to the Mongols in 1240. Russians believe that they are the true inheritors of the Rus; Ukrainians believe that they have an equal claim to that history. Thus, in the minds of many Russians, Ukraine is really part of Russia, and the thought of an independent Ukraine—much less one more closely

hed Nation



Potemkin Stairs, Odessa



Afghanistan War Memorial, Odessa



World War II Memorial, Odessa

aligned with the West—is inconceivable.

This fundamental world view has very practical geopolitical ramifications. For many Russians, the dissolution of the Soviet Union was an apocalyptic event. Russian President Vladimir Putin has recognized this sense of loss and has used it to pursue his own vision for a Russia restored to its former glory. In his view, much of the history of the past 20 years can be seen as great and small wounds, insults, and threats heaped upon a weakened Russia. Especially concerning in this view is the expansion of NATO up to the very borders of Russia. For Ukraine to become associated with the EU (which Putin argues is a mere prelude to NATO) is simply too much. Ukraine as a

trading partner is essential to Putin's vision of an Eurasian Trade Union as a counter to the EU. As a buffer to NATO, Ukraine is critical to Russia's sense of security.

In practical terms, this same scenario is being played out within Ukraine. The eastern half, by culture, religion, language, ethnicity and commerce, finds itself extremely oriented to Russia, with which it shares an extensive border. In fact, many eastern Ukrainians identify themselves as Russian. The western half has a more diverse background. Significant portions came into Ukraine from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Poland and Romania, as well as bits and pieces from other states. In broad terms, the west is more diverse in terms of religion, language, ethnicity and commerce, and tends to view its future more optimistically with Europe rather than with Russia.

The significance of this east-west division can be overstated, of course. But

descriptively, it helps explain how events can be perceived by the Ukrainians themselves. Ukraine was the Ukraine (borderland) for so long and has been Ukraine for only a short period. Plagued by corruption, cronyism, financial mismanagement and governments not worthy of trust, Ukraine now finds itself having to decide who and what it is as an independent nation. National elections were held May 25 to replace the interim government, and Petro Poroshenko was elected president with a clear majority over his rivals. One can only hope that this will be the first step on Ukraine's journey of defining itself a truly finished nation. ▀

Cumberland School of Law professor Bob Greene was a Fulbright Scholar at the National Academy of Law in Odessa, Ukraine, in 2008 and returned to lecture in Ukraine in 2010.

Great Wall of China

SAMFORD AND CHINA

THEN AND NOW

by William Nunnelley



Samford group leaves China in 1989.



Tim Banks and his daughter, Abigail, visit Tiananmen Square in 2006.



Walter Hutchens, left, and Jim Brown visit the World Expo in Shanghai.

Twenty-five years ago this summer,

a group of Samford students and faculty spent a harrowing few days trying to get out of the People's Republic of China in the wake of the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing.

The group, led by history professor Jim Brown and biology professor Bob Stiles, was visiting Anhui Normal University in the city of Wuhu, about 600 miles south of Beijing on the Yangtze River in east central China. Music professor Tim Banks and his wife, Wanda, were part of the group.

They left Birmingham May 27, 1989, for a planned four-week stay, part of an exchange program that had been in the works for four years. Three weeks were to be at Anhui and one week in Beijing.

But student-led protests against inflation, government corruption and lack of political reforms had been under way for several weeks in Beijing and other cities by the time the Samford group arrived in China May 31. On June 4, Chinese army troops attempting to suppress the protests killed a number of students and others in Tiananmen Square.

At that point, Brown and Stiles made the decision to cut short the trip. But given the violence in Beijing and the prospect of further civil unrest, transportation out of

China was suddenly very hard to arrange as hordes of foreigners fled the country. It took several 4 a.m. departures, a bus trip through Chinese back roads and a last-minute scramble by Samford to purchase emergency airline tickets before the group could safely leave.

"All our parents were watching images of burning tanks and spilled blood back in Beijing," recalled Walter Hutchens, a student on the trip. "They were nervous. It wasn't clear what would happen next, and we reluctantly acceded to the decision to go home."

The situation was in stark contrast to today, when faculty and students routinely travel to China and the university actively recruits Chinese students to study on campus. About 150 students from China began the most recent academic year at Samford.

Brown recalled the 1989 experience after he and Hutchens visited China again in June of this year. Hutchens, a 1990 Samford graduate, is now a business school professor specializing in China at the University of Redlands in California.

"I had never met a Chinese person when I set foot on the Samford campus," said Hutchens. "I am very grateful to Samford and to Dr. Brown in particular for introducing me to China in a history class. I've been mesmerized ever since."

Hutchens went on to earn a M.A. in Asian studies and a law degree. He learned to read and write Chinese, and went back to live in Beijing for about five years. Today, as an endowed chair of global business at Redlands, he teaches courses about doing business in China and leads study-abroad trips to the nation.

Brown had visited Anhui with four Samford students in 1988. He brought back an offer from the Chinese school to bring a class of 20 Samford students in 1989. The school would provide a short course in Chinese language and make available lectures from any of its 1,000-member faculty.

"This was going to be the best foreign studies group ever sent out by any Alabama university, bar none, and the first week bore that out," Brown wrote in a *Seasons* magazine report in the summer of 1989. Banks took part at the behest of Samford Provost William Hull in hopes of initiating an exchange of music and art faculty.

Even after the tanks entered Tiananmen Square on June 4, Brown and the group decided to stay a few more days, thinking the turmoil was limited to Beijing. But by the night of June 5, student protests had spread to many Chinese cities and it was clearly time to get out of China "before all airports were shut down in a civil war," Brown wrote.

“HALF A BILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LIFTED OUT OF POVERTY IN THIS 25-YEAR PERIOD,” SAID BROWN.

“The Chinese students in Wuhu began demonstrating peacefully, filling the streets to block traffic and cause a general strike,” said Brown. “For this reason, we decided to leave the city at 4 a.m. to avoid being tied up.”

They bused to Hefei and spent several nights there while awaiting airline tickets. Samford managed to arrange for tickets from Nanjing, some 80 miles to the east. To reach Nanjing, the group faced crossing a lengthy bridge over the Yangtze. Rumors circulated that students had blocked the bridge, so they made another 4 a.m. departure.

“We mapped a route through back roads to avoid the bridge and crossed the river on a ferry,” said Brown.

They flew from Nanjing to Hong Kong, then still a British colony, and back to the United States.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping had moved his nation toward a market-driven economy in the 1980s. “We saw an absolutely peaceful countryside riding a wave of relative prosperity associated with the new free markets,” Brown wrote in *Seasons*. “We saw the urban 20 percent of China in turmoil, with virtually the entire student population blocking the streets to get the workers out in a general strike.”

Brown said they learned China had experienced “devastating inflation” the previous two years, and that the literate population placed the blame on “corruption in the controlling families.” That had been one of the main reasons for the upheavals in May and June.

But what of China later, in the 1990s, and today?

Brown and history professor Jeff Northrup took a class of eight Samford students back to Anhui in 1994, and

experienced the full five-week program that had been planned in ’89. They traveled extensively to historic sites such as the Great Wall, Beijing, the Yellow Mountains and Yangtze River venues.

“It was a good trip,” said Brown. “One of its greatest visual lessons was the pace of economic growth. Even in mid-sized Wuhu, every second block seemed to have a major building going up.

“But the tone of the whole country was subdued,” Brown said. “The openness and excitement of the ’80s was missing.”

Banks had hoped to take the Samford A Cappella Choir back to China soon after the ’89 trip, but that did not occur until 2006, when he conducted the choir with Milburn Price in Beijing’s Forbidden City Concert Hall.

In June of 2014, the most dominant visible change Brown discovered as he and Hutchens made their way around China was the infrastructure. He described the change as “incredible,” from buildings to high-speed trains to complex new subway systems and a freeway from Nanjing to Wuhu that cut the former three-hour travel time in half.

“Half a billion people have been lifted out of poverty in this 25-year period, and the new prosperity shows in dress, in crowded restaurants, in fancy cars,” he added.

Hutchens noted that China “has been utterly transformed in so many ways” since the 1989 trip. “It is now the world’s second-largest economy, closing in fast on the U.S. It is the world’s largest market for cars, cell phones, computers and myriad other products. It is now undisputedly the world’s factory, too.” China also has the world’s largest reserves of foreign exchange with a three trillion dollar surplus, Hutchens said.

But in some ways, Hutchens added, China is unchanged, and room remains for further reform. “Political controls still affect internet access, religious freedom and political dissent,” he said. “Also, air pollution, as China acknowledges, is a grave problem.”

Samford has been an internationalized campus ever since “missionary kids,” the children of missionaries, began arriving on campus in the 1950s. It has sent students abroad for language courses, choir tours, mission trips and courses taught by faculty in international locations such as Wuhu, China, for more than 40 years.

Now, as the university looks to the future, it aggressively recruits students from China and works to establish its brand awareness in Asia. It pursues cooperative agreements with Chinese universities for student exchanges. It employs a recruiter, Hunter Denson, whose full-time responsibility is recruiting international students to study on campus at Samford.

President Andrew Westmoreland has encouraged university officials to work in concert to expand Samford’s opportunities in Asia, “to connect our American students and faculty members to this portion of the world that will so significantly shape our current century.”

The purpose of such a program “is not simply to have international students on campus or to bring Samford students to foreign countries,” said Angela Ferguson, Samford’s director of international education. “It speaks to the larger mission of the university and means that students who study at Samford will touch lives in all corners of the globe.”

That is the reality of today’s relationship between Samford and China. ■

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT LYLE DORSETT



Why do you teach? During my sophomore year in college, I knew I wanted to spend my life teaching at the college or university level. I have been teaching since receiving my Ph.D. I cannot imagine doing anything more fulfilling.

What is the one thing you want your students to know when they graduate from Beeson Divinity School? First and foremost, their identity is in Christ, and they should always seek to know him and glorify him in whatever ministry they pursue.

How did your background prepare you for your current role at Samford? I try to help students learn how to introduce Jesus Christ to non-Christians. Because I spent many years as an agnostic—indeed, I am a midlife convert and a recovered alcoholic—I know something about bondages, honest doubts about the existence of God, and the deep inner longings of hurting, confused and lost souls. I remember well what kinds of Christians turned me off as well as the folks who led me closer to Christ.

In my role at Beeson Divinity School, I also teach church planting and disciple making. My wife and I have been involved in planting two churches—one in Illinois and one in Birmingham. For over 30 years, we have been involved in making disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ who will mature and reproduce their kind.

What is one thing that most students do not know about you? They have no idea how indebted to them I am for furthering my general education, giving me joy and helping keep me young at heart.

Position
Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism

Teaching at Samford since
2005

Dr. Dorsett also is pastor of Christ the King Anglican Church, which he and his wife started after moving to Birmingham.

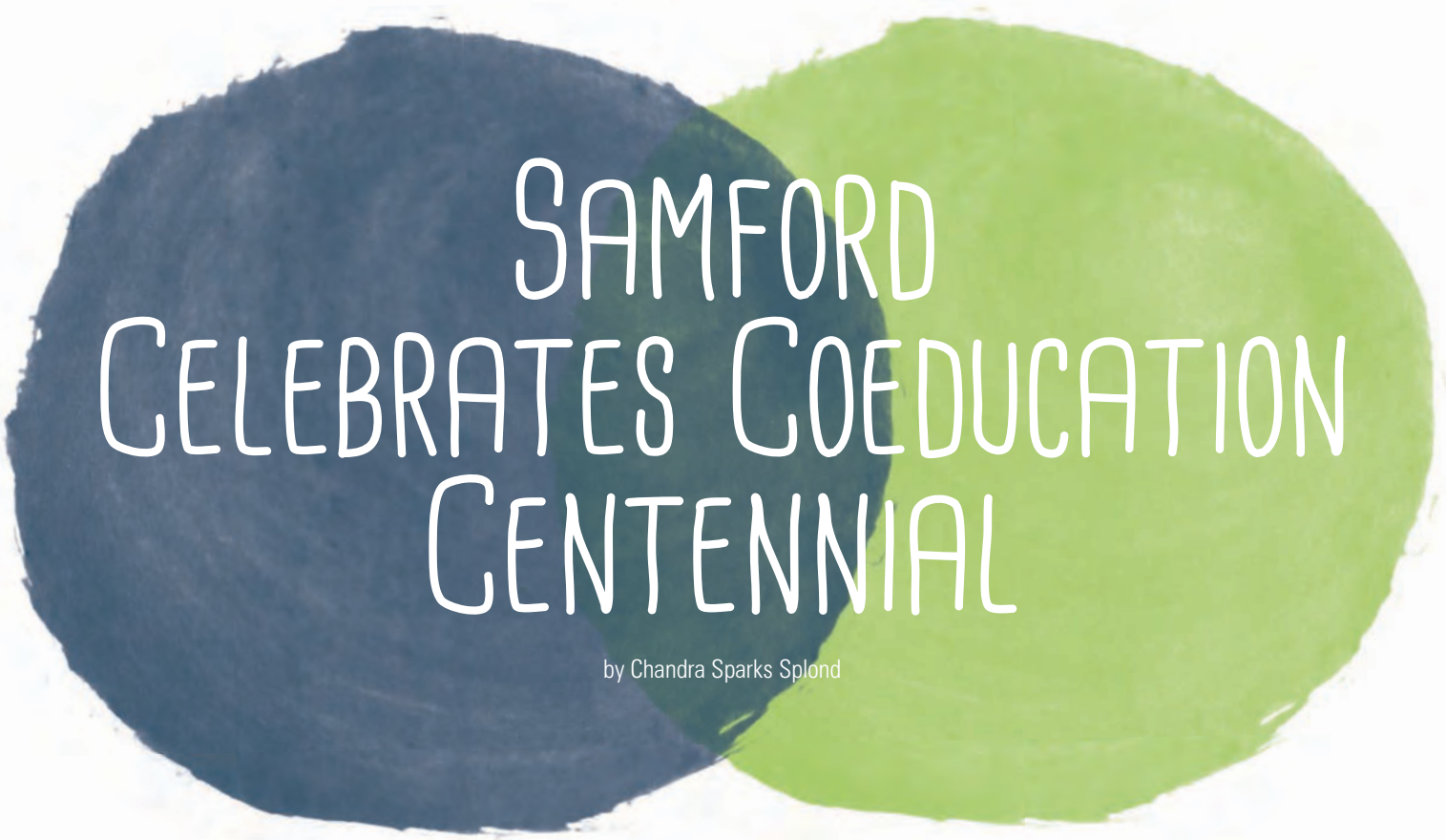
You have three degrees in history and special interest in World War II. How does this affect your teaching at the divinity school?

My background in history is a good foundation for understanding people and culture. This foundation is extremely helpful for me as I help train men and women who are preparing for careers in ministry, especially in the areas of evangelism and church planting. Among numerous lessons we have learned from World War II, one is that faith in God enhances a combatant's ability to survive the stress of fighting. Evidence from [that war] reveals that soldiers who had the resources of faith and hope in God, especially if they were encouraged by good battlefield chaplains, not only suffered less battle fatigue or post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD], they were able to help bolster the morale of their comrades.

Still another lesson from the war comes from some of the highest-ranking generals who observed that chaplains and medics in the Army, and corpsmen in the Navy offered so much personal care for the soldiers, sailors and marines that morale remained strong despite the dreadfully high casualties and extremely long deployments. Marine General A. A. Vandergrift said that chaplains and corpsmen or medics proved to be indispensable for keeping morale high.

These lessons from history help me to play a part in training future military chaplains. Likewise, these lessons enable us to learn how essential our faith is to finding strength to keep pressing on during all kinds of painful and stressful times in life. ▀

Dr. Dorsett's responses have been edited for length. The profile on Dr. Dorsett and other featured alumni and faculty can be found at www.samford.edu/spotlight.



SAMFORD CELEBRATES COEDUCATION CENTENNIAL

by Chandra Sparks Splond

In celebration of the centennial of coeducation, Samford University recognized more than 20 women who have made significant contributions to the school—and beyond.

The women, who represent almost every decade of the last 100 years, were nominated by groups across campus and were spotlighted on the home page of the Samford website during March, which is Women's History Month. Julia Barron, the founding mother of Howard College, kicked off the recognitions.

These honorees are only a representative example of accomplished women with Samford ties:

Marcella Auerbach, J.D. '76, is a managing partner at Nolan Auerbach & White. She is a former federal prosecutor who spent more than 25 years at the U.S. Department of Justice. She has extensive experience prosecuting corporate providers for health-care fraud, Anti-kickback and Stark Law violations, FDA violations and Medicare fraud.

Beverly Poole Baker, J.D. '85, represented numerous public agencies and private entities in a wide variety of bond and warrant transactions with Haskell, Slaughter and Young, LLC. She was the first African-American woman hired and made partner at an Alabama "white shoe" law firm, and the first African-American in Alabama listed in the prestigious Red Book.

Julia Barron is the founding mother of Howard College.

Kristin Begley, Pharm.D. '00, is a founding member of Truveris. She is responsible for sales and strategic initiatives utilizing cloud-based technology to facilitate transparency in pharmacy benefit management.

Karon Bowdre '77, J.D. '81, began her tenure as chief judge Nov. 18, 2013, having served on the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Alabama since November 2001. Since her appointment, she has presided over several high-profile trials, including ones involving public corruption and securities fraud.

Rev. Jennifer Danielle Crumpton '96 is vice president of strategic partnerships for the International Center for Religion & Diplomacy, a nongovernmental organization based in Washington, D.C.

Gayla J. Delly '80 has been chief executive officer of Benchmark Electronics, Inc., since Jan. 1, 2012, and has been its president since Dec. 21, 2006.

Ann Thornton Field '77 is a member of Gordon and Rees, LLP's commercial litigation, tort and product liability, agricultural chemicals and pesticides, and aviation groups.

Elizabeth Futral '85 is one of the world's leading coloratura sopranos. She has performed to wide acclaim at New York City's Lincoln Center, and in other leading venues in the United States, Europe, South America and Japan.

Catherine Henderson, Pharm.D. '09, began her professional career as a community pharmacist at The Medicine Shoppe in Decatur, Ala. In 2011, she moved to The Pill Box Pharmacy, also in Decatur, and started a compounded anti-aging skincare line called SimplySkin Rx.

Laura Gessner Kelly '78 is chief product officer at Dun & Bradstreet [D&B]. She is also a member of D&B's global leadership team. She is responsible for the company's global product portfolios, including the development and execution of D&B's future product strategy.

Linda Whitlow Knight, J.D. '76, is a member of Gullett Sanford Robinson & Martin, PLLC, where her practice areas include bankruptcy law, commercial law and litigation, and general business law.

Wanda Seay Lee '69, DPS, RN, is the executive director for Woman's Missionary Union [WMU], the premier woman's missionary support organization in America. Having served as president of WMU prior to her appointment as CEO, she is the first woman in WMU history to hold both positions.

Carolyn Maull McKinstry, M.Div. '08, D.D. '13, is an associate minister at Trinity Baptist Church in Birmingham. Her book, *While the World Watched*, tells the story of her life growing up in Birmingham during the Civil Rights Movement.

Nina Miglionico '33 was the first woman elected to the Birmingham City Council. She served for 22 years through some of the key years of the Civil Rights Era.

Ida Vines Moffett was one of the most beloved and influential Alabamians in the health profession. As a nurse for more than 70 years, she was a gifted healer whose touch could transform a patient's health. She spent most of that time at the executive level of the Baptist Hospital system based in Birmingham.

Caroline Noland '12 has dedicated her life to international development and education for marginalized people. She serves as a development and monitoring officer in Sindh, Pakistan, with a dedication to women's empowerment and education.

Leigh Ann Pusey '84 is president and CEO of the American Insurance Association, the leading property-casualty trade organization in America, representing insurers with more than \$123 billion in premiums annually.

Sylvia Rayfield '59, M.N., RN, CNS, is an internationally known nurse educator, entrepreneur and business leader who serves as a consultant to many universities and community colleges nationwide.

Martha Roby, J.D. '01, is in her second term serving the people of Alabama's Second Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Betsy Rogers '74, M.Ed. '98, Ed.S. '00, Ed.D. '02, is professor and chair of the teacher education department at Samford University.

Connie Henke Yarbrow, B.S.N. '79, M.S., RN, FAAN, is an internationally known leader and lecturer in oncology nursing. She serves as an adjunct clinical associate professor, Sinclair School of Nursing, University of Missouri—Columbia.

Sylvia Young '83 is a 27-year veteran of hospital administration. She was appointed president and chief executive officer of HCA Continental Division and HCA-HealthONE LLC in June 2012. ▀

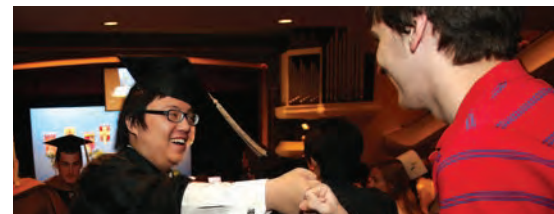
To learn more about Samford's centennial coeducation honorees, go to www.samford.edu/communication/ccrc.aspx.

Moving Through Commencement with Good-Natured Precision

by William Nunnelley







In two days of almost continuous commencement activity in mid-May, Samford University graduated more than 900 students at the close of its 173rd year. Samford President Andy Westmoreland described it as “our seven-segment marathon of commencement activities.”

Promptly at 9 a.m. Friday, May 16, academic processions began filing into Wright Center Concert Hall to the strains of Edward Elgar’s “Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1.” Four programs were held Friday and two additional ceremonies Saturday, May 17.

An estimated 10,000 people attended the six ceremonies. (Beeson School of Divinity graduated May 7.)

The new College of Health Sciences held its first graduation, and two students who were candidates for degrees spoke. The other commencement speakers included four Samford alumni with positions of leadership and the executive vice president of the American Pharmacists Association.

Commencement is traditionally a happy time, and this was true once again as graduates and faculty moved with a good-natured precision and an abundance of smiles through the activities of the weekend.

When the last degree had been awarded and the last student hooded late Saturday afternoon, Dr. Westmoreland sent Samford employees a note. “I’ve heard so many words of appreciation for your work over the past few days that it would be impossible to pass along every compliment.”

Following are some highlights from speaker’s remarks:

Howard College of Arts and Sciences. Judson College President David E. Potts, a 1972 Samford graduate, commended the academic achievements of the graduates but reminded them of the university’s mission. “Thanks to the high purposes of this institution, you have also had the opportunities and been blessed by moments where you have risen above yourself, beyond yourself, to care for others, where you have ‘sent forth blessed light.’”

Brock School of Business. Martin Newton, Samford’s athletics director and a 1983 business school graduate, said business professor Fred Hendon (now retired) taught him about priorities that “changed my life” as a student. Dr. Hendon told Newton he wasn’t working hard enough. “Right now, you are just average,” he said. “You have the potential to be great, but you are just average.” Newton said Hendon cared enough to help him straighten out his priorities.

McWhorter School of Pharmacy. Thomas E. Menighan, executive vice president and CEO of the American Pharmacists Association, told the pharmacy grads they were trained to assume a major role on the health-care team. “We must secure our roles on

the health-care team to improve medication use,” he said. “We do that by taking very complex information and simplifying it.” He said “trust in pharmacists is rock-solid worldwide.”

College of Health Sciences. Nursing major Anna Beth Shelton will go to Antigua, Guatemala, as a missionary to work at an orphanage as a pediatric dialysis nurse. “God has used Samford to equip and prepare me for this mission.” She urged her classmates to use their Samford degree to God’s glory. Exercise science major Megan Montgomery challenged classmates to use their gifts to serve others “as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” She will pursue a doctorate in physical therapy.

Cumberland School of Law. Retiring Dean John L. Carroll urged graduates to place a high priority on service as they enter the legal profession. “You should serve others,” he said. “Regardless of where your legal career takes you, you will have an opportunity to serve. Take advantage of that opportunity.” Carroll, dean since 2001 and a 1974 Cumberland graduate, gave the students some practical advice: learn to forgive, be nice, don’t wait for someday and remember the importance of relationships.

School of the Arts and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education. Superintendent Bill Cleveland of Homewood City Schools, a 1990 Samford graduate, reminded graduates of the importance of investing in people’s lives. “Find ways to motivate [students],” he said. He added: help them reach their unique potential, don’t let them give up, encourage them and push them, help them foster a positive attitude.

Beeson School of Divinity. Anglican Bishop John A. M. Guernsey of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic told graduates “the Lord is calling you to a ministry of servanthood.” He shared five hallmarks of the mission of the church: prayerfulness, going out, holiness, dependence on the Lord and empowering by the Holy Spirit. “Jesus tells us to pray before he even says, ‘go,’” said Guernsey. ▀

For complete commencement coverage, including full-length videos of each ceremony, go to www.samford.edu.

Jack Brymer, Sean Flynt, Philip Poole and Mary Wimberley contributed to this story.

Donaldson, Poole Win Top Awards

Graduating seniors Caroline Reid Donaldson and Anna Grace Poole received Samford University's top academic awards during commencement exercises at the school May 17.

Donaldson, a double art and English major from Greer, S.C., received the President's Cup—the valedictorian award—for having the highest grade point average in the senior class. She was presented the trophy at the graduation ceremony for Samford's School of the Arts and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education. She is a University Fellow.

Poole, a psychology major from Arkadelphia, Ark., received the Velma Wright Irons Award—the salutatorian award—for having the second highest average. She was presented a silver tray at the graduation program for Samford's Howard College of Arts and Sciences. She is a University Fellow. ▸



Caroline Reid Donaldson



Anna Grace Poole

Barnette, McKiernan-Allen, Warwick Named Pittman Winners

Three graduating seniors were named winners of Samford University's 2014 John C. Pittman Spirit Award. Hannah Joy Barnette, Sabbath Joy McKiernan-Allen and Kaleigh Elizabeth Warwick received the award during graduation exercises for Samford's School of the Arts and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education May 17.

The award recognizes graduating seniors who have exhibited a serious commitment to being a student and achieving academically, to honoring Christ, to personal health, and involvement in student life.

Barnette, an education major from Birmingham, is a dean's list student, Samford Ambassador, University Ministry Council member and a winner of the Frances Marlin Mann Award for Leadership and Character. She was cited for, among other qualities, a commitment to the education of poor and underprivileged children, which she has demonstrated locally and at an academy in Uganda. This fall, she will pursue a master's degree in education with a concentration in urban education.

McKiernan-Allen, an education major from Indianapolis, Ind., is a dean's list student and winner of All-Southern Conference soccer first-team honors. She is a member of Kappa Delta Pi education honor society and Samford's student athletic advisory committee. Her nominators noted her encouragement of others to achieve academically and to use sports as a vehicle for sharing their faith. She will work with at-risk students in the inner-city area of Seattle, Wash., through City Year, a highly competitive program that seeks to reach urban youth through education.

Warwick, an arts and marketing double major from Alpharetta, Ga., has served on arts and business student advisory councils and as president of the Samford circle of Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society. She was cited for her leadership roles in both Brock School of Business and the School of the Arts, and her "incredibly well-rounded and active involvement" in student life. In addition to starting Biblical Fellowship in the business school, she was integral to the creation of the now annual Arts Ambush day.

The John C. Pittman Spirit Award was established in 2004 to honor the longtime Birmingham insurance executive's 50th anniversary as a member of the Samford board of trustees. The 1944 Samford graduate is now in his 61st year as a trustee. ▸



President Andy Westmoreland, left, Sabbath Joy McKiernan-Allen, Hannah Barnette, Kaleigh Warwick, John Pittman

Eleanor V. Howell was named dean of Samford University's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing effective July 1, 2014. For the past 11 years, Howell has served as dean of Creighton University's College of Nursing in Omaha, Neb.

The selection follows a national search to replace Nena F. Sanders, who has served as dean since 2001. Sanders has served as both nursing dean and vice provost of Samford's College of Health Sciences since the college was announced in February 2013.

"Dr. Howell's extensive administrative experience uniquely qualifies her to position Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing for future success, while continuing to perpetuate Mrs. Moffett's vision for excellence in nursing," said Sanders. "Dr. Howell's philosophy of nursing is very much aligned with the foundational values of Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. In addition to valuing academic excellence, she is committed to quality patient care that is provided by clinically competent nurses with care and compassion. I am confident that the Moffett Legacy will continue under her leadership."

During her tenure as dean at Creighton, Howell expertly led numerous academic innovations in the College of Nursing, including establishing Nebraska's first doctor of nursing practice program and clinical nurse leader program, for which Creighton was one of only a handful of national pilot programs. The school also developed a health screening collaboration with Omaha parochial schools and a number of other community and clinical partnerships. Like Samford, Creighton's College of Nursing includes baccalaureate, master's and doctoral programs.

Prior to assuming her position as dean at Creighton, Howell served as associate dean for academic and clinical affairs, responsible for undergraduate and graduate nursing programs on Creighton's campuses in Omaha and Hastings, Neb. Howell also directed the master's in health services administration program at Creighton from 1998 to 2000, and was a core faculty member in the Center for Practice Improvement and Outcomes Research. She previously served as associate professor and coordinator of special projects at Auburn University's School of Nursing and on the faculty at University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

Howell is actively engaged in a number of national and regional professional service organizations.

A Georgia native, Howell received her bachelor of science in nursing from Medical College of Georgia in Augusta and her master of science in cardiovascular nursing from UAB. She also holds a doctor of philosophy degree in administration—health services from UAB.

"I'm honored to serve as dean of Samford University's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, and excited to return to Birmingham," said Howell. "The quality and achievements of the faculty, staff and alumni, as well as their engagement in interprofessional education, make this move a wonderful opportunity. The preparation of exceptional professional and advanced practice nurses, and the outstanding service to populations at home and abroad, have positioned the school to lead in mission-relevant scholarship and to collaborate on practice and education initiatives as part of the team in the College of Health Sciences. I look forward to building this future together." ▀

Howell Named Nursing Dean

by Katie Stripling



"I'm honored to serve as dean . . . and excited to return to Birmingham," said Howell.

Crouch Named Pharmacy Dean

by Katie Stripling



“It is an honor to be selected as dean of Samford University’s McWhorter School of Pharmacy,” said Crouch.

Dr. Michael A. Crouch was named dean of Samford University’s McWhorter School of Pharmacy effective July 1, 2014. An

accomplished educator, clinician and researcher, Crouch currently serves as executive associate dean and professor at East Tennessee State University’s Gatton College of Pharmacy, Johnson City.

The selection follows a national search to replace Dr. Charlie Sands III, who resigned in May 2013 to pursue medical missions opportunities. Sands continues to serve as a member of the pharmacy school faculty. Dr. Michael D. Hogue has served as interim dean since Sands’ resignation. He will return to his role as chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

“With experience in a variety of pharmacy education programs and within a college of health sciences, Crouch is uniquely qualified to assume the deanship of McWhorter School of Pharmacy,” said Nena F. Sanders, vice provost of Samford’s College of Health Sciences. “His knowledge of and experience in developing interprofessional education opportunities, combined with his assessment and accreditation experience, makes him well-suited to advance McWhorter School of Pharmacy’s reputation as a leader in pharmacy education.”

Crouch joined the Gatton College of Pharmacy in 2010 as professor and associate dean for professional education and academic affairs. He accepted his current leadership position in 2012. Prior to his positions at East Tennessee State, he served for 12 years on the faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and later as chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at South University, Savannah, Ga.

A recipient of numerous teaching awards, Crouch has dedicated much of his career to educating pharmacy trainees, Sanders said. He is a board-certified pharmacotherapy specialist who also holds added qualifications in cardiology. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists [ASHP], and an active member of ASHP and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

A native of North Carolina, Crouch received his bachelor of science in pharmacy from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He earned his doctor of pharmacy from Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and pursued postgraduate training that included a first-year residency at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Winston-Salem, N.C., and a second-year residency, with emphasis in cardiology, at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Crouch has a number of ongoing and completed research initiatives, including investigations involving interprofessional education and other teaching strategies. He has more than 100 scholarly publications, including two books: *Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy: a Point-of-Care Guide* and *Securing and Excelling in a Pharmacy Residency*.

“It is an honor to be selected as dean of Samford University’s McWhorter School of Pharmacy,” said Crouch. “The school has a rich and distinguished history, and I am excited by the interprofessional education opportunities afforded by the College of Health Sciences. I look forward to working with the faculty, staff and students to advance the school’s strong reputation as a leader in pharmacy education.” ▀

Faculty Retirees Share Memories, Make Plans

by William Nunnelley

Lowell Vann • Art

Art professor Lowell Vann says he will miss academia in retirement, but he doesn't plan on letting the change interfere with his artistic output. "I am in the process of getting a home-based studio ready for pottery production, and I'm working on improvements to the painting studio space," he said in mid-May. "Having both spaces at home will facilitate production, especially with the ceramic cycle."

Dr. Vann completed 45 years on the Samford faculty in May, 36 of which he served as art department chair. Along the way, he received all three of Samford's major teaching awards: the John H. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching, the George Macon Memorial Award and the Jennings B. Marshall Service Award.

He celebrated his final commencement by carrying the mace at graduation in May. Vann developed the wooden mace for the late Dean John Fincher in the 1960s.

Vann said he would miss his interaction with students, "seeing their progress, especially their advancing and maturing in studio classes, and their development from entry until graduation."

One of the highlights of his career, he said, was his participation in the Cornerstone curriculum project in the early 1990s. The project involved faculty from various disciplines and evolved into today's core curriculum. He also is proud that one of his recommendations, Easter Monday, was adopted by the academic affairs committee. This has been meaningful to students, enabling them to more easily celebrate Easter at home with their families.

Vann was recognized this spring for his contributions to the establishment of Samford's international program. He also led in development of interior design and graphic design programs that have become the base of art department offerings.

Vann said he would continue his interest in international travel in retirement. Already on his horizon are trips to Great Britain this summer and to Italy in 2015.

Marione Nance • Biology

Biology professor Marione Nance wrapped up 41 years of teaching this spring. She said her tenure produced special memories. One involves being the youngest in a class she was teaching.

"I had just turned 22 and was teaching labs that had mainly seniors or students with a degree who were coming back to get a pharmacy degree," she said. "Within a year or so, once the nursing school joined Samford, I also had older LPN [licensed practical nurse] students coming back to get their RN."

Nance initially taught Biology 325 labs, the only microbiology course Samford offered at the time.

Other special memories include helping revise a new faculty constitution as senate chair, "the privilege of carrying the mace" and being named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers multiple times by students. She is proud of the success of the bio-disaster drill she initiated and coordinated in 1999, and thankful for Samford's support of the exercise.

Nance said it was exciting when a student would tell her she taught the student's sister or brother. "And when they say you taught their parent, you can reply, 'See, they survived.' But when you are concerned that the next time a student will say, 'You taught my grandparent,' physically and mentally, it's time to move on," she said.

Nance said she would miss her Samford family. "From the people who waved as my toddlers ran across Samford's lawn to the faculty, staff and students who gave, not hours, but days and personal resources to help restore some semblance of normalcy to my life after the recent flood, there is no way that I can thank or even acknowledge all who influenced more than two-thirds of my life."

Martha Ralls • Education

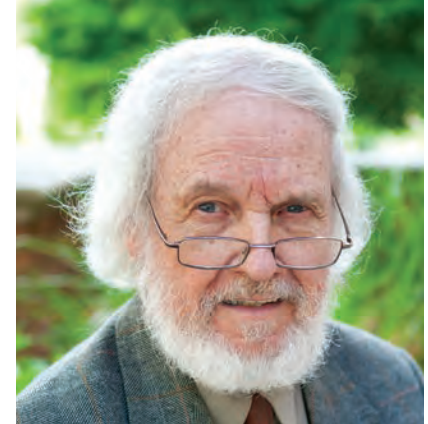
Education professor Martha Ralls counts it a privilege to have worked with future secondary teachers during their undergraduate years at Samford. "They arrive in their sophomore year during initial admission interviews nervous and unsure, and they leave at the end of their senior year teaching confidently in grades 6–12 classrooms," she said. "What a transformation and such a delight. . . . It will be hard to leave this experience."

Dr. Ralls has taught in Samford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education for 27 years. She was a public school teacher in Georgia before that. Now, she looks forward to spending more time with her children and grandchildren.

Ralls said it was "a marvelous experience" going into schools for clinical observations of her current students and being met in hallways by former students, "now enthusiastic teachers, and sometimes even principals and other administrators."

Among the highlights of her Samford career, she said, was working with colleagues throughout Howard College of Arts and Sciences to design the general education program, Cornerstone, which evolved into today's core curriculum.

Ralls has a retirement plan that includes taking care of 22 acres of land on South Shades Crest Road left to her by her parents, "planting more trees and hydrangeas, keeping up with my bird-watching and gardening journals, and maybe continuing to



Lowell Vann



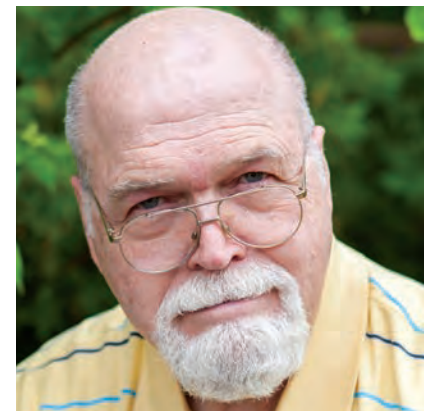
Marione Nance



Martha Ralls



Dennis Jones



Don Rankin



Paul Richardson



Ken Kirby



Susan Sheffield

write enough poetry to at last fill a small volume.” Around her there are “trees, green grass, waving brown grass, a sometimes pond when it rains a lot, sunlight slanting through oak trees, a brown barn with white trim, deer and other wildlife that come visiting nightly, and azaleas and other flowering trees and shrubs that I have planted over the years.”

In short, said Ralls, “It is my haven.”

Dennis Jones • Journalism and Mass Communication

Journalism and mass communication professor Dennis Jones has taught at Samford for 23 years and in higher education for 42. What will he miss as he heads into retirement? “I get to hang out with college kids every day,” he said. “Who in their right mind wouldn’t miss that?”

Jones said two things stand out as highlights—starting *Exodus* magazine and his department’s Monday Morning Memo. *Exodus* started 17 years ago as a senior print practicum project. Students do everything to produce the publication: writing, photography, layouts, advertising. “Over the years, 230 JMC majors have toiled on *Exodus*,” said Jones. JMC’s Monday Morning Memo began in 2010. Each Memo highlights a graduate, and it goes to the JMC alumni mailing list.

The professor tells his students they are in the middle of a revolution, with daily newspapers dying, magazines lasting only a year before they become web-based publications, the big four networks struggling and information being Googleable in milliseconds. “There are no more deadlines since everything is distributed 24/7, cell phones are now body parts we rarely turn off, we carry our work with us 18 hours a day on laptops, iPads and iPhones.” Jones said he’s looking forward to sitting back and watching what happens next.

He laments the death of the printed newspaper because it

traditionally served as a watchdog for society. “There will never be another president taken down by a scandal like Watergate,” he said. “Today’s media cannot afford to do the legwork, the distribution, the investigation, the weeks and sometimes months of research. . . .”

Will something replace this? “I hope so,” he said. “I’m trying really hard to make all my young students aware of the problem. They are our only hope.”

Don Rankin • Art

Art professor Don Rankin is retiring from the Samford art faculty, but not from his profession of painting. If anything, his painting will increase. “My plans are already in motion,” said Rankin. “I will be back to painting full-time while I overhaul my studio and catalog all old and new paintings.”

Rankin will continue his website, donrankinwatercolorstudio.com, and publish *Mastering Glazing Techniques in Watercolor*, Volume II. Volume I of the same title recently was reissued, for which he was recognized by the Provost’s Office for outstanding scholarship in his field. He is also helping to organize a national traveling exhibition of his paintings of some of his Shawnee relatives (10 paintings currently) that will be part of a larger exhibition on Piqua Shawnee.

“I’m looking forward to renewing the freedom of long walks and even longer sketching/painting sessions around the neighborhood,” he said. “I’m excited about re-establishing old ties with art dealers and galleries. My wife, Geneal, and I will continue to do our mission work with Christians Place Mission in Nauvoo, Ala.”

At the same time, Rankin said he would miss interaction with his students. “I am especially delighted when a struggling student has an ah-ha moment and begins to demonstrate a grasp of the subject being taught.” Rankin has taught at Samford for 23 years and is a 1970 graduate.

He has been active in his field since student days. In addition to a voluminous portfolio of paintings, he has written four books on watercolor, including one, *Painting from Photographs, Sketches and Imagination*, that also was published in Korea for the Asian market. His work also is included in *Painting the Landscape* by Elizabeth Leonard and *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Watercolor* edited by Marian Appelhof. Rankin was cofounder of the Southern Watercolor Society in the 1970s.

Paul Richardson • Music

Music professor Paul Richardson anticipates a less-hurried life in retirement. “After years of being a human doing, I am eager to discover if I can become a human being,” he said. Such a life would result in fewer interruptions to reading, thinking and napping, he added.

Specifically, an uncompleted textbook awaits his time and attention. Richardson is working on the third edition of a standard text in his field, *Sing with Understanding: An Introduction to Congregational Song*. C. Michael Hawn, church music professor at Southern Methodist University, is coauthor. GIA Publications of Chicago, a major publisher of music and hymnals, will publish the book. The same company published an earlier Richardson title, *A Panorama of Christian Hymnody*.

Richardson also plans to explore some of those “many curious things I have jotted down over the years with the notation ‘later.’” Plus, he looks forward to travel with his wife, Susan.

Richardson has taught at Samford for 19 years, joining the faculty in 1995 after teaching and studying at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary the previous 19 years. A highlight of his Samford tenure was the university hosting the 2010 conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, “enabling two of my communities to meet each other.” Richardson has been an officer and leader of the international organization.

Richardson said another highlight was his receiving the Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching, “the selection being less significant than the fact that some of my students thought I was worthy to be nominated.”

The music professor said his greatest gratification “has come from developing students as collaborators in learning, performing and ministry.” Because Samford is primarily a teaching institution, he has also enjoyed and will miss “reflections with other faculty on the art and science of teaching.”

Ken Kirby • Core Curriculum

Ken Kirby developed an interest in evening classes during his tenure at Samford. “I had some small but very interesting literature classes with adult degree students, whose life experience often makes them excellent readers and interpreters of literature, even though they feel their academic skills are rusty,” he said. They liked Jane Austen novels and also were fond of Edith Wharton’s *The Age of Innocence*.

Kirby has taught literature, communication and Western civilization courses full-time in Samford’s core curriculum since

2004. He was an adjunct professor for almost 12 years prior to then.

He helped design the senior capstone course for the adult degree program [now Evening College], and piloted and taught the course for several years. “It was also a valuable experience working with David Chapman, Bryan Johnson and others to begin the communication arts courses in the core curriculum.”

Academically, Kirby has been a generalist, teaching mostly literature survey courses and interdisciplinary courses in the core. He has published articles on American, British and Irish authors, and on adult learning pedagogy and oral history methodology.

Kirby served as a church music director in Birmingham and Montgomery during his days as a Samford adjunct. He plans to expand his musical activities after retirement. He sings in the Alabama Symphony Orchestra Chorus, the Briarwood Presbyterian Church Choir and Colla Voce interdenominational choir, and performs in the Sine Nomine Early Music recorder quartet.

“One highlight of my time at Samford was working to keep paper recycling going on campus,” he said. Students from the old Target Earth environmental club approached him to help with this.

He also has enjoyed participating in the Old Howard 100 Bike Ride. He has been involved every year either working a rest stop, cycling or more recently serving with Rosemary Fisk and Bridget Rose as coordinator.

Susan Sheffield • Nursing

Nursing professor Susan Sheffield said she would miss the students, “their energy and creativity,” as she heads into retirement this summer. “I will miss the learning I gain from them, a gift of value,” she said at the end of the spring semester. She took a moment to remind the students of an important fact.

“For health care, this is a turbulent time,” she said, “a climate filled with ongoing change politically, reimbursement challenges, care access, technological and information system advancements. Our students need to understand the change process and the positive impact they can have on care delivery and future innovations. A very exciting time!”

Sheffield worked in hospital nursing for more than 20 years before joining Samford’s Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing in 2007. She was vice president of nursing at St. Vincent’s Hospital for 18 years and senior vice president of patient care services at Carraway Methodist for four years.

While working as chief nurse in the local hospitals, she served as a preceptor for graduate administrative students. Later, she taught at Samford as an adjunct. After joining Samford full-time, she taught a number of undergraduate and graduate courses, primarily in the management arena. She was also contract and alumni coordinator, “a jack of all trades,” she said.

Sheffield is past president of the Birmingham Organization of Nurse Executives and the Alabama Organization of Nurse Executives.

“I look forward to volunteer activities with church and community, traveling, time with family and relaxing time at the lake,” she said of her retirement. Her family has a condo at Lake Martin. “I love to go boating on the lake.” ■

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Education to Celebrate a Milestone

In 2015, Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education will celebrate its centennial year of teacher educator programs.

As we prepare to commemorate this milestone and reminisce about our rich history, we're adjusting our focus to include innovative ways of creating educational opportunities to an ever-growing audience.

In the following pages, you will read about new initiatives that serve families, teachers and leaders in Alabama. New academic programs are being offered to better facilitate current trends in education and human development. Faculty members are receiving national recognition for their research, and alumni are being honored for their dedication to their respective fields. Students continue to grow academically, and use their knowledge and skills to engage the family, community and world.

While there is much to celebrate of our past, I can assure you the future is just as bright for Samford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education.

Sincerely,



Jeanie A. Box, Dean



Student teachers conduct an experiment in this 1961 class.

Get Involved

A Centennial Planning Committee has been formed to help with this historic year. For further information or to join this committee, please contact Kathy Acton at 205-726-4224 or kacton@samford.edu, or go to www.samford.edu/education.

Plan to join us for these events throughout our centennial year:

- Fifth Annual Tom and Marla Cortis Distinguished Author Series (Spring 2015)
- Campus-wide Moonlight Birthday Party (Spring 2015)
- Centennial Celebration Dinner (Fall 2015)

Education newsletter stories by Hannah Henderson

Learning for Life Award

We will honor 100 outstanding education alumni with the inaugural Learning for Life Award at our culminating event, the Centennial Celebration Dinner. Please look for the nomination form on Samford's website beginning January 2015. Nominations can include graduates who pursued a number of career paths; examples beyond a teaching career might include missions, business and nonprofit organizations.

Stay Connected

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School of Education Offers New Programs, New Opportunities

by Mary Wimberley

The school of education has rolled out changes that point to an enhanced experience for its undergraduate and graduate students. Revised programs, new concentrations and the addition of online options indicate a commitment to keep in step with the ever-changing landscape of educating teachers. Here, a brief overview of exciting enhancements on several fronts.

Master's in Elementary Education Now Totally Online

For the first time, Samford's 30-hour program is entirely online. The online courses will offer the same quality education that students receive in the classroom, including strong relationships with classmates and faculty, small class size and a blend of theoretical concepts with practical, hands-on experiences.

Advantages to an online course structure, says program coordinator and associate professor Tarsha Bluiett, include the flexibility that many busy adults need. But, she promises, the more limited interpersonal interaction will in no way compromise the rigor and quality of the Samford program.

The first cohort in the new all-online degree program will begin in fall 2014. Admission application deadline is July 30.

Christian Education and Missions

A new Christian Education and Missions concentration in the elementary education degree curriculum replaces a missions education minor, allowing students to experience a missions component and still receive certification. Potential students are not necessarily called to ministry, but are called to work with children in a mission/alternative setting, said associate professor Amy Hoaglund.

"The new program will attract students who are undecided and struggle to find a major fulfilling their desire to teach but in a mission/church setting," Hoaglund said. It will open up teacher education to those who want flexibility, the opportunity to integrate service and teaching, and to those who know they want to teach in an educational

mission setting—such as abroad, or at a nonprofit organization, missions organization or private Christian school.

Child Life, Gerontology, Law

Human Development and Family Life Education offers new concentrations in Child Life and Gerontology as well as an innovative law program. Child Life prepares students to provide emotional support and coping strategies for children and families in medical situations and settings. Gerontology features a special emphasis on how aging affects the individual as well as the family, and prepares professionals to assist during that stage of life.

A new 3 + 3 Law program in partnership with Samford's Cumberland School of Law speaks to students interested in adoption, divorce mediation, interpersonal violence and elder care issues, and especially those who want to practice family law.

A Samford/Cumberland accelerated law degree program permits a Samford student who has completed three-fourths of the work acceptable for a bachelor's degree to be admitted to the law school. After successful completion of the first year of law school, students receive a bachelor's degree in their undergraduate major.

Fifth-Year Physical Education

The addition of a physical education component to the fifth year nontraditional certification program in secondary education will help fulfill a critical need for quality physical education teachers.

"This program allows individuals with a passion for working with children and youth in a physical activity setting to earn a master's degree in physical education and

teacher certification in 18 months," said education graduate admission director Elizabeth P. Smith.

Master's in Educational Leadership

A new Master of Science in Educational Leadership: Policy, Organizations and Leadership program is designed for domestic and international students who want a better understanding of educational organizations and expanded leadership knowledge in varied cultural contexts.

"Because this program doesn't just focus on those who desire to be a school administrator, we can more broadly serve those who have a passion in education within different settings," said associate professor Mark Bateman. Admission application deadline is July 30; courses start in fall 2014.

Doctorate in Educational Leadership's Dissertation Option

This program that hones in on leadership issues that apply to educational institutions is presented in a new online/blended program that incorporates both classroom and online components.

For the first time, the program will offer an option to the previously standard dissertation. The new dissertation project/manuscript option, explains associate professor Jane Cobia, brings to bear the analytic abilities, professional understanding, contextual knowledge and teamwork skills from the program of study and applies them to a focused, consulting project undertaken for a community client. ■

For more information, go to www.samford.edu/education.



FACULTY SERVE

Helping to provide leadership to partnerships enhancing education are, from left, front, Jane Cobia, Jeanie Box, Yvette Richardson, Peggy Connell and, back, Victor Young.

the State with Professional Development

Members of Samford's educational leadership department are making a difference in education, not only in their own classrooms, but also through partnerships to develop two initiatives that will ultimately enhance education throughout the state.

The Middle Grades Leadership Academy [MGLA] is a collaboration between Samford and the Alabama State Board of Education to design professional development for middle-grade leaders that will positively influence students' academic achievement.

Current research indicates many students in middle grades (6–8) do not perform at their highest academic levels, while research demonstrates a strong, positive correlation in student achievement and strong principal leadership, said Dr. Jeanie Box, dean of the school of education.

Effective principals create school climates in which student achievement improves.

The MGLA draws from a national team of experts to equip educational leaders with the knowledge, skills and strategies to activate students' interest and desire to learn, Box explained. Educational leaders in the program will develop skills to motivate teachers in their schools and to provide the necessary supports for increased effectiveness and continually improving processes.

A second collaboration is the Transformational Leadership Academy between Samford, School Superintendents Association of Alabama, the Schlechty Center and Education Solutions to design professional development and support for Alabama superintendents. Dr. Peggy Connell, coordinator of the academies, explained the academy offers sessions to participating superintendents focusing on

understanding and embracing transformational leadership; learning how to attract and recruit talent, and build the capacity of leaders to transform schools; enhancing leadership skills; developing shared leadership capacities; and developing teachers as leaders, designers and guides to instruction.

"We are thrilled to take part in these new initiatives to support educational leaders," Box said. "This is such an important time of development in the lives of K–12 students and requires strong leadership to provide positive influence for students' academic and social development."

Both academies are scheduled to meet throughout the year. ▀

For more information, go to www.samford.edu/education.

Students Take Learning Outside Typical Classroom

Summer break couldn't stop education students from learning and teaching others.

Students in the online course Family Law and Public Policy traveled to Washington, D.C., as part of their curriculum, which focused on how law and policy impacts families. Dr. Kristie Chandler, course instructor, said the trip provided context and a historical element to the class.

"Although students can learn in a traditional classroom setting, I believe the D.C. experience really helped the course material come alive," Chandler said. "Being there provided that extra element of knowledge, experience and interest."

Highlights of the trip included meeting with the communications director for the Baptist Joint Committee, who is a Samford graduate, touring the new National Public Radio studio and meeting with a representative from the Family Research Council. They also had the opportunity to meet with Congressman Spencer Bachus, followed by a private tour of the Capitol.

Hannah Barnette, senior education major, spent most of her summer last year serving at Terra Nova Academy, a small but growing school in Uganda. Barnette assisted in a classroom half the week and taught art to students the other half. She said the classroom placement stretched her, as the age group she worked with was younger than she had experienced, but said she enjoyed the opportunity for growth.

She said her time in Uganda helped her realize that she was the one who learned so much. "I am beginning to understand that to be a teacher really means you are a lifelong student," she said. ▀

Education major Hannah Barnette works with Ugandan youth.



Partners in Learning: Samford Hosts Elementary Students

In March, more than 100 fourth-grade students and teachers from Trace Crossings Elementary School in Hoover, Ala., visited Samford to participate in Space Day. Teacher education students planned various learning activities throughout the day, ending with launching plastic bottle rockets and playing games on the quad. The Space Day event began a weeklong study of the solar system for the students at Trace Crossings that ended with a trip to Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala.

In April, more than 100 third-graders from Trace Crossings participated in the annual John and Frances Carter Young Authors Conference to increase diversity appreciation through children's literature. Students rotated through various stations, participating in book talks and follow-up activities including readers' theatre, creative drawing and character analyses. The day's activities closed with students hearing from Rick Shelton, a local author and storyteller, who spoke about a book he is writing. He also spent some time giving advice to the

children on how to enhance their writing.

Dr. Michele Haralson, conference coordinator and director of the education curriculum materials and technology center, said the events are beneficial to all those who participate.

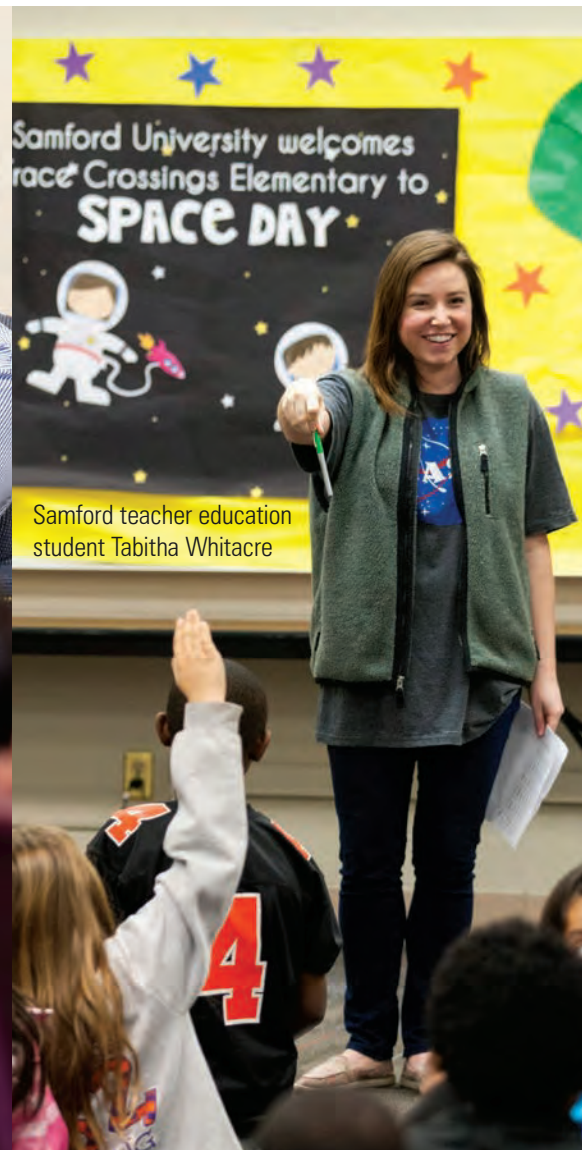
"The main focus of these events is for elementary students to enhance their knowledge of literature and science," she said. "At the same time, our candidates are strengthening their skills as educators." ▮



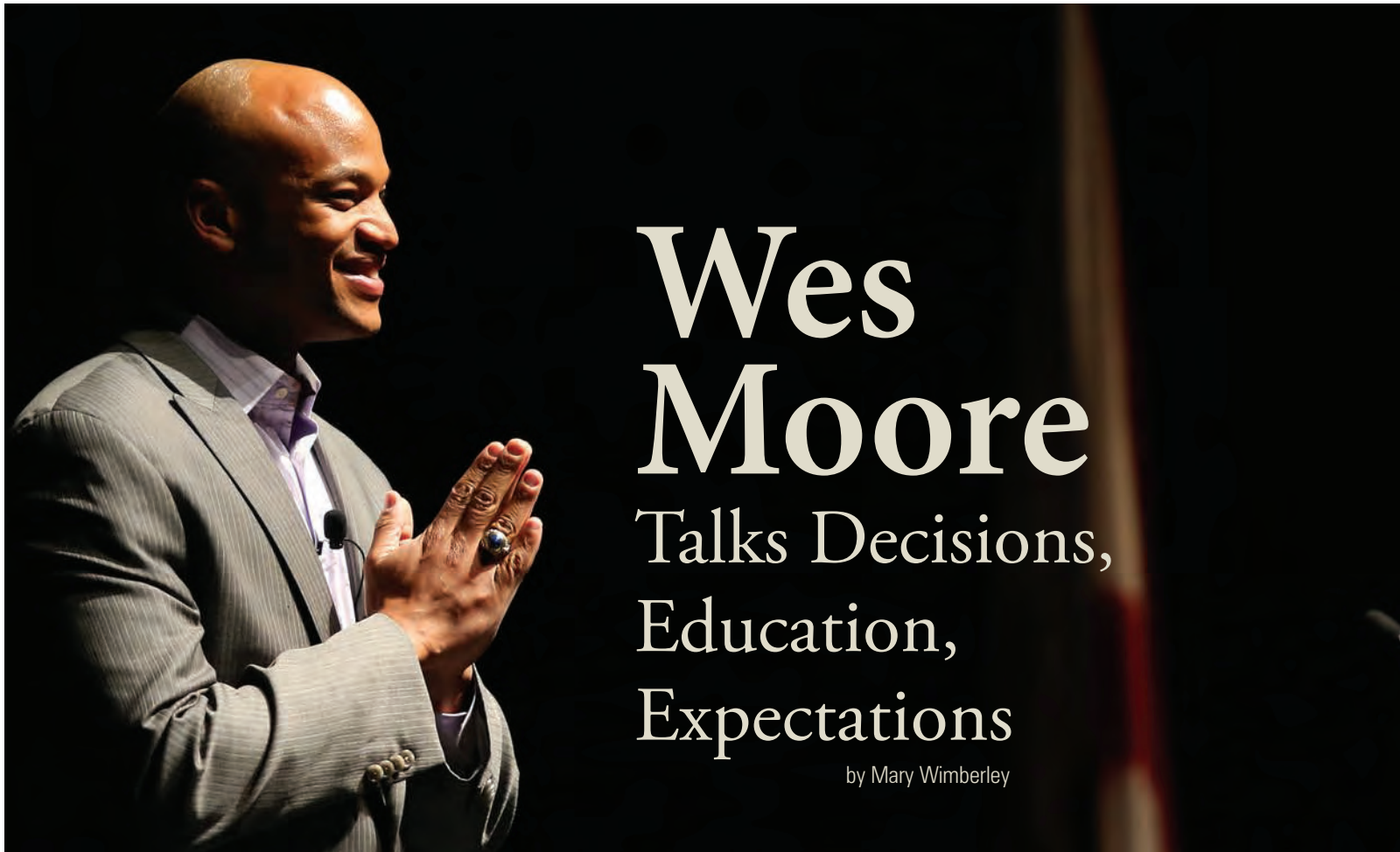
Miles College teacher education student
Bry'Anna Robinson



Author Rick Shelton



Samford teacher education student Tabitha Whitacre



Wes Moore

Talks Decisions, Education, Expectations

by Mary Wimberley

Best-selling author Wes Moore talked about making good decisions, getting an education and meeting expectations at Samford University March 17.

“Education matters, and it is not just about what you’re learning, but who you are learning it from and with,” said Moore, an Army veteran, Rhodes Scholar, television host and author of *The Other Wes Moore*, a *New York Times* best-seller.

Education, he said, is about much more than a diploma or a major subject. “It’s about answering the question of ‘who will you fight for and who will you serve,’” he said.

Moore spoke at the Wright Center as the 2014 speaker in the Tom and Marla Cortis Distinguished Author Series. Proceeds from the lecture benefit Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education.

Moore told the audience of about 500, including some 100 students from area middle and high schools, about the experiences that led to his 2010 book, which contrasts his life with that of a man by the same name.

Moore was a Johns Hopkins University senior and newly named Rhodes Scholar when his hometown newspaper, *The Baltimore Sun*, was writing about another young man named Wes Moore. The latter was convicted for murdering an off-duty police officer during a jewelry store burglary.

“We had more in common than just the same name,” said Moore. Both had grown up in single-parent homes in the same area of town and had gotten into some troubles as youth, said Moore, who was 11 when he felt handcuffs close on his wrists for the first time. The book chronicles how the two boys with so many similarities made

choices that took their lives in vastly different directions.

Moore had the rapt attention of the young people in the audience, including students from Homewood High, Holy Family Cristo Rey School, Restoration Academy, YMCA Y Achievers, and members of Leadership Southtown, a Baptist Church of the Covenant ministry that serves students from several Birmingham schools.

After the talk, many lined up with adult audience members to meet Moore and get books autographed.

To follow up the lecture, education students attended a luncheon to discuss family and cultural influences on education, to share their own stories of failure and success, and explore how personal and cultural biases affect teaching and learning. ▀

School of Education Honors Accomplishments of Students, Faculty and Alumni

Stephanie Parker '98, a kindergarten teacher at Glen Iris Elementary School, was named Birmingham City Elementary Teacher of the Year. John Mark Edwards '08, a social studies teacher at John Herbert Phillips Academy, was named Birmingham City Secondary Teacher of the Year. Taylor Ross '06, '13, was named Jefferson County Teacher of the Year. Holly Sutherland '04, was named St. Clair County Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Clara Gerhardt received the Certified Family Life Educator [CFLE] Special Recognition Award from the National Council on Family Relations. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated exceptional effort in promoting the CFLE designation or program.

Gerhardt, who has taught in the education school since 1998, supports student work by encouraging research, and uses her writing and editing skills to mentor

them through the publication process. Though Gerhardt is the recipient of the award, she credits her students for their role in this honor. "Our students turn us into the professors we are," she said. "I have become more competent because my students challenge me. They turned me into a family life educator."

Martha Ralls retires from Samford after 27 years of service in the teacher education department. Prior to coming to Samford, Ralls taught middle and high school English in Alabama, Georgia, Massachusetts and upstate New York. After earning her doctorate at the University of Georgia, she served as curriculum director in Georgia schools, but continued to teach journalism and serve as faculty adviser for the school newspaper during her lunch hour, as she said she could not bear to leave the classroom entirely. See story on page 18. ▸



Martha Ralls



Clara Gerhardt



Alyssa Szymanski

Students Win National Council on Family Relations Awards

Students from the human development and family life education department won several awards at the National Council on Family Relations [NCFR] annual conference. The theme of the conference was "Well-Being of Children and Youth in Families and Communities," with more than 1,200 attendees.

A group of students in Dr. Celeste Hill's Family Life Education course submitted winning entries for two of five possible categories, Best Fact Sheet and Best Press Release.

Hill said her students were passionate about this project because they believe in the purpose of family life education as well as promoting professionalism within the field. She said, "They

submitted quality, creative work that exemplifies the pride they have in educating individuals and families about the purpose of family life education."

Under the direction of Associate Professor Jonathan Davis, recent graduate Alyssa Szymanski received the Outstanding Undergraduate Paper Award for her research on dating violence, sexual assault and bystander intervention on university campuses. This is the second year in a row a Samford student has won this prestigious award.

Dr. Kristie Chandler, chair of the department, said the national and regional recognitions received by faculty and students serve to confirm what is strived for every day—providing opportunities for exceptional educational experiences and training. ▸

SAMFORD
HOMECOMING
2014

Oct. 31–Nov. 1

Great events for the whole family all weekend!
Friday Night Banquet,
Saturday Parade, Bulldog Walk,
Samford Football and Tailgating
with all your friends on the Quad!

Celebrate with
Class of 1964 50th reunion
Class of 1989 25th reunion
Class of 2004 10th reunion

Registration opens September 1

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT JUSTIN RUDD



How did your Samford degree/experience prepare you for your current role?

At Samford, I studied business marketing and finance. As executive director of a very successful nonprofit 501(c)(3) that I founded called Community Action Team, I'm able to use marketing skills to organize and promote 60–70 annual projects, events and contests in the Long Beach [Calif.] area. The focus of the nonprofit is on three welfare areas: the environment, dogs and youth. The dogs part is ironic since the acronym of the nonprofit is CAT.

What Samford faculty member had the most influence on you?

Dr. [Gene] Black had great influence on me. I was honored to sing in the A Cappella Choir for four years and did a few trips to Germany with the choir. And, I did a missions trip to Zambia with a small group from the choir. I went on to sing for Disney Special Events and enjoyed opportunities to sing for movie premieres and at venues such as Disneyland. As for the missions work, I'm looking forward to my third trip to rural Kenya this October to help AIDS orphans.

What would you say is the key to success in today's world?

It's important to be well-rounded and diversified. I've learned that being sharp physically, mentally, socially and spiritually will sure help you to succeed. I've also found that it's important to be good and knowledgeable at a few different things, in case a career or job does not work out. In addition to my full-time work running my nonprofit,

I also do beach photography of people and their dogs, coach pageant interview skills to teen and older pageant contestants, teach group fitness classes and sell ads for some of the many e-newsletters I send out.

What is a favorite Samford memory?

Some of the highlights for me were being chosen by my peers as homecoming king; being senior class president and speaking at graduation; being a resident assistant for a few years at Pittman Hall; being a Lambda Chi and being honored as brother of the year; emceeding Step Sing for two years; codirecting Step Sing one year; being active with the college group at Dawson Baptist Church; Jan Term at the London Center; a missions trip to Zambia; and being in the A Cappella Choir for four years. Can I choose all those as my favorites?

Why is giving back to the community so important to you?

As Christians, we are called to serve. I've been gifted with skills it takes to organize and influence, and I want to bless others in big ways. I see people hurting physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. I make time to help and get involved. I don't have a cell phone and don't watch TV or movies, so that leaves me with some extra time that I can improve myself and the world around me. Serving is what brings me joy and comfort. I want to continue to live to give.

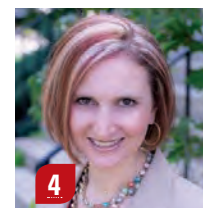
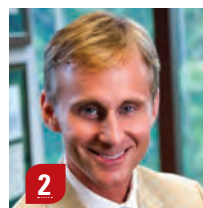
Mr. Rudd's responses have been edited for length. The profile on Mr. Rudd and other featured alumni and faculty can be found at www.samford.edu/spotlight.

.....
Degree/Year
B.A., Business Administration,
1991

Hometown
Long Beach, Calif.

Current
Recently named
one of the 25 most
influential people
in Southern California
.....

CLASS NOTES



1960s

'63 **Paul D. Robinson, Sr.**, retired in 2004 after careers as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy (20 years) and as a professor at The Baptist College of Florida (12 years). He and his wife, Laura, live in Pensacola, Fla. They have two children, Amanda and David.

'66 **Jerry** and **Maryann Stringer Tyler '67** celebrated 30 years on staff at First Baptist Church of Roswell, Ga., in March. He is minister of music and she is music associate.

1970s

'70 **Mike Shaw** retired as pastor of First Baptist Church in Pelham, Ala., in May after 35 years at the church. He served two terms as president of the Alabama Baptist Convention and was a chairman of *The Alabama Baptist's* board of directors. He has served as a mentor at Samford's Beeson Divinity School, a member of the board of ministerial mentors and as ex officio member of the board of trustees. He and his wife, Mary Johnston Shaw, have two sons, Scotty and Jake, and three grandchildren.

'72 **Buddy Anderson** received the 2014 Frank "Pig" House Award given by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame to recognize outstanding service to sports in Alabama. Anderson has been head football coach at Vestavia Hills High School for 36 years and athletics director at the school for 33 years. His overall record of 308-125 makes him the winningest football coach in Alabama High School Athletic Association history.

'74 **Rich Wells** is managing director of Convergent Wealth Advisors in Washington, D.C. He lives in Roswell, Ga., and has three teenagers.

1980s

'83 **Kenneth E. White, J.D. '86**, joined the international insurance brokerage firm Willis International/Group as its North American practice lead in managed care. He will work nationally from the Willis office in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

'83 **R. Scott Pearson** is associate professor and chair of business and economics in the School of Business at Charleston Southern University in Charleston, S.C. He and his wife, Christy, have a twin son and daughter, Zachariah David and Katherine Elsa, born in February.

'87 **Leigh Ann Dabbs Shelfer** is the author of an article, "The Last Nacho," in the May/June issue of *Life is Good!* magazine. Writing under the pen name Leigh Ann Thornton, her work appears in various Southern-themed publications and on her blog, www.sweetteaandhighcotton.blogspot.com. She works at the University of Houston—Clear Lake, where she earned a master's in history. She lives in El Lago, Texas, with her children, Davis, a 2014 high school graduate, and Laura, a fourth grader. 1

'88 **Edward H. Merrigan, Jr., J.D.**, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was appointed by Florida governor Rick Scott to serve on the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court. A colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, he served in a combat battalion during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

1990s

'91 **John McAfee, J.D.**, of Tazewell, Tenn., was honored at the 2014 Claiborne County Good Scout Award dinner for his outstanding leadership and kindness, both locally and

statewide. He is circuit court judge of Tennessee's 8th Judicial District. He also received retirement awards for his service in the U.S. Army Reserves. A lieutenant colonel, he served as a military trial judge and as an instructor at the Army's Judge Advocate General's school in Charlottesville, Va.

'92 **Jeff Roberts** was recognized in the February 24, 2014 issue of *Barron's* magazine as among the Top 1,200 financial advisers in the U.S. and among the top five in Alabama. Jeff Roberts & Associates is an Ameriprise private wealth advisory practice in Birmingham. 2

'93 **Carol Guthrie** is head of the Washington Center for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD], an international organization promoting policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. OECD provides a forum for governments to work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems. The Washington Center is responsible for coordinating OECD operations in the U.S. and Canada. Guthrie was a Samford Alumna of the Year in 2007.

'94 **Kevin C. Newsom**, a Birmingham partner and chair of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings law firm's appellate practice group, is the winner of the 2014 Client Choice award in the litigation category for Alabama. The award recognizes law firms and partners for the quality of their client service. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

'96 **Patrick Jones** of New York, N.Y., is performing in the ensemble and understudying the role of Juan Peron in the *Evita* National Tour.

'97 **Denise Elmore Morrison** is a compliance executive with Regions Wealth Management in

Birmingham. She and her husband, Eric, have a son, James Henry, born in January.

'98 **Jeremy K. Everett** was appointed to the 10-member National Commission on Hunger, established by the U.S. Congress to provide policy recommendations regarding programs and funds to combat domestic hunger and food insecurity. He is founding director of the Baylor University-based Texas Hunger Initiative, which he will continue to serve. He and his wife, Amy, have two sons, Lucas and Sam. **3**

'98 **Nate Fleming, M.Div.**, of Chengdu, China, is the author of his first book, *Thimble's Ark*, a novel that explores how the animals made it to Noah's Ark. He and his wife, **Koolyash Kashkinbaeva Fleming, M.T.S.** '96, have spent the last 15 years living in Kazakhstan and China. They have three children, Joshua Aslan, 13, Hannah Asenet, 11 and Noah Abai, born in June 2013.

'99 **William Douglass, M.B.A.**, of New York, N.Y., is group head and managing director of CIT Corporate Finance, Healthcare. He will oversee CIT's financing and advisory activities in the sector, including syndicated cash flow financings, asset based loans, real estate financings and mergers and acquisitions advisory engagements.

'99 **Sally Jackson Sims, Pharm.D.**, is patient safety officer and chief pharmacist for Birmingham's Baptist Health System. She will develop and oversee all patient safety programs at BHS hospitals. **4**

2000s

'01 **Lucas Dorion** is associate coordinator for Alabama Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, based in Madison, Ala. He and his wife, Emily, have two children, Nash and Sarah Cate. **5**

'04 **Wanda Creel, Ed.D.**, was named to receive the University of Georgia College of Education's Johnnye V. Cox Award for distinguished service in the field of supervision and leadership. She is Barrow County (Georgia) school superintendent.

'05 **Joel Davis** attended the red carpet premiere of his original music score for the independent short film, *Hugo Heard a Noise*, in Los Angeles, Calif., in March. The film was named an official selection of the Los Angeles Indie Film Fest and received its world premiere screening at the Let Live Theatre in West Hollywood. He is an assistant professor in Samford's School of the

Arts. He and his wife, **Lauren Heerssen Davis '05**, a registered dietitian, have a daughter, Ashley Kate.

'06 **David Santos, J.D.**, is an associate in the Charleston, S.C., office of McNair law firm. His practice focuses on real estate acquisitions and sales, financing, contracts and real property title disputes. He is vice chair of the Carolina Youth Development Center Board of Directors.

'06 **Ken Tinning, J.D.**, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., was named to the Top 40 Under 40 by *Jacksonville Business Journal*. He is an account executive with Merrill Lynch.

'07 **Walker Stewart, J.D.**, is a partner at Hall, Bloch, Garland & Meyer, LLP in Macon, Ga.

'08 **John Mark Edwards**, a social studies teacher at Phillips Academy, was named Birmingham City Schools Secondary Teacher of the Year. He also received Samford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education 2014 Golden Apple Award as an alumnus who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom through service to the profession, impact on student achievement, personal professional development and involvement in the education community.

'08 **Mary Katherine Ezell** married William George Smith IV in March. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

'08 **Matt Godfrey** is the lead actor in an independent short film, *Hugo Heard a Noise*, which was named an official selection of the Los Angeles Indie Film Fest. It received its world premiere screening at the Let Live Theatre in West Hollywood in March.

'09 **Madeleine M. Lewis** was recognized as a National Association of Professional Woman of the Year for her outstanding leadership and commitment within her profession. She is chief administrative officer at Somno Diagnostics, a sleep disorder diagnostic firm on the Louisiana Gulf Coast.

'09 **Lauri Self** of Hoover, Ala., was featured in the January/February 2014 issue of *Birmingham Home and Garden* magazine for her fearless use of color and layers of current trends in design while managing many challenges in the space. The story named her as "one to watch" among new Birmingham interior designers. **6**

2010s

'10 **Alex Woodward** was named vice president of business development and account services at Ross Direct Digital, and made a non-equity partner in the Atlanta, Ga., based full-service marketing agency. His promotion makes him one of the youngest marketing executives in the country.

'11 **Olivia P. Bosshardt** is a medical student at the University of Miami in Florida.

'12 **Aaron Coyle-Carr** was chosen to preach a sermon and be interviewed on the nationally syndicated radio program, *Day 1*, as part of a special series, "Inspiring Young Leaders to Shape the Future." His message, which aired on June 1, is entitled "He Ascended with Scars." He is a master of divinity student at Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

'12 **Joseph H. Lyons** graduated as a U.S. Air Force pilot from Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training in November and qualified as a B-52 bomber pilot. After attending survival and resistance training in Washington state in January, he moved to Barksdale Air Force base in Louisiana for B-52 training. **7**

'13 **Robyn Caldwell, D.N.P.**, was named education director for the Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing State Board. She is nursing instructor and student success specialist at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia, Miss.

'13 **Leslee Champion, J.D.**, is a member of O'Dell & O'Neal law firm in Marietta, Ga. She practices in the areas of family/domestic law, probate and civil litigation.

'13 **Dona Clarin, D.N.P.**, was named director of the new family nurse practitioner master's degree program at Harding University's Carr College of Nursing in Searcy, Ark. The program is slated to start in fall of 2015.

'13 **Hailey Rogers** is marketing coordinator at Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity in Indianapolis, Ind. **8**

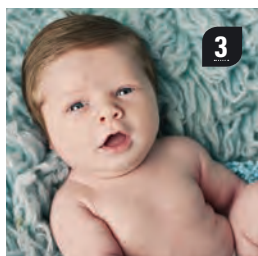
NEW ARRIVALS



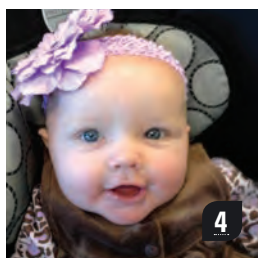
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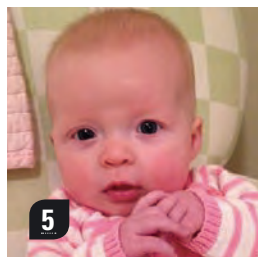
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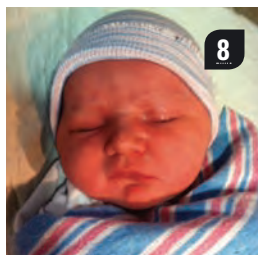
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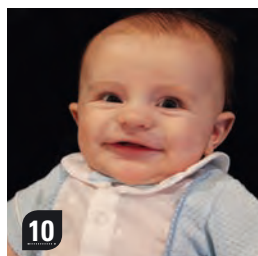
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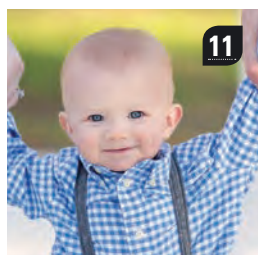
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11



12



13

'85 Christy and **Scott Pearson** of Charleston, S.C., twin son and daughter, Zachariah David and Katherine Elsa, born Feb. 21, 2014. **1**

'96 **Koolyash Kashkinbaeva Fleming, M.T.S.**, and **Nate Fleming, M.Div. '98**, of Chengdu, China, a son, Noah Abai, born June 10, 2013. **2**

'97 Eric and **Cynthia Denise Elmore Morrison** of Birmingham, a son, James Henry Morrison III, born Jan. 15, 2014. **3**

'98 John and **Shon Torgeson Ewens** of Sarasota, Fla., a daughter, Harper June, born Nov. 1, 2013. **4**

'99 Martin and **Allison Collier Kaufman** of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Corinne Collier, born Nov. 9, 2013. **5**

'02 David and **Lindsay Keith Kessler** of Birmingham, a son, Henry Thomas "Hank," born March 13, 2014. **6**

'03 Kelly Stone and **John Anderson** of Natick, Mass., a son, Jackson Luke Stone Anderson, born Feb. 13, 2014. **7**

'04 Felicia and **Drew Hataway** of Birmingham, a son, Robert Rex, born March 23, 2014. **8**

'05 **Sam** and **Emily Morris Hawes '06, Pharm.D. '10**, of Chapel Hill, N.C., a son, Caleb Mark, born March 19, 2014. **9**

'05 Maggie and **Patrick Devereux, Pharm.D.**, of Helena, Ala., a daughter, Lorelei Anne, born March 19, 2014.

'06 Brian and **Lauren DeCarlo Armstrong** of Huntsville, Ala., a son, Joshua Cantrell, born Oct. 4, 2013.

'07 **Matt** and **Kathryn Lamb Ams** of Atlanta, Ga., a son, Harrison Wesley, born Nov. 28, 2013. **10**

'08 Kelly and **Russ Jones, Pharm.D.**, of Daphne, Ala., a son, Wilson Russell, born April 25, 2013. **11**

'08 Jeffrey Lee and **Charlotte Sonn Wolfe, J.D.**, of Nashville, Tenn., a son, Samuel Lasseter, born July 31, 2013. **12**

'10 David and **Claire Richie Jacobson**, of Savannah, Ga., a son, Henry Bruce, born Feb. 26, 2014. **13**

Alumni Develop Novel Power Source for Water Purification

by Jack Brymer

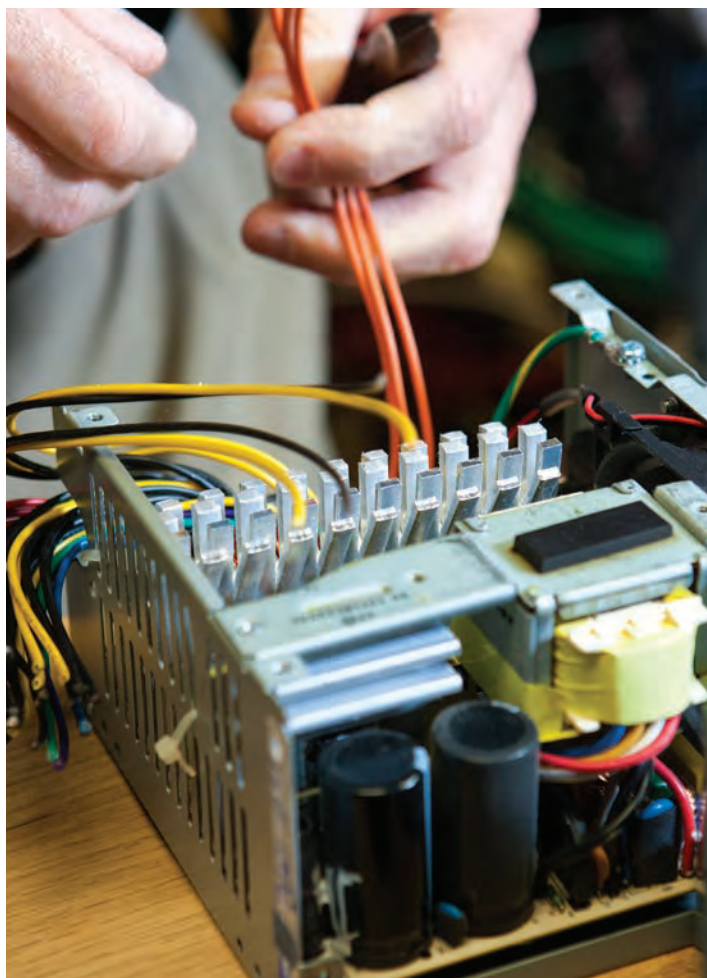


Lynn Smith

Dick Bodenhamer

Meg Newsome

Michael Wilson



The World Health Organization reports that one billion people globally have no access to clean drinking water.

It estimates that two million people die annually from drinking unsafe water, many of them children less than 5 years of age.

Safe drinking water can be produced from unsafe water by running the liquid through portable chlorinators to kill bacteria. Chlorinators can make up to 30,000 gallons of water per day safe by using only a fourth of a cup of salt. They have been used primarily in third-world countries and in locations where disasters have occurred, such as Haiti.

But powering the chlorinators can be a problem, especially in hard-to-reach places. They run on 12-volt car batteries, and the cost and weight of the batteries can make their availability difficult.

Five Samford alumni—Dick Bodenhamer '77, Allan Burton '92, Todd Heifner '91, Lynn Smith '76 and Michael Wilson '79—are working to combat this problem. They have developed a novel alternative to using batteries for power: old desktop computer parts.

The possibility of doing this came up while Smith, a retired electrical engineer, was helping a mission team plan for a trip to Uganda. As the team discussed the subject of water treatment, he

remembered a project he and Wilson worked on that made use of old computer power supplies. Smith hit upon the idea of using these smaller, lighter computer parts instead of car batteries.

Wilson, director of Samford's Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence, conceptualized the modifications needed to make it work, and a prototype power source was built using parts from scrapped desktop computers.

After a trial run to make sure it would work, the prototype was delivered by the mission team to Terra Nova Academy in Uganda, where Samford alumna Alisha Dameron-Seruyange '05 serves as director of operations. She reported that illnesses in her family, the academy students and her husband's soccer team were reduced dramatically after the chlorinator was installed.

Smith serves as technical adviser to Hope Manifest [HM], a 501(c)(3) organization founded by Heifner and Burton committed to strengthening other nonprofit organizations, specifically ones providing safe drinking water around the world. Smith also works with several other not-for-profit groups with the same goal: WaterStep in Louisville, Ky. (www.waterstep.org), New Life International in Underwood, Ind. (www.waterfortheworld.com) and MedWater in Louisville, Ky. (www.medwater.org).

The Samford alumni took on the task of producing and disseminating power supplies for chlorinators. Meg Newsome '13, an AmeriCorps member with HM, handles much of the logistical work behind the effort.

Bodenhamer '77, marketing team leader for Woman's Missionary Union [WMU], heard about the project. He knew WMU was in the process of replacing its outdated computers and convinced the organization to donate the old computers to the chlorinator project. He noted that several other Baptist entities in addition to WMU have donated computers, including Samford, which gave 30 old computers to the effort. "We would love to see [other] individuals and churches do the same," said Smith.

Currently, three of the computer power supplies are in use, with requests for 100 more to be placed in the field in the coming months, according to Smith. In addition to the unit at Terra Nova Academy, others are in service at a hospital in Tena, Ecuador and a coffee-harvesting community in Las Palmas, Nicaragua. Several units are being used for training purposes in Louisville, Ky.

The biggest need currently, according to Smith, is to raise awareness of the need for safe drinking water. "We take for granted access to safe drinking water, which so many people do not have," he said.

When computers are donated to HM (www.hopemanifest.org), the power source is removed and the computers are delivered to Technical Knock Out in Homewood for proper recycling. Computers provided to HM are tax-deductible donations.

Smith says he finds this work "incredibly rewarding." He has volunteered for several water projects in Haiti, India, Malawi, Jamaica and Peru. "To think we are able to do something about the world's greatest need—safe drinking water—for less than \$10 gets me pumped," Smith said. ■

IN MEMORIAM

'39 Mary "Bebe" Anderson, age 96, of Brentwood, Calif., died April 6, 2014. She was one of the last surviving cast members of the 1938 film *Gone With the Wind*. Discovered by director George Cukor while a Samford student, she auditioned for the part of Scarlett O'Hara but was cast as Maybelle Merriwether by producer David O. Selznick. Her other films included Alfred Hitchcock's *Lifeboat*, and she had a recurring television role on *Peyton Place* in 1964. She received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1960. At Samford, she was freshman class secretary and was active in Masquers drama group.

'41 Ada Eleen Thompson Ingram, age 93, of Montevallo, Ala., died March 28, 2014. She was a longtime laboratory technician at U.S. Steel and a teacher who worked as a war munitions technician during World War II.

'41 Frances Lewis Smith Killingsworth, age 94, of Birmingham died Feb. 19, 2014. She taught kindergarten and was a church music director.

'41 Martha Fountain Scruggs, age 109, of Birmingham died March 31, 2014. She was an elementary school teacher in Alabama for more than 40 years. At the time of her May 1, 2013, birthday, she was believed to be the oldest living person in Alabama.

'42 Christine Johnson Phares, age 94, of Brandon, Miss., formerly of Mobile, Ala., died April 20, 2014. She was a longtime private duty and recovery room nurse.

'49 W. T. "Dub" Edwards, age 86, died April 11, 2014. He taught at Samford for 40 years, from 1958 to 1998. He taught New Testament, and served as religion department chair and university chaplain. He also was coordinator of ministry placement with University Ministries. He was named Armstrong Professor of Religion in 1996 in honor of his educational background, strong social and communication skills, and concern for excellence in teaching spiritual and ethical values. A Greek and Hebrew scholar, and former pastor of churches in Kentucky and Alabama, he held a Ph.D. degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Memorials may be made to the W. T. Edwards Endowed Scholarship, Office of Advancement, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

'49 Ramsey B. Leathers, J.D., age 93, of Nashville, Tenn., died March 28, 2014. He served 13 years as probate master of the Davidson County Court and 24 years as clerk of the Tennessee Supreme Court. He was a glider pilot in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

'50 Harry Dawson Brown, Jr., age 90, of Greenville, Ky., died April 29, 2014. He was a pharmacist and a member of several Kentucky city councils. A U.S. Army veteran, he served in the European theatre and fought in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.

'50 Carolyn Boyd Herndon, age 85, of Greenville, Ala., died March 18, 2014. She lived and worked in Montgomery, Ala., before owning Dunklin-Herndon Funeral Home in Greenville. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

'50 Rhodes Burns Holliman, age 86, of Dublin, Va., died April 29, 2014. In recognition of his research in tropical medicine, he received a National Institutes of Health Fellowship to study in South and Central America. He often returned to Guatemala to provide health care to Mayan Indians. He retired from Virginia Tech University as professor emeritus of biology in 1991 after 29 years. The U.S. Army veteran was a biological scientist in research, development and testing of chemical, biological and radiological weapons during the Korean War.

'50 Lem Johns, age 88, of Hoover, Ala., died May 10, 2014. A secret service agent who guarded vice president Lyndon B. Johnson when president John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, in 1963, he was among three agents riding directly behind the convertible carrying the vice president in the Kennedy motorcade. He later served as chief of the White House security detail, assistant director of Secret Service protective forces, special agent in charge of the Birmingham Field Office and executive officer and special assistant to Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano. He joined the Secret Service in 1954 and first served in the White House detail under President Dwight Eisenhower. He served in naval aviation during World War II and was a Birmingham firefighter before earning his Samford degree.

'51 Gene Lee Watterson, age 84, of Birmingham and Shelby, N.C., died May 5, 2014. He was a pastor in Virginia and Florida before serving 26 years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Shelby, N.C. He was a president of the Council of Christian Higher Education and the North Carolina Baptist Convention. The U.S. Navy veteran served in the Atlantic theatre during World War II.

'52 Wayman Gray Sherrer, age 86, of Oneonta, Ala., died March 12, 2014. He was a Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent, attorney in Oneonta, county solicitor for Blount County and U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama in Birmingham. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps military police prior to attending college. At Samford, he was commander of Sigma Nu fraternity, a charter member of Omicron Delta Kappa and senior class president.

'53 Jimmie Ellis, age 80, of Holtville, Ala., died April 14, 2014. He was a longtime teacher at Holtville High school and a bivocational minister at churches in Montgomery and Elmore counties.

'53 Wanell Clayton O'Barr, age 87, of Denton, Texas, died Feb. 2, 2014. He served in music and education at churches in Alabama, Texas, Georgia and Virginia. A U.S. Navy veteran, he was a tenor soloist with the Samford A Cappella Choir and other choral groups.

'54 Mary Frances King Simmons, age 81, of Dallas, Texas, died April 17, 2014. A longtime sixth grade teacher, she served on the executive board of the Dallas Retired Teachers Association. She was a member of Phi Mu sorority.

'56 William E. Bearden, Jr., age 81, of Trussville, Ala., died April 15, 2014. He retired from the Alabama State Employment Service. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

'57 Opal Robinson Vanderver, age 98, of West Jefferson, Ala., died April 18, 2014. She was a retired teacher.

'57 LeRoy Herman "Bud" Wilbers, J.D., age 82, of Jefferson City, Mo., died March 7, 2014. He spent the first 20 years of his 56-year law career litigating personal injury lawsuits on behalf of companies and the remainder representing

plaintiffs. He served in combat with the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

'57 H. Dale Splawn, age 77, of Pelham, Ala., died March 29, 2014. A partner at Mackle, Splawn, Tindall and MacDonald Certified Public Accountants firm, he was active on the Hoover Park and Recreation Board, the Hoover Drug Abuse Resistance Education program and Boy Scouts of America. He served on Samford's board of trustees from 1999 to 2011 and was a member of the Brock School of Business advisory board. Memorials may be made to the H. Dale Splawn Scholarship, Office of Advancement, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

'59 Gerald "Gerry" Robinson, age 77, of Coarsegold, Calif., died March 14, 2014. A U.S. Army veteran, he worked 40 years as a purchasing manager for aerospace industries. He helped form the Carrousel of Clowns, which visited hospitals and other care facilities. He was a heart transplant recipient. Memorials may be made to the Timothy S. Robinson Scholarship Fund, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

'59 Roy Lon Shelton, Jr., of Ashville, Ala., died April 23, 2014. He was a dentist in Birmingham and Ashville for more than 45 years. He raised Landrace hogs and Black Angus cows. He attended Samford after two years of service in the U.S. Army.

'60 Martha Ann Cox, age 74, of Talladega, Ala., died April 10, 2014, of acute myeloid leukemia. During her 38-year tenure (1966–2004) in Samford administration, she served as director of women's programs, associate to the dean of students, vice president and dean of students, dean of academic services, associate dean for Extra Learning Experiences and director of Quality Quest. She was a 2006 Samford Alumna of the Year. She served on boards of Cerebral Palsy, Easter Seals and Camp ASCCA for people with disabilities. In retirement in Talladega, she continued her longtime work with the Miss Alabama Scholarship Committee and other causes. Near the end of her life, she volunteered to participate in a study searching for treatment of acute myeloid leukemia. Memorials may be made to the Cox Scholarship Fund, Office of Advancement, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

'60 David Houston Puckett, age 87, of Birmingham died Feb. 12, 2014. He worked at

Jefferson County Juvenile Court for 35 years as a probation officer and court's referee. He served in the U.S. Army's tank division during World War II before entering Samford.

'61 Arthur Wayne Crumpton, age 75, of Alabaster, Ala., died Jan. 12, 2014. He was pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala., and a former pastor of Alabama churches in Birmingham, Hoover and Spanish Fort.

'62 Joan Seever Bailey, M.S. '67, age 74, of Valdosta, Ga., died May 9, 2014, of Parkinson's disease and cancer. During her 23 years as first lady of Valdosta State University, where her husband, the late Hugh Bailey, was president, she was "mom" to more than 32,000 graduates. The couple met when she was a Samford student and he was a history professor.

'62 Virginia Gail Smith Durham, age 72, of Kimberly, Ala., died Feb. 21, 2014. She was a registered nurse for more than 40 years.

'62 Patricia Roark Reynolds, age 75, of Harrisonburg, Va., died April 2, 2014, of progressive supranuclear palsy. She served 20 years as a library assistant at James Madison University.

'63 John Sims Crutcher III, age 76, of Athens, Ala., died March 9, 2014. After a brief career in pharmacy, he pursued a career in real estate. He served in the Alabama National Guard and Reserves.

'64 William Howard "Bill" Irwin, age 73, of Sebec, Maine, died March 1, 2014. A former medical technologist and corporate manager, he became the first blind man to traverse the 2,180-mile Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, in 1990. He lost his sight in 1976. After his trek, he became a motivational speaker and family counselor, and wrote a memoir, *Blind Courage*.

'64 Donald L. Williams, age 77, of Decatur, Ala., died Feb. 13, 2014. His 50-year career as a practicing pharmacist included service at Decatur General Hospital, where he started the pharmacy department, Hartselle Medical Center and most recently Elkmont Pharmacy. He was a longtime women's softball coach and Dixie Girls Softball League organizer.

'64 Jeanne Carol MacFarlane, age 71, of Austin, Texas, died April 17, 2014. She taught elementary school.

'66 Mike Bishop, age 70, of Homewood died April 23, 2014. He was a coach at Berry and Tarrant high schools before beginning a career in sales with Southeastern Bolt and Screw, and later Birmingham Fasteners. He was a Samford varsity football player.

'67 Gilsela "Jill" Bartlett, age 71, of Athens, Ala., died April 6, 2014, of cancer. She taught German and English at Athens High School for 36 years. A native of Berlin, Germany, who moved to the U.S. at age 12, she enjoyed chaperoning student trips abroad.

'67 Gerald A. Ganus, J.D., age 71, of Gardendale, Ala., died May 13, 2014. He was an attorney and U.S. Air Force veteran who served during the Vietnam war.

'68 Henry T. Hagood, age 69, of Birmingham died Feb. 9, 2014. As executive director of Alabama Associated General Contractors from 1969 to 2013, he represented more than 1,000 commercial construction companies in Alabama and Florida. Recruited by Samford football coach Bobby Bowden, he played on scholarship for one season, but left the team to work at night and study accounting during the day.

'70 Janice Hughes Stone, M.S.E. '75, age 67, of Moody, Ala., died March 1, 2014. She was an elementary school teacher and counselor.

'70 William H. "Buddy" Wade, age 71, of Birmingham died May 8, 2014. He worked as a pharmacist before becoming a State Farm insurance agent in Homewood in 1973.

'71 Leslie Bunn Adams, Jr., J.D., age 81, of Birmingham died March 6, 2014. He had a long career in book publishing with Oxmoor House, Gryphon Editions, Odysseus Editions and Palladium Press. At Cumberland School of Law, he was editor of the *Law Review*.

'71 John Stephens Creel, J.D., age 85, of Birmingham died April 8, 2014. He was an insurance agency owner and a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.

'71 Walter L. Thompson, age 83, of North Augusta, S.C., died March 23, 2014. A gemologist, he established a real estate and insurance brokerage business, and Thompsons' Antiques. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War.

'71 **Margaret Reno Self, M.S.E.**, age 87, of Empire, Ala., died May 9, 2014. She was an elementary school teacher and counselor.

'75 **Mildred Simpson Whitehead**, age 67, of Virginia Beach, Va., died March 3, 2014. She was a nurse who retired from the Pendleton Child Service Center in Virginia Beach.

'79 **Beverly L. Dilworth**, age 56, of Rainbow City, Ala., died Feb. 11, 2014. She hiked the 2,180-mile Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine four times.

'81 **Hartwell A. Gargis, J.D.**, age 59, of Muscle Shoals, Ala., died March 19, 2014. He was an attorney.

'83 **Louise Carter Bailey**, age 80, of Birmingham died May 6, 2014. She was a nurse for many years at St. Vincent's Hospital and volunteered for medical mission trips to Honduras.

'83 **John Richard Shoemaker, J.D.**, age 74, of Birmingham died April 21, 2014. He was a stockbroker and high school English teacher before he graduated law school at age 43 and started a law practice.

'83 **Judy Poore Hamer, J.D.**, age 61, of Bentonville, Ark., died Feb. 21, 2014. She was a health-care attorney.

'92 **Donnie Rory**, age 44, of Birmingham died March 25, 2014. He was a manager with Cahaba Government Benefit Administrators and a former Samford Bulldog football player.

'03 **Patrick Joseph Hood, J.D.**, age 36, of Scottsboro, Ala., died March 23, 2014. He was an attorney.

'05 **Stuart L. Sims, J.D.**, age 34, of Atlanta, Ga., died April 1, 2014. He was a business litigator with the law firm of Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers. At Cumberland School of Law, he was a member of the federalist society and clerked at the Irish Competition Authority while studying at University College Dublin.

'13 **Jason Hicks, M.B.A./J.D.**, age 28, of Hoover, Ala., died April 11, 2014. He was employed with the Birmingham law firm of Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton and was going to take the Alabama Bar exam in July.

'13 **Michael Owen Lawless, Jr.**, age 24, of Trussville, Ala., died April 26, 2014. Memorials may be made to the Department of Religion, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

Other Samford Family in Memoriam

Watt Andy "Dub" Ellis, Jr., age 87, of Centre, Ala., died Feb. 26, 2014. He served on Samford's board of trustees for 16 years: 1978–90 and 1997–2001. He was owner of Ellis Brothers, Inc., and Sure-Grow Seed Company. He was active in many regional and national professional associations. He was a graduate of Auburn University.

David Foreman, age 61, of Birmingham died May 1, 2014, of pancreatic cancer. He had been on the Samford math faculty since 1986. He received Samford's 2010 John H. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching. A Baylor University graduate, he held a master's degree from Indiana University and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. Memorials may be made to the David Foreman Fund, Department of Mathematics, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

Martha Bishop Hearn, age 85, of Birmingham died March 31, 2014. She joined the faculty of Samford's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing in 1973 and served as dean from 1977 to 1986. She earlier worked with the Jefferson County Health Department and taught community health at the University of Alabama School of Nursing. ▀



WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU...

...but first, we need to know of your generosity. The James H. DeVotie Legacy Society is made up of the generous individuals who have planned a future gift to Samford University through their estate. Some who qualify for membership may not have told us of their plans. If you are in this group, please let us know. We want to thank you for your generosity. Later this summer, Samford will host a luncheon for DeVotie Society members. We hope everyone who has planned a future gift will join us. To learn more about the society or to let us know about your gift, contact Stan Davis in the office of Gift and Estate Design at Samford.

Stan Davis, J.D., '78
Director of Gift and Estate Design
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SHOE a NATION

by Philip Poole

Samford University has announced a partnership with Samaritan's Feet to provide shoes and other support for the Caribbean nation of Dominica. The overall theme of the partnership is "Shoe a Nation."

Samaritan's Feet, a nonprofit organization founded in 2003, is based in Charlotte, N.C., with global offices in Brazil, Nigeria, Peru and South Africa. Founder Manny Ohonme's goal is to provide shoes and "words of hope" to individuals in need, just as were provided to him by a missionary to his native Nigeria more than 30 years ago. (Samaritan's Feet is not affiliated with the similarly named Samaritan's Purse organization.)

The partnership was announced by Samford President Andrew Westmoreland at a spring convocation. Colin Coyne, Samford's chief strategy officer, is coordinating the partnership.

The initial project is to raise funds to purchase up to 6,000 pairs of shoes for children in Dominica. The shoes will be distributed in conjunction with the 10th Caribbean Baptist Fellowship Youth Festival to be held in July in Dominica.

As of May 20, more than \$40,000 had been raised toward this goal, Coyne said.

Samford's Sigma Nu fraternity pledged to raise funds for up to 1,000 pairs of shoes. Members sponsored a 1K walk/run in May that raised about \$6,500 toward that goal.

"I appreciate the student leadership at Samford for taking on this goal," Coyne said, "especially since it was at a difficult time of year with end-of-semester projects and exams."

Samford alumni Steve '89 and Suzanne Brown Davidson '91 of Montgomery, Ala., provided funds for 600 pairs of shoes. "Samford has always held a special place in my heart for a multitude of reasons, and now this will be another," Steve Davidson said.

Samford's Frances Marlin Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership, led by Executive Director Drayton Nabers, funded 1,000 pairs. Promotions later in June were planned through Samford's young alumni board and the university's annual "Big Give" fund-raising initiative.

"We have donors from the university's advisory boards, alumni, employees, students and others who are actively involved with Shoe a Nation," Coyne added. "This project is generating university-wide excitement, which is what we had hoped would happen."

Dominica is in the Lesser Antilles region of the Caribbean and has a population of about 72,000. The economy is heavily dependent on tourism and agriculture.

In addition to the shoe project, 10 faculty members and students from McWhorter School of Pharmacy will travel to Dominica in July to do health screenings and explore long-term health-care partnerships. Samford student-athletes and athletics department staff will do sports clinics and other service projects in conjunction with the July youth festival.

"The impact of providing shoes goes beyond just the actual shoes," Coyne explained. "By giving shoes, we can eliminate an epidemic of unnecessary death. Each child will feel the warmth and love of God's hand as they are ministered to by Samford students and festival delegates."

The plans for July are just the beginning of what Westmoreland and Coyne anticipate being a long-term relationship for the Samford community and the people of Dominica. The initiative is an extension of Samford's Christian mission.

"Leadership isn't defined by enrollment. It is defined by clarity or purpose and commitment to realizing the potential within," Westmoreland said. "This is not a timid goal. But, if acting boldly inspires another school to do the same in service to others, then we have successes in a much bigger sense." ▀

If you are interested in the Samaritan's Feet partnership, including financial support, contact Coyne at ccooyne@samford.edu.

Contributions made to the partnership through Samford are tax deductible.

For more information about Samaritan's Feet, go to www.samaritansfeet.org.

Research Takes Spotlight for Samford Students

by Mary Wimberley

Want to explore why people may make the moral judgments that they do? Or why some parents value obedience over autonomy in their children? Perhaps you are curious about the effect a winning sports program has on a college's admission application rate. For interesting and insightful conversation on these and other topics, ask a Samford University student.

In late spring, more than 130 Samford students presented results of research projects during the third annual Student Showcase and Spotlight on Undergraduate Research. During oral presentations or scholarly poster sessions, each also responded to inquisitive faculty and others who sought more details about the research process or outcomes.

The event, says Samford assistant provost Nancy C. Biggio, provides an opportunity for faculty and students to recognize the importance and value of research in the undergraduate experience. "Because of the investment of faculty mentoring, students are better prepared for graduate school and employment through the application of classroom knowledge to outside research," Biggio said.

Some 50 researchers shared their findings in poster sessions, and another 80 gave oral presentations in classroom settings April 29–May 2. Six topics were selected to be in the "Samford Spotlight" and were shared by their researchers with a convocation audience in Reid Chapel May 6.

Research adviser and mathematics and computer science professor Steve Donaldson noted that this year's researchers had participated in "many interesting and useful" projects.

Spotlighted oral presenters and their topics were psychology major Anna Grace Poole, "Situational, Cognitive and Trait Influences on Judgments of Moral Dilemmas"; sociology major Taylor Bandler, "Obedience vs. Autonomy in Children"; and science and religion major Melanie McConnell, "A Theodicy of Chance: Scientific Perspectives on Pain and Providence."

Poole, in comparing three models of moral decision-making—Unconscious Thought, Moral Foundations and Moral Intensity—found that the latter was the best predictor of ethical decision-making.

"My results suggest that we are utilitarian in our moral judgments," said Poole. "People's cognitive factors (the way they think) and trait factors (aspects of personality), did not play a role in their moral judgments in my study. Instead, the characteristics of the dilemma itself determined how people made judgments about it."

Her sample of 80 Samford undergraduate students read and responded to a set of ethical scenarios. Poole will present her research as a professional paper at a meeting of the American Psychological Association in August.

Bandler, who considered if religion influences the values parents hope to instill in their children, considered three hypotheses: strong religious affiliation, a belief that the Bible is the literal word of God and regular attendance of religious services, in determining if parents are more likely to value obedience over autonomy (freedom to make their own decisions) in their children.

Her findings, based on a survey of 2,603 individuals of various denominations, revealed that strong religious affiliation is not as significant as the two latter hypotheses. Bandler won the Undergraduate Student Paper competition award at the Mid-South Sociological Association annual meeting last fall.

Acknowledging the difficulty for even a Christian to always know how to respond to human suffering, McConnell said that science proves an insightful resource into explaining why a loving powerful God should allow suffering. Specifically, evolution offers helpful implications in considering the role that suffering and chance may play in people's lives.

"Christians can use evolution to gain insight into why a powerful, loving God would allow suffering. A theodicy of chance reveals God's purpose to have a loving redeeming relationship with us, his creation," she said. McConnell's paper won an international essay contest sponsored by the Science and Religion Forum, resulting in a trip for her to attend the conference in the United Kingdom last September.

Spotlight poster presenters were kinesiology majors Heather Chambers and Kayla Turner, who researched how handlebar assistance affects caloric expenditure while walking on an incline treadmill; kinesiology majors Natalie Newman and Jamey Webb, who explored the effect of time of day on exercise performance; and nutrition and dietetics majors Michelle Hancock and Katie McCreless, who studied the effects of chia seeds as a fat replacement in muffins.

Newman and Webb concluded that the time of day one exercises does have an effect, but to what degree depends on the individual.

Chambers and Turner concluded that using a handlebar while walking on an incline decreases a person's caloric expenditure significantly. "More than you would expect," they say.



Samford students Lauren D'Alessio, above, and Jeffrey Ashurst, below, discuss their research projects in poster sessions in the Howard Room of Beeson University Center.



Those wanting to add some Omega 3 fatty acids to their diet, reduce inflammation and lower their risk for chronic conditions, such as heart disease, can look to the chia seed. Hancock and McCress concluded that a mixture of 1 tablespoon Chia seeds to 9 tablespoons water is a good replacement for half the fat in a muffin recipe.

And what about sports and college applications? Sports administration major Fabian Truss surveyed 120 NCAA schools with football, basketball and baseball programs. He found that when all three sports achieved a certain “threshold,” as defined by winning seasons, the school experienced an increase in admission applications.

“The data showed that when a school has athletic success, it leads to an increase in applications, which could in turn lead to increased revenue for the university,” said Truss, citing Clemson University, which in 2009–10 saw an increase of 1,778 applications over the previous year. At \$70 per application, that resulted in an extra \$124,460 in revenue.

Truss, a business minor who shared his findings in a poster presentation April 29, said he would like to conduct more research using additional variables, such as the applicant’s attraction to the school for academic, location or other reasons.

This year’s research topics crossed many disciplines: biology and environmental sciences, kinesiology, nutrition and dietetics, political science, classics, world languages and cultures, human development and family life education, mathematics and computer science, psychology, accounting, journalism and mass communication, and religion. ▀

SOCON CHAMPIONS by Joey Mullins

Men's, Women's Track and Field Teams Win Conference Titles

The Samford men's and women's track and field teams both won Southern Conference titles at the SoCon Championships April 26–27 in Spartanburg, S.C.

The men's team scored 207 points, edging Western Carolina with 204 points. Appalachian State came in third in the men's standings with 165.5 points.

On the women's side, Samford won the meet with 166.5 points. Western Carolina also came in second in the women's meet, scoring 155 points. Elon placed third in the women's results with 131 points. This marks the first team Southern Conference title for both programs.

"I couldn't be more proud of our team and the way we fought through the two days from start to finish," Head Coach Rod Tiffin said. "We had some adversity with some of our key athletes being injured, but everyone on the team believed in each other to finish what we started on the first day."

Tiffin was named men's and women's Coach of the Year, and Samford's Steven Bastien was named the men's Most Outstanding Athlete. Brandon Hazouri and Sidney Jordan earned men's Most Outstanding Track Performer and Most Outstanding Field Performer, respectively, while Samford's Emily Allen won women's Most Outstanding Field Performer.

Individually on the women's side, senior Ashley Cope won her fourth-straight heptathlon. She captured the title with 4,806

points. "To win just one takes a lot of talent, but to win four in a row, that's special," Tiffin said. "I couldn't be more proud of Ashley and the way she's competed."

On the men's side, Samford captured first, second and third in the 1,500-meter run. In his first time running the event this season, Hazouri captured the title with a time of 3:54.33. Adam Jones came in second at 3:56.20, and Layton Dorsett came in third at 3:57.07. In addition to winning the 1,500 meters, Hazouri also won the 800 meters with a time of 1:50.31.

"That was a big turning point for us," Tiffin said of his team capturing the top three spots in the 1,500 meters. "It really gave us the momentum going forward to finish out the championships."

Bastien won the men's decathlon with a score of 6,591, and he won the men's long jump with a distance of 7.38 meters. Jordan won the men's hammer throw (56.40 meters) and discus (48.32 meters). Owen Wagoner won the men's pole vault with a distance of 5.10 meters. Justin Emerson won the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.47 seconds.

On the women's side, Marie Demedicis won the 800-meter run with a time of 2:08.53. Claire Goodson won the women's pole vault at 3.97 meters. Allen won the triple jump with a distance of 12.49 meters, and the hammer throw at 60.98 meters.

Later, Samford runner Adam Jones qualified for the NCAA Championships at Eugene, Ore., in the 1,500-meter run. ▀



Rod Tiffin



SPRING SPORTS

SOFTBALL, WOMEN'S TENNIS ENJOY RECORD SEASONS

BASEBALL—Coach Casey Dunn's team advanced to the championship game of the Southern Conference tournament for the third time in the last four years, losing in the final inning, 4-3, to Georgia Southern. The Bulldogs finished with a 35-25 record, only the third Samford team to win 35 in a season. Along the way, they gave Dunn—Samford's winningest baseball coach—his 300th career victory. Catcher Drew McWhorter led the team with a .332 average. Rightfielder Heath Quinn followed with a .319 mark and was named SoCon Freshman of the Year. First baseman Caleb Bryson (.306) led Samford in runs batted in (58) and third baseman Tripp Martin (.247) in home runs (11). Shortstop Ty Filliben (.293) made the media All-SoCon first team. Pitcher Alex Ledford (11-2) led the conference in wins. Closer Andres Gracia topped the league in saves (14) and posted a 0.79 earned run average to make the All-SoCon first team.

SOFTBALL—In the best season of its 27-year history, the softball team posted a 38-18 record and set six single-season marks this spring. Coach Mandy Burford's squad set records for wins, win percentage (.678) and four statistical categories, including home runs (51). Outfielder Megan Dowdy established new individual highs for hits (65) and stolen bases (22) while batting .351. Shortstop Abby Adams set marks for home runs (14) and runs scored (47), hitting .298. Pitcher Mollie Hanson went 23-10 to establish a standard for wins while posting a 1.44 earned run average. Dowdy, Hanson and third baseman Callie Brister (.329) were All-Southern Conference first-team selections, while Adams and outfielder Caroline Wilder (.275) were second team. Pitcher Grey Adams (7-3) made the SoCon All-Freshmen team.

TENNIS—The women's team finished 2014 with its best record and highest Intercollegiate Tennis Association [ITA] ranking in history. Coach David Vest's team posted a 20-3 mark and finished second in the SoCon tournament. Vest was voted ITA Southern Region Coach of the Year. The Bulldogs were 8-1 during SoCon regular-season play. They ended with an ITA ranking of No. 65 after beginning the season No. 73. Stephanie N'tcha posted an 18-4 record in No. 1 singles play. Yasmeen Ebada was 20-1 in No. 3 play and Emily Mallory 16-3 at No. 5. The men's team went 8-10 during an injury-plagued season. Elliott Barnwell was 12-6 at the No. 1 position for Coach Rahim Esmail's team. Fares Kilani went 10-7 at No. 2. Kilani and Austin Akers were 10-6 playing at the Nos. 2 and 3 doubles positions.

GOLF—The women's team finished third in the conference tournament at Hilton Head Island, S.C., its best since Samford joined the SoCon in 2008. Senior Alex Jasper fired a three-day total of 231 to finish fourth individually in the season-ending event for Coach Rachel Ingram's team. Sophomore Bailey Gray shot a 235 to finish 12th, earning All-SoCon honors. Sydney Needham totaled 236 for 15th place and a spot on the SoCon All-Freshman team. For the men's team, junior Zach Hughes led the way in the SoCon meet with a three-day 221 for 13th place. Freshman Garrett Moores shot a three-round 229 and William Catanzaro, Samford's only senior, a 233. The Bulldogs finished 10th in the season-ending event in Pinehurst, N.C. ▀



FOOTBALL

BULLDOGS HOPE TO BUILD ON LAST YEAR'S SUCCESS

The Samford Bulldogs won their first Southern Conference football title last season, and Coach Pat Sullivan believes his team will work hard to continue that success in 2014.

"They got a taste of winning the conference, and that's something they want to build on," said Sullivan after spring practice.

Samford went 8-5 overall and 6-2 in the SoCon, its best league mark since joining the conference in 2008. The Bulldogs finished the regular season ranked 18th nationally among Football Championship Subdivision teams.

"We had a good spring," Sullivan said. "We wanted effort and energy out of our players, and we got that. We also got through without any serious injuries."

Sullivan faces rebuilding his offense for 2014. The Bulldogs lost six starters, including quarterback Andy Summerlin, who passed for 3,640 yards—a school record—and 26 touchdowns. Others who finished eligibility were all-star running back Fabian Truss, guard Kasey Morrison, and receivers Kelsey Pope, Chris Cephus and Zeke Walters.

Receiver Karel Hamilton, who caught 38 passes for 657 yards and seven touchdowns, returns, along with starting linemen Kyle Champion, C. H. Scruggs, Jordan Boatright and Gunnar Bromelaw.

Several position battles will carry over into fall practice. One big question is who will replace Summerlin at quarterback. Several candidates played well in the spring, including Arizona State transfer Michael Eubank, a 6-6, 246-pounder who can run and throw, and returnees Carson Barnett, Albert Mitchell and Drew Pederson.

"I see them all pulling for each other, and when you get that going, that's what can make it special," said Sullivan.

Eight starters return on defense: ends Michael Pierce and Calvin Ruff, nose guard Jerry Mathis, strong safety Trey Wesley, free safety Jaquiski Tartt, cornerback James Bradberry, and linebackers Justin Cooper and Bobby Wilson.

Linebacker Justin Shade, tackle Jeremy Towns and cornerback Tae Lewis were defensive starters who finished eligibility.

The Bulldogs also return punter Greg Peranich, place kicker Warren Handrahan and kickoff specialist Michael O'Neal. ▀



Karel Hamilton

2014 SAMFORD FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|
| AUG. 30 AT |  | TEXAS CHRISTIAN |
| SEPT. 11 |  | STILLMAN |
| SEPT. 20 |  | VIRGINIA MILITARY* |
| SEPT. 27 AT |  | CHATTANOOGA* |
| OCT. 4 |  | MERCER* (Family Weekend) |
| OCT. 18 |  | WOFFORD* |
| OCT. 25 AT |  | FURMAN* |
| NOV. 1 |  | CONCORDIA (Homecoming) |
| NOV. 8 |  | WESTERN CAROLINA* |
| NOV. 15 AT |  | THE CITADEL* |
| NOV. 22 AT |  | AUBURN |

*Southern Conference game

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SENIOR CAMPAIGN DOUBLES GOAL AND EXCEEDS IT

The Samford Senior Campaign encourages members of the graduating class to begin a tradition of giving back to the school as alumni.

Seniors can designate their gift to the department, program or scholarship of their choice. Seniors are also encouraged to make this gift in honor of a favorite professor or staff member. More than 180 faculty and staff members have been thus honored during the first two years of the program.

“The program recognizes the impact faculty and staff had in the lives of the students,” said vice president for advancement W. Randy Pittman.

When the program began in 2013, 5 percent of the senior class participated. This year, with a goal of 10 percent, the Class of 2014 not only met, but exceeded its goal by 2 percent.

Chelsea Brown, a psychology major from LaGrange, Ga., was a member of the campaign committee. “I have loved being involved and helping to take up the challenge to double the percentage of last year’s givers,” she said.

Campaign steering committee member Drew Hall, a marketing and entrepreneurship major from Madison, Miss., saw his involvement as a good way to begin his transition from active student to loyal alumnus.

“It’s a good way to stay involved with Samford,” he said. “Fund-raising involves personal selling and connecting people to a cause. Samford is a brand that tons of people want, and one that they appreciate because they have been touched by the Samford community.”

All members of the senior class, including student donors and faculty/staff honorees, were invited to a reception at the president’s home near the close of the spring semester. History department chair Jonathan Bass was one guest who had been tapped by multiple seniors for the honor.

“I am surprised but very flattered,” said Bass, who said that, for him, teaching is much more than standing in front of a class.

“It’s about mentoring and getting to know students on a personal level as an adviser and friend. I love teaching and talking about my discipline, but the lifelong relationships are what I value and treasure the most,” said Bass. He added that he maintains contact with students he taught his first year at Samford in 1997. “I heard from one of them this week.”

Donors and honorees of this year’s Senior Campaign are listed on the following page. ■

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Calendar

July 3

Last day of classes, summer 1 session

July 4

Independence Day holiday, university closed

July 7

Final exams, summer 1 session

July 6-9

Minority Youth Science Academy, howard.samford.edu/mysa

July 8

First day of classes, summer 2 session

July 6-12 & 13-19

Great Ideas Summer Institute for high school students, www.samford.edu/fellows/greatideas

Quantitative Finance Summer Institute for high school students, www.samford.edu/fellows/greatideas

July 7-11

Adventures in Music camp (piano and voice) for grades 1-12, www.samford.edu/arts

July 10

Gaither Vocal Band, Wright Center Concert Hall, www.samford.edu/wrightcenter

July 11

Rick and Bubba's 20th Anniversary Tour, Wright Center Concert Hall, www.samford.edu/wrightcenter

July 14-18

All Aboard for Music camp for ages 3-6, www.samford.edu/arts

CampUS week-long camp for children ages 4-14 with special health-care needs, sponsored by Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, www.samford.edu/nursing/campus

July 14-25

LatinSummer, hosted by Samford's classics department, ascaniusyci.org/latinsummer/LS2014/birmingham/birmingham.htm

July 25-26

Youth Evangelism Conference, sponsored by Alabama State Baptist Convention

July 28-Aug. 1

Ministering to Ministers retreat, hosted by Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence

Aug. 7

Last day of classes, summer 2 session

Aug. 8

Final exams, summer 2 session

Aug. 11-15

Cumberland School of Law new student orientation, cumberland.samford.edu

Aug. 18-19

Back to School Workshop for employees

Aug. 21-22

Bulldog Days orientation, session 4, www.samford.edu/admission

Aug. 19-Sept. 23

Retrospective Exhibit: Lowell Vann, Samford Art Gallery, www.samford.edu/arts

Aug. 22

New student move-in day

Birmingham New Music Festival, 4 and 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, fest.artmusic.org

Aug. 22-24

Connections, orientation for first-year students

Aug. 25

First day of classes, fall semester

Aug. 26

Opening Formal Convocation, 10 a.m., Wright Center Concert Hall

Sept. 1

Labor Day holiday, university closed

Sept. 5

Choral Vespers, A Cappella Choir, 5:30 p.m., Hodges Chapel, www.samford.edu/arts

Sept. 7

Birmingham Boys Choir concert, 4 p.m., Brock Recital Hall

Sept. 9

School of the Arts Faculty Gala, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, www.samford.edu/arts

Sept. 19

Signature Series presents "One Singular Sensation: A Celebration of Marvin Hamlisch," 7:30 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, www.samford.edu/wrightcenter

Sept. 21

SuperJazz concert, 3 p.m., Brock Recital Hall

Sept. 22-23

Church Pianist Workshop with pianist/composer/arranger Mark Hayes, www.samford.edu/arts

Sept. 26

Alabama Symphony Orchestra SuperPOPS! concert, 8 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, www.alabamasymphony.org

Sept. 30

Faculty recital: Brian Viliunas, clarinet, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, www.samford.edu/arts

For information on summer sports camps, go to www.samfordsports.com.

For complete information on summer arts camps, to go www.samford.edu/arts.

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WVSU-FM 91.1—You can follow WVSU online at www.samford.edu/wvsu. Also enjoy sports and jazz on WVSU.

Keep up with alumni news, events and other information at alumni.samford.edu.

Have photos you would like to share with your friends and classmates? Send high-resolution 4x6 or larger digital photographs to news@samford.edu.

Information was compiled from the university's events calendar as of May 20, 2014. Dates, times and details are subject to change. Please go to events.samford.edu/calendar for updated information and a complete list of academics, arts, athletics, Academy of the Arts, Institute of Continued Learning, Lay Academy of Theology and Ministry Training Institute opportunities.

Student Anna Grace Poole works at Homewood City Schools Community Garden on Samford Gives Back Day.

