A tribute.

The support behind the scenes of all that has happened during my tenure at Reinhardt is my wife, Bettye Jo. She has been my advisor, my counselor, my comforter, and often very appropriately and when I most needed it, my critic. She has a strength that others can never fully appreciate unless they, too, are married to a professionally successful Southern woman.

We met in graduate school at the University of Tennessee as we were both completing our master’s degree in social work. She spent 27 years working in a series of direct service and then administrative positions in foster care, adoptions and protective services for children. For many individuals this difficult and challenging work makes them hard and dispassionate. Not Bettye Jo. She has remained open, loving and caring. The difficulties she has seen in the lives of others has strengthened her appreciation of the human spirit. But, she is always the social worker. She gets concerned about our students and will, as she often has, track a student down in the winter if she thinks he’s not dressed warmly enough.

It was a sacrifice for Bettye Jo to give up her career as she has accepted the demands of my position. Often we go to a community gathering, and I’m occupied meeting people and in some way putting forward the Reinhardt story — I look across the room, and she’s doing the same thing on the other side of the room with a different group of friends. I am a very lucky person.

I come home from work every evening, and Bettye Jo and I will sit and we will share what has been our day. Mine is always Reinhardt. As I leave, what I will miss most of all, is sitting with Bettye Jo at the end of the day and sharing with her what’s happened at Reinhardt that day. But, I take comfort in knowing that we will find something to share. As I said, I am a very lucky person.

*supplied photographs

The Reinhardt Magazine is published annually by Reinhardt University. Creative services are provided by Reinhardt’s Office of Marketing and Communications.
On March 18, 2014, I informed the students, trustees, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University of my intent to retire on June 30, 2015. It is a tradition in higher education for a president to give at least a year’s notice of retirement so an effective nation-wide search can be organized. The search committee has been formed, and the search will begin this fall. Reinhardt University’s future is in your hands.

I have been so very fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve Reinhardt for 12 years. This University is blessed with engaging and spirited students, an active board of trustees, loyal alumni, creative and dedicated faculty, committed and hard-working staff and generous friends. I have said consistently that no one does what we do better than we do. I believe this is true because of how our students, trustees, alumni, faculty, staff and friends come together to create our unique community. I am proud of Reinhardt and all that we have accomplished.

Though I will miss Reinhardt, it is a good time for transition. We will successfully complete our five-year strategic plan in 2015, and it is time to look once again to the future. I believe that organizations have natural times for transition, and this is one of them.

In my first address to faculty and staff in September 2002, I concluded by saying, “Let me end by letting you know how pleased I am to be here with you and what an exciting opportunity this is. Each morning I pray that God will open my heart to His will so I can be of service to others. I believe that we are all called to faith, and by faith to love, and through love to serve. I am privileged to serve you.”

Serving Reinhardt has been a wonderful experience and a rewarding privilege.

I often receive compliments regarding all that has been accomplished at the University, but I know the truth is that this praise should not be mine but rightfully belongs to the faith, love, and service of our students, trustees, alumni, faculty, staff and friends. I believe that if you give good people the freedom to do good things, they will. That has been demonstrated at Reinhardt year after year.

Reinhardt is one way to do God’s work.

As I prepare to leave, I ask that you strengthen your resolve to love and protect your Reinhardt University. It is through your support and generosity that students will continue to express and explore faith in this academic community of creativity and freedom. There are many ways to do God’s work, and I am sure Reinhardt is one of them.

God Bless,

J. Thomas Isherwood
President
Academic Scope Expanded and Name Changed to Reflect Growth

» Increased number of degree programs from 17 to 43
» Increased number of full-time faculty from 54 to 82
» Added graduate programs and became accredited as a Level III institution by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
» Changed name to Reinhardt University
» Developed online programs
» Founded Public Safety Institute and Police Academy
» Launched the Convocation of Artists and Scholars
» Created School of Performing Arts and became the largest private music program on the college/university level in Georgia.

Further increasing academic program strength and diversity has been a central institutional goal for the past 12 years.

“When I arrived, Reinhardt did not have the program diversity we needed,” Dr. J. Thomas Isherwood, president, said. “Our program growth, as well as our new offerings for working adults and graduate students, resulted from faculty creativity and hard work. We also sought to add programs in career fields where graduates could find employment. In hiring new faculty, we looked for solid credentials, creativity and experience. We also emphasized a commitment to teaching, mentoring, community service and scholarship. The annual Convocation of Artists and Scholars was established to showcase our students’ excellent work. Changing Reinhardt’s name to university was an outgrowth of our increasing complexity.”

What ONE WORD describes Reinhardt during the Isherwood Years?

Several local and campus leaders, as well as Dr. Isherwood, were asked for their IMPRESSIONS:

QUALITY

“As Reinhardt has sought relevance by adding courses and educators and improving campus appearance, the quality of student life has remained a primary concern. Under Dr. Isherwood’s leadership, the caring, Christian atmosphere of support and encouragement, fundamental tenets of a United Methodist-related school, remained constant.” — The Rev. Cindy Autry, Georgia United Methodist Commission on Higher Education and Campus Ministry executive director

PROGRESSIVE

The Reinhardt College of yesterday and the Reinhardt University of today have never settled for the status quo. If adding one degree program attracted new students, then what would adding 26 programs, as well as graduate offerings? Finding innovative ways to impact a person’s future is the Reinhardt way. — Pam Carnes, Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce president and CEO and Reinhardt Board of Ambassadors member

VISIONARY

Reinhardt’s leadership has established the institution for the future by moving to University status and offering many more majors and degrees. This growth has taken place while still keeping the values and beliefs that have made Reinhardt so special for so many Reinhardt students and alumni. — Ryan Satterfield ’95, Alumni Board of Governors president
Fund Raising Totals $45 Million
» Conducted two capital campaigns; 1st raised $18.2 million; 2nd has raised $8.2 million to date
» Annual appeal increased to $1 million
» Continued A DAY campaign & raised $1.3 million for local students
“Reinhardt sets obtainable, but ambitious fund raising goals, which we increase to keep pace with donor cultivation and institutional needs,” said JoEllen Bell Wilson ’61, vice president for advancement. “Reinhardt’s generous alumni and friends have allowed us to be successful.”

“Fund raising is best done through building relationships,” she said. “We learn of our donors’ interests during events, special occasions and other efforts. When an affinity is established or renewed, we seek to match the potential donor with an opportunity to assist his/her specific area of interest. This match creates a ‘joy of giving’ experience, and that’s a win-win for us all.”

Enrollment Passes 1400
» Boosted student enrollment from 1083 to more than 1400 students
» Improved diversity — minority percentage rose from 13 to 23%
In the last 12 years and under Dr. Isherwood’s leadership, enrollment has grown 29%, a rate that is even more impressive because it occurred during a time when many small private institutions were experiencing enrollment declines. This growth resulted from adding academic and athletic programs and from becoming more strategic in how Reinhardt was marketed.

“This fall we expect to welcome more than 1400 students,” said Dr. Roger Lee, vice president for student affairs and dean of students. “The increase in diversity — in age, race, program level, major and site — is very positive and bodes well for Reinhardt’s future. We are constantly evaluating what we are doing in admissions and looking for effective ways to share the Reinhardt story,” he said.

Athletic Teams and Lifelong Fitness Activities Added
» Athletic teams increased from 10 to 19
» Percentage of student-athletes rose to 32%
» Renovated and expanded James & Sis Brown Athletic Center, the Jim & Syble Boring Sports Complex & Northside Hospital-Cherokee Fitness Center
» Built and added lights to the Ken White baseball & softball fields
» Built athletic field house, Ken White turf field & softball practice facility
» Added biking & hiking trails, camp grounds & weekday exercise classes
“Our success started with a strong administrative vision,” said Director of Athletics Bill Popp. “We have added sports, substantially improved our facilities and found a strong new home in the AAC. We have won conference championships, competed at the national level and celebrated student-athletes’ and coaches’ accolades. What a great run it has been and what a bright future we have at Reinhardt!”

GROWTH
Under Dr. Isherwood’s leadership, Reinhardt has grown tremendously, adding new buildings, programs, majors, and by extension, greater opportunities for students. — Alexander Bryant ’15, Student Government Association president

RISING ENROLLMENT
“In my position as mayor for the past five and half years, I’ve seen growth in student enrollment. As Reinhardt has grown, everything around it has grown. I’ve seen growth in the city and everything in it.” — Doris Jones, Wadeska, Ga. mayor.

EVER-CHANGING
The past 12 years have been highlighted with so many impressive advances: new programs, talented people, competitive sports and exciting activities. As we plan for the future, there are so many exciting changes ahead. I am very enthusiastic about Reinhardt’s future. — William G. Hasty, Jr. ’67, Reinhardt Board of Trustees chairman and presidential search committee chairman
The presidential search committee members have been selected, and they will soon decide about hiring a professional search firm for assistance.

“About half of institutions doing presidential searches today use a firm, and about half do not,” said President Dr. J. Thomas Isherwood. “I feel good about the search. Reinhardt is an interesting and complex institution, and I think the opening will attract many well qualified and talented applicants.”

William G. Hasty, Jr. ’67 is chairing the search committee, which also includes six trustees, three faculty, three staff, the student government association president, the alumni board of governors president and a president emeritus of Reinhardt.

“The committee is large, but you want it to be representative,” Isherwood said. He expects the committee to provide opportunities in the fall where faculty, staff and alumni can indicate what type of president is needed.

“The same institution needs different kinds of presidents at different times,” Isherwood said. “I suspect the next president will be very different from what I have been, and that’s most appropriate.”

Information about the presidential search will be posted to the University website as more specifics are decided. — MSW
You’ve served as president since 2002. Why retire now?
I always knew I wanted to retire when the time was right for the University. We are successfully finishing our second five-year plan; the field house, science building and three new residence halls have been constructed in the last three years; enrollment is fine; and degree and other programs are going well. I think it is the perfect time for new leadership.

You announced your retirement 15 months prior to your departure. Why so early?
It is traditional in higher education to give a year or more notice so the Trustees can organize a nationwide search for a new president. The notice also helps the institution prepare to welcome new leadership.

What plans do you have for the upcoming year?
This upcoming year will be one of my most active. Of course, the presidential search will be central, and we will also be doing searches for a vice president for advancement and a vice president for finance and administration. We hope to raise funds for a new theatre and musical theatre building that will include a dance studio, faculty offices, and space for rehearsal, set and costume design, construction and storage. We will continue work on a new Center for Community Partnerships, and we will be working with The University of Georgia on the Hickory Log artifacts collection. I’m looking forward to a very busy year.

Reinhardt has grown and been very successful while other schools have been challenged. How did that success come about?
We have very dedicated faculty and staff who give energetically to the spirit of this University. I think we have been successful because we have always kept our balance. We never grew one side of campus at the expense of the other side. We grew together and stayed focused on our students and our goals. Understanding the importance of that balance is central to understanding our success.

Do you have a personal philosophy you used during your presidency?
I’m afraid that you will be disappointed because my philosophy isn’t that profound. I believe that if you give good people the freedom to do good things, they will. That has been our experience at the University, and without much conversation it has become part of the spirit of the place. I also pray each day for guidance. I believe in that guidance.

Of what are you most proud during your time at Reinhardt?
I don’t think I could ever narrow that down to just a few things. We all have every reason to be proud of this University. I am most proud that significant change has occurred with new buildings and facilities, new programs, new faculty and staff and continued student growth on a beautiful, safe and welcoming campus without the loss of the spirit that has always been Reinhardt. To maintain our awareness of who we are and what we offer our students during so much change is remarkable and speaks volumes about the institution’s values. Reinhardt excels at living its promise — living with kindness and hope.

What challenges will the next president face?
I have faith in this University and its people. There will be plenty of challenges, but I believe the firm foundation of strength among Reinhardt’s people will offer guidance and assistance and will serve the new president well. The challenge will be to respond to an ever-changing world and meet the complex demands that present themselves every year. All of us will need to follow the direction of Reinhardt’s new leader and continue to support the University with our resources.

It’s now July 1, 2015. What’s next?
Today, I don’t have a plan. Yesterday, I was going back to school to take some courses that I always wanted to take - including calculus. Tomorrow, there will be something different. Bettye Jo and I own a home in Big Canoe, Ga., and that’s where we will move when we leave campus. We will take some time to adjust, and we will need it. Leaving something so central to our lives as this University will be difficult. I will have lived in Reinhardt President’s Home longer than I lived anywhere in my life. It’s been a great experience, and I am indebted to all who have been so supportive and kind. — JTI
The theatre program at Reinhardt has made a name for itself on and off the stage within two short years. In its first year (2012-2013), the theatre program produced three main stage performances, including the program’s first musical theatre production.

“For its first year, I wanted to choose a musical theatre production that had mass appeal and a large cast for our talented musical theatre majors,” said David S. Nisbet, assistant professor of theatre. “With ‘Annie Get Your Gun,’ I got both. In this fantastic performance, students entertained guests with their charisma and flair. After undergoing intensive training in acting and singing in preparation for professional careers, the students brought the fine arts to life on stage. It was a special start to the musical theatre program at Reinhardt!”

This past year, the theatre program continued to build momentum by producing shows, including “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,” “Much Ado About Nothing,” and “Carousel.”

This positive reputation is also extending beyond the Campus. At the Georgia Theatre Conference auditions in fall 2013, seven Reinhardt theatre students competed and were passed on to the state auditions.

“GTC is the Georgia branch of the Southeastern Theatre Conference,” said Nisbet. “Students attend the many learning workshops presented by professionals and top professors in theatre. They have the opportunity to network with professionals and their own peers, and they get preparation for the audition process they will experience in major markets. It’s an invaluable experience for all theatre students.”

Reinhardt’s theatre program provides intensive professional-style training within a liberal arts setting. Now a part of Reinhardt’s School of Performing Arts, degree offerings include a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. The program has approximately 25 students, and 10 alumni have landed theatre “gigs” in Atlanta, Mexico, New York, Texas and Colorado, while one alumnus will attend graduate school at Florida State University in technical theatre.

“Within two years, the theatre and musical theatre programs have emerged from relative obscurity to be up-and-coming programs in the Southeast,” said Nisbet. “More and more high school students are seeking us out. All of this is a testimony to the administration’s leadership, the program’s fine faculty and the professional training techniques we teach.”—LHT
Local Family Donates Prestigious Violin

A unique piece of music history was recently donated to Reinhardt—the Jay M. Fitts Violin was given to the institution by the family on behalf of the late Mrs. Fitts. As decreed by the dean of the School of Performing Arts Dr. Dennis K. McIntire, the violin will be featured in the University’s solo, chamber and orchestra performances, as well as on senior violin recitals.

Fitts, a former resident of nearby Lake Arrowhead, had participated in arts-related activities at Reinhardt in past years and was fond of the institution.

“This prestigious instrument marks a major development for the University as students have the chance to hear and perform on an instrument of international acclaim,” said McIntire. “The School of Performing Arts would like to thank the family of Mrs. Fitts for the generous gift.”

The Fitts Violin was made by Giovanni Battista Rogeri in c. 1700. Rogeri was a student of Amati, a contemporary of Stradivarius. The bow is French and was made by Vigeron. The violin was recently appraised to be valued $250,000. —LHT

Top left: Cast members from “Carousel” perform “Blow High, Blow Low” during a spring 2014 rehearsal. The theatre program stages three main productions a year; information about the 2014-2015 performances can be found on reinhardt.edu/fpac.

Top right: Music education major Mason Sparks ’15 demonstrates the incredible tone of the Jay M. Fitts Violin, a $250,000 instrument donated to the University in spring 2014.

Bottom left: Music major Elizabeth Coe ’14 performed during one of the University’s Christmas concerts. Due to the popularity of the Christmas series, a fifth performance was added last year, but tickets still sold out in only two days!

Bottom right: “Much Ado About Nothing,” generally considered one of Shakespeare’s best comedies, was modernized for its presentation at Reinhardt in February 2014. Actors include (from left) Anna Johnson, Clark Cumbee, Parker Patzke, Katelyn Pickel, Leah Davis and McKenna Haag.

Fund Raising Underway for a Theatre Building

A new Stage Arts Building is in the planning stages. Current plans have the annex connected to the communications wing of the Falany Performing Arts Center and include a stage, a dance studio, offices, a scene shop and a wardrobe room. –LHT
Later this fall, a visit to Reinhardt’s Funk Heritage Center will give insight on those who inhabited Cherokee County generations ago. Efforts are underway to raise $100,000 to design and build a display to feature some of the artifacts unearthed when the Canton Walmart was built in 1995. The archaeological excavation revealed evidence of at least five periods of occupation before the time when Europeans first explored the area.

“Visitors are amazed that people inhabited the area we call Canton more than 2000 years ago,” said Funk Heritage Center Executive Director Dr. Joseph H. Kitchens. “These people unconsciously left behind a story and evidence of their daily life, their societies and their beliefs. The valley of the Etowah has been home to people for more than 2000 years.”

Funk Heritage Center staff envision that the artifacts will enrich a visitor’s experience and enhance educational opportunities. On May 15, 2014, the Center held a press conference and reception to announce that $53,000 had been raised to bring the artifacts, now called the Hickory Log Collection, back to Georgia. The items will be permanently curated and housed in The University of Georgia’s Laboratory of Archaeology, but a portion will be on revolving loan to the Funk Center.

“I hope people will agree this is a very worthwhile project and continue to support our efforts to raise sufficient funds to ensure that future generations will see the artifacts left by people who lived long ago,” said Reinhardt Board of Trustees Chair William G. Hasty, Jr. ’67. Initially involved as a property owner at the Walmart site and as the City of Canton’s attorney during the excavation, Hasty has been a strong proponent for returning the artifacts to Georgia.

“I remember the excitement I felt when the artifacts were being brought out of the ground,” he said. “I saw these objects that no human hand had touched for hundreds, even thousands of years, and it was a remarkable experience.”

Over the years, Center visitors sometimes asked about the artifacts discovered at the Walmart site. In 2011, during a chance conversation, Hasty asked Kitchens if he could locate the artifacts and find out if they could be brought to the Heritage Center for exhibition. Kitchens began a search and eventually found they were being stored in the headquarters of TRC Solutions, Inc., the firm which had conducted the 1995 excavation.

The project’s archaeologist, Paul Webb, still worked there, and at the request of Hasty and Kitchens, several Reinhardt administrators and friends went to visit Webb in Chapel Hill, N.C. They initially hoped the Center could acquire and exhibit the artifacts, but the cost of curating and storing more than 150 boxes of archaeological material proved to be prohibitive. Kitchens and Hasty worked out a curation agreement with The University of Georgia Laboratory of Archaeology, and the more recognizable items will be exhibited at the Center.

Phase two of the Center’s fund raising will finance an engaging exhibit that brings the collection to life and tells the story of the Hickory Log site. Archaeological background will also provide context and meaning.

For information about supporting this Funk Heritage Center project, please contact Dr. Joe Kitchens at 770-720-5970.

— MAH & MSW
While most Reinhardt co-eds were relaxing by the pool, catching up on homework or living it up on Spring Break, a select group of students went to serve Red Bird Mission in Clay County, Ky. The Red Bird Mission has been in existence for more than 100 years and serves the Red Bird River Valley of Clay County, one of the most disadvantaged areas in the U.S. What started as a school now provides a medical clinic, dental clinic, food and clothing distribution and light contracting.

“Thirteen students made the trip to serve, and they were wonderful representatives of Reinhardt," said the Rev. Jordan Thrasher, University chaplain. “They worked hard and had a great attitude the entire time, even though temperatures were well below freezing, and all of the work was outdoors and very muddy.”

One of the group’s projects included building a wheelchair ramp for a woman who was having knee surgery. Her home had to be more accessible to accommodate her temporary disability.

“I was very proud of the students with not only that project, but with the extra ones they took on,” said Thrasher. “We also rebuilt a section of her porch, moved her steps, washed the outside of her house and cleaned up the yard.”

During their stay, the group, led by Thrasher, explored issues surrounding poverty and the environment. “I’m hoping this can be a partnership with Red Bird, and we can go every year,” said Thrasher. “It is meaningful work and service, and it helps students understand a broader context of mission. A missionary once told me, you make missionaries by taking them on mission, not telling them about it.”

Thrasher said alternative Spring Breaks are a prime time to get students involved in substantive mission work off campus. “While classes are in session, everyone is busy, and you can’t exactly ask a student to take a week off of school, as their professors would not be too pleased. In the summer, students scatter, so Spring Break is a week where they do not have classes, and many students already go on trips, so why not a trip where they serve?”

Reinhardt initially got involved with Red Bird Mission because of its United Methodist affiliation. “Red Bird is well-established, historical and has deep roots in its local community and economy; all of the things I’m trying to foster within our own community here at Reinhardt.”

“It was a great trip, and a lot of work got done, but I was very impressed with the students,” Thrasher said. “They worked hard, never complained, and I came away with the belief that they would all be leaders, not only on our campus, but in the communities where they build their future.” —LHT

Our Mission is to Serve Others.


Katie Hale cuts wood with the miter saw while Brent Blackwell assists.
Kaylee Rinesmith waits her turn as Herman Gebrezgabiher digs a post hole.
Alexander Bryant ‘15, commuter

“My parents met here, so I guess I owe my very existence to this place,” Bryant said. A home school student, his first semester started badly. “I didn’t know anyone so I would go to class and leave. Then I started to get involved and get to know people. I joined SGA as the commuter rep.” That decision marked a change. “I knew I needed to step it up,” so he did.

An excerpt from his resume includes business major, history/political science minor, Phi Beta Lambda, four academic honor societies, Presidential Search committee and Wilderness Search & Rescue team. Now SGA president, he commutes but spends more time on campus than at home. “Being on SGA has been an amazing learning experience. I’ve gotten real world leadership skills that I couldn’t have gotten somewhere else. It’s been a different level of real and has been great preparation for a job.”

Olivia Burrell-Jackson ‘15, graduate student

As one of Reinhardt’s first Master of Public Administration students, Burrell-Jackson manages a busy schedule. As a working mother with a husband who is also a full-time graduate student and a working professional, she was drawn to the MPA program length, simple application and one-night-a-week convenient schedule.

She enjoys that graduate students who start together take classes together through graduation. “I love it! You get to know your classmates very well. It’s more personal. You are much more connected to the other students in the program.”

Marlea Martin ‘15, online & nontraditional student

Martin learned of Reinhardt’s online health-care administration program from her advisor at another institution. With years of medical experience, she had gone back to school to expand her career options.

“She said I would be the perfect candidate, but at first, I wasn’t too sure,” Martin said. “After I talked with Phil [Unger, the program coordinator] I started to see the possibilities the program opened for me.”

Married, with two children and then another on the way, Martin’s family has been very supportive. “It is a challenge, but it is a doable challenge. And it is short-lived... It’ll be worth every minute when it’s finished.”

She has enjoyed the sense of community and constant communication with her professors. “I’ve gotten better care and better attention than I did when I was in actual classes at [the other institution].”

Martin has been nominated for Reinhardt’s new Driscoll award for her volunteer work with a local nonprofit medical clinic. “I never in a million years... was looking for any sort of award or recognition. I just wanted to do something with my time that was fulfilling. Being nominated was... very humbling.”

Martin hopes to finish the program in 2015 or early 2016.

Olivia Burrell-Jackson ‘15, graduate student

As one of Reinhardt’s first Master of Public Administration students, Burrell-Jackson manages a busy schedule. As a working mother with a husband who is also a full-time graduate student and a working professional, she was drawn to the MPA program length, simple application and one-night-a-week convenient schedule.

She enjoys that graduate students who start together take classes together through graduation. “I love it! You get to know your classmates very well. It’s more personal. You are much more connected to the other students in the program.”

She also appreciates the professors’ support and real world experience. “They understand that you have outside commitments, and they work with you... We all want to work in this field, so it’s awesome to have teachers who share their real life stories and what they’ve learned with us.” — MSW
“It was with her enthusiasm for teaching, her generous and vivacious spirit, and her encouragement to pursue my dreams that I took the steps to get where I am today.”

“The professor managed to calm my anxieties, and the class turned out to be quite enjoyable (but no less challenging).”

“She challenged us while nurturing us to be the best we could be. I knew any time I needed help, whether life advice or homework, she was always willing to help. She was my number one fan.”

“She influences her students... in the way that she teaches, in the way she speaks and uplifts her students daily, and by showing the true heart that she has for her career here and for each one of her students.”

“I met [the professor] on the first day of my freshman year. I walked into his class as a scared little freshman. When class was over, he spoke to me about my goals... He saw a talent in me that no one had ever pointed out.”

“He has motivated me and many others to pursue a career in his field.”

“Sometimes I get very frustrated with the level of difficulty of the work he gives, but he always encourages me to push through and make my work better than it has ever been.”

“Through [the professor’s] instruction, I have been able to create work and make life decisions with great care, tact and most importantly, creativity and honesty.”

“This professor gave up countless hours of her personal time and was always happy to help students in any way she could.”

“She took my goal and made it her own.”

Excerpts from the 11 nominations for only one of Reinhardt’s five annual faculty awards. Names and disciplines have been deleted from the quotes above to preserve the writers’ anonymity.
“This is so nice! This is so cool.”

Dr. Aliya Donnell, an assistant professor of biology, said her BIO 107 students were visibly impressed by the new 12,000 square-foot Science Center, which opened in August 2013.

The well received project includes a new building with three labs, two advanced research labs, four classrooms, four offices; new equipment and technology; and renovations to Dobbs Hall.

“The new setup is really conducive to teaching,” said Dr. Danielle A. Satre, assistant professor of biology. “My labs, especially those dealing with physiology, are now computer-based. We can do more, and the experiments are more meaningful because the students can quickly generate and analyze data more accurately. They also gain a better understanding of what their data means.”

Dr. Zach Felix, assistant professor of biology, said prospective students have also responded favorably. Though talented faculty has long been a selling point for the biology program, this asset was difficult to grasp during a visit day or campus tour. “What they can easily see is the building, the equipment,” he said. Now prospective students are intrigued. “We had a student come for the dean’s scholarship competition. When we asked why she was thinking of transferring to Reinhardt, she said because she likes our labs better.”

President Dr. J. Thomas Isherwood said the new Science Center project has solved many challenges and has raised the question of whether Reinhardt could add degrees in applied health like nursing or lab technology. “We’ve begun to look into these possibilities, but due to the time frame and complexity of these programs, they will be strategic decisions for the next president and administration.” — MSW

(From top left to right) Dr. Zach Felix teaches in the renovated zoology lab. “I was able to envision what I needed for the space,” he said. “Before it was a zoology lab without any ‘zoo’, but now it’s starting to take on the feel of a real zoology lab.”

The Science Center opened for classes in August 2013.

New equipment and technology have been critically important components of the Science Center project.

The general biology/microbiology lab provides an open environment to facilitate group work and immediate professor access.

Dr. Aliya Donnell (right) instructs students as they use the new microscopes in the organismal lab in Dobbs Hall.

Students & faculty immediately benefit from new space & equipment
Changing Enrollment Reflects New Programs, Offerings

Reinhardt began the 2013-2014 year with 1402 students, the largest enrollment in the institution’s history. The class included slightly more females than males (51% to 49%), and the overall minority percentage increased to 23%. At least one student came from 160 different high schools and at least two students were from 76 high schools.

Athletic Teams, Student-Athletes & Coaches Enjoyed Success

Reinhardt had 452 scholarship athletes during the 2013-14 year, which totaled 32 percent of the student body. The football team won the western division of the Mid-South Conference and finished with a winning record and an average attendance of 1500 per home game. Women’s soccer and softball both won the regular season and tournament conference championships and went on to compete in the national tournaments; softball finished 3rd in the nation. Men’s basketball also competed in their national tournament. Baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, and men’s and women’s tennis all finished as runner-ups in AAC regular season play. Men’s lacrosse won its conference and competed in the national tournament; women’s lacrosse also competed in their national tourney. Head coaches in football, women’s soccer, women’s lacrosse and men’s soccer were honored as Coach of the Year for their respective sports. Six student-athletes were named Players of the Year; six were named NAIA All American; 35 were named to All AAC; and 48 were named AAC All Scholars. (see p. 35 for more.)

Growth Prompts Construction

The new Science Center was dedicated on Sept. 17, 2013. The project, which also included renovation to Samuel C. Dobbs Science Hall, added much needed space and equipment for scientific instruction and research. To accommodate enrollment increases, Blue and Gold Halls were added in the Glenn H. & Marjorie Humphrey Hubbard Residence Hall Complex, thus increasing housing capacity to 702 students. The new complex is adjacent to the Fincher Visual Arts Center, the Gordy Hospitality House and Lake Mullenix. The Ken White softball practice facility was built during the summer of 2014, and it is adjacent to the field house and the softball field. A new stage arts annex is also in the planning and fund raising stages.

School of Performing Arts Created, Only One in Georgia

Music, theatre and musical theatre have become increasing popular programs at Reinhardt, and they share many of the same resources, so in September 2013, the Board of Trustees changed the name of the School of Music to the School of Performing Arts, and the theatre and musical theatre programs joined the music programs in the new school. Now the master of music and the undergraduate programs in theater, musical theatre, music performance, music education and sacred music are all housed in the same school. The only one of its kind in Georgia on the college or university level, the School of Performing Art has approximately 180 students majoring in one or more of its program offerings. (see p.6 for more.) — MSW

UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS 2013–2014

“This past year was a great year! Wherever you look, there were superlatives. It was the best performing arts year; athletics had the most successful year; the Convocation of Artists and Scholars honored academic achievements; a new science building created excitement; we had our largest enrollment ever; we ventured into online degree programs; and we began our sixth master’s degree program.”
— Dr. J. Thomas Isherwood, president
Henritze Scholarship Golf Classic Raised $124,000 in Scholarships

The 26th annual Dave Henritze Scholarship Golf Classic was played on May 5, 2014, at Hawks Ridge Golf Club, one of the region’s most prestigious golf courses. The tournament raised $124,000 for scholarships. Since this event began in 1988, it has raised more than $2.3 million.

Taking part were 108 golfers and 40 sponsors. PGA golf pro Larry Mize helped raise funds for students. He hit the first ball for each foursome on hole #3, and if the team continued play from Mize’s shot, they gave an additional donation. Mize (above, center) posed with first low gross team representing Northside Hospital-Cherokee: (from left) Doug Edwards, Rocky Hendrix, Wes Latimer and Brian Morley-Stockton.

Ministerial Golf Outing

Eighty-four players gathered at Bent Tree Golf Course on May 21, 2014. Teams of ministers and lay-persons enjoyed the beautiful course in the north Georgia mountains. After a cook-out provided by Bent Tree, golfers gathered for a day of fellowship and golf. The event raised $23,274.

Past co-chair the Rev. Dr. Ron Flowers received a golf picture donated by Jim Jernigan, who passed away on March 1, 2014. Jim, a golf outing committee member since the event’s beginning in 1993, wanted to thank Ron for his many years of service as tournament chair.

The golf outing supports scholarships for United Methodist students, including United Methodist youth scholarships for up to $2,000 per year and North and South Georgia United Methodist clergy dependent scholarships worth up to $12,000 per year. More than $578,000 has been raised by this tournament since its inception in 1993.

2013 low gross winners were Bobby James (above, from left), Steve Crain, Ron Hunter and Taylor Turner.

2013-2014 Annual Fund

The University, in partnership with The Outlet Shoppes at Atlanta, hosted a fashion show on June 7, 2014, to benefit Reinhardt scholarships for Cherokee County students. Local models displayed ensembles provided by participating mall stores, and Joan McFarther emceed the event. Tickets included brunch, door prizes and a chance to bid on gift packages. This event was held in conjunction with the annual A DAY for Reinhardt campaign, and it brought the 2013-2014 A DAY campaign total to $110,000.

2013-2014 Annual Fund Highlights

“We are grateful for generous donors, committed alumni and hard working faculty and staff. This combination allows us to successfully raise funds and promote Reinhardt. My sincere thanks to all who contributed to fund raising activities. We welcome your questions and comments and always enjoy hearing from you.” — JoEllen Bell Wilson ’61, vice president for advancement

Funds | Amount Given | Percent of Total
--- | --- | ---
A Day | $110,137 | 11%
Annual Scholarships | $509,289 | 51%
Athletic Golf | $28,841 | 3%
Direct Mail | $38,854 | 4%
Golf Classic | $124,160 | 12%
Ministerial Golf | $20,534 | 2%
Unrestricted Funds | $83,753 | 8%
Phonathon | $16,955 | 2%
Reinhardt Family | $17,939 | 2%
Trustee | $49,500 | 5%
--- | --- | ---
Total | $999,962 | 100%

Fashion show models included Reagan Thomas (front, from left), Tucker Bowers, Peyton Brown; (back, from left) Lauren Thomas and Amanda Brown.
Every day at Reinhardt, students benefit from the generous contributions donors make to the University. Throughout the next few pages, you’ll see our students put these donations to work.

| Pinnacle Society | $100,000 + |
| Tower Club | $50,000 - $99,999 |
| Benefactor’s Club | $25,000 - $49,999 |
| Leadership Circle | $10,000 - $24,999 |
| Pacesetter’s Club | $5,000 - $9,999 |
| Chairman’s Club | $2,500 - $4,999 |
| President’s Club | $1,000 - $2,499 |

*denotes a person who passed away during the 2013-2014 year.

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Big Canoe Chapel, Inc.
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$10,000 - $24,999
Benefactor’s Club
Chairman’s Club
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($5,000 - $9,999)

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In 1998, the William W. Fincher Jr. and Eunice L. Fincher Visual Arts Center was named to recognize the Finchers’ generosity to the University. Today, the Fincher Center is where students prepare and present their art pieces, including senior thesis exhibits.
As student enrollment continues to climb so does the demand for on-campus housing. Several of Reinhardt’s residence halls were constructed with the help of longtime supporters.
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The new Science Center opened in 2013 with the help of several major donors. Today, Reinhardt’s students and faculty are utilizing the additional classrooms and laboratories, new equipment and technology and office and research areas.
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Claude B. Hicks ’65
Jim Clubb ’76
Debbie Morris Sellers Stinchcomb ’76
Dr. Kevin Scott Crawford
Barbara Crawford
Todd P. Crawford
Sheryl Gifford
Anne M. Good
Dr. Jonathan Good
Kelley Ann Johnson
Tricia A. McElroy
Adam Mellen
Sharon O’Dair
Laura J. Vorachek
Inese Zitner
Dr. Harry Davis
James E. & Janeal Wilkie Orr ’58 ’59
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson ’60 ’61
In Memory of: Those being remembered are in blue.

Georgia Douglas
Bob Conner '67

Dr. Robert Driscoll
Elizabeth J. Driscoll
L. Eugene & Yvonne Harris Norton '60 '60

Kathy Evans
James E. & Janeal Willie Orr '58 '59

Lonnie Fields
Edgar Lary '62

George A. Fossett Sr.
Carol McKnight Fossett '56
George A. Fossett

Douglas W. Frederick '58
Wesley C. & Linda Wallace Walraven, Jr. '65 '65

Coy B. Free '48
Mary Free
L. Eugene & Yvonne Harris Norton '60 '60

Florrie G. Funk
Patricia & Michael Carroll

Betty Geriner
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

The Hon. Calvin Hill
William G. & Martha McIntyre Hasty, Jr. '67
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

Roger E. & Mrs. Anne Moss
Hopkins '53
John William Braswell '53

Glenn H. Hubbard '36
Marjorie Humphrey Hubbard '37

Thomas H. Jackson
Margaret C. Jackson

James F. Jernigan
Barbara Martin
The Revs. Zach & Leigh Sparks Martin
Harrison & Dorothy Reeves

Elizabeth Johnston
John Foster
Jennie Johnston
Dr. William J. & Mary Beavers Johnston '56
Sara Elizabeth Johnston '81
Mrs. Howard P. Lawrence
Dan McLarty
Sylvia Wheeler Roberts
David M. Schmidt
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

Henry G. Lyon
C. Jack & Maye Lyon Eaton '56 '58

Mary P. Lyon
C. Jack & Maye Lyon Eaton '56 '58
James & Nancy Hyams

Peggy Lyon
James & Nancy Hyams

Jake Q. Maxwell
J. Q. Maxwell Sunday School Class, Haygood UMC

Brandon McCullers '00
Jason T. & Kim Johnson Gamel '96 '99
Carol Sanders

Sam McCullers
Sammy & Dean McCullers

Ronald F. Moore '56
L. Cecile Adams '61

Joyce Davey Neal '60
Martha J. Lancaster '60

Russell O. Neal '47
Walter Brooks & Doris Dickey-Brooks
Mrs. Russell O. Neal

Pierce T. Neese
William G. & Martha McIntyre Hasty, Jr. '67

Barbara A. Paschall
Deborah A. Marlowe
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

Bobby G. Payne '55
Dr. Franklin & Carolyn Croker '54 '54

Parrie J. Pinyan '59
L. Cecile Adams '61

Carla M. Roberts
Wayne & Marie Berkner

Mary Sauls
Georgie H. Boyd

Patsy Bramlett Self '56
Franklin D. Self

G. Texana Ruff Shelnutt '46
Dee & Kandy Shelnutt
Jan Whalen
Dr. Carl F. & Debbie Williams

Jack H. Smith '38
Martha Seay Todd '75
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

David M. Spivey
Hazel B. Lewis '42

Edwin I. Swords, III
Margaret C. Jackson

Mary Katherine Thomas
William G. & Martha McIntyre Hasty, Jr. '67
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

Charles Monroe & Mamie Cleo Tippens
Kenneth & Catherine Moses Dobson

Sue Ellen Turner '60
L. Cecile Adams '61

Margie C. Varner '54
Edwin N. Varner

Newt Whitfield
William G. & Martha McIntyre Hasty, Jr. '67
John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61

L. Eugene & Yvonne Harris Norton '60 '60 also gave in memory of:
Donald W. Barnes '60
John H. Bennett, Sr. '25
L. Clyde Collins
William G. & Hazel W. Hasty, Sr. '41
Clyde M. Lawson
Sandra Ballew Middleton '60
Eugene W. Owen '38
Elsie Chadwick Reynolds '60

John H. & JoEllen Bell Wilson '60 '61 also gave in memory of:
Mary Alice Alexander
Robby Anderson
Joan Fielden
Mary Sego Kitchens
Florence League
John Logan
Grace Lowry
Mac McMullen
Mr. & Mrs. Turk Milford
Walter Leon Owen
Beverly Pritchard
Dr. Bruce E. Reed '61
Josh Spears
D. Williams
Talon Awards Gala
honoring Reinhardt’s most dedicated supporters and alumni

John Wesley Laity Award
Alan and Judy Allen
The annual Wesley Laity award recognizes church members who have made significant contributions to United Methodist institutions of higher education and ministries. It is named for the founder of The United Methodist Church.

Dr. Alan Allen (above, right) earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Texas Christian University and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Harvard University. He taught at the secondary level several years before deciding to teach college-level mathematics. He earned a doctorate in mathematics from Peabody College at Vanderbilt University and accepted a faculty position at Reinhardt in 1970, where he taught math until his retirement in 1998. Now a professor emeritus at the University, he is a avid pianist, and he and his wife, Judy, are active members of the Waleska United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Allen (above, left) taught for more than 30 years in the Bartow and Cherokee School Systems and was a Teacher of the Year for Cherokee County. She retired in 1995.

She is a member of the Atlanta-Marietta District Superintendent Committee and a patron of the Falany Performing Arts Center, where she served two terms on the Advisory Committee. She is also a member of Cherokee County and Georgia Retired Educators Associations.

John Wesley Clergy Award
The Rev. Dr. James H. Lowry, Jr.
The annual Wesley Clergy award recognizes a pastor who have made significant contributions to United Methodist institutions of higher education and ministries.

Dr. Lowry (above, left) received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Asbury College; a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary; a Master of Theology from Duke University; and a Doctorate of Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary. His appointments include Acworth United Methodist Church, McEachern Memorial UMC and Norcross First UMC; he is now the superintendent of the Atlanta-Marietta District. He has served in missions and preached in 18 different countries.

He and his wife, Diane, have two daughters, Shannon and Joy, and two grandchildren, Sara and Jacob.

Distinguished Alumni of the Year
Drs. Jeffrey & Jerome Dobson ’65 ’65
This award recognizes individuals with outstanding personal achievements who have been devoted to their alma mater.

The Dobsons are Canton natives and have maintained close ties to the local area.

After graduating from Reinhardt, Jeffrey Dobson (above, right) received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from The University of Georgia, specializing in global resources. He has been an assistant professor at the University of Alaska, Ohio State University, the University of Illinois and UGA. He founded InterLink USA and Global InterLink Corporation where he is now president and CEO. He and his wife, Dana, have two daughters, and they live in Knoxville, Tenn.

Dr. Jerome Dobson (above, left) earned his bachelor and master’s degrees from UGA and his Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee. He was a senior scientist for the U.S. Department of State and associated with The Oak Ridge National Laboratory for 26 years. He is now a professor of geography at the University of Kansas. He and his wife, Gwen, live in Lawrence, Kan., and they have two sons, Eric and Craig.

The day after the Talon Awards, the Dobsons spoke at Reinhardt about their book, The Waters of Chaos – The Modern Quest and The Ancient Saga. — LHT

Save the Date
March 19, 2015
7 p.m.
Northside Hospital
Cherokee County Conference Center
Canton, Ga.

more on p. 28
Ann Bailey MBA ’09

Bailey spends her time utilizing both the left and right sides of her brain. Professionally she is the manager of leadership development for Siemens, serving more than 60,000 employees in their journey toward leadership excellence. She designs, develops and implements learning for leaders and managers across the globe. She also serves Christians worldwide by teaching leadership development in Japan to churches, non-profits and governmental agencies. When she shifts to the other side of her brain, she is a gallery owner and artist. As the final project of her Reinhardt MBA, Bailey opened Ann Art Gallery (www.annartgallery.com) in May 2010. This gallery features art by Southern artists, including watercolors, woodworking, bookmaking, calligraphy, etchings and weaving. It sponsors the North Georgia Art Ramble each December. All this keeps her busy, but she wouldn’t have it any other way.

Lindsay Boyd ’04

A Canton native, Lindsay Powell Boyd graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History. She also earned a Master of Arts in Teaching from Emory University. She quickly turned an internship placement at Roswell High School into a permanent job. During her eight years with Roswell High, she has taught American government, U.S. history, current issues and A.P. U.S. history. She was a freshman mentor and worked on the School Improvement Plan, focusing on freshman success rates. For five years she headed the girls soccer program and coached the Varsity team to two state playoff appearances. She has served as the Key Club sponsor for the past three years and helped to create the very first September 11th Memorial in 2013. Lindsay was selected as the 2013 Teacher of the Year for Roswell High School. It was at Roswell where she met her husband, Ben Boyd.

Jeffrey Cardell ’09

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications, Cardell spent a year in Romania ministering to university students with Greater Europe Mission. In 2011, he returned to the States and married Lauren Brown, whom he met at Reinhardt. They moved to California where he received a Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in Leadership Development from Fuller Theological Seminary. At Fuller, Jeff served on the All-Seminary Council as co-president for the Intercultural Studies Program, which allowed him to work alongside future church leaders from across the globe. After eight mission trips to Romania and living there for a year, Jeff knew he was called to the mission field. Jeff and Lauren returned to Romania in November 2013 to serve as long-term missionaries with Adventures in Missions.

Tim Clancy ’04

Clancy joined IBM in 2005 as a consultant and over the last eight years has served on assignments with financial, manufacturing, technology, healthcare and military clients. He spent 2010-2012 leading IBM teams in Afghanistan on assignment with the Office of the Secretary of Defense supporting commanders in theater as they prepared to withdraw U.S. forces and to achieve mission critical priorities related to defeating the risk of improvised explosive devices. Clancy earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Reinhardt, and he is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Systems Dynamics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He is a published author and speaker on topics related to performance improvement and complex systems. Married in 2005, he and his wife, Alexandra, welcomed a baby girl in May of 2014.

Caitlyn Crippin ’09

Crippin spent several years studying marketing in the McCamish School of Business at Reinhardt, where she learned the responsibility of leadership and the excitement of a job well done. As a student, she interned as a sales manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car and participated in National Collegiate Sales Competitions. In 2009 she received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Prior to graduation, Crippin accepted a position with Nestlé USA. During her time at Nestlé USA, she has steadily climbed the corporate ladder from zone sales manager (Raleigh, N.C.), district project leader (Birmingham, Ala.), district sales manager (Atlanta, Ga.), and business analyst (Oakland, Calif.) to her current position as national sales operations analyst (Oakland, Calif.). Crippin lives in San Francisco, Calif., and is an active member in the Junior League of San Francisco.
10 Under 10 honors a group of 10 alumni who graduated within the last 10 years (2003 - 2013) and are successful in their professions. These alumni were recognized at the annual Talon Awards Gala in March 2014, and portraits and information about them hang in the Hasty Student Life Center. Each year a new group of 10 under 10 will be selected.

Daniel Jape ’08

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Reinhardt, Jape went to work in the family business, Reliable Heating & Air in Woodstock, Ga. He and his father, Dan, expanded the company to offer electrical, plumbing and home performance. Jape is Building Performance Certified and Factory Trane Certified. His HVAC sales have totaled $1.5 to 2 million each year, and he has been recognized as the top Trane salesman in the Southeast numerous times. As spokesman for Reliable Heating & Air, he has appeared in TV and radio commercials, on billboards and as a guest speaker at Atlanta home shows. He also participates in continuing education and charity events. A devoted husband and father, he married his high school sweetheart, Jana, and they live in Ball Ground, Ga., with their two girls, Lillie and Lola.

Hilary Martin ’10

Martin graduated from Reinhardt in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Advertising. At Reinhardt, she took part in many activities, was a resident assistant for three years and was named senior Resident Assistant during her last year. She was also a Captain for the Admissions Office and was actively involved in campus ministry. After graduation, she earned a Master of Education in Educational Leadership at Valdosta State University while serving as the graduate assistant for marketing and public relations in the Office of Housing and Residence Life. In June 2012, Martin became a resident director and program coordinator at Young Harris College. On Nov. 5, 2013, she was elected to a seat on the Young Harris City Council. She is excited for the opportunity to get involved in her new community.

Susan Pinson ’04

The Rev. Susan Moore Pinson ’04 serves as minister for children & older adults at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church on the campus of Emory University. After graduating from Reinhardt with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, she completed a Master of Divinity at Duke University and a Master of Social Work in gerontology at the University of North Carolina. Her article, “Aging Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease: The Role of Christian Social Workers and the Church,” was published in the Journal of Christianity and Social Work. She serves on the Board of Directors for Senior Connections, Inc., the North Georgia Conference Camping & Retreat Ministry (Camp Glisson), and the Reinhardt Alumni Board of Governors. She and her husband, Mathew Pinson ’05, have a daughter, Elizabeth Avery, born Dec. 2, 2013.

Frank Reynolds ’95 ’10

Reynolds earned an associate degree from Reinhardt College in 1995, and he returned to finish a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art in 2010. He went on to earn a Master of Public Administration from Columbus State University and is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College. From 2005-2008, Reynolds worked in Iraq with the Department of State’s High-Threat Protection detail providing security for U.S. diplomats, heads of state and senior U.S. military officers. Now a Captain at the Pickens County Sheriff’s Office, he is responsible for managing the Office of Professional Standards. He is a member of the Canton Rotary Club and Canton Optimist Club and is a Cherokee County Historical Society board member. He and his wife, Jennifer DeBord Reynolds ’04, have three children, Frank, Emelia and Sophia. The Reynolds attend First Baptist Church of Waleska.

Robby Westbrook ’09

Westbrook earned a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership from Reinhardt and a Master of Science in Emergency Management from Jacksonville State University. He is also a graduate of the Columbus State University Law Enforcement Command College and the University of Georgia Certified Local Government Manager Program. A Certified Emergency Manager in Georgia, he holds the Professional Emergency Manager designation within the State of Georgia. Westbrook has been the director of the Cherokee Sheriff’s Office Division of Emergency Management since 1994. He is responsible for all aspects of the county emergency management program. He is also an adjunct professor at Reinhardt and at the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, Georgia Public Safety Training Center. — LHT
Jerome and Jeffrey Dobson ’65 ’65 (above, from left) were recognized as Reinhardt University’s 2014 Distinguished Alumni of the Year. Both brought humor and history to their acceptance speeches at the 2014 Talon Awards Gala.

“Thank you very much for this honor,” said Jeffrey. “It’s a special privilege to stand here with my twin brother and dear friend, Jerry Dobson. As some of you know, Jerry and I go way back. In fact, we’ve known each other since before we were born.”

He described Reinhardt as his academic hometown. “Growing up it was easy to take Reinhardt for granted…sort of like an extension of high school. But looking back, it was much more than that. I’ve attended and taught at several major universities, and I can tell you now, that the highest practice of education I’ve ever encountered was right here at Reinhardt.”

Jerome added to his brother’s sentiments. “I am sorry our mother could not be here tonight. She always wanted us to dress alike…and this was her first chance since we were in the fourth grade!

He also appreciated the award. “The real reason it means so much to me, growing up here in Canton, knowing the people who’ve won it before, some who are in the audience tonight, it’s just awesome to think that the people I looked up to growing up, I now share this honor with them.”

The day after the special evening, the Dobsons held a colloquium at Reinhardt to discuss their new book, The Waters of Chaos – The Modern Quest and The Ancient Saga, a two-part novel series about a real-world global catastrophe 10,000 years ago caused by global warming. A science mystery, it seeks to answer: How did human society evolve from the Ice Ages to today? The Ancient Saga is set at the end of the last Ice Age and brings to life characters who are coping with the imminent global catastrophe of sea level rise. The Modern Quest follows twin brothers as they employ the most advanced technologies available to search for evidence of a lost civilization beneath the sea. Both stories invoke Egyptian mythology and universal flood myths to connect science and lore. The modern book proposes new and radically different theories, while the ancient book illustrates how those theories may have worked in the real world.

The Dobsons both have an impressive list of accomplishments. For more on the Talon awards and the Dobsons’ accomplishments, please select “2014” on the web page, www.reinhardt.edu/talonawards. –LHT & MSW


Carolyn R. “Becky” Williams Buckman is a freelance writer and poet. Two of her poems, “There Will Come A Time” and “A Mother Knows,” have been published in various poetry collections. She also wrote “Down The Line,” a collection of poetry and life experiences.

Gloria “Jean” Carruth Cason and her husband, James Cason ’60, have moved to Pompano Beach, Fla. They would love to hear from their classmates.

Robert R. Balletto retired after 25 years as a teacher in New York City. He shares his time between Costa Rica and New York City.

Jane Roberson Aycock retired from the Appling County school system in 2013 after teaching 35 years. She now works part-time as a consultant for Appling County Schools. She lives in Baxley, Ga.

Dr. Susan M. Buice retired on May 30, 2014, after teaching for 34 years in the Cherokee County school system. She spent the last 14 years teaching literature and composition at Cherokee High School.

Julie Van Horn Wilson earned a Master’s in Education from Walden University in March 2013. She is married to Thomas W. Wilson ’78.

Deborah A. Autry has retired from Bartow County Schools after 30 years of teaching.

Paula J. Pahl was named the top female advisor by the Atlanta As-
The Class of ’64 is raising funds for a scholarship to be awarded this fall. Thank you for sharing your Reinhardt memories and for being an inspiration! Class of ’64 members who returned to Waleska on May 3, 2014, to take part in Commencement festivities included (front, from left): Janice Walker Bullard, Nancy Landrum, Marie Smith Edwards, Dawn Coursey Brewer, Jean Spriggs Ousley and Toni Cagle O’Kelley. (Back, from left): James “Douglas” Holder, John Owens, Beverly Burton Emerson, Stanley Davis, Jann Sailors Knowles, Doris Tarpley Lester, Donald Sparks and Terry Burton.

Jennifer Wiggins Matthews has left Century Bank of Georgia to become the marketing director for Advocates for Children, which provides services and programs to children who have been abused or neglected in an effort to reduce the incidence of child abuse. Advocates serves 17 northwest Georgia counties and works with about 2,500 children and families every year.

Kevin Jones received the 2013 Elaine Butler Award as the top volunteer in Murray County and a bronze level President’s Volunteer Service Award for his volunteer work at the Murray County 4-H.


James-Michael “JM” Smith earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from The University of Georgia and a Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. After serving as discipleship pastor at a United Methodist church in Charlotte, N.C. for five years, he founded Disciple Dojo (http://jmsmith.org), an online discipleship ministry which produces DVD small group curricula, online videos, and books and articles on a Biblical and theological topics. He lives in Charlotte, N.C.

Tonya Ray Parker joined Cherokee Bank as a vice president and commercial lender in August 2013.

Jennifer “Holly” Sisson Barr and her husband, James, welcomed a daughter, Ginnifer, on Dec. 26, 2013.

Stephanie Michelle Hall has graduated from George Washington University with a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Administration. She will begin a Ph.D. in International Education Policy at the University of Maryland this fall. She has worked as a teacher and administrator in Brazil for the last six years.

Benjamin Walton became the assistant women’s soccer coach at Indiana University in March 2013.

Amanda Durley Peckham and husband, Mike, welcomed a baby boy, Evan Drew, to their family on June 20, 2013.

Melanie Scopa Lambert became the Chattahoochee Technical College executive director of development in May 2014. Previously she served as the senior associate director of stewardship at Emory University.

Have you ever wondered how your class compares to other classes according to charitable giving to Reinhardt? Each class is challenged to meet or exceed a $1000 goal each year! During the 2013-2014 year, alumni from more than 70 classes made donations, and gifts from 23 of the classes exceeded the $1000 challenge. Please give each year and encourage all your classmates to do the same. — KAB
Trammell MBA (see note under ‘03).

Randell Trammell ’09 MBA graduated from Northeastern University in June 2014 with a Doctorate in Education in Organizational Management and Communication. Photo above.

Danielle Polcha Kononen and R. “Blake” Kononen ’03 welcomed their son, Rostin Blake, on Nov. 20, 2013. Photo at right. Blake was also named one of Cherokee County’s Top 10 in 10 Young Professionals by the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.

Susan Moore Pinson & Mathew A. Pinson ’05 had a daughter, Elizabeth Avary, on Dec. 2, 2013. Photo at right.

Brittany Weyandt Whiddon and husband, Michael, had a son, Austin David, on July 15, 2013. The proud grandparents are Brian M. & Karen Fox Weyandt ’73 ’74. Photo below.

Jordan Turner and Martie Richards ’12 were married on July 7, 2014, at the Hagan Chapel on the Reinhardt campus. Both work at Reinhardt - he as an admissions counselor and the head cross country and track and field coach and she as the admissions coordinator. Photo below.

Candice Boyd Jones and her husband, Walter R. Jones ’07, welcomed their daughter, Reagan Abigail, on August 12, 2013. Photo above.

Katie Carmichael Ziegler and her husband, Brent, announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Claire, on June 4, 2014. She was the perfect birthday present for her dad. Ava and Katie are doing great! Photo above.

Jeffrey C. Cardell and his wife, Lauren Brown Cardell ’11, moved to Romania on Nov. 19, 2013, to do mission work.

Christina M. Kurhanewicz had a son, Andrew Bixler, on Sept. 19, 2013. She graduated from the Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing with a BSN in 2011 and now works for Surgical Information Systems as an implementation consultant.

Hilary M. Martin was sworn in as a City Council Member for the city of Young Harris, Ga., in January 2014. She works for Young Harris College.

Courtney M. Byrd works in Manhattan, N.Y., at Nervewire, a digital technology marketing agency representing luxury brands. She is the digital account coordinator in charge of Calico.

Megan Vautrot Clampitt and husband, Benjamin, had a son, Benjamin Luther “Luke” II, on May 21, 2013.


Thomas ‘Owen’ Bagley III received a full scholarship to Union Presbyterian Seminary, where he is pursuing a Master of Divinity. He and Lauren E. Long ‘12 were married on Aug. 3, 2013. They live in Richmond, Va.
Katie Ann Reed was promoted to coordinator of annual giving and information services at Reinhardt University in April 2014.

Martie Richards ’12 (see note for Jordan Turner ’07 and photo on p. 30).

Julie Shroult Clark and her husband, Greg, had a son, Wesley Lane, on July 18, 2014.

Patrick R. Hall works for Combined Investigators.

Douglas Fountain MBA was named one of Cherokee County’s Top 10 in 10 Young Professionals by the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.

Courtney Holcombe and Matthew H. Martin ’12 were married on May 10, 2014, at Sage Cottage Inn in Adairsville, Ga.

In Memoriam

Frances C. Carpenter Fincher passed away on July 24, 2013, at age 95. Best known for her love of flowers, she was a longtime member of Canton’s Trayletah Garden Club. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Shereee and Lamar Sawyer; daughter-in-law Karen Hightower; sisters Martha Carpenter Hightower ’42 and Betty Ann Carpenter Callahan ’47; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jack H. Smith died April 9, 2014, at age 94. A retired contractor, developer and farmer, he had served as Waleska’s mayor and held other roles in local government. He and his wife, Ruby, established the Jack H. Smith Chair of Entrepreneurship and Free Enterprise and the Ruby Smith College Scholarship at Reinhardt, and he was the Reinhardt’s 2008 Alumnus of the Year. He is survived by his wife; his daughter, Edna Cook ’75; two granddaughters and their husbands, and two great-grandchildren.

Vivian R. Holbrook Boggs, wife of the late Rev. Billy Boggs, passed away on April 9, 2014.

Talitha B. Ozley passed away on June 2, 2014. She is survived by her husband, the Rev. John Ozley (retired).

Richard Ray Peck, of Raleigh, N.C., and formerly of Chattanooga, Tenn., passed away on Jan. 18, 2014. He was a devoted husband to his wife, Sarah, for 61 years and was also a devoted father and grandfather.

Philip Marion Byrd II passed away April 23, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Stafford Byrd ’56.

Bobby G. Payne of Rome, Ga., passed away on Oct. 26, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Ladye Jane Cox Payne.

Edward D. Harvey of Canton, Ga., died Sept. 5, 2013


Carole E. Ellis Blassingame, age 72 of Etowah, Tenn., died Feb. 3, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Harvey.

Allen Delois King of Woodstock, Ga., passed away on May 9, 2012.

Bruce Earl Reed passed away March 12, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Elaine Long Reed ’61.

J. Verner Burton of Stockbridge, Ga., died July 30, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Pauline Polly Carter Burton. He served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam after attending Reinhardt and The University of Georgia.

Sam Millard Payne passed away on April 15, 2014 at the age of 70. He is survived by his wife, Elenor Ann Barrett Payne ’63.

Francis Durand Ozmore of Dallas, Texas, passed away on Jan. 20, 2010.

Judy Burgess Caylor of Smyrna, Ga., passed away on March 18, 2014, of pancreatic cancer. She is survived by her husband, Lamar Caylor.

Ricky “CI” Poole of Jasper, Ga., died Feb. 5, 2014, at age 55. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Jodi & Jason Frank.


Let Us Hear from You!
Send your alumni news or address changes to the Office of Alumni Relations & Alumni Giving by e-mail at alumni@reinhardt.edu. Or use the online form on Reinhardt.edu/alumni/update. Your news will be included in the 2014-2015 Reinhardt Magazine.

Faculty & Staff

Dr. Kevin Crawford, associate professor of English and theatre, passed away Dec. 2, 2013. He came to Reinhardt in August 2007 and was instrumental in expanding Reinhardt’s theatre program. He received Reinhardt’s Artistic Performance/Research Award in 2010, 2011 & 2012.

James F. Jernigan (above left) died March 1, 2014, following a lengthy illness. Always a gentleman with a kind word, he raised millions of dollars in Reinhardt scholarships through his 25 years in Reinhardt’s fund raising and church relations departments. His surviving family members include Allen O. Jernigan (above right), a former Reinhardt president.

Trustees

The Hon. Calvin Hill passed away Oct. 30, 2013, after a long fight with leukemia. A long-time member of the University’s Board of Advisors and then Board of Trustees, he was an enthusiastic fund raiser for A DAY for many years. His involvement in and knowledge of the local community, the region and the state served Reinhardt well. He represented District 21 in the Georgia House from 2002 until his death.
Communication, relationship building and fund raising are the main services provided by the Reinhardt Office of Alumni Relations and Alumni Giving, said Kathy Bouyett. In her role as the office’s director, she keeps alumni connected and informed through special events, reunions and communications.

“Alumni are constantly asking me how can they get involved and give back to Reinhardt,” Bouyett said. “I am eager to provide them with options and opportunities.”

She encourages alumni to keep their contact and biographical information up to date with the Alumni Office.

“In addition to the annual Reinhardt Magazine, we send out e-mails or mailers periodically on upcoming events and opportunities, so please remember to keep your address, phone and e-mail current with your alma mater,” she said. “We also like to share the accomplishments of our alumni with our current students, faculty, staff and graduates. Alumni can call the office or use the online update form: reinhardt.edu/alumni/update.

Class Reunions
Reconnect with your classmates and alma mater by attending a reunion! The Alumni Office organizes the annual Golden and Silver Anniversary class reunions.

Golden Anniversary alumni receive a 50th Anniversary medallion, participate in Commencement and attend a luncheon in their honor. Silver Anniversary alumni come back for Homecoming (formerly Alumni Day) for a brunch in their honor, receive a 25th Anniversary medallion and are recognized during half-time at the football game.

“Class reunions can be held on campus or anywhere!” Bouyett said. The Alumni Office will assist with campus arrangements and provide contact information, mailing lists, group e-mails and Facebook posts to help get the word out. She recommends planning a reunion around a special campus event like Homecoming to increase interest and attendance. Multiple class years can also be included.

If you are interested in planning a class reunion, contact the Office of Alumni Relations & Giving.

Special Events
Reinhardt In The City, the Annual Conference Dinner and the Talon Awards Gala are annual alumni events which provide opportunities to reconnect with alumni, cultivate relationships and learn more about the University. Watch the University website, the Alumni Facebook page, your e-mail or mail for specifics on these events.

Baby Eagle Club
Do you have a new arrival in your family? Alumni are encouraged to share this happy news! Baby Eagles receive a certificate and a specially designed pink or blue Reinhardt cap. To enroll your baby, visit reinhardt.edu/alumni/baby_eagle_club.

Buy A Brick
In recent years, the Alumni Office encouraged graduating seniors to donate $50 or more to purchase a personalized engraved brick for a campus walkway. Now this opportunity is available to those who graduated 10, 20, 30 or more years ago! You can dedicate a brick or have your business represented. Brick donations go toward student scholarships, classroom equipment and library books. Visit your brick year after year and watch the pathway grow. For more information visit www.reinhardt.edu/alumni/Make_A_Gift/seniorgift or call the office.

Love Bird Club
For some alumni, a great education wasn’t the only thing they found at Reinhardt. Some also met a spouse. Alumni couples are invited to share the story of how they met and fell in love at www.reinhardt.edu/alumni/lovebirds-club. These stories may be published or added to the Club web page.

— KAB
Faculty/Staff Kudos

Dr. Matthew M. Anderson, instructor of music, received one of Reinhardt’s annual faculty awards for research and scholarship.

Dr. Theresa L. Ast, assistant professor of history and coordinator of interdisciplinary studies, has published “Confronting the Holocaust: American Soldiers Enter Concentration Camps,” a monograph about American military personnel who entered the Nazi concentration camps in spring 1945.

Reverie M. Berger, assistant professor of music, sang the role of Hansel in Humperdinck’s Hansel and Gretel with First Coast Opera in St. Augustine, Fla., on Nov. 10, 2013.

Tina Hedden Boosel ’94, instructor of business, received the 2014 Jane England Teaching Excellence Award. This award is named for a longtime professor who exemplified leadership and dedication to students.

Troy Brazie, public safety officer, and his wife, Courtney, welcomed daughter, Skyler, on May 12, 2014.

Jennifer Combs, professional studies representative, completed the Reinhardt Public Safety Institute’s inaugural Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council approved Instructor Training Course.


Peggy Collins Feehery, director of career services, joined the board of Cherokee FOCUS (Families of Cherokee United in Service), an organization that focuses on at-risk teens.

Dr. A. Wayne Glowka, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, played Leonato in the Georgia Military College Drama Club production of Shakespeare’s “Much Ado about Nothing” in Milledgeville, Ga., May 23-24, 2014.

Dr. Anne M. Good, assistant professor of history, received the 2014 Elizabeth Moss Bailey Faculty Mentor Award. The award is presented by the Student Government Association and recognizes an exemplary faculty member.

Dr. Jonathan Good, Faculty Senate chair and associate professor of history, published a scholarly book review of “Shame and Honor” by Stephanie Trigg for the journal, Reviews in History.

Charles B. Gravitt, was promoted to assistant controller of the University. Chuck has worked in the Business Office since 2002.

Nikki Hall, director of human resources, earned the designation of Professional in Human Resources, the nationally recognized professional certification in Human Resources administered by the Society for Human Resources Management in summer 2014.

L. Michelle Harlow, associate professor of English and theatre, graduated with a Master of Fine Arts in Screenwriting from Hollins University on May 25, 2014.

Meredith Higgins, admissions counselor, and her husband, Patrick, welcomed their daughter, Hazel-Grace Mairead, on Jan. 21, 2014.

Hannah Aschmann Hise ’09, administrative assistant for the McCamish School of Business and the School of Arts & Humanities, received the Bridge Award. The annual award is given by the faculty to a staff member in recognition and appreciation of outstanding service and commitment to the faculty and students of the University.

Dr. Katherine E. Hyatt, assistant professor of business, received one of the annual faculty awards for research and scholarship. Her work focuses on business ethics.

Africa Reads!

Under the coordination of Nigerian native Adetunji “Tunji” A. Adesesan, Academic Support Office director, the African Descendants Student Association has collected and donated more than 3,500 books to Africa Reads. The project began two years ago with a donation to Ondo State University in Nigeria. According to OSU, Reinhardt was the first college outside their nation to donate books and the largest donor thus far. The last donation was made to the University of Ife in Nigeria and were given in memory of Dr. Kevin Crawford, former Reinhardt assistant professor of English and theatre. A stamp with his name was placed in each of the books. This past year Reinhardt donated more than 2000 books.

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Dr. Graham P. Johnson, assistant professor of English, received the 2014 United Methodist Exemplary Teaching Award, which recognizes excellence in teaching, commitment to value-centered education and service to students.

Joey Johnson, head men’s soccer coach, and his wife, Suzanne, welcomed their third child, Wilder Kai, on June 12, 2014. He joins big brothers, Oakley and Duncan.

Kelley A. Johnson, assistant director of annual giving/grants, was a member of the 2014 Leadership Cherokee Class sponsored by the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.

Rhonda F. Kelley, public safety officer, completed the Reinhardt Public Safety Institute’s inaugural Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council approved Instructor Training Course.

Dr. Dennis K. McIntire, dean of the School of Performing Arts, was named an honorary member of Reinhardt’s Alpha Chi chapter at the society’s spring 2014 induction.

Dr. Margaret M. Morlier, associate vice president for graduate studies and professor of English, was a discussion leader at the 2014 Conference of Southern Graduate Schools, on the topic: “Competency-based Programming: Promises and Problems.”

Susan Naylor, associate professor of music, was recognized as a Ministerial Honoree at the 2014 Talon Awards Gala. Naylor has performed extensively as a solo and ensemble musician and is in demand as a music competition adjudicator. Her students have excelled in local and state competitions, winning awards and scholarships for many years. A member of Reinhardt’s faculty since 1975, she was a founding member of the Cherokee County Arts Council and has served twice on its board of directors. Naylor is also the pianist at Lake Arrowhead Church in Waleska, Ga.

Taking part in Susan Naylor’s special night were her mother, Sara Embry (front, from left), sister Hollene Embry; brother-in-law Richard Stevenson; (back, from left) friends Stan and Stacy Dazet; Naylor; friend and former director of the Falany Performing Arts Center Dr. Ricardo Sanchez and sister Donna Stevenson.
Women’s Soccer: Won the Appalachian Athletic Conference, AAC, regular season and tournament championships and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament. Krista Barikos received Honorable Mention All-American honors, and Andy Kaplan was named AAC Coach of the Year. Named NAIA Scholar-Team and had the highest grade-point average of any RU squad at 3.57.

Men’s and Women’s Cross Country: Were named NAIA Scholar-Teams.

Men’s Basketball: Recorded a second-place finish in the AAC to earn an automatic berth to the NAIA Division II National Tournament. The Eagles lost in the national tournament to eventual national champion Indiana Wesleyan. Quinton Wood received Honorable Mention All-American status.

Baseball: Under first-year head coach Kevin Howard, the Eagles cleared the 30-win mark for the first time in program history, finishing 34-24. RU also swept the Player and Pitcher of the Year awards, with senior Dusty Davis earning AAC Player of the Year and junior hurler Bobby Gazzola taking AAC Pitcher of the Year honors.

Women’s Basketball: Was named a NAIA Scholar-Team.

Women’s Golf: Was named a NAIA Scholar-Team.

Women’s Tennis: For the first time in program history, the Lady Eagles received votes in the NAIA Top 25 poll. Alyssa Kroll earned AAC Player of the Week honors as the Lady Eagles reached the AAC tournament finals for the first time. A second place finish in the regular season was also a first for the program.

Men’s Golf: Received NAIA Top 25 votes this season, eventually finishing in third place in the AAC Championships. Most impressive was the fact that the five-man team recruited by coaches Dan Mullins and Ken Dixon was comprised of freshmen and sophomores.

Football: In its first year of competition, the Eagles won the Mid-South Conference West Division championship. The Eagles received votes in the NAIA Top 25, peaking at #19 in the polls. Danny Cronic (above) was named Mid-South Conference West Division Coach of the Year, and L.J. Stegall earned Mid-South Conference West Division Offensive Freshman of the Year honors.

Softball: The Lady Eagles finished ranked No. 3 in the nation, the best finish for any RU program in athletic history. They won the AAC regular season and tournament championships, earning the right to host an NAIA Opening Round bracket. In the final game of the bracket, the Lady Eagles defeated Biola (Calif.) 16-6 to earn a berth to the NAIA Softball World Series. RU finished just two wins short of a national championship. Madison Luck and Randi Wimpy were named NAIA First-Team All-Americans. They were also named a NAIA Scholar-Team.

RU EAGLES & LADY EAGLES HIGHLIGHTS
2013–2014

“I was so proud of the accomplishments of our student-athletes and coaches during this past year. We had many successes with five teams competing in national championship tournaments and a record five student-athletes named NAIA All-Americans. Seven teams were named NAIA Scholar-Teams. All our sports are competitive, and with the support of the University, I see a very bright future for the Eagles and Lady Eagles.”
— Bill Popp, Director of Athletics

Volleyball: Finished a program-best fourth in the AAC regular season and reached the AAC tournament semi-finals for the first time in program history. Denise DeVine received Honorable Mention All-American honors from the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Men’s Soccer: Finished in eighth place in the AAC in the 2013 season and was named a NAIA Scholar-Team.

Men’s Tennis: Much like their female counterparts, the Eagles finished in second place in the AAC regular season standings. Emory Deloach was an AAC Player of the Week, and Rene Ramos joined her on the AAC All-Conference team.

Women’s Lacrosse: First-year head coach Christine Hatton led the Lady Eagles to more wins in one season than the program had in all previous seasons combined. The National Women’s Lacrosse League South Region Coach of the Year, Hatton’s team was ranked as high as No. 4, and the team competed in the NWLL Championships.
“When I was preparing for the trip, I asked Coach [Andy E.] Kaplan [head women’s soccer coach] if he could donate any of our old soccer jerseys for me to hand out to the kids,” said Lindsey White, a sophomore sociology major from Buford, Ga. “Our class, [The Diverse People of Mexico] partnered up with a non-profit organization called Vidas de Esperanza. This program helps provide Mexican communities with food, shelter and other resources they may need.

When we arrived in the small town of Ixmiquilpan, I noticed how impoverished the city was. We worked throughout the week at local schools to help paint and restore their school.

“While preparing for our next day, I pulled out the jerseys and a soccer ball asking if I could hand them out at the next school. Our new Mexican friend Juan ran out the door smiling and yelling something in Spanish. I had no idea what had happened. He quickly returned and explained that he knows a soccer team of 12-year-old boys that needed jerseys. This team had no coach, no sponsor, no ball and no jerseys. Even though they won the championship in their town, their lack of soccer resources had made it impossible for them to move on in their league. Every day these eight boys went to work right when they got home from school just so they could have the five pesos it took to pay the game fee. As a college athlete, this obviously struck a place in my heart.

“That night I was able to do the most incredible thing. I lined up the eight boys and presented them with a new ball and a set of home and away Reinhardt soccer jerseys. They were able to pick their number, and they were ecstatic. The captain of the team, Noberto, asked me what my number was so he could get the same number as me.

“At this point I was completely overwhelmed with emotions. Noberto stood up and said something that completely changed my life. He explained that they knew they could not go on in their league without jerseys and they had almost had to quit. He said, ‘It is the love for the beautiful game that keeps us going. We do not have much in life, but we know that we will always have soccer. You have kept our dream alive, and we will now be able to play forever.’

“In tears, we all exchanged hugs and words of encouragement. All the boys were eager to represent Reinhardt University in their new jerseys. Although I could not fluently speak their language, soccer is a universal way to share love for the game and each other. It was an incredible experience and that 12-year-old boy taught me how to truly love the game all over again.” — Lindsey White ’17

Although I could not fluently speak their language, soccer is a universal way to share love for the game and each other. It was an incredible experience and that 12-year-old boy taught me how to truly love the game all over again.”

— Lindsey White ’17
New Coaches Bring Energy & Experience

Two head coaches joined the Reinhardt staff during spring 2014. Joey Johnson (above, right) was named head coach of the men’s soccer program, while Jennifer Kandt took over the volleyball squad. Both coaches came from Appalachian Athletic Conference, AAC, schools.

“We are very excited to have a coach of the caliber of Joey Johnson to take over the helm of our men’s soccer program,” said Reinhardt Director of Athletics Bill Popp. “His strong core values and outstanding skill set will take our team to the next level.”

Johnson came from Bryan College (Dayton, Tenn.), where he had served as the head coach for two seasons. In his first year, his team tied for second in the AAC regular season. He was named the AAC Coach of the Year and the NSCAA NAIA East Region Coach of the Year.

In his second year as Bryan head coach, the Lions finished No. 21 in the country, won the AAC tournament championship and received the AAC Champions of Character award. He was again named AAC Coach of the Year.

Prior to his last stint at Bryan, he coached for UNC-Wilmington, the Wilmington Hammerheads (USL Pro), Club Alianza Lima (Peru), London City FC (Canada), Southern Wesleyan University and Milligan College. He played collegiate soccer at Bryan and at Liberty University. After graduation, he played professionally for seven years in South America, the U.S. and Canada.

He earned his Bachelor of Science in History from Liberty University. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Canton, Ga., with their two sons, Oakley and Duncan.

“As a quality spring season with our returning players, I believe wholeheartedly in the bright future of this program and in the commitment of our players to the professionalism, standards and mentality necessary to build something very special,” Johnson said.

For volleyball, Jennifer Kandt is the fourth head coach in the program’s history. She came from Virginia Intermont College (Bristol, Tenn.), where she had served as head volleyball coach since January 2013.

“Jennifer is an extremely talented young coach who has a wealth of volleyball knowledge,” said Popp. “She has experience as a head coach in the AAC, and she has a true passion for the sport.”

During Kandt’s year as head coach at VI, the Cobras went 12-18 overall with an 8-12 mark in the AAC. Prior to becoming the head coach, she served as VI assistant coach for four seasons.

A native Californian, she graduated from King College (Bristol, Tenn.) with a Bachelor of Arts in Technical and Professional Communication. As a setter for King, she assisted the Lady Tornados to an overall record of 140-56 and several team championships. She was named to the AVCA All-Academic team three times, and in her junior and senior years, she was named to the AAC All-Tournament teams.

“I’m just more than excited to be here,” said Kandt. “It’s an answered prayer. As soon as I stepped on campus and met with Coach Popp and got to know the team, it just reaffirmed my belief that this is where I’m supposed to be.” —JAH

We’re adding Men’s & Women’s...
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- Campbellsville, Nov. 15.

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4th Annual Athletic Golf Tournament
Join us on **October 20, 2014**, at the Marietta Conference Center to help raise funds for scholarships for deserving student-athletes. For more details, visit www.reinhardt.edu/advancement.