

The Magazine for Louisburg College Alumni & Friends

COLUMNS

2022

Stories of return,
reconnection,
and reimagining

COME BACK

WHY
LOUISBURG
COLLEGE

ALUMNI
COME BACK
KIDS

A PARENT'S
PERSPECTIVE
OF LC

CELEBRATING
ALUMS LIKE
CEDRIC MULLINS

BIZ
WIZ
PROFS

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Our Mission

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

Questions?

Please contact Executive Editor Kat Fink at (919) 497-3330 or kfink@louisburg.edu. The Office of Advancement publishes Columns magazine annually for alumni and friends of Louisburg College.

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FEATURES

Letter from the President	2
Taking Care of Business	4
Esports at LC	14
Come Back Kids	18
No Base Like Home: Cedric Mullins	16
Sweet Success: Breon Williams	17
A Parent's Perspective	24
Leading a Legacy: The Boddies	26
Determined	40





Dear Friends,

I'm excited to be reaching out to you once again through Columns! Suffice to say, much has changed since my last letter both globally and here at Louisburg. We have learned to navigate our way through COVID and, facing the unprecedented, we realized an opportunity to reexamine our direction for the future. Compelled to think in new ways in the throes of the pandemic, we are coming out even stronger and more agile, paving the way for a positive future for Louisburg College. One of our new pursuits sparked by the pandemic was the addition of our varsity esports program and studio, offering students a chance to take part and benefit from this ever-growing industry.

We were happy to finally welcome our alumni and friends back to campus during our 2021 Homecoming and 2022 Golden Anniversary Council where we inducted our classes of '70, '71, and '72. Additionally, we were happy to hear from our alumni through the PCI (Publishing Concepts, Inc.) project where we collected more than 400 stories from our alums. These stories were woven with tales of love, self-discovery, and opportunities experienced at Louisburg College. Now, just as it was then, our students are finding Great Futures ahead of them as their lives are transformed through the relationships and opportunities they find here.

In the world of Hurricane Athletics, we celebrated our student-athletes who were awarded All-Academic honors by the NJCAA for the Fall 2021 semester. Louisburg College had the third most student-athletes awarded out of 28 schools. As for our recent graduates, former Hurricane Cedric Mullins '14 became the first Baltimore Oriole to have 30 home runs and 30 stolen bases in one season, was the first player in nearly a century to join the 30-30 club, and secured a Silver Slugger Award last fall. Way to go, Hurricane! Finally, we had a close call this year when our softball team survived a bus fire while traveling. Thankfully, due to the quick actions of our coaches and team, no one was injured. The outpouring of support for our softball team was staggering, a tremendous reminder of the community that supports us from near and far. This resilient team finished the season 1st in the region and 3rd in the nation!

We celebrated 235 years of Louisburg College this January, and I celebrated my fourth year as Louisburg College President. I could not have predicted at the start of my tenure that I would be a part of seeing our school through a worldwide pandemic, but I can say with confidence that I am proud to be a part of the legacy being built here at Louisburg College, especially through adversity. Here's to another year of growth, community-building, and nurturing young minds!

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary M. Brown

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

COMMENCEMENT 2022



Louisburg College hosted an in-person commencement ceremony for our 2022 graduates on Saturday, May 21, 2022, with a Baccalaureate ceremony taking place the night before to commemorate the effort and perseverance of the newest graduating class. Please join us in congratulations and well-wishes for our class of 2022! We are proud of their success and are excited for the opportunities awaiting them.

You can view the event on the Louisburg College YouTube channel.

PCI Oral History Project

Earlier this school year, Louisburg College teamed with PCI to develop an oral history and storytelling series. Over the course of this project—the first of its kind for Louisburg College—the PCI Team had the most wonderful time speaking with Lou-U alumni to chronicle the student experience through the years.

The cumulation of this effort is a book of conversations—in both hard copy and audio formats. The pages of this book form a tapestry, woven from the collective history of the alumni of Louisburg College. Countless stories tell tales of those who met their true love on campus and made forever friends that still hold a special place in their hearts to this day. Alumni reminisced of rich traditions, foundational learning, and professors who helped shape their future.

We thank all of you who participated for taking us back down memory lane and letting us know how Louisburg College changed your life!



Taking Care of Business

Two business professors share what brought them to Louisburg College and the joy they have found in inspiring a new generation of business professionals.

BRIAN SANDERS



Executive Director of Business and Assistant Professor of Business, Brian Sanders, started looking for something different after an unfulfilling position in the banking industry, and experiencing an armed robbery at the bank, left him ready to move on. Sanders racked up marketing experience while banking, working for the marketing department at Dillon Supply Company, and teaching marketing courses at SKEMA International Business School. Sanders completed his undergraduate and MBA graduate work at Campbell University with additional graduate work in marketing at East Carolina University. Sanders started working at Louisburg College in 2004 and says, "I absolutely loved it and quickly fell in love with both teaching and Louisburg College."

What's your favorite class to teach and why?

I really enjoy each of the classes that I am privileged to teach, but if pressed, Principles of Marketing would be my favorite. As someone who has always strived to be creative both inside and outside of work, marketing gives me a chance to really try and foster creative thinking in our students. I absolutely love seeing what they come up with in my Marketing class.

Favorite LC memory?

A former student sent me an email a while back to let me know that, before taking my Marketing class, he had never really been able to picture himself in a career outside of playing or coaching baseball. He thanked me for my passion and told me that it sparked his interest in marketing and that, after his baseball journey ended, he took a job in marketing and had been successfully working in the field for several years. Every faculty member has stories like that, and that is why we do what we do.

"Brian Sanders and Scott Berrube were my business professors and my advisors for Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity where I had a lot of success. I really couldn't have done it without them." Says LC Alumni Engagement Officer, Kathryn O'Leary '17. "They believed in me when I didn't believe in myself, they helped with my confidence, and they cheered me on every step of the way."

“I love teaching at a small school where I get to know all of my students as people. This is especially true in the business program. I love getting to share my passion and ultimately seeing where all of my students end up.”

DR. SANGSOON KOH



Many people who relocate to North Carolina can share a defining moment in which they decided to make this state their new home. Louisburg College Assistant Professor of Business, Dr. SangSoon Koh, was inspired by spring cherry blossoms. Dr. Koh is a former automotive industry tycoon, having worked for giants such as Chrysler, GM, and Detroit Diesel as a mechanic, engineer, and international operations manager.

It was his side hobbies, however, that brought his desire to teach to the surface. While working and earning an MS in Engineering at Wayne State, MSA in Administration at Central Michigan, and PhD in International Business at Columbus, Dr. Koh found time to earn his eighth-degree blackbelt in Taekwondo Martial Arts. On the side, Dr. Koh worked as a teaching assistant at Wayne, taught Material Science courses at Lawrence Tech, and began training others in Taekwondo. Dr. Koh states, "It seems being an educator was always my passion throughout my life."

Back to cherry blossoms. Visiting a friend in Raleigh, Dr. Koh fell in love with the blooms and moved to NC where he started teaching adult Korean language classes, taught at Wendell's math and science after-school programs, and opened a Taekwondo studio in downtown Louisburg. A small private college in town offered him a teaching position, and the rest is history.

Favorite LC memory?

Sometimes I receive phone calls, someone compliments me or comments on the courses I taught, or they mention the positive mentoring they got from me while at LC. We all cheer when our students are doing well in their careers after graduation. Seth Johnson, who the Tampa Bay Rays drafted in 2019, was a good student in my CIS class. He was brilliant, always came in 10 minutes before starting time, and never missed class. Larrell Murchison, who the NFL Titans drafted in 2020, took PED 125/126 self-defense classes, had good work ethic, and focused, training to improve his speed combining Taekwondo and football.

What's your favorite class to teach and why?

I like teaching both business and CIS courses. CIS provides me with new technology updates and accounting classes to introduce students to bookkeeping, financial statements, and cost analysis methodologies. I am so proud of our students for behaving maturely and succeeding in their goals after graduation.

"Dr. Koh is the professor I talk to daily. He's interested in my grades, esports, track, and even the business I want to build after graduating. He's involved in my life as a mentor." Tyree Minor '22

LC is small, but we have many talented people working here and hold diversity to help our students succeed. After eleven years living and teaching in a small town, I feel this is my new home.



Mind and Body

Dr. Koh and Sanders contribute to the lives of our students both in and out of the classroom. Dr. Koh instructs our Martial Arts Club on campus, while Sanders leads the Ultimate Frisbee Club!

Brian Sanders introduced me to ultimate frisbee which was an amazing thing I got to take part in when I transferred, and I appreciated him showing me the love for that sport! - O'Leary '17

HONORING OUR ALUMNI



Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

Breon Williams '13

Williams was very involved during his time at Louisburg College. He has since opened a successful ice cream shop in Jacksonville, NC called YoBre'z Frozen Dessert Bar. Since their opening in 2018, they have become well known for their signature ice cream tacos and fancy milkshakes. They prioritize creating an environment for families to connect and bond. Williams and his coworker are also actively involved in volunteer efforts within the community. Most recently, Williams was one of three primary organizers in an initiative to collect and giveaway 500 backpacks with school supplies to students in need.



Allen de Hart Humanitarian Award

Anne Weathersbee '49

Weathersbee is a long-time member of the Golden Anniversary Council, serving as historian. She loves to share her memories of the college and visits whenever she is able. She is an active community member and enjoys supporting local businesses. She is also a lifetime member of Millbrook United Methodist Church and has published "The History of Millbrook United Methodist Church." Additionally, Weathersbee is a consistent donor to the college and is a member of the Louisburg Society.



Henry Douglass "Doug" Lindsay III '66 Young Alumnus Service Award

Hunter Kirby '13

Kirby served two years as an admissions counselor at Louisburg College before becoming Director of Admissions. He is always eager to help new students through the admissions process, and he is a team player, stepping up to the plate wherever needed and ready to help coworkers in any way. As both an alumnus and the Director of Admissions, Hunter truly understands the opportunities our institution can provide students.



Dr. Cecil W. Robbins Public Service Award

Dr. SangSoon Koh, Louisburg College Professor

The absolute dedication Dr. Koh has for the College is quite remarkable. He gives his time generously to his students, doing what he can to ensure their success. His LC Martial Arts Club provides social, competitive, and athletic opportunities to its members, improving confidence and focus. Koh, along with his relative in South Korea, recently started an endowed scholarship to benefit students at the College, a true testament to his love of this institution. You will commonly find Dr. Koh cheering on our teams, participating in campus-held events, and always supporting requests for fundraising.



Distinguished Alumnus Award

Trevaughn McArthur '99

McArthur has much experience in the area of helping others. Over the years since graduating, he has worked as an athletic performance trainer for all ages, a career development specialist, a college academic advisor, and has held multiple involvements with youth organizations including YouthBuild USA, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Girl Scouts. During his time at Louisburg College, he was a member of the Basketball team and was on the Dean's List.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients!



Jerry Mcfadden | General College

While recalling his favorite LC memory, Jerry went back to the beginning when his entire graduating class watched him try to enter orientation at the library. He didn't realize he was trying to open a locked door! At Louisburg, Jerry works in the game room, The Eye, and is an administrative referee. He also plays soccer. Jerry's goal is to continue on to Clemson University where he hopes to play football and study to become a history teacher. When asked about his passion for history, he says his classmates never seemed interested, but he always wanted to know more. "I put so much dedication and hard work into it, and now I just love history," he says.

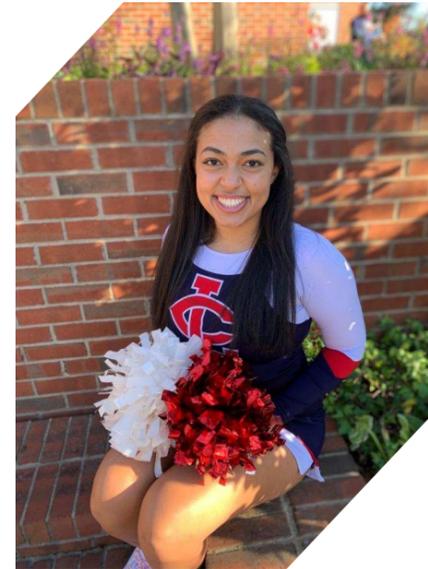
"Louisburg is getting me used to classes, adult life, and doing things on my own so when I get to a bigger college, it won't shock me. I'll be adjusted to it a little bit more than someone who just came into college life not expecting anything. Louisburg is giving me that little head start."



Demetrius Gatlin Jr. | General College

Demetrius is involved in track and field and football. He is interested in continuing his academic and athletic career at NC State where he hopes to pursue mechanical engineering and IT. He says his favorite class was Professor Hinton's art class, stating, "We talk about a lot in that classroom, and he really makes me think outside the box." He believes Louisburg has taught him a lot and has opened the doors for him to meet and connect with different people.

"My education is important to me. Louisburg has offered me a great opportunity to expand my knowledge. I'm a student before an athlete."



Johná Berger | General College

COVID almost kept Johná from pursuing her education. She knew she wasn't ready for a big college, and Louisburg offered a real college experience without being overwhelmed. Johná has fully dived into the collegiate experience and is a cheerleader as well as a member of Student Ambassadors, Spiritual Life Club, Book Club, and the National Society of Leadership and Success. Johná's goal is to become a mental health therapist, she loves to listen to others and hear their story.

"Louisburg is important for a lot of reasons. I don't think I would be the woman I am today without being surrounded by the people that I am every day. The community that Louisburg has as a college, it's just great. I just love it. It has helped me grow a lot."

Jontario Ackles-Raines | General Science

Jontario is a Student Ambassador, President of the Martial Arts Club, and a member of Stand Up Speak Out – an organization dedicated to preventing destructive decisions. He also streams video game content for the esports team. After a frustrating admissions experience at another institution, Jontario toured LC and fell in love with the community and intentionality he experienced here. Jontario enlisted in the Navy and, after his service, he plans to become a Park Ranger. A nature lover, Jontario's goal is to be an environmental advocate.

"Louisburg is helping me get ready for the next step in my life, whether that means transferring or going straight into my career."



Madison Stein | General Science

Madison, a member of the Student Government Association, is our Sophomore Commuter Senator. She is also a member of the dance team and works in the mailroom. As a resident of Louisburg, Madison says seeing the activity and involvement on campus made her want to attend LC. When she graduates this fall, Madison will attend the Disney College Program, after which she will continue her education in forensic science. Toni Cochis is her favorite staff member, and she credits Cochis for helping her get involved as a commuter.

"Louisburg is important to me because firstly, it's my hometown and I grew up here, and it's still, in a way, allowing me to go forward in my life. It's really nice to have these two years to just get the essentials, understand the plan that you need, and have the people that you need to surround yourself with."

"Why is Louisburg College important to you?"

Low *& YOU*

Why choose Louisburg College?

 Small class sizes

 Specialized learning services

 Freshmen and sophomores lead 100% of our clubs and organizations

 Freshmen and sophomores are starters on our 13 varsity athletic teams

The path to success isn't always straight.



Find YOUR path at Louisburg College.



"I knew Louisburg College was the right fit for me because of how the staff made me feel. They were all very welcoming and made Louisburg feel like a second home!"

Jas Burton '23



"It had been a long time since I had done any schooling of any kind - 2014 to be exact, and I also wanted to pursue football. The whole concept behind a two-year school preparing you for a four-year university really intrigued me, and they just also happen to have a football team!"

Jake Riddle '23

Jumpstart your future at Louisburg College, North Carolina's only 2-year residential college!

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Dear All Who Find Themselves Longing to Come Back and Come Home,

There is something about the campus of Louisburg College on a spring afternoon. The glow of the steep steps at Main, the subtle glimpses of flowers peeking through their stems, and the students walking, talking, laughing as they move from place to place - each step holding within it a purpose for all that is, and a hope for all that is to come. The buildings, the environment, the people - the Louisburg College community is home to many. It is home to those who came before us, those who walk alongside us, and those of which this place, this opportunity, is still a dream.

You can remember. Those moments and memories that allowed you to fall in love with this place and with these people - who hold Louisburg College dearly in their hearts. You can remember. The ways in which you were challenged towards compassion, and grew toward great purpose in all that you have accomplished. You can remember because there's something that this place, and something about these people that remind you of home.

As we have been separated by so many things - whether time, geography, or COVID - we hope that this encounter will allow an inkling of a place, of the people, who have changed your life, now and forevermore. May this encounter remind us together of a place that we know to be home.

Warmly,

Rev. Anna Hughes

LEADER
FROM
OUR
CHAIRMAN

ESPORTS AT LC: ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

In its first year, LC Esports has already opened the door to Great Futures for our students.

The team currently has 25 gamers who compete in 10 games as a part of the NJCAA. The NJCAA hosts 8-9 week tournament-style competitions where teams make playoffs based on their win/loss record. However, competition is not the only aspect of the program. Students become content creators by live streaming tournament matches, broadcasting the games they're playing, sportscasting, creating web show originals, shooting reaction videos, and more. As LC Head Esports Coach, BJ Fink says, **"It's a content creator's dream."**

While the realities of a global pandemic shook the foundations of college campuses across the US, Louisburg saw this time of upheaval as a chance to pursue innovative ways to serve our students when many others found themselves taking pause.

A group of Louisburg staff proposed launching an esports program with a fully-equipped arena, a call to the growing demand for varsity-level competitive gaming opportunities in higher education. In the basement of Cecil W. Robbins Library, an old film projector room became a new broadcasting booth, LED lights with multiple lighting configurations replaced fluorescent lighting, tile became polished concrete, and, of course, state-of-the-art computers and streaming equipment stocked the space.



"I came to Louisburg for a bigger purpose. I believe Louisburg meets all of my needs academically as well as athletically to help me prepare for my next four-year university."

ESPORTS

Interested in LC Esports? Contact Coach Fink at bfink@louisburg.edu for more information. Scholarships for competitive games and content creators are available.

// Tyree has received esports scholarship offers from more than seven four-year institutions.

// The University of North America offered Tyree a Call of Duty coaching position, and he currently coaches these players virtually.

// Missouri Baptist University offered a scholarship and exclusive esports housing.

// Tyree plans to attend Ottawa University where he was offered a scholarship to play Call of Duty and run track.

#OnceAHurricaneAlwaysAHurricane

There's no base like home.

Written by Kathryn O'Leary and Susan O'Leary

Steppin' Up To the Plate

Despite not making the starting lineup his senior year of high school, Cedric Mullins '14 still had a heart for baseball, and Louisburg College gave him the option to stay in the game. Even when other schools came calling, Mullins stayed true to LC and "trusted the process." After two successful seasons playing ball at Louisburg College, he transferred to Campbell University and continued his baseball career.

Running It Out at First

In 2015, his hard work and commitment earned him the 13th round draft pick of the MLB draft. He debuted as starting center fielder for the Orioles at the start of the 2019 season, but the road wasn't easy. Struggling out of the gate, he was sent down to Double-A. It seemed as if his MLB career would be short-lived.

Safe at Home

From his humble beginning as a Louisburg College Hurricane, Mullins has soared to great heights as an Oriole and has done our community at LC proud as he accomplishes his dreams and inspires future baseball players.

Rounding Third

On July 12, Mullins made the All-Star team and started center field in the 2021 American All-Star Game. This season, he became the first Oriole to become a 30 for 30 Player (30 home runs and 30 stolen bases) since the franchise moved from St. Louis. The culmination of this prolific 2021 season saw Mullins as the recipient of the Silver Slugger Award.

You would not have guessed that just a year prior he was privately battling Crohn's Disease and was awaiting the end of the 2020 season to undergo surgery. The road to recovery tested him, but he came back stronger than ever.

Stealing Second

Fast forward to the 2021 season, back in the MLB and breaking records. Reunited with the Orioles, Mullins' batting average skyrocketed after committing to left-handed hitting, he had nine hits in nine at bats - three of which were homers, and he homered twice against the Yankees.

//// Sweet Success ////

2013 graduate, Breon Williams, took the business foundation he gained at Louisburg College and built an empire...out of ice cream. An entrepreneur, Williams established his YoBre'z Frozen Dessert Bar, currently serving at four locations throughout eastern Carolina.

It seems consistency and the foresight to seize opportunity has always been in Williams. While at Louisburg, he took part in the Pep Band, Gospel Choir, Judicial Board, Christian Life Council, Student Activities, and Theatre. He was also a Peer Leader and the SGA President.

"Louisburg opened my eyes to my future. It paved the way to my success today. It's not the size of the college that will determine if you'll be successful, and it was the opportunities that the institution offered that allowed me to grasp success."

Williams carried the experiences and drive cultivated at Louisburg on to the University of North Carolina Greensboro where he studied business and obtained his Master's in Business Marketing.

Returning to his hometown of Jacksonville, NC, Williams opened the original YoBre'z in 2018.

"I've watched it crawl, walk, and now it's running. Success does not happen overnight, but it's consistency that produces success."

In addition to his entrepreneurial success, Williams has a heart for philanthropy - recently helping to organize an initiative to collect and give away 500 backpacks with school supplies to students in need.



Outstanding Young Entrepreneur in NC



Outstanding Young Alumnus at Louisburg College



Serviceman Award Winner of Onslow County

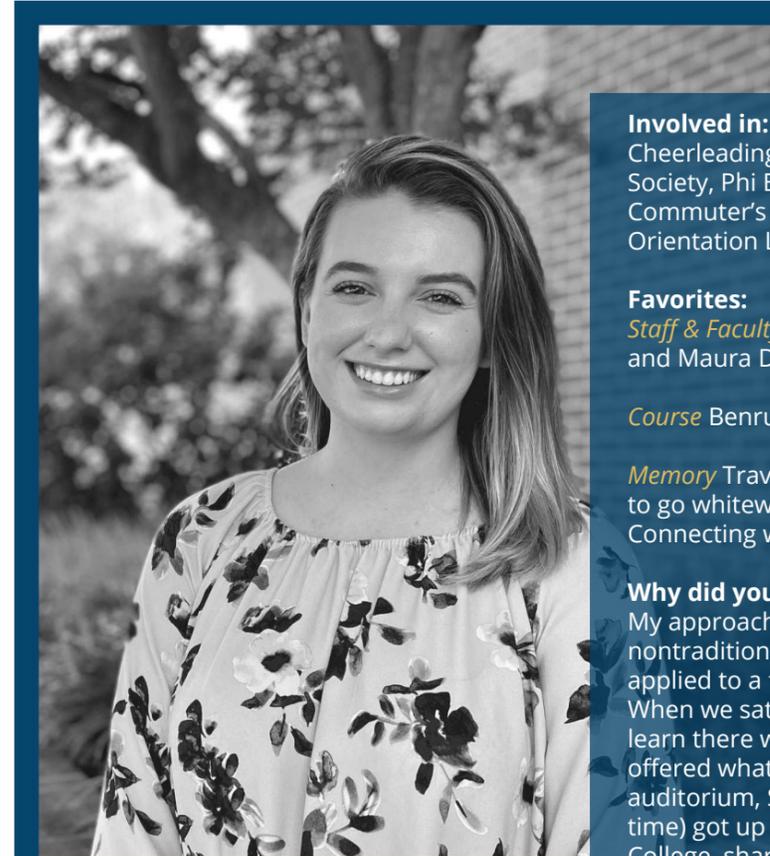


Multiple media recognitions



THE COMEBACK KIDS

Meet the alumni
who came back to
serve a new generation.



**Kathryn
O'Leary '17
Alumni
Engagement
Officer**

Involved in:

Cheerleading, Honors College, President of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity, President of the Commuter's Organization, Student Ambassador, and Hurricane Orientation Leader

Favorites:

Staff & Faculty Brian Sanders, Business; Scott Benrube, Business; and Maura DiColla, Admissions

Course Benrube business classes

Memory Traveling with the members of the Taylor Honors College to go whitewater rafting in West Virginia and visiting Savannah, GA. Connecting with other LC alums when she transferred to UNCW.

Why did you choose LC?

My approach to finding my path to Louisburg was a little nontraditional. I wasn't sure if college necessarily was for me. I applied to a few places, but I never got that "at home" feeling. When we sat in the auditorium at LC, I was nervous but excited to learn there was an option closer to home that was smaller but still offered what I was looking for. While we were sitting in the auditorium, Stephanie Tolbert (Vice President of Enrollment at the time) got up to speak. She was just so enthusiastic about Louisburg College, sharing her story, what LC gave her, and all the opportunities that were ahead of us if we decided to start here.

Why come back to LC?

Louisburg College is my home. It really gave me everything I needed to be successful. It gave me confidence, and it gave me the foundation I needed to be successful and figure out what I want to do with my life. Sure enough, I'm full circle back to where I started, and I really have no idea what I would be doing if I wasn't here.

That's kind of the moment I knew Louisburg was somewhere I could see myself. After my tour, I knew where I wanted to start off my college career.

THE COME BACK KIDS



Larraine Abbott '84
Administrative Assistant to the President

Involved in:
Work-study job at the switchboard, Alpha Epsilon Business Society

Favorites:
Staff & Faculty Whit Shearin, business; Betsy Pernell, business; and Al Wright, English Literature

Course Business classes

Memory Mr. Shearin telling jokes and wearing a different tie every day. Mr. Wright, who was blind, trusting her to help him walk home.

Why did you choose LC?
I actually graduated from Louisburg High School after it merged with my school, and I had some friends that kept trying to encourage me to go to school. I knew the executive assistant that worked here at the time for the President, and she encouraged me to apply. I paid a visit over the Christmas holidays and fell in love with it.

Why come back to LC?

When I retired from Vance-Granville after 32 years, I was in the market for another job. I really wanted to get back into the higher ed environment. I feel like that's just where I need to be, and that's what I enjoy doing. I realized there was a position open here at Louisburg College, so I applied and it didn't take long, and here I am!



Sarah Stanton '16
Community Hall Director

Involved in:
Soccer, softball, Student Ambassador, Vice President of the Gay-Straight Alliance, Hurricane Orientation Leader, Resident Assistant, Student Government Association, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and the Taylor Honors program.

Favorites:
Staff & Faculty Dr. Afanasyeva

Course Quantitative Literacy

Memory Going to the convocation ceremony and learning about the history of the college and learning to sing the alma mater

Why come back to LC?

I'm passionate about helping students see a future. That's what makes me want to come to work every day. Louisburg College is important to me because when I was in high school, I wasn't really involved in my classes. I thought there was really no hope for me, no type of college after this. When I got here, I got my head in the books, I was on the field, and it made me turn into a person that I truly never thought I could be. Louisburg really changed me.

Why did you choose LC?

I'm from Henderson, North Carolina, and I came to Louisburg because I was recruited to play soccer here.



Hunter Kirby '13
Director of Admissions

Involved in:
Student Ambassador

Favorites:
Staff & Faculty Mr. Hoffman & Mr. Jenkins, English; Stephanie Tolbert, Vice President of Enrollment; and Nicole Interdonato & Katie Price, Admissions Counselors

Course Abnormal Psychology

Memory When the Sheetz opened up within walking distance of campus. One of my major moments was winning the Young Alumnus Service Award at Homecoming.

Why did you choose LC?
I'm the fifth person in my family to attend Louisburg, so it was a place I was familiar with. When I came up for a visit my senior year, I felt like it was a good place to start off my college career. I love helping students realize the potential they have if they take advantage of their opportunity here at Louisburg.

Why come back to LC?

I think Louisburg College prepared me and has helped me to this point just because I was always comfortable here as a student or as a staff member. I think it provides that same opportunity for all students as long as they're willing to put in the time and effort here. If you take advantage of it, you can build that strong foundation for whatever future you are looking for.

Anthony Persina '18 works in the Cumberland County school system as a social worker, wrestling coach, and soccer coach for E.E. Smith High School. He plans to return to NC State to get his MSW.

"To this day I still keep in contact with my professors from Louisburg. My roommate my sophomore year ended up becoming my best friend, and I've even traveled to the UK to visit my old teammates from the soccer team. Louisburg College gave me opportunities I could only dream of and no matter where I go in the world, I'll always be a Hurricane!"

Charm Browne '21 was crowned the 94th Miss Virginia Union University!



golden anniversary club

The Golden Anniversary Club (GAC) celebrated its newest members – the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972 – at the annual GAC Reunion on Saturday, April 9, 2022. The day was filled with lively entertainment, food, and festivities! We had over 70 alumni, faculty and staff, Board of Trustees members, and guests in attendance with people joining us from states as far as Maryland and Florida! It was a pleasure to meet our attendee from the class of '45, Bill Moon! Alumni enjoyed reminiscing as they walked around campus and flipped through yearbooks. As much as I enjoyed the music, food, and classic car display, I would have to say my favorite part of this event was watching the classes of '70, '71, and '72 light up with excitement as they bounced around campus like 18-year-olds again. Special thanks to all that were able to join us, I can not wait to see you next year!

Sincerely,

Kathryn O'Leary

Kathryn O'Leary '17, Alumni Engagement Officer

1970
1971
1972

Class Notes

Patricia Greene Palmer taught biology and botany at Louisburg College from 1967 to 2000. She was inducted into the Distinguished Alumni at Gardner-Webb University in the fall of 2021.

Cameron Knight '19 and Raeanne Dixon were engaged on April 19, 2021 and plan to marry in April 2023. The couple met at Appalachian State University. They met at a dorm meeting, and when they made eye contact, Cameron had butterflies in his stomach. Cameron snuck up behind Raeanne as she was taking her senior photos and got down on one knee. What a special (and Kodak) moment!



Latrel Hill '18 works as a Process Improvement Specialist at a manufacturing company in Navassa, NC. He plans to pursue an MBA in Data Analytics.

"I'm forever indebted to Louisburg College for giving me a second chance and serving as an incubator of my professional development."



A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE OF LOUISBURG COLLEGE

A Q&A with our CFO and parent of two LC students.

Louisburg College CFO, Anna Faatiligia, has two daughters who attended LC. McLaurin graduated this spring, and Sofia is Student Body President.

What made your daughters decide to attend Louisburg College? How involved were you in their decision process?

I wanted them to make the best decision for themselves. I believe both of my daughters came to Louisburg for the opportunity to go to a college that offers smaller class sizes, personal attention, and a closer community. Sofia also wanted to play basketball in college, and Louisburg offered her a great opportunity to play.

Can you describe what the admissions process was like for your daughters?

Sofia came in as an athlete, and it was interesting to see the admissions process from that perspective. The coaches and admissions counselors really connect with the students. At the same time, two of Sofia's good high school friends went through the admissions process. After their tours, the families told me how impressed they were with the campus and the amenities. Both girls attended Louisburg this year.

What's it like working where your daughters go to school?

It has been wonderful. Through the window at my desk, I can see them walking by with their friends. I often get to meet them for lunch in the cafe. I'm also able to know some of the students as a mom, which is very special. McLaurin will be studying at the University of Orebro in Sweden, so I have enjoyed her being close when she will be so far away next year.

What new things have you learned about campus now that your daughters are here?

I gained an awareness of how involved the faculty, staff, and coaches are with students. They work extremely hard to ensure that students are successful not only in their sport or activity but in the classroom and in daily life. Many coaches require study halls to keep grades up. The student life staff knows almost all of our students by name, and they foster an atmosphere of encouragement. The faculty goes above and beyond for the students. During his recent graduation speech, Professor Brian Sanders told the graduating class that the faculty consider themselves their professors for life. How amazing is that?

Describe your relationship with your daughters on campus.

It's like being a coach for your child's team. You need to be fair and ensure that you are not doing something for them that you are not doing for another student. Sometimes you even end up being a little harder on them. Also, I try not to embarrass them too much!

As a parent, what have you noticed from your perspective of the Louisburg College environment?

The Louisburg College environment gave my daughter, McLaurin, a relaunch. McLaurin went to Appalachian State University at the age of 17. It was a big campus, and she didn't feel connected, so she came home. When she decided to attend Louisburg, I hoped she would have a good experience. I remember her first day of class when a student came up to her and asked if she was new and whether she needed help with anything. I knew then it was going to be a positive environment. As a parent, to have your child in an environment where they can connect and be successful is invaluable. Now she is a graduate.

How has being a parent of a student impacted your role on campus?

I often speak to families about their student's account. Having my children as students here has allowed me to see things from a parent's perspective. This perspective helps me navigate conversations about topics such as tuition, housing, and meal charges since I have had a student going to class, living in the dorms, and eating the food.

What advice would you give to future Louisburg College students and their parents?

I would advise parents to communicate with their students. Going to college is a big change. I tell parents to make sure their students are taking advantage of all the resources we have.

For students, I tell them to take this opportunity at Louisburg to create a foundation for their future.



“We were BORN to attend Louisburg College!”

leading

LEAVING A LEGACY

Tell us about some of your favorite Louisburg memories?

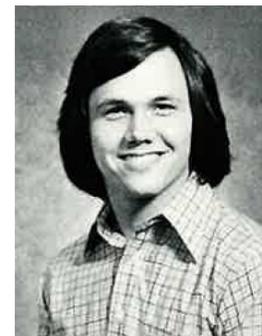
Mike Boddie '77: Being a small school, you got to know a lot of the students. It gave you a feeling of a community where you knew the fellow students and the teachers. The small class size gave you a great opportunity to learn. I loved seeing everyone in the cafeteria for lunch and dinner.

Bill Boddie Jr '04: My favorite experiences at Louisburg College were the relationships I formed with peers who have remained friends. We took in as many LC sports games as possible and reveled in victory.



The legacy of the Boddie Family consists of six members who have attended Louisburg College over two generations. Benjamin Mayo Boddie, Michael “Mike” Boddie, and William “Bill” Boddie attended in the 1970’s while Nathaniel “Bunn” Boddie, William “Bill” Boddie Jr., and Thomas “Pen” Boddie attended in the 2000s.

However, they didn’t just attend Louisburg College, this family has stayed connected with the college in multiple ways. Mike Boddie '77 served on our Board of Trustees from 1993-2017 and now his nephew, Bill Boddie Jr. '04 is currently serving as a member of the board. The Boddie family also supports the college through a family foundation. Recent projects supported by the Boddie’s include updates to the Eye game room, renovations to the cardio room, and plans to update the bookstore.



It gave me a great foundation to be prepared to move on to a larger college to finish my degree. There were very personal instructors that truly cared about you and would help you. I have always believed Louisburg College would be so beneficial for so many students that are not ready for a large four year university. I would not trade my two years at Louisburg for anything. I served on the Board for so many years because I wanted to give back and try to help the college grow and be successful.
-Mike Boddie '77

Louisburg College was and continues to be significant to me because it is one of the few colleges in North Carolina where you can have a great educational and bonding experience due to the small class sizes and the best faculty.
-Bill Boddie Jr. '04

Can you describe the history of your legacy and how you stay connected at Louisburg College?

Mike Boddie '77: My two older brothers and I attended Louisburg College in the 1970s. My three nephews attended Louisburg College in the 2000s. I served on Louisburg’s Board of Trustees from 1993 until 2017 and served as Chairman of the Trustees for the last five years of my service. Our family also supports the college through our family foundation.

Bill Boddie Jr. '04: Several members of my family attended Louisburg College, including my father, two uncles, and my brothers and me. We were BORN to attend Louisburg College! I am currently a trustee at Louisburg College.

Anything else you would like us to know?

Mike Boddie '77: I would not trade my two years at Louisburg for anything. I served on the Board for so many years because I wanted to give back and try to help the college grow and be successful.

New Hurricanes on the Radar

Welcome new coaches!

Erin Bell - Cheerleading
Chandler Caldwell - Cross Country, Track & Field
BJ Fink - Esports
Matthew Mozynski - Soccer
Daniel Schulte - Volleyball
Quinderra Spellman - Football

Fall

Men's Soccer

9-4-2
Men's Soccer plans on bringing in more international students next season. Coach Mozynski is excited for this opportunity to celebrate and embrace the different cultures within his team.

Women's Soccer

5-9

Football

4-2

Volleyball

2-16

Winter

Men's Basketball

11-16

Women's Basketball

10-16
Sophomore Makayla Everette made NJCAA 3rd team All American!

Spring

Track and Field

Team Captains Khamari Montgomery (Discus) and Matthew Bauer (1500m) punched their tickets along with superstar Hurdler Sidney Littlejohn and Sprinter Keasean Dirks. Laterrion Johnson, Kam Tuttle and John Gormley continue to impress D1 coaches in their respective events. The team broke three indoor and three outdoor records this season.

Baseball

31-22

Softball

47-5
Region X Title Champions - NJCAA DII
Ranked #3 in the Nation - NJCAA DII

Year-Round

Cheer

Coach Bell is on board and excited to help grow the program!

Esports

Teams competed in FIFA, Madden, NBA 2K, Call of Duty Black Ops: Cold War, Call of Duty: Warzone, and Rocket League. The Black Ops team finished with a 6-2 record. Players made it to the playoffs for FIFA and Madden. Call of Duty: Warzone players Tyree Minor and Jeremiah Kishko were ranked in the top 25 for the league.





HEY, HURRICANES!

Kathryn O'Leary '17 here, Alumni Engagement Officer at Louisburg College. I had the privilege of jumping into this role six short weeks before Homecoming on Main. My team and I hit the ground running as we dreamed up the event and made it a reality. After two long years of the pandemic limiting the number of on-campus events, we were ecstatic to welcome alumni back to campus.

We quickly sent out invitations, posted on social media, and started calling everyone we could to invite them to this event. The Office of Institutional Advancement also started using a new form of communication - TEXTING! Go ahead, welcome us into the 21st century. We found that text messages were the most effective way to reach younger alumni. Before we knew it, the registration list filled up with alumni of all ages!

We had over 70 alumni, faculty and staff, Board of Trustees members, and guests attend Homecoming on Main on October 30, 2021. Music filled the air as people reconnected with former classmates. They flipped through yearbooks, snacked at the candy bar, and shopped at the pop-up bookstore. We had a lineup of classic cars dating back to the 1930's to represent those that have cruised through the years with us! The Leave a Note, Take a Note table was a fan favorite as alumni got to leave a note for a current student and take a note from a cheerleader or football player.

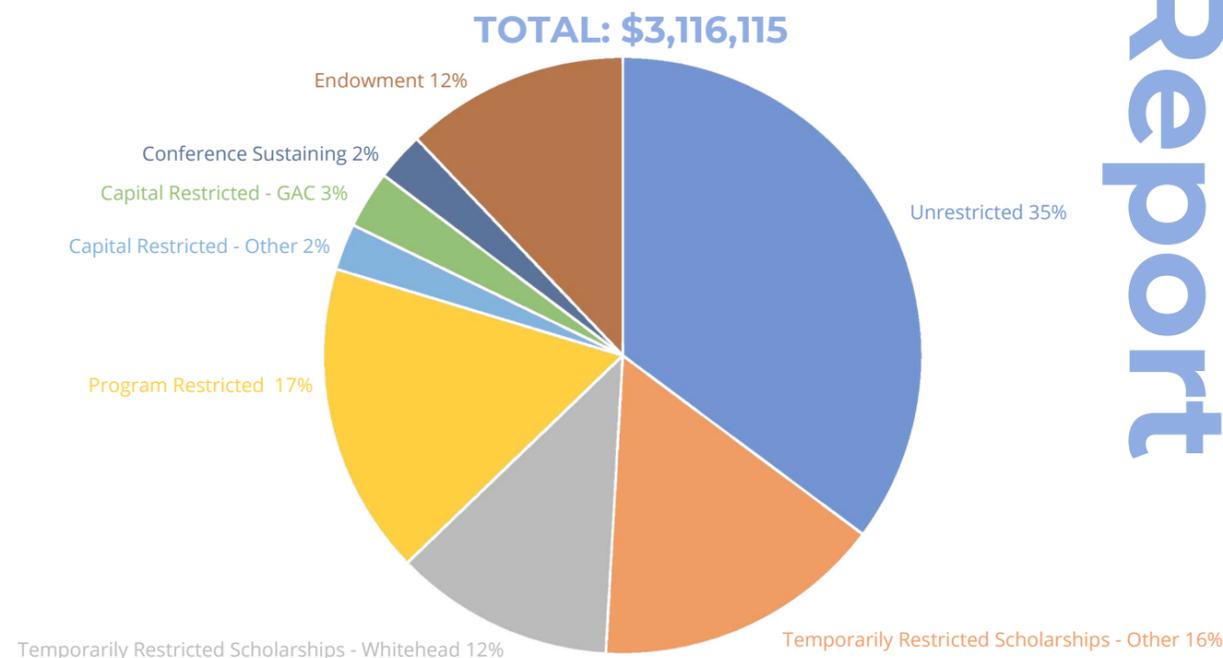
Even though the football game that our Homecoming event was leading up to was canceled, people still sported their school pride with trips to the Spirit Wear table to decorate themselves with beads, stickers, and pompoms. Our cheerleaders, accompanied by the one and only CAT 5, also boosted our school spirit by sharing a cheer during our ceremony.

As much as I enjoyed the yard games, tailgate food, and getting to meeting everyone, I would have to say my favorite moment from the whole day was watching the current cheer team do the Cupid Shuffle dance with our alumni. It was so amazing to see members of our Hurricane family, young and old, join together for such a fun moment!

I always LOVE the return of alumni to campus as they connect with classmates and reminisce about their days as students. We enjoyed a day packed with special events that celebrated our entire Louisburg College family, and I can not wait to see you next year!

HOMECOMING 2021

Fundraising Report



What Matters Most

When I joined the Louisburg College family last spring, the global pandemic was still bearing down on our economy and our psyches. I stepped into a new position not knowing how the Louisburg College community would make their way and understanding the struggle many colleges and universities were having.

As it has been for so many others, the challenges over the last year made us take stock. We sharpened our focus on what matters most to the college we love, to the people who support our mission, and to the students we serve.

The barriers to personal interactions made our process a bit different, our reflections a bit deeper. Through all of it, the Louisburg College spirit has prevailed.

I must thank each of you. Your generous support - both financial and emotional - made the year successful for the college and rewarding for me. Now I understand why friendships forged at Louisburg College are friendships that last a lifetime.

While we are happy to share the positive results in this year's fundraising efforts with you, we do so with humility and gratitude for the trust placed in us by you, especially in challenging times.

Together we will shape a college rooted in partnership, resilience, and innovation. We have what matters most - a deep commitment to Louisburg College - and with that we will be ready for anything.

Alitha Palich
Vice President of Institutional Advancement



91 LOUISBURG SOCIETY MEMBERS

Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign

In March of this year, the Office of Advancement held a March Madness giving campaign. Teams competed on a campus-wide bracket to raise funds!

One-time Donors	33	\$4,008.00
Payroll Deduction Donors	24	\$265/pay period
Payroll Deduction Donors	15	\$50/pay period
Payroll Deduction Donors	One-time	\$145.00

454 TOTAL DONORS

ESTATES	Amount	Donor
\$47,847	401K Distribution	Margaret Weston Wilson '69
\$35,000	Estate Distribution	Margaret Weston Wilson '69
\$25,069	Annuity Distribution	Kelman Gomo
\$181,261	Estate Distribution	Lee Hutcheson Pearce '74
\$140,531	Estate Distribution	Mark Leroy Suelflohn '85

GRANTS	Amount	Donor
\$13,290	R. P. and Maggie B. Holding Endowment for Louisburg College (NCCF)	
\$25,950	James E. and Mary Z. Bryan Foundation Endowment for Louisburg College (NCCF)	

DONATIONS	Amount Donors	\$0-\$249	\$250-\$999	\$1,000	Total
		639	63	138	840

GAC	Category	Amount	COVID FUNDING	Category	Amount
	UNR Giving	\$42,298	\$671,352	CARES ESF HEEERF - Students	
	Project Giving	\$4,283	\$1,426,328	CARES ESF HEEERF - Institution	
	Total	\$46,581	\$189,567	CARES ESF HEERF - Strengthening	
			\$114,627	CARES ESF GEER	
			\$77,152	CARES CRF - Students Aid & Online Support	

Honor Roll of Donors

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.

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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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Determined

On the way to a game, a blown tire on the LC Softball team's bus caught fire and engulfed the bus in flames. Due to their quick actions, no one was injured. From a distance, the team watched the inferno take over the bus along with many of their personal possessions, equipment, and hopes for a successful season. Of all our "come back" stories in this issue, this is the one we feel most privileged to write. We are not only blessed to say our team is safe but that they also won 45 games in a row after this near-tragedy, won their regional championship, and finished third in the nation! We are proud of these Hurricanes for their determination, and we are honored by the outpouring of love and support we've received from our community. To those who donated money and equipment to see our team back on the field, to the woman who fed our students just after the fire, to the charter bus owner who got our ladies home as quickly as possible, to those who sent up prayers for our team, and to so many more, we are thankful to have you in our Louisburg Family.

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