

MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E

Fall 2012



GROWTH & TRANSFORMATION

ANNUAL REPORT OF DONORS

MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E
Fall 2012



On the Cover: The new Nursing Building opened its doors to students in August. Read more about Methodist University's School of Health Sciences on pages 17-20.

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Methodist University Today Magazine is published for friends and alumni of Methodist University by the Office of University Relations, Methodist University, 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, N.C. 23811-1498. Printed by Professional Printers.

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Postmaster: Send address changes to: Methodist University Today Magazine, Methodist University, Office of University Relations, Reeves Auditorium, Attn: Maria Brunson, 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, N.C. 28311-1498. Circulation: 22,500 copies

About this donor report:

Designations in this publication include donors whose gifts were received between July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, unless otherwise noted. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this report is accurate; however, with a project of this magnitude, the possibility for unintentional errors or omissions exists. We sincerely apologize for any such errors. Please report any corrections to Robin Davenport, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, at (910) 630-7609, toll free at (800) 488-7110, or email her at rdavenport@methodist.edu.

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METHODIST UNIVERSITY RECEIVES \$1 MILLION ENDOWMENT

FALL OPENING FILLED WITH PROMISE, PARTNERSHIPS, AND PHILANTHROPY



Fall Orientation

A Letter from the President

So many individuals who have visited the Methodist University campus have commented on how the positive atmosphere is immediately evident. I want to thank each of you for your role in contributing to this exciting climate with so much positive momentum that sets the stage for successful teaching and learning. The 2011-2012 year was an amazing year, with so many initiatives launched and such good news to report from every corner of the campus.

This fall marked the opening of a new year at Methodist University, and my second full year as president. As I recently said in my State of the University address during the University's opening convocation, this has been a great opening to the academic year, and the enthusiasm of students, faculty and staff has never been higher.

While it's easy to see the changes and growth evident in new buildings, offices and initiatives, it's worth mentioning the behind-the-scenes successes that make all these things possible. Our fiscal year fund-raising results have demonstrated an increased level of interest in Methodist and a commitment by our alumni and friends to ensure that we have the necessary funds to meet our most pressing priorities. We exceeded our goal of \$3.5 million in overall giving, our Loyalty Day (student scholarships) goal of \$120,000, and the number of President's Society donors (those who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to Methodist).

During convocation, I focused on three themes: promise, partnerships, and philanthropy. We make several promises to our students – to be successful in pursuing excellence in the classroom, on campus, and in the community – and to fulfill those promises we rely on partnerships and philanthropy. Philanthropy such as that shown by the Richard and Etta Butler Trust, which you can read more about on page 57, is an integral component of the success of the University. It was with great pleasure that I recognized the Butlers and the \$1 million endowment gift to the University during the ceremony, a recognition that was repeated in news outlets across the country, spreading the good news.

Philanthropy has never been more important to higher education and Methodist is no exception. We are committed to keeping a Methodist University education affordable, and in order to do this, we will need the investment of our alumni and friends who believe in our mission and know

the “Methodist University Journey” is both worthwhile and relevant. I urge you to continue your support of this great university and to help us find ways to attract even more partners who want to join us in our efforts. As we move into the next phase of the University's life, I'm seeking to double the number of President's Society donors and to double the University's endowment.

But it won't happen without partnerships. It won't happen without generous people who step forth and support us and believe in us. Partnerships are so important that I am naming this “The Year of Partnerships,” with the goal of identifying and celebrating these relationships. I look forward to introducing more of these special relationships throughout the year. These partnerships will come from every sector, including health care, business, education, the arts, not-for-profits, military and religious organizations, among others. Furthermore, we will bring “experts in residence” from each of these sectors to campus



to help us maximize the benefits from these partnerships.

Partnerships are also important for my vision of the Monarch Network, which will mobilize MU affinity groups and other volunteers to serve as partners well beyond the Cape Fear Region, embracing alumni, parents and friends of the MU community.

With all this in store, it's never been a better time to be a Monarch. The newest Monarchs, this year's freshmen, are also the first students to begin the "MU Journey" when they first arrive on campus. This innovative idea provides all MU students with four intentional pathways, Leadership Development, Community Engagement, Global Education, and Undergraduate Research and Creativity.

The pathways are designed to provide students with experiences outside of the classroom that distinguish a Methodist University education from any other. The MU Journey also seeks to engage, enrich, and empower MU's students and community, while preparing students for productive careers and lives of meaning and purpose.

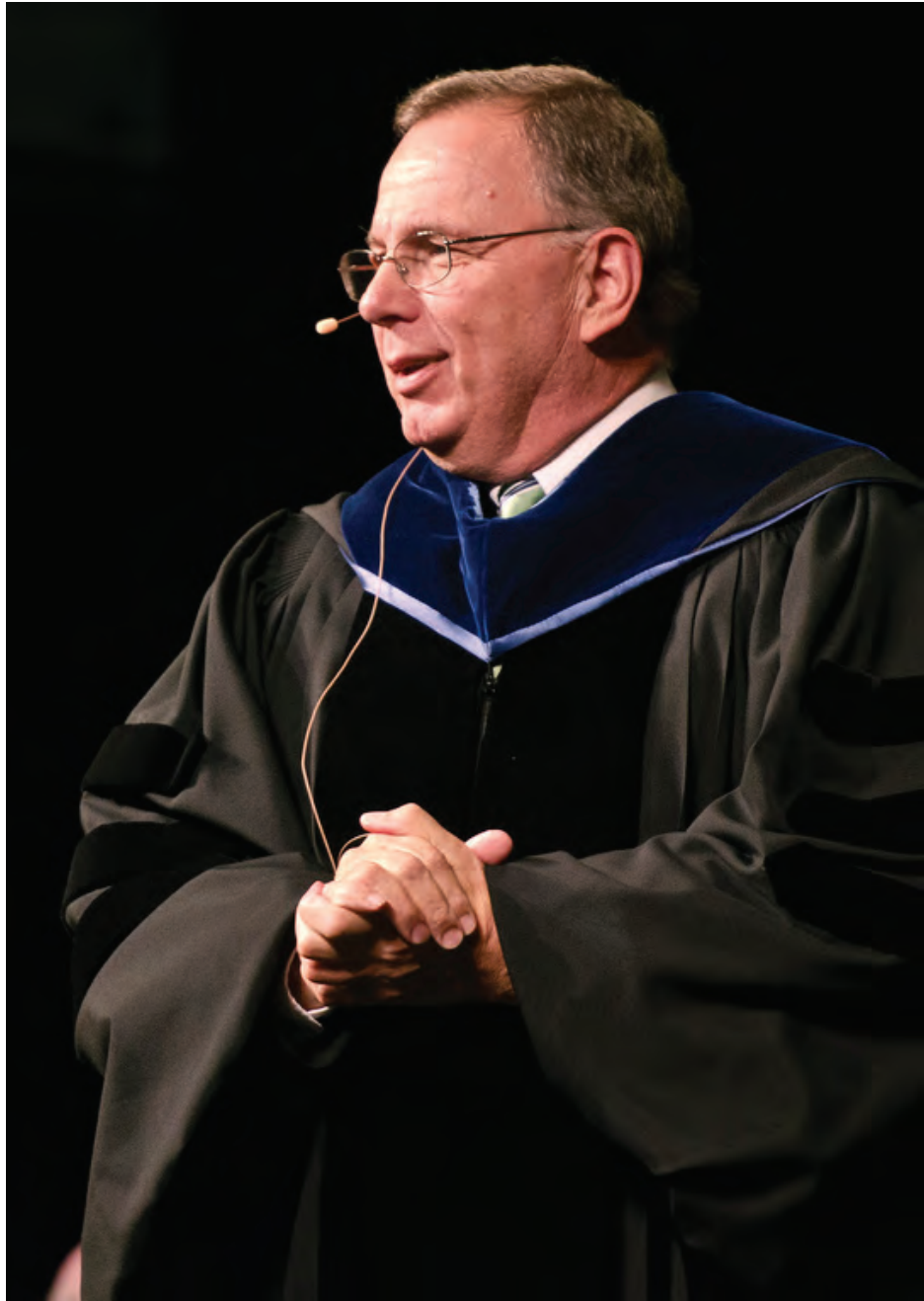
The success of the first two of the pathways will rely much on the creation of partnerships in the surrounding community as students become involved in special projects and internships.

There are so many highlights of the year to share with you, so please read the enclosed pages to learn more about our amazing year.

Debbie joins me in thanking each of you for all your expressions of support and caring for our University. After all, I have the best job in America, because we have the best students, faculty, staff, and friends in America! And that is why, as we begin another year, the best is yet to be!

Best wishes,

Ben E. Hancock, Jr.
President



Convocation

LETTER *from the* CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



As I accept the chairmanship of the board of trustees this year, I am stirred and challenged by the possibilities that I see ahead. Our school has excellent academic and administrative leadership and a strong and dedicated board of trustees with whom I look forward to working. Together, we will do all that we can to further the goals and objectives of Methodist University to engage, enrich, and empower our students.

We are also very grateful to all of you who have supported Methodist with your gifts of time and treasure, especially during the past year with the change in university leadership. We hope that you have been pleased with our progress and achievements. With your support, Methodist accomplished a great deal. We once again attracted more students than the previous year; we established a new compensation plan to appropriately reward faculty and staff; and we developed a master plan for the campus, something we need as we look to the future.

We shall miss the extraordinary leadership of Harvey Wright as chair of our board of trustees. While he has stepped down from the time-consuming leadership position, the trustees and I are pleased that he continues on the board as a senior advisor for those of us who are trying so diligently to fill his shoes. The entire Methodist University community is also deeply indebted to Harvey and his wife, Mary Fermanides Wright, who have pledged \$5 million in endowment for merit scholarships. Those who are chosen as Wright Scholars will lend luster to Methodist University for years to come. We are so very grateful to Harvey for his wisdom, commitment, and guidance.

Harvey Wright served with distinction for four critical years when Methodist experienced the retirement of Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, who had successfully guided our school for 27 years, and he oversaw the process of selecting our new president, Dr. Ben E. Hancock Jr.

Dr. Hancock came to the campus on March 1, 2011, hit the ground running, and hasn't stopped since! His favorite word is "signature"—especially when applied to Methodist people, programs, and ideas! He has developed the Methodist Journey, guided the establishment of a School of Health Sciences, and opened a new and much needed 100-bed dormitory and the Professional Nursing Studies Program building, all with your generous support.

The board of trustees is carefully monitoring the future development of the school. There are challenges ahead, not only for Methodist, but for all of higher education. We will remain anchored in the liberal arts tradition of education, but look for ways to make the programs we offer more affordable and even more relevant to the rapidly changing world that we expect our graduates to inhabit. We anticipate that during the coming years we will need to improve our campus physical plan to meet program needs.

We believe that our school is on the path to an even more exciting culture of excellence. To make that future reality, we will need your continued support and help—your commitment to Methodist University is vital to the welfare of our school. Again, our deep and heartfelt thanks for your past support; we look forward to working with you as we continue the development of Methodist University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Lynn Bryan".

Mary Lynn Bryan



Dr. Mary Lynn Bryan with the Lady Monarchs outside of the Governor's Mansion

RECOGNIZING METHODIST UNIVERSITY'S

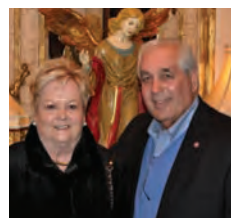
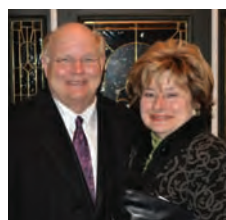
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Loyalty Day 2011



2011 Board of Trustees Retreat



A reception held for the Board of Trustees in March 2012

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Pictured from left to right: Pam McEvoy, *Director of Public Affairs*; Rick Lowe, *Vice President for Enrollment Services*; Dr. Don Lassiter, *Vice President for Planning and Evaluation*; Dr. Peter Murray, *Faculty Representative*; Gene T. Clayton, *Vice President for Business Affairs*; Robert McEvoy, *Athletic Director*; Dr. Benjamin E. Hancock, Jr., *President*; Dr. Delmas Crisp, *Executive Vice President and Academic Dean*; Dr. Jeremy R. Hustwit, *Faculty Representative*; The Rev. Dr. Mike Safley '72, *Vice President for Church and University Relations*; Robin P. Davenport '09M, *Vice President for Institutional Advancement*; The Rev. William Walker, *Vice President for Student Development and Services*; and Jane Weeks Gardiner, *Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs*

MU STUDENTS EMBARK *on the* METHODIST UNIVERSITY

A new experience was awaiting the Class of 2016 at Methodist University, who began their first semester as Monarchs Monday, Aug. 20. Starting this year, freshmen will experience the concept known as the Methodist University Journey.



The MU Journey begins with placement in communities within the residence halls that have been newly designated as Engage, Enrich, or Empower Living Learning Communities (LLC). Each of the freshmen residence halls, which are all three stories tall, house all of the three LLCs, separated by floor. The freshmen's LLC will be based on their choice of one of the four Journey pathways: Leadership (Empower), Community Engagement (Engage), Global Education (Enrich), or Undergraduate Research and Creativity (Enrich). Based on the pathway they choose, the students will participate in special programs in their residence halls that bridge the gap between in-class learning and out-of-class experiences.

"The MU Journey prepares students for graduate school, for their chosen careers, and to live lives of meaning and purpose," said President Ben E. Hancock Jr. "The four pathways of the MU Journey enable us to deliver on the promise to engage, enrich, and empower our students."

For example, the Engage pathway encourages students to get involved with internships and community collaborations, so residential advisors in the Engage halls will offer students opportunities to support ongoing projects such as volunteering at local schools, or connect them to Career Services for job shadowing in their intended career fields.

At the same time, students will also be assigned to a First Year Seminar (FYS) class that matches their LLC, where FYS instructors will tie curriculum topics and activities to the pathways. All freshmen, commuters or residential, will be enrolled in a First Year Seminar class, and commuter students will be encouraged to join LLC activities. The FYS class will also explore the other Journey pathways and will be encouraged to get involved in more than one of the Center's programs during their undergraduate experience.

"We've designed this process around research that indicates that 'linked course' learning community design produces positive outcomes in student learning and satisfaction," said Jane Gardiner, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and director of the Center for Student Success. "The First Year Experience will be the starting place for all these steps on the MU Journey. From the beginning of the freshman year, students will be exposed to these initiatives and will have clearly defined opportunities to participate in one or more of the programs associated with the pathways."

LEADERSHIP *Fellows*



Freshman Monarchs learned from returning students Zack Sweet, Nyoma Clement Nicknora, Jennifer Perez, and Erin Fegley about embracing leadership, community engagement, global education, and undergraduate research opportunities to make the most of their journeys at Methodist University.

- The Tally Leadership Center hosted guest speaker Marc Leepson, September 7th, 2012, who spoke on "Lafayette: Leadership Lessons from the Idealist General." Leepson was the featured speaker for the City of Fayetteville's annual celebration of General Lafayette's birthday.
- As part of Fayetteville's Heroes Homecoming, Methodist University's Nursing Program and the Tally Leadership Center hosted a luncheon Nov. 10, 2011, to honor nurses who served in Vietnam.
- Lieutenant General Frank G. Helmick gave a candid talk about his experiences in Iraq, addressing lessons learned, issues left unsolved, and dispensing leadership advice in Reeves Auditorium Feb. 27, 2012.



Students committed to making a difference in their community and the world will have a new avenue for personal development this year in the Leadership Fellows Program. Monarchs who are driven to acquire the knowledge, values, and skills that will empower them for extraordinary leadership can apply to be a candidate for the program.

"We are looking for students with exceptional character, academic excellence, and a commitment to engage in a rigorous multi-year program of personal leadership development," said Dr. Andrew Ziegler, director of The Lura S. Tally Center for Leadership Development. "They will be selected primarily from the class of first-year students who entered MU this fall, but returning students can also apply."

Students selected as Leadership Fellows will participate in a range of leadership activities and experiences throughout their time at the University. The first level in the program is preparation for leadership, which consists of learning opportunities such as workshops, guest speakers, off-campus conferences, leadership courses, and even community-based leadership academies and institutes. The second level is practical leadership experience, which students gain when they serve as campus leaders for student organizations and intercollegiate teams, resident assistants, peer mentors, and other groups.

Leadership Fellows have opportunities to select those activities and experiences best suited for their interests and schedules. Some Fellows may pursue multiple off-campus opportunities such as conferences, internships, and leadership academies. Other Leadership Fellows may choose a more academic track through leadership courses and even one of the Leadership Minors available. Others may focus on student organizations.

The students will learn about the art and practice of leadership, ethical values important to building trust and respect, and develop critical skills such as decision making, team building, critical thinking, and problem solving.

"The program is sufficiently flexible to accommodate everyone," Ziegler said. "Methodist University believes preparing students for effective leadership is one of its most important responsibilities, and this program offers students multiple pathways to obtain the leadership preparation needed for their specific career choice and their personal leadership development needs."

Students who successfully complete the Leadership Fellows Program will receive a co-curricular transcript documenting their achievement as well as a high quality certificate, graduation honor cord to be worn at commencement, and recognition at the annual campus-wide Awards Ceremony.

Community Engagement

WITH PINE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL



MU community members involved in the mentoring program pose after a planning session on campus this summer

An innovative new program from The Center for Community Engagement gives Monarchs a chance to mentor local high school students who are beginning their own first mentorship. In partnership with Pine Forest High School (PFHS), the mentor training program brings Monarch college students in contact with upperclassmen at the local high school, who are in turn mentoring ninth grade students.

“Very few partnerships like this exist,” said Dr. George Hendricks, associate professor in social work and dean of the School of Graduate Studies. “We want to create a model for other schools and hope that it will be replicated.”

On Nov. 30, the University will host all of the Pine Forest mentors for a day of activities and special guests. The project will last all year, however.

The program began when a group of MU students hatched the idea before the semester began, meeting throughout the summer to get the program started in the fall. One of the students, Sydney Machokoto, biology major and junior, is also a peer mentor at Methodist.

“By involving myself with this program, I knew I would both learn and share my experience with these young men and women as they shared with me,” Machokoto said. “They have a vision, they have goals, and they have a drive.”

Dr. Mark Kendrick, director of the Center for Community Engagement, expressed his admiration for the MU students, who come from a variety of study fields and became involved in the project without the goal of a grade at the end of the semester or year.

“There is not a roadmap to do this,” Kendrick said. “They created a whole plan on what to do and created a brochure. These students are actively involved with the whole project, and they’ve run with it.”

About 25 MU students are currently involved on the project, with roughly 150 PFHS mentors who were selected from the 11th and 12th grades at the high school. The mentees at the focus of this project are the 400 9th graders at Pine Forest.

Once a month, the PFHS mentors meet with their mentees during homeroom. During that time, the MU students attend the mentoring sessions to provide support and guidance for their counterparts. In between visits, the MU students stay in touch with the homeroom teachers online. The MU students were also involved in the high school’s Aug. 9 training workshop for the upperclassmen, leading a session entitled, “What Does It Take To Be A Great Mentor?”

“I was really impressed with our students,” Hendricks said. “They did a really good job. They shared their life experiences and talked about role models who had made a positive impact on their life. I hope that it completes a circle, as our students share information with the 11th and 12th graders, who then pass it down to the 9th graders.”

This is the second year of Pine Forest High School’s peer mentor program, but this is the first year that the MU students have become involved. Both groups of mentors were selectively chosen, characterized as outgoing student leaders, with qualities such as strong academic, attendance, and discipline records, interest in community service, and teacher recommendations.

“We started the program to help freshmen transition to high school,” said PFHS Principal Jane Fields. “We wanted to improve the retention rate and discipline issues in the freshman class so we began to look at ways to support all 9th graders. Young people are typically more likely to seek help and advice from their peers, so we started the peer mentoring program. We truly appreciate the support that MU students are providing for our mentors.”

In return, the 11th and 12th grade mentors will also develop their self-confidence, leadership and problem-solving skills.

Laura Millbyer is a math teacher and the coordinator for the Peer Mentor Program at PFHS.

“Our hope is that the (high school) mentors will be able to encourage the freshmen to do their very best academically and socially, help them to make good choices about their study habits and as good people,” Millbyer said. “I believe that (the MU students) will bring a student perspective to peer mentoring and support to our mentors.”

- Students and Sodexo took a “swipe out of hunger” in the Fayetteville community by donating money to feed the homeless when students swiped their ID card in the Green and Gold Café.
- The MU community came together to package 50,000 meals in four hours Feb. 6 for the Stop Hunger Now Program, an international hunger-fighting organization.

MU STUDENTS
ENGAGE IN A

Global Peace Project



As South Sudan marked its one-year independence anniversary, July 9, two Methodist University students were in the middle of a summer project designed to cultivate peace in the area, which has seen decades of conflict.

Financial economics major Nyoma Clement Nickonora, a junior, and political science/international relations major Talata Evers, a sophomore, are originally from the region. They

designed the project with fellow South Sudanese student Joy Minalla, who attends Macalester College in Minnesota. All three were born in what was then Sudan, but spent time as refugees in neighboring countries before getting scholarships to study at United World College schools.

In 2009, the students visited Yei, a town in the southern part of the country, where they saw firsthand how much of the area had been destroyed in Sudan's civil war, which was a protracted on-off conflict for 39 of the last 57 years.

Their project, "Rebuilding the Ruins and Promoting Peace" won one of this year's Davis Projects for Peace grants and was one of eight projects submitted by Methodist University students. College students across the country design and undertake "Projects for Peace" around the world, thanks to philanthropist Kathryn W. Davis. Now 105 years "young," Davis launched Projects for Peace on the occasion of her 100th birthday in 2007 and has renewed her commitment every year since. In 2012, nearly \$1.25 million was awarded in \$10,000 grants to students submitting the winning proposals for projects to be completed over the summer.

With the \$10,000 grant, the students renovated the library of St. Joseph Secondary School in Yei, purchased textbooks and teaching materials, and held workshops on study skills while emphasizing the need for women's education in community development and youth involvement in the community's leadership, among many other projects. The school has about 450 students, but the library's resources will also benefit students in neighboring schools.

"This project will give youths a ticket out of poverty," said Nickonora. Educated girls can eventually give their own families a good start in life. Educated boys can escape a family cycle of hard labor. This will have a ripple effect on their families and community."

Nyoma Clement Nickonora, *above*, and Talata Evers, *right*

- The MU Model United Nations team received multiple awards at the Carolinas Conference, hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Fifteen Methodist University students attended this conference. As a group, the MU delegation was selected for the Position Paper Award, the top award for the Conference. The MU team was led by Dr. Frank J. Trapp, professor of Political Science.
- In the 2011-12 year, 24 Monarchs participated in some form of Study Abroad, studying in Sweden, Italy, France, Germany, Guatemala, Mexico, and in the Semester at Sea program. There were also students attending Methodist University on Study Abroad programs from Northern Ireland, France, Korea, and Mexico.



Symposium

The first Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium at Methodist University was held March 23, as part of the University's presidential inauguration ceremony. In seven locations across campus, students gave research presentations or displayed posters about their projects to interested audiences.

A wide range of disciplines was represented, with projects in psychology, history, writing, justice studies, computer science, biology, English, political science, health care, marketing, music, sociology, chemistry, environmental management, government, and exercise science.

"The inaugural symposium was a huge success," said Clay Britton, director of The Center for Undergraduate Research and Creativity. "We had a total of 29 projects, with 33 student participants and 20 faculty sponsors. For the first year of this event we could not have asked for a better turn out of student presenters, and audience attendance for each of the seven venues was strong, too. MU shows great support to their students, and this is just one of the initiatives that allow that support to be displayed."

The symposium is one way the center meets its mission to establish educational opportunities that are collaborative and inquiry-based, providing all Methodist University students the opportunity to access exploratory learning across the curriculum.

One of the presenters was junior Lauryn Steel, an environmental and occupational management major, who made a poster presentation entitled "Mercury in the Environment: An Increasing Threat to Health."

"My poster project was an amazing opportunity to inform my fellow students, teachers, and local officials that came to the poster session," Steel said. "Being able to show people what I am passionate about and have them ask questions about my poster was exciting and made me feel proud about the work that I do in my field of study. The support that I was given from the school was great; providing me with my professionally printed poster and a large area to present my poster."

Britton said the symposium is being planned as a bigger event, growing from two hours to a half-day event, or longer, this year. Students also have access to additional funding to help them with their projects, which should increase the number of final projects. By 2015, organizers hope to see

10 percent of the graduating class with experience presenting in some form of a collaborative project, and as many as 25 percent after 2015.

"We would like to see the event grow in size to the point where we have a capstone presentation, as well as an awards dinner to celebrate all of the hard work that our students have shared," Britton said.

An on-campus symposium is also an ideal place for first-time presenters who will be moving into the professional sphere, where they will need good presentation skills.

"In addition to providing a comfortable arena for our presenters, the symposium also allows those students who are not presenting or sharing projects to view what their peers are doing," Britton said. "If our students only presented at off-campus venues, some of our students may not have the opportunity to be an audience member and experience a conference of this nature. It is good training for our students to become used to this type of format for their future professional careers. Furthermore, by holding the Symposium on campus it brings local community members to Methodist to show the greater community the hard work and talents that MU's students possess."



Lauryn Steel with her research poster at the Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium

- MU sent 39 students to present at the State of N.C. Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium last fall at ECU. Students also presented research at professional conferences such as the Carolina Psychology Conference, Club Managers Association of America, the Eastern Sociological Society, and the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association.
- The student art invitational "Crossing Over" was held in the David McCune International Art Gallery on March 24.



MU CELEBRATES ITS

Methodist Roots



Pictured left to right, Dr. Elbert and Lois Wethington, and Dr. Mark and Beth Wethington. Right, The Rev. Dr. Mike Safley speaks to students in Hensdale Chapel.



On Sunday, Sept. 30, the MU Chorale sang with students from Louisburg College and North Carolina Wesleyan at a worship service in Raleigh celebrating the assignment of Bishop Hope Morgan Ward as resident bishop of the North Carolina Conference. The group was directed by Dr. Michael Martin, associate professor of music and director of choral activities and music activities at Methodist University. Photo credit: Bill Norton



The Wesley Heritage Celebration returns to campus Nov. 14 after a successful 2011 debut. Last fall, Methodist University and the Wesley Heritage Celebration Fund held a two-part Wesley Heritage Celebration Nov. 16, 2011, honoring Methodism’s founders, John and Charles Wesley. The event continued a tradition started in 2004, when Dr. Elbert and Lois Wethington of Durham, N.C. endowed a fund at Methodist to support an annual event celebrating the school’s Wesleyan heritage.

The celebration included a special worship service in Hensdale Chapel and a student competition with a \$500 prize. Students were invited to create an original, multimedia project showcasing the lives and legacies of John Wesley and/or Charles Wesley, to be presented Nov. 16 at the 2011 Wesley Heritage Celebration Luncheon. The competition is also being repeated this year, and projects will be judged by a panel for a \$500 prize.

Junior Matthew Snowberger, a United Methodist from Keystone Heights, Fla., won the contest with a sermon he wrote in the style of John Wesley. Snowberger also received a certificate from Elbert and Lois Wethington in recognition of his efforts.

The worship service was led by the Wethingtons’ son, Dr. Mark Wethington, who spoke on the topic, “Whence Methodist U?” Dr. Wethington told the audience that the word “Methodist” originated in 1729 in England, when a group of students at Christ College, Oxford University, formed a fraternity called the Holy Club, dedicated to prayer, Bible study, and social ministries.

Because they adopted strict rules for Christian living and asked themselves 22 questions about their personal behavior during their daily devotions, other students at Oxford described them as “Bible moths” and “Methodists.” As club members like John Wesley, Charles Wesley, and George Whitefield became clergy within the Church of England, they sought to reform the church and began to preach the Gospel to the lower and middle class residents of England.

“The fact that the Methodist movement began at a university is significant to be highlighted on this day when Methodist University celebrates its Wesleyan heritage,” said Dr. Wethington. “The Wesleys put a strong emphasis upon the importance of a sound education for all people.”

A theatrical demonstration began further along in the sermon when Beth Wethington, Mark’s wife, entered the chapel shouting, “Occupy Wall Street. Occupy Fayetteville!” Assuming the role of economics student, she carried sign that read, “Whence justice?” and delivered a speech complaining about working a full-time job to attend Methodist and how her parents were working two jobs each but still faced possible foreclosure on their home.

“Too many people are suffering while profits and greed are running this country,” Beth said. “Even our government is favoring the rich, bailing them out left and right. This has to change.”

She said she was worshipping at a local United Methodist Church when the preacher quoted Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, “. . . in as much as you have done it unto the least of these you have done it unto me,” causing her new knowledge about economics and the faith in her heart to come together and create a kind of conversion experience.

“That’s what happened in 18th century England when the Methodist movement began,” Dr. Wethington said. “Knowledge and faith came together and transformed a lot of lives and institutions.”

“I wish that could happen today,” answered the protestor. “It needs to happen. How can we as a university be more true to our identity as Methodist?”

Mark responded, “Yes, I wonder, if John and Charles Wesley would show up today, what would they say about all the institutions in our time—churches, hospitals, and universities—that bear the name ‘Methodist’? Would they be disappointed or would they rejoice?”

Mark Wethington’s question was possibly answered in Snowberger’s winning project, “Timeless Love for America,” in which he delivered a sermon acting as John Wesley’s spirit come back to life. In the sermon, Wesley began by recalling his own failed mission to the colony of Georgia in 1735, saying, “My time among you has drawn me to the story of Job. Though we rarely can know the cause of our struggle, we must understand that our love is greater.

“Today your nation is at war in foreign lands . . . Passion and prejudice govern the world, but we must join religion and reason to counteract them all we can . . . I am not afraid that the people called Methodist should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid lest you only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power. And this will undoubtedly be the case unless you hold fast to the doctrine, spirit, and the discipline with which you first set out.”

Snowberger concluded the sermon by saying, “Methodists have been a beacon to those already in the faith; to those who had only been told of the love of God, we said that the light of grace falls on every man. If you wish to honor me, let it be in your actions. Mind not your troubles, for they are the trials of love. Your mission must be to shine that love across the world so that all might know the grace of our father and choose his salvation. ‘Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.’” *

*from “Rules of Conduct” by John Wesley

New Trustees

The Methodist University Board of Trustees recently welcomed three new members. Mr. Peter M. Broome, retired Lieutenant General Frank G. Helmick, and Ms. Linda B. Huff '74 were presented to the Board of Trustees May 17, and began their four-year terms July 1, 2012.

“Methodist University prides itself in attracting signature people who share their talents with the campus,” said University President Ben E. Hancock Jr. “These three new trustees, with their exceptional backgrounds, will enable us to continue to move forward with our culture of excellence.”

The additions raise the number of board members to 38. They join the board with backgrounds in international and local business and management, leadership, logistics, and insights into the military, golf and construction fields.

“I feel these three newly selected board members will be an excellent addition to our Board of Trustees,” said Harvey T. Wright II '70, former chair of the board of trustees Board of Trustees. “We are continuing to strengthen our board in pursuit of excellence at Methodist University. With their unique talents and experiences, they will make very beneficial contributions to our board.”

The trustees elected Mr. David K. “Bud” Taylor Jr. '68, as a trustee emeritus and reelected seven board members, Dr. Richard R. Allen Sr., Dr. Mary Lynn Bryan, retired General John W. Handy '66, Mr. J. Daniel Highsmith Sr., Mr. Jerry A. Keen '65, Mr. Earl D. Leake '73 and Mr. George W. Miller Jr.

Taylor has served as a member of the Methodist University Board of Trustees since 1993. He graduated from Methodist College in 1968 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. He is an active and respected member of Hay Street United Methodist Church and president of D.K. Taylor Oil Company.

“It is a distinct privilege to honor Mr. Taylor for his exemplary board service by bestowing this emeritus status,” said Hancock.



Mr. Peter M. Broome

Broome is the vice president for Business Development and Partnerships with Acushnet, the parent company of Titleist and FootJoy golf brands. A nearly \$1.4 billion company, Acushnet is a leading manufacturer and marketer of golf balls, golf club, golf shoes and golf gloves, as well as producing many other golf items and accessories.

Originally from Brockville, Ontario, Canada, Broome now lives in Barrington, R.I. He is a graduate of McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. Before joining Acushnet, Broome was general manager of Taylor Made Canada, where he created a Canadian operation for the golf brand. He is a board member of We Are Golf and vice chairman of the United States Golf Manufacturers Council. His daughter, Valerie Broome, is a student in MU's Physician Assistant Program.



Lieutenant General Frank G. Helmick (Ret.)

Helmick retired in 2012 after a 37-year career in the U.S. Army. He was the commanding general for Fort Bragg and the XVIII Airborne Corps, which he took over in 2009. Helmick was also the deputy commanding general of operations for the U.S. Forces – Iraq. He plans to relocate to the Virginia/District of Columbia area and pursue a career in the private sector. One of his daughters, Christina Helmick, attended Methodist University.

Helmick is a graduate of West Point U.S. Military Academy and held numerous command and senior staff positions before his last stint at Fort Bragg, including commanding the Southern European Task Force in Italy and serving as senior military advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Defense. In February, Helmick received the Methodist University Medallion after speaking on campus about leadership and his experiences with the Iraq war.



Ms. Linda B. Huff '74

Huff is a Fayetteville resident and president of H&H Homes. She graduated from Methodist College in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in music. She was a music teacher in Hoke County for 13 years before joining her husband, Ralph Huff, in the homebuilding business. H&H Homes was ranked as the fastest growing builder in the U.S. in 2009 and named the 51st largest homebuilding company in the nation by Builder Magazine in 2011. In May, she was honored by MU's Center for Entrepreneurship as Woman Entrepreneur of the Year.

Huff is active in many community organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Home Builders Association and the Parade of Homes, First Presbyterian Church, the Board of the Fayetteville Symphony, and the Gala Committee of the Cape Fear Valley Health System. She is also a leader in arts and education, as a supporter of Friends of Music at Methodist University, the Hoke County Choral Arts program, and special projects with Cumberland County schools.

MU MOVES FORWARD
WITH PHASE I OF THE

Master Plan

Methodist University entered the investment bond market this summer, receiving a solid BBB investment grade from both Fitch and Standard & Poors, which allowed the University to move forward with a \$16.8 million bond offering in August. Investor confidence in the University appeared strong when the bonds were offered for sale, with more than \$88 million in purchase requests.

“That represents in very important financial terms that potential investors are ‘bullish’ on Methodist University,” said President Hancock. “This wouldn’t have been possible without the hard work of our trustees and University staff, who gave an ‘A’ performance over multiple years, setting the stage for this hugely successful bond offering.”

The bond issue, along with accumulated cash reserves and contributions from donors, sets the stage for the University to move forward with the implementation of Phase I of the Master Plan. Visitors to the campus will soon see evidence of these improvements as a new streetscape along Ramsey Street takes shape, the next generation of trees on Lowdermilk

Drive and Joe Stout View Drive are enhanced, the north entrance to the Trustees Building is extended, and the Davis Memorial Library is totally renovated.

Methodist University’s North Carolina Capital Facilities Finance Agency revenue bonds went on sale Aug. 16. One of the key rating drivers listed by Fitch was the University’s stable operating characteristics, including a historically stable operating performance, growing enrollment and adequate coverage of existing debt obligations.

About \$7 million of the funds is earmarked to refinance existing debt at a lower, tax-exempt rate.

According to Vice President for Business Affairs Gene Clayton, the University’s attainment of its own investment rating, rather than relying on a bank-backed bond, indicates that Methodist has a stronger financial position.

“There are not many private universities and colleges in North Carolina that have an investment-grade rating,” Clayton said.



While this was the first time that the University has attempted to get its own bond rating, the University has issued bank-backed bonds in the past. By issuing its own bonds, however, the University saves money by avoiding an annual letter of credit fee to a bank.

The extra interest from investors in the bond sale also meant that the University could negotiate with the buyers for a lower rate, Clayton said.

“We were very, very pleased with our first sale of a Methodist University bond,” Clayton said. “Investors liked what Methodist was showing them on the portfolio, and they also liked the rate.”



An artist's rendering of proposed improvements along Ramsey Street

MU MOVES FORWARD WITH SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES





The new Nursing Building opened its doors to students in August. This semester marks the first full semester of nursing courses for the Professional Nursing Studies Program. For the past two years, pre-nursing students have been taking all their core and pre-required classes.

The jewel of the new \$3.2 million facility is the MU General Simulation Hospital. About half of the 10,000-square-foot facility is dedicated to the hospital—designed to replicate scenarios from the first moment a patient arrives to be admitted until they are discharged. The simulation hospital also includes a pharmacy, nurse’s stations, pediatric ward, critical care rooms, triage suite, and six simulated patients who range from an infant to adult, including an expectant mother.

The patients—life-sized computerized manikins—can breathe, speak, have audible vital sounds, and progress through various medical scenarios from birth to death. The patients are not the only high-tech part of the hospital, either. Throughout the hospital, 41 ceiling-mounted cameras record the action so students can go back and observe, and ultimately improve their performance. The cameras are part of the Learning Space by Medical Education Technologies, Inc. (METI), which acts as the brain of the simulation.

In addition to the hospital, the new facility features a 60-seat auditorium, classroom space, a computer lab, faculty and administrative offices, and a student lounge.



Clockwise from top, Student Brya Bradley prepares to put on a hospital isolation gown; Assistant Professor of Nursing Lisa Connelly instructs Arron Herring, Carrie Green and Anchalem Alameyheu; Student Janet Smith; and one of the computerized manikins lies on a hospital bed.

MU MOVES FORWARD WITH SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES



PA Program students on the stage of Reeves Auditorium at the 2011 White Coat ceremony

HEALTH SCIENCES HIGHLIGHTS

Recently, Dr. George "Trey" Hoyt and Dr. Warren McDonald were named as the new chairs of Applied Exercise Science and Health Care Administration, respectively.

In the spring, the Health Professionals Advisors of North Carolina will hold its annual workshop for health care advisors on the MU campus. This is the first time that Methodist University has hosted the workshop.

The Physician Assistant Program's Class of 2011 had its highest first-time pass rate on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) with 97% passing. The overall class average on the PANCE was 598, the highest in school history. Five students, Traci Dolbeer, A.B. Lehmann, Jared Litty, Tiffany Mills, and Dana Shumate, received the maximum score of 800.

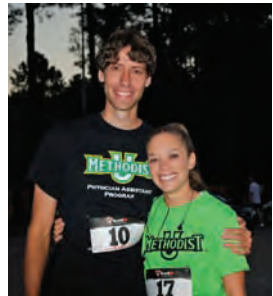
Created to allow programs with common goals and similar needs to work together to better serve students and prepare them for demanding careers in health care, the new School of Health Sciences has combined existing programs in applied exercise science, athletic training, health care administration, nursing, and the physician assistant graduate program under its new banner.

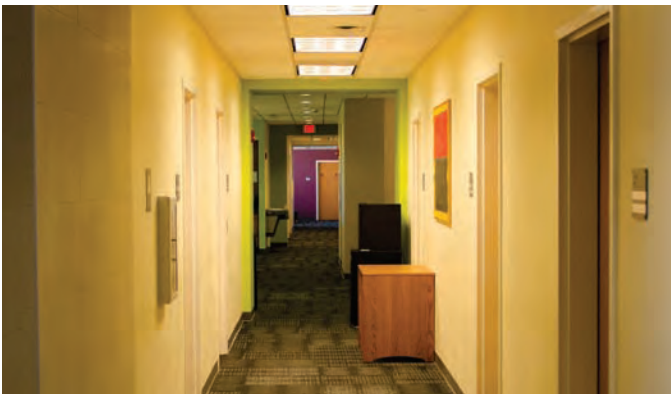
New programs are in the planning stages, with the University hoping to add programs in occupational therapy, speech therapy, nutrition, a doctorate of physical therapy (DPT), and registered nurse to Bachelor of Nursing. The Health Sciences Facility Committee, chaired by Dr. Lori Brookman, interim dean of the School of Health Sciences, is tasked with creating a timeline for implementing the new programs and outlining basic needs for the new programs, such as facilities.

The DPT program is an especially needed addition, as there is a shortage of physical therapists in the region. According to the 2010 North Carolina Hospital Association Workforce Report, the physical therapy profession had a vacancy rate of 8.2 percent across the state. However, the shortage of physical therapists in the eastern part of the state is much higher, at 22 percent, 34 percent, and 26 percent, respectively, in the coastal, eastern, and southern regions of the state.

In addition to vacancies, the report states that dramatic increases in turnover rates and days-to-fill a position are a signal of a potential growing shortage of physical therapists. In rural hospitals, the physical therapist profession has one of the top ten highest rates of turnover in that setting.

Including existing DPT programs, this would be one of seven programs in the state, and the only program in the southeastern region of North Carolina. To meet program accreditation requirements, the DPT program would require new facilities with at least 32,000 square feet of space.





“Methodist has experienced growth on its north side, first with residence halls and athletic facilities ‘down back’ that border some of the neighborhood, and most recently, with the construction of the new sophomore residence hall, North Hall, along Kinlaw Road on the northwest corner of the campus. You might first think the growth would come with complaints or major concerns regarding the increased activity. Certainly there would be questions about traffic, parking, and noise. But what we have received, particularly from those who reside in Kinwood, has been a warm welcome to the neighborhood. In fact, these neighbors were proud of the growth of Methodist and what it means to the community. And what we also realized was that many of these neighbors were already involved in the University in some way or another, either as alumni or business people who benefit from the campus, or in some cases, current or retired employees of Methodist. In essence, they reminded us that the border between the University and the community is seamless, if it exists at all. As it should be.”

— President Hancock



QUICK FACTS

- The new 27,000-square-foot residence hall is located on the perimeter of Sink Field.
- The new hall is different from any other residence hall on campus, and embraces a modern living/learning model that is creating a buzz in higher education.
- As well as lobbies on each floor and a snack bar store to service residents living around or visiting Sink Field, the new building has a functional classroom space.
- The hall has 50 two-person rooms, each with its own bathroom.



NORTH HALL WELCOMES SOPHOMORE STUDENTS

2011-2012

Highlights

NOTABLES

A new event was added to Homecoming, a 5K/Fun Run that raised money for the Wounded Warrior Project and the MU Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund.

In November, the Rev. William Walker was named vice president for Student Development and Services (SDS). Walker was senior associate dean of students before serving as interim vice president for SDS. He first came to Methodist 15 years ago as director of housing.

Methodist University joined the annual Kinwood-By-The-Lights holiday display Dec. 17, inviting guests to tour the decorated campus as well as the nearby Kinwood community.

Noted Islamic author and scholar Dr. Louay Safi spoke on Jan. 23, giving two lectures as the featured speaker for the Annual Womack Lecture in Religion.

Dr. Ben E. Hancock Jr. was sworn in as the fourth president of Methodist University March 23.

The Resort Management Club was accepted as a chapter organization of the Club Managers Association of America and officially recognized for reaching Student Club Chapter status.

Davis UWC scholar at Methodist University, Maida Elezovic, was accepted and participated at the Davis UWC fellowship in Global Trade & Development of the Monterey.

During the summer of 2011, four MU students, Dzenana Dzanic, Amna Causevic, Samra Mrkovic, and Emina Hodzic, completed their UWC Davis Project for Peace project, "Collecting Smiles in Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina," providing livestock, agricultural tools and furniture to 14 families, all returnees of a war-devastated town.

Smithsonian astronomer and Harvard University professor Dr. Owen Gingerich gave the annual Bullard-Templeton Lecture.





Clockwise from top, Dr. Ben Hancock is installed as MU's fourth president; Maida Elezovic; The belltower quad decorated for the Christmas season.

ACADEMICS

Author Adam Shepard spoke to the freshman class Sept. 16 as part of the First Year Seminar. His book, “Scratch Beginnings,” was the year’s Book in Common selection. The event also served as a food drive for the Salvation Army.

The Legal Studies Program was approved by the American Bar Association (ABA), ending a three-year process. The money for the ABA approval was donated by Mr. Robert Dunn ’70 and the University’s Board of Advisors for the Legal Studies Program.



Wendy Vonnegut, director of the Legal Studies Program, and Executive Vice President Delmas Crisp

The Rev. Dr. Steven P. Brey was named as the new dean of Arts and Humanities. Brey has served the University as department chair and professor of religion.

The fourth graduate program at Methodist, the Master of Education Program, welcomed its first cohort in June. The hybrid online/on campus program offers students a concentration in either literacy or special education.

Dr. George Hendricks, chair of the Department of Social Work, presented “Effects of Educational Policy on Homeless Children” at the 16th B.F. Stone Endowed Lyceum.

Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science honor society, inducted its 100th member into the University’s Omega Chi chapter on Dec. 2. Inducted were Dan Dessauer, Gerard Falls, Jasmina Gobelic, Marissa Kuzbyt, and Nikolas Mezias.



Dr. Sue Godwin, director of the Master of Education Program



Dr. George Hendricks, who served for several years as chair of the Social Work Department, was named dean of the School of Graduate Studies



Above, left to right, Dr. Elizabeth Belford-Horan, Dr. Robert Ritzema, Patricia Jones, and Dr. Sid Gautam receive their gifts at their retirement reception. Below, Marty Cayton



Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education, inducted Megan Lee, Elizabeth Rice, Leanne Russell and Hayley Williams into its membership through the Tau Xi Chapter at Methodist University.

Dr. Carla Fagan had the article “Lived Experiences: Hemodialysis and Adherence” published in the Journal of Nephrology Social Work.

Dr. J. David Turner received the “Exemplary Teaching Award” from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

Dr. Christopher Cronin recently finished coauthoring the book “Mormons in America Politics: From Persecution to Power” due out in the fall from Praeger Books.

Four retiring faculty members were honored at a reception May 2. Between them, Dr. Sid Gautam, Patricia Jones, Dr. Elizabeth Belford-Horan, and Dr. Robert Ritzema gave to Methodist University 103 years of service.

Methodist University is now the first private university to become a member of the North Carolina Child Welfare Education Collaborative.

Marty V. Cayton '90 was named the new director of the Center for Entrepreneurship in the Reeves School of Business.

ATHLETICS



In May, the University announced that it would add Men's Lacrosse as an intercollegiate sport for the 2013-14 year. A new head coach, Zach Nedbalski, was hired in June, and will spend this year recruiting student-athletes and organizing the program.

Methodist University's strong athletic winning tradition continued this past year, highlighted by the Women's Golf Team winning its 15th straight NCAA Division III National Championship and the Men's Golf Team finishing 3rd in the country, having placed in the top 5 for 24 of the last 25 years.

The Women's Track Team finished 4th in the nation at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships and the Women's Tennis Team won the USA South Conference Championship.

Baseball Coach Tom Austin notched his 1,000th win at Methodist and 83 of our student athletes were named to the USA South 2011-12 Academic All-Conference Team.



Above left, Baseball Coach Tom Austin. The 2011-2012 Woman's Golf Team and Head Women's Golf Coach Tom Inczauskis.



The Monarchs visited Governor Bev Perdue Sept. 27 at the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh, N.C. The women's golf team received the Laurel Wreath Award, which honors outstanding North Carolina athletes.



WINTER 2011

Graduation



On Dec. 17, 2011, the University graduated 225 students at the 39th Annual Winter Commencement. One United States Army R.O.T.C. cadet was commissioned during the ceremony. The Rev. H. Gray Southern, superintendent of the North Carolina Conference Durham District, delivered the baccalaureate sermon. The winter commencement speaker was Kent C. Nelson, retired chairman and chief executive officer of United Parcel Service.



Above, MU Trustee Dr. Ramon Yarborough speaks during the winter commencement.
Below, President Ben Hancock presents Kent C. "Oz" Nelson with an honorary degree.



Frank Brown Holding Jr., chairman and CEO of First Citizens Bank, speaks to the graduates at spring commencement

SPRING 2012 *Commencement*



Methodist University celebrated its 49th Annual Spring Commencement Ceremony Saturday, May 5, 2012, in the March F. Riddle Center. Frank Brown Holding, Jr. delivered the commencement speech and the Rev. Michael Fletcher delivered the baccalaureate sermon.

Holding, who is chairman and chief executive officer of Raleigh-headquartered First Citizens BancShares Inc. and its First Citizens Bank subsidiary, told students to live meaningful, interest-bearing lives, and shared motivational life lessons with Methodist University's graduating class.

Framing his speech in terms of what he knows best – banking – Holding gave six pieces of advice he's learned from his career: There are opportunities out there, even in difficult times; Character is essential; Always keep your life's checkbook balanced; Relationships matter; Invest in long-term growth; and take all you've invested in yourself and give back with interest.

"An interest-bearing life is one in which you take all those long-term investments that you made on yourself, and give back a portion to your community, your church, or your world," Holding said. "Each year, students at this university demonstrate the importance of giving back with interest. They are engaged in numerous service opportunities, from blood drives to food drives."

Holding encouraged the graduates to take their diplomas and use them to write the next pages in the stories of their meaningful lives.

"Scripting a meaningful life is really about being intentional," Holding said. "Like good writing, it takes a great deal of thought, lots of editing, rewriting, and hard work, and sometimes the plot doesn't turn out the way you intended. You have to persevere and be ready to change and grow."



After his speech, there were several special recognitions. The University awarded honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees to Holding and alumnus Harvey T. Wright II.

Wright, who graduated from Methodist in 1970, has served on the Board of Trustees for 18 years and was chairman for the last four years. He led the search for the new president and was active in the adoption of the master plan for the school and a study of faculty compensation and benefits. Wright is a first vice president financial advisor with Merrill Lynch, where he has been employed for 35 years.

Wright was honored for his many years of service to the school, which most recently includes a generous donation of \$5 million to establish an endowed scholarship fund. The Harvey and Mary Fermanides Wright Scholarship is the largest single gift to the University in its history. The Wright Scholars Program will be the highest merit scholarship offered by Methodist University. The scholarship program will begin in the 2013-14 academic year, when an estimated five students will be selected to each receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Six Army ROTC cadets were commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army during the ceremony and three international students were also recognized as being the first students from their countries to graduate from Methodist. As is tradition, Mustapha Saleh from Algeria, Alexis Lanza from Belize, and Reifa Tangon from Indonesia, presented the University with their national flags.

Brittany Davis, an Applied Exercise Science major, was given the L. Stacy Weaver Award and Chemistry major Nolan Outlaw was the semester's Distinguished Graduate.





NOTABLES

- 3** MU welcomed three new trustees in 2011:
Margaret Highsmith Dickson,
H. Terry Hutchens, Esq.,
and Lawrence "Larry" H. Walsh '93.
- 5** The Harvey and Mary Fermanides Wright Scholarship is a \$5 million endowment, the largest single gift to the University in its history.
- 2** MU was ranked #2 in the nation for student activities by readers of "Campus Activities Today" magazine.
- 50** MU hosted 50 community groups on its campus.
- 10,451** MU surpassed 10,000 graduates during its spring 2011 commencement ceremony.



PHYSICAL CAMPUS EXPANSION

On Feb. 12, a 20-year Master Plan was approved by the Board of Trustees for the University campus. Sasaki Associates, an architectural planning firm from Watertown, Mass., and a national award winner in 2012, was selected by the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the MU Board of Trustees to study the campus and develop a Master Plan. The Sasaki staff met with representative groups from all facets of Methodist University, including the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students, during a six-month study.

The first phase of the Master Plan started this year with the construction of the new building for the Professional Nursing Studies Program, which opened in time for classes to start in August. The new North Hall, located at the edge of Sink Field, was also built over the summer. Five other parts of the first phase started this fall, including the Ramsey Street streetscape project, new sidewalks and the next generation of tree planting along Lowdermilk Drive and Stout View Drive, the expansion of Trustees Building, a major renovation of the library, and additional parking adjacent to Reeves Auditorium.

In preparation for the second phase of the Master Plan, schematics are being developed this fall for the renovation and expansion of the Berns Student Center and the renovation and expansion of Reeves Auditorium.

The renovation of Berns Student Center will include new food service areas, an expanded campus student store, student recreation spaces, services, and learning centers. Reeves Auditorium will receive a major addition for use as a small auditorium, worship center and recital hall, and share a common lobby.

Other major proposed improvements include new landscaping, a building for the School of Health Sciences, new residence halls, new academic buildings, tennis courts, a baseball/softball/tennis field house, additions to Riddle and Nimocks, additional parking, quad/student gathering spaces, a football stadium upgrade, Trustees Building addition, Stout Hall addition, campus park, and a pond.

By the Numbers

ENROLLMENT FALL 2011

2,476

MU's record overall enrollment

1,093

MU's record residential enrollment

488

New freshmen enrollment

115

MU's international student enrollment,
with 104 living on campus

196

MU's graduate student enrollment



Go Monarchs!

- 4 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**
Women's Golf, Ashlynn Chavis (Indoor Track 60m, Outdoor Track 100m), and Women's Outdoor 400m Relay
- 2 PLAYERS OF THE YEAR**
Chris Perry (Baseball) and Mike Wesko (Men's Golf)
- 2 COACHES OF THE YEAR**
Francie Barragan (Women's Tennis) and Steve Conley (Men's Golf)
- 18 ALL-AMERICANS**
Ashlynn Chavis 4X and Bria Wilson 3X (Women's Indoor Track); Erica Powell and Marlena Rogriguez (Women's Outdoor Track); Pierson Singleton (Men's Outdoor Track); Chris Perry (Baseball); Mike Duncan, Andrew Bateman, and Robby Bruns (Men's Golf); Kelsie Carralero, Jenny Sullivan, Loretta Giovannettone, and Kelsey Magnine (Women's Golf)
- 50 ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS**
Baseball (3), Men's Basketball (3), Women's Basketball (1), Men's Cross Country (1), Women's Cross Country (1), Football (8), Men's Golf (5), Lacrosse (5), Men's Soccer (7), Women's Soccer (2), Softball (5), Men's Tennis (5), Volleyball (4)
- 3 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**
Women's Tennis Regular Season and Tournament, Women's Outdoor Track
- 3 ROOKIES OF THE YEAR**
Kayla Malone (Softball), Eirik Nordseth (Men's Soccer), and Hans Baumstark (Men's Tennis)
- 6 NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES**
Men's Golf, Women's Golf, Men's Outdoor Track, Women's Indoor Track, Women's Outdoor Track, Women's Tennis





MU PLANS SECOND ANNUAL

Yuletide Feaste



Friends of Music at Methodist University and the Methodist University Music Department will stage their second annual Renaissance-style dinner Friday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, December 1, in the Fellowship Hall at Hay Street United Methodist Church.

“A Yuletide Feaste” will feature an elegant four-course meal catered by Sodexo, in a festive banquet hall setting with a large cast of costumed characters straight out of Tudor England, and MU students singing carols appropriate for the Christmas season.

“Last year’s inaugural event was a great success, with a two-night attendance of 200 persons,” said Dr. Michael Martin, associate professor of music and director of choral activities and music education at Methodist. “This year we hope to do an even better job, both musically and gastronomically. For one thing, we’ve decided to give diners a choice of entrée.”

Seating begins at 7 p.m., and the feaste


begins at 7:30. After all guests are seated, a trumpet fanfare will announce the procession of Queen Elizabeth I and her court. The queen’s court will then sing “The Wassail Song,” and Lord Cheshire will offer a toast. As each course is served, members of the queen’s court will speak their parts, and singers from the MU Chorale will perform seasonal carols. Carols from the Renaissance period include “Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy’s Sake,” and “The Boar’s Head Carol.” Several modern carols will also be sung.

For the dinner’s first course, guests will be served wassail, bread, and butter. A second course will consist of squash soup with assorted cheeses and fresh fruit. The main course will feature a choice of smoked pork or Knightsdale Chicken, roasted potatoes, and a fresh seasonal root vegetable medley. Vegetarians will be offered whole wheat pasta with mushrooms in a cream sauce. The fourth and final course will be a flaming figgy pudding with custard sauce.

“We will mail out dinner invitations in October,” said Brian Harris, president of Friends of Music. “The feaste is open to the general public, and we would like very much to fill the hall both Friday and Saturday nights. We can seat 140 persons each night. All proceeds will go to the Methodist University Music Department. We are very grateful to the staff and members of Hay Street United Methodist Church for giving us free use of the dining hall in the church’s Family Life Center.

“Tickets to “A Yuletide Feaste” are \$35 per person or \$30 per person for groups of two or more and must be purchased in advance. To order tickets, send a check to Brian Harris at P.O. Box 64515, Fayetteville, NC 28406, payable to Friends of Music at Methodist University, with either “November 30” or “December 1” on the for lines to indicate the preferred evening, along with the choice of entrée. Tickets will be mailed to the purchasers.

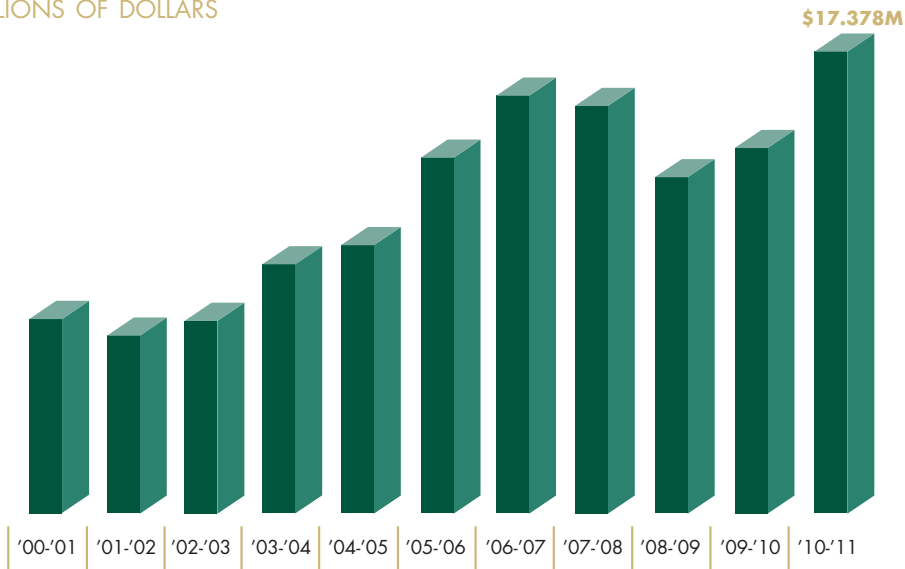
Some Yuletide Feaste performers (2011), including, *back row*: Stephen Perry, Aaron Casteel, Chris Cieri, Tevin Rogers and Ben Thomason; *middle row*: Zeb Dula, Doug Leavy, Wesley Futrell, Luke Sheetz and Charles Stephenson; *front row*: Colin Neal and Ravon Sheppard



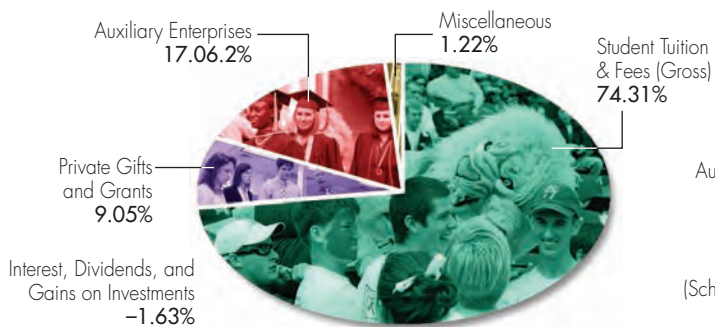
*Annual Report
of Donors
2014*

ENDOWMENT HISTORY IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Year	Endowment
'11 - '12	\$17.378M
'09 - '10	\$13.932M
'08 - '09	\$12.887M
'07 - '08	\$15.325M
'06 - '07	\$15.637M
'05 - '06	\$13.531M
'04 - '05	\$10.633M
'03 - '04	\$9.981M
'02 - '03	\$8.106M
'01 - '02	\$7.611M
'00 - '01	\$8.130M



REVENUES



Total Revenues
(As of 6/30/11 Close of Fiscal Year)
\$66.1 million

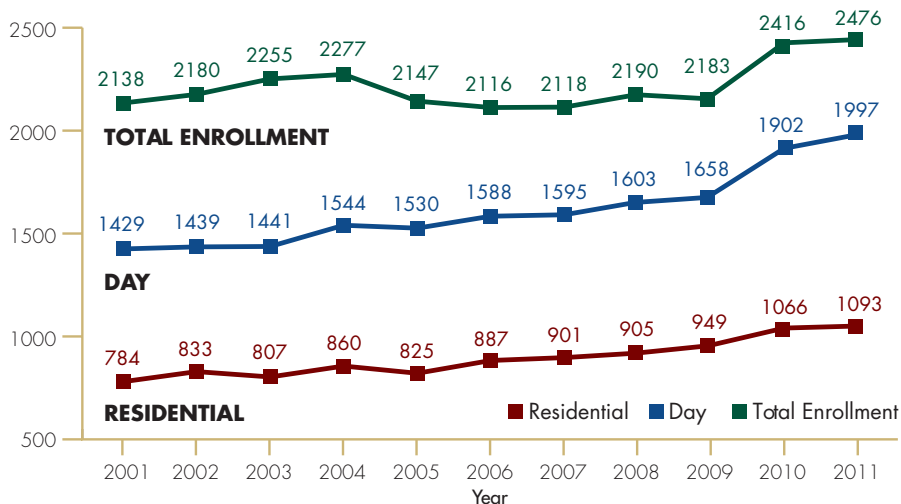
EXPENDITURES



Total Expenditures
(As of 6/30/11 Close of Fiscal Year)
\$63.9 million

Note: Due to the timing of this report, the 2011-12 yearend revenue and expenditure numbers listed are preliminary and subject to change.

FALL ENROLLMENT HISTORY



* Numbers are preliminary

A LIFE WELL LIVED,

A Legacy Built



On June 19, 2012, Methodist University received a gift in the amount of \$510,890.54 from the estate Richard Perry Butler, who passed away on Nov. 24, 2011, at the age of 93. It is the first part of what will ultimately be a \$1 million gift to endow two scholarships—one for undergraduate students and one for students enrolled in the Master's level Physician Assistant Program.

Butler chose to name the two endowed scholarships for himself and his wife, Etta. Richard married Etta Aiken Dec. 23, 1945 and they were together until her death in July 2003. They never had children of their own, but were extremely close with their nieces and nephews.

The Butlers believed very strongly in the importance of a solid education. Etta graduated from East Carolina University and taught elementary school at Broadway and Creedmoor Elementary Schools. Richard's formal education came through a more difficult path, through courses taken at International College in Ft. Wayne, Ind.; evening courses at Indiana University; and correspondence classes while in the army.

Born and raised in Defiance, Ohio, Richard Butler was not born wealthy, yet he lived a rich life. He served in the U.S. Army from 1940 until 1944. During that time, he served twenty-seven months in Ahwaz, Iran as the first enlisted U.S. soldier assigned to Foley Brothers, Spencer, White and Prentis, U.S. civilian contractors who built a supply line from the Persian Gulf to Kazvin, Iran as part of the Lend Lease Program. He then served as a mail carrier for the American Embassy in Tehran, carrying mail between Tehran and Tabriz, Iran. He was in Tehran during the Big Three Conference on Dec. 1, 1943 between Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin, and Franklin Roosevelt. An exhibit from Mr. Butler's time in Iran that includes period dolls, shoes, a headdress, cloth art, and carved pipes is on display in the Davis Memorial Library on the Methodist University campus.

Following his military career, Richard worked for Haskins and Sells before moving to Durham, N.C., where he worked for First Securities Corporation and then the N.C. Employment Security Commission as an auditor, where he retired. He was the first employee hired to work for First Securities as a cashier and worked there for 10 years. While there, he took advantage of the opportunity to buy odd lots of securities, where he began his love of investing. Until the last week of his life, he remained very involved in the management of his investments.

Both devout members of the United Methodist Church, Etta taught Sunday School at Calvary United Methodist for over 50 years and was also a member of Creedmoor United Methodist Church. Richard was a member of United Brethren Church in Defiance, and Calvary United Methodist Church in Durham. At Calvary, he was chairman of the board, church treasurer, and a delegate to the annual conference for a number of years. He also organized the church library, which was later named for him.



On the undergraduate level, the Richard P. and Etta A. Butler Memorial Endowed Scholarship gives first priority to members of the Trinity United Methodist Church of Defiance, Ohio; members of the Creedmoor United Methodist Church of Creedmoor, N.C.; to those who have resided at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, N.C.; and to students who are graduates of and/or who are transferring from Louisburg College in Louisburg, N.C.

Richard Butler considered himself a Yankee, but said that he had come to love the South. The scholarship gives preference to students coming from Defiance because he wanted to give them a chance to enjoy the South as much as he had. He also wanted preference to go to the Oxford Orphanage to offer these children an opportunity to attend a private four-year institution.

In the latter part of his life, Richard Butler valiantly dealt with a number of health issues and came to greatly appreciate the value of outstanding front-line medical providers. Therefore, the graduate-level Richard P. and Etta A. Butler Physician Assistant Endowed Scholarship is to be awarded to a first-year P.A. graduate student. By providing support to P.A. students, he hoped to improve the quality and availability of health care in North Carolina and beyond.

By helping students attend Methodist University, the Butlers hoped to support their church as well as provide an opportunity for eligible students in need.



THE GREATEST GIFT SCHOLARSHIP

Methodist University is one of only a few institutions that offer this unique scholarship opportunity. Alumni can award one new Greatest Gift scholarship per year to a full-time first-year day student or new transfer student who they actively recruit for undergraduate admission. Scholarships range from \$125 to \$1,000 per year for a four-year period.

In 2011-12, 205 Methodist alumni awarded their Greatest Gift Scholarships to prospective students. This, along with returning students, brought the total to 364 students receiving \$230,684 in Greatest Gift Scholarships for the academic year. Thank you for helping with our recruiting efforts!

To learn more about the Greatest Gift Scholarship and how you might locate prospective students, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (910) 630-7200, or log on to http://www.methodist.edu/Alum_dev/alumni_ggs.htm.

LIBERTY MUTUAL PARTNERSHIP

Methodist University and the MU Alumni Association's partnership with Liberty Mutual provides new benefits to all alumni – savings on auto, home, and renters insurance policies. A total of 21 new policies were written for alumni in the program's second year of operation, and now a total of 70 alumni are saving money on their insurance while benefitting their alma mater. This program yielded \$3,439.00 in savings for new policy holders and generated \$1,401.14 that helped to support alumni programs and activities. Thank you to all alumni who participated! To learn more about this benefit, visit www.libertymutual.com/methodistalumni.

2011-2012 ALUMNI GIVING Top Ten Classes

in Dollars Given and Participation

Dollars Given		Participation	
Class of '74	\$18,495.50	Class of '64	33.33%
Class of '70	\$17,754.10	Class of '68	27.78%
Class of '68	\$17,226.70	Class of '67	27.54%
Class of '65	\$14,075.00	Class of '70	26.19%
Class of '66	\$13,555.00	Class of '65	25.86%
Class of '69	\$11,745.00	Class of '66	23.64%
Class of '73	\$10,785.00	Class of '71	20.37%
Class of '93	\$10,327.00	Class of '69	18.45%
Class of '72	\$9,698.50	Class of '73	17.22%
Class of '90	\$8,330.11	Class of '74	15.20%

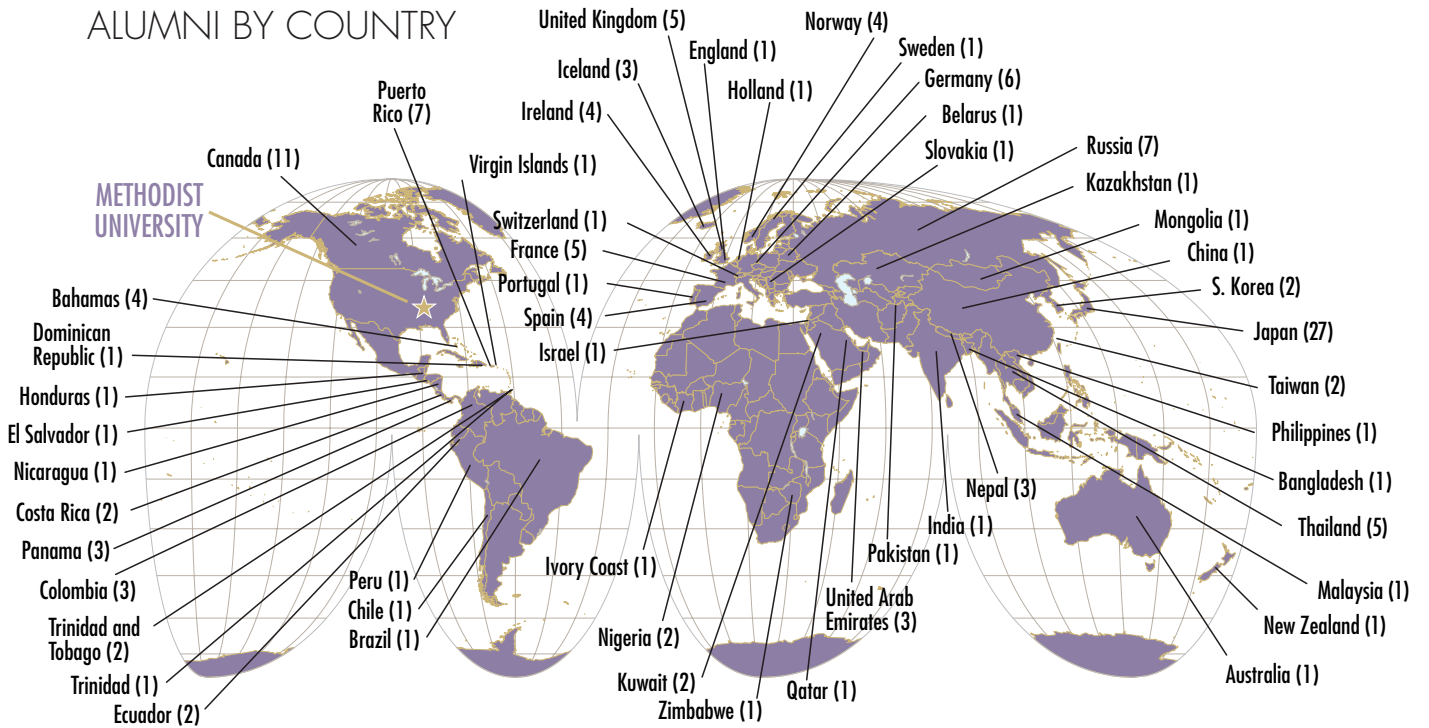
Methodist University sincerely appreciates all alumni gifts, whether large or small. The percentage of alumni participation is especially critical, as it impacts rankings and grants.



ALUMNI BY STATE



ALUMNI BY COUNTRY



Remembering...

BRUCE PULLIAM



Bruce Robert Pulliam, associate professor emeritus of social science, died July 8, 2012, at the age of 88. Bruce taught history and political science at Methodist from 1962 to 1987, chaired the Social Studies Division, and also served briefly as the dean of men and residence hall director of Cumberland Hall. His last visit to Methodist was in March, when he attended the presidential inauguration.

A native of Roxboro, N.C., Pulliam served in a medical detachment of the U.S. Army from 1943-45. He held a bachelor's degree in social studies from Wake Forest University and a master's degree in education from Western Carolina University; he did post graduate work at UNC-Chapel Hill and Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. Before joining the Methodist faculty, he taught at the American School in the Philippines and Japan, at Oak Ridge Military Academy, and at Fork Union Military Academy.

During his 25 years at Methodist, Bruce believed in supporting Methodist's mission, encouraged individual students to pursue their dreams, and was known for his keen intellect and sense of humor. In 1984, the Methodist College Alumni Association named him Professor of the Year. In a May 5, 1995 commencement address, Pulliam urged members of the Class of 1995 to "merge mind and will" in order to meet five challenges: "continuing the process of learning, becoming more involved in the political process, finding new ways to excite the tasks of reason and of developing moral sensibilities, responding to global challenges like overpopulation and environmental degradation, and distributing wealth in ways that will combat hunger and illiteracy."

Bruce Pulliam was an ardent Republican. In December 1992, he was a member of the Electoral College from North Carolina, representing the 7th Congressional District. He and 13 other Electoral College members attended a formal ceremony in Raleigh to cast their ballots. When interviewed for a feature article that appeared in *The Fayetteville Observer* December 17, 1992, Pulliam recalled that "some very good speeches were made" and said he had enjoyed voting for George Bush and his running mate Dan Quayle, a distant cousin.

During the 35 years he lived in Fayetteville, Bruce Pulliam joined the Society of Friends, became an elder at Quaker House, and served on the boards of the Fayetteville Symphony and the Fayetteville Museum of Art. He kept a journal, wrote poetry, and collected North Carolina pottery and art. He also established an endowed scholarship in his name at Methodist for students who show promise in their majors and have financial need.

At the time of his death he was living in Murfreesboro, N.C., where he and his twin brother Henry had moved in 1997 to be near their sister Mildred. There, he became a member of the local historical association and established the Bruce R. and Henry T. Pulliam Music Scholarship at Chowan University.

Bruce Pulliam is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Mildred and S. T. Wrenn of Murfreesboro; nephews, Jim Snead of Roxboro, Kevin Wrenn, Sr. of Ahoskie, Kenneth Wrenn of Greenville, and Karl Wrenn of Mooresville, and a host of great nieces and nephews.

ANN HEDGPETH THORNTON



Board of Trustees' member Ann Thornton passed away January 13, 2012. A businesswoman, church leader, community volunteer, and proponent of education at all levels, Ann was recognized numerous times in her home community of Clinton, N.C. One of her many accolades included being named Business Person of the Year by the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce.

A native of Lumberton, N.C., Ann grew up in the tobacco business and eventually took over the Bright Leaf Tobacco Company from her father. Ann and her husband, the late Albert G. Thornton, Jr., owned Thornton Chevrolet and Toyota in Clinton. She was the co-owner of North Elm Shopping Center, Hedgpeth Storage, and Celan Farms in Lumberton. In addition to owning Brightleaf of Sampson, her other businesses included A.G. Thornton Investments and Thornton Ventures in Clinton.

Ann Thornton joined the Methodist University Board of Trustees in 2004, and actively served on the Development and Nominations Committees. She also served on a number of boards in addition to Methodist, including the board of directors of New Century Bancorp, the Sampson Community College Foundation, the Sampson Regional Hospital Foundation, the Clinton Committee of 100, the Clinton Development Corporation, and the N.C. Museum of History. She was past president of the Clinton Rotary Club, the Sampson Community College Foundation, and the Sampson County Regional Medical Center Foundation. Ann was also an active member of First United Methodist Church in Clinton.

Ann loved to travel, and took many trips with a special group of friends. In 2009, rather than making their usual trip to Europe, the group traveled to Argentina. Her obituary shared that, at the age of 65, she walked the French countryside with her traveling friends. However, her true passion was dancing, and she and her former husband loved to dance. Years later, Ann still took first place during the 2009 Dancing with the Clinton Stars fundraising event for Clinton City Schools. Ann and her partner, Jeff Shipp, danced a jitterbug, and the event raised \$158,989, enough to put a SMART board in every classroom in the Clinton City Schools system.

Ann loved her three children and six grandchildren, but it was clear that the love of her life was her husband, Albert, who died of cancer at age 55. Pointing to a framed cartoon of long-time North Carolina coach Dean Smith and some members of the UNC Basketball team on the wall of her office, Ann once told a funny story about both she and Albert being Wake Forest graduates and Albert not being fond of Carolina, until both of their daughters attended and graduated from there. Ann shared that their friends ribbed him unmercifully when he joined the Rams Club and gave him the framed cartoon as a joke.

Because Ann Thornton was a tireless advocate and generous benefactor of Methodist University, the school has established the Ann H. Thornton Fund in her honor.

LURA S. TALLY



North Carolina Senator Lura S. Tally, the namesake of the University's Lura S. Tally Center for Leadership Development, died August 28, 2012 at the age of 90.

The longest-serving female legislator in state history at the time of her retirement in 1994, Ms. Tally was instrumental in the creation of the Lura S. Tally Center for Leadership Development at Methodist University, which was named after her in recognition of her career of leadership and service. The first leadership course was offered by the center in 1995. Since then, the Tally Center has grown to offer an Associate of Arts in leadership and management, in addition to minors in leadership studies and church leadership. The Center has also hosted numerous public forums and lectures over the years.

In the spring of 2012, Methodist University president Dr. Ben Hancock, Jr. announced that the Tally Center would be a part of the new MU Journey initiative, aimed at fulfilling the institution's motto to engage, enrich, and empower its students.

As a part of this new initiative, the Tally Center will mentor Leadership Fellows, students who complete a multi-year program of course work and extracurricular activities focusing on leadership.

ALUMNI NEWS

BIRTHS

Lauren Caulder Marsh '00 and husband Jeremy are pleased to announce the birth of Grayson Vance Marsh. He was born September 15, 2011, weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz., and was 19 inches long. The family resides in Eastover, N.C.



Garret Stempfer '01 and his wife Tara welcomed their third child and first daughter, Maisie Clare to the world on September 14, 2011. Big brothers Rece and Ian had been anxiously waiting her arrival. Garret and family are residents of Verona, Pa.



Jennifer Packard Clifton (a.k.a. "J.P.") '02 and her husband Hal had their second child, Packard Lloyd Clifton, January 10, 2010. He is the little brother of Abigail, age 5.



Patti Wisniewski Feipel '02 and her husband, Jim, welcomed their son, Cooper, into their family November 15, 2011. They continue to reside in the Naples, Fla. area where Patti works as a high school Art Teacher.



Darl Champion, Jr. '04 and wife Julia welcomed their first daughter, Elizabeth, in June 2012. She's off to a great start as a little Monarch!

Marilyn Wicker '07, '09M and her husband Andrew welcomed Andrew James Wicker "A.J." to the world on Saturday, June 9, 2012. He weighed 9 lbs. 15 ozs.

Deanna Piacente Decker '10 and **Matthew Decker '10** joyfully announce the birth of their daughter, Abriella Grace. Abriella Grace was born October 4, 2011 at 12:05 p.m. She weighed 9 lbs. 14 oz.



Olga Saprygina Forman, P.A. '06, '08M and her husband Christopher are proud to announce the birth of their first child Dominic Lee Forman.

He was born on July 17, 2012, in Orlando, Fla. Dominic weighed in at 7.4 lbs. and was 21 inches long.



ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Michael Haluski '92 and his wife Lynn of Fayetteville celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary January 22, 2012. The couple married in Ash Street Baptist Church in Forest Park, Ga., on January 22, 1972. The two have known each other since the second grade. Michael retired from the Army in 1990 after 20 years of service. Among other things they enjoy motorcycle riding and traveling. The couple has been blessed with a wonderful son and daughter-in-law, Jason and Caroline; and a granddaughter, Jordan.



Dawn Thompson '92 and **Nathan Krawczyk**, who attended Methodist in 2007, were married June 25, 2011. Dawn is a school administrator with Cumberland County Schools and Nathan is a 5th grade teacher in the county. The couple resides in Fayetteville, N.C.

Dena Maria Dail '00 was married to George W. Breece in a private ceremony held December 19, 2011 at Frenchman's Reef, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.



Whitney Dyann Larrimore '00 and Dan Edward Strickland II were united in marriage at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 11, 2011, at Union Grove Baptist Church in Salemburg. The Rev. Allen West of Union Grove Baptist Church officiated. The bride is an English instructor employed with Methodist University, and the groom is a technician employed with Dougherty Equipment Company. The couple honeymooned in Charleston, S.C., and resides in Stedman, N.C.

Malinda Lynn Ortega '01 and **Matthew Jacob Plumer '00**, both of Ashburn, Va., were joined in marriage at sunset November 6, 2010, at the beach-side gazebo at Dreams Resort in Los Cabos, Mexico. She is a senior corporate paralegal with The Gladstone Companies, a private equity firm in McLean, Va. The groom is a sales manager with JK Moving & Storage in Sterling, Va., and Gaithersburg, Md. The couple honeymooned in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, and now resides in Ashburn, Va.

Lourdes Isabel Sepulveda '01 and Jackson Kenton Lee were married at 5 p.m. Saturday, October 23, 2010, at Highland Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Dr. J. Ernest Johnson officiating. Lourdes is an accountant with Pinnacle Management. The groom is a sound engineer and lighting designer for Draughton Brothers Inc. in Fayetteville. The couple resides in Fayetteville.

Eric Warren Peele '03 was married to Valerie Nicole Johnson at Village Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C., September 17, 2011.



James Frederick Ross '03 has had his engagement to Kristen Nicole Smith announced. An October 20, 2012 wedding is planned at Horse Creek Winery in Nashville, Ga. She is employed by Valdosta City Schools as a first grade teacher at Sallas-Mahone Elementary. Jimmy earned a Master of Education from American College of Education after receiving his undergraduate degree at Methodist. He is now assistant principal at South Walton High School in Walton County Schools, Ga.

Melinda A. Porter '05 and Michael S. Cooper Jr. were married April 17, 2012, at Governor's Island Park in Bryson City, N.C. The Rev. Wayne Dickert officiated the ceremony, which was attended by family and friends. A dinner followed the ceremony. The couple will live in Bryson City.

Megan Gleason Gallagher '06 married Andrew Gallagher on April 14, 2012. The wedding was held in Virginia Beach, Va. Several MU Alumni were in attendance including: Ms. Colleen King '07, Ms. Casie Culver '07, Mr. Nicholas Kimps '06, Ms. Nikki Ireland '06, and Ms. Heather Gilroy. The couple resides in Portsmouth, Va., where Megan is the head athletic trainer at Churchland High School and Andrew is a Grillardin at The Vintage Tavern, a fine dining restaurant. The Gallagher's honeymooned in Hawaii in June.



William Helms '06 is pleased to announce his marriage to Rebecca Zubek. William is a second grade teacher with the Cumberland County School System and Rebecca is a Physical Therapist with the Cape Fear Valley Hospital System. The couple was wedded in Rebecca's home town of Central City, Pa., Saturday, July 28, 2012.



Doris Jackson Munoz '06 was married to Robert Munoz on the campus of Methodist University at the fountain. In true Jackson fashion, it was an MU event, with the following Monarch alumni in attendance (*photo, left to right*): Camille Dunn '70; Samantha Gamble '09; Leslie Dunn '05; Dianne Dunn Jones '01; Jerry Keen '65, Trustee; Keva Wilson Melvin '09, Alumni Association Board; Ralph Chew '10, Alumni Association Board; Lynn Clark '72, MU Retiree; Donna Wilson '10, MU Staff; The Rev. Dr. Jerry Jackson '75, Alumni Association Board; Nick Kimps '06; Doris Jackson Munoz '06, MU Staff; Jerianne Jackson '10; Roni Wilkinson '05; Jessica Wanger '07; Deanna Piacente Decker '10; Megan Ondrey '11; Matt Decker '10; Danny Dawson; Kara Dawson '06; Matt Seals '05; and The Rev. Dr. Mike Safley '75, Vice President for Church and University Relations.

Amy Elizabeth Faucette, P.A. '06, '08M and **Timothy Ryan Schenk, P.A. '11M** were united in marriage June 11, 2011, at Fuquay-Varina Baptist Church. The bride's uncle, Rev. Kim B. Faucette, officiated the 6 p.m. ceremony, which was followed by a reception at the Rand Bryan House in Garner. Amy is currently employed by Davidson Ear, Nose, Throat and Sinus Center in Thomasville. Ryan graduated from North Carolina State University in 2005 and from Methodist University's Physician Assistant Program in 2008. He is currently employed by Salisbury Orthopaedic Associates. Following a wedding trip to St. Lucia, the couple is making their home in Salisbury.

Catherine Elizabeth McDaniel '07 and Alexander Louis Hurley, both of Eastover, were married at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2011, at Salem United Methodist Church in Eastover. The Rev. Dr. William Snoterly performed the ceremony. Catherine is a second grade teacher at Sherwood Park Elementary School in

Cumberland County and her husband is a firefighter and an EMT with the City of Fayetteville. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and the Caribbean, and now resides in Eastover.

Aaron Yvonne Smith '07 is now engaged to Christopher Daniel Bumgarner. The bride-elect is currently working as a staff accountant at Griffin, Maxwell and Frazelle in Fayetteville. The groom-elect is a project manager at Intergraph Government Solutions on Fort Bragg. The couple plans to marry at 4:30 p.m. on October 13, 2012, at the First Baptist Church in historic downtown Fayetteville with Pastor Christopher Graves officiating. The couple will reside in Fayetteville.

Katherine Elizabeth Matthews '08 and **Micah Jonas Vugrinec '07** were united in matrimony at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 10, 2011, at Clement Baptist Church with Dr. James Dees, Jr. officiating. She is an accountant at Martin's Wholesale Meats, Inc. in Godwin, N.C. and he is an assistant golf professional at Highland Country Club in Fayetteville, N.C.

Adam Andrew Tew '08 was married to Erica Nicole Willis in a wedding that took place on Topsail Island, Saturday, April 23, 2011. The bride is currently employed as a physician assistant of dermatology at Goldsboro Skin Center. The groom is a teacher and coach of football, basketball, and baseball at Gray's Creek Middle School in Hope Mills. He is also currently pursuing a Master's in Education at ECU.



Ben Gray '09 has announced his engagement to Sydney Dodd. Sydney is a professional actress, and Ben proposed to her on stage during a performance of "Chicago!" last fall. The couple plans to marry this September.

Kristin Victoria Chamberlain, P.A. '09M and John Joseph Kinstrey III were married May 12, 2012, at Whitford Plantation in New Bern, N.C. The groom serves in the United States Coast Guard in Atlantic Beach. The bride is a Physician Assistant with Cape Fear Valley Health System.

CLASS NOTES

Kyle Gregory Dodson '09 was joined in holy matrimony with Kelly Austin Jenkins May 5, 2012, at 5 p.m. at Snyder Memorial Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C. Kelly is with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Fort Bragg. Kyle currently works for Holmes Security in Fayetteville.

Emily Marie Sasser '09 was married to **Kyle Scott Fera '09** Saturday, May 5, 2012, at Bluff Presbyterian Church in Wade, N.C. Emily is the daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Terry Sasser '84, '78** of Eastover, N.C.

Keva Wilson '09 and **Bradford Melvin '05** were married July 23, 2011 in Wilmington, Del. In attendance were Ralph Chew '10 Doris Jackson '06, Nicole Rainovich '08, Kenny Tien, Michael Price, Rachel Bethea, Jonathon Promise, '02 Daniel Smith '05, Christina Gibson '04, Jordon Aytch. Keva teaches at Reid Ross and Brad works for Fayetteville City Parks and Recreation.

Lauren Kay Ratley '10 was married to **Andrew Ralph Dempster Jr., '08** at 5 p.m., December 10, 2011, at Wesley Heights United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, N.C. Lauren is currently pursuing a master's degree in elementary education at Fayetteville State University and is employed by Cumberland County Schools as a 2nd-grade teacher at Long Hill Elementary School in Fayetteville. Andrew is currently in his third year of law school at North Carolina Central University School of Law in Durham.



Vicky Binh Tran '10 and Edwin Young were married July 7, 2012 at Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.

Ashley Nicole Fish '11M and Christopher Greg Black were joined in marriage April 28, 2012 at 6 p.m. at Barclay Villa in Angier, N.C.

Tiffany Mills, P.A. '08, '11M is engaged to **Austin Lehmann, Jr., P.A. '09, '11M**. Tiffany is a PA-C specializing in dermatology at Sanford Dermatology in Sanford, N.C. Austin is a PA-C specializing in urgent care/general practice medicine at Fast Med Urgent Care of North Carolina. A December 16, 2012 wedding is planned.

Michael Poole '11 was married to Chastity Register in May. The bride currently attends Robeson Community College pursuing a degree in surgical technology. The groom is a graduate Methodist with a B.S. in criminal justice.



Larry Green '65 turned 70 in March 2012, and his wife secretly arranged for three of "the guys" from his class to make a surprise visit to Kansas City, Kan. to celebrate it in style. Larry said, "It was a total surprise and shock. None of them had ever been here and I missed all the clues that something was planned. They just showed up at my door. The best surprise and birthday present ever." [Photo, l to r: **George Potts '65**, Fayetteville, N.C.; **Phil Levine '65**, Charlotte, N.C.; **Dave Altman '65**, Boston, Mass; and **Larry Green '65**, Overland Park, Kan.]

Gen. John W. Handy, USAF (Ret.) '66 has joined the Board of Directors of SkyBitz, a leader in remote asset tracking and information management solutions. General Handy was the Commander of the United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) and Air Mobility Command from 2001 to 2005.

Wanda Herring '66 was featured in the *Fayetteville Observer* for her new book, "Beneath the Mango Trees," on Sunday, October 23, 2011, and more recently in the *TCPalm News* in an author spotlight on July 1. Wanda is also the author of the nonfiction book "Down the Chicken Foot Road" and the children's book "Truffle: One Special Bunny." Her newest release is a charming book of verse that conveys her humor and a love of nature and gardening. Herring and her husband live in Florida. She is a retired teacher with her own publishing company, Sharp & Shuler Press. You can view delightful videos about and purchase each of these books at www.sharppandshulerpress.com.

Mike Stevens '69, retired from Unisource, a paper distributor, in 2010. He and his wife **Cecily Smith Stevens '69**, now live in Wilmington, N.C. Cecily continues to work for SoftPro Corporation and plans to retire later this year. They would love to hear from some of their former class mates. They can be reached at stevensmichaelw@gmail.com.

Wade E. Byrd '70, a partner at the Law Offices of Wade E. Byrd P.A., was re-elected to the executive committee of the North Carolina Advocates for Justice. In his position on the board, he will serve as American Association for Justice governor.

Leonard and Coleen Doucette '74, '74 moved to New Bern, N.C. last November. They are now closer to their daughter, Maryanne Doucette Stark and her husband Colby, who had a baby boy November 27. She is now expecting a second child. They also have a son who lives in Pamlico County with his wife and the Doucette's five-year-old grandson. They are enjoying their retirement and spending time with family and especially grandchildren.

(continued on next page)

CLASS NOTES (cont'd)

Lee Warren '75 was inducted into the N.C. Ducks Unlimited Hall of Fame in March. Lee, who serves as Cumberland County's Register of Deeds, has been a volunteer for the conservation group since 1983. He's served as chairman for the group's youth Greenwing program, as well as area chairman, district chairman, state sponsor chairman, deputy state chairman and state chairman.

Sue Duffitt Richards '76. "How many Methodist University graduates have influenced over 3,000,000 teens through her writings? I know of at least one," writes her husband Larry,

with whom she wrote the features in the Zondervan *Teen Study Bible*. "Chances are that a good percentage of students currently enrolled in Methodist used this Bible in their teen years," wrote Larry. Sue taught eleventh grade English in Florida for ten years before moving to Raleigh, N.C. Currently Sue is working on a master's in Counseling Psychology at the Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, and one of her surprises through her research for her M.A. program was to discover how many young people used the Teen Study Bible during their adolescence. When she finishes grad school in 2012, Sue hopes to work with troops struggling with PTSD.

Thomas Pope '78 was named sports editor of *The Fayetteville Observer* in September 2011. He was assistant sports editor from 2009 and a member of the Sports staff since he started with the newspaper in 1978. He has excelled as a motorsports writer during his career at the *Observer*, winning the Writer of the Year award from the National Motorsports Press Association in 1994 and 25 other motorsports writing awards. Pope graduated from Methodist University in 1978 with a degree in economics and business administration.

Robert S. Tew, Jr. '79 has retired from the state of North Carolina's Department of Motor Vehicles License and Theft Bureau after 30 years of service. He is now working part-time with the Harnett County Sheriff's Department, and enjoying it very much. He and his wife have a son, **Adam Tew**, who graduated from Methodist in 2008, who is now teaching and coaching at Gray's Creek Middle School in Hope Mills, and a daughter **Megan**, who will graduate from Methodist in December 2012. We are grateful to the Tews for keeping MU in the family!

Cynthia Whetzel '81, who has taught U.S. History at Pine Forest High School in Fayetteville, N.C. for 26 years, earned National Board Certification in 2008.

MaryPaul Beall '82 is the new principal of Wrightsville Beach School in Wrightsville Beach, N.C. After a long teaching career, she became principal at Alderman Elementary School from 2004 to 2007, after which she became the principal at Williston Middle School, both in New Hanover County. At Wrightsville Beach, she'll have about 15 teachers plus support staff and some 300 students.

Mamoru Kubota '82 and **Lynn Kubota '84** have moved to Goshen, Kentucky. Boots has taken a job as Product Manager for GE in Louisville, Ken. Their son, David, is a freshman at North Oldham High School in Goshen.

Carla Padilla '83 has joined Fayetteville State University's Office of Sponsored Research and Programs as the compliance officer. Padilla has several national certifications and experience in assisting agencies and institutions through designing and implementing procedures to maintain compliance with national safety and environmental protection regulations. She previously served for two decades at Methodist University in a variety of faculty, research and administrative positions.

MU STARTS FREE BIKE PROGRAM



This fall, Methodist University introduced a free, community bicycle program to campus, encouraging everyone to "Take a Ride on MU." The goal of the program is to provide a healthy, convenient, and environmentally friendly alternative to driving.

Forty new bicycles were initially purchased and set out across campus, as well as new bike racks and signs explaining the concept. The bikes are all black with a green MU sticker on the frame, and are never supposed to be locked to a bike rack. Some bikes with locks were assigned to Student Government Association leaders.

The bikes are available for all students, faculty and staff for short-term use anywhere on campus before being returned to the nearest bike rack. "Take a Ride on MU" has been such a success that the Campus Enhancement Committee plans to add more bikes to the program, as well as bike helmets that people can check out with their MU ID.



Pat Schob '84 is now the principal of the new Albritton Middle School on Ft. Bragg, after a reorganization of schools that sent 9th graders to the Cumberland County Schools and created middle schools on base for 6th to 8th graders. Pat was featured in a September 5, 2011 *Fayetteville Observer* article.

David Lincoln '87 has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, USAF. David is currently assigned to the Pentagon in Arlington, Va.

John Walsh '87, a 23-year veteran of the mobility industry, was named Chief Executive Officer of the Vehicle Production Group LLC (VPG), based in Miami, Florida in March 2012. VPG builds the MV-1, the only factory-produced wheelchair-accessible car. Walsh most recently served as President and CEO of National Bus Sales & Leasing, where under his leadership company revenues doubled while reducing overall costs.

Joie L. Gooch, '89 was ordained on December 6, 2009 as Associate Pastor at Christian Provision Ministries in Sanford, N.C., where he assumed the position of pastor of protocol. Joie has served at Christian Provision Ministries for 17 years and has had various roles such as youth leader, worship leader, finance director and operations director. Joie currently resides in Apex, N.C. with his wife, Brenda and his daughter Gabrielle. They also have two sons serving in the U.S. Army.

Dr. Miranda McCall Brand '89 was recently promoted to Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Kaplan University. Miranda began working with Kaplan University in 2006 as an instructor in the Graduate School of Education, and joined the College of Arts & Sciences as Chair of the Department of Educational Studies in 2008. She served twenty years as a public school educator before joining Kaplan University. Her experience in Pre-K-12 education began in the elementary classroom, and she later served as a curriculum coordinator and as an administrator.

Several Methodist alumni were appointed to new posts as principals this year in the Cumberland County (N.C.) Schools. **David Haggerty '98** became principal at Terry Sanford High School. **Tonya Page '89**, formerly principal at Morganton Road Elementary, is now the principal at New Century Middle School. **Tim Gardner '89**,

former assistant principal at Montclair Elementary School, has replaced Tonya Page as principal at Morganton Road Elementary.

Ron Cooke '90 has been appointed to The NC Junior Golf Foundation Board of Directors. He is a territory manager at GAF Corporation, a former golf professional, and he played on two NCAA National Championship teams while he was at Methodist. The NC Junior Golf Foundation serves junior golfers to help grow the game and provide affordable competitive play opportunities at top North Carolina golf courses.

William Halliburton '90 was named chief of the Albemarle (N.C.) Police Department November 21, 2011. Halliburton had served as assistant chief of police in Statesville, N.C. since 2008, and during his 19-year career at the Statesville Police Department, he served as captain of the criminal investigation division and as a lieutenant in the patrol and community services divisions.



Leech Tishman law firm recently welcomed **Ericson P. Kimbel '92** to its Pittsburgh, Pa. office. Eric has joined the firm's Construction and Litigation Practice Groups. He will focus

his practice on construction litigation, arbitration and mediation, representing subcontractors, contractors, design-builders and construction managers on both public and private projects. During the course of his career, Eric has served as counsel in complex construction cases involving project delays, disruptions and inefficiencies, and has vast experience in prosecuting and defending mechanics' liens, bond claims and payment claim matters. Eric is also experienced in negotiating and drafting construction contracts of all types.

LeCarla Gardner '93 gave an organ recital on Sunday, May 6, 2012 at Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church in Clinton, NC. She is studying organ under the direction of Mrs. Pam Langston, church organist.

James Cook '95 has been named Chief Operating Officer of Sayre Enterprises, Inc. headquartered in the Stonebridge Center

in Natural Bridge Station, Va.

Tim Mueller '96 was named the general manager of The West Virginia Power, a minor league baseball team, and will oversee the day-to-day operations and sales efforts of the team. He brings 15 years of industry experience with him, most recently as the vice president of the Kannapolis Intimidators, a South Atlantic League team.

Jeff Johnson '97, Director of Golf at the Ryder Course at Ft. Bragg, N.C., had his article "PGA Best Practice on Player Development" published in the September 2011 issue of *PGA* magazine.

Mary Mercer '98 passed the Certified Fraud Exam in September 2011 and became a Certified Fraud Examiner. Mary lives in Fayetteville and works in the Accounting Office of Methodist University.

Johnny Wilson '99 has been named the Executive Director of Fayetteville Urban Ministry. Johnny has worked with the Find-a-Friend mentoring program at Fayetteville Urban Ministry since 1999, and became Associate Executive Director of the nonprofit agency two years ago.

Congratulations to the following MU alumni named to the *Fayetteville Observer's* "40 Under 40" up-and-comers list for 2012:

- **Kristin McCarthy '96**, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
- **Johnny Wilson '99**, Fayetteville Urban Ministry

Stephanie Oldham Mathis MT ASCP '00 began a new traveling assignment with Medical Staffing Network in May 2012, in the laboratory of Sentara Princess Anne Hospital in Virginia Beach, Va.

Melanie Loughin '01, head golf professional at The Mines Golf Course in Grand Rapids, Mich., has been hired as the new women's golf coach at Davenport University in Grand Rapids. Melanie becomes the second coach in the history of the women's program at Davenport. She spent the past three years as the girl's golf coach at Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School.

Leighann Albaugh '02 was the selection as head coach for Randolph-Macon when the Virginia college announced that it would be adding women's golf as an intercollegiate sport. The Yellow Jackets have started recruiting will begin competition in fall of 2012. Leighann was the Head Golf Professional at the Hollows Golf Club and had previous head coaching experience at the University of Richmond, where she led the Spiders into the top-100 of Golfstat's national rankings for the first time in program history. Richmond posted seven top-10 finishes in 11 tournaments in 2005-06, including four top-five finishes, and three times taking third in a tournament.

Amanda Dixon '03 is the new director of Workforce and Economic Development Programming at Richmond Community College in Scotland County, N.C. She said that "Our goal is to meet the educational needs of students to help in their development and career growth, both for those already employed and for those seeking to refine their skills to gain employment," and she had exciting plans for new programs to train individuals to meet workforce needs. Dixon is married to State Highway Patrolman Hugh Dixon, and they have two children, Madison, 4, and Jerrison, 2 years of age.

Ginny Deffendall '04, Marketing Coordinator for Cape Fear Valley Health System, recently earned her MBA from Fayetteville State University.

Captain Eric Michael Folsom '05, USA, was featured in a photo on the cover of the December 12, 2011 *People* magazine, representing troops returning from Iraq at Fort Hood, Texas and reuniting with their families. Captain Folsom was pictured hugging two of his children.

John Sjoberg '05 had been appointed head golf coach at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. Sjoberg takes over for Mike Phillips who retired following the 2011 season after serving as the head of the Eagles' program for 28 years. Sjoberg has been Emory's assistant coach the past three years and

helped the Eagles to a first-place finish at the 2011 University Athletic Association Championships. During his stint with Emory, Sjoberg has played a key role in the program making three NCAA D-III Championship appearances, and this past year's eighth-place effort was the first top-10 showing by the Eagles since 2006.

Vince Zachwieja '05 was appointed head golf professional at Wolf Creek Golf and Country Club in Bastian, Va., in 2011.

Ashley Kotz '07 is serving as Choir Director of Salem United Methodist Church and Director of Salem Fine Arts Academy in Eastover, N.C.

Michael McEvoy '07 is employed by Ashland Chemical. The company recently bought a plant in Texas City, Tex., and he has been promoted to be its Senior Safety Engineer. He has moved to Galveston, Tex.

Derek Tyson '07 has been tabbed to take the reins of the Saint Francis University men's golf program in Loretto, Pa. Tyson, who will also take over as the head professional at the university's Immergrün Golf Club, served as the PGA Assistant Professional at Sunnehanna Country Club in Johnstown, Pa. since May of 2006. Derek has also worked at Valley Brook Country Club (McMurray, Pa.) and Cordillera Valley Course (Edwards, Colo.) in 2004 and 2005, respectively. In April of 2004 he served as Range Manager for Tournament Operations at the PGA Tour MCI Heritage Classic hosted by Harbor Town Golf Links (Hilton Head, S.C.).

Brock White '07 is the new recruiter for the PGA Golf Management Program at Methodist University. Brock had been the Head Golf Professional at King's Grant.

Marc Halcomb '08 was named Circuit 5 Employee of the Month for the Florida Department of Children and Families. Circuit 5 encompasses five Florida counties; Marion, Lake, Citrus, Sumter, and Hernando. He was also named Child Protective Investigator of the Month for June and July 2011 for the Marion County Service Center.

Andrew L. Ouellet '08 has been appointed as the new Golf Professional at Mohegan Sun Country Club at Pautipaug in Baltic, Conn. His previous positions include Assistant Golf Professional jobs at the Lakewood Country Club in Colorado, Minocqua Country Club in Wisconsin, the Orchard's Golf Club in South Hadley, Mass., and Twin Hills Country Club in Longmeadow, Mass. Ouellet is a member of the Connecticut PGA Education Committee and was a finalist for the "2011 Connecticut Section Assistant Golf Professional of the Year" award.

Laura Solano '08 has been hired as a business consultant for the Center for Economic Empowerment & Development (CEED) in Fayetteville, N.C. She is a native of Bogota, Colombia, and has experience as a Spanish instructor teaching Special Forces soldiers. She also has volunteered at CEED helping to write business plans and assist in marketing.

Since graduation, **Bambi White '08** has worked as a Fingerprint Technician for the Washington State Patrol. Now her family has moved to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where she will continue working on a Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in Human Resources.

Philip Betterly '09 spent 2011 as an assistant coach for the New Market (Va.) Rebels. Next season he will be back in the Valley League — as a manager. The Woodstock River Bandits announced this summer that Betterly has been hired as the team's manager for the 2012 season. Betterly is currently an assistant coach at Frostburg State University in western Maryland.

Brian Rashley '09 has been promoted to Head PGA Golf Professional at Seaview; a Troon Golf-managed facility in Galloway, N.J. Brian has served as Assistant Golf Professional and Teaching Professional at Seaview since May 2008. During his tenure at Seaview, he has been instrumental in developing a ladies league/clinic and a junior program, as well as implementing a variety of instructional programs that supported growth of the game initiatives such as Play Golf America Days.

Taron Stubbs '09, '11M is now an executive recruiter with Randstad Staffing in Charlotte, N.C. His firm places people from entry level and temporary positions to executive level technical, accounting, sales, marketing, and management. He is especially interested in helping out his fellow Monarchs, and would welcome your call if you are looking to make a change in careers. He can be reached at Taron.Stubbs@us.randstad.com, or 704.972.3793.

Trey Howell '10 qualified for the Nationwide Tour's Rex Hospital Open after finishing second in the Carolinas PGA tournament held at North Ridge Country Club in Raleigh. "This is a huge accomplishment and a big step towards the direction I want to go in my professional golf career," Howell said. "I have been working towards this moment since I graduated college."

Gary Michel '10, '11M, is the new Head Golf Pro at King's Grant Golf and Country Club in Fayetteville, N.C.

Brittany Campbell '11 has joined The Re-Store Warehouse in Fayetteville, N.C. as the marketing coordinator. She will handle all social and electronic media and public relations, and coordinate special events.

Kaitlin Flaherty '11 has been hired as the new Assistant Director of Methodist University's Professional Tennis Management (PTM) Program. A former No. 1 Lady Monarchs singles player and MU Admissions Representative, Kaitlin is expected to earn her M.B.A. in Organizational Leadership and Management from Methodist in December.

Business and Sport Management graduate **Stephen Fox '11** completed an internship with USA Baseball and was immediately

hired by NY Mets MLB Team affiliate the St. Lucie Mets (www.minorleaguebaseball.com/index.jsp?sid=t507). Mr. Fox became the director of sales and merchandising November 14, 2011.

Jennifer Hamel '11 is the newest member of the USTA Middle States staff. As the Tennis Service Representative for the Philadelphia Area District serving Bucks, Chester and Montgomery counties, Jenn will work under the direction of the Director of Community Development. Jenn's role is to develop youth and adult tennis programs at clubs, park and recreation agencies and schools in the Philadelphia area.

Abhishek Kansakar '11 was just accepted to NC State on a full scholarship in their graduate accounting program.

Nancy May '11 was awarded the 2012 Toby Brown Award from the National Association of Social Workers North Carolina Chapter (NASW-NC) in April. The award recognizes the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) student of North Carolina who best reflects and represents the ethics, values, and passion in the field of social work through exemplary performance in social work coursework, field placement, student social work associations, and community organizations. This award program was established in memory of and to honor Dr. James S. "Toby" Brown who died in 1995. He was an Assistant Professor of Social Work at North Carolina State University and was a highly recognized educator and practitioner. Nancy May graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Methodist University Bachelor of Social Work Program in December 2011. As an active member of the Social Work Club at Methodist, Nancy helped develop a partnership with Face to Faith Homeless Ministry in Fayetteville.

Gretchen McLean '11 has left Bayonet at Puppy Creek and her job as Head Golf Professional. The Fayetteville native is now the membership coordinator for the Pine Needles and Mid Pines Resorts in Southern Pines. McLean, 21, helped the Monarchs win a 14th straight NCAA Division III golf championship in her senior year. She started working at Bayonet in June 2011, making her one of the youngest pros and one of the few female head pros in the state.

Thomas Muse '11M is running for the 68th state Senate District in South Carolina. Thomas graduated from Coastal Carolina University with a BSBA in Business Management; he went on to receive his MBA in Organizational Management and Leadership from Methodist.

Jose Pablo Sala-Rojas '11 has been accepted to graduate school at High Point University.

Whitney Moore '12 has been hired as an Admissions Counselor at Methodist University.

Brittany Verner '12 is the new Sales and Catering Manager at the brand new Embassy Suites Hotel in Fayetteville, N.C.



Athletic Director Bob McEvoy and President Ben Hancock present the Lowdermilk Award to one of the members of the team that won that award during the Hall of Fame Golf Tournament Friday, June 1 — Mason Sykes. Others on the Lowdermilk Award-winning team were Tim Holtsclaw '92, Mike Geske, and Jamie Sykes '93.



MU ON THE MOVE!

President Ben Hancock and other MU representatives have visited with alumni and MU family all over the country in the last year, from New York City to Atlanta. There have been 16 *MU on the Move!* events over the last year, including stops in Richmond, Va.; Boston, Mass.; and Pittsburgh, Pa.; as well as several events around North Carolina.

Where will we go next?
Visit methodist.edu/alumni
to see if the next event is
near you, or check out the
Methodist University
Alumni page on Facebook.



Charlotte, N.C.



Wilmington, N.C.

Triad Area, N.C.





New York, N.Y.

Pinehurst, N.C.



Myrtle Beach, S.C.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM GRADUATE RECEIVES U.S. ARMY SURGEON GENERAL'S PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AWARD



Army Medical Specialist Corps Chief Colonel Theresa Schneider, Captain Manuel Menendez, and Physician Assistant Section Chief of the Army Medical Specialist Corps. Lieutenant Colonel John Balsler

A graduate of the Methodist University Physician Assistant Program has been awarded the U.S. Army Surgeon General's Physician Assistant Recognition Award. This high honor is given to one active duty Army physician each year who has made significant contributions to military medicine.

Captain Manuel "Manny" Menendez was presented with the award May 9 at a ceremony at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Capt. Menendez is a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment and stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. He graduated from the Methodist University Physician Assistant Program in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in health science.

Capt. Menendez was one of 38 nominees for this year's award. In his nomination, Capt. Menendez's battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Marcus S. Evans, spoke highly of his versatility and skills, often exercised under fire during combat. In 2011, Capt. Menendez deployed twice, each time serving as the lead medical officer for a joint special operations task force with more than 500 soldiers, providing expert medical support to more than 200 missions. He received a Bronze Star Medal and an Army Commendation Medal for his actions.

"His leadership, clinical acumen, knowledge and experience have made him an indispensable asset to the unit whether he is delivering life-saving, point-of-injury care on the battlefield or designing, developing and reviewing protocols and guidelines that can impact medical personnel throughout the army," said Lt. Col. Evans.

Off the battlefield, Capt. Menendez helped redesign the 3rd Ranger Battalion's Combat Trauma Management Course, the new format of which was adopted by the entire regiment and is now the standard followed by all four Ranger

battalions. He developed the Advanced Ranger First Responder Course, which provides enhanced trauma management skills to the non-medical rangers of the battalion, and he improved protocol for pain management and helped to revise the Ranger Medic Handbook and the Physician Assistant Handbook.

Biology Professor Dr. Margaret Folsom, who was Capt. Menendez's advisor when he was a student, said he was never a person to step away from helping others. After the news broke that many first responders had been trapped in the Twin Towers Sept. 11, 2001, she remembered he immediately wanted to help.

"He started talking about what, if anything, could be done by students at Methodist to help with this situation," said Dr. Folsom. "That was so very Manny. He is action-oriented and caring, so he's not going to sit around caring idly, he's going to do something about it."

Christina Beard MPAS, PA-C, '03, director of the PA Program, was also an undergraduate MU student with Menendez. The program transitioned from a bachelor's level to a master's level program in 2001.

"Manny is a hard-working, caring and intelligent man who is well deserving of the award," said Beard. "He has a love for family, medicine and his country that is admirable. Methodist is proud to call him one of our own."

Capt. Menendez, who is originally from Puerto Rico, joined the Army in 1997. He is married to Wendy Menendez, also a Methodist alumnus, class of 2005. They have a daughter, Emily.



[Engage. Enrich. Empower.]
PRESIDENT'S BLOG
methodist.edu

ANNOUNCING 100 PARTNERSHIPS

I look forward to celebrating other University Partnerships in the future and reminding all of us how important it is to engage people in order to achieve the highest level of success.

Make sure to check out President Ben Hancock's blog, President's Pen, as he counts "100 Partnerships" throughout the year. You can read the blog by clicking the link on the MU homepage, or by visiting methodist.edu/blog.

Count with us as Hancock highlights the many benefits of MU partnerships and celebrates the contributions made by these partners to the University. Over the next 12 months, he plans to identify and recognize 100 partnerships, and illustrate how they've played a pivotal role in meeting MU's strategic priorities and delivering on the promise to provide an exceptional educational experience to each MU student.

At the Opening Convocation, President Hancock recognized the first four partnerships, those closest to home at the University. The Methodist University Board of Trustees, Methodist University Alumni Association Board of Directors, Methodist University Board of Visitors, and the Methodist University Foundation Board make numbers 1 through 4.

A fifth partnership was announced on Sept. 20 with the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce.





Office of Institutional Advancement
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Fayetteville, North Carolina 28311
methodist.edu

Return Address Requested



MU on the MOVE!

2012-2013

Come out to network with alumni, parents, and friends of Methodist and learn about exciting new developments at the University! President Hancock and other Methodist University faculty and staff will introduce you to the new Campus Master Plan, the new MU Journey designed to enhance student success, and ways you can plug in and engage in the emerging Monarch Network!

Charlotte, N.C.	October 24, 2012, 6:30 p.m., Ten at Park Lanes
Fayetteville, N.C.	November 19, 5:30 p.m. in Reeves prior to 7:30 p.m. All Choirs Concert
Dallas, Texas	December 10, Dinner with the President
Tampa, Fla.	Wednesday, January 23, 2013, Meet and Greet Reception
Orlando, Fla.	Thursday, January 24, PGA Show Reception
Washington, D.C.	Tuesday, February 5, Meet and Greet Reception
Richmond, Va.	February, Meet and Greet Reception, date TBA
Wilmington, N.C.	Friday, March 8, Reception prior to Concert by MU Chorale
Myrtle Beach, S.C.	Saturday, March 9, Reception prior to Concert by MU Chorale
Jacksonville, Fla.	Sunday, March 10, Reception prior to Concert by MU Chorale
Greenville, S.C.	Thursday, June 13, Annual Conference Dinner and Alumni Event
Hampton Road, Va.	Saturday, June 22, MU goes to Frogland Jam!

