



Southern Wesleyan University

FOCUS

WINTER 2007

Stepping forward, kneeling down and reaching out

**By David J. Spittal, president
Southern Wesleyan University**

A recent article in INC magazine titled "In Praise of Selflessness" suggested that leaders are more effective if they combine leadership with selfless service. This secular publication stated that the idea of selflessness is not a new concept, since the Bible speaks clearly about the concept of loving our neighbors or living beyond ourselves. Yet, in the context of our fast-moving success-oriented world, it seems the idea of serving others is contradictory to the expectations that appear to be required for success.

Robert Greenleaf, a retired AT&T executive, studied leadership and noted the powerful impact of a leader who also wants to serve. He defines servant leaders as those who possess "a natural feeling that one wants to serve." His work focused on the development of servant leaders and his research demonstrated that these servant-style leaders seemed to cause others to grow and they also seem to live "healthier, wiser,

freer and more likely to themselves become servants."

The gospel of Mark quotes the words of Jesus and his challenge to his followers to place themselves last and to become servants of all. Now this does not mean that servants of Christ do whatever everyone tells them to do, as servants can often be abused and misused. Servanthood is not enslavement, but is a person's deep innate desire to help where help is needed, to heal when there is hurt, to give when there is need and to serve all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Southern Wesleyan University has a rich tradition of caring, and it is appropriate that we model service above self. Our campus is surrounded by stories of men and women, both past and present, who gave much and sacrificed often for the needs of others. Our mission rests upon a strong and deep desire to create a "culture of care" and, in doing so, demonstrate that desire both within and beyond our campus boundaries.

Jesus clearly understands our world and its many demands and expectations. He has not called us to be perfect or to create a self-fulfilling form of servanthood. Instead, he has called us simply to go where he goes, see what he sees and serve as he would serve. Whether it's just a glass of water, a sympathetic ear or an encouraging word, he calls us to live as willing servants ready to step forward, kneel down or perhaps reach out as he invites us to follow him.

May those who come behind us find us faithful.



Southern Wesleyan University
FOCUS

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The sound of progress

Southern Wesleyan University choir members perform at a recent banquet, accompanied by Jane Dill, music professor and chair of the fine arts department. Dill is playing the university's new Steinway piano, delivered to the campus Aug. 21. The piano was donated to Southern Wesleyan University for use in the new Faith Newton Hopson Chapel and Fine Arts Center, under construction at the campus in Central. See pages 4 and 5 for an update on the project and for opportunities to contribute.

On the cover

The theme for this issue of Focus magazine is "Servant Leadership." We salute those who lead others in our communities and our classrooms. Much like the three wise men who bowed before Christ, our best leaders serve others with passion and humility.



**SOUTHERN
WESLEYAN**
UNIVERSITY



Join others and step forward:

Donors make the difference

The anticipation is tangible on Southern Wesleyan University's campus as construction on the new Faith Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center is well underway. The sounds of earth-moving equipment have now been replaced with the sounds of construction as the foundation is completed and the assembly of the steel structure begins.

This facility is an affirmation of the faithfulness of alumni and friends of the university who have stepped forward to provide the donations that made it possible to begin construction. Completion of the 1,200-seat chapel and the much-needed fine arts center is scheduled for August 2008 in time for the new school year. Dedication of the new facility is scheduled for October 2008.

Hundreds have already stepped forward, but now Southern Wesleyan University needs the help of our many alumni and friends to finish the funding for this project. There are a few naming opportunities left in the new facility and the university invites individuals, churches and family groups to consider a special gift to honor an individual, family, church or organization. The following are a few of the remaining naming opportunities.

Fine Arts Classroom

\$25,000

Music Faculty Teaching Studio

\$15,000

Student Practice Room

\$10,000

Studio or Practice Piano

\$10,000

Patrons of the Arts

\$10,000

Friends of the Arts

\$5,000

In addition, gifts are needed to furnish and equip the new facilities. These projects are ideal for an individual, family, church or organization. Alumni and friends of the university are urged to step forward and join the hundreds of others who have invested in this beautiful addition to the university campus. Please consider one of these giving opportunities:

Chapel Seating Chairs

\$100 each

Memorial Plaza

\$250 each

The memorial plaza will be constructed to honor music faculty who have contributed to the music heritage of the university. Memorial or named bricks will be placed in the plaza to honor those who gave their

Fine Arts building has biblical foundation *Students dropped slips of paper containing scripture verses into the foundation of the Faith Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center construction site during a chapel service Oct. 23 on the Central campus of Southern Wesleyan University. Above, Sherry Karnes, a business administration major from Anderson, drops her scripture verse into the foundation site, as her fiancé, Kenneth Wagner, a religion major from High Point, N.C., prepares to add his verse.*

talents to teach others. This is an excellent opportunity for music alumni, choir members, alumni and friends to honor those who contributed to their lives through their talents.

A limited number of named or memorial gift opportunities are available for gifts of \$50,000 or more. Additional information regarding major gift options is available through the university development office.

All gifts will be recognized and included in the dedication ceremony in October 2008. All alumni and friends of the university and others are invited to “step forward” and help complete this project.

To make a contribution to the project, please use the envelope in this magazine. Also, please note “Capital Campaign” on your check. For details, on naming opportunities, call Mary Costello at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5004, or e-mail mcostello@swu.edu.



Campaign status: Faith Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center

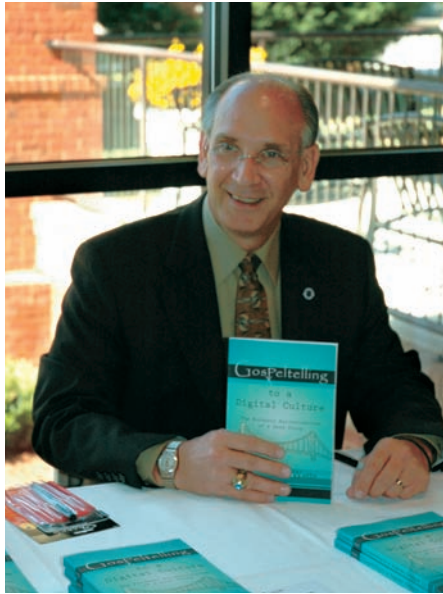
Total Construction Budget	\$5,614,208
Total Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Budget	\$ 800,000
Total Project Cost	\$6,416,208

Status on income pledges and cash

Major Lead Gift, Campaign Pledges and Other Cash on Hand	\$4,572,244
Anticipated Large Gifts	\$ 600,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$5,172,244</u>
Needed to Complete the Challenge	\$1,243,706

* Information based on November 2007 reports.





Author brings books to SWU

Author, professor and class of 1973 Southern Wesleyan University graduate Dr. Jonathan Watts visited the university's campus Oct. 1 to promote his book, "Gospel-Telling to a Digital Culture: The Forensic Reconstruction of a Good Story."

Watts presented a copy of the book to Vice President for Development Jim Wiggins, who accepted it on behalf of the university.

Dr. Watts is a professor at Snead State Community College in Boaz, Ala., teaching religion, philosophy and speech. He is an elder in the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Watts holds a bachelor's degree in theology, a master of divinity degree, a doctor of ministry degree and a doctor of philosophy degree, which he received from the Graduate Theological Foundation upon successfully defending his dissertation in Oxford, England, where he studied at Christ Church College, Oxford University.

Day of golf scores funds for students

Golfers from all over the southeast teed off at Pickens Country Club for the annual P.B. Wood Golf Tournament on Oct. 22.

The captain's choice tournament had 26 teams which raised money for the university's Promise Fund. The tournament raised \$24,590 for the Promise Fund, which helps keep the cost of tuition low at Southern Wesleyan University and also provides scholarship and program support.

The annual fall tournament is named in honor of Dr. Paul B. Wood, a golf enthusiast, noted psychologist and professor emeritus at SWU.

The Title Sponsor for the tournament was First Citizens Bank. WYFF News 4 Weatherman Dale Gilbert also played in the event and was the featured celebrity golfer. Members of the first place team were Chad Hendley, Bill Silva and Andy Mitchell, all of Easley, and



Dan Wood of Central takes a swing at the annual P.B. Wood Golf Tournament.

Charlie Runion of Greer. Each player on the first-place team received Nike Slingshot OSS Irons. For details on more tournament winners, please visit www.swu.edu.

SWU alumna funds new scholarship



Rev. Jim Wiggins, SWU vice president for development, left, receives a check from Janet Carriker Green to establish a new scholarship. Mary Costello, executive director for development, looks on. This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a rising senior education major. Green, an English and Bible education major, recently completed her 43rd year in the education profession and is a school counselor. She is a member of the university's alumni board and has been active in numerous campus events. She lives in Gastonia, N.C., with her husband Jim. They are the parents of Jay and Ann Brittan McClellan Green and David and Jann Green Jimison.

SCICU donors give to university

Donors from South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities give to SWU:

Unrestricted Fund Donors:

George N. Acker
Lynette Allston
Alwinell Foundation
David W. Ames
Aramark
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AT&T
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Matching Gifts
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Byrd Family Trust
The Campbell Consulting Group
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Joan Sasser Coker
Colliers Keenan, Inc.
CountyBank Foundation
Virginia L. Crocker Dargan Foundation
B. James Dawson
Diamond Hill Plywood Company

The Dickson Foundation
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Jon D. Holmes
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Inman-Riverdale Foundation
The Jackson Family Fund
J. Thomas Johnson
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L.S. Spinks
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Timken Company Charitable Trust
Henry N. Tisdale
Andrew E. and Brenda Torrence, Sr.
UCI Medical Affiliates of SC, Inc.
Vulcan Materials Co.
Claude M. Walker, Jr.
Jerry F. Wells, Jr.
Evans P. Whitaker
Mitchell M. Zais

Designated Gifts

Excellence in Teaching Award
South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities, Inc.
Endowment Fund
SCICU Scholars Program
Bailey Foundation
Bank of America
BB&T Charitable Foundation
Duke Power
SCANA Corp/SCE&G
SC Student Loan Corporation
Sonoco Products Co.
UPS Foundation
Wachovia Bank

SWU pursues funding for Promise Fund

The Promise Fund, which provides scholarship support as well as academic and student program support, is striving to reach the goal of \$360,000 this fiscal year. Donors have contributed \$98,259 so far, and with continued support we can reach the goal by the June 30, 2008, deadline.

Total: \$130,791 >

You are asked to prayerfully consider helping Southern Wesleyan University reach the Promise Fund goal by the end of the fiscal year. Many students depend on Promise Fund donations to help them attend Southern Wesleyan, and you can help them not only attend SWU, but also to graduate.

To donate to the Promise Fund, you can use the envelope enclosed in this issue of Focus, or you can contact Mary Costello at 864-644-5004, mcostello@swu.edu or Erin Fellers at (864) 644-5006, efellers@swu.edu.

Donations:

Faculty and Staff:	\$11,388
Corporations and Businesses:	\$32,382
Alumni:	\$28,005
Friends:	\$25,722
Churches and Organizations:	\$10,884
Trustees:	\$21,471
Matching Gifts:	\$940

Phonathon:

Student callers ring up pledges

The 2007-2008 Southern Wesleyan University Phonathon has begun in earnest and is meeting its goals every week.

The annual Phonathon will continue until the end of April.

So far, \$23,600 has been pledged, and \$9,600 has arrived at SWU. Every gift is important to the Promise Fund, which helps support student scholarships as well as academic and student programs. As callers contact Southern Wesleyan alumni and friends, they are hoping to meet the goal of \$65,000 for this fiscal year.

If you would like to make a donation but do not receive a call, please contact Erin Fellers at (864) 644-5006 or efellers@swu.edu.



Teaching is “unique ministry” for Pickens County teachers

Kathy Duncan Grant, a SWU alumna and an English teacher at Easley High School, was named Teacher of the Year by the School District of Pickens County.

The announcement was made before more than 2,500 school district employees, volunteers, parents and community leaders who attended a kick-off meeting for the 2007-2008 school year Aug. 17 in Littlejohn Coliseum at Clemson University. Dr. Lee D’Andrea, superintendent of the school district, congratulated Grant, calling her an outstanding representative of the district.

Grant graduated from Southern Wesleyan University with a bachelor’s degree in English-secondary education in 1982. She began her teaching

career at Liberty High School in 1983, where she taught for 21 years before moving to Easley High School in 2004. This past year, Grant was named Teacher of the Year at Easley High School. Grant



Kathy Duncan Grant, right, works on a laptop computer with Easley High School juniors Josh Williams and Rebekah Acosta.

also serves on the graduation, homecoming and awards committees at Easley High School.

Grant enjoys teaching character and content through the universal themes of literature and strives to equip her students for future academic success. Grant credits her success to her professors at SWU for their inspiration, challenges and their positive impact on her teaching style and teaching skills.

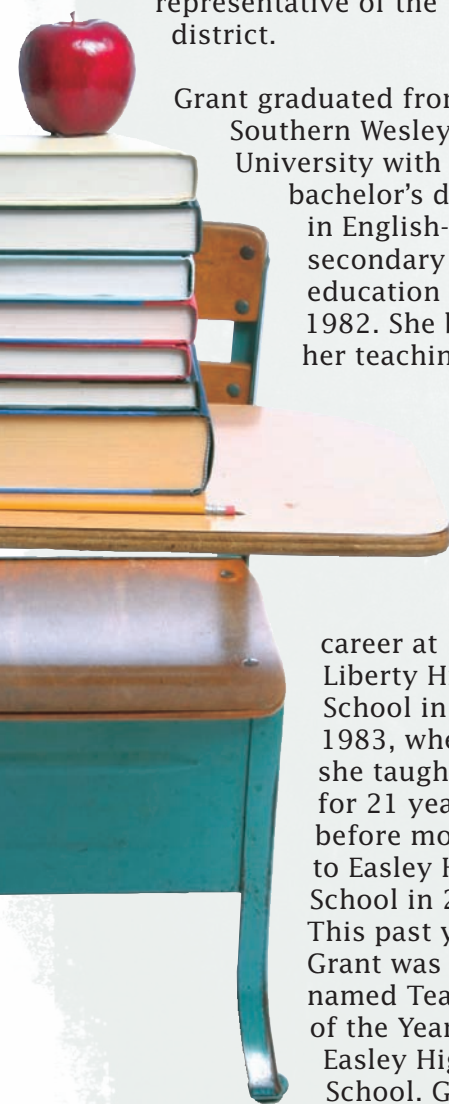
Grant is grateful to Dr. Gloria Bell for inspiring her to teach English.

“I came to SWU knowing that I would be a teacher, but I did not know exactly what area of concentration to pursue. Dr. Bell recognized and encouraged my love of reading and writing and first suggested that I declare a major in English,” Grant said.

As a student, she initially aspired to become a college professor of English. However, Dr. Laura Vinson



Easley High School teacher Kathy Duncan Grant talks to her class.



Teacher of the year

Black inspired in Grant a desire to make a positive difference in the life of a teenager as a high school teacher. Looking back on her years at SWU, Grant realizes the demands placed on her by professors have helped her to excel in the teaching profession. Dr. Hal Robbins and Dr. Ted Jennings, Grant recalls, stressed the need for her to be well-prepared, well-rounded and to reach her fullest potential as a teacher.

Grant has seen a lot of change in 24 years of teaching. Computers have brought a new level of interactive technology into the classroom. Also, teenagers have changed greatly during her years in the classroom. Grant stresses two areas that have not changed: students want to be respected as individuals and they need positive adult role models.



English teacher Kathy Duncan Grant talks to Easley High School students Marjorie Lutz, a junior, and Quenton McClure, a senior.

“Teaching is a unique ministry, and SWU empowered me to simultaneously teach character and content,” said Grant. “I have given

my life to educating students, and the opportunities to encounter new challenges and new blessings have been plentiful.”

Middle school teacher wins applause

Justin Petersen, a 2004 education graduate from Southern Wesleyan University, has been named Teacher of the Year for 2007 at Riverside Middle School in Pendleton.

Petersen is a seventh-grade social studies teacher in his fourth year at Riverside. Although Peterson earned his degree in elementary and early childhood education at SWU, he accepted the challenge to teach in a middle school. Since then, Petersen hasn't looked back.

For Peterson, who played on the Warriors men's basketball and soccer teams as a student-athlete, teaching and coaching go hand-in-hand. He currently coaches boys' basketball at Riverside, varsity girls' soccer at Pendleton High

School and is assistant women's soccer coach at Southern Wesleyan University.

Petersen's career choice was influenced by watching his mother teach and helping his younger brothers and sisters with schoolwork. He learned about SWU at a basketball camp in Tennessee when he met Coach Charles Wimphrie, who invited him to visit the campus in Central.

“The education department, as a whole, cares about its students and did a good job preparing me for my field,” Petersen said, adding that Drs. Harold Waters and Fred Woodworth both made a huge impact on his life. It was also easy to get to know most of his



Justin Petersen

classmates. Petersen met his wife Beth (Irvine) while attending SWU.

Petersen is humbled by the honor given him by his peers, and is quick to point out that many of his Riverside colleagues could be named Teacher of the Year.



January						
31	Thur	Warner Southern College		2	Lake Wales, FL	1 p.m.
February						
1	Fri	Webber University		1	Babson Park, FL	6 p.m.
2	Sat	Webber University		2	Babson Park, FL	noon
8	Fri	Toccoa Falls College		1	Central, SC	4 p.m.
9	Sat	Toccoa Falls College		2	Central, SC	12:30 p.m.
15	Fri	North Greenville University		1	Central, SC	4 p.m.
16	Sat	North Greenville University		2	Central, SC	1 p.m.
19	Tue	Atlanta Christian College		1	Central, SC	5 p.m.
20	Wed	Anderson University		1	Anderson, SC	3 p.m.
22	Fri	AUM	SSAC	1	Central, SC	4 p.m.
23	Sat	AUM	SSAC	2	Central, SC	1 p.m.
29	Fri	Southern Polytechnic	SSAC	1	Central, SC	4 p.m.
March						
1	Sat	Southern Polytechnic	SSAC	2	Central, SC	1 p.m.
4	Tue	Emmanuel College		1	Central, SC	5 p.m.
5	Wed	Atlanta Christian College		1	Central, SC	2 p.m.
7	Fri	Reinhardt College	SSAC	1	Waleska, GA	2 p.m.
8	Sat	Reinhardt College	SSAC	2	Waleska, GA	noon
11	Tue	Anderson University		1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
12	Wed	Chowan College		1	Central, SC	1 p.m.
14	Fri	Brewton Parker College	SSAC	1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
15	Sat	Brewton Parker College	SSAC	2	Central, SC	1 p.m.
18	Tue	Shawnee State Univ		1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
20	Thur	Emmanuel College	SSAC	1	Franklin Springs, GA	6 p.m.
21	Fri	Emmanuel College	SSAC	2	Franklin Springs, GA	1 p.m.
25	Tue	Atlanta Christian College		1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
26	Wed	Montreat College		1	Montreat, NC	2:30 p.m.
28	Fri	Faulkner University	SSAC	1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
29	Sat	Faulkner University	SSAC	2	Central, SC	1 p.m.
April						
2	Wed	Anderson University		1	Anderson, SC	6 p.m.
4	Fri	Berry College	SSAC	1	Mt. Berry, GA	7 p.m.
5	Sat	Berry College	SSAC	2	Mt. Berry, GA	1 p.m.
8	Tue	Montreat College		1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
9	Wed	North Greenville University		2	Tigerville, SC	2 p.m.
11	Fri	Lee University	SSAC	1	Cleveland, TN	6 p.m.
12	Sat	Lee University	SSAC	2	Cleveland, TN	noon
16	Wed	North Georgia College		1	Dahlonega, GA	6 p.m.
18	Fri	Shorter College	SSAC	1	Central, SC	6 p.m.
19	Sat	Shorter College	SSAC	2	Central, SC	noon
23-27		SSAC Baseball Tournament			TBA	
May						
6-10		Region XIII Tournament			TBA	
14-17		Atlantic South Super Regional Tourn.			TBA	
14-17		NCCAA South Region Tournament			TBA	
20-24		NCCAA National Tournament			Celina, OH	
23-30		NAIA World Series			Lewiston, ID	

WARRIOR BASEBALL

February						
6	Wed	Erskine College			Central, SC	2 p.m.
9	Sat	Lees-Mcrae College			Central, SC	1 p.m.
12	Tue	Newberry College			Newberry, SC	2 p.m.
14	Thur	Emmanuel College			Central, SC	2 p.m.
16	Sat	Montreat College			Central, SC	1 p.m.
20	Wed	Belmont Abbey College			Central, SC	2 p.m.
22	Fri	Brewton-Parker College			Central, SC	4 p.m.
23	Sat	Piedmont College			Central, SC	1 p.m.
27	Wed	Notre Dame			Savannah, GA	2 p.m.
29	Fri	Mercyhurst NE (exhibition)			Savannah, GA	10 a.m.
		King College				noon, 6 p.m.
March						
4	Tue	Emmanuel College			Franklin Springs, GA	4 p.m.
6	Thur	Brenau College			Gainesville, GA	5 p.m.
8	Sat	Faulkner University			Central, SC	2 p.m.
11	Tue	Brevard College			Central, SC	2 p.m.
12	Wed	Piedmont College			Demorest, GA	2 p.m.
15	Sat	Brewton-Parker College			Mt. Vernon, GA	1 p.m.
19	Wed	Reinhardt College			Waleska, GA	2 p.m.
21	Fri	Judson College			Marion, AL	1 p.m. CST
22	Sat	Faulkner University			Montgomery, AL	1 p.m. CST
27	Thur	Shorter College			Central, SC	4 p.m.
29	Sat	Lee University			Central, SC	1 p.m.
April						
2	Wed	Anderson University			Central, SC	4 p.m.
4	Fri	GA Southwestern			Central, SC	4 p.m.
5	Sat	Reinhardt College			Central, SC	noon
9	Wed	Brenau College			Central, SC	4 p.m.
11	Fri	Shorter College			Rome, GA	4 p.m.
12	Sat	Lee University			Cleveland, TN	1 p.m.
15	Tue	Anderson University			Anderson, SC	4 p.m.
18-19		NCCAA Regionals			Franklin Springs, GA	TBA
23-26		SSAC Tournament			TBA	TBA

*All are doubleheaders except tournaments.

WARRIOR SOFTBALL

University's alumni board grows

Southern Wesleyan University's Alumni Association congratulates the five newest members to join their board this year.

Dr. Cory Williams, Sarah Hayes and Priscilla Hammond each were approved during the summer and recent additions are Siobhan Carlile and Tim Elrod.

This board serves as a national board with representation from coast to coast. Each board member serves three years. Alumni that have completed the AGS studies are encouraged to inquire about board service.

SWU's Alumni Association is working to expand its board and welcomes all alumni who are interested in serving to submit their resume electronically to Joy Bryant, executive director of alumni and constituent relations at jbryant@swu.edu. All inquiries will be considered and notification will be made within 30 days.

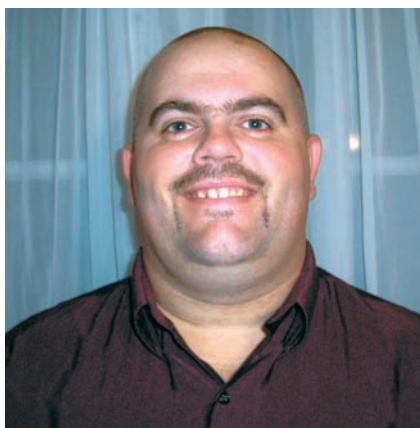


Siobhan Carlile

This new board member is currently in the Adult Graduate Studies program and plans to finish her master's degree in management in January. She graduated from State University of New York College at Oswego with a bachelor's degree in general studies. She also has an associate's degree in liberal arts from Jefferson Community College in Watertown, N.Y.

Carlile, her husband and three daughters live in Evans, Ga. Their home church is Saint Bartholomew's in North Augusta.

For most of her career, she has worked as a Department of the Army Civilian in the Public Affairs area. She has also worked in the non-profit area, supporting public relations and special events. Currently, she works for the Fort Gordon Signal newspaper as a staff writer.



Tim Elrod

A 1997 Liberty High School graduate, Tim Elrod grew up in Liberty, but has called Easley home for seven years.

He graduated from Southern Wesleyan University in 2002 with his bachelor's degree in recreation administration and physical education. He works as an assistant community center supervisor for the City of Greenville Parks and Recreation. He is also an intramural sports coordinator.

Elrod has six children: four girls and two boys. His family's home church is Rice's Creek Baptist Church in Liberty. He is also a volunteer and serves as the director of coaches for the Miracle League, a youth sports league for children with special needs.

Alumni Association award nominations

Each year, the Southern Wesleyan University Alumni Association grants special awards to encourage and recognize alumni in their efforts to advance in their occupation and relationship with Christ. These awards honor those who embody Christian values and who strive to become the person Christ intended them to be in their work and personal life. For details, contact Joy Bryant at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5385.

Please submit your nominations to the Alumni Center by April 5, 2008, for:

Young Leader

Professional Excellence

(one in each category)

School of Business

School of Education

College of Arts and Science

Alumnus of the Year

Name of person making nomination:

First

Last

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Class Year _____

You can e-mail nominations to jbryant@swu.edu or mail to: Southern Wesleyan University Alumni Center PO 1020, SWU Box 1875 Central, SC 29630 or you may use the enclosed envelope.

Annual banquet honors alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame

Each year, the Southern Wesleyan University Alumni Association grants special awards in order to encourage and recognize alumni in their efforts to advance in their occupation and relationship with Christ. These awards honor those who embody Christian values and who strive to become the person Christ intended them to be in their work and personal life.

At a banquet on May 12 at Southern Wesleyan University's campus in Central, the following alumni were recognized for their achievements.

Outstanding Alumnus of the Year

The awardee for the Outstanding Alumnus Award is selected on the basis of the broadest aspects of service in the areas of humanity, community and achievement in the recipient's chosen vocation.

Dr. Verna Lowe

Outstanding Alumnus of the Year

Dr. Verna Lowe graduated from Central Wesleyan College in 1974. Her majors were special education and elementary education. Ahead lay a master's in school psychology and a doctorate in education, both from the University of Kentucky. She served as a teacher of students with learning disabilities in Oconee County, S.C., and Jessamine County, Ky., and later as a school psychologist.

Since 1982, Lowe has been on the faculty of Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky., teaching in the Department of Education and, for the past 15 years, serving as chair of the department. She heads Asbury College's graduate program in education as well, in addition to chairing the college's steering committee for accreditation reaffirmation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. She also serves as Asbury's National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education coordinator.

Lowe has authored a number of articles in journals in her field as well as chapters in books. She has presented at state, regional and national conferences in addition to serving as a panelist or facilitator 64 times in the last 10 years. Grant applications which she has written or co-written have amassed almost \$200,000 in grants for schools, for graduate students, and for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

She and her husband, Milton, have a daughter, Robin, who graduated from Southern Wesleyan University in 2007.



Alumni Association award winners, from left, are Rev. David Duncan, Sherry Haithcock, Carol Burdette and Dr. Verna Lowe.

Professional Excellence

The purpose of the Professional Excellence Awards is to recognize alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their profession and community and who have achieved honor and distinction for Southern Wesleyan University. Three awards are considered for each of the following areas: School of Education, School of Business and College of Arts and Sciences.

David Duncan

Professional Excellence: College of Arts and Sciences

The recipient, a 1980 graduate, is Rev. David Duncan. He received a bachelor's degree in Bible and a minor in Music. More than 20 years later, he has returned to SWU to complete his master of ministry degree.

This fun-loving alumnus has promoted a self-conferred "Doctor of Joyology" for years as he has traveled the nation bringing laughter and smiles to all he meets. He and his wife Shirley have three children: Jamie, Aimee and Halley. Duncan became disabled in 1989 after long-term complications of juvenile-onset diabetes. Through a real life miracle, God has completely restored his health and re-energized his vision for future ministry. Today, Duncan and his wife serve in the office of Director of Church Relations for Hephzibah Children's Home in Macon, Ga.

Duncan has "served Christ by serving

children" in this capacity at Hephzibah for more than 17 years.

Sherry Haithcock

Professional Excellence Award: School of Education

Sherry Haithcock graduated from Southern Wesleyan University in 1978. During her years at Southern Wesleyan, she played volleyball and softball.

She went on to further her education at Furman University, where she received a master's degree with an emphasis in physical education. Later, she completed her education specialist certification with 30 hours above a master's, with an emphasis in business education.

She has taught and coached the last 20 years at Liberty High School. For 10 years, she served as the physical education department chair. Since 2001, she has been the athletic director at Liberty High.

Her professional achievements include serving as a member and officer of the S.C. Basketball Coaches Association; a member and officer of the S.C. Coaches Association for Women's Sports Board; Softball Region Representative; and All-Star Game Program Layout. She has received numerous professional honors.

Haithcock is an active member of the Pickens View Wesleyan Church in Pickens.

inductees

Carol Burdette

Professional Excellence Award:
School of Business

A 1982 graduate of Southern Wesleyan University with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Carol Burdette is the mayor of Pendleton, S.C. She has served nine years as mayor, preceded by ten years on the town council. Also, she is president of the United Way of Anderson.

Burdette's first job was with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and all succeeding employment has been in government or public service.

Other contributions she has made to the community include serving as the president of the Anderson Rotary Club, serving as the club's assistant governor since 2001 and having a nine-year perfect attendance record. She is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Rotary Club Benefactor and a member of the Bequest Society.

Carol believes the job of the government is to serve the people. She said, "If it's not illegal or unethical, and we can do it for someone, we need to do it."

Young Leader

The purpose of the Young Leader Award is to recognize alumni who are outstanding leaders in their vocation and community, and who show promise of future professional growth. They should also provide service to Southern Wesleyan University and

exemplify Christian values. All former Southern Wesleyan University alumni who have received academic credit are eligible. However, the recipient must be 39 years of age or younger.

Kenneth Scott Drury

Young Leader

Kenneth Scott Drury, SWU Class of 1991, credits professors such as Dr. James Bross, Dr. Bob Black, Dr. Don Wood, Dr. Gloria Bell and Dr. Lou Towles as major influences.

Drury later graduated in the top six percent of his class at the University of South Carolina School of Law. He is now pursuing a master's degree in philosophy of Christianity and ethics.

He has used his legal training in evangelism and in service both at home and overseas, serving as guardian ad litem for children in foster care and through the ministry of Educational Services International. Also, he has taught business English and American culture at Budapest College in Hungary, as well as Western legal principles at Guangdong University of Foreign Trade in China.

In 2005, Drury accepted a full-time ministry position with the Free Methodist Church. He serves as Regional Vice President of the Free Methodist Foundation. He and his wife, Elizabeth ('93), have four sons.

Athletic Hall of Fame

Through the direction of the Warrior Club, the Southern Wesleyan University Athletic Hall of Fame is designed to recognize and honor former student-athletes, coaches, administrators and other individuals who have made significant contributions to the

University and its athletic program. Three awardees were inducted into the Hall of Fame during the banquet.

Natalie Roebuck

Softball

From the time that Natalie Roebuck stepped onto the Southern Wesleyan campus, she proved to be one of the finest softball players in the program's history. As a freshman, she made the conference all-freshman team. She went on to make the all-conference team all four years that she played.

She finished her career with some outstanding statistics to her credit:
.410 career batting average
233 career hits
62 career doubles
151 career runs scored

Roebuck's plaque reads:

2004 1st team NFCA All-American
2004 1st team NAIA All-American
2004 1st team NCCAA All-American
2004 GACC Player of the Year

Rick Freeze

Golf

After attending Limestone College for a year, Rick came back home to attend Central Wesleyan College for the remainder of his collegiate career. Rick grew up just a wedge away from campus on Thomas Lane.

While attending Central Wesleyan College, Rick Freeze immediately became a member of the varsity golf team. As a varsity golf member, Freeze completed a solid collegiate career by winning the NAIA District 6 tournament and advancing to the NAIA National Tournament in 1991.

Freeze's plaque reads:

1990 and 1991 NAIA District 6 team
1991 NAIA District 6 Medalist
1991 NAIA National Tournament Qualifier

Mary Will Thomas

Affectionately known as "Mrs. T," Mary Will Thomas was on campus when intercollegiate sports began in 1970. In fact, the story is that Mr. and Mrs. T. made the short trip to Toccoa, Ga., to be in attendance at the very first intercollegiate game, featuring our very own men's basketball team versus the home team of Toccoa Falls College.

Thomas became a loyal supporter and eventually became a surrogate mother for many student-athletes for the next 25 years. Many of those student-athletes say they probably would not have finished their college education if it had not been for her support and encouragement. The student-athletes knew that her home was always open for good food and free counseling.

Thomas' plaque reads:

Friend and Honorary Mother
A loyal supporter of the SWU athletic program since its inception in 1970.



Athletic Hall of Fame inductees, from left, are Rick Freeze, Natalie Roebuck and Mary Will Thomas.

NEWS FLASHES

'85

Tamara Flinchum graduated from Candler School of Theology with a master of divinity degree this spring. She began a chaplaincy residency in August at AnMed Hospital in Anderson, S.C. Her goal is to become a hospital chaplain.

'87



The Gaston Breakfast Rotary Club in Gastonia, N.C., celebrated its 22nd year where District Governor Graham Wilson, was on hand to conduct the installation of **Wes Brown** as the incoming president. Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help promote peace and goodwill throughout the world.

'89

As of September, **Tracy Morgan** is the new elementary school principal at Oconee Christian Academy. She credits Southern Wesleyan University with preparing her so that she could make a difference in the lives of children. "My

professors trained me professionally, but more importantly spiritually," Morgan said. "I am what I am because so many people invested their time in me. I hope that I will always carry that same spirit as I train the next generation. Thank-you, SWU, for making a difference for Christ."

'93

Michael Keaton was a featured expert on a History Channel show called "Hillbilly: The Real Story," hosted by Billy Ray Cyrus. Keaton told the story of the life of his great-great grandfather, Lewis Redmond, who was a colorful character in the history of the Upstate South Carolina region. Keaton is an adjunct history professor at Southern Wesleyan University.

'99

On July 27, **Fr. James Hager** passed his committee and became a CPE diplomat candidate of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy. On Oct. 5, he concluded more than eight years as a hospice chaplain for Palmetto Health and on Oct. 22, he began as the director of chaplains and pastoral education for Ascension Hospice. Fr. Hager is the curate/director of the Goshen Community, an ecumenical covenant community of reconciliation located in Wagner, S.C.

OBITUARIES

'43

Walter J. (Billy) McCutcheon Chesnee, S.C., Sept. 9, 2007

'52

Kenneth E. George Kings Mt., N.C., July 20, 2007

'52

Ernestine (Short) Henderson Kings Mt., N.C., Aug. 14, 2007

'57

Cora Sue Barnes Clanton, Ala., Feb. 2, 2007

Former faculty member passes away

Dorothy Hollenbeck passed away in Matthews, N.C., on Oct. 14, 2007. She was employed as a faculty member in 1948, at Southern Wesleyan University, which was known at that time as Wesleyan Methodist College.

WEDDINGS

'95 & '03

Christal Page Evatt and **Todd Hardin Wolff** were married Aug. 8, 2007.

'03

Jason Paul Moore and **Laura Smith** were married June 9, 2007.

'04

Beau Hamner and **Gidget (Jarrett) Hamner** were married Oct. 16, 2004.

'04

Jamie Lynn Shirley, and **David Bradley Turnage** were married Oct. 20, 2007.

'05



Ben James and **Betsy Walker** were married July 28, 2007.

'06

Christin Denise Shealy and **Kelvin Allen Smith** were married July 21, 2007.

'06

Joshua Timothy Bryant and **Renee Lynne Raker** were married June 16, 2007.

'07



Mark Edward Tolan and **Erin Elizabeth (Woodbury) Tolan** were married June 23, 2007.

'07

Tiffany Darlene Christiana Connor and **James Franklin Pearson** were married Sept. 7, 2007.

Canada by train: Travel with SWU alumni and friends

Esther Mullinax, class of 1960, and Glenda Hoyle, class of 1965, invite all Southern Wesleyan University alumni and friends to take a train trip across Canada with them next year.

They are planning the trip for 2008 either spring or fall, depending on the response they receive from those who are interested. The trip would cost approximately \$2,000 for an eight-day trip. They hope to finalize plans for the trip by the end of this year.

For details about this trip or to share ideas for other great destinations that you would be interested in visiting, please contact Esther Mullinax, 221 Epworth Hill Circle, Pickens SC 29671 or phone her at 828-400-0844 (cell), 864-878-1275 (home) or e-mail: Estherlovin@peoplepc.com.



Make your recommendations for SWU Alumni president-elect

Recommendations must be submitted to the nominating committee by April 5, 2008.

Voting for the president-elect will take place in the spring of 2008 and election results will be announced at the Awards Banquet on May 10.

Join us as we show appreciation to Nancy Edwards as she transfers to past president, and to Sue Rickman as she takes on her role as president.

The president-elect will be announced and will take office May 2010-2012.

For details, contact Joy Bryant at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5385.

You may e-mail your recommendations to jbryant@swu.edu or mail to: Southern Wesleyan University Alumni Center PO 1020, SWU Box 1875 Central, SC 29630

Annual Ladies Conference

"Transformed Through the Storm"

Join us at Spring Maid Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

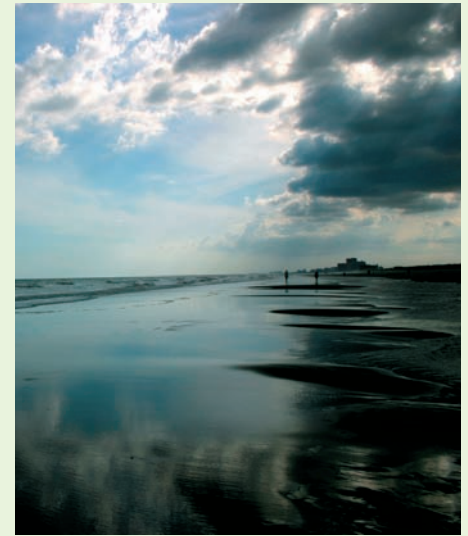
March 28, 29 & 30

Conference rates start at \$120 per room for four people.

Special Speaker:
Julie-Allyson Iran

To make reservations, please contact Joy Bryant at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5385.

In cooperation with S.C. Wesleyan Women



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Plan to attend the
2008 Alumni Awards Banquet

May 10,
at the university's campus in Central.
Banquet seating starts at 5 p.m. in Founders' Hall
with dinner served at 5:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$15

The following awards will be presented after dinner:

- Young Leader
- Professional Excellence
- Alumnus of the Year
- Hall of Fame Inductees

Nominations for each award are to be received in the Alumni Center by April 5.
See page 11 for details and a nomination form.

*For details, contact the Alumni Center
at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5384, or e-mail jcrain@swu.edu*