

THE MAGAZINE OF SAMFORD UNIVERSITY

seasons

SUMMER 2019



Defining Christian Higher Education

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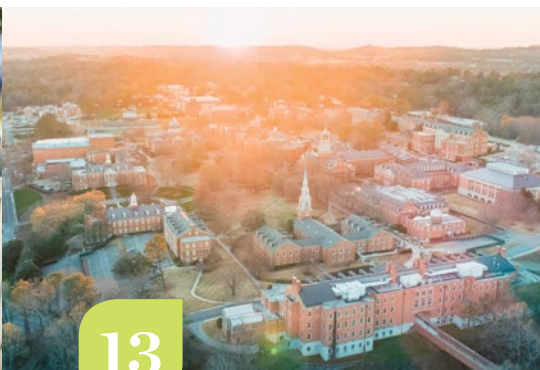
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More than 5,600 students from 44 states and 30 nations benefit from Samford University's programs of Christian higher education. These programs share an experience defined by characteristics, outlined in this cover story.



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Cover: The interior ceiling of the dome of Samford's Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel features paintings by Romanian-born muralist Petru Botezatu. The work depicts 16 key figures in the development of Protestantism and the Baptist faith.

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Save the Date

Samford Homecoming
November 8-9, 2019

Be a part of Homecoming 2019! Whether you attend Homecoming each year or this is your first year back on campus since graduation, this is a weekend that you don't want to miss. With reunions, tailgates, Alumni of the Year awards, and much more, this is an event that you will cherish for a lifetime.

For schedule and hotel block information, go to samford.edu/alumni.

We look forward to seeing you at Homecoming 2019!



From the President



Sharing First Thoughts

On the first day of each month since arriving at Samford in 2006 I've shared with students—via email—First Thoughts, an accumulation of matters that are rattling around in my brain. I suspect that the percentage of students who automatically delete the messages is rather high, but sometimes I manage to break through the clutter. Such was the case with these bullet points from a message this spring, as I preached to myself (and others, if they chose to listen):

- I need to listen carefully.
- I need to guard and limit my own speech, spoken and written.
- I need to extend grace to others even if I feel I have not received grace from them.
- I need to find happiness in the fleeting moments of the day.
- I need to apologize—quickly and without qualifying conditions—when I have been wrong or when I have hurt someone.
- I need to recognize that the loneliness I sometimes feel is actually shared by everyone.
- I need to take a walk when I'm stressed, even if it is raining and—perhaps—especially if it is raining.
- I need to remember that every person I see today is made in the image of God.
- I need to remember to love the Lord with all my heart and lean not on my own understanding.

As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.

Andrew Westmoreland
President

Carnegie Elevates Samford's Classification to Doctoral/Professional University *by Katie Stripling*

Samford University's Carnegie Classification® has been elevated to the newly created doctoral/professional universities category, acknowledging Samford's longstanding commitment to high-quality graduate programs that meet the evolving demands of the marketplace.

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, or simply the Carnegie Classification®, was created in 1970 and is the framework for recognizing and describing institutional diversity across higher education in the United States. Derived from empirical data on colleges and universities, the framework primarily serves educational and research purposes and is often used in the study of higher education to identify groups of comparable institutions.

The introduction of the new doctoral/professional classification reflects a realignment in how U.S. universities that grant doctoral degrees are evaluated and highlights recent growth in doctoral degrees across the landscape of higher education today. In order to be eligible for the new doctoral/professional university category, a university must award at least 30 professional practice doctoral degrees in two or more

programs and have no more than \$5 million in annual research expenditures.

With established professional practice doctoral programs in law, pharmacy and nursing, Samford has long met the benchmark for this new category. In the 2017-18 academic year, Samford awarded 324 doctoral/professional degrees across five programs, reflecting a 16% increase over the past five years.

According to Samford Vice President for Marketing and Communication Betsy Holloway, this new category acknowledges changes reflected in the current landscape of higher education and better accounts for the depth and breadth of the graduate programs offered at Samford today. "Samford has a long history of offering exceptional graduate programs designed to meet the needs of students and the demands of the market," said Holloway. "We provide a distinct blend of graduate and professional schools coupled with exceptional undergraduate programs grounded in the liberal arts. This new classification reflects the wonderful diversity of academic degrees offered across our university today." ▮



COVER STORY

Defining Christian Higher Education

by Bob Terry



On a cold, blustery January day in 1842, seven young men from central Alabama reported to Samuel Sterling Sherman as the inaugural class of Howard College (now Samford University) in Marion, Alabama. The school had been chartered the previous year in response to a call from Alabama Baptists for Christian higher education to prepare men to serve the rapidly growing number of churches in the state. Sherman, a Baptist from Vermont, was the school's first president and its initial faculty member.

The new institution's enrollment grew rapidly. By June 1843, 77 students had enrolled and the curriculum expanded to provide Christian higher education "through languages, literature and the sciences." Ten years later enrollment had doubled again to 152. Obviously, *For God, For Learning, Forever* was valued in early Alabama.

By 1896, Howard College had relocated to East Lake near Birmingham, the state's largest city, and that year Anna Judge became the school's first female graduate.

Today more than 5,600 undergraduate and graduate students from 44 states and 30 countries benefit each semester from Christian higher education through the 10 schools that make up Samford University. They share an educational experience that is *For God, For Learning, Forever*. It is an education that still maintains common roots with the education offered to those first seven students 177 years ago.

Christian higher education is no longer just about educating individuals for vocational ministry in the churches but it still shares a goal of growing students in their commitments to God. The first of 10 core values adopted by Samford University trustees declares, "The Samford community values lifelong belief in God, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord."

An Intentional Approach

The second core value calls for lifelong engagement with the "life and teachings of Jesus." Just as Samford's founders were intentional about growing students in their faith, today's university leaders are equally committed. The university's mission statement affirms Samford will "nurture persons in their development of intellect, creativity, faith and personhood."

Helping students grow in their Christian faith is not an accident at Samford. It is not a by-product of the educational experience. Nurturing students in their faith development is a purposeful intention today just as it was on day one of Samford's history.

A Faculty of Faith

Faculty members fulfill most of the promises a university makes to students. That is why Samford seeks a faculty of faith to lead classroom experiences and interact with students.

Samford's search process to fill faculty positions is thorough. In addition to providing information regarding their academic credentials and experience, applicants are asked to write about their personal faith journey and their commitment to Samford's Christian mission, providing a basis for important dialogue during the interview process.

Samford's founders and its first faculty members were scholars from across the nation who valued their religious

Today's Samford students experience an education that maintains common roots with the education offered . . . 177 years ago.



Campus worship is a vital part of Christian higher education.

faith. Today the more than 350 men and women composing Samford's faculty are scholars from across the nation and beyond, and they are still Christian.

Nurturing Intellect and Creativity

Scholarship is synonymous with Samford University. That is why numerous rankings place Samford among the top universities in the South and increasingly among the best Christian universities in the nation. Growing students academically is at the heart of Christian higher education. Again, Samford's mission statement commits the university to nurturing intellect and creativity as much as faith and personhood. The mind is of God and when one helps grow the mind one is helping do God's work.

Faculty members play catalytic roles in stimulating and facilitating academic achievement by students. Faculty members also hold students accountable for their scholastic accomplishments.

At Samford, the accountability of Christian higher education is companioned by grace. The same faculty members who read students' papers and grade their tests also walk with students as they wrestle with life-changing questions such as who am I, what should I do with my life, and what is my place in the world.

The same faculty members who inspire learning and

prod toward scholastic mastery from the front of the classroom also can be found encouraging students in one-on-one sessions and helping open doors through untold letters of recommendation.

Faith and Scholarship: A Dialogue

Just as accountability and grace go together in Christian higher education, so does the dialogue between faith and scholarship. Holistic education is a continuous exchange between body, mind and spirit. Faith must be informed by scholarship and scholarship must be informed by faith. To concentrate on one without the other produces a warped understanding of the whole.

Classrooms that allow only discussion of the discipline do a disservice to students just as students are disserved when faith is emphasized to the point that scholarship is not allowed to make its contributions. Understanding of a discipline is vital but how that information is used outside the classroom must be informed by a faith perspective. That is part of education which is *For God, For Learning, Forever*.

Some subjects offer more intersections of faith, values and scholarship in their curriculum than others. But in Christian higher education every classroom offers opportunity for such issues to be raised by faculty or students through discussion, reading and research.

At Christian universities like Samford, faculty members stand as ongoing reminders that scholarship and faith can and do go together—each a vital part of Christian higher education that is *For God, For Learning, Forever*.

An Emphasis on the Extracurricular

In 1842, little attention was paid to students' extracurricular activities. Not so today. Educators today emphasize the importance of what is variously referred to as the hidden curriculum or implicit curriculum—the idea that culture and values are conveyed in the activities and practices of an institution.

So important is this hidden curriculum that some define a Christian university as a place offering religiously oriented extracurricular activities for students.

A Missions and Service Core

At Samford, one could major in religious activities if it were allowed. Missions and service are at the core of these extracurricular activities. Volunteer participants number in the thousands, not the hundreds. Some join faculty members for mission trips where skills learned in the classrooms are put to use serving others.

Campus organizations sponsor service projects year round, and some students arrange their own service opportunities. From nearby Birmingham to distant points in Africa and Asia and places in between, Samford students can be found serving humanity and serving our Lord.

An Undergirding of Worship

Undergirding all that Samford is and all that Samford does is worship, another vital part of Christian higher education. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, hundreds of students crowd into Reid Chapel for campus worship. They sing, pray, read Scripture and listen as the Bible is proclaimed.

Most evenings voluntary Bible study groups dot the campus. On a warm afternoon it is not uncommon to see students sitting alone on the quad with Bibles open deep in private worship and prayer.

Not every student participates in mission activities or regular worship and not every faculty member or administrator is the perfect blend of accountability and grace. We are all on a journey.

But Christian higher education at Samford University is still *For God, For Learning, Forever*. It is still intentional. It is still carried out by a Christian faculty offering accountability blended with grace as well as scholarship in

conversation with faith. It is still motivated by worship of God and still expressed in service to others.

Those traits marked Christian higher education in Samford's earliest days, and they still mark a Samford education today. ▀

Bob Terry is adviser to the president for faith networks at Samford University. He is the retired editor of The Alabama Baptist newspaper.



Samford students can be found serving humanity and serving our Lord.



Ashton Cole, Liz Kudirka
and Jessica Brown

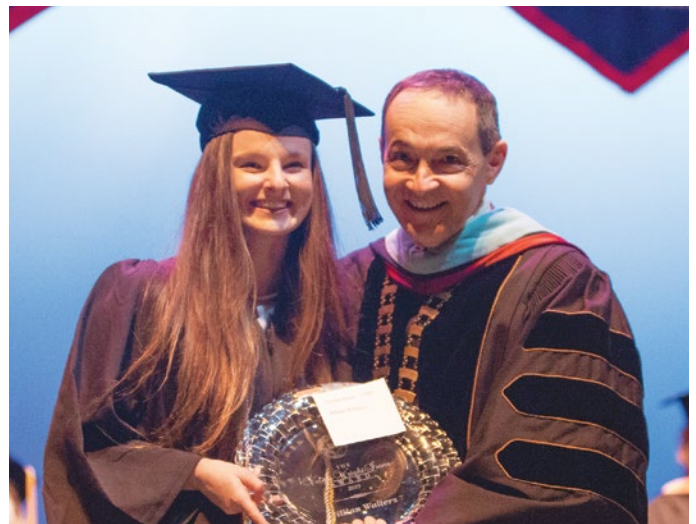
Commencement 2019

by Sarah Cain

Samford University celebrated several historic milestones during spring commencement activities, including the largest graduating class in the university's 177-year history.

A record 1,277 degrees were awarded, although the official total will not be available until all grades have been submitted and graduates certified, according to university officials. That tops the 2018 record of 1,240. An estimated 350 students graduated with honors. In the seven commencement ceremonies, 33 different degree programs were recognized.

Emily Youree, a University Fellow and English major from Madison, Alabama, received the President's Cup, awarded to the graduating student with the highest undergraduate grade point average across all Samford colleges and schools. She was one of five students to receive prestigious honors during commencement ceremonies.



President Westmoreland with Jillian Walters, winner of the Velma Irons Award for graduating student with the second highest undergraduate GPA across all Samford colleges and schools



Gloria Roy



Erin Carley



Mitchell McEver

Trent Taylor with Vice President for University
Advancement Randy PittmanKasey Lee, Victoria Tarnakow
and Aaron Gulley

This year's commencement speakers, ranging from graduating students to distinguished faculty and industry professionals, all noted the importance of serving in their professions with intention.

Taylor Anderton, a Bachelor of Science in health science graduate from the School of Health Professions and commencement speaker, admits that she struggled to know where the Lord was calling her to go, but through the support and mentorship of Samford faculty, it became clear.

"Our calling as believers may be too complex to fully comprehend, but the Bible's command is clear: Our job, no matter the setting, is to demonstrate that the reality that exists in heaven can be manifested right here, right now," Anderton said. "We are not to be just people who believe the right things about God, but people who put the will of God on display."

Samford University's Beeson Divinity School Founding Dean Timothy George gave his final commencement address as dean. George called graduates to remember the school as they face challenges in life.

"Remember what has shaped you here; remember this chapel and its story. Remember this service and the blessing it imparts," he said. "Dear persevering students, be ever steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain, and I will meet you in the morning with all the saints just beyond the gates of pearly splendor. God bless you." ►



Professor Crystal Deas with graduate Jennifer Crisson

Clayton Williams, John Mills,
Frank S. Shaw and Alex W. Sidwell



Harry's Coffeehouse

University Center Renovation Progress



by Kimberly Brown

The spring semester was fruitful in completing components of the campus master plan. Approved by the Samford Board of Trustees in December 2016, this 20-year comprehensive plan outlines campus growth, renovations, sustainability, wayfinding, new builds, parking and transportation, infrastructure, and deferred maintenance.

Highlights of the spring semester include opening student floors in the newly renovated Daniel House in London. An extensive upgrade was completed over the last 18 months, and all plumbing, electrical, mechanical, life safety, security, and new furnishings and fixtures were completed. The kitchen and laundry rooms are still under renovation with expected completion this summer.

Beeson University Center Food Court was reopened in January. The food venues now include a full-service Chick-fil-A, O'Henry's Coffee, Moe's Southwest Grill, Boar's Head

Deli, Hissho Sushi and Samford Grill. The Post Office relocated back into its refurbished home in the University Center over spring break. Harry's Coffeehouse reopened April 12 with a student concert to celebrate its new stage, sound, lighting, technology, furnishings and fixtures. It now features a sliding glass wall that opens out onto Dale-Washington Courtyard, which will be used for outdoor dining and as an amphitheater for events.

The expanded bookstore, Samford Shop, reopened in June and in addition to new merchandising, it includes a new

convenience store option. In the fall, the new upstairs student commons will reopen, and it will be a showplace for students to gather, study and collaborate. It will be equipped with living room furniture, technology, a grand fireplace and a skylit stairwell leading into the food court. The former University Annex building will now focus on student life and house the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. It will also reopen in the fall semester, along with the Hub, in its new downstairs location.

A busy summer is planned with 40 projects underway. Included are new key card access in West Campus, new HVAC

units in West Campus, the completion of remodeling of all community baths in Vail, new flooring in Vail on the first floor, new boiler in Propst Hall, repair to hoods and roofs in Propst Hall, new fire alarm system in Vail, stairs to connect Rotunda Drive to Dawson Drive, ADA enhancement, upgrades in some academic classrooms, updates to drainage and pipes, added parking in Beeson Woods, and many others that are still in the planning phase.

It is a great time to be on Samford University's campus. ►



Serving Children with Special Needs in Lebanon *by Sara Roman*

It is estimated that over 1.5 million Syrian refugees and 450,000 displaced Palestinians have fled their homelands to seek shelter in Lebanon, causing refugee children to be absorbed into schools across the country. Over the past 14 years, Orlean Beeson School of Education faculty have worked to build a capacity of teachers in these schools to serve children with special needs.

In recent years, Samford students have continued to express an interest in being a part of this exceptional work. This fall, the education school will begin preparing a team of Samford students, led by faculty and staff, to journey to Beirut, Lebanon, and invest their gifts and talents into this Kingdom work.

"The Samford University mission charges us to build a community that fosters academic, career and ethical competency while encouraging social and civic responsibility and service to others," said David Finn, professor of special education and project facilitator. "We believe that this international experience provides a unique opportunity for our teacher education candidates to combine their faith and vocation."

The cadre will begin their enculturation through a series of seminars that focus on the rich spiritual and cultural aspects of Lebanon. Additionally, using findings from a needs assessment administered and interpreted by Lebanese educational personnel, the team will develop a curriculum to deliver a variety of activities, including professional development for teachers, a

mini-camp for children with special needs and an interactive workshop for their families.

The mini-camp will demonstrate a variety of sports and arts-related activities to build self-confidence and team-building competencies while the family interactive workshop will be provided to enable caregivers by exploring enhanced skills in managing the needs of their children at home. All curriculum will be developed by Samford education candidates.

"A special education teacher must be able to identify the strengths and needs of the students they teach. The ability to meet a student at their level and take them to the level of their peers is the goal. This ability is greatly needed in the refugee population," said Mandy Hilsmier, professor of special education. "Our teacher education candidates will be challenged to provide specific assistance to refugee students who are battling a lack of instruction, language barriers and missed opportunities to fully develop academically."

During their time in the teacher preparation program, teacher education candidates complete more than 1,000 clinical hours within rural, urban and suburban school systems. While these experiences are diverse, faculty believe entering an international environment like Lebanon will develop the candidates both academically and spiritually.

"Educational experiences like this prepare our students to utilize teaching skills that allow them to communicate with people who are different from them," said Finn. "It will stretch them, and it will give them the opportunity to teach in a way that shares the gospel and shows the love of Christ within a community that needs compassion."

Beyond the on-site experience, teacher education candidates and faculty will offer their availability to remain in contact with the Lebanese teachers to provide help virtually via email, Skype and Facebook, responding to concerns, strategies, disability issues and curricular ideas. ■



Professors David Finn and Michele Haralson visit with Beirut children. Opposite: Master's degree student Jacklyn Keller



Faculty Members Head to Retirement

by William Nunnelley

Randall Richardson More Time for Cycling

One of the most significant changes that voice professor Randall Richardson saw during his 39-year career at Samford was the growing popularity of music theatre. "When I started teaching at Samford, very few of us taught anyone who wanted to do music theatre," he said recently. "Now, we probably have



Richardson

more music theatre majors than music majors."

Over the years, Richardson has enjoyed the success of his students who, in addition to teaching careers, have distinguished themselves performing on Broadway, at Disney World, on national TV commercials, off-Broadway, in opera companies and with regional music theatre. They include Grammy Award winner Karen Fairchild of Little Big Town, National Metropolitan Opera Audition winner John Autry, Broadway performer Jordan Bondurant, Miss America Deidre Downs and others.

"Seeing their success was a highlight of my time at Samford," he said.

Richardson retired in May with a plan to do "whatever I want to." Bicycling, traveling and reading were prominent on his activity list, and he has thought of combining the first two in a bicycle tour of Ireland. His reading will include *Music at the Gonzaga Court in Mantua*, a book by his retired former colleague, Don Sanders. He also plans more church work, time with grandkids and possibly serving as a foster parent, which he and his wife, Rebecca, are licensed to do.

Most recently, Richardson served as

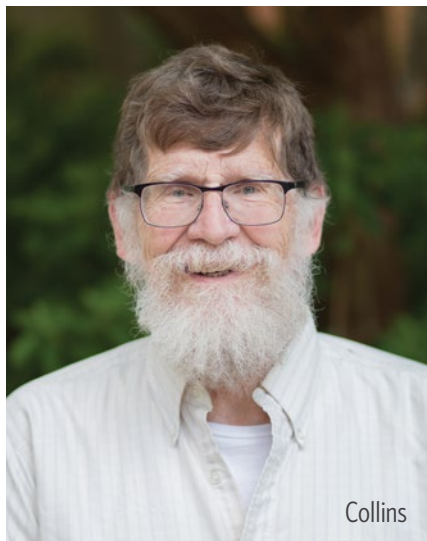
department chair of performance studies in the School of the Arts music division. In addition to his academic responsibilities, he has performed with the Kansas City Lyric Opera, Atlanta Ballet, Alabama Ballet and Symphony, Pensacola Opera, Missouri Repertory Theatre, Birmingham Civic Opera, and others. He is co-author with Don Sandley of *The Audition Sourcebook*, published by Heinemann.

Technology represents the other biggest change in Richardson's field. For example, he has thousands of printed songs in his collection. "I realize that if I wanted I could scan my entire library into an iPad. Quite a change from when I started." ▀

Bill Collins A Lengthy Short Stay

When political science professor Bill Collins joined Samford's faculty, he didn't intend to stay too long. That was in 1987. Collins retired in May after 32 years at the school.

"In thinking about it, Samford gave me the opportunity to grow as a person



Collins

in ways I had not expected," he said after wrapping up grading for his final semester. "Heavy teaching loads were a call to duty, so to speak. There is a spirit here which feeds one's desire to reach beyond the day-to-day business of being on the job.

"I have benefitted enormously from being able to draw so heavily from that spirit and for that I am deeply grateful."

Collins said his personal associations with both men and women gave him "an on-the-ground sense of how to combine career with my faith journey." He recalled sharing morning coffee with retired former history department head Don Wilson and discussing politics, history and political science.

"That was a real pleasure and joy for me," he said.

One of the things that came out of the discussions was the feeling that his field had become "too deeply embroiled in the current political divisiveness."

Collins was chosen to receive the first Howard College of Arts and Sciences Award for Teaching Excellence in the early 2000s. He recalled being suspicious when political science chair Fred Shepherd showed up to personally escort him to the meeting at which the award was announced.

"I figured that's a little bit over the top to get me to the faculty meeting," Collins said.



Beers

With the final semester completed, Collins has some specific desires and plans for his retirement time.

"I hope to complete my book project after three years of study and research. I also have the ambition to study higher mathematics and gain a master's rating in chess."

Collins' book is entitled *Great Kingdoms: Justice and the American Constitution*. ▮

Gerri Beers Priceless Moffett Moments

Nursing professor Geri Beers saw numerous changes in her field during 27 years at Samford's Ida Moffett School of Nursing. "Our nursing program itself is a good example of how things have changed," she said.

"The nursing school had a two-year associate degree program with an option of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing when I began teaching. Currently we have a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a variety of Master of Science in Nursing options including a nurse anesthetist, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

"Advanced degrees have become more the rule and less the exception."

Beers said she had numerous memorable moments at Samford, and



Woolley

all of them centered around students and co-workers.

"Our students take state board exams to be licensed to practice," she said. "When I got word that a student who I knew would be a great nurse but had struggled in school had passed boards, it was always a blessing."

She said she had the opportunity to have some of her earliest graduates become her co-workers. She described this with one word: "Priceless!"

Beers said she would miss "the daily interactions with co-workers and the one-on-one time with students." She added that even though she would miss many things, "I know I leave the nursing school in good hands."

Beers, who retired in December, said she was taking life day to day. But a high point of her new status occurred when her husband surprised her with a trip to Greece for her daughter and herself. Their plan was to travel in May. ▮

Tom Woolley Mornings at the Lake

Senior associate provost and business professor Tom Woolley and his wife, Mary Lyn, will be moving to Lake Martin near Alexander City, Alabama, this summer. Woolley is retiring after 26 years at Samford.

"I am looking forward to many sunny mornings on our dock with coffee and a good book," Woolley said in May. "Growing up on the west coast of Florida I loved boating and fishing. I hope I can rekindle that interest at the lake with Mary Lyn."

Woolley said there's a book in his head on chance and Catholicism that he would like to extract. There's also a paper on statistical significance written with Samford provost Mike Hardin that he "would like put to bed in a respectable journal." The paper was begun in the 1980s. Woolley already has published or presented nearly 250 works before scientific conferences.

A professor of quantitative analysis and biostatistics, Woolley said there were many blessings that his Samford tenure brought. Included were being asked to establish the Office of Institutional Research, being honored as Carnegie/CASE Alabama Professor of the Year, being selected as a Templeton Fellow in Science and Christianity at the University of Oxford and being asked to serve as senior associate provost.

He added that he was "most proud" of his affiliation with Brock School of Business, "easily the finest faculty I've had the privilege of working with during my 38 years in higher education."

Woolley said his first professional loves have been teaching and research,

but it would be the people that he would miss the most.

He said being a statistician has never been boring. "Starting out as a biostatistician in two academic medical centers (East Tennessee State and UAB), then retooling to be a business statistician when coming to Samford, I have always had the fun of collaborating with other disciplines." ▮

John Mayfield

More Writing Possible

History professor John Mayfield hopes to travel and write during his upcoming retirement, but first, he plans to clean out his garage. He estimates it will take "six months." Travel possibilities include Italy, Europe in general, the Grand Canyon and Canada.

Mayfield already has a title for a book: *States of Mind: The Southern Gentleman and the Coming of the Civil War*. It would be his fourth, following *The New Nation: 1800-1845*, *Rehearsal for Republicanism: Free Soil and the Politics of Antislavery* and *Counterfeit Gentlemen: Manhood and Humor in the Old South*. The latter volume was nominated for three national awards, including the prestigious Lincoln Prize.

Mayfield earned his bachelor's

degree from Columbia University and Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins. He joined Samford from the University of Baltimore in 1995, serving as department chair until 2009. As history chair, he helped build the department into a well respected entity in both teaching and research. He oversaw the division of the history and political science departments, and hired many of the present history professors.

Mayfield also helped initiate and launch Samford's Core Curriculum, and co-edited its two volumes of readings. "This has become an integral part of Samford's identity," he noted.

And, he wrote the first drafts of the constitution of the Howard College of Arts and Sciences faculty assembly, an important step in enhancing faculty participation in governance.

Mayfield said he would like to be remembered for his part in these changes.

He said he would miss both his colleagues and his students. "It was a joy to help them advance their careers, and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to do so." ▮

Sandra Willis

An Active Scholar

Psychology professor Sandra Willis retired in May after 24 years on the Samford faculty. An active scholar, she mentored many students in research projects, which the students then presented at regional and national conferences. She received the research mentorship award from the Southeastern Psychological Association in recognition of her work.

She is a member of the Association for Psychological Science, American Psychological Association, Southeastern Psychological Association and Alabama Paleontological Society.

Willis taught social psychology, directed research, research methods,



Mayfield



Willis

senior seminar and internship. She originated the department's course on health psychology and developed special topics courses on the psychology of women, faith and health, and the meaning of love.

She earned her bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and her Ph.D. from Tulane University. ▶

Margie Findlay

Smoky Mountain Renewal

After 46 years in nursing, including 17 at Samford, Margie Findlay says her plans for retirement are rather simple, "to spend time with family and enjoy the freedom to travel to our favorite place, the Great Smoky Mountains."

Findlay says she and her husband, Bill, have always enjoyed traveling to Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge, regardless of the time of year. She recalls how much their two sons enjoyed playing in the creeks and climbing to Clingmans Dome. Now she enjoys watching her grandchildren "fall in love with the majesty and wildlife of the mountains."

Findlay joined the faculty of Ida Moffett School of Nursing in 2001 and has taught both undergraduate and graduate nursing students. She calls it a rewarding experience because nursing students "are highly qualified and have a sincere desire to provide excellent, compassionate care for their patients." Also, the focus on academic excellence "is equally matched with a focus on preparing graduates to be servant leaders."

Findlay, who retired in December, says the highlight of her Samford tenure was serving the last three years as undergraduate associate dean. "I was privileged to work with students, faculty, staff and administration to achieve the school's mission and to prepare its graduates to function in today's rapidly changing health care environment."

Findlay earned her undergraduate,



Findlay

master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she taught before joining Samford. Among other certifications, she holds the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator designation. She is the author of numerous papers on her field.

She says she will miss "the day-to-day contact with students and the collegial relationships with the faculty." But she looks forward to getting back to the mountains "for rest and renewal and to once again appreciate the beauty of God's creation." ▶

Michele Haralson

Taking Education Afar

Professor Michele Haralson said one of the things she enjoyed the most during her 17 years in Orlean Beeson School of Education was taking education beyond the campus. A highlight of this was serving as the coordinator of a teacher education partnership with Miles College.

"It allowed me to teach their students, and gave our students the opportunity to have authentic, intentional conversations and experiences with diverse peers and faculty," she said.

She also conducted workshops in the Middle East over the course of five years. She taught teachers of children



Haralson

with special needs about technology in the classroom at eight schools in Lebanon during 2014 and presented programs about online instruction to eight seminars across southeast Asia during 2012.

Haralson, who retired in January, had served as director of Samford's Curriculum Materials and Technology Center since 2012. She taught undergraduate and graduate technology classes.

Haralson saw numerous changes in national and state accrediting requirements. "It took a great deal of time and effort to keep up," she said, noting that she had progressed through various mutations of learning management systems (Blackboard, WebCT, Moodle, etc.) and data management systems (Chalk and Wire, Live Text, etc.) used in online learning.

Haralson's parents, Laverne and Jan Farmer, both worked at Samford. Among other assignments, he ran Campus Dining for a time, and she would help out. "It was nice to see them in the Caf and catch up," she said. "After Dad left Samford, it meant so much to me when Samford people would come up and tell me what a great man he was."

She said she would miss her students and colleagues the most in retirement, adding that their support meant so much to her during her late husband Ronny's illness.

Among her travel destinations

during retirement, she said, would be Baltimore to visit grandchildren. ▮

Peggy Connell A Definite Plan

Education professor Peggy Connell spent more than 35 years in K-12 public education before joining the educational leadership department of Samford's Orlean Beeson School of Education in 2012.

She served as a high school teacher, counselor, program specialist for staff development, director of curriculum and instruction, high school principal, chief academic officer, and superintendent in diverse school environments ranging from small to large in rural, suburban and urban settings.

What was the most significant change in her field?

"Online learning has changed the landscape of education," she said. "The challenge is to design online experiences that are challenging, engaging and that keep the students connected to the faculty and school."

One of the things she enjoyed at Samford was "the opportunity to improve my skills in designing online courses and engaging in collaborative research projects."

Now, after seven years at Samford, Connell heads to retirement. She does so with very definite plans, which include spending more time with family, especially her grandchildren. But what else is on the horizon?

Reading for pleasure. "I most enjoy reading historical fiction, which will often lead to biographies and memoirs about a certain period." One recent focus was World War I. She re-read Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms*. An upcoming focus will be Scotland and its history, because she plans a trip there.

Travel. Before Scotland, however, she will take a relaxing Amtrak trip up

the West Coast from Los Angeles to Seattle, making stops along the way, then on to Vancouver and British Columbia. "I enjoy planning a trip almost as much as I enjoy the actual trip."

Learning another language. It may be Spanish, which she hasn't studied since high school.

Connell said she will miss the interaction with students, but looks forward to keeping a connection to education. ▮

Larry Hardin A Gardening Future

Larry Hardin has been a professional music educator since 1978, teaching general and choral music at several locations and serving local church choirs in the Birmingham area since 1975. His relationship with Samford began in 1974, when he transferred to the school to major in music education, earning his degree in 1977. He retired from the state of Alabama in 2012 after teaching kindergarten through graduate school music for more than 30 years.

After retiring from the state, Hardin began teaching as an adjunct professor at Samford, supervising student teachers and teaching a music education class for elementary education majors.

He has taught full time since 2017, when he became area coordinator for music education.

"The highlights of my tenure here include the honor of working with this amazing faculty," said Hardin. "To be a part of the faculty at my alma mater has been a great honor for me. As with every teaching position I've ever held, the real highlight has been getting to know and work with the students. Interacting with talented students and faculty will be what I miss most."

But Hardin has a plan for retirement, and it involves getting outside of music halls.

"Several years ago I developed an interest in gardening and landscaping. In retirement, I plan to learn more and spend a great deal of time in the yard." This, he admitted, would be after completing a sizable to-do list that has developed during his working days.

Hardin has experienced Samford as an undergraduate, graduate, adjunct and full-time faculty member. According to Samford School of the Arts Dean Joe Hopkins, "Larry Hardin has hit the academic cycle at Samford."

Hardin said he would like to say thanks to the Samford family for allowing him to teach at the school, "and allowing me to end my career here, where it began." ▮



Connell



Hardin

Estate Gift Creates Chair of Financial Management in Samford's Brock School of Business

by Morgan Black

A substantial estate gift from Samford graduate Sara J. Krawczak will establish the Sara J. Krawczak Endowed Chair in Financial Management in Samford's Brock School of Business.

Krawczak is a two-time Brock School of Business graduate, earning her Bachelor of Science in 1966 and her Master of Business Administration in 1969. She has established this endowed faculty position in the field of financial management with the intention that it will help provide outstanding educational benefits to generations of business students.

The first in her family to attend college, Krawczak notes, "The day I graduated from Samford and was able to move the tassel from the right to the left side of the cap was the happiest moment of my life. I had always wanted to go to college and had great ambitions."

Once in the working world, Krawczak progressed through her different roles, each time gaining more and more responsibility. Eventually, she became the vice president of business affairs for

Baptist Medical Center-Montclair.

"Throughout my career, when I wanted to achieve something, my faith was evident," Krawczak added. "Faith that I would accomplish my goals was so deeply rooted in me that I always knew I could achieve the things I set out to do, although it wasn't easy."

Krawczak used her faith in business to remain ethically moral. In advice to students and future business leaders, she said, "If you know something is right, don't let anyone persuade you otherwise because it will cost you. Samford and the business school stand for all of the moral support that you need. Be true to what you've learned and don't be swayed."

"We are deeply grateful for Mrs. Krawczak's generosity," said Howard Finch, senior associate provost and former Brock School of Business dean.

"The estate gift to establish the Sara J. Krawczak Chair in Financial Management will allow Brock School of Business the means to attract outstanding faculty talent, which will enhance our academic programs and students' success for many years to come."

Krawczak was Samford's Distinguished Alumna in Business in 1980, which made her the first female recipient of this recognition. Additionally, she has been a Samford donor since 1970.

"Without Samford, I wouldn't have been able to accomplish what I have, and so, some of what I have belongs to Samford," Krawczak closed. "I would encourage others to remember the contribution Samford made to you and repay part of it." ▀



The Bull

Sara Krawczak is the artist who sculpted the bronze bull that sits inside Cooney Hall. She wanted her sculpture to have a permanent home, and as the universal symbol of business success and optimism, it was agreed that Brock School of Business was the perfect place for it to reside. The bull, shown with Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, left, and Senior Associate Provost Howard Finch, simultaneously exhibits the strength and vitality of business education at Samford University.

Trudy Cathy White signs a book for
Samford Trustee Victor Brown

White Visits for *First Book Signing*

by Kim Cripps

“My mom used to tell us when we were little, ‘Remember who you are and whose you are.’ If you can remember who you are, you can have a sense of confidence in the Lord and trust him in the trials and difficulties of life.”

Trudy Cathy White '79 shared this sentiment with Samford students during her campus visit on Feb. 21, 2019.

As the co-founder of LifeShape and the Impact 360 Institute, former director of WinShape Camps for girls, and daughter of Chick-fil-A founder, S. Truett Cathy, White grew accustomed to certain introductions.

“On opening day, the campers and parents would come in and they always wanted to come up to me with their children and they would say, ‘Look you know this is Ms. Trudy, she’s the camp director,’ and then they would say, ‘But do you know who she really is?’”

At times like this, her mother’s advice continued to echo back to her.

White’s faith also inspires her spirit of service and generosity. During her visit, she enjoyed a luncheon with five Samford students whose lives have been influenced by her in some way. These students represented former WinShape Camp counselors, Impact 360 Institute alumni and recipients of the S. Truett Cathy Scholarship.

This strong relationship between Chick-fil-A and Samford exists because of the commonality that both organizations exist to glorify God. It seems each serves a different purpose along one’s faith journey from youth to young adult. WinShape Camps enable campers to sharpen their character and deepen their Christian faith. Impact 360 Institute helps participants live out that faith with confidence.

“Samford is a wonderful place to continue to grow in the Lord,” White said.

She also shared that at the root of its mission, Chick-fil-A “wants to have a positive influence on other people and I have witnessed that happen at Samford.”

Sophomore Abbey Cox, a former WinShape Camp counselor and alumna of Impact 360 Institute, attended the



luncheon and enjoyed hearing White share her mother’s sage advice.

“I think it’s a good reminder that even though there are multiple ways that we can choose to define ourselves, our identity is grounded in Christ and who He has created us to be,” Cox said.

In addition to the luncheon with students, White’s visit also included speaking at convocation in Reid Chapel, a ribbon cutting at the University Center’s new Chick-fil-A and the first public book signing for her newest release, *Climb Every Mountain*.

The book includes personal stories about her experiences with perseverance and developing her identity in Christ. The book’s theme comes from the symbolism that mountains have offered in her lifetime.

“Mountains have always been very significant to me in my life. They are a symbol of God’s character and the fact that he is unchanging, steadfast, mighty and strong. At the same time, I’ve looked at mountains and they are also a symbol to me of life’s challenges,” she said. “I learned a lot through my challenges and difficulties through life so I’ve tried to write this book to share personal stories about the challenges I’ve faced throughout the years and how in every step of the journey I have found God to be so faithful.”

We All Have a Story To Tell

Students Explore the Intersection of Faith and History

by Sean Flynt

Is it possible to write objective history? Nine Samford University students wrestled with that idea in a special topics course on Faith and History this year. Professor Anthony Minnema developed the fall course with support from Samford's William E. and Wylodine H. Hull Fund for Christian Scholarship, hoping to get students thinking about how historians' unique identities—especially related to faith—shape their work.

Minnema said courses at other universities explore similar themes, but Samford's course was enriched by a digital humanities component. He wanted students to interview Birmingham-area historians and leaders of diverse faith traditions, so he asked oral history expert Michelle Little to introduce the students to the craft and instruct them in the development of podcasts based on their interviews. The students presented their podcasts at a public listening session in February.

Having made the transition from media consumers to media creators, Minnema said, "the students are starting to see that this is a form of historical storytelling that really grabs people." The work certainly grabbed Shae Corey, a junior history and secondary education major with a growing interest in the field of public history. She enjoyed it so much she served in an oral history internship in the spring semester and earned an ASPIRE research grant to help history professor Annie DeVries document the stories and artifacts and distinctive places of Birmingham's Rosedale community this summer.

For Minnema's course, Corey teamed with senior history major Jonathan Lawson to interview Matt Mason, senior pastor of the Church of Brook Hills in suburban Birmingham, and Sister Elisabeth Meadows, director of the Benedictine Retreat Center at the Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama.

"It feels like you're stepping back in time when you walk on the grounds of the monastery," Lawson said. "You see images of sisters who have been there for generations." The researchers noted that this everyday familiarity over decades gives the sisters a common personal story as well as the shared history of their Roman Catholic Church. Without that long history, Corey observed, the Church at Brook Hills has the challenge of



Samford student Shae Corey records an interview for an oral history project.

"reaching out for something new" in order to build a close community amidst the come-and-go of modern suburban life.

In spite of the very different ways these communities engage with history, Lawson and Corey both were struck by how much they have in common. "Pastor Mason and Sister Meadows do things differently, but the ultimate goal is to praise God," Lawson said.

Senior biology major Meg Alford and junior secondary education major Mattie Dew recorded the stories of the Reverend Arthur Price Jr., pastor of Birmingham's historic 16th Street Baptist Church, and Traci Jones, who at the time was the gallery experience manager for Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Talking with the two, Alford said, helped her understand the city's history and become more mindful not only of how the views of others are shaped, but also how her own are shaped. "You have to see people as people, and we all have a story to tell," Alford said.

That sense of documenting the stories of others while living one's own was one of Minnema's objectives for the students in his course. In the end, he said, they were less comfortable with the idea that objective history is possible or even desirable, and realized that "unless you let people express history and the work of writing history as an extension of their faith, you're limiting them somehow. It's inevitable that we bring in something of ourselves." ▀

Experience the Arts at Samford



Rocky Horton

John and Marsha Floyd Art and Design Series

Aug. 26-Sept. 27, Art Gallery

The Magic of David Garrard

Sept. 12, 7 p.m., Wright Center (Free event)

Sammy Miller and The Congregation

Davis Architects Guest Artist Series

Co-presented with Wright Center

Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall



Micah and Whitney Stansell

John and Marsha Floyd Art and Design Series

Oct. 3-Nov. 9, Art Gallery

Ella Enchanted, the musical

Emma Taylor Theatre For Youth Series

Oct. 4-5, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 6, 2:30 p.m., Harrison Theatre

Chanticleer

Davis Architects Guest Artist Series

Co-presented with the Birmingham Chamber Music Society

Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall



Sylvia

Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman Theatre and Dance Series

Oct. 24-26, 7:30 p.m., Oct. 27, 2:30 p.m., Bolding Studio

1776, the musical

Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman Theatre and Dance Series

Nov. 21-23, 7:30 p.m., Nov. 24, 2:30 p.m., Harrison Theatre

Celebrate Christmas with Samford Arts

Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Wright Center

Check our event calendar for a full listing of events.

samford.edu/arts/events



Samford University's A Cappella Choir Celebrates 80th Anniversary *by Ashley Smith*

Founded at Howard College in 1939, ten years prior to a music degree existing at Samford, the A Cappella Choir has been a flagship ensemble at Samford for eight decades. Its success is attributed to the dedicated directors and students who are not only part of the School of the Arts but also members pursuing degrees across Samford's campus. There have been six directors since its origin: Kathleen Martinson, George Koski, Gene Black, Milburn Price, Timothy Banks and, currently, Philip Copeland.

The current choir is numbered around 36-40 in order to meet the requirements of international competitions. The collective awe-inspiring voices perform monthly choral vespers in Hodges Chapel as well as annual fall and spring concerts. Visitors also enjoy the choir at graduations and other major campus events. The choir has regularly embarked on international and regional tours since the tenure of Koski, who also started the tradition of ending performances with "Beautiful Savior."

According to Copeland, "It is more than a choir and not quite a cult!" This close group practices every day and participates in weekly devotionals where students can share worship with each

other. "Participants strive for excellence and to be the best version of themselves," said Copeland. "I feel fortunate to work with them because they inspire me to do my best work."

Nathan Peace, a junior music and worship major, has been part of the choir for three years and said this of his choir peers, "Their musicianship is unmatched, they love one another in a contagious way, and I am better because of their presence in my life." Junior Emma Dry echoed the same enthusiasm and noted the spiritual aspects. "One of the most beautiful practices of choir is our monthly vespers services. I always find that a vespers service comes along exactly when I need to be reminded of God's

divine mercy and power."

Alumnae member Eleanor Stenner offered praise for Copeland, "I cannot say enough about the genius of Dr. Copeland. He really listens to his students, gives them leadership opportunities, picks music that forces members to rise to the challenge, yet still creates a really fun atmosphere that fosters relationships."

Recent highlights include joint concerts with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, performances at the prestigious American Choral Directors regional conference, singing at college day at the historic 16th Street Baptist Church and winning top honors in international competitions, most recently at the Laurea Mundi Budapest Choral Competition. The choir won first place in three categories: mixed choirs, musica sacra and folk-pop-spirituals and took home the Grand Prix.

This fall, A Cappella Choir alumni are invited to join together to celebrate the incredible memories and experiences of this ensemble during Homecoming weekend Nov. 8-9. Copeland has programmed favorites from previous decades to be part of the celebration. According to 2003 music education major and A Cappella alum Jonathan Rodgers, "The A Cappella Choir was a family." He is impressed with the current choir and hopes that the choir will continue to stay "rooted in its Samford history while staying relevant."

Dean Gene Black's wife, Faye, affectionately known as Mama Faye, who was also a choir member, encourages all alumni to make this a true homecoming.

Mark your calendars today for the A Cappella Homecoming to share your memories. ►



Samford A Cappella Choir with director Philip Copeland

Eleanor Stenner Photography

Faculty Mentors Lead Graduate to Unexpected Career

by Sean Flynt

Forrest Courtney '19 came to Samford undeclared but with thoughts of a career in law. It made perfect sense. In high school, he demonstrated talent in public speaking, served as a Teen Court prosecutor and participated in the Kentucky Youth Assembly and Kentucky United Nations Assembly. Although he was a lifeguard, a career in the ocean would have seemed far-fetched. He didn't like to wade past his waist on family visits to the beach. "I saw *Jaws* way too early," he joked.

Now the geography major is a certified professional scuba diver with an impressive record of coral reef research and preservation. "Being at Samford has given me the ability to be Forrest," Courtney said, "and from that I've figured out that I love things I had no idea I could be passionate about and which have totally taken over my life.

"I went to Saba my freshman year Jan term with Dr. Jennifer Rahn, and it totally changed everything for me," Courtney said of his transformative introduction to life outside the U.S. and to the coral reef research and preservation project on the Caribbean island of Saba. That project and culture has been geography professor Rahn's passion for decades.

Courtney then took geography and sociology department chair Jennifer Speights-Binet's introductory geography course and loved that, too. Study of geographic information systems (GIS) with Rahn drew him further into the discipline and led him to serve as Rahn's teaching assistant. He applied for, and received, a Howard College of Arts and Sciences ASPIRE research grant for more work on Saba with Rahn.

The lasting relationships Rahn found in the Saba community helped Courtney see that preservation of coral reefs isn't purely a scientific endeavor—there are sociological aspects of the work, political, policy and legal considerations, communication challenges, and other

concerns. Professor Hugh Floyd's Sociology of the Environment course and a Jan term biology course in Uniontown, Alabama, with professor Betsy Dobbins further helped prepare him to address those complex issues. "Understanding that social side has changed the way I interact with people, and changed the way I've wanted to do my work in the future," he said.

"You Can Do This!"

When Courtney earned an internship with the Coral Restoration Foundation (CRF), he found himself working alongside marine biology students from coastal universities. He was intimidated by their experience and specialized biological knowledge, but he soon discovered that his education had equipped him to see the broader picture of the research. "What quickly came to light for me is how versatile my Samford education has made me," he said.

Samford faculty also helped Courtney believe that he really could meet all the challenges before him. "I didn't come in with a whole lot of confidence," he said. "That's been a huge part of Samford—how encouraging everyone has been." When Courtney presented his and Rahn's research on a stage at the international Reef Futures conference in 2018, he wrote in his notes "You can do this!" "It was weird to feel like that," he said, "because nothing in

Geography alumnus Forrest Courtney '19 conducts field research with professor Jennifer Rahn



my education has ever been like that."

In turn, Courtney has encouraged that confidence in younger students and helped prepare them for the experiences that transformed his ideas about what he could do. When a student asked him about his major, Courtney encouraged her to give it a try but be open to different possibilities. "You're engaged in your education and taking ownership over it," he said, "and if you're willing to do that it doesn't matter what you go into because it's Samford—they'll give you the tools to succeed."

The CRF staff Courtney met during his internship remembered his unique intellectual tools and asked him to join them at their Key Largo, Florida, headquarters through December, when he plans to begin a master's degree.

"Forrest is a brilliant example of what Howard College of Arts and Sciences can do for curious, hard-working students who want to find their vocational niche, but don't necessarily have a traditional path in mind," said Speights-Binet. "We are excited to see what Forrest can do with his Samford geography degree. The possibilities are endless." ■

Sports Analytics Lab Opens Innovative Door

by Morgan Black

On March 1, Brock School of Business held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening for its newly constructed M. Chad Trull | Krowten Capital LLC Data & Sports Analytics Lab.

Last fall, Samford and its Center for Sports Analytics announced a collaboration with SAS, the world's largest privately held software company and leader in analytics. The new lab will be key in the partnership's ability to support teaching, learning and research in all areas where analytics impacts sports, including fan engagement, sponsorship, player tracking, sports medicine, sports media and operations.

"SAS is honored to be in this partnership with Samford University," SAS senior account executive Steve Rager said. "Analytics is at the forefront of everything we see and do now. This data and sports analytics lab will be instrumental in providing Samford students with a new opportunity for real-world analytics experience."

"The projects that our students will get to experience through this state-of-the-art software provided through our partnership with SAS will be such an advantage for them," said J. Michael Hardin, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Already, Samford's Center for Sports Analytics, a primary tenant in the new lab, has lined up several partnerships that will provide tremendous opportunities for its students.

The Center for Sports Analytics has partnered with the newly installed Birmingham Legion FC, Birmingham's first and only locally owned professional soccer franchise. Students utilizing the lab will work with Legion executives to help the soccer team build the perfect



From left: Randy Pittman, Michael Hardin, M. Chad Trull, Chad Carson, Howard Finch

match strategy by collecting and analyzing gameplay data.

Other student projects that will benefit from the new space include the analysis of college baseball data for Scoutcast which will be provided to six Major League Baseball (MLB) teams including the New York Yankees and using social media data from college football fans to assist college athletic departments with fan insights. Additionally, the students will be analyzing data to help sports sponsors determine the return on their marketing investments, and they will be working with the Southern Conference (SoCon) and Ingles to develop activation strategies for the SoCon basketball tournament.

"This lab will make all the difference for our students to have an expanded professional and experiential learning opportunity," said Howard Finch, senior associate provost and former dean of Brock School of Business.

The lab is named for M. Chad Trull, a 2005 Brock School of Business graduate. Trull is a venture capital partner in the

Birmingham area and his company, Krowten Capital LLC, serves as the primary sponsor of the new lab.

"We have a little bit of company, maybe one other university, but we are really in a class by ourselves with this new opportunity for our students," Hardin added.

This academic year, Brock School of Business launched a new curriculum to offer a concentration and a minor in data analytics. The concentration for business majors and the minor for nonbusiness majors will equip Samford students, our future business leaders, with the tools and knowledge they will need to succeed in this ever-evolving world of data.

Ashlee Fincher, a junior who has added the sports marketing and data analytics concentrations to her major, is excited to be working in the new lab.

"We are one of the first schools in the country to have a lab like this, and the first to use it as a sports analytics lab, so to be able to have that training will be really valuable for all of us," Fincher said. ■

Sweeney Named Beeson Dean by Kristen Padilla

Samford University is pleased to announce the appointment of Douglas A. Sweeney as the second dean of Beeson Divinity School, effective July 1, 2019. The appointment was announced April 5 by J. Michael Hardin, Samford provost and vice president for academic affairs.

A world-renowned scholar of American theologian Jonathan Edwards, Sweeney comes to Beeson Divinity School from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois, where he is the distinguished professor and chair of Church History and the History of Christian Thought and founding director of the Jonathan Edwards Center. His appointment follows a national search to replace Timothy George, who retired as dean at the end of the 2018-19 academic year.

Having served on Trinity's faculty since 1997, Sweeney was the founding director of the Carl F. H. Henry Center for Theological Understanding at Trinity, 2000-12. As director, he raised nearly \$4 million for the center, supervised staff, collaborated with boards and hosted conferences and lectures. Prior to his tenure at Trinity, Sweeney served at Yale University, where he edited *The Works of Jonathan Edwards* and was a lecturer in church history and historical theology.

"Dr. Sweeney brings together internationally renowned scholarship, academic administrative experience and a deep love and commitment to the Church of Jesus Christ," Hardin said.

Sweeney also is an award-winning author, with his book *Edwards the Exegete: Biblical Interpretation and Anglo-Protestant Culture on the Edge of the Enlightenment*, having been awarded a Henry Luce III Fellowship in Theology (2014-15) and named one of the 2018 Books of the Year by Moore Engaging of Two Cities Ministries. He is the author and editor of more than 20 books, five of

those forthcoming, from prestigious publishers, including Oxford University Press, Yale University Press, Eerdmans Publishing Company, Baker Academic and InterVarsity Press.

Sweeney is also an active member of St. Mark Lutheran Church, an evangelical Lutheran church affiliated with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, serving as both an elder and vice president. He is a longtime Sunday school and Bible teacher, whose ministry extends beyond the Lutheran Church into Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Evangelical Free and many other churches.

Samford President Andrew Westmoreland offered his own support of Sweeney.

"Dr. Sweeney is ideally prepared to provide wise, visionary leadership for Beeson Divinity School. His commitment to the relevance and authority of Scripture, his strong record of scholarship, his devotion to equipping those called to ministry and his engaging, irenic spirit will serve him—and Samford—well in the years ahead," he said.

Sweeney holds degrees from Vanderbilt University (Ph.D., M.A.), Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (M.A.) and Wheaton College (B.A.). He and his wife, Wilma, have one adult son.


"I consider it a great honor and privilege to serve as the next dean of Beeson Divinity School. I have long been an admirer of Timothy George, and think that Beeson is the best-conceived and cultivated divinity school in all of North America," said Sweeney. "My approach



Douglas Sweeney

to theological education meshes well with Beeson's guiding confessional documents, academic culture and personal approach to teaching and mentoring students. In fact, for me, moving to Beeson is like moving to a school that was designed to facilitate the kind of academic work, ecumenism and ministry I have done all my life. These are exciting times in which to serve the Lord together at Samford. Please pray with me that God will guide us firmly into the future."

George is pleased to welcome Sweeney as his successor.

"I am absolutely delighted at the choice of Dr. Doug Sweeney to be the next dean of Beeson Divinity School. He brings to this role superb scholarly credentials along with a deep love for Jesus Christ, the Holy Scriptures, the Lord's church and God's mission in the world," he said. "The future of Beeson Divinity School is as bright as the promises of God, and I look forward to welcoming Dr. Sweeney as our friend, colleague and leader." 

Education School Provides Mentors *for Aspiring Principals* by Sara Roman

Strong leadership is imperative to school success. Research shows that quality school leadership results in quality schools and quality schools produce students of high achievement.

The goal of instructional leadership preparation programs is to produce aspiring principals who are well trained and prepared to perform at high levels the moment they accept their first principalship. For the 2018-19 academic year, Samford University's Orlean Beeson School of Education implemented the Mentors for Aspiring Principals initiative to further develop the school's instructional leadership candidates. The initiative provides strong opportunities for aspiring principals to develop their leadership skillsets while engaging in practical leadership experiences in schools.

"The significance of school leadership has been known for some time," said Kara Chism, M.S.E. of instructional leadership director and Mentors for Aspiring Principals

facilitator. "Field experiences have always been the cornerstone of our instructional leadership programs but we have added a mentorship component because we believe it is an indispensable enhancement to the Samford experience for our candidates, future candidates and the education community."

Orlean Beeson School of Education faculty believe mentorship is the key to providing practical leadership experiences. They describe mentorship opportunities as the area where practicum, internships, residency and pedagogy intersect. "Mentorship is fundamental in moving preparation into practice," said Chism.

Good mentors are key. Selected mentors are leaders within the field who are committed to growing the next generation of transformational school

leaders. Mentors provide coaching, feedback and support that assists the aspiring principals in exploring their career options and reaching their career goals.

During the initiative's inaugural year, alumna Sonia Carrington served as a mentor for four candidates. Carrington holds an administrative certificate and two graduate degrees from Orlean Beeson School of Education. She is a former teacher of 16 years, administrator of 18 years and was named an Alabama National Distinguished Principal by the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators.

"Mentorship is an essential component of principal preparation programs," said Carrington. "Mentors provide an opportunity for instructional leadership candidates to go deeper. This year, I have supported my mentees as they completed their capstone projects, reviewed their resumes, assisted them with interview preparation and helped them navigate situations that they have encountered in their school systems."

The Mentors for Aspiring Principals initiative specifically pairs mentees with mentors outside of their district. This model provides an opportunity for confidentiality and robust trust as mentees seek guidance from their mentor.

"Our mentors are a fundamental part of our instructional leadership preparation programs," said Chism. "We are thankful for their indispensable investment in our candidates and for their dedication to the field of education."

Mentors for Aspiring Principals is made possible, in part, by the Charles and Estelle Campbell Foundation. ▀



Sonia Carrington works with mentee and instructional leadership candidate Hunter Wolfe.

Thompson Becomes First Law Student in Alabama to be Recognized by the American College of Bankruptcy

by Morgan Black

Although attending law school wasn't originally on his radar, success came naturally for new Cumberland School of Law graduate Brenton Thompson '19. After many local and regional accomplishments, Thompson became the first law student in the state of Alabama to be recognized by the American College of Bankruptcy (The College).

In March, Thompson attended The College's spring conference in San Diego, California. There, he was one of five law students in the country to be recognized with this year's Distinguished Law Student award and was the only student recipient representing the Eleventh Circuit.

An honorary public service association of United States and international bankruptcy professionals, The College invites professionals to join as fellows based on a proven record of the highest standards. Each year, The College recognizes students of demonstrated talent and interest in bankruptcy law. Fellows work with law schools within their respective circuits to select the students.

For Thompson, that nominating fellow was Bradley Arant partner and Cumberland School of Law business bankruptcy adjunct professor Jay Bender.

"To my knowledge, Brenton is the first student from an Alabama law school to receive this recognition," Bender stated. "Only five students are recognized nationwide every year. It is fantastic recognition for him, and for Cumberland, given The College's preeminence among professional bankruptcy organizations."

"The conference was a wonderful opportunity to meet a lot of really smart people who truly care about the development of bankruptcy law," Thompson said. "It was a good peek behind the curtain into the profession."

In addition to this national award, Thompson has garnered many

accomplishments during his time at Cumberland.

"When I came to Cumberland, I was perhaps not the last student admitted, but one of them. I was on Samford's campus coaching soccer camps when I got the call. I had already signed up to take a few transition year classes to prepare me for my next step which I thought was to pursue a Ph.D. in economics," Thompson said. "Now, I have a great relationship with Dean Strickland, and as a late admit, I have not felt any more or any less supported, as I do now after my three years."

Strickland noted, "Brenton was in my Civil Procedure class his first semester and quickly demonstrated that he was a special student. He was always impeccably prepared for class and able to analyze even the most nuanced hypotheticals and questions. He proceeded to earn the highest grade in my course in both the fall and spring semesters."

While at Cumberland, Thompson served as the editor-in-chief for volume 49 of the *Cumberland Law Review*, was a Judge Abraham Caruthers Fellow, a member of the Duberstein National Moot Court Team and an associate justice on the Henry Upson Sims Moot Court executive board. He was the Outstanding Oralist for the Duberstein 2019 National Moot Court Competition; won first place, Best Brief and Best Oralist for the Gordon T. Saad Upper Level Moot Court Competition; won second place in the Eleventh Circuit



Thompson

CKP Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition; and third place in the Donworth Moot Court Competition for first year law students. Additionally, Thompson received Scholar of Merit recognition in eight courses throughout his time in law school.

This summer, Thompson will begin clerking for Judge Madeline H. Haikala in the Northern District of Alabama and then for Judge Ed Carnes on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

"Brenton's hard work has paid off as he will be working over the next two years in two highly competitive and sought-after judicial clerkships," Strickland added.

Reflecting on his accomplishments, Thompson said, "Being the most prepared person in the room is going to get you a lot further than being the smartest person in the room. Cumberland has really prepared me to be both." ■

Empowering Female Inmate Transition Through HOPE by Sara Roman

Jennifer Hunt and Melissa Lord, 2019 graduates of Ida Moffett School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice program, have received international attention for their research promoting adaptation in female inmates to reduce the risk of opioid overdose post incarceration. This summer, Hunt and Lord received the Susan Pollock Award from Roy Adaptation Association International. The award recognizes excellence in Roy Adaptation Model (RAM) based research. Each year, Roy Adaptation Association International recognizes outstanding research at its annual conference. Hunt and Lord are the first Samford students to receive this award.

Substance use disorder has become a national epidemic. The United States Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that an average of 115 opioid-related deaths occur daily in the United States. According to Hunt and Lord, newly released inmates are particularly susceptible to this epidemic due to the stressful situations that are often experienced in the post-release environment.

With the support of professor Ellen Buckner, Hunt and Lord developed an adaptation-based preparation program for re-entry, HOPE: Healthy Outcomes Post-release Education. Their goal was to provide the female inmate population with a curriculum that reduced risk and promoted transition. The HOPE program was designed to address each of the four adaptive modes described in the RAM theoretical framework: self-concept, physiologic, role function and interdependence.

RAM was developed by Sister Callista Roy in 1960. It has been applied for more than 50 years as a framework for nursing

research and curriculum. The HOPE program is a four-class intervention with each course focusing on one aspect of the RAM adaptive modes.

Class one utilizes the self-concept adaptation. The class outlines the correlation between substance use disorders and mental health, self-awareness, self-care and self-esteem. The second focuses on the physical adaptation. The class provides inmates with the proper training needed to utilize intranasal naloxone for opioid overdose. Participants receive a certificate at the completion of the class and a twin-pack dose of naloxone upon release.

The third class utilizes role function and challenges participants to identify new roles such as employment, furthering education and maintaining sobriety post re-entry. The class features a skills assessment to assist the inmates with identifying their interests. The final session's focus is on the interdependence mode. "Identifying and developing healthy relationships and support systems is key to success," said Hunt. Upon release from jail, participants receive a HOPE package that includes a variety of resources presented and discussed in each class.

As they developed the program, it was important to Hunt and Lord that they develop something that could be delivered by prison staff members with proper training. "As we completed our research we received support from the sheriff, staff members such as the chaplain, nurse and counselor, and other resource personnel from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services," said Lord. "We feel confident that we have developed a sustainable program that has the potential to influence attitudes and behavior, empowering females to be prepared to adapt successfully to the post-release environment."

Hunt and Lord have implemented HOPE within the Tennessee Department of Correctional Facilities. A preliminary data analysis of this program is currently being completed.

Ida Moffett School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice program celebrates its tenth year of enhancing nursing practice this year. ▀



Sister Callista Roy presented Jennifer Hunt and Melissa Lord with the Susan Pollock Award on June 8 at the 2019 Roy Adaptation Association International Conference in Los Angeles, California. From left, Buckner, Hunt, Roy and Lord.

Endowing His Legacy

McWhorter School of Pharmacy celebrates the endowment of the Dr. Gary Bumgarner Legacy Scholarship

by Sarah Waller

Mention the name Gary Bumgarner to McWhorter School of Pharmacy alumni or employees, and you'll see a smile immediately come to their faces. The stories naturally come next. "He had such a positive attitude," said professor Bruce Waldrop. "Even in the adversity he faced, he always said he was going to come back stronger than ever."

"He had a deep love for his students," said professor Amy Broeseker. "There were many times when Gary went above and beyond the call."

Bumgarner served on McWhorter School of Pharmacy's faculty from 2001 until his death in 2016, and though the school's class of 2019 was the last cohort of students to experience Bumgarner in the classroom, his legacy will continue for years to come.

Following his death, the school established the Dr. Gary Bumgarner Legacy Scholarship, and after receiving an outpouring of gifts from students, alumni, co-workers and friends, the scholarship became fully endowed earlier this year. As an endowed scholarship, the Dr. Gary Bumgarner Legacy Scholarship will now exist in perpetuity, ensuring his impact will last forever.

The school first awarded the scholarship in 2017 to Theresa El-Murr '19. In her first year of pharmacy school, Bumgarner taught El-Murr's immunology course. "He really inspired me to pursue opportunities in research," she said. "His passion for teaching was clearly evident when you talked to him. I remember telling him about areas of pharmacy I wanted to learn more

about, and he always replied, 'Do it. Don't let anything stop you from learning more.'"

In the summer after her first year, El-Murr participated in the school's summer research internship, working alongside Bumgarner. "He was one of the most positive people that I knew. Even to this day, in tough situations, I sometimes think to myself: What would Dr. Bumgarner do?"

During his time as a Samford professor, Bumgarner impacted the lives of nearly 2,000 pharmacy students and countless others.

"Dr. Bumgarner actually came up in one of my interviews for a pharmacy residency program," El-Murr said. "My interviewer saw his name on my resume, and having known him, shared with me how Dr. Bumgarner impacted his life. It's incredible to think how far his legacy reaches."

"Samford and the world are better because of Gary Bumgarner," said Michael Crouch, dean of McWhorter School of Pharmacy. "I'm so pleased the scholarship is fully endowed, and his legacy will continue to impact the lives of our students for years to come." ▀



From left, Kelli Carpenter Funk, Allana Alexander, Kristin Tribiano and the late Gary Bumgarner at May 2014 commencement

Undergraduate Kinesiology Research: *Progressive, Valuable, Student Focused*

by Sara Roman

Samford University's School of Health Professions prepares skilled caregivers who are committed to serving others. Across the curriculum, faculty are challenged to enhance student outcomes by providing experiential learning opportunities for students. The school's Department of Kinesiology has taken this challenge in stride by developing one of the most unique undergraduate research programs in the nation.

In 1993, the Department of Kinesiology introduced research to its undergraduate programs. Each student was required to complete an individual research project over a 15-week semester, a progressive requirement for its time. Today, the program is still in the forefront of undergraduate research in kinesiology.

Undergraduate research is now recognized as a critical component of today's science-based undergraduate programs, but with more than 20 years of implementation and research on the topic, Samford University's Department of Kinesiology offers a distinctive research curriculum.

As undergraduates, kinesiology students are required to take three research courses progressing over three separate semesters. Students are paired with a faculty research mentor and are guided through the proposal, methodology and development of their research projects. With the help of the faculty member, students conduct a full proposal of their choosing. The three-semester research process, individualized faculty mentorship and the student-led hypothesis are all unique when compared to the national standard.

"The faculty member assists the student in developing a strong hypothesis, but the topic is selected by the student," said John Petrella, chair of the kinesiology department. "The research process impacts valuable learning objectives that have lasting influences as undergraduates

prepare for professional service. Students are gaining the ability to integrate theory and practice within the research topic of their choosing."

Students have completed significant mentored research on topics such as, the effect of music preference on exercise performance, the use of signage to increase stair usage and physical activity, neural priming and pitching velocity, validity of activity trackers in measuring physical activity during pregnancy, velocity of movement predicting muscular fatigue, and the impact of ageing on dual tasking in cognitive and physical effort.

The academic model is intended to enhance student learning regardless of a student's interest in pursuing a career in research. "Ethical study and application of the scientific process develops critical thinking and independence which are necessary for achieving the highest standards of quality scholarship, service and leadership," said Petrella. "The experience prepares our students to emerge as leaders in multiple professions after graduation."

Recently, 2016 graduate Rebecca Salstrand was selected for an extremely competitive graduate assistant position where she will assist with a stroke research study. "I wholeheartedly attribute my selection to the fact that I submitted, alongside my application, a copy of the manuscript I drafted in my Samford research courses during junior



Faculty member Rebecca Rodgers assisting students in utilizing a metabolic cart to measure oxygen consumption at rest.

and senior year," said Salstrand. "I was able to share my writing ability and experience with the research process, and this gave me a clear advantage over the other applicants."

With support from the department, 20% of the undergraduate students present research at local, state, regional, national or international conferences each year; many have also been published in peer-reviewed, indexed journals. Petrella has a goal of seeing the number of participants grow to 50%.

"Our students learn how to perform research, but they also develop independent critical thinking skills, oral and written communication skills and problem-solving skills that translate to arenas beyond the classroom or laboratory," said Petrella. "For our purposes, this may be the primary goal of undergraduate research." ■

Cook Well. *Eat Well.* Live Well.

The School of Public Health's Samford Wellness Kitchen invites the community into its kitchens to learn how healthy living starts with cooking and eating well.

by Sarah Waller

"God intended for us to eat real food," said Pat Terry, a longtime Samford University professor in the School of Public Health's Department of Nutrition and Dietetics. "We know that eating healthy, physical activity and rest are all important for our overall health, especially in the prevention of disease. Yet I've found in my decades as a dietitian that many people who want to focus on whole foods don't understand the health benefits of the ingredients or know how to cook them."

In response to this, Terry created the Samford Wellness Kitchen.

The idea was inspired by a Harvard University initiative called Healthy Kitchens, Healthy Lives, a program designed to create teaching kitchens within communities. When Samford's Department of Nutrition and Dietetics joined the School of Public Health, it relocated to the College of Health Sciences facilities. These buildings include two food production kitchens, which were formerly the test kitchens for *Southern Living* and *Cooking Light* magazines.

For Terry, the timing felt right, and the space was perfect. With the support

of Samford faculty and several Birmingham-based chefs and registered dietitians, the Samford Wellness Kitchen was born.

Today, roughly two years later, the program has hosted classes for the community, including those in partnership with Birmingham's Christian Service Mission. This summer, it held its first-ever cooking camp for teens, and it announced a new lineup of two four-week classes for the fall, including:

Basic Culinary Nutrition

starting Sept. 12

Cooking for Better Blood Sugar Control

starting Oct. 17

"Alabama remains one of the unhealthiest states in the nation, and our hope is that the Samford Wellness Kitchen can be the seed that spreads the idea that food is medicine," Terry said. "These classes include cooking a variety of recipes where participants discover that healthy cooking is easier than they think. They hear the latest scientific evidence about key nutrients and phytonutrients and explore how certain food groups can help prevent disease and promote good health."

The program also incorporates students, both undergraduate nutrition and dietetic majors and current dietetic interns. "It's amazing to watch our students and dietetic interns thrive in this environment," Terry said. "They gain teaching and leadership experience, learning exactly what we hope they will go out and do as dietitians one day."

In developing the Samford Wellness Kitchen, Terry has interacted with people across the country and around the world who are working to develop similar programs within their communities. "Teaching kitchens have become an international movement. People are creating these kitchens in community centers—even developing mobile kitchens that travel around the city. With the Samford Wellness Kitchen, Samford and the School of Public Health are part of something big," she said.

To learn about the Samford Wellness Kitchen classes offered this fall, go to samford.edu/go/WellnessKitchen.



Samford Wellness Kitchen participants in the College of Health Sciences' Food Production Kitchens.



Barron



Judge



Weatherly



Peterson

Female Firsts

Milestones for Samford Women

by William Nunnelley

Women over the years have made great contributions to Samford University. Listed below are some of the female firsts.

Founding Mother

Julia Tarrant Barron is considered the founding mother of Howard College, now Samford University. As such, she represents the first of a number of significant “female firsts” in Samford history. Barron was born in South Carolina but moved with her family to Alabama, then a territory, at a young age. In 1828 she married William Barron, a prosperous businessman in Perry County, Alabama, which had become a state in 1819. William died in 1832, leaving Julia with a large estate.

Barron became one of the wealthiest women in the town of Marion, well respected in the community and a prominent member of Siloam Baptist Church. In 1841 she discussed the idea of starting a college for men with James H. DeVotie, the church pastor. She subsequently provided the land on which the college was built, according to a history of the school by James F. Sulzby.

Barron is believed to have helped recruit the school’s first president, Samuel Sterling Sherman, and she is credited with being at the head of the school’s donor list. *The Alabama Baptist*

newspaper, which Barron cofounded, described her as being the school’s first donor.

Female Graduate

It would be more than half a century before the school recorded its first female graduate. **Anna May Judge** attained that distinction in 1896 followed by **Alice Eugenia Weatherly** in 1898. These women were true pioneers because Samford did not become coeducational until 1913.

Dean of Women and Professor

In fall 1913, **Mrs. J. C. Hockett** was appointed acting dean of women as the school formally admitted female students. The next fall, **Hellen Manly Patrick** was appointed dean of women and assistant in the English department. Patrick served one year before resigning for health reasons.

In 1915, **Nannie Merle Hiden** became dean of women and was also appointed professor of education. In that role, she oversaw what was then the education department, becoming the first woman to lead an academic department at the school.

The decade of the 1920s saw important firsts for women. The first women’s intercollegiate athletic team, for basketball, was formed in 1921.

Board of Trustee Member

The first female member of the school's Board of Trustees, **Mrs. Charles J. Sharp**, was appointed in 1926. She also served as president of the Women's Auxiliary, forerunner of today's Legacy League.

Women's Instructor in Athletics

Emily Cate became the first women's instructor in the athletics department in 1930, when gym classes became required for all students. Cate organized the Women's Athletic Association and taught swimming. In 1930-31 women took part in hockey, basketball, track, tennis, swimming and hiking. Later, in 1934, Cate was promoted to director of physical education.

SGA President

Margaret Ann Miller Peterson in 1946 became the first female Student Government Association president without intending to. She campaigned for vice president alongside her friend, J. B. Davis. Both won, but Davis—a member of the Navy V-12 program—was transferred to another university after the election, and Peterson became SGA president.

"I was really shocked," she said during a 2017 visit to campus. "I hadn't planned to do anything except help him! Then I had to get busy."

African American Student

Audrey Gaston Howard in 1967 became the first African American student to enroll at Samford as a student at Cumberland School of Law. She earned her degree in 1970 and became the first woman appointed to the U.S. Attorney's Office

in the southeast. Later she was appointed courts liaison adviser to the staff of the National Criminal Justice Commission before serving as a legislative assistant to U.S. Representative John Buchanan of Alabama.

Law Professor

Janie Shores, a Samford graduate, became the first female law professor at Cumberland and in the state of Alabama in 1968 and was the first female elected to the Alabama Supreme Court in 1974, serving four terms. She was named Samford Alumna of the Year in 1983.

Academic School Named

Ida V. Moffett was the first female for whom an academic school was named in 1968. Ida Moffett School of Nursing became a part of Samford in 1973. Moffett, who served the nursing profession for more than 70 years, was the first woman involved in achieving a nursing school accreditation in Alabama. (A second academic entity, the education school, was named for a woman, **Orlean Bullard Beeson**, in 1978.)

Vice President

Martha Ann Cox became Samford's first female vice president in 1984 with additional duties as dean of students. Cox served Samford in various capacities during a 38-year tenure at the university. She was named Alumna of the Year in 2006. ■

This article is based on a Women's History Month program presented by Betsy Bugg Holloway, Samford vice president for marketing and communication. Additional research was conducted by Jennifer Taylor.



Howard



Shores



Moffett



Cox

Samford Football Aims for Ninth-Straight Winning Season

by Joey Mullins

The Samford football team enters the 2019 season having to replace three All-Americans—quarterback Devlin Hodges, wide receiver Kelvin McKnight and defensive lineman Ahmad Gooden—from a team that posted the school's eighth-straight winning season a year ago.

The biggest hole to fill is at quarterback, where Hodges won the 2018 Walter Payton Award as the top offensive player in FCS football. Hodges passed for 4,283 yards, leading the nation, and finished his Samford career with a national record 14,584 yards passing.

The two main candidates to replace Hodges are returnee Liam Welch and University of South Florida transfer Chris Oladokun. Samford head coach Chris

Hatcher



FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 24	Youngstown State Montgomery, Alabama	
Aug. 31	at Tennessee Tech	
Sept. 14	at Wofford*	
Sept. 21	Alabama A&M	
Sept. 28	The Citadel*	
Oct. 5	Furman* (Family Weekend)	
Oct. 12	at VMI*	
Oct. 26	East Tennessee State*	
Nov. 2	at Mercer*	
Nov. 9	Chattanooga* (Homecoming)	
Nov. 16	at Western Carolina*	
Nov. 23	at Auburn	

*Southern Conference Game

Hatcher said he saw good things from both quarterbacks during spring practice.

"They're both good in the pocket," Hatcher said. "Chris is probably the better runner in the open field. They both have good arms. Liam has a better grasp of the offense, because he has been here longer, but Chris really picked it up the last couple of weeks of spring. This battle will head into fall camp, and we'll roll the guys that we feel give us the best chance to win when we get ready to play (opening opponent) Youngstown."

Overall, Hatcher said he is pleased with how his team progressed during spring practice.

"I think it went well. We improved in a lot of areas," Hatcher said. "We have a long way to go, but I thought we improved fundamentally. We added a lot of reps to some guys who haven't been key components to what we try to do, but it's their time, and they've gotten better over these 14 practices. I think we are where we need to be right now."

When asked about the strength of

this year's team, Hatcher praised the team's offensive line as well as the linebackers and secondary.

"On offense, our line is our strength," Hatcher said. "Those guys have played a lot of snaps for us. Once we get healthy, I think our linebackers can be very strong, along with our back end in the secondary. But, right now, we don't have a lot of depth. Some of the freshmen we signed are going to have to come in and be ready to play right away or at least provide some depth."

In addition to the positions mentioned by Hatcher, the Bulldogs return an experienced group of receivers. The Bulldogs return five of their top seven receivers from last season.

The Bulldogs will play a tough 12-game regular season schedule for only the third time in history (the other times were in 1931 and 2013). The team will open 2019 against Youngstown State in the Guardian Credit Union FCS Kickoff in Montgomery, Alabama, Aug. 24 and close at Auburn Nov. 23. ▀

SoCon Coaches of Year by William Nunnelley

Samford baseball coach Casey Dunn and track coach Rod Tiffin were named Southern Conference (SoCon) Coaches of the Year this spring.

Dunn was selected by both the SoCon coaches and media after leading Samford to the best regular season in program history, winning 39 games going into the SoCon post-season tournament. The Bulldogs also won the program's first SoCon regular season title, posting a 19-5 record. The team finished 41-19 overall, tying the school

record for wins in a season.

Tiffin was selected the Men's Outdoor Coach of the Year following the SoCon outdoor track and field championships, held at the Samford Track and Soccer Stadium. The Samford women's team won the SoCon outdoor track and field championship for the second time in three seasons, scoring 228 points to finish 102 points higher than Wofford. The men's team finished a close second in the meet. The women also won the SoCon indoor track and

field championship for the fourth straight year in February, and Tiffin was named Women's Indoor Coach of the Year as well. ▀



Dunn



Tiffin

Samford Women Win SoCon Track and Field Championship

The Samford women's team won the Southern Conference (SoCon) outdoor track and field championship held April 27-28 at Samford. It was the team's second SoCon championship in three years. The women scored 228 points, finishing 102 points ahead of second place Wofford.

In the men's division, Samford finished second to Western Carolina, 186-169.

Samford's Maggie Johnston was named Most Outstanding Athlete after finishing first in the women's shot put and discus throw events and second in the women's hammer throw. Samford's Amanda Dumar won the Pinnacle Award for having the highest grade point average on the winning team.

For the men, Thomas Ozburn competed in the men's decathlon and set a SoCon record in the 100-meter dash and long jump, winning both events. He also won the men's discus

throw and high jump to finish second in the decathlon.

Other Samford women's first place winners included Karisa Nelson, 1500-meter run; Sarah Sanford, 400-meter hurdles; Charlotte Krause, high jump; Tally Wilson, pole vault; Emorie Long, javelin; and Tatiana Taylor, hammer throw.

Samford men's team first place winners were Emmanuel Tait, 110-meter hurdles; Hugh Duggan, pole vault; Michael McMahan, 400-meter hurdles; and the 4x400-meter relay team of Jordan Woodbine, Jordan Oballe, Michael McMahan and Warren Fitzpatrick. ▀



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Morris Retires, Kuhns Named Successor as Head Coach

by William Nunnelley

Mike Morris retired March 18 after 17 seasons as head women's basketball coach at Samford. Morris was the program's winningest coach with 279 victories and seven 20-win seasons. He was an assistant with the Samford men's team for eight seasons prior to becoming head women's coach.

Carley Kuhns, the head women's basketball coach at Valdosta State, was named Morris's successor April 10. In three seasons at Valdosta State, Kuhns posted a 66-29 record including two NCAA Tournament appearances and one Gulf South Conference title. All three of her teams won more than 20 games. She was an assistant at Belmont for six years prior to her Valdosta State tenure.

"Samford University owes Mike Morris a deep debt of gratitude for all he's done for the university and both our women's and men's basketball programs," said Samford director of athletics Martin Newton. "Replacing someone like Mike Morris is never easy but he did provide us with a blueprint of what we were looking for in our next head women's basketball coach."

Newton said the blueprint included someone that understands and promotes the Christian mission of the university, someone who has a proven track record for academic success, who cares deeply for developing the whole student-athlete both on and off the court and someone that wanted to establish roots at Samford and in Homewood.

"We found the perfect candidate to fit those criteria in Carley Kuhns," said Newton, adding that he was excited about adding Kuhns, her husband, Matt, and their three daughters to the Samford family.

Kuhns guided Valdosta State to records of 22-10, 23-9 and 21-10 during her three seasons as head coach. Previously, she helped lead Belmont to an Ohio Valley Conference championship in 2015-16 and the program's second NCAA



Tournament appearance in history.

Kuhns played basketball at Valdosta State during her undergraduate days, scoring 1,133 career points. As a senior, she helped Valdosta reach the sweet 16 round of the Division II tournament as it compiled a 26-6 record.

Morris coached the Samford team to the semifinals of the Southern Conference tournament seven times. His 2011 and 2012 teams won Southern

Conference titles and earned NCAA Tournament appearances and his 2010 team made the Women's National Invitation Tournament and beat Ole Miss in the first round. Morris was named women's coach of the year for the Southern Conference in 2009 and for the Ohio Valley Conference in 2006.

As a men's coach, Morris was instrumental in Samford's NCAA Tournament appearances in 1998-99 and 1999-2000. Prior to joining Samford, he was a coaching assistant at Belhaven College and Berry College. ■

FOREVER SAMFORD

**Become a part of DeVotie Legacy Society
by including Samford in your estate planning.**

Over the decades, students come to Samford to prepare for the future. However, many years later, they are nearly unanimous in declaring their fondest memories center around relationships formed with fellow classmates and favorite professors.

The long-enduring bond between Mrs. Nora Ousley and her former students is a notable example of the influence of Samford professors. During the past decade, former students of Ousley have gathered to honor her during July, her birthday month. Recently some of these students have begun a campaign to endow a scholarship in her honor. This past year several of them have decided to enhance their commitment by also pledging a portion

of their estates to the Eleanor Orosan Ousley Annual and Endowed Scholarship. Everyone who commits to contributing to any Samford program or scholarship through their estate becomes a member of the DeVotie Legacy Society. These estate gifts will insure that the Ousley scholarship continues to grow and provide financial support for generations of voice students to come.



Nora Ousley, front middle, and some of her former students

To become a DeVotie Legacy Society member, contact Gene Howard at wehoward@samford.edu or 205-726-2366.

CLASS NOTES

Class Notes, New Arrivals and In Memoriam are compiled by the Office of Alumni Programs and Annual Giving.

1950s

'57 Dr. James "Jim" A. Auchmuty Jr. is the author of the recently released book, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Funeral*. Proceeds will benefit the Auchmuty Fund for Congressional Leadership at Samford.



1960s

'66 Jerry W. Tyler and wife, **Maryann Stringer Tyler '67**, recently retired as minister of music and music associate from First Baptist Roswell, Georgia, after serving for 34 years. They are both grateful to Samford University for the part it played in a 50-year ministry through music.

1970s

'77 Rev. Dr. L. Vern Farnum was named director of spiritual care and chaplaincy at Indiana University Health Academic Health Center in Indianapolis, Indiana.

'77 Mary Virginia Thompson is the author of *The Only Unavoidable Subject of Regret*, an extensive account of those who served at Mount Vernon.

1980s

'84 Rev. Stuart Condra is the new worship pastor at Bon Air Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia. **1**

1990s

'91 John Green has received a Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program scholarship to study in Tanzania. He will spend five weeks this summer learning about the cultures and languages of East Africa. Green currently teaches French at New Manchester High School near Atlanta, Georgia.

'92 Mitch McCoy was granted tenure and was promoted to associate professor of Spanish

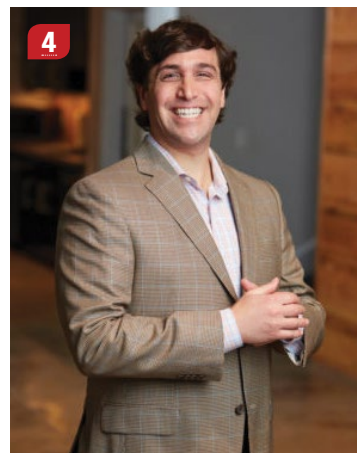
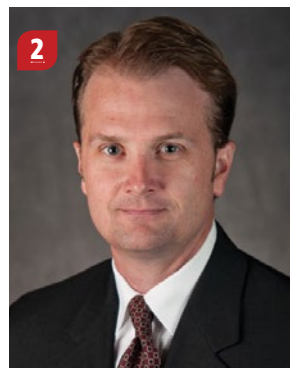
and coordinator of undergraduate legal studies at Belmont University.

'92 Jeff Styres

was recently named vice president of the legal department and assistant secretary of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi. Styres has worked in the company's legal department since 1998 and resides in Madison, Mississippi, with his wife, Belinda, and two daughters, Jessica and Julia. **2**

'93 Ben Wiggins has been named the 2018-19 president of the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders, the main professional organization for Georgia's K-12 school system administrators and teachers. Wiggins is also the past president of the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals. He has been an educator for almost 25 years and has served as the principal of Oconee County High School since 2014. While at Samford, he was a sociology major and the quarterback of the 1991 national championship semifinalist Bulldog football team. **3**

'98 Leah Lawley Baker received her bachelor's degree in nursing at Jacksonville State University in 2018. She was named on the President's List for fall 2018 and was



inducted into The National Society of Leadership and Success in spring 2019.

'98 Cherington Shucker was named one of Greenville's Top 50 Most Influential People of 2018 by *Greenville Business Magazine*.

2000s

'02 Stacey Foshee joined the country's top ranked pediatric cardiovascular surgery program as a charge nurse and nurse instructor in the pediatric cardiovascular intensive care unit at Texas Children's Hospital. In March, she was recognized as one of Houston's Top 150 nurses by the *Houston Chronicle* and in May was recognized by the Good Samaritan Foundation for excellence in the nursing profession.

'03 Ashley Stidham Seligson recently founded and is the executive director of Little Hands Serving Hearts, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating and providing service

opportunities primarily for children ages 12 and under, though any age is welcome to volunteer.

'06 Michael Berson was named Top 40 under 40 in *Mobile Bay Magazine*. Following his service as director of governmental affairs and associate general counsel for the National Small Business Association on Capitol Hill, Berson started a career in private practice back home in Mobile, Alabama. He previously served as a board member for both the Dumas Wesley Community Center and Fuse Project. **4**

'08 Logan Davis was named chair of the Board of Directors for the National Home Infusion Association. He is the current director of franchise development at Vital Care Inc. in Meridian, Mississippi. He has been in the home infusion industry since 2008, working in both operations and business development. Davis has also cofounded a successful Vital Care franchise in Alabama with a classmate from pharmacy school.

'08 Rachel Sharpe was named head athletic trainer of the Atlanta Legends of the new Alliance of American Football.

'08 Hunter Yarbrough has joined CapWealth as vice president and financial advisor. While at Samford, he was a charter member of the Bulldog Investment Fund.

2010s

'10 Matthew McEniry was granted tenure and was promoted to associate librarian at Texas Tech University.

'10 Stephen Moss cofounded Revoice, a nonprofit, and has coordinated the first national conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

'11 Carlton Hilson has been elevated to partnership at Burr & Foreman's Birmingham office. He is a member of the labor and employment law practice group, where he represents management and employers with respect on any and all labor and employment matters arising out of the workplace.

'13 W. Fowler Joiner, M.D., is completing an internal medicine residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, where he was named the 2017-18 Intern of the Year. He graduated from The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine in 2017.

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NEW ARRIVALS



John Mark Lyon, a son, born July 31, 2018. Parents are Lindsay Cleveland Lyon '12 and Nathan Lyon '13 of Birmingham, Alabama. **1**

Ian Lane Usry, a son, born September 1, 2018. Parents are Bethany Lane Usry '99 and Stephen Usry '01 of Alpharetta, Georgia. **2**

Thomas Edgar Parkey, a son, born September 23, 2018. Parents are Lydia Dockery Parkey '05 and Justin Parkey of Jonesboro, Arkansas. **3**

Andie Jane Agan, a daughter, born October 14, 2018. Parents are Lexie Strong Agan '11 and Payton Agan '12 of Orlando, Florida. **4**

Everett Jonathan Cox, a son, born October 20, 2018. Parents are Marlene Mann Cox '06 and Jonathan Cox '07 of Birmingham, Alabama. He joins older brother Eben. **5**

Audrey Joy Masters and **Nolan Daniel Masters**, twins, born October 29, 2018. Parents are Emily Woodard Masters '08 and Daniel Masters '08 of Hoover, Alabama. **6**

Miller Kate Tarpy, a daughter, born October 31, 2018. Parents are Jenna Mann Tarpy '09 and Chris Tarpy of Talking Rock, Georgia. **7**

Leo St. Patrick "Roman" Randall III, a son, born November 5, 2018. Parents are Angela Armstrong Randall '07 and Leo Randall '07 of Norcross, Georgia. **8**

Emma Jane Thompson, a daughter, born November 15, 2018. Parents are Anna Cox Thompson '12 and JT Thompson of Memphis, Tennessee. **9**

William Evan Salsbery, a son, born December 1, 2018. Parents are Lindsay Macfarland Salsbery '07 and Kent Salsbery of Wilmette, Illinois. He joins older brother Logan. **10**

Lucy Katherine Anderson, a daughter, born December 12, 2018. Parents are Hannah Barron Anderson '14 and Rosson Anderson of Hoover, Alabama. **11**

Elizabeth Rebecca Goetz, a daughter, born December 13, 2018. Parents are Rachel Frost Goetz '09 and David Goetz '04 of Hoover, Alabama. **12**

Ansley “Annie” Gene Sentenn, a daughter, born December 16, 2018. Parents are Hayden Hamrick Sentenn '09 and Andy Sentenn of Birmingham, Alabama. She joins proud, older sister Abigail. ¹³

Isaiah Benjamin Barredo, a son, born December 21, 2018. Parents are Kristen Straw Barredo '07 and Jim Barredo of Washington, D.C. ¹⁴

Frederick George Rogers, a son, born January 22, 2019. Parents are Tanya Humphries Rogers '06 and William “John” Rogers III '04 of Madison, Alabama. ¹⁵

Jackson Porter Cox, a son, born February 4, 2019. Parents are Emily Smothers Cox '11 and Matthew Cox of Nashville, Tennessee. ¹⁶

Madison Elizabeth Longworth, a daughter, born February 12, 2019. Parents are Julianne Murphy Longworth '13 and Matt Longworth of Nashville, Tennessee. ¹⁷

Irie Matteo Cooper, a son, born February 22, 2019. Parents are Isaac Cooper '12 and Deesha Cooper of Birmingham, Alabama.

McKenzie Reeves Stone, a daughter, born March 18, 2019. Parents are Katherine M. Stone '06 and Scott Stone of Birmingham, Alabama. ¹⁸

Della Faye Higdon, a daughter, born March 29, 2019. Parents are Rebecca Mayhall Higdon '09 and Doug Higdon of Clarksville, Tennessee. ¹⁹

Emmy Jane Phillips and **Hunter Jackson Phillips**, twins, born April 2, 2019. Parents are Mary Margaret Flippo Phillips '11 and Wil Phillips of Foley, Alabama. ²⁰

Whitley Meredith Coffman, a daughter, born April 2, 2019. Parents are Celeste Williams Coffman '03 and Mitch Coffman of Florence, Alabama. ²¹

Olivia Faith Colbert, a daughter, born April 12, 2019. Parents are Valerie Higgins Colbert '07 and Stanton Colbert II of Aldie, Virginia. ²²



IN MEMORIAM

'47 James Winfred Brown Sr., age 96, of Selma, Alabama, died Dec. 11, 2018. During his time at Howard College, he was treasurer of the intrafraternity council, Pi Kappa Alpha president and won a letter with the Navy Seal Dogs, Howard's varsity football team.

'49 Betty Jane "BJ" Frew, age 91, of Birmingham, Alabama, died on Dec. 30, 2018. After graduating from Howard College, she earned her master's degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She was devoted to her faith and was passionate about her work.

'49 Dr. George F. Scofield, age 90, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Dec. 28, 2018. Scofield was a founding member of Cunningham Pathology and MedLab. Scofield and his wife, Patricia, were honored as Samford University's 2000 Alumni of the Year. He was a humble, servant leader who loved the Lord and his family above all else.

'50 Dr. David Harford Bentley Jr., age 93, of Opelika, Alabama, died Dec. 3, 2018. Bentley served his country during World War II in the U.S. Army. After completion of his military service, he graduated from Howard College. He served the Lord as a Baptist minister for 40 years and in 1991, Samford honored him as Retired Minister of the Year. Bentley was also a member of the Board of Trustees at Samford.

'53 Jack Upchurch Harwell, age 86, of Atlanta, Georgia, died Jan. 18, 2019. While at Howard College, Harwell was SGA president, lettered in basketball and was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa leadership society. He served as an editor at *The Christian Index* for more than 21 years. Later he was elected editor of *Baptists Today* and served in that role until his retirement. He is missed by many.

'53 Anne Williams Moore, age 86, of Wilsonville, Alabama, died Feb. 28, 2019. At Samford, Moore majored in Spanish and was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. She was a member of Hypatia, the women's honor society, and was class valedictorian. Moore was also selected as one of Phi Kappa Phi's founding members.

'54 Rev. Clyde Lee Finley, age 91, of Norfolk Virginia, died Dec. 8, 2018. He was a Protestant minister who led churches in Alabama, Kentucky and Virginia over the

course of 50 years. Finley also served his country during World War II as a part of the U.S. Navy. He had a special gift for expressing love and inspired other to live nobler, dedicated and generous lives.

'54 William "Bill" Jack Sumner, age 86, of Moraga, California, died Nov. 19, 2018. After graduating from Howard College, he served his country in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. He later served as manager of human resources for two Bechtel divisions handling employee relations from 1975 until his retirement in 1998.

'55 William Casaday, age 88, of Childersburg, Alabama, died March 1, 2019. He was a graduate of Howard College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He was director of missions for Coosa River Baptist Association for 14 years and a pastor for more than 60 years.

'56 Billy Gene "Bill" Carroll, age 90, of Trussville, Alabama, died March 31, 2019. He attended Howard College until his induction in the U.S. Air Force in 1950, later graduating in 1956. He leaves a lasting legacy of service to God, his family and friends.

'56 Chaplain Colonel Charles Forrest Hill, age 86, of Columbus, Georgia, died on Dec. 2, 2018. Hill had a decorated military service that spanned over 22 years. While at Howard College, he met the love of his life, Mavis Golden. He was a wonderful husband, extraordinary father and a gentle speaker of the good word.

'58 Clyde Ray Jr., age 87, of Muscle Shoals, Alabama, died Dec. 15, 2018. Ray served his country during the Korean War in a medical air evacuation unit. Later he graduated with a B.S. in pharmacy. Ray served as city commissioner of Muscle Shoals and as a member of the Civil Service Board. He was fiercely proud of his family and worked tirelessly to serve them and enrich their lives.

'59 June Auchmuty Townsend Motley, age 81, of Decatur, Alabama, died Dec. 29, 2018. Motley was a longtime member of First Baptist Church of Avondale Estates and the chancel choir. She was a teacher for 35 years in the city of Atlanta and was loved by everyone who knew her.

'64 June Rudder Fleming, age 76, of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, died March 28, 2019. She was active at Samford including being the president of her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha. Fleming had a heart for people and enjoyed spending her time socializing with anyone she encountered.

'64 Bruce Grady, age 80, of Centerpoint, Alabama, died Dec. 14, 2018. He was loved by family and friends and will be missed.

'66 Philip "Jack" Mann Sr., age 79, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Dec. 31, 2018. Mann was a founder of the Alabama School of Fine Arts and he helped develop and oversee the Excellence Program for Birmingham City Schools. He was a mentor to scores of Birmingham performers. His presence and influence will be greatly missed among the Birmingham theatre community.

'68 John D. Apperson, age 84, of Hoover, Alabama, died April 1, 2019. After his service in the Air Force, he received a degree in business from Samford University. He retired from a long career with law engineering where he made lifelong friends and traveled all over the world.

'68 John Nevitt Randolph, age 74, of Shelby County, Alabama, died March 31, 2019. He retired from the law firm of Sirote & Permutt, P.C., where he managed the firm's residential real estate practice. He was recently recognized by the Alabama State Bar Association as a 50-year stalwart of his profession. Randolph will be missed.

'69 Robert "Bobby" Berney Grindle Jr., age 75, of Birmingham, Alabama, died March 22, 2019. He and his wife, Margaret, founded Bare Wood Furniture in 1975. Grindle was loved and will be missed by many.

'69 Braxton Hugh Taylor, age 75, of Birmingham, Alabama, died on Dec. 15, 2018. He was a graduate of Georgia Tech and Samford University. In January 2018, he retired and turned over the ownership of Unique Industries, the manufacturing company he founded 42 years ago, to his son. His great loves in life were God, family, friends and work.

'71 Joel Kimmey Inman, age 70, of Alabaster, Alabama, died Jan. 9, 2019. He was a member of the football team during his time at Samford

University. His passion was young people, and he gained renown as a gymnastics coach in the Birmingham area. Over the many years of his career, he was a positive influence in the lives of hundreds of young gymnasts.

'73 William T. "Mike" Carlson Jr., age 67, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Nov. 18, 2018. Carlson worked as an attorney and adviser to his clients all over the country, particularly with cardiology practices. He was a member of Shandon Baptist Church and loved teaching Sunday school classes while a member of previous churches.

'73 Bryan Thomas Keith, age 67, of Hoover, Alabama, died on Oct. 4, 2018. At Samford, he was active in Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, serving as president. Keith was the owner of Walter S. White Auto Parts Inc., the oldest auto parts wholesaler in the state of Alabama. Keith was active in his community and enjoyed celebrating his Scottish heritage with St. Andrew's Society of the Middle South and was a longtime member of All Saints' Episcopal Church.

'77 Nicholas "Nick" G. Dumich, age 69, of Roswell, Georgia, died Nov. 23, 2018. Dumich was a practicing attorney for over 30 years in the Atlanta area. Dumich truly brightened up any room, and his friends and family will miss him dearly.

'77 Betty Shore Jacobs, age 74, of Vestavia, Alabama, died Dec. 23, 2018. Jacobs was a

retired teacher after a long tenure at Mountain Brook High School. Jacobs attained many honors through the years, including most popular teacher at Mountain Brook. She was a member of Dawson Memorial Baptist Church for almost 60 years.

'79 Virginia R James "VJ" Cain, age 85, of Wilton, Connecticut, died Nov. 19, 2018. Cain had a passion for gardening, tubing and traveling and was an active member of her community. She will be missed.

'80 and '81 Vicki Morris Clark, age 60, of Hoover, Alabama, died on Dec. 1, 2018. Clark received her undergraduate degree in management and a graduate degree in business administration from Samford University. While at Samford, she married Harry Jefferson Clark III and later had two children.

'83 Robert James "Jim" Wilson, age 79, of Vestavia, Alabama, died March 10, 2019. He was account executive with Luckie and Forney Advertising Firm and after retirement became executive assistant at Homewood Cumberland Presbyterian for over 10 years.

'90 Charles Mark Minor, of Collierville, Tennessee, died Jan. 10, 2019. He completed his M.B.A. at Samford University. Minor had many passions in life, chief among them were being a faithful follower of Jesus Christ as a longtime member of Mountain Park Baptist Church, where he was a dedicated Sunday school teacher for middle school boys.

FACULTY

John J. Coleman Jr., age 92, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Nov. 29, 2018. He had a distinguished 60-year legal career which included the role of managing partner. Coleman particularly enjoyed his role as an adjunct professor and mentor at Cumberland School of Law, where he taught for three decades.

FRIENDS

Sallie Viola Walker Brasfield, age 61, of Birmingham, Alabama, died March 27, 2019. She had a contagious smile and laugh and she was known for her love of the Lord.

Dr. Wilmer C. Fields, age 96, of Nashville, Tennessee, died Dec. 2, 2018. Fields served as pastor of churches in Louisiana, Kentucky and Mississippi before entering the world of religious communications. He retired in his role as vice president for public relations for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Gary Arnold Nelson, age 79, of Mobile, Alabama, died April 1, 2019. He served in the U.S. Army and Air Force Reserve and had a long career in sales before retiring. He was a loving and proud father and grandfather and will be remembered for his quick wit and sense of humor. 🐾

New Samford license plates now at the DMV in Alabama

If you have a vehicle licensed in Alabama, please consider purchasing a Samford license plate at your local DMV office. A Samford license plate purchase of \$50 equals \$48.50 in support of student scholarships. It's an easy and effective way to help current and future students.



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