

THE MAGAZINE FOR LOUISBURG COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS | SPRING 2017

COLUMNS

OPPORTUNITY **GROWS**

At Louisburg College: 230 Years of Service

O'Leary Wins National
Business Award

Fried Chicken
Unites Community

Going Green
and Sustainable

Hurricane Teams
Nationally Ranked



Main Building



Taft Classroom Building



Hillman Residence Hall



Person Place

Columns, the most enduring ornaments in American architecture, are the symbol of Louisburg College. Historically, they confer dignity and distinction. They symbolize weight and importance. They take us back to ancient Greece, an ode to wisdom, strength, and beauty, and to our nation's capital, where they grace federal buildings and national monuments. Columns adorn many of the buildings in Louisburg, from the historic courthouse to the newly built Walmart. We celebrate our symbol, found on the College's residence halls, library, classroom building, performing arts center and in our Alma Mater: "May thy stalwart columns heavenward ever point the way of life."



JPAC



Wright Residence Hall



Franklin County Courthouse



Louisburg Walmart

COLUMNS

Spring 2017

Louisburg College is committed to offering a supportive community which nurtures young men and women intellectually, culturally, socially, physically, and spiritually.

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OUR MISSION

Related by faith to The United Methodist Church, Louisburg College is committed to offering a supportive community which nurtures young men and women intellectually, culturally, socially, physically, and spiritually. As a two-year institution, we provide a bridge for students to make a successful transition from high school to senior colleges and universities.

QUESTIONS?

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Message from the President

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you as we celebrate our 230th year! Chartered in 1787 as a Male Academy, Louisburg College has evolved as it has adapted its mission in every age. Our College catalogs chronicle various changes that kept the College relevant in an ever-changing world. The 1867 Catalog speaks of one such adaptation:

“The age demands that our girls shall have a practical knowledge of some business whereby they may earn a livelihood, and as shorthand writing and type-writing can be made both profitable and pleasant employments, we have added these to our school. They can be learned in a few months by application.”

Our 2016- 2017 College Catalog responds to a new demand of our current age. For the first time students at Louisburg College are taking a course of study that leads to a certification in Solar Energy.

Fields that were once tilled for tobacco are now covered with solar arrays that provide a much-needed source of clean alternative energy. More than 50 years ago our students were cranking up their record players, and the sounds of the Beatles British Invasion were in the air. Bob Dylan had just released a song about change:

“The Times They Are A Changing”

*Come gather 'round people wherever you roam
And admit that the waters around you have grown
And accept it that soon you'll be drenched to the bone
If your time to you is worth savin'
Then you better start swimmin' or you'll sink like a stone
For the times they are a-changin'*

These students who were listening to Dylan are now members of our Golden Anniversary Council!

This past fall the College Community read the book “Start With Why” by Simon Sinek, and asked ourselves: “Why Louisburg?” You will find some of the responses in the pages of this magazine, but when we boiled it all down, we were left with one very powerful and compelling phrase: “Opportunity Grows.” Though the times they are a changing, Louisburg College alumni and students echo through the ages a constant refrain, “if not for Louisburg College....” Each student who will walk across the stage at Commencement is a testimony to our timeless tradition.

Graduates like Julius Shumpert, whose art graces Benson Chapel, and who through the mentorship of Art Professor Will Hinton shares credit for a vibrant and historic mural downtown. Like Nehemiah Harris, who through the mentorship of the executive director of our STEM program, Dr. Bob Bruck, has received a paid summer research fellowship at Purdue University. And finally, graduates like Kathryn O’Leary, who as president of Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity, earned national first place honors in the area of Social Media. Through the evolutions, de-evolutions, and revolutions, the broad mission of the College remains unchanged.

Mona and I have had the privilege of serving the College for more than eight years. Our hearts will always be inextricably linked to this place of hope and opportunity. “Blessed be the tie that binds....”

For the College,

Mark

LOUISBURG, My Vade Mecum



A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST

I was fortunate to find Louisburg College in April 2010. My father, who lived more than 86 years, passed away on April 23. A few days later, my mother, widowed after 62 years, and I would drive 3.5 hours from Fredericksburg, Va., to Louisburg so that I could interview for the position of Academic Dean. A bunch of strangers welcomed my mother to campus, including Dr. Louise Mitchum and Faye Griffin. They wouldn't be strangers for long. While grieving the loss of my dad, I met Dr. Mark La Branche and Dr. Ed Boone for dinner in the Alumni Room. Dr. Boone, chair of the search committee, gave me a strong vote of confidence, standing in loco patris, and I was able to respond to an onslaught of questions from my good friend with the long hair, Tommy Jenkins. Dr. La Branche gave me the opportunity of a lifetime to serve Louisburg College, and I will always be grateful for the risk he took at a most unstable time in my life.

In Spring 2011, my family relocated to North Carolina. My wife, Wendi, was reeling from a recent cancer diagnosis. Dr. Boone connected us with his oncologist, Dr. Jeff Crane, who, with the medical team at UNC Rex Hospital, would provide incomparable care. The day of Wendi's mastectomy, I arrived in the waiting room to find more than a dozen of my new colleagues. Candy Jones handed me an overflowing care package collected by the faculty, and people brought dinner to our house for weeks. Stephanie Tolbert ensured that red rose petals were tossed throughout our home so that Wendi would have a surprise upon her return. During the years of Wendi's fight against cancer, I found a balm in Louisburg.

Life returned to normal for a while, and then my mother was diagnosed with cancer. Since 1983, I had lived with my parents in the house my dad built for my mom, a place she loved dearly. The day I would leave that home for the last time, my Louisburg family was at my side. Emily Zank and Terrie Blumenauer drove back to Fredericksburg, loaded a moving van, and provided support as I bid farewell to the city where I was born. My mother would live with us in Wake Forest for her final years, enduring regular treatments to keep cancer at bay. During those two years I worked often from home on the college's reaffirmation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. My colleague, Emily, was there too, writing into the evenings and across most weekends. My mom often wondered aloud if we would ever finish. Shortly after her death, we did finish, and celebrated a historic outcome.

I do not know what I have done for Louisburg College, but it has surely done a lot for me. The College is full of grace, and worthy of its 230-year mission. Louisburg moves forward to become an even stronger academic institution. Its eleemosynary soul always will be its most distinguishing quality. As Wendi, Harrison, Rachel, and I bid farewell to Louisburg, we have great pride in this College. We consider ourselves lifelong members of the Louisburg College family.

Valete amici...Godspeed...thanks a million...love to you all...come visit us sometime soon, ya hear?

Leaders Join Board of Trustees



Bill Boddie, Jr. of Nashville, a 2005 graduate of Louisburg College who attended N.C. State University, is an Operations/Services Manager for Boddie-Noell Enterprises in Rocky Mount, a third-generation family-owned restaurant and real estate company. Boddie is also District Manager of Highway Diner in Rocky Mount. He volunteers with Boy Scout Troop 7 and participates in Relay for Life. Boddie's father, grandfather, brothers, and uncle are also Louisburg College alumni.



Steven E. Brooks of Durham served as Executive Director of the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority from 1997 until his retirement in 2014. Prior to joining SEAA, he was involved for 20 years in student financial aid administration at Wake Forest University and Louisburg College. He holds a Doctorate of Education and is a Director of the National Student Clearinghouse, the National Council of Higher Education Resources, and Mapping Your Future.



Linda Funke Johnson of Fuquay-Varina, mother of a 2016 Louisburg College graduate, earned her law degree from Quinnipiac University. Johnson is an attorney specializing in estate planning and probate law. Johnson, a court-appointed public administrator for Wake County, has published numerous legal papers and served as a panelist on estate and probate issues in North Carolina. In 2011, she was named Citizen of the Year by the Fuquay-Varina Chamber of Commerce.



Bill Norris of Wilmington is the son of the late Dr. Allen Norris, former Louisburg College president, and Beth Norris, a former member of the college Board of Trustees. He is a 1982 Louisburg College graduate, attended Wake Forest University and earned a Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's degree in Business Administration. He is Senior Vice President of First Citizens Bank, and serves as a board member of both the Cape Fear Utility Authority and the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.



Ward Sylvester III, founding member and a past president of Richlands Rotary Club, attended Louisburg College for two years before earning a Bachelor's degree from UNC Chapel Hill. He owns and operates 16 Piggly Wiggly grocery stores and is a past president of the North Carolina Food Dealers Association. He was named Richland's Citizen of the Year and given the Spirit of America Award by the National Grocers Association.



Jason A. Williams of Raleigh is the President and CEO of PRTI, an environmental technology company based in Franklinton that converts used tires into useful commodities with zero waste. He has Bachelor's degrees in Cellular Physiology and Allied Healthcare, advanced training in orthopedics and general surgery, a Master's degree in Allied Healthcare, and was awarded a Doctorate of Humanities for his work as a philanthropist and disruptive innovator in health care.

In 2016, six men and women with ties to Louisburg College were tapped to be members of the Board of Trustees of the school, joining 26 others to oversee the only residential two-year college in North Carolina. Trustees, who serve four-year terms, are responsible for setting educational and financial policies and ensuring sound resource management of Louisburg College.

Honoring Achievement

Louisburg College conferred degrees on 153 students on May 6, 2016: 16 earned an Associate of Science degree in General Science; seven were awarded Associate of Science degrees in Business; 130 earned an Associate of Arts degree in General College. Among them, four had 4.0 grade-point averages, graduating summa cum laude; 10 graduated magna cum laude; 18 graduated cum laude.

Kiante Brewer, who graduated magna cum laude and won third place in business decision-making in a national Phi Beta Lambda competition, was chosen to address his classmates. Find your purpose, he told them. “You can do anything as long as you know why you desire it, refuse to give up on it, and are willing to sacrifice for it,” he said. “All that matters is what you do with the time you’ve been given.”

Dr. Jason Williams, president of Franklinton-based Product Recovery Technology International, which converts used tires into useful commodities, gave the Commencement address. His advice: “Don’t let others define who you are. They’ll almost always get it wrong.”

He outlined his tough growing-up years – the son of a single mother addicted to drugs and alcohol – and said they became another life lesson: “Use adversity to make yourself strong.” At Methodist University, he found a mentor and friend in the Rev. Mike Safley, who now teaches at Louisburg College. Williams gained confidence. He earned graduate degrees and founded FastMed Urgent Care. In 2010, he was

awarded a Doctorate of Humanities for his work in health care and his philanthropic undertakings. “Service to others is the rent you pay for your time here on Earth,” he said.

As part of the graduation ceremony, Louisburg College’s leaders presented these awards:

Professor Emeritus: Dr. Martha Farmer Bragg, who taught mathematics for 34 years.

Naomi Dickens Shaw Award for excellence in teaching: Assistant Professor of English Crystal Brantley

The I.D. Moon Award for outstanding leadership, scholarship, and citizenship: Kennedy Olivia Peterson and Henry David Niblock

The Brantley Awards for outstanding scholarship, the highest cumulative grade point average: Natalie Rae Manning and Ivan Worthy Cockman

Alumni Appreciation Scholarships to rising sophomores: Donnell Loury, Paul Appiah, Dajah Denis, Alyssa Pickens





Graduation 2016





“You receive way more attention here than you would elsewhere. I think there’s something to be said about everyone on campus knowing you. There is competition for leadership roles, but also lots of opportunities.”

STEPHEN KRONLAGE
Class of 2018, cross country runner



“I love seeing all of my students succeed. It just keeps me going! I realize I’m making a difference, and I get the opportunity to grow and try new things.”

STEPHANIE HASKELL
Director of Student Engagement



“At Louisburg, my professors were inspiring. The administration was supportive, involved, and they listened. Students have the opportunity here to improve themselves and further their education at prestigious four-year universities.”

J. HARRISON MONCURE
*Class of 1990
Louisburg College Alum*

WHY LOUISBURG COLLEGE?



“Louisburg College has more opportunities than a community college, like getting a degree after two years and being able to live on campus. Plus there is huge leadership potential.”

SHONDEL GRANISON
*Class of 2017
football player*

“Louisburg College has a very redemptive atmosphere. Our small community within a rural town changes many lives, just a little at a time. We offer opportunities for fellowship and relationship building, and we instill compassion in young adults. And that will change the world.”

REV. SHANE BENJAMIN
Chaplain



Embrace Education

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications



Nehemiah Harris is spending the summer at Purdue University learning to manipulate and analyze proteins. He won a coveted fellowship from the National Science Foundation that will pay for his two-month undergraduate research experience and propel him toward his goal: post-graduate studies in medicine.

Harris, who will graduate *magna cum laude* from Louisburg College in May, came here because he wanted to play football. His coach from Holly Springs High School, Will Orbin, had been hired as Offensive Coordinator for the Hurricanes, and Harris, a running back, wanted to continue playing for him.

In high school, studying and football were his sole activities. At Louisburg, Harris became a Student Ambassador, tutored classmates, and assisted in science labs. He learned a few things on the field and in the classroom about leadership. “You grow from leading people,” he said.

Trigonometry class reinforced the importance of a strong work ethic – do the homework every night – and showed him that “collaboration is how you get things done.” Canes for Change provided opportunities for community service. Harris is a member of the

Taylor Honors Program and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society.

Harris found a mentor in Dr. Bob Bruck, Assistant Dean for STEM programs, who met his mother, offered advice, and helped him with fellowship applications. “Dr. Bruck gave me everything he had to offer.”

“Harris’ ability to see the big picture sets Harris apart,” said Head Football Coach Trevor Highfield. “He knows what his blueprint is and what he needs to do to get there. He understands that every action he takes is a direct reflection of him, our team, our school.”

Harris says he learned that from his parents. His father, his role model, has provided life lessons at every turn: “Embrace education and God – two things you can’t go anywhere without.” When his father suffered a stroke last October, that drove Harris harder. It made him focus.

Harris knew he had a calling to science and he needed to follow wherever it led...namely to Purdue this summer. And to a top-notch university – he hasn’t decided which one – in the fall. “The sky’s the limit for that young man.” says Highfield. ■

HORIZON 2020

By Dr. Jim Eck, Provost

A college is wise to develop a strategic plan that includes pivotal goals important to all of its constituents. *Horizon 2020: The Plan for Louisburg College* is such a plan, developed collegially and collaboratively to secure a stronger foundation in the years ahead. Horizon 2020 laid the cornerstone for a successful Title III application that morphed into the focus of an authentic and vital Quality Enhancement Plan, “Engaged Teaching Fosters Engaged Learning.”

As reported to the Board of Trustees, Louisburg College has met more than 80 percent of the strategic plan’s goals, and we will soon begin revising it to include new and updated initiatives such as the scholarship of teaching, STEM, education, the expressive arts, and business studies.

On par with strategic planning is the need for ongoing assessment. Louisburg is gathering longitudinal data about essential learning outcomes, especially related to the general education core curriculum. Our faculty are emerging as scholars within the discipline of teaching, and their professional reputations extend well beyond Louisburg. Our assessment evidence demonstrates convincing signs of continuous improvement, a credit to our distinguished faculty.

Planning and assessment also require effective communication, and the desire to develop convincing evidence. A sense of humility is important too, because not everyone is an assessment expert or intuitively understands the complexities of institutional effectiveness. Colleges that plan well, assess without ceasing, and communicate in abundance set an ideal scenario for reaffirmation.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reaffirms its member institutions once every 10 years. Our reaffirmation in 2016 was clean, without a single recommendation, and without the need to write a single follow-up or monitoring report. This historic outcome was a College-wide achievement, signaling the strength of Louisburg College for the next decade.

Colleges have to remain nimble, especially during times of transition. We must secure what has worked well historically, and envision new approaches to planning, assessment, and communication that are even more efficient and useful. The purpose of these efforts is not merely to have a successful reaffirmation but to ensure that the College is getting better with each passing year.

One clear sign of the College’s growing academic reputation has been the number of articulation agreements signed with four-year institutions over the past two years that relate to the transfer of academic credits and merit-based aid. We’ve created additional pathways for our graduates to continue their studies at N.C. Wesleyan College, Elizabeth City State University, and Ferrum College. The College has also signed agreements related to our business (e.g., UNC Pembroke) and honors programs (e.g., Barton College, Appalachian State University, UNC Asheville, and McDaniel College).

I believe that the best years for Louisburg College lie ahead, just over the horizon. We must adopt a heightened sense of anticipatory optimism about its bright future. ■



teaching and learning

According to a nationwide survey of college student engagement, Louisburg College students are twice as likely to:

- Tutor or teach another student
- Participate in a community-based project as a part of a regular course
- Discuss ideas from their readings and/or classes with their instructors outside of class

The 2016 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (a survey of more than 250 institutions and 430,000 students) showed that Louisburg College exceeded or was competitive with the top-performing schools nationally in student-faculty interaction, active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, and support for learners.



An acclaimed psychology professor known for his lessons on effective teaching and learning led Louisburg College's faculty workshop last August.

Dr. Stephen L. Chew, named U.S. Professor of the Year in 2011 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, is Professor and Chair of Psychology at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

Once you understand that effective teaching means students are learning, Dr. Chew said, "You learn the difference between teaching that makes it easy for students to learn and teaching that makes it easy for students to make a good grade. You give up the idea that good students make for good classes..."

"You realize that great teachers can create great students, and great students can inspire and create great teachers."

Beginning Fall 2017, pending the Board of Trustees' approval, Louisburg College will begin offering an Associate of Arts in Education.

The two-year degree will include coursework and internship opportunities for students interested in pursuing any area of education (teaching, administration, counseling, etc.) in the K-12 arena.



Students will work closely with local schools, take the Praxis Core exam, and have the fee of one application covered when they seek admission to a senior institution when preparing to graduate from Louisburg College.

The program allows students to accumulate up to 60 contact hours interacting with teachers and administrators in local school systems. Students may use these hours to apply to an education program at their next institution.



THE AUDACITY OF INFINITY

By Emily Zank, Dean of Faculty Development & Academic Support, and Crystal Brantley, QEP Director & Executive Director of English

Infinity: Boundless. Unlimited. Time without end.

When members of the Louisburg College faculty created the College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), they dared to set no limits; thus, the infinity sign became the symbol of that plan. Written in this symbol is the title of the QEP, "Engaged Teaching, Engaged Learning," affirming that teaching and learning are "forever."

As part of its accreditation process, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges requires each institution to develop a five-year QEP to improve student learning. Louisburg College's QEP is based on the idea that for students to reach higher levels of learning, faculty must also diversify and improve their teaching methods through extensive and quality professional development. Now in its second year, the QEP has already transformed classrooms by reinvigorating the faculty's commitment to professional development and providing more tools for the classroom, including problem-based learning, disciplinary literacy, and critical inquiry.

One of the foundational pieces of professional development in the QEP is a learning community called Infinity Academy. Each year, a group of faculty members commits to this intensive professional development and meets outside of typical work hours. Some members teach a course in which a QEP student-learning objective is embedded; data gathered from these courses helps faculty discern the impact of the QEP on student outcomes.

Other instructors join this group because they want more tools at their disposal, or simply for the joy of learning. No matter their reasons for participating, faculty members

willingly become Infinity Academy "students," with the primary goal of equipping their students to become lifelong learners.

Louisburg College is fortunate to have Dr. Todd Zakrajsek to lead the Infinity Academy. Dr. "Z" is an associate professor and associate director of Fellowship Programs in the Department of Family Medicine, UNC School of Medicine. He directs several Lilly Evidence-based Teaching and Learning Conferences; is an international expert and co-author of books on student engagement, teaching, and learning; and is Louisburg faculty's favorite funny guy.

Infinity Academy meets weekly throughout the academic year to discuss, well, everything. Subjects range from what's going on in the classrooms to what's happening in education worldwide. Dr. Z's expertise, his renowned sense of humor, and his honest, common-sense approach make Infinity Academy members reluctant to end their one-year membership. Reflections from members of the first Infinity Academy (2015-2016) are on the following page.

Louisburg College, as a two-year, liberal arts institution, charges faculty through its mission to serve as a "supportive community which nurtures young men and women intellectually" and to "provide a bridge for students to make a successful transition from high school to senior colleges and universities." With the QEP's professional development opportunities before them, coupled with their passion for impacting young adults' lives through their craft, Louisburg's educational practitioners are positioned well to fulfill their calling, putting the College on the map as a model institution for the scholarship of teaching and learning. ■

"It made me really think about my teaching and how to have the biggest impact in the classroom. It made me go back through my teaching toolbox and dust off techniques that are still valuable and help students achieve."

RUTH BARNES, MATH

"The Infinity Academy gave me the opportunity throughout the year to discuss educational strategies, issues, and problems with colleagues who represented a variety of disciplines and educational experiences."

CRYSTAL BRANTLEY,
ENGLISH

"I learned that I used to be resistant to change in the way I teach. But now I see that there are numerous different and innovative techniques that are quite effective. I had to learn to get out of my comfort zone and try new things."

KRIS HOFFLER, ENGLISH

"Our workshops made me 'rethink' what and how I want my students to learn from this work, so I designed the assignments for my statistics class in a quite different way than I was planning originally. It helped many of these students to be more successful in the class and, most importantly, it moved students from the basic learning of 'facts/formulas' to an actual deeper level of understanding of statistical concepts which they can apply in the future."

GENYA AFANASYEVA, MATH

"The Infinity Academy allows us to focus on the scholarship of teaching and to experiment in ways that make us better instructors. I have used a number of the techniques we studied in the Infinity Academy, applied them to my classes, and noted more engagement from students. The entire experience greatly increased my awareness and ability as an instructor."

TOMMY JENKINS,
ENGLISH

"More than at any time as a teacher, my instruction at this point involves a level of metacognition that it did not have before the Infinity Academy experience. As a result, my students now receive the benefit of continuous reflective practice when studying history and education-related topics."

KELVIN SPRAGLEY,
HISTORY

"I was inspired by the enthusiasm and passion of my colleagues and their creative ideas to foster engaged learning in the classroom. Additionally, I was comforted by the fact that we all face many of the same challenges and are consistently working to better ourselves for our students."

CAITLIN WITHERS,
HISTORY

"These regular meetings with my colleagues and Dr. Zakrajsek made me embrace each moment I spend with my students and acknowledge the beauty of the educational process. All instructors are tempted, especially mid- to late- semester, to just get the work done in class as efficiently as possible. Infinity Academy discussions and readings reminded me what it's like to be the student in a classroom. Each class session, rather than being an obligation, is an opportunity when we have the potential to design our assignments and tailor our instruction. This not only helps students become better at that particular course's skills, but ignites student ownership of and passion for their work that extends beyond the classroom walls."

EMILY ZANK, ENGLISH

"It's a pragmatic change, the development of an immense playbook for teaching strategies, the encouragement to experiment and do something totally different. After it all, you become more aware of the dynamics of your classroom. All of these elements are intensely powerful and are beginning a rolling tide of even more exemplary teaching at Louisburg College, which simply reaffirms why I love to teach here. However, what I miss most about being in the Infinity Academy is the discussion and collaboration. I've found myself starting similar discussions all over campus, which was probably the point of the whole experience from the beginning."

IAN WOLF, ENGLISH

MEET OUR FACULTY

Louisburg College's faculty members are an accomplished and eclectic group. They invest their time and energy in our students, not in research or grant applications. Take a glimpse into the lives of [some of] the people who teach our students, and learn a little more about who they are and what makes them so extraordinary!



SANGSOON KOH

- Born in South Korea and moved to the United States in 1977
- Certified mechanic for 28 years for several car manufacturers
- Engineering and International Operations Manager
- Earned M.S. degree in Engineering, M.S.A. degree in Administration, and Ph.D. in International Business
- 8th Degree Black Belt in JiDoKwan TaeKwonDo
- Taught various martial arts programs in South Korea and the U.S.
- Became a Christian at Louisburg College

GENYA AFANASYEVA

- Born and raised in the Soviet Union
- Received Ph.D. in Mining and Surveying from the Mining Institute
- Interned as a surveyor for underground subway construction in Moscow
- Studied underground coal gasification for dissertation
- Did mathematical modeling on how to remove gas from coal deposits efficiently and without interruption
- Moved to N.C. in 2001, earned M.S. degree in Applied Math
- Enjoys photography

DIANE COOK

- Former instructor at Campbell University
- Taught science in public and private schools
- Former house parent at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, N.C.
- Earned B.S. degree in Microbiology and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- First in her family to earn a doctorate
- Her thesis researched potential cancer-causing cells in leukemia cell lines
- Proud parent of a 2017 Louisburg College graduate

SCOTT BENRUBE

- Earned B.S. in Business, then worked for 27 years in the business world
- Managed a clothing company, taught at Bauder Fashion College
- Owned two businesses, and managed several restaurants and a department store
- Earned M.S. degree in Business and Marketing Education
- Taught marketing and entrepreneurial leadership in high schools before joining LC in 2012
- Advisor for LC's Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity Chapter

CLAIRELOUISE HIGHFIELD

- Born in England, but grew up in Canada
- Earned B.S. and M.S. degrees, both in Kinesiology
- Certified Athletic Therapist in Canada and Athletic Trainer in the U.S.
- Worked with a Junior A hockey team
- Athletic trainer for track and field and teaching assistant for Biomechanics
- Married to LC's Head Football Coach and has two kids
- Traveled by car to 46 states and all but three Canadian provinces

TOMMY JENKINS

- Holds two Master of Fine Arts degrees: one in film from Columbia University, and one in fiction from NC State University
- Worked for New York publishing company as Senior Acquisitions Editor before returning to the South
- Co-author of a book, "Writing Movies"
- Author of several short stories, the latest is set to be published in *The Raleigh Review* in October 2017

DANIEL BARTHOLOMEW

- Former General Contractor
- Went back to school at age 39, and earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Chemistry
- Research and development manager
- Holds five patents
- Has traveled Europe, South Africa, Australia, South America, and the United States
- Enjoys fishing, hiking, gardening, live theater, billiards, cooking, and oil painting

ROBERT GREENE

- Currently editing volume seven of the first magazine he launched, *Raleigh Review Literary & Arts Magazine*
- Serves as faculty advisor for *Lou Lit Review*, the international literary journal in the Humanities Division at Louisburg College
- His first chapbook, "Biloxi Back Bay," is set to be published by Rabbit House Press in 2017

TAMPATHIA EVANS

- Co-Editor of *Lou Lit Review*
- Writer and published author
- Former educator, educational nonprofit administrator
- Founding English teacher for KIPP Charter School
- Small business owner
- Avid quilter and gardener
- Earned M.A. degree in English from UNC Chapel Hill



STRIDES IN BUSINESS

By Brittany Hunt '10, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Louisburg College has revamped its Associate of Science degree in Business, aligning its requirements to provide a stronger math foundation and to give students exposure to the business world. The changes mean students seeking a business degree must take two new classes: Business Math and Quantitative Literacy, which involves analyzing and interpreting quantitative information.

They will also complete a 12-hour internship during sophomore year. Dr. Kelvin Spragley, chair of Business Studies and Social Sciences, has guided development of the internship program to allow students to explore an aspect of business studies that speaks to them. A prospective marketing major, for example, might intern with a downtown Louisburg business, while someone interested in personnel issues could intern with the College's Human Resources department.

An internship offers an immediate advantage for students pursuing a four-year degree as well as those entering the job market after Louisburg College. "I foresee this new internship piece as a first step to more hands-on partnerships between our business students and local businesses," said Assistant Professor of Business Studies, Brian Sanders. "There is tremendous value for students to be exposed to a broad range of foundational business courses."

The degree still has a liberal arts foundation supported by classes in accounting, economics, statistics, and professional development. Pre-calculus and calculus will become electives, and a new course, Introduction to Hospitality, has been added. The ever-changing field demands a program flexible enough to introduce students to many options, but

structured enough to provide a strong business background.

An articulation agreement signed in February with the University of North Carolina at Pembroke allows students who have graduated from Louisburg with an A.S. degree in Business to easily transfer to UNC Pembroke. UNC Pembroke plans to build a \$36 million state-of-the-art facility to house its internationally accredited School of Business. Louisburg is working to develop similar agreements with other top-notch four-year business programs, Sanders said.

In recent years, the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Business Fraternity has exposed Louisburg College students to business principles, helping students to develop marketing plans and to better understand economics. Students are expected to compete with other PBL chapters in two events, ranging from a test in business communication to a presentation on computer animation to design and construction of a website.

In 2016, Louisburg students excelled in the state competition and five students went on to the national competition. Daja Denis and Koran Hodges earned 1st place in Emerging Business Issues. Kathryn O'Leary earned 1st place in the Social Media Challenge. Damonta Winbush and Kiante Brewer earned 3rd place in Business Decision Making. The competitions have helped students become better public speakers, introduced them to new fields, taught them networking skills, and built confidence. For the past five years, said Sanders, the chapter's advisor, Louisburg College has had at least one PBL student win first or second place in the state competition, qualifying them for the national event. ■

a national champion

By Brittany Hunt '10, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Kathryn O'Leary, a Louisburg College sophomore, has crammed her schedule with classes, club meetings, practices, studying, working, leading, and networking. She has 10 minutes free today, but no time for a break after that. "I love being busy," she says with a shrug.

O'Leary, now preparing to graduate, is captain of the cheerleading team, a Hurricane Advisor, and a Student Ambassador. She is in the Honors Program and president of both the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Business Fraternity. O'Leary has been on the Dean's list every semester, is part of the the Student Engagement Team in Student Life, and spent last summer interning for the Admissions office.

This 20-year old Wake Forest native is also a national champion. Last spring as a freshman, O'Leary attended the National Leadership Conference with Louisburg College's Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity. Her project – marketing for an imaginary banquet hall using Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest – earned her first place in the Social Media Campaign event, beating out marketing majors from other 4-year universities. "We are extremely proud of the work that Kathryn put into her campaign." says, Brian Sanders, her PBL Advisor and Assistant Business Professor.

While working on her project O'Leary realized she could turn her creativity and newly honed skills into a career. Last fall, Chartwells, the College's dining services company, hired O'Leary to establish a presence on their social media platforms, Facebook, Pinterest, and Instagram. Her work gave students a way to provide feedback on menus and interact with dining staff.

O'Leary, working on an independent study business

class, was connected with the social media coordinator for *An Extra Penny*, a Broadway show being produced at Louisburg College's Norris Theatre in July.

"I designed some T-shirts and was asked to create a poster for the production."

O'Leary said, recalling that her initial design did not go over so well. She quietly began working on a second draft geared more toward students. "They loved it. It was exactly what they wanted!" O'Leary said, noting how much that experience taught her. "I learned to speak up for myself and my ideas... how to think about what customers want and what appeals to certain audiences." That confidence, she said, is the result of the encouragement she has received at Louisburg College.



"I don't know if I would have gotten this much support anywhere else! It has been an amazing experience."

O'Leary graduates in May with an Associate in General Arts degree and plans to continue her education at UNC Wilmington, majoring in business, marketing, or communications. She acknowledges that opportunities she received at Louisburg would be hard to come by for freshmen at most colleges. "The support system at Louisburg College is incredible." O'Leary said. "Everyone from Student Life to Admissions to teachers have all believed in me when I wasn't sure I could do it." ■



GROWING STEM

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

With North Carolina ranked second in the nation in solar energy capacity, and federal officials projecting that renewable energy will generate nearly one-fourth of the nation's electricity by 2025, Louisburg College is positioned to be part of it.

The College offered its first solar energy class last fall, part of an expanded STEM program headed by Dr. Bob Bruck, Distinguished Professor of Environmental Science. Eight students learned the principles of solar energy, what makes a good location for solar panels, and the optimal angle to mount panels.

They learned about the political battles over energy, about workplace safety. They visited SAS' solar farm and N.C. State's solar house, the first in the country – complete with thermal storage floors, kiwi vines for shade, three brick sides to retain heat, and a cavity between the first and second floors filled with rocks.

Then they took the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners exam to become a certified associate. The goal with this class – and this program – is to give students choices: the ability to transfer seamlessly to a four-year institution as a junior and major in a STEM discipline, or earn an Associate of Science degree with a federal certification and go to work.

The traditional classes are still here: biology, chemistry, physics, math, engineering, and subdivisions of each. But Louisburg College is ramping up its science, technology, engineering, and math classes with an Environmental Technology and Management program encompassing solar, wind, pollution prevention and OSHA components.

Over the past few months, the College also has designed and raised money for a free summer STEM Institute for rising high school seniors. The Institute will start with a dozen students from Louisburg this year but is expected to expand in the future. "It's a dynamic field, and the students are learning valuable skills," said Dr. Bruck. "We're on the right track." ■




Congratulations LP Graduates



Learning Partners Graduating Class of 2017 (left to right): Joseph Robbins, Alyssa Pickens, Katie Hartmann, Connor O'Toole, Telicia Leonard, Amari McArthur, Sloane Tittle-Williams, Travis Kelly, Kayla Hart, Kaleb Hines, Dante White, Imani Simpson, and Nick Cametas (Not pictured: Marquis Brown and Kevin Williams)



Want to learn more about Louisburg College's Learning Partners program?
 VISIT: www.louisburg.edu/academics/support/learningpartnersprogram.html
 CALL: (919) 497-3236 EMAIL: learningpartners@louisburg.edu



Taylor Honors Program at Louisburg College

The 2016-17 Roger G. and Gaile T. Taylor Honors Program students increased their leadership and communications skills while taking advantage of enhanced travel and cultural opportunities. They went whitewater rafting, hiking, and spelunking; visited the Georgia Aquarium and other Atlanta sites. They saw a play at the Durham Performing Arts Center. Led by Program Director Candace Jones, the students had life-changing experiences. To be a part of the program, students must maintain a 3.0 grade-point average, must complete 12 hours of honors coursework during four semesters at Louisburg, as well as a service learning project.



HUMANITIES (hyoo-man-i-tees):

(n) The study of how people process and document the human experience, using philosophy, literature, religion, art, music, history, and language to make sense of the world.

Lou Lit Review

Housed in the writing center, Lou Lit is a new international literary journal at Louisburg College. Lou Lit has already received 180 submissions of poetry and prose, and will publish the first issue in Spring 2018. (<https://loulit.org>)

Lecture Series

The Tar River Center for History and Culture hosted a lecture series, "Historic Preservation: Building Community and Enhancing Prosperity." Washington Post Supreme Court correspondent Robert Barnes lectured on the power, personalities, and politics of the court.

Arnold L. Wright Reading Series

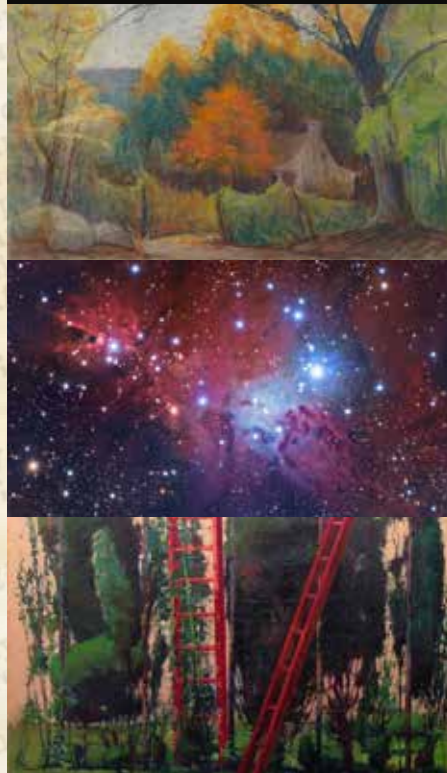
Tyree Daye, a poet from Youngsville who recently published "What You and the Devil Do to Stay Warm," read from some of his works. He has been published in *Prairie Schooner*, *Nashville Review*, *Heart*, and *Four Way Review*.

Traveling Art Series

We saw painted landscapes from Betty McKinne, light and galaxy photos from Tim Christensen, fifty years of paintings from Everett Mayo, an artistic evolution from Will Hinton, and the works of LC art and writing class students.

Music

Louisburg College boasts a 25-member student chorus, string and jazz ensembles, a drum line, pep band, and guitar group, which perform at Christmas, at College events and special functions. The Allen de Hart Concert Series brings 8-10 acts each year to the Jones Performing Arts Center.



ETHICS RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

Take four Louisburg College students – three freshmen and a sophomore, for example – who can think on their feet. Give them some of the most controversial issues of the day. Then, ask them to research laws, find related cases, take a position, and argue more logically and persuasively than the juniors and seniors across the table.

This is the Ethics Bowl, an annual two-day competition among North Carolina's independent colleges and universities. For each hour-long round, the moderator gives two teams a scenario with competing values and principles, asks a question related to it, and has them respond in a comprehensive and compelling way.

Louisburg's team --sophomore Bowen Lester, who plans

to pursue engineering; freshman Molly Gettinger, a theater major; and Destiny Holley and Stephen Whitehead, both freshmen studying art – practiced for months. They improved their research skills. They became more comfortable with public speaking. They knew that their team's positions might conflict with their own beliefs. The goal was to consider similar cases they had studied and how the Constitution applied.

When the time came in February, coaches Wally Hurst and Susan Ambert, both lawyers, watched from the sidelines. The LC Ethics Bowl team won three of four rounds. "They had a great time and did a phenomenal job." Hurst said. "They were composed and adapted quickly. I am very pleased with their performance." ■



RIGHT TO SEARCH VS CITIZEN'S RIGHT TO PRIVACY

"What is an appropriate, ethical response of a dutiful citizen to a request from a law enforcement officer to enter one's private residence using body cameras without a search warrant?"

PUBLIC SAFETY VS RIGHT TO CARRY A GUN

"If a faculty member has a strong belief that the presence of guns in the classroom will impact learning and free speech, what is the faculty member's ethical responsibility?"

FREEDOM OF SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

"How can campuses balance the right to free speech with the protection of its community from hate speech?"

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

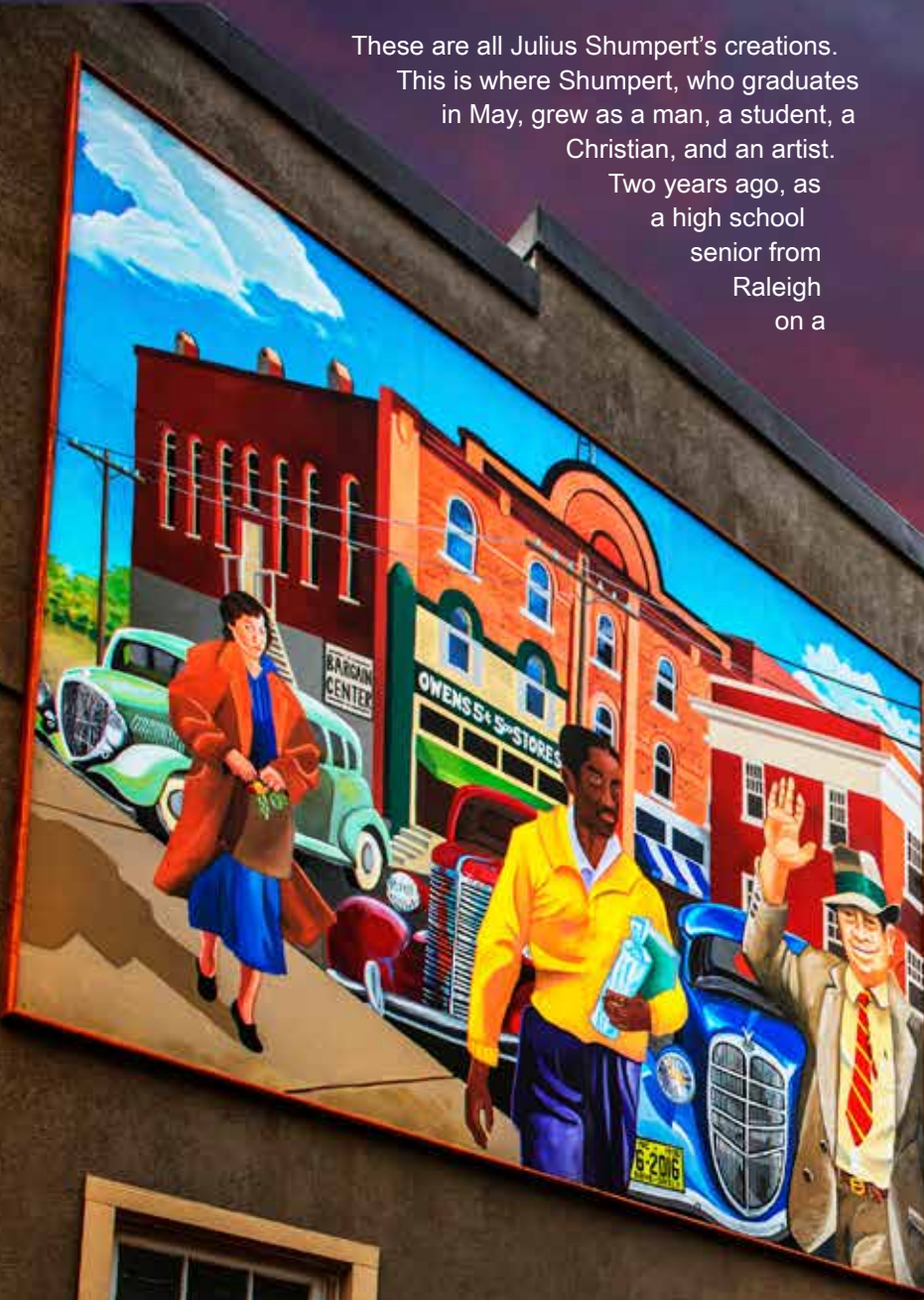
Walk into Benson Chapel and look at the baptismal picture in the lobby. Check out the banners. Study the painting of the woman at the well. In the conference room, paintings on the sacraments set the tone for the prayer corner. Meditate on the cross made of reclaimed wood.

These are all Julius Shumpert's creations. This is where Shumpert, who graduates in May, grew as a man, a student, a Christian, and an artist. Two years ago, as a high school senior from Raleigh on a

tour of colleges, Shumpert walked into the Chapel. He and his mom agreed: Louisburg College could be the place.

When he registered for classes, Shumpert didn't know anybody. He wasn't good at meeting people. He thought he wanted to be an artist, "but I didn't know what that meant," Shumpert said. "The first few days, I was petrified."

Chaplain Shane Benjamin drew him out and encouraged him to paint. So did Josh Parrott, pastor and assistant professor of Religion. Will Hinton, art professor, helped Shumpert think about what he wanted to say through art. Shumpert started making friends, became a Resident Advisor, and got involved in Canes for Change.



Honoring Ray Hodges

Dr. Mark La Branche found out about a minority artist grant available through the Franklin County Arts Council. The College, town, historic district neighborhood, and the Arts Council all worked together to apply for grants and raise money for a mural Shumpert and Hinton would create for downtown Louisburg.

In Summer 2016, Hinton and Shumpert finished the 1936 Opera House mural, a scene from downtown Louisburg 80 years ago. Now hanging on the side of the Tar Banks Brewing Co., across from the post office, the mural has become a symbol of the renaissance of downtown.

For Shumpert, who is transferring to UNC Charlotte in the fall, it is also a symbol of personal growth. "I have a lot of people I look up to, a lot of teachers I can go to," he said. Louisburg College "helped me grow and become more grounded and open to who God is." ■



Friends of Louisburg College dedicated the Ray Hodges Fine Arts Complex in November, paying tribute to a community leader who loved the College and the arts. The facility, adjacent to the Jones Performing Arts Center, includes a 2,100-square-foot visual arts studio, renovated teaching spaces, improved technology and a music wing.

Emily Hodges and Allison Hodges Westmoreland, daughters of Ray and Arlene Hodges, officially opened the complex in memory of their parents. The Hodges, a longtime Louisburg family, started Hodges Insurance Agency 65 years ago and have participated in the life of their town and Louisburg College for generations.

Ray Hodges had served as chairman of the town's Board of Adjustments and was a member of the Louisburg College Board of Trustees when he passed away in 2012. Emily Hodges was appointed to fill his seat, the third generation to serve. Family and friends stepped up to honor him, donating money for a drawing studio, ceramics studio, art appreciation and music classrooms, offices, music practice rooms, potters wheels and easels.

In memory of a community leader, benefactor, artist, husband, father, and friend, the complex now teems with energy and creativity. Ray Hodges' legacy lives on in the music, pottery, and paintings that will be made there for years to come. ■



A SEASON AT THE



Spend a few minutes in Norris Theatre with the young people who play Bottom and Titania, Helena and Hermia. They are self possessed. Quirky. Passionate and full of personality. They go full bore, whether on stage, in class, or just goofing off.

Wally Hurst – Director of the Norris Theatre, political science instructor, lawyer-turned-mentor and drama coach – is partly responsible. He heads this theater family, a group of students who thrive on the crazed pace of the stage and the close relationships that result. “It’s all about family and learning together,” Hurst says. “They know it takes hard work to achieve success and have a better understanding of life.”

Louisburg College has a long tradition of passionate theater students and impressive productions, dating to Professor Bob Versteeg in the 1960s, and Hurst has continued it. In the 2016-2017 season, he directed four plays at the Norris Theatre involving hundreds of students on stage and backstage, as well as children and adults from the community.

Catch Me If You Can
Best Christmas Pageant Ever
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Little Shop of Horrors



NORRIS THEATRE



Among the stars this season: **BOWEN LESTER** (pictured above), a sophomore who grew up in Bunn, knew he wanted to be a mechanical engineer, but figured theater would provide balance to his math and science classes. He learned not to take himself so seriously. He grew to appreciate all the different types of people. "You have to expose a lot of yourself when you're in theater," Lester said. "Build trust. Work as a team."

MOLLY GETTINGER, a freshman from Cary, had never done theater before. Hurst "helped me come out of my shell," she said. "I stopped caring so much what people think of me." This summer she'll

be an intern with the Broadway show *An Extra Penny*, being produced at Louisburg. Once Gettinger graduates from Louisburg, she plans to double major in theater and theater education. "I want to help people realize who they are," she said.

EMILY BEST, a freshman from Louisburg, knew Hurst long before she enrolled at the College. She played a servant boy in the 2012 production of *The Miracle Worker*. She chose to go to Louisburg College because it was affordable and close to home. Best has since developed confidence, played a villain, and enjoyed working on the cast band crew of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. ■





music hits a high note

This year, for the first time, music students have their own space. There's a classroom with an interactive electronic board. Instructor Angela Adkins toggles among scales, a virtual piano, and a whiteboard as she teaches music theory. Down the hall are practice rooms where students can memorize a song or practice the trombone, or the cello, in peace – “space to experiment and get your feet under you,” Adkins says.

With the opening of the music wing in the Hodges Fine Arts Complex, music students have a creative place to be. The string ensemble, jazz ensemble and the pep band, led by percussion specialist and instructor Hal Sargent, have a place to meet.

Interest in music has grown substantially at Louisburg College. Twice as many are in the choir as five years ago. Adkins has 120 students in music appreciation classes every fall. They run the gamut in experience and skill, she said, but they are engaged, animated. “The new facility has come along at the right time.” ■



Faith and Community

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications



Louisburg College offers opportunities to worship, pray, study the Scripture, and take classes on religion. But as Chaplain Shane Benjamin points out, relationship-building – with each other and with God – is a critical component of a Louisburg education.

“Here,” Benjamin said, “students are dedicated to matters of faith, asking questions. They’re very serious in their walk.”

Last June, when 49 people were killed and 53 others wounded in an attack on a nightclub in Orlando, Louisburg’s students gathered to mourn, ask questions, and explore how such an unspeakable act strengthened or hurt their faith.

In a community service at Benson Chapel, Chris Reid, Director of Housing and Residence Life, challenged students and staff. “Let’s not just pray that these tragedies don’t happen again,” he said. “Rather, ask yourself and – more importantly – ask God: How can I make this world just a little better to inhabit? How should I lead by example? What can I do?”

Such questions come up not just in the Chapel but also in meetings of Emerging Leaders and Canes for Change, and, on residence halls and athletic fields. The community’s closeness makes it a safe place to express faith, show interest in another’s spiritual practices, and make a joyful noise with drums and tambourines. ■



FRIED CHICKEN THURSDAY

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

Show up for lunch on a Thursday at Louisburg College and follow Emma Perry's instructions.

“Just sit down and get you a fork. It's gon' be good!”

Perry, the woman behind the main dish on Fried Chicken Thursday, is the reluctant lead in a cast of hundreds in this weekly culinary event that draws students, faculty, staff, and townsfolk to Duke Dining Hall. They initially come for the comfort food, but they continue to come back because Fried Chicken Thursday has become a place to find real community around a cafeteria table.

Two hours before the doors open, Perry, standing by the sink, her arms nearly elbow-deep in a tub of flour, salt, pepper, and chicken, divulges a secret that just seems wrong. *She doesn't like to cook!* And never has. She was happily tending the salad bar several years ago when Chartwells food service asked her to take over the chicken-frying. “It was supposed to be temporary,” she says. They had to talk her into staying.

Perry, who has been here a dozen years, knew how to do it right. As a girl, even though she preferred cleaning to cooking, she'd watched her mother coat the pieces in flour, salt, and pepper, then dump them in bubbling oil until the skin was crispy brown, but not soggy. She does it like her mother did – so well that her colleagues refuse to trade places with her. “She is awfully modest,” they say. “Won't take credit for anything.” But ask Perry about the reviews of her chicken and she'll acknowledge that the local paper, *The Franklin Times*, called hers the best in Louisburg.

At the dining hall's main station on Thursdays, in addition to fried and baked chicken, there's a smorgasbord of Southern favorites: mashed potatoes, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, black-eyed peas, onion gravy, string beans, and cornbread. At other stations are a salad bar, soups, and

chicken jambalaya. There's also cheese and pepperoni pizza and a sandwich grill. For dessert? Chocolate chip cookies, pecan pie, and sweet potato pie. It's all you can eat, which is great for



students who have just come from the weight room or from running sprints on the field. Not so great for the rest of us, who would rather not think about the fat content of the mounds of comfort food on each plate. Rodney Davis is manning the pizza oven, normally a frenzied station. “On Thursdays,” he acknowledges, “it gets kind of slow over here.”

Fried Chicken Thursday is about the food, but it's also

about the people. The folks who arrived at 5:30 a.m. to begin preparing the meal, the ones who keep the kitchen spotless, the people who do the number-crunching and take care of the details. Ruth Gardner, the baker, enjoys making the pies and breads everyday, “but the best part of the job,” she says, is “my friends.” April Williams, who has worked at Louisburg College for a decade, says the same:

*“We have a good time here.
We laugh and talk
all day.”*



“People hear about Fried Chicken Thursday around town,” Williams says.

“Once they’ve come one time, they’re always here, and they bring people.”

Bear Evans, Chartwells Executive Chef at Louisburg, has introduced healthier dishes, but he also has to please teenagers and young adults, whose tastes range from cereal, fries, and cheeseburgers to salads, kale, and yogurt. On Thursdays, however, the goal is to continue what has become a tradition: Chicken prepared the way Grandma always made it. Collard greens cooked in bacon grease. Cornbread the way Ruth Gardner makes it – with butter, milk, and sugar. A meal that makes folks feel right at home.

Evans, who has cooked all over the world, from North Africa, Spain, France and Central America to this historic town in Franklin County, notes:

“You can’t have tradition without the people.”

Five minutes before the doors open at 11 o’clock, a line has formed in the lobby.

Joshua Jefferson, a sophomore from Broadway, N.C., is already there.

Fried Chicken Thursdays “makes him feel close to home,” he says.

Sloane Tittle-Williams, also a sophomore, comes to socialize because “everyone eats here on Thursdays.” “Best day of the week,” says Stephen Kronlage, a cross-country runner.

Around noon, some of the regulars arrive. Here comes

Dr. Elizabeth Keith, who chairs the local school board. She brings her family from Mapleville, seven miles away. Today, her mother, sister, and cousin are with her. Usually, six or eight family members gather around. They are here because the food’s tasty – particularly the greens, they say – and the people are nice. “It’s a place we gather on Thursday to discuss the troubles of the world,” Keith says. Her mother, Mirena Strickland, loves the fried chicken wings. “I’ve been raving about ’em.”

Strickland celebrated her 100th birthday at Duke Dining Hall in January, a party hosted by her children for 120 relatives and friends and featuring fried chicken with all the fixings. Today, the family is here because cousin Barbara Humphrey is in town from Washington, D.C. “I’ve been looking forward to Fried Chicken Thursday for months,” she says. “We don’t have anything like this in D.C.” ■



(left to right) Dr. Elizabeth Keith, Mirena Strickland, Mary Solomon, and Barbara Humphrey gather on Thursday for some good food and good laughs.



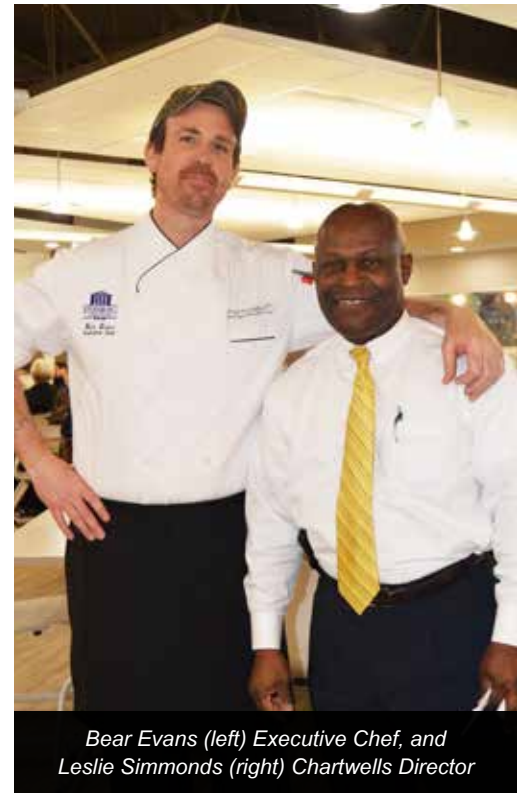
Mac-n-cheese, collard greens, and Perry's famous fried chicken, all part of the all-you-can-eat buffet at the College's dining center!



Perry having fun while hand dredging each piece of chicken in flour, salt, and pepper.



Perry tending the deep fryer, making sure the chicken is perfectly crisp and cooked to the right temperature.



Bear Evans (left) Executive Chef, and Leslie Simmonds (right) Chartwells Director

CHICKEN BY THE NUMBERS

500

POUNDS
OF FRIED
CHICKEN

324

LOUISBURG
COLLEGE
STUDENTS

96

MEMBERS
OF THE
COMMUNITY

12

PANS OF
MAC &
CHEESE

4

COOKS
IN THE
KITCHEN

2017

ALLEN DE HART CONCERT SERIES

2018



BLUFFETT

Tribute to Jimmy Buffett
August 19, 2017



THE DIAMONDS

September 22, 2017



NEIL BERG'S 102 YEARS OF BROADWAY

October 20, 2017

THE COASTERS

November 17, 2017

THE NC SYMPHONY: HOLIDAY POPS

December 8, 2017

THE NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY OF IRELAND

February 23, 2018



THE TAMS

March 16, 2018

JEANNE ROBERTSON

April 20, 2018

A Mentor, A Friend, A Direction

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

Rudy Hauser's path to success – ultimately head of worldwide sales for Johnson & Johnson – began at Louisburg College. Reared in Emporia, Va., by his grandmother, Hauser was a rebellious teenager. He skipped school a lot. He had no mentor or male role model. When his mother and grandmother told him he must attend college, he said he'd come to Louisburg; that's where his cousin went.

“Louisburg was not just about that opportunity to grow cognitively; it was about the relationships you develop.”

Arriving in 1969, Hauser was extraordinarily shy and “didn't have two nickels to rub together.” Professor Allen de Hart, who taught history and psychology, invited Hauser and another freshman to accompany him one weekend to de Hart's mountain property. They hiked, constructed trails and shared a love of the outdoors, the start of a friendship that lasted 47 years.

De Hart and Capt. James Brown, who taught mathematics, were Hauser's guiding influences. Brown was “wonderfully stern,” he said, “the father I never had.” He recalled an exceptionally tough trigonometry exam failed by every student except Hauser, who made a D – and was roundly scolded by Brown in front of the class for not scoring higher. He also remembered taking a class in western civilization and questioning why one would ever need to know this history. And then it dawned on him: Studying history gave him perspective on the world, taught him to think about things in context.

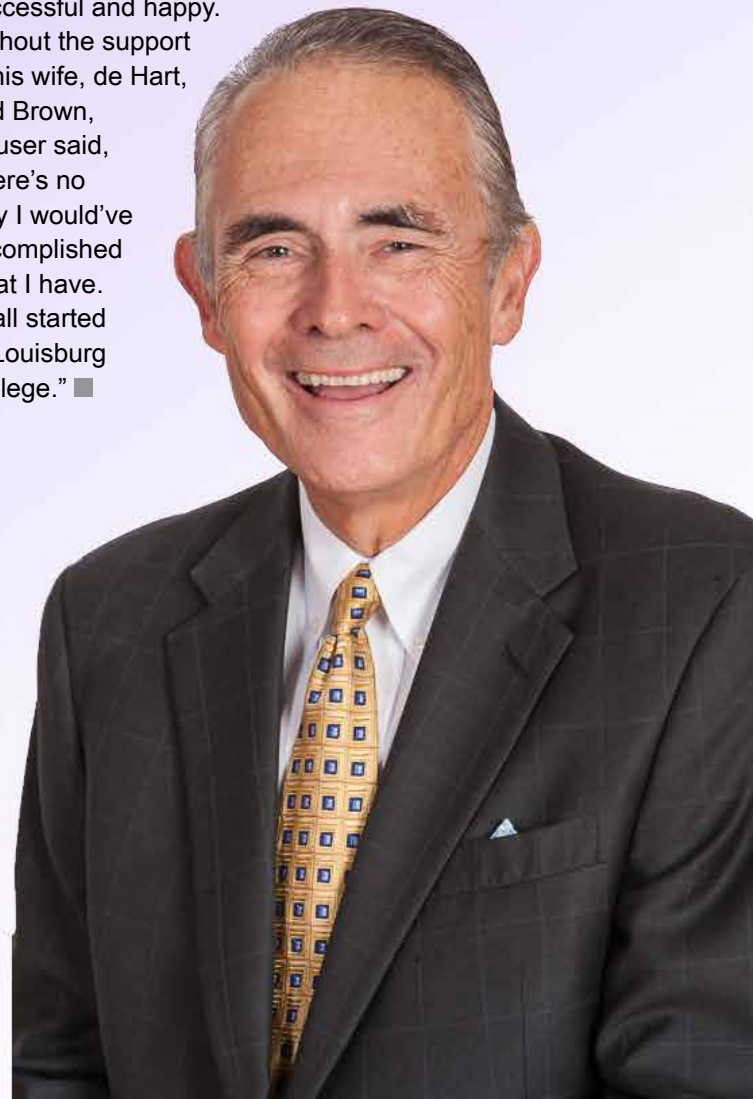
“I had the genesis of smarts,” Hauser said. “I needed direction” and self confidence, both of which were provided by those professors. When Hauser decided he wanted to continue his studies at the University of Virginia, de Hart, who had earned a master's degree there, was instrumental in paving the way. He was a dear friend, a good influence, Hauser said.

After Hauser had earned his bachelor's degree and begun working for Johnson & Johnson, de Hart was battling health

and family issues, threatening much of what de Hart had worked for most of his life. Over de Hart's objections, and despite having limited resources, Hauser provided money to help his friend. De Hart never forgot it. Ultimately, that act of generosity led to another: de Hart bequeathed his gardens – 91 acres of forests, lakes, and trails – for biology students to use in their research and for the community to enjoy.

Hauser continued his studies at the prestigious Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and quickly rose through the ranks at Johnson & Johnson: Regional sales manager. Vice president. Head of global sales and marketing.

He took early retirement in 2010 and started an animal health venture with two partners. He speaks to college and graduate students to help them prepare for the business world. He lives in Beaufort, S.C., with his wife of 38 years. Their two children are grown, successful and happy. Without the support of his wife, de Hart, and Brown, Hauser said, “there's no way I would've accomplished what I have. “It all started at Louisburg College.” ■





canes for change

By Brittany Hunt '10, Director of Institutional Effectiveness

Members of Canes for Change recite the Prayer of St. Francis whenever they gather. It reminds them to open their hearts as well as their minds. It's a calling to be people of peace.

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.*

In its second year, Canes for Change is an intentional community of 30 Louisburg College students who have applied to be part of an integrated living and learning opportunity: They do community service, visit people and places to better understand social justice, and work to be more thoughtful citizens.

"The goal is not to change students' minds," says Christopher Reid, Director of Housing and Residence Life, "but instead to give them different perspectives on issues and allow them to make their own determinations of what that means for them."

Last fall, after discussing the Civil Rights Movement with students, Dr. Kelvin Spragley led the group on a civil rights walking tour of Durham. They saw the sites of sit-ins and protests, heard about tests administered to black citizens

who wanted to vote, then talked about how that era shaped race relations today.

In October, Canes for Change discussed controversial current events – ISIS, Syrian refugees, and the rhetoric aimed at Muslim people – then visited the Islamic Association of Raleigh. The goal: To challenge preconceived ideas, reflect on their own religious identities and better understand the religion of Islam. Some were hesitant: What would they wear? What happens in a mosque? And then they realized that members of Canes for Change were of the Islamic faith, and they began asking questions openly and respectfully.

Omar Salem, a Louisburg College freshman and football player who had grown up attending prayer services at the Islamic Association, appreciated that Canes for Change members were seeking answers, meeting people of different cultures and beliefs, and having conversations rather than relying on news accounts.

In recent months, Canes for Change has worked at a food bank, toured the LGBT Center of Raleigh, and experienced what it was like to have no money for a meal. Said one student: "It made me realize I don't need to go to Walmart and spend \$50 for stuff that's going to end up in the trash."

Joanna Zapata, a freshman, is grateful for the opportunity to grow. "Canes for Change has helped me in being open-minded to situations that I wouldn't have been before I joined." ■

Homecoming 2016

Louisburg College celebrated Homecoming on October 29 with hundreds of alumni, former staff, faculty, and families returning to campus on a gorgeous day to reconnect with friends, watch football, and tour the spruced-up buildings and grounds.

The Hurricanes delivered a rousing win on the football field, beating Ohio's Hocking College 52-40. The pep band, cheerleaders, and new Hurricanes mascot, Cat 5, revved up the crowd. During brunch, five alumni were honored with service awards, including the **HENRY DOUGLASS LINDSAY III YOUNG ALUMNUS SERVICE AWARD** given to Derrick Vause (featured right) for his outstanding service to Louisburg College.



ALLEN DE HART HUMANITARIAN AWARD,

which honors the late Louisburg College professor, benefactor, and advocate for the arts, was presented to Clara Frazier, retired chemistry professor and environmental steward. Frazier, Class of '55, joined the Louisburg College faculty in 1962 and helped with the concert series. She was the first recipient of the Student Government Association's special service award. Frazier, an ardent supporter of the College's baseball program, is the wife of retired LC baseball coach Russ Frazier.

CECIL W. ROBBINS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

The College posthumously honored William Byrd Wilkins with the Cecil W. Robbins Public Service Award, given to one who has shown exceptional dedication to the College through service. Wilkins, Class of '85, enjoyed a career in theater across the globe, then returned to Louisburg College to teach drama. He was a mentor and much-loved professor until his passing in 2015. Wilkins' family attended the brunch and his niece, Renee Branch, accepted the award on his behalf.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

was presented to Dr. Needham Yancey Gulley, Class of '98. Gulley, who grew up in Creedmoor, is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Services Higher Education and Student Affairs program at Western Carolina University. He was Louisburg College's former Admissions Director, earned advanced degrees, and has presented research and workshops across the country and internationally. Gulley has a long history of advocating for social justice in education.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS AWARD

was presented to Travis Combest, Class of '98, for his significant accomplishments since graduation. Combest, who has a Master's degree in Science and another in Public Health, has worked as an exercise therapist at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, is a lecturer for Baylor University with the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences, and is working with the Center for Disease Control's Healthy People 2020 initiative on diabetes research.



DERRICK VAUSE

figured he had something to prove when he enrolled at Louisburg College in 2013. Two years out of Bunn High School, having just completed training for the Army Reserve, Vause was working four jobs when the football coach called. How about coming to Louisburg? Coach John Sala asked.

Vause had left home at 16.

He was the first in his family to graduate from high school, and he'd done that by working nights at UPS, going to class and then napping in his 1994 Ford Explorer whenever he could. "Am I good enough to be in college?" he wondered. He is proof, he says, that one decision – coming to Louisburg College – can change the outcome of your life.

On Vause's first day of class, he met Dr. Kelvin Spragley, an Army veteran and history professor, who quickly became a

mentor and friend. On his first test, in microeconomics, Vause scored 98. He was on his way to reaching his goals. Vause played football. He worked double shifts for UPS. He studied and made the Dean's List.

He graduated in Summer 2015 and started classes at N.C. State University, where he finished in December 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. He did that as a newlywed (married at Louisburg College in May 2016 with Spragley as his best man). He did it all while serving in the Reserves, and working for UPS and for a law firm in Raleigh.

Now, Vause is a Litigation Support Coordinator at Yates, McLamb & Weyher in Raleigh. He's on Louisburg College's Alumni Board, still working for UPS, and in the Army Reserve. Vause's longtime goal is law school and he's taking the Law School Admissions Test in June, hoping to start classes in 2018.

"I'm indebted to Louisburg," Vause said. It's "a moral, nurturing environment that laid the foundation. It's about proving yourself, gaining confidence, and meeting people who truly care about you. At a bigger university, you just don't get that." ■





sheilah cotten: tried & true

By Jim Eck, Provost

Sheilah Cotten did not arrive at Louisburg College in 1977 in order to establish herself as a great coach or faculty member. She came to innovate, start programs anew, and touch lives through what has become her most enduring legacy: “relationships she built with others,” especially her students. Coach Cotten’s contributions as an athlete and coach are legendary, and her winning percentage is far greater still in the classroom.

She sees the potential in each student, enters each class with a sense of passion, and anticipates positive outcomes through her optimistic lens. Her “sociology” doesn’t allow for bystanders, prejudice, discrimination, or stereotypes. Instead, we are all part of the Cotten team, playing essential and concomitant roles, emboldened by a great exemplar, and humbled by her servant leadership.

Cotten is a master of the utilitarian calculation, making decisions that do the most good for the greatest number of people. She came to Louisburg not because of her ego or a desire to break records; she was focused on impacting the lives of others for good. That focus on “the other,” working to enrich their lives, has paid rich dividends over the decades in terms of both championships and commencements.

If you want to witness advocacy, just make one decision that doesn’t seem to adequately care for one of Cotten’s students, colleagues, or friends. When Cotten stands with you, a mighty force ensues. On the other hand, if you’re on the receiving end of that lively exchange of ideas, listen to the themes of her message: fairness, equity, honor, and respect. While the finger is pointed and you’re referred to

only by your title at the beginning of the dialogue, you can anticipate a hug and a word of filial love at the end. We can learn a lot from Cotten's brand of dialogue...taking seriously the perspective of others and resolving to be friends and allies even in the midst of great fervor.

Cotten has achieved excellence in so many arenas, and she understands well her strengths and weaknesses. She

has spent the majority of her life doing the things that God created her to do with a deep sense of gladness, ensuring positive momentum for herself and others. Cotten is never satisfied; rather, she dreams about her next best day that still lies ahead. We celebrate those chapters that are still to be written, and we recognize the strength of Louisburg College that she has fortified not only with sweat and tears but also with unmitigated joy and resolve. ■



Farewell to Karen Martin

By Jim Eck, Provost

Karen Martin has served Louisburg College with distinction for almost two decades and in a variety of roles. As director of Accessibility Services and Learning Partners, she has helped to grow and strengthen the Learning Partners program, which serves more than 40 students each fall.

Martin has a humble and gentle spirit that generates goodwill and respect among her colleagues. As a faculty member, she is a strong advocate for her students, ensuring that each learning difference has appropriate accommodations. The college will miss her in this leadership role and in the classroom, where she taught psychology.

Nikki Stovall, fellow learning specialist and instructor, notes that "Martin's quiet leadership and unwavering devotion to her students, colleagues, and Louisburg College are the fundamental values that have inspired so many."

Robin Faulkner, learning specialist and instructor, assumes the helm of learning partners in May. Faulkner, who describes Martin as generous, open, caring, and accepting, says, "she embodies the traits that have made learning partners instrumental in so many students' academic achievement and personal success."

As Martin departs from Louisburg College to discover her next passion, we wish her well. Whatever that calling is, we know that she will continue to find professional success and personal fulfillment. ■

Gratiā Sincerā, Dr. Eck

By Emily Zank, Dean of Faculty Development & Academic Support, and Tommy Jenkins, Division Chair of Humanities



Dr. Jim Eck arrived in 2010 and led an academic resurgence at Louisburg College. Seven years later, we send our academic leader off with gratitude as he becomes Provost at Brenau University. Dr. Eck's accomplishments are well known: He steered the College in developing a strategic plan, wrote a \$2.25 million USDE Title III grant, ushered the College through a historic re-accreditation process, organized numerous professional development opportunities, renewed the emphasis on data-driven decision-making, and much more.

What some may not know is the grace, equanimity, passion, and concern Dr. Eck brought to each endeavor. Dr. Eck is a scholar. He is also a fine person. His leadership embodies the central tenets of Dale Carnegie's influential bestseller, *How to Win Friends and Influence People*. Published in 1936, Carnegie's book imparts wisdom on leadership and the most effective techniques for leading. It comes as no surprise that his leadership exemplifies Carnegie's finest traits:

Become genuinely interested in other people.

Emily Zank: "Whether it's through visiting someone in the hospital, lending an ear when personal crises strike, or attending a weekend art sale, his actions express value in a person's work, well-being, and avocations."

Ian Wolf: "Jim is a methodical man of supremely dry wit... a leader deserving of deference and distinction, but also approachable and 'of the people.'"

Throw down a challenge.

Will Hinton: "[He] has been a stalwart guard and protector of faculty concerns, both individually and collectively."

Crystal Brantley: "Because of his perseverance, faculty have committed themselves to engaging students through active learning, through critical thinking – learning that will last for a lifetime."

Tommy Jenkins: "I remember so well his telling us, 'Let's not try to be acceptable at everything; let's find the one or two things we can be great at.' That focus has allowed the College to approach a bright and attainable future."

Arouse in the other person an eager want.

Cat Ziencik: "Dr. Eck has made it a priority to foster professional development opportunities....All individuals within Academic Life have benefited from his efforts to enrich their knowledge and skills."

Candy Jones: "I have had the privilege to work with many inspiring educators, but none has afforded me the opportunity to grow and achieve as Dr. Eck has. His support of faculty members...has been nothing short of life-changing for many."

Don't criticize, condemn, or complain.

Karen Martin: "I admire the strength and fortitude he exhibited while experiencing great personal challenges related to the health of his family members."

Ken Price: "Dr. Eck has been a leader and friend....He gave me vision and direction, never an order....His motivational advice has led me to do my best for the rest of my life."

Brittany Hunt: "Dr. Eck expects and is a person of great character and authenticity....Seeing how he interacts with others speaks volumes of his impact on higher education."

Emily Zank: "Dr. Eck taught me a leader's role is to help others escape comfort zones, believe in themselves, and invest time in one another."

Give the other person a fine reputation to live up to.

While Dr. Eck treasures data and statistics, his own contributions to Louisburg College are immeasurable. Just as Daniel Webster expressed his love for Dartmouth, Dr. Eck has shown his love for this small, rural liberal arts college. Gratiā Sincerā, with sincere gratitude, we wish the best to our mentor, our provost, and our friend, Dr. Eck. ■



CHARACTER AND SECOND CHANCES

By Candy Gregor, Director of Communications

Louisburg College's Football Team ended its 2016 season undefeated. The Hurricanes beat nine teams – the best record in 11 years of competing. The young men who brought home the wins are rightfully proud of their accomplishments. But the story, they say, is how they worked together to become **"a band of brothers."** It's also how Louisburg College coached character first, made academics top priority, and still managed to run the table.

The work began long before they stepped on the field. Among the recruits: a transfer from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point who really wanted to play football, an extremely shy guy from Winston-Salem who came to this little town to focus, and twins from rural North Carolina hoping to improve their chances to play at a Division I school.

Larrell Murchison (pictured below), a defensive end from tiny Clarkton, N.C., had a 2.5 GPA his senior year when he accepted a full scholarship to Winston-Salem State University. But he needed a respectable SAT score to confirm his place, and he didn't get it. Louisburg College offered him and his twin brother, Farrell, a second chance: Improve on the field and in the classroom, and universities would take another look in two years.



Over the summer, players perfected tackles, improved their footwork and gained strength. The 93 young men under the tutelage of Head Coach Trevor Highfield – and assisted by Coaches Chris Tolbert, Rob Rogers, Will Orbin, Matthew Goggans and Cory Minnie – also learned to set goals and outline what it takes to achieve them.

David Thompson, a sophomore from Winston-Salem, explained: **"It's about becoming the person you want to be."** Players were expected to attend class. Be on time. Turn in their work. Anyone new to the team or whose grade-point average was lower than 2.5 was required to go to study hall every week. The coaches ensured players were on the right track, lecturing, encouraging, pointing out errors and how to do better next time.

Their mission: *Build men of character and empathy who will go on to make a positive impact on the world.* "It's a band of brothers," said Myles Brown, who transferred from West Point. **"It's about being accountable for yourself and your teammates."**

Murchison took those lessons to heart. He became an honor student, a team captain, and by the end of the 9-0 season, he was Junior College All-American. But still no interest from Division I schools. Then Ole Miss called. The University of Texas. Louisville. Georgia. Big-name universities texting Murchison at all hours: What do we need to do for you to commit? Coach Tolbert counseled and encouraged him every step of the way.

In the end, N.C. State University offered Murchison a full scholarship to become part of the Wolfpack. He'll start there five days after his May 12 graduation from Louisburg. He will miss Louisburg's small campus and the people who helped him embrace his second chance.

The college gave him time to mature, people who helped him grow closer to God, mentors who encouraged him and held him accountable. He remembers thinking when he first stepped on campus: **"This place is going to really help me."** Thankfully, he says, he was right. ■



Softball, currently ranked first in the nation offensively, is on a 21 game winning streak



Women's Basketball was ranked as high as 5th in the NJCAA National Poll during the season



127 Student-athletes were honored at annual Hurricane Scholar-Athlete Awards program for their academic excellence. This was the most award winners in the 10-year history of the program



Women's Soccer ended their season 8-4 in conference and 11-6 overall, after falling to Spartanburg in the Region X Tournament



Football finished the season 9-0, the first undefeated season in the program history



With a 30-5 record, Men's Basketball went farther than ever before, placing 2nd in 2017 NJCAA National Tournament, and sophomore, Jaret Gasset, was given the Fred Pohlman Sportsmanship Award



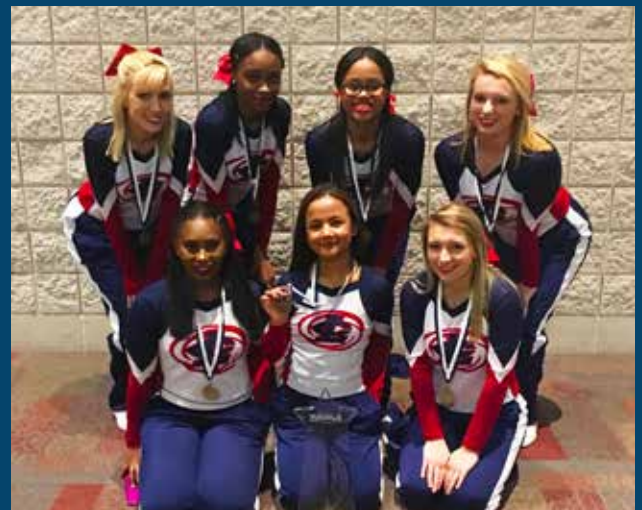
Sophomore captain Arissa Rohrs was selected for the Region X All Region Second Team



Men's Cross Country (Spring) earned 3rd place finish at Nationals



Men's Soccer player Andrea Viano selected as Region X Player of the Year and Coach Dell selected as Region X Coach of the Year



The Cheerleaders won 2nd place at the Cheer Ltd. Nationals at CANAM

HURRICANES RECAP

BASEBALL | SPRING 2016



In Blake Herring's first season as the Hurricanes' head coach, his team went 20-35. They finished 5th in the NJCAA in stolen bases -- 138.

The 2016 team was led by two sophomores, who caught the eye of Division I coaches. **Jordan Sergent** posted a team-leading .329 batting average while appearing in all but one game. He led the Canes in triples (4), home runs (8) and runs-batted-in (50), and was tied for third on the team with 18 stolen bases. Sergent, who transferred to High Point University for the 2017 season, also appeared in 9 games on the mound for LC, striking out 15 batters.

Bryce Myers, a combination infielder/outfielder, hit .310 and led Louisburg with 17 doubles on the year. Myers also led the Canes in runs scored (51), total hits (58), and stolen bases (26), while finishing second in home runs (6) and RBI (34). He is continuing his college baseball career at Campbell University.

Freshman pitcher **Matt Herzog** had a team-high 4 wins while leading the staff with a 3.14 earned-run average. Sophomore **Marcello Betances**, who moved on to NC A&T State University for 2017, struck out 50 opponents to lead the Canes.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | 2016-17



As regular season champions, the Men's Basketball Team automatically qualified for the NJCAA Division II National Tournament. The Hurricanes,

which did not have a single returning player from 2016, lost the conference championship game to second-seeded Richard Bland 78-75 in overtime.

Three Louisburg College players were named to All-Region teams: **Troy Locke**

(First Team), **Derek McKnight** (Second Team), and **Josh Bougher** (Third Team). **Jordan Oakley**, **Jaret Gassett**, and **Jalen Gaddy** led scoring and rebounding in the early games of the national tournament.

The Canes' semifinal win ensured a place in Louisburg's history books with their first trip ever to the championship game. Against top-seeded Southwestern, Louisburg was ahead by one point at the half. Four Hurricanes scored in the double digits: **Justice Cuthbertson**, Oakley, Locke and McKnight. But, in the second half, Southwestern pulled ahead, winning 77-52.

The Canes finished with a record of 30-5. Gassett, a sophomore transfer, was given the Fred Pohlman Sportsmanship Award after the tournament. He played in 34 of 35 games, averaged 13.1 points and 4.2 rebounds per game. Head Coach Neil Dixon was named the Region X Coach of the Year.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | 2016-17



Under the direction of veteran head coach Shay Hayes, the Lady Canes closed the season ranked 17th in the nation with a 26-6 record that included several key victories against Region X opponents.

With a 12-0 start, the early wins were wallops: 84-44 against Brunswick CC, with **Ty Gainer**, **Cassidy Chipman**, and **Yontyanna Melvin** scoring in double digits; 81-41 over Anne Arundel Community College, with **Jasmine Covington** leading the scoring and **Cici Pair**, Chipman, and **Bria McKinney** with strong assists. In Game 12, Covington sank 22 points as the Canes beat the College of Southern Maryland. McKinney, **TaShayla Smith**, Chipman and Melvin scored double digits as well.

In the Region Semifinals, Louisburg played Guilford for the third time after the teams split in regular season. **Whitney Campbell** put up 14 points and Covington brought down 14 rebounds, but their season came to a heartbreaking end with a 62-58 loss. Covington was named the Region X Player of the Year. Smith was named to the All-Academic team.

CHEERLEADING | 2016-17



The LC Cheer program continues to grow, with Keith Samuels stepping in as Head Cheerleading Coach. Samuels comes from Dallas, TX, having recently graduated from University of Texas at Arlington. He has been cheering and coaching for 10 years and has won several prestigious titles in cheerleading.

After working with the LC Cheer Team for only 8 months, Samuels took his cheerleaders to compete at the Cheer LTD. Nationals at CANAM in Myrtle Beach. The team scored zero deductions for the first time in the history of the program, and came home with a 2nd place trophy.

CROSS COUNTRY | FALL 2016



MEN'S XC
The Hurricanes attract some of the region's top talent under the direction of head coach Jay Koloseus. In 2016, the Canes built upon

a successful 2015 campaign, recording first-place finishes in four meets last fall, including another Region X Championship at the October meet in Louisburg. The Hurricanes finished 11th at the NJCAA National Championship in El Dorado, KS., in November, with freshmen **Jack Mastandrea** and **Jacob Willis** earning All-America honors. Mastandrea won the Hagan Stone Classic in Greensboro in early October while recording several other top 10 finishes.

At the national meet, Mastandrea led all Louisburg runners, finishing 36th with a time of 26:17 in the 8K event. Willis posted a 50th-place finish with a time of 26:43, while **Brandon Elliott**, the team's lone sophomore, finished 94th with a time of 27:26.

WOMENS XC

Second-place finishes in the Hagan Stone Classic and the Region X championship highlighted the 2016 fall schedule for the LC women, who battled the injury bug all season. Sophomores **Stephany Sislava**

and **Abigail Morris** finished 1st and 2nd individually in the Region X meet. Sislava finished 6th at the Chick-fil-a Invitational in early September; Morris finished 8th. At the NJCAA national meet in Kansas, Sislava finished 74th with a 5K time of 19:56; Morris ran 20:24 to finish 102nd.

FOOTBALL | FALL 2016



The Hurricanes got off to a fast start, using a balanced offense and a stingy defense to post a perfect 9-0 record on the season. Coach Trevor Highfield's team scored

at least 42 points in seven of those wins, though a 27-23 win in Annapolis over the Naval Academy's JV squad was among the highlights of a memorable season.

Louisburg averaged 514 yards per game, good for 6th nationally among NJCAA offenses. The Hurricanes wore opponents down with the country's third-best rushing attack, averaging 280 yards per game. On defense, the Canes held opponents to 315 yards per contest while posting consecutive shutouts in early season wins over Averett and Christopher Newport.

Sophomore running back **Farrell Murchison** was among the NJCAA's leaders, scoring a team-high 10 touchdowns while averaging 105 yards per game. Sophomore quarterback **Terrance Ervin** passed for almost 190 yards per game and had a 15-to-3 touchdown pass-to-interception ratio. Freshman wide receiver **Javon Harbison** led the Canes in receiving yards (590) and touchdown receptions (7).

Defensive end **Larrell Murchison** disrupted opposing offenses throughout the season, leading LC with 17.5 tackles-for-loss and 5.5 sacks. Murchison was named NJCAA Honorable Mention All-America for his effort, and in February, became one of six LC players to sign with a four-year college when he confirmed his decision to continue his career at NC State University.

Other Hurricanes headed to NCAA football teams include OL **David Thompson** (ECU); OL **Garrison Burgess** (Christopher Newport); DL **Nicholas Gadson-Waring** (Elizabeth City State); DL **Isaiah Huffin** (Catawba); LB **Deonte Johnson** (Greensboro College); OL **Ray Miller** (Hampton); OL **Justus Sapp** (Shaw); RB **Michael Sherman** (Shaw); DB **Homlin Taylor** (Catawba); and RB/WR **Jordan Mann** (Lenoir-Rhyne).

MEN'S SOCCER | FALL 2016



Following up a national championship is never an easy task, but head coach Martin Dell's 2016 squad delivered a solid 15-4 record in defense of its NJCAA title in 2015.

The Hurricanes went 13-1 in conference play and repeated as Region X champions before being eliminated from postseason play in the regional semifinals.

Sophomore midfielder **Andrea Viano** was named NJCAA Region X Player of the Year. He led LC with 13 goals and two assists, and also paced the Canes with three game-winning goals. Five other Louisburg players were recognized with postseason honors for their play. Region X first-team selections included sophomore midfielder **Jorge Quintanilla**; sophomore defender **Jaric Spath**; and sophomore forward **Mark Taylor**. Sophomore defender **Sonny Feltwell** picked up second-team Region X honors, and freshman forward **Jakob Asfaha** earned honorable mention accolades.

For the second straight year, Dell was named Region X Coach of the Year, winning 59 games during his three years as Canes head coach. **Juan Pablo Saavedra**, who was a standout defender for the Hurricanes in 2014 and later became a top performer for Virginia Tech, was selected by Toronto FC in the fourth round of the 2017 Major League Soccer superdraft.

WOMEN'S SOCCER | FALL 2016



The Hurricanes finished the 2016 campaign with an 11-6 overall record, including an 8-4 mark in conference play. Head coach Andy Stokes, on the LC coaching staff

since 2009, saw his squad earn a third-place finish in NJCAA Region X. The Canes won the first round of the regional tournament before falling to Spartanburg Methodist in the semifinals.

Freshman defender **Allison Albright** ended up playing a crucial offensive role for LC, leading the team in scoring with 28 points (11 goals, 6 assists). Sophomore forward **Allexis Taylor** was second with 27 points (12 goals, 3 assists). The team's two goalkeepers, freshman **Jennifer Salazar** and sophomore **Karina Aguila**, combined to post a 1.47 goals-against-average and seven shutouts.

SOFTBALL | SPRING 2016



Former Radford University player and assistant coach Michelle Carlson led the Hurricanes to a 27-12 overall record in her first season as head

coach. The team won 22 of its first 25 games, posted a second-place Region X regular season finish, and made it to Championship Sunday in the Region X tournament before eventually finishing 3rd.

Alexis Hobson, one of six Louisburg players to earn a spot on the All-Region team, led the Hurricanes with a .444 batting average. She also paced LC with 39 runs scored, 52 total hits, 11 doubles and 23 stolen bases. Freshman infielder **Priscila Sanchez**, another All-Region selection, recorded team-highs in at-bats (118), home runs (7) and RBIs (30) while batting .373. Other All-Region team members included freshman infielder **Marieva Daniels**, sophomore infielder **Brooke Fletcher**, sophomore outfielder/catcher **Alana VanDenburg**, and freshman outfielder **DaSha Hill**.

Sophomore pitcher **Lauren Sitterson** also earned All-Region accolades as the mainstay of the LC pitching staff. Sitterson won 9 games while losing just 2, and had a 2.01 ERA in 139 innings. She struck out 88 opponents while also recording 3 complete games and a save for the Canes. Sitterson and sophomore infielder **Ryann Kostandin** both signed with North Carolina Central University for the 2017 season.

VOLLEYBALL | FALL 2016



The Hurricanes finished 7-18 during the 2016 fall season. Freshman middle blocker **Marlana Jackson** led the team with 200 kills, followed closely by freshman

outside hitter **Arisa Rohrs** with 196 kills. Rohrs also led the Canes in digs with 381, while freshman outside hitter **Jessica Beanard** tallied 309. Sophomore setter **Phoenix Spivey** accounted for 649 of the team's 667 total assists on the year. Following the season, **Jonathan Garner** was named as LC's new head coach. Garner, who has more than 20 years of coaching experience, was an assistant at College of Charleston and Methodist University.

2016 Athletics Hall of Fame

Ten superstars, all with can-do spirit and determination, were named to the Louisburg College Hurricanes Hall of Fame this year, joining 21 honored previously.

GLENN BULLOCK of Louisburg was inducted as an outstanding Hurricanes supporter and volunteer. He worked in the bookstore, student center, and housing office from 1975 to 1996.

DOUG CHALK, '57, of Graham scored 90 points in the final three games of the conference basketball tournament for the championship. He later coached high school basketball.

STEVE COATS, '75, of Norwood, N.C., helped his baseball team finish third in the 1975 NJCAA World Series, was named to the All Tournament Team, and still holds the record for consecutive home runs hit at the NJCAA World Series. Coats retired in 2014 as a Stanly County principal.

BRANDY WINSTEAD FRAZIER, '00, pitched for the Hurricanes softball team for two years, leading her team to back-to-back Region X Championships and qualifying for the NJCAA World Series in 1999. The Nashville, N.C., native was named a NJCAA Academic All-American.

CHARLES HARLES, '67, of Washington, D.C., was trainer and equipment manager for LC's basketball and baseball teams. As a lawyer, he advocated for people with disabilities and founded the Fibrous Dysplasia Foundation in 2004.

CAROLYN HAWKINS, '76, excelled at volleyball and basketball and was the Hurricanes' Most Outstanding Female Athlete in 1976, when the volleyball team placed fifth at the NJCAA tournament. Hawkins also played on the U.S. National team in Salt Lake City.

DENISE HILL, '92, a power forward and an All-American basketball player, led the Hurricanes to the NJCAA national title in 1992. She played professionally in Sweden and now is Director of Chavis Community Center in Raleigh.

ROBIN ROSE, '75, of Cary, known for his never-give-up determination, helped lead his team to a third place finish at the NJCAA World Series. In 2006, he co-founded the Miracle League of the Triangle, which gives children and adults with special needs opportunities to play baseball.

DAVE SEXTON came from Brighton, England, in 1998 to coach Louisburg College's soccer team. In his 13 years as head coach, he was named Region X Coach of the Year nine times, led the team to 11 region championships and six district championships, and compiled a 196-55-11 record.

CHARLES SLOAN of Raleigh, golf coach from 2003 to 2014, took teams to Region X championships seven times. Twice, his teams finished second nationally. He coached 15 All-Americans. He currently teaches ethics, religion and mathematics at Louisburg College.



FIELD OF DREAMS

By Stephanie Buchanan Tolbert '97, Senior Vice President of Enrollment



We all know the saying, “Build it and they will come!” Well, the faculty and staff at Louisburg College have been busy building new academic programs and adding sports that will help the college attract more great students. This year’s focus has been the development

and implementation of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program, a new Associate degree in Education and the addition of a track team to our nationally recognized athletic program.

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

Dr. Kelvin Spragley, Louisburg College professor of Education and History, spent most of his summer in 2016 interviewing colleagues who teach Education at four-year public and private institutions across North Carolina. He brought that information back to Louisburg College and worked with his colleagues here to develop an exciting and engaging program for Associate of Arts in Education.

Most education students do not start student teaching until their junior or senior year. Under a partnership with Franklin County public schools, Louisburg College education students will be able to work in the classrooms during their freshman and sophomore years. Dr. Spragley has been molding young minds for over two decades, and he knows that students learn by doing.

He has also proposed that Louisburg College help students take the Praxis exam, a standardized test required for a teaching license, during their final semester here. That gives them an idea of where they stand and helps prepare them for the “Big Exam.”

TRACK AND FIELD

A few weeks ago, I walked through the parlor of the Main Building and saw a 6-foot-1-inch, 260ish-pound beast and his parents waiting for their campus tour. I assumed this was one of our football recruits, and I stopped to introduce myself and give the family my 30-second “Why I love Louisburg College” speech.

I was speechless (not a common occurrence) when our Cross Country coach, Jay Koloseus, walked up and said “Oh, great! You already met my shotput recruit.” Coach Koloseus brought Cross Country to Louisburg College three years ago and has helped guide the team into the national rankings every year.

So when he approached the Athletic Director and the President about starting a Track and Field team in Fall 2017, they could not say, “Yes” quickly enough. Coach Koloseus feels that Track and Field is a natural complement to our Cross Country program. We look forward to welcoming 10 new Track and Field students in the fall, and watching them put this new program on the map.

STEM PROGRAM

As you have seen on page 18 in this magazine, Dr. Bob Bruck has been very busy bolstering our STEM program, developing a Summer STEM Institute for rising high school seniors, and helping our students apply for summer internship programs around the country. We are so proud of Nehemiah Harris, Class of 2017 and a member of our football team, who has been selected for a National Science Foundation summer fellowship at Purdue University.

These three new initiatives are just what we have been working on for the Fall of 2017. Stay tuned for more exciting announcements about what we are developing for the Fall of 2018! ■

Remember, we are all recruiters for the College! Please help us spread the word about all of the amazing opportunities that Louisburg College has to offer! Feel free to contact the Admissions Office (800) 775-0208 if you have a prospective student who needs a packet of information about the College.

GOING GREEN

By Sequoia Sady, Manager of Creative Services

Three years ago, Nathan Biegenzahn, Associate Vice President of Facilities, initiated a seven-phase recycling program, and it has paid off. From a Winter Holiday Saving Initiative in which employees unplug electronics and turn down the thermostat, to single-stream recycling that requires no sorting, to an online utility management system that tracks utility use, the College has saved money and protected valuable resources. Today, Louisburg College is all about reduce, reuse, recycle!

"I am always looking for things we can improve on," Biegenzahn says. "Part of my vision here is to make this place better than it has ever been." He is striving to maintain links to our history, while adapting to the vast needs of current times.



"It is our privilege to continue the 230 year-old legacy of this College."

One of the ways this has been accomplished is through adaptive reuse. Avoiding demolition, Biegenzahn and his team turned two vacant spaces into rooms that serve the College community. The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning in the basement of the library and the Eye Fitness Center in the student center are popular renovations that staff, faculty, and students utilize every day.

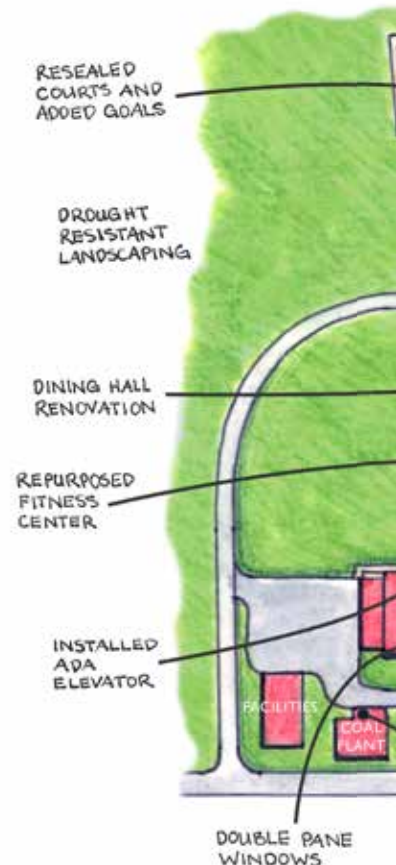
Sustainability at Louisburg College happens where you least expect it. Trash bags are made from recycled plants. Housekeeping uses environmentally responsible cleaning products. Chartwells dining services shops locally for food. Maintenance uses lawn clippings as fertilizer. The list goes on and on. These things actually make a difference, Biegenzahn says, even if they are small. His passion and efforts to reduce waste and conserve energy are helping position Louisburg College as a leader of sustainability. Nearby towns are already taking notice of the changes.

In the coming years, more innovative developments are planned around campus: solar flashers in the crosswalks, solar charging stations, solar panels on buildings, and a composting system and small wind turbine for teaching purposes. All of this will help students learn about renewable resources. The campus will have more hand dryers, more water bottle filler stations, more light motion sensors, more recycling bins, and more recycling options. Biegenzahn notes that recycling is an excellent opportunity to teach students about the need to protect our world.

Campus leaders recognize the importance of saving energy, reducing waste, recycling, and composting to lessen the impact on our environment to ensure we all have a positive future. Biegenzahn's goal is to utilize the progress Louisburg College has made to teach our students about sustainability, so they can teach the same to others wherever they go. His hope is that they will become more conscious of the lasting impact their actions have on the environment.

We can all work to lower our carbon footprint and live a more sustainable life. Conserve water and turn off electronics and lights when they are not in use. Lower the thermostat in the winter and raise it in the summer. Shop and eat locally. Recycle to reduce the amount of trash in the landfill. Walk, bike, or carpool to work. It is important to understand that our actions will affect the lives of future generations. "Sustainability is a journey, not just a destination," says Biegenzahn. "You never get to the end of it, really, but we are making larger steps on this journey toward sustainability." ■

(The map to the right shows the ways Louisburg has implemented sustainability around campus.)



What is sustainability?

Sustainability is meeting the demands of the present without compromising the well-being of the planet for future generations. Reducing pollution is the key to maintaining the integrity and renewability of our resources.

How is it achieved?

We have to balance supply and demand of resources in pursuing economic development, social responsibility, and environmental conservation. It is important we respect and protect the ecosystems of our planet while encouraging innovation.

Your carbon footprint?

A carbon footprint is the measure of how much carbon dioxide gas is emitted into the air because of human activities. Burning fuel releases carbon dioxide, which warms the Earth. That throws off the delicate balance of nature.

Calculate your own carbon footprint at <http://www.nature.org/greenliving/carboncalculator/>

During the past year...



\$2,605

worth of textbooks recovered and saved from landfill



\$7,318

saved in utility costs during the Winter Savings Initiative



5,452

pounds of items recycled and or reused



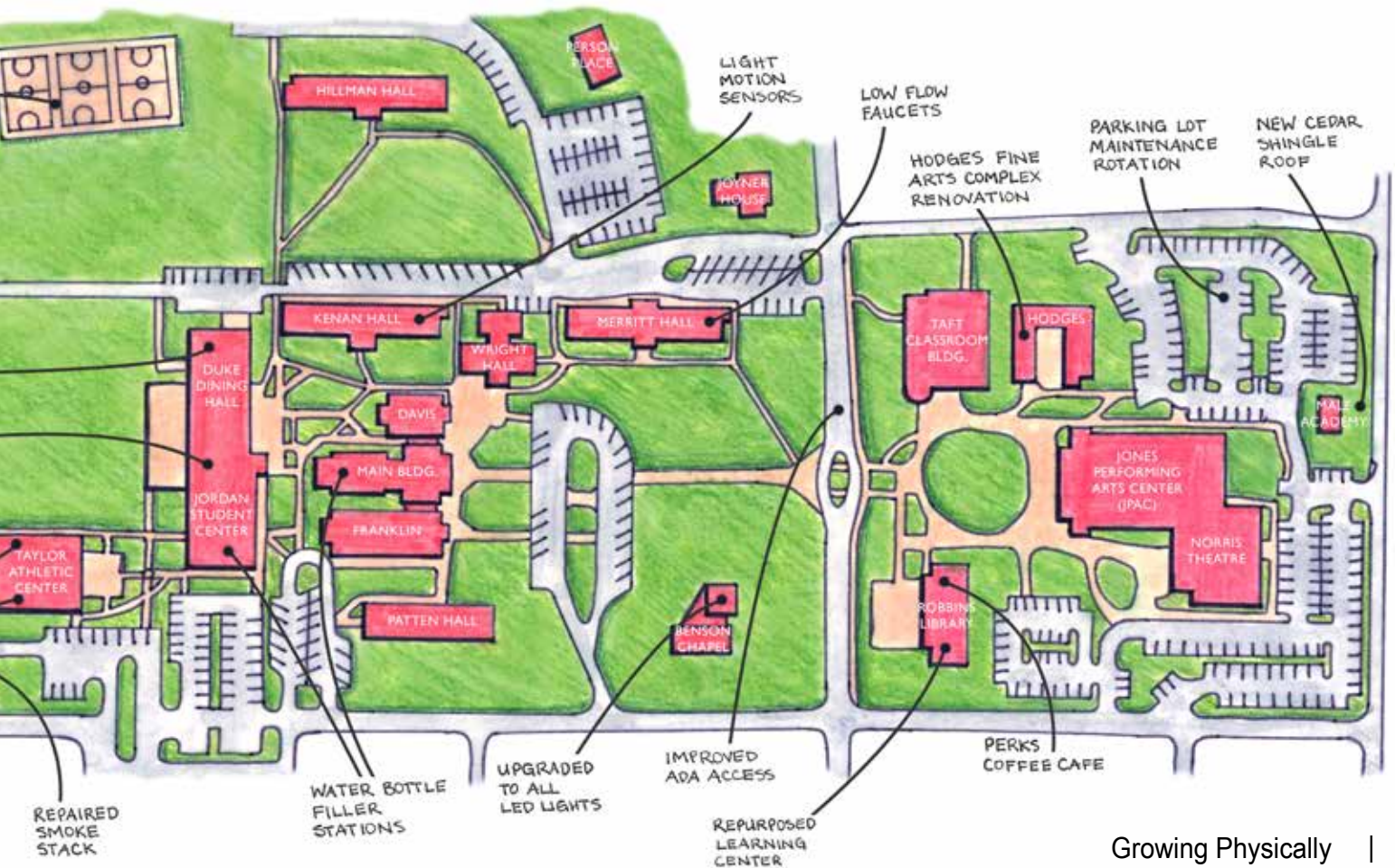
39,111

plastic bottles saved from going to the landfill



47,023

reduced kWh usage, enough to power 3 NC homes for a year



CLASS NOTES &

'57 Herb and Barbara Joyner of Monroe, N.C., who met at Louisburg College, are enjoying retirement. Herb worked for Texaco, Inc., for about eight years, then bought an oil and ice business, which he sold 15 years ago. Barbara taught school and then raised the couple's two sons, who graduated from Wake Forest University and East Carolina University. The Joyners volunteer at church and in their community. They have three grandchildren. "We both enjoyed Louisburg College," he wrote, "and feel that Louisburg College prepared us well for the four-year schools we attended."

'67 Jim Chandler and his wife, Mary Jo, of Wilmington, Del., were blessed with their ninth grandchild in August 2016. For the past few years in March, they have visited Louisburg classmates Jim Matthews and J. Sterling Walker in Charleston, S.C. Pictured from left: Jim and Mary Jo Chandler, Jim and Bonnie Matthews, J. Sterling and Mary Hardin Walker.



'76 James "Jim" Loftin Hunt, Jr. has taught art in Wake County's elementary schools for the past 35 years, and currently teaches at Vandora Springs Elementary School in Garner. In 2007, he was given the North Carolina Elementary Art Teacher of the Year award. He involves his students in the Empty Bowl Project, which uses art to fight hunger. He also began the Chairs of Hope project, in which students, staff and businesses paint chairs for an auction to benefit the Relay For Life and The American Cancer Society.



'63 A photo of some members of the Class of 1963 appeared in our mailbox. The young women were residents of the third floor, back hall of Wright Dorm. 1st row, from left: **Nancy Sisson, Susan Hosier, Frances "Pete" Beck, Betsy Creedle.** 2nd row: **Billie Muse, Florence Aiken, Julia Hanner.** 3rd row: **Diane Perry, Patty Mullinix, Faye Hudson, Betty Summerlin.**



'75 Cumberland County Superior Court Judge **James (Jim) Floyd Ammons, Jr.** has been awarded the E. J. Wells Cup by the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club. The Cup is presented for the "Most Outstanding Civic Contribution in Cumberland County." In 2014, Ammons received one of North Carolina's highest honors, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

'76 Ramona L. Lopez-Finn and her husband, Dr. William Finn, just celebrated 33 years of marriage. The couple live in Greenville, S.C. One daughter is a budget analyst in Washington, D.C.; the other is completing her PhD at the University of Texas-Austin. "The Lopez-Finn household is busy sailing and very happy with our two dogs and one cat!"

'77 Cindy Oakley Reavis of Youngsville retired on Jan. 31, 2017 as a business teacher at Bunn High School.

'73 Max Reece, Jr. of New London, N.C., a pharmacist who won Louisburg College's 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award, recently retired after 39 years. He attended President Donald Trump's inauguration as Sen. Richard Burr's guest.

UPDATES

IN MEMORIAM

'81 Terry Chappell of Raleigh retired in April 2016 from the Wake County Environmental Services Division as Section Chief of the Plan Review and Recreational Sanitation Program with 31 years of service. He now works as a regional Environmental Health specialist with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and is responsible for 24 counties in Northeast, Central, and Southeastern North Carolina.

'90 Lewis W. Bridgforth, III, has relocated to the Richmond, Va., area and is working in Traffic Engineering at the Virginia Department of Transportation. His daughter is a senior in college, studying civil engineering.

'94 Jennifer Acey Laffkas and her husband, Ted, live in Virginia Beach, Va., with their two dogs. The couple married in May 2012. Ted is a specialist representative for Genentech pharmaceutical company; Jennifer is a surgical device territory manager for Applied Medical.

'95 Emma Olgers of Powhatan, Va., married in May 2016 and retired from the Army Reserves in January 2017 after 25 years of service. She is now an Alcohol and Drug Control officer for the 80th Training Command in Richmond, V.A. She is certified as a Unit Victim Advocate for the Army Sexual Assault and Harassment Program and is a volunteer mentor for The Possibilities Project, a Children's Home Society program.

'96 Levon Branch of Wake Forest won Teacher of the Year for Heritage Middle School, an honor his co-workers bestowed on him and the first time the award has been given to a teacher assistant at the school. He has been working in the special education department at Heritage since October 2007.

'98 Needham Yancey Gulley, who received Louisburg College's Distinguished Alumnus Award in October, is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Services Higher Education and Student Affairs program at Western Carolina University. His latest book, "Using The Cas Professional Standards: Diverse Examples Of Practice," will be published this year.

'15 Derrick Vause married Ashley Towne on May 21, 2016 on the LC campus. Dr. Kelvin Spragley, Associate Professor of History and Education, was his best man. For more information on Vause, see page 35.



Beulah Bradley Cameron passed away in June 2016 at Raleigh's Springmoor Retirement Community. She was 98. She was a talented musician whose family members played integral roles at Louisburg College. Her husband, John Lansing Cameron, was the College's Athletic Director and Coach from 1937 to 1942. Her son John, who passed away in 2015, was a former chair of the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Cameron played and taught the piano, and also played organ for more than 200 churches in Raleigh and in Northern Virginia. The Cameron practice football field is named for her.

Helen Person Young, '37, of Durham passed away Jan. 18, 2017 at Brookdale of Chapel Hill. She was 99. The widow of Sgt. Raeford Young, Mrs. Young was an excellent cook and seamstress who provided for and fed her community. She was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Louisburg.

Glenn Neal Titus, Jr., '65, of Washington, N.C., passed away Feb. 28, 2017. He was 72. He taught school, coached and served as principal in the Chocowinity School system for 37 years, then continued working part time as a consultant in Beaufort County until 2006. He was awarded Outstanding Young Educator in Beaufort County in 1972, was named Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year in 1978 and Principal of the Year in 1998.

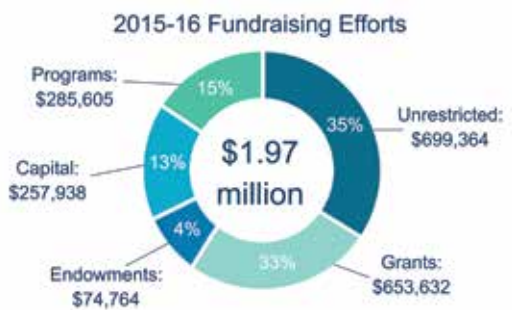
OPPORTUNITY GROWS

By: Chad Barefoot, Vice President for Institutional Advancement



For 230 years, Louisburg College has been a place where opportunity grows. As America's Premier Private Two-Year College, we serve to provide a bridge for students who choose to make a successful transition from high school seniors to college and university students.

This historic milestone could not be reached without a long history of philanthropy and charity by our dedicated alumni, family, and friends.



Because of you, Louisburg College has seen the restoration of its beautiful historic campus, a rise in student GPAs and enrollment, a Women's Basketball National Championship, a Men's Soccer National Championship, an undefeated Football Team and a renewed focus on academic excellence.

Because of you, the College's fine arts program is not only improving the lives of our students, it is making a difference in our community. Music has returned to campus, drama

and theatre are thriving, our business students win national competitions, and the Ethics Bowl team regularly defeats teams from senior universities.

I am amazed each day at the dedication of our academic team, faculty, and administration to the growth of young students. Your partnership with us is critical to their success.



On behalf of the countless students, faculty, and staff whose lives have been bettered through your generosity, we are most grateful for your support, because opportunity grows with every gift at Louisburg College. ■



Remembering Our Legacies

"As we celebrate 230 years, we recognize that the College has been sustained by the faithful legacy giving of people like Allen de Hart and Mattie and John Edwards."
– DR. MARK LA BRANCHE, LOUISBURG COLLEGE PRESIDENT



Years ago, John and Mattie Pickett Edwards made provisions in their will to help Louisburg College students pursuing a career in Christian education through music. The couple, lifelong Methodists, honored the strong ties they had with Methodist-affiliated Louisburg by establishing an endowment.

John Lee Edwards, Jr., graduated from Louisburg College in 1938 and went to Elon College, where he met Mattie Pickett. He graduated in 1940 and joined the Air Force the following year as the war was escalating. Just before Edwards shipped out, Mattie took a train to Louisiana, and the couple were married.

They were part of The Greatest Generation, who grew up in the Depression era and lived lives marked by bravery and sacrifice. Edwards flew 22 missions, including the dangerous assignment of transporting gasoline over the Himalayas in World War II, said the couple's daughter, Priscilla Hill.

John Edwards' military career spanned 22 years, including in Atlanta, where he taught military history at Emory University. The couple settled in Goldsboro, N.C., where they were active in St. Paul United Methodist Church. Mattie Edwards, a Red Cross gray lady, was quite adept at following the stock market and made shrewd investments that help LC students today.

John Edwards passed away in 2003, and Mattie in December 2016. Through their will, they provided a magnanimous gift of stock worth more than \$300,000 that will be part of their endowment for music scholarships. ■

Allen de Hart, one of the most influential people in Louisburg College's history, was professor emeritus of history, a full-time faculty and staff member for 36 years, and an active advocate for the arts and the outdoors.



The author of 11 guidebooks on hiking in the Southeast, de Hart had introduced students to the joys of the outdoors, leading rafting and hiking trips and guiding them toward lives of service and meaningful careers. He wanted to leave a gift that would make a difference in the lives of students for generations to come.

De Hart already had given money for the concert series that bears his name, and he had bequeathed his gardens – 91 acres of forests, gardens, lakes, trails and historic sites – to Louisburg College in 2012. The De Hart Botanical Gardens is a research site for science students and a favorite hiking and picnicking spot for the community.

De Hart, who passed away in October 2016 at the age of 90, also left Louisburg College money and property worth more than \$700,000 – enough to complete a museum and to maintain the house and gardens for the foreseeable future. De Hart's final gift ensures that the land he so carefully studied and tended will be enjoyed and protected. ■

If the legacies of Allen de Hart and John and Mattie Edwards have inspired you to consider planned giving, call Louisburg College's Advancement Office to find out ways you can partner with us. (919) 497-3325.

Honor Roll of Donors

Louisburg College alumni and friends generously contributed \$1,971,303 to the College between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. Nearly 1,500 donors supported the Louisburg Fund, student scholarships, endowments, academic and athletic programs, fine arts, and improvements to buildings and grounds. Every gift, no matter how big or small, makes an impact at the College. We are extremely grateful for the committed support and desire to see Louisburg College succeed. Because of these donors, opportunities continue to grow at Louisburg each and every day.

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Members of the Society of 1787 have generously contributed \$50,000 or more to the College in their lifetime.

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The Franklin Male Academy building, constructed in 1804, recently gained a new cedar shake roof to replace the one installed 28 years ago by Dean Reudrich. Based upon specifications supplied by Reudrich, the new roof was funded by a grant from the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation and by donations made by Louisburg College Alumni who belong to the Golden Anniversary Club (GAC). The academy is home to the Tar River Center for History and Culture.



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The College's newly transformed Eye Fitness Center used to be a snack shop but now houses a cell phone charging station, pull-up bars, cable machines, leg presses, dumbbells, a water bottle filling station, and a clock that can be programmed remotely for interval workouts. Former Louisburg College Trustee Clyde Harris donated the new fitness equipment. The fitness center is open 24 hours a day to all Louisburg College students.

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The following donors have left a legacy by leaving part of their estate to the College.

Mrs. Beulah Cameron
Mrs. Dorothy Brannan
Mr. Jack Russell Morris
Mrs. Agnes C. Savage
Mrs. Ann Schwarzmann

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS, AND MATCHING GIFTS

The following companies have generously matched their employee's gifts to the College.

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YOUR DONATIONS CREATE LEARNING RESOURCES

Located in the basement of the Robbins Library, the newly renovated Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning (CETL) serves as a professional development center for faculty and staff. The CETL features several meeting rooms, a smart board, collaborative work spaces, and multiple computers. The space can be utilized for webinars, curriculum discussions, technology meetings, student presentations, and much more.



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YOUR DONATIONS HELP FOSTER CREATIVE MINDS

The Hodges Fine Arts Complex boasts a new studio addition, renovated teaching spaces, improved technology, and the return of a combined facility for art and music. Hodges' friend of 30 years and Louisburg College's art professor, Will Hinton, discussed plans to revamp the building before Hodges' passing in 2012. It was his love of Louisburg College and its mission that led Hodges, a local business leader and longtime College supporter as well as trustee, to champion the project. His daughters ensured his legacy will live on.

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The following churches have supported Louisburg College in the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

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Friends of the Arts includes individuals who have donated to support the Allen de Hart Concert Series.

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The Bravo Society includes companies that have donated to support the Allen de Hart Concert Series.

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MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts were made in memory of the following Alumni and friends of the College who have passed away.

Mrs. Daisy B. Adams
Mrs. Robin Drake Adams '81
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HONORARY GIFTS

Honorary gifts were made in recognition of the following Alumni and friends of the College.

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With Much Appreciation



When Dr. Mark La Branche arrived in January 2009, Louisburg College was on probation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Enrollment was low. Finances were shaky. He came because he felt called by God to “be part of a renaissance.”

During Dr. La Branche’s eight years as president, the College has seen great strides in enrollment and higher grade-point averages from students. A five-year capital campaign begun in 2010 with a goal of \$15 million brought \$18.8 million, and Louisburg has spent more than \$9 million on campus improvements. In its recent decennial reaffirmation process with the accrediting agency, the College was reaffirmed through 2026 with no recommendations or further monitoring.

As Louisburg College celebrates its 230th year, Dr. La Branche is leaving to become president of Martin Methodist

College in Pulaski, Tenn., a small, private four-year institution. He and his wife, Mona, have built bridges with the town of Louisburg and Franklin County. They’ve shown what leadership looks like. They have helped Louisburg College embrace its unique identity.

Last fall, Dr. La Branche distributed a book by Simon Sinek, “Start With Why,” and asked faculty, staff, and trustees to think about why they came to Louisburg College and why they stay. The consensus: This is a missional place, a place of opportunities. That’s been the case since 1787. Now, in part because of Dr. La Branche, Louisburg College will continue to transform lives for generations.



“Dr. La Branche led the College during an important time, where we moved from a state of surviving to a state of thriving. He has made a lasting difference at the College, as well as in the town. We hope that he never forgets that he is and will always be a Hurricane!”

-- STEPHANIE BUCHANAN TOLBERT
Senior Vice President for Enrollment

“In higher education, the term “transformation” is sometimes overused. However, it is an ideal term to describe what Dr. La Branche’s visionary leadership has influenced at Louisburg College. His deep commitment to our mission inspires me, and the transformation our College has experienced gives me great hope for our future.”

-- JASON MODLIN
Vice President for Student Life

“Dr. La Branche and his wife, Mona, have attended an abundant number of athletic events during their tenure at Louisburg College. Their attendance, support and knowledge of what our student-athletes, coaches, fans, and staff do has been a driving force behind the outstanding accomplishments the athletic program has made during the past nine years. Though the College has a long history of winning in athletics, the last nine years of accomplishments are unparalleled to any other nine-year stretch in the history of the college.”

-- MIKE HOLLOWMAN
Athletic Director

“Dr. La Branche wasn’t someone who merely said he supported the performing arts. He demonstrated it by coming to the events. If something was going on in the JPAC and he was in town, you could guarantee he would be there, with his wife, Mona, at his side. Thanks for being there, Dr. La Branche. We will miss you!”

-- ROBERT POOLE
Director of Seby B. Jones Performing Arts Center

“Growing up, I was always taught that whenever you enter an area, you leave that place better than you found it. Dr. La Branche has exemplified that here at the College. He is leaving a positive, lasting legacy that will carry on for many years.”

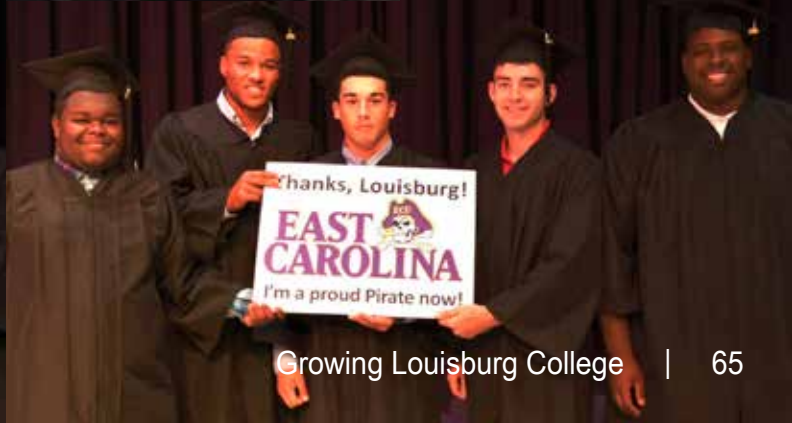
-- NATHAN BIEGENZAHN
Associate Vice President of Facilities

As an alumna, working..directly with the president of my alma mater is truly a privilege. [Dr. La Branche] has served our college tirelessly, with patience, compassion, and conviction and, most admirably, Christian values. I am certain that our BEST days are still ahead of us because of Dr. La Branche’s incredible leadership. Dr. La Branche says that God called him to Louisburg College. When I reflect on that calling...I am reminded of 2 Timothy 4:7: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith.” Thank you, Dr. La Branche, for fighting to preserve this institution’s place in higher education, for finishing a presidency deserving of our gratitude, and for always having faith in Louisburg College.”

-- JENNIFER MITCHELL WHEELER
Executive Assistant to the President









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