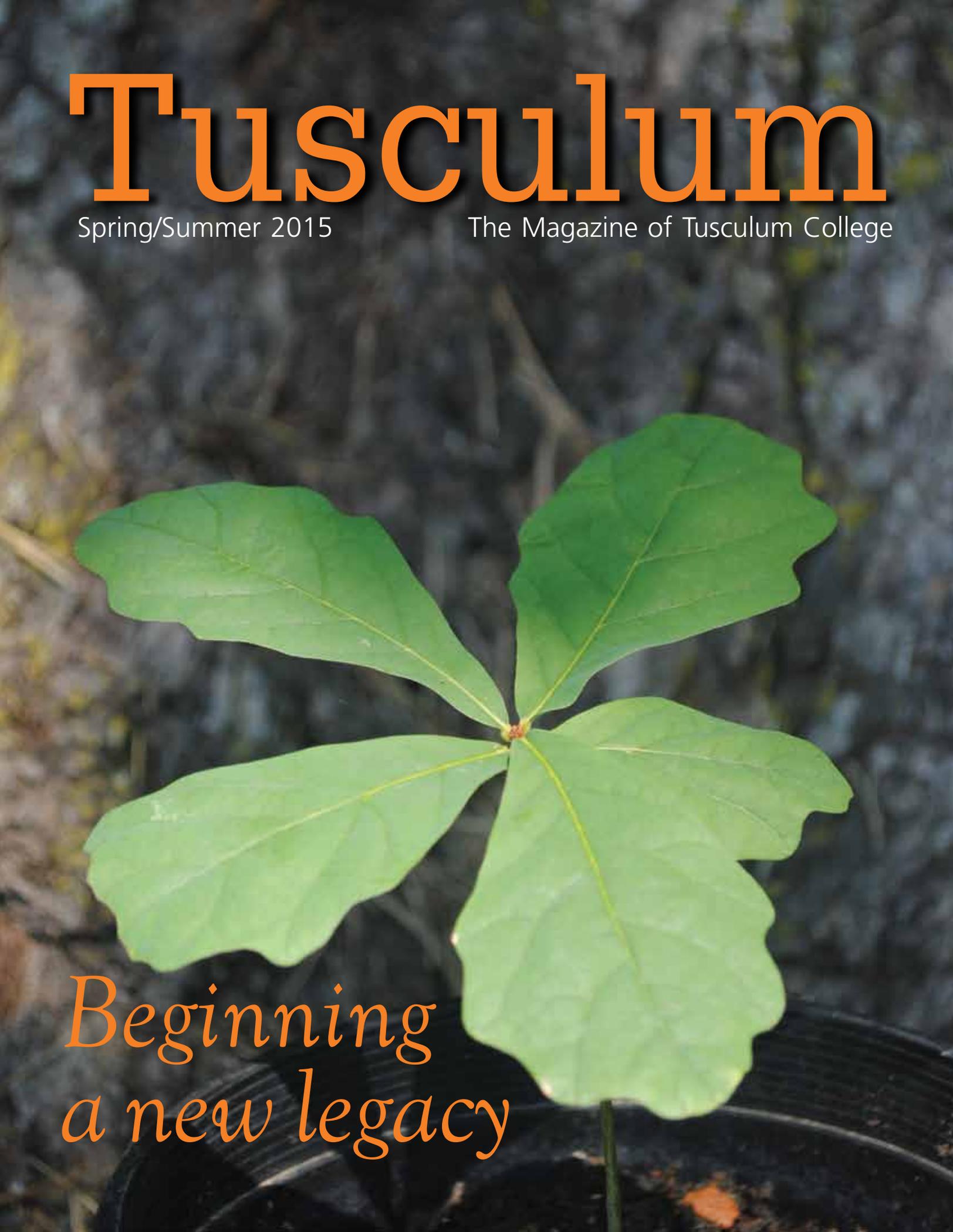


# Tusculum

Spring/Summer 2015

The Magazine of Tusculum College



*Beginning  
a new legacy*

# From the President



A three-year degree? This is becoming a reality at Tusculum College, and with much excitement we are rolling out changes that will provide this option for our students. After months of study and discussion by students, faculty and staff, our Board of Trustees convened in March and approved several changes to the general education curriculum and course delivery calendar. With these changes, that go into effect in Fall 2016, motivated students may be able to complete their degrees in three years. Under the new course delivery system, students may continue to take one course per day scheduled to meet two days a week. Students may also take a course over the entire semester on Wednesday morning with the afternoons being reserved for academic and student engagement activities, including service projects and special topic lectures. The new calendar will allow two to six classes to be taken in each eight-week period, up to 18 hours per semester. Preparing students to be the new leaders in our ever-changing world has been the number one goal of Tusculum College since it was founded in 1794. These changes are designed to help students complete their college education and contend for jobs in a competitive marketplace.

In our efforts to align Tusculum's curriculum with other colleges and universities in our state and across the country, we are determined to keep the distinctiveness of the block system that has been so uniquely

ours. The changes to our curriculum are part of the overall strategic efforts of our College, which includes the \$25 million Tusculum First campaign, launched in October, and continued improvements to our facilities, telecommunications and other technology on the Greeneville campus, as well as our off-site locations in Knoxville, Kingsport and Morristown.

We will also be moving to a 120-hour minimum graduation requirement and to primarily three-credit-hour courses in order to align ourselves with the offerings of most colleges and universities in our state and across the country. Additionally, the board approved measures to integrate mission-related content into major course offerings. This will provide students with the option of taking these courses together with the added flexibility of selecting other electives, resulting in the general education requirements being reduced to 41-credit hours.

Throughout Tusculum's 221-year history, she has continually transformed. Her transformations have included name changes when merging with other institutions, creating programs to meet the needs of adult students, adopting a unique focused calendar and even how we teach. These recent actions allow Tusculum to adapt to change and let us move forward while we continue to make an impact in the world through the success of our graduates.

Now that our vision is becoming a reality, thank you for joining us on this journey. I hope that you will continue to walk beside us through this metamorphosis.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancy B. Moody  
President

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## *Beginning a new legacy*

Projects by the art and science departments will enable alumni and friends of the College to continue the legacy of the Old Oak and gain a deeper appreciation for the trees that make Tusculum so picturesque.

As the first college in Tennessee, Tusculum has experienced many changes in the last 221 years, but one thing has remained the same: the ever-present “Old Oak” tree.

The Old Oak tree is deeply rooted in Tusculum College’s history as a distinguished feature of the area. Some 250 to 300 years old, the Old Oak has witnessed history in the making. College co-founder, the Rev. Samuel Witherspoon Doak, constructed the first building on campus, Old College, in the shade of the Tusculum Old Oak. It endured the Civil War and Reconstruction. The Old Oak Festival was named in its honor.

The Old Oak has watched over the activities of the College, witnessed major events in American history and shaded countless Tusculum students who have studied, relaxed and courted beneath its boughs.

“The Old Oak tree today stands as a symbol of endurance, but so much more than that, it has not only survived, but has thrived, as a true symbol of Tusculum College itself,” said Tusculum President Nancy B. Moody.

In 2014, the tree was officially named to the Tennessee Landmark Tree Register. The Landmark and Historic Tree Register allowed for a brief history of the Old Oak to be added to the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council’s website, a plaque commemorating the tree and funding for a sign at the tree’s location. As last measured in 2013, the Old Oak tree is more than 100-feet tall and has a 273-inch circumference, as well as a 124-foot average spread.

According to Tom Simpson, regional urban forester with the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council, there are only six trees of any variety in Tennessee that are larger in size than the

Tusculum College Old Oak.

Last fall, another chapter of the Old Oak began that will ensure its legacy will continue. Led by Aurora Pope, then assistant professor of art, interim chair and gallery director at Tusculum College, the Student Art League collected acorns from the ground beneath the Old Oak tree. They took the seeds and nurtured each of them. The majority of the seedlings have taken root, and the oldest set has already begun to sprout leaves.

"I feel that it was really rewarding and eye opening to help our beloved Old Oak, which is a strong and beautiful white oak specimen, be remembered and enjoyed by others," said Casey Reagan, a senior studio art major from Dickson, who worked extensively with the project. "I feel I have helped to spread a Tusculum tradition to others and also helped the Old Oak live on among us even beyond its own life."

The seedlings were sold in an effort to further fund the Student Art League and the fine arts department. The Student Art League is an organization dedicated to further enhance Tusculum's culture through art and to provide a diverse place in the art department for all those interested in the creative arts.

"We are a collective of art students dedicated to the creation and proliferation of art in our community, an organization to unite and organize art and design students at Tusculum College," said Charlesey Charlton-McCallister, assistant professor of art.

In addition to the Old Oak's legacy, the administration has granted approval for Tusculum to maintain an arboretum on the Greeneville campus. As a garden devoted to trees, the arboretum will consist of the 30 different species of trees already in existence on the Greeneville campus. Each tree included in the arboretum will be listed on a map and have signage indicating its scientific and common name.

With the help of the art and natural science departments, as well as the facilities department, the arboretum is expected to be established before the start of the next academic year upon the approval of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council.

"As a student, the campus was always a beautiful peaceful setting, and I hope to be able to showcase our campus to more people in the community through the establishment of a Level 1 arboretum on the main campus of Tusculum College," said Kim Carter '93, science laboratory assistant and instructor. "The arboretum will provide a way to incorporate the college campus into the community in a broader way, as well

as establish an outdoor laboratory to be used by our students."

By Stephanie Turner  
junior journalism and professional writing major  
from Shelbyville, Tenn.



The seedlings' growth is now under the watchful eye and nurture of Margaret Gaut '40.

New science and math facility another step closer

## Rentenbach selected as general contractor for Tusculum College science and math facility

Tusculum College students and faculty are a step closer to the reality of a new facility for science and math with the recent selection of Rentenbach Constructors Incorporated as the general contractor for the Ronald H. and Verna June Meen Center for Science and Mathematics.

"This is a very good day in the future of Tusculum College," said Tusculum College President Nancy B. Moody. "The journey to build a state-of-the-art academic building on the campus of Tusculum College will be very exciting and, along with a dynamic faculty, provide the foundation for academic programs to thrive."

The new building is named in appreciation of a gift from Verna June Meen of Kingsport. Meen chose to make this gift in memory of her late husband, Dr. Ronald H. Meen, who was an organic chemist for Eastman Chemical in Kingsport.

A "pioneer" from the beginning, Mrs. Meen attended college at a time when few women were encouraged to attend college. She earned top marks and graduated with an accounting degree in less than three years while she also worked. Following graduation and still single, Mrs. Meen accepted an offer from Eastman Chemical Company and moved from Indiana to East Tennessee.

"I look forward to seeing the progress of our support of Tusculum College," said Mrs. Meen. "This is another step closer to the realization of mine and my deceased husband Ron's dream to support Tusculum College students in a way that will make a positive impact on their education and their lives. I know he would be proud."

The Meen Center for Science and Math will be a four-story structure of approximately 100,000 square feet. Interiors include wings for biology, chemistry, mathematics, computer science and environmental science. There will also be lab space and research areas for both faculty and students.

The ground floor will feature a large

lecture hall and classrooms equipped for distance learning programs. Space is also allocated for the bachelor of science degree program in nursing and at least one other health-related program.

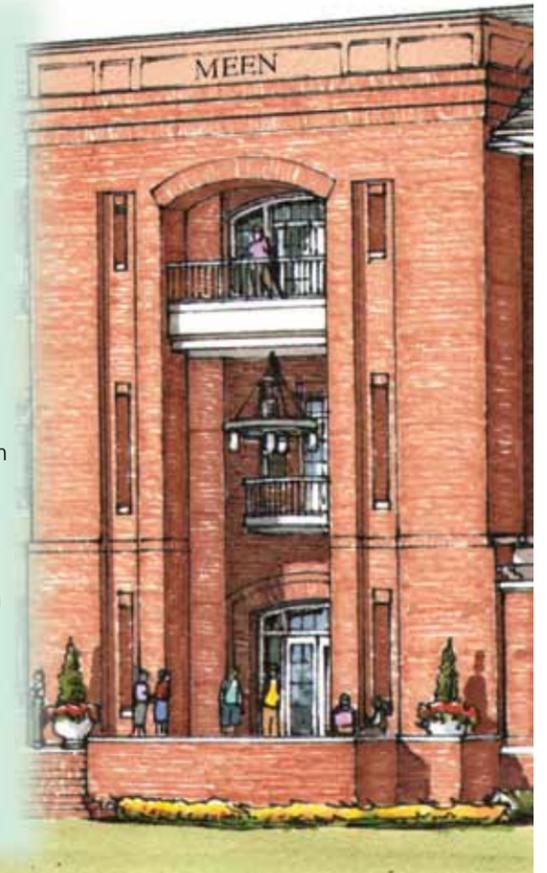
"It's an exciting time at Tusculum College. Every time we visit campus we see visible signs of growth," said Dr. Ken Bowman, chair of the Board of Trustees and a 1970 graduate of Tusculum College. "In addition to the construction, Tusculum is also growing in enrollment, academic programs and offerings to the community."

Watch the progress of the construction on the Tusculum College website at <http://my.tusculum.edu/cam>.

By Suzanne Richey '14  
Director of College Communications

### Naming Opportunities

- Board Room - \$1,000,000
- Lecture Hall - \$1,000,000
- Library/Resource Ctr. - \$500,000
- Wing (8) - \$500,000 each
- Labs (14) - \$250,000 each
- Lobby/Foyer (2) - \$250,000 each
- Grand Porch - \$250,000
- Small Labs (2) - \$200,000 each
- Balcony - \$150,000
- Classroom (13) - \$150,000 each
- Small Classroom (6) - \$125,000 each
- Grand Staircase - \$100,000
- Reception Area (4) - \$100,000 each
- Balcony, small - \$75,000
- Commons (9) - \$75,000 each
- Porch - small - \$75,000
- Exam Room (8) - \$50,000 each
- Seminar Room (14) - \$50,000 each
- Loading Dock - \$30,000
- Storage/Lab Prep Room (9) - \$30,000 each
- Office (43) - \$25,000 each
- Break/Work Room (6) - \$25,000
- Locker Area (6) - \$15,000
- Student Work Area (6) - \$15,000



For more information about the Tusculum FIRST Campaign, please visit: [www.tusculumfirst.com](http://www.tusculumfirst.com) or call (423) 636-7303.

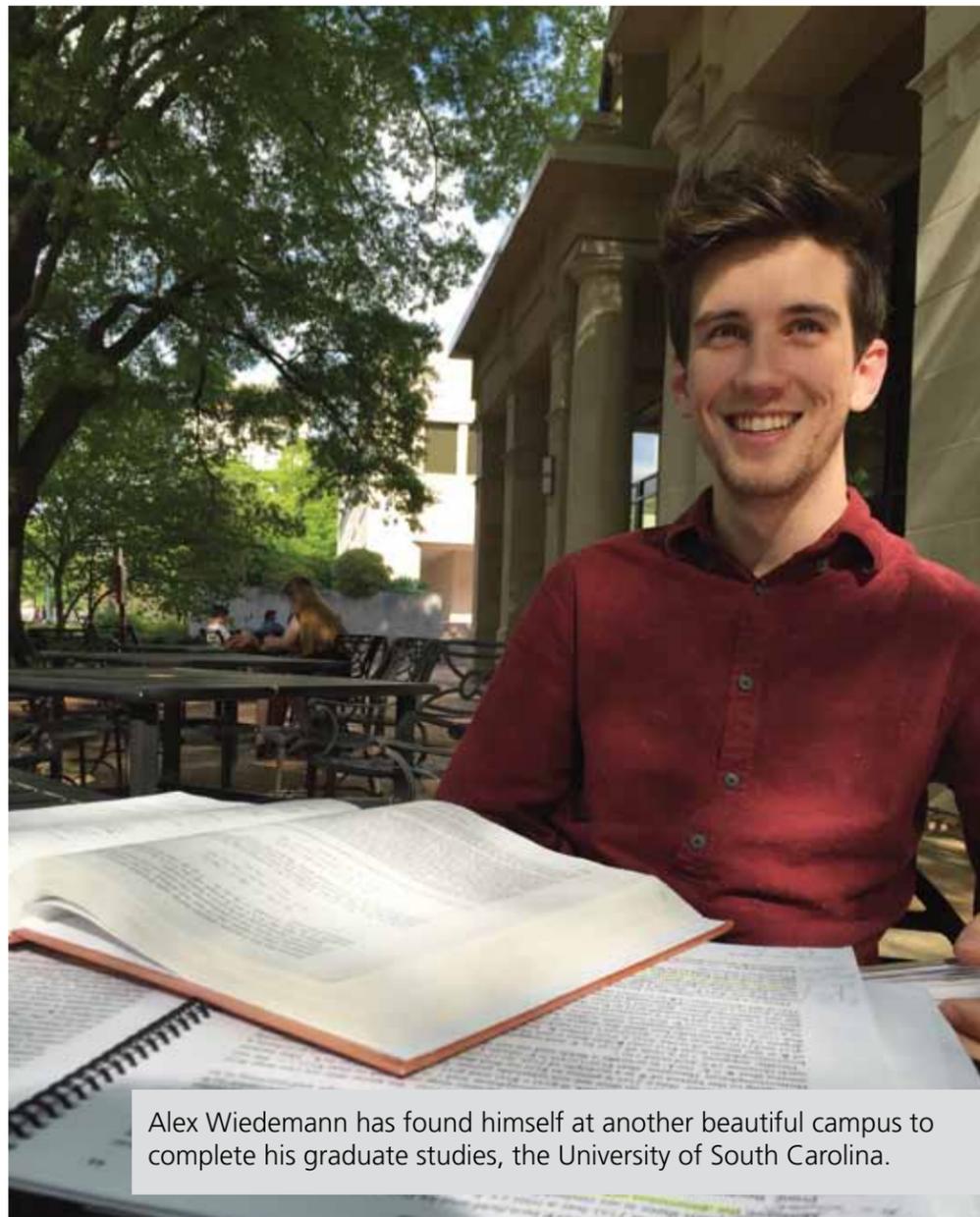
## Graduate prepares for career to share his love of math

From homeschooling to Tusculum College to the University of South Carolina, Alex Wiedemann's distinctive educational journey is preparing him for a career to share his love of mathematics and learning with others.

A May 2013 graduate from Tusculum with a bachelor's degree in mathematics with minors in biology and chemistry, Wiedemann is now in the second year of his doctoral program in mathematics at the University of South Carolina and has two or three years to complete his doctorate. His primary areas of interest are operator algebras and applications of functional analysis to mathematical physics, specifically the dynamics of systems subject to the laws of chance both from classical and quantum points of view.

The route that brought Wiedemann to Tusculum begins in nearby Rogersville, where Wiedemann's family moved when he was six. Born into a military family, Wiedemann is the son of a German immigrant, and he is a first-generation college student. When his parents found that he was not challenged in school, they decided to homeschool him. His parents homeschooled him through his middle school years, and he self-taught himself through high school.

His experiences as a homeschooled student influenced his decision to choose Tusculum, as the block system was



Alex Wiedemann has found himself at another beautiful campus to complete his graduate studies, the University of South Carolina.

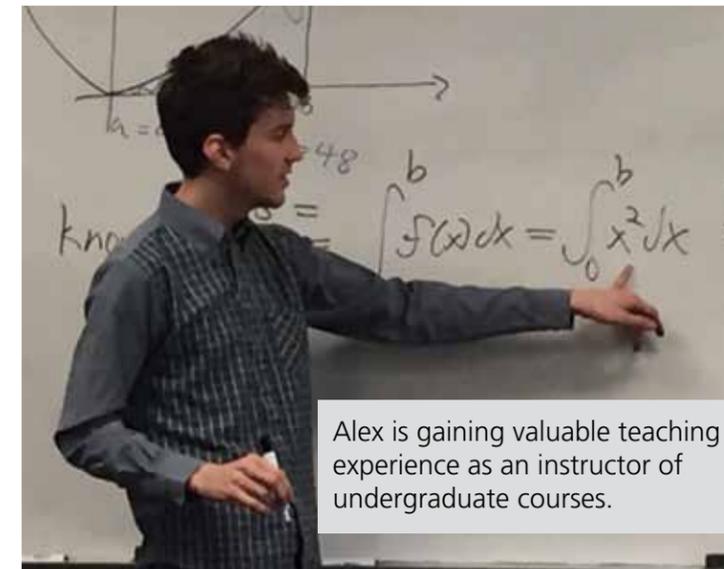
similar to his learning structure at home. "The block system is what originally grabbed my attention, and a visit to campus sealed the deal," Wiedemann said. "I wasn't sure what I was looking for when applying to schools, but the friendly staff and beautiful campus so close to home made my decision much easier."

As he settled into Tusculum, Wiedemann found a supportive environment and quickly became involved in

the college community. One of his favorite things about Tusculum was the people he met. "Everyone makes friends with their classmates in college," he said, "but I had the opportunity to also become great friends with some of the faculty through coursework and with staff by working in the Office of Academic Affairs. Having past professors randomly call you just to see how you're doing is something I doubt I would have if I went to a different school. I hope to visit them again soon."

As Tusculum made an impact on Wiedemann, he was also making his mark on Tusculum. He was the first teaching assistant that Tusculum has ever employed, serving as a teaching assistant in General Physics I and II for Dr. Katherine Stone, assistant professor of mathematics and geology. He also served as peer tutor for mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology, as well as a tutor for students from local high schools and other local colleges.

During his senior year, Dr. Stone nominated Wiedemann for the "Student of the Block" Award, presented by the Office of Student Affairs to recognize students who are student leaders in academics and/or athletics and provide leadership in the college community. "Alex's professionalism, scholarly pursuit, and his overall demeanor set him [apart]," Dr. Stone noted in her nomination, and added that there is more to Wiedemann than "book smarts," as evidenced by his student life activities.



Alex is gaining valuable teaching experience as an instructor of undergraduate courses.

However, graduate school has not turned out to be quite as he expected. While he thought it would be like his undergraduate studies but more rigorous, he has found he spends less time studying for his classes than he does working on other projects. "There's an expectation to not just learn the material from lectures but to go beyond it and pose questions about it," he said.

The collaborative atmosphere in graduate school is Wiedemann's favorite part of the experience thus far. "It's

"The small class sizes and thus close-knit communities at Tusculum are something I miss. Though I continue to have that in my own classes, I'm still struggling to learn the names of all my students this semester. The strong student-professor relationships are definitely one of Tusculum's best qualities."

Alex Wiedemann

Class of 2013 and current graduate student at the University of South Carolina

Wiedemann served as president of the Tusculum College Chapter of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society and as president of the Pi-oneer Union, an organization for mathematics majors. He was a member of the President's Guild, Society of Physics Students, American Physical Society and Voices Against Violence. In addition, he secured a prestigious internship with the Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport. He was the first recipient of the Barnett, Conley and Davis Award in Natural Sciences and Mathematics for his outstanding interdisciplinary work and also received the Senior Key Award in mathematics.

Making the transition to graduate school, Wiedemann found that the focused calendar helped prepare him well. "Besides the obvious classwork, the intensity of the block-system made the fast pace of grad school much less shocking than it seemed to be for my fellow classmates," he said.

not uncommon for someone to stop by my office and pose an interesting question, and before long there's a group of six of us trying to answer it," he said. "Unlike undergrad where many students are there simply to build their job resume, everyone here is learning for the sake of learning itself. Though we all might complain about never having a weekend off, everyone here loves what he or she is doing."

After earning his doctorate, Wiedemann expects to do post-doctoral research before seeking a position as a professor. "I haven't decided yet if I want to teach at a research focused university or a liberal arts college, but I will definitely be staying in academia," Wiedemann said. "Maybe I'll find myself back at Tusculum."

By Eugenia Estes '04

Associate Director of College Communications

# Nursing majors find a champion for students in instructor's classroom

When Jane Brown greets you, she radiates sincerity—a kind smile spreads across her face and her eyes light up with warmth.

Combined with her soothing voice, it becomes increasingly clear that she has a flair for connecting with people.

“Jane Brown is wonderful, and she is kind and compassionate,” said Dr. Lois Ewen, the dean of the College of Nursing, Health Sciences and Human Services. “She has a way of being able to work with students who are stressed and anxious. She’s really engaged in helping all students learn. She goes out of her way to be available to them, even students in different fields of study.”

For the past two years, Brown has dedicated her career to furthering the education of Tusculum College nursing students. The associate professor of nursing teaches pediatric and obstetric nursing, as well as pharmacology. She also serves as an advisor to nursing students.

“I really enjoy working with the students, the interaction. I love watching them professionally develop,” Brown said. “At the hospital, I like to get involved in the units; I get a report on the patients, so I’ll be familiar with what’s going on. This way I’ll be ready to assist in student assignments.”

“Mrs. Brown cares so much about her students, and I



Jane Brown teaches pediatric and obstetric nursing and pharmacology. Above, she instructs nursing majors Brooke Rhodes, center and Yared Mamo, in the care of infants.

really appreciate her teaching style,” said Shannon Grimes, a senior nursing major from Morristown. “It’s really interactive and reaches every student, no matter how we learn.”

Although she originally aspired to be a French teacher, Brown earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing from Lenoir-Rhyne College, now Lenoir-Rhyne University, before beginning her career at a hospital in Asheville, N.C. She later attended graduate school at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, earning her master’s degree in nursing.

Brown then accepted a joint appointment with the UTK’s College of Nursing and the UT Medical Center, as both an educator and the assistant nursing director of all the pediatric units for three and a half years.

Brown and her husband moved to the Greeneville area in 1984, and she began teaching at East Tennessee State University. She took a position as a clinical nurse specialist with a program at Laughlin Memorial Hospital. There, Brown worked with infants coming out of the neonatal nursery, advising parents and performing follow-up exams before she began teaching at Walter State Community College and then Tusculum College.

“I thought it would be fun to be part of a new program,” said Brown. “I graduated from a college about this size, and as a community member, I always loved the college and the campus.”

In addition to teaching and advising students, Brown is a wife and the mother of two. She volunteers at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center and serves on its advisory board. She is also active with the YMCA, her church and the Tuesday Club, a women’s organization.

Brown serves as faculty advisor to the Student Nursing Association (SNA), an organization devoted to interacting with the general student body through educational and health-related activities. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the nursing students taught men and women how to properly check for breast cancer.

“Our biggest service project this year was Operation Christmas Child,” said Brown, referring to the Samaritan’s



Students find Jane Brown’s courses to be interactive and engaging of all learning styles. From left are Adrienne Kaye, Taylor Tyree, Brown and Rhodes.

Purse fundraiser SNA took part in last December in honor of Audrey Brackens, the Greene County chairperson of Operation Christmas Child and the administrative assistant for the School of Nursing, Health Sciences and Human Services at Tusculum.

With the help of the community, SNA was able to collect more than 800 items for the gift-filled shoe boxes, which were distributed in more than 130 countries to families in need.

“A major goal of the Student Nurses Association is to increase student participation and engagement with other campus activities,” said Brown.

“I’m excited to see our upcoming BSN graduates fill their roles as leaders in nursing. I have really enjoyed coming to Tusculum and becoming a part of this caring community, which contributes to the Greene County area.”

“I want to provide a more well-rounded education to my students – not just academically but to challenge them to become a part of the community life here at Tusculum and in our surrounding areas.”

Jane Brown  
*associate professor of nursing*

By Stephanie Turner  
*junior journalism and professional writing major from Shelbyville, Tenn.*

## Grant allows for expansion of nursing simulation lab

Tusculum College's family just got a little bigger with the addition of two more "Sims" to the clan.

In March, it was announced that the Tusculum College nursing program has been awarded a grant of \$116,159 from the Tennessee Health Foundation Review Committee, part of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee.

Grant funds will be used to expand the nursing program's simulation laboratory by adding a SimBaby and a SimJunior for infant and pediatric nursing training.

According to Michelle Arbogast, associate director of foundation and donor relations, the purpose of this grant is to educate nursing students in practical clinical exercises without causing any harm to patients.

"It's going to provide an alternative to the pediatric clinical," said Dr. Lois Ewen, dean of the school of nursing, health sciences and human services and professor of nursing.

"Simulation allows us the opportunity to let students make their own decisions and see the consequences of those decisions. We all learn from our mistakes, but in health care we can't let a student make the wrong decision. With simulation, we can allow mistakes to happen."

The SimBaby (infant) and a SimJunior (pediatric) will join two SimMan 3G Adult Simulators purchased through a previous grant from the BCBS and the Tennessee Health Foundation in spring 2013.

The simulation lab will also provide opportunities for other academic programs at Tusculum to learn, such as physiology courses in the science and physical education departments and the athletic training program, as well as other health care organizations in the Greeneville community.



SimBaby, above, and SimJunior will provide additional practical clinical learning opportunities for nursing majors, other Tusculum students in health-related fields and the College's partners in the community.



currently have but with larger space, classroom space with room for larger classes and an auditorium. We gain a lot by moving to the new building," said Dr. Ewen.

By Corrine Absher '15  
senior digital media major from Kingsport, Tenn.

"We're going to use the simulators to help the community train nursing staff, too. We will open the lab to our partners, and they'll use our simulators to help train their staff, which enhances the health of our community as a whole," said Dr. Ewen.

Tusculum College started the nursing program in fall 2012, and the addition has allowed Tusculum to meet the student demand for a nursing major, as well as satisfy the community's need for baccalaureate prepared nurses. The nursing program is currently located in Niswonger Commons as are the laboratories, which include the simulation lab, clinical space for six hospital beds, classrooms and offices for the nursing faculty.

The nursing program has had 56 students enrolled since it began in Fall 2012. During the academic year of 2012-13, a total of 28 students declared nursing to be their major, and enrollment has increased by 154 percent in 2015, with 71 students having declared nursing as their major.

The nursing program and the two labs will be moving to the Ronald H. and Verna June Meen Center for Science and Math, which is expected to open Fall 2016. According to Dr. Ewen, there will be eight beds in one laboratory and five or six beds in the simulation lab.

"The new science building will allow us to have two more labs similar to what we



## Environmental science, service learning students partner with local group to remove litter from campus

Students from the environmental science and service learning classes at Tusculum College partnered with the Middle Nolichucky Watershed Alliance in January in an effort to remove litter from Tusculum College's Greeneville campus.

"It was a great opportunity for my students to learn more about environmental concerns," said Robin Fife, assistant professor of service learning. "Twenty-seven students dedicated their time to making Tusculum College a better environment for the whole community."

With more than 50 hours of community service, a total of 10 32-gallon bags of litter were collected and removed from the Tusculum College premises.

"It's important to pick up litter when you see it and to stop putting it down in the first place," said Kristen Lane, an AmeriCorps volunteer and watershed development coordinator with the MNWA and a 2014 graduate of the college. "Trash, sediments, debris and pollutants make their way to the nearest stream after it rains."

According to Lane, with 57 impaired streams, Greene County is ranked as one of the dirtiest counties in Tennessee. The Tusculum College Paul E. Hayden Educational Wetland functions to combat pollutants and reduce downstream flooding, as well as serves as an outdoor classroom and experiment center. Despite efforts such as the wetland, a lot of the litter still finds its way to the Nolichucky River, which is also Greeneville's drinking water, she added.

Additional help was provided by Keep Greene Beautiful, which provided the gloves and collection bags used in the project.

"Our enduring purpose as an organization is to restore and protect the waters of Greene County and educate the public in ways to improve water quality," said Lane.

The MNWA recently moved offices and are now located on the Tusculum College Greeneville campus. Anyone interested in volunteering for the MNWA may contact Lane at mnwa.tn@gmail.com.

By Stephanie Turner  
junior journalism and professional writing major  
from Shelbyville, Tenn.



Learn more about the new Tusculum Fund giving societies by calling 423-636-7303 or emailing jmalcom@tusculum.edu

*Lin wanted a change of pace*

## Alumnus continues his education in the Big Apple

A recent Tusculum graduate, Steven Lin, has acclimated to the Big Apple, where he now attends graduate school at New York University's College of Dentistry and is quickly mastering the newest challenges and opportunities on his educational path.

A graduate of Tusculum in 2012 with a degree in biology with a pre-medicine concentration and a minor in chemistry, Lin arrived at Tusculum after Pioneer Tennis Coach Tommy Arnett recruited him to join the team. Lin is originally from Ping Dong, Taiwan, but graduated high school in Hilton Head, S.C.

Lin said his experience at Tusculum College helped tremendously when applying to graduate schools, particularly in the relationships he developed with faculty members and staff. He said Dr. Debra McGinn, associate professor of biology, "guided me throughout the entire process from the pre-requisite course selection, to the personal statement.

"I also want to thank the Tusculum tennis program and Coach Arnett for providing me an opportunity to be a team member all four years which made my application unique," said Lin.

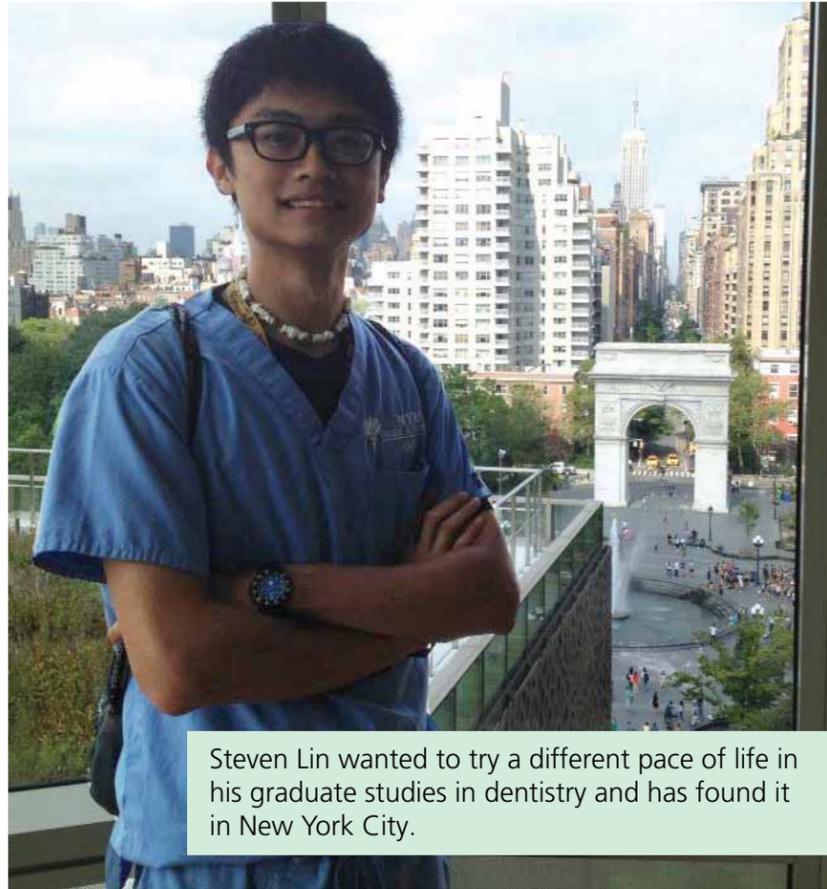
He enjoyed Tusculum's small class sizes and the low faculty-to-student ratio. He said one of the strong points of Tusculum is that the faculty are helpful and always there for a student if they are ever struggling. "The class sizes aren't too big, and this gives the student a chance to connect with his or her professor."

At Lin's school in New York City he said his class has 363 students in it, and this was an adjustment from Tusculum. Also, adjusting to the multiple courses at one time was a bit of a change for Lin, but he appreciated the 18-day courses.

"The block schedule gave me an advantage to focus on one subject at the time. I felt the 18-day course regimen gave me a strong foundation because I learned the material well without being distracted by other courses," said Lin.

He added that many of his courses helped him with his first year at NYU, particularly science courses such as human anatomy, histology, genetics and physiology.

"The reason I chose the school in New York City is that I wanted to try a different pace of life. Everything here moves fast and is exciting. It's a little bit overwhelming sometimes,"



Steven Lin wanted to try a different pace of life in his graduate studies in dentistry and has found it in New York City.

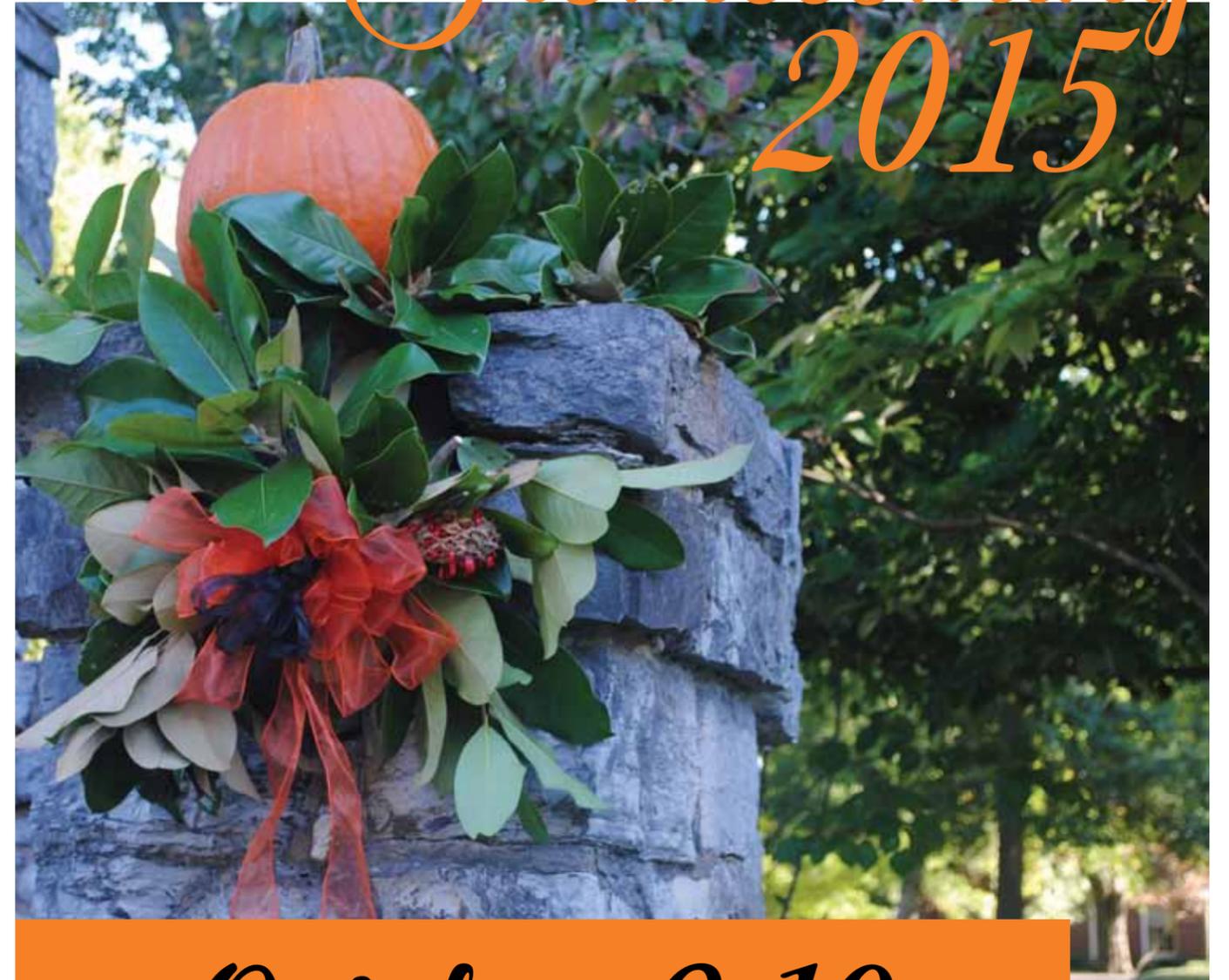
said Lin.

Lin is convinced Tusculum was the right place for him to learn and grow. "The faculty and staff at Tusculum influenced me in many ways. They really cared about the success of the students and were determined to make Tusculum a better school overall."

He is now in his third year at NYU and has one more year until graduation. He has ultimate plans of being an oral maxillofacial surgeon and working with international students, after spending a few years practicing general dentistry. Lin's efforts and successes and future goals represent the best of what Tusculum alumni strive for, a devotion to education and of service to others.

By Ashley Bell '15  
senior journalism and professional writing major  
from Nashville, Tenn.

# Homecoming 2015



## October 9-10

**Make plans to attend today!**

Keep watching [www.tusculum.edu/alumni](http://www.tusculum.edu/alumni)  
for schedule and registration information.

# Adventures of the McCormick Bell

## Alumni share tales of many bell 'heists'

The bell in McCormick Hall has a long-standing tradition of being stolen by students at Tusculum. While it has been several years since the bell has been removed from its home, many past students have fantastic tales about the heists of the bell over the years.

In 1942, the bell was stolen, somewhat involuntarily, by four freshmen, including George Gunza, Jr., and Lou Kinsky. During this time, hazing was still an important part of experiencing college, and George, Lou, and two others were told by upperclassmen that they had been selected to be the Bell Stealers for the Year, "an honor that could not be refused."

At 2 a.m., the four freshmen used a butter knife to open the door to the stairs leading to the belfry. Unfastening the bell was simple for the young men, but getting it down the stairs proved to be more difficult. Gunza recounted that he foolishly claimed, "It's not too heavy. Just put it on my back." The others did as he said, and he slowly sunk to his knees under its weight, shouting, "Get it off! Get it off!"

They persevered, getting the bell down the narrow staircase, past the science building, across the highway and to an abandoned gas station. Here, they stashed the bell under some debris left in the station. Because every College activity, including meals and classes, began and ended with the ringing of the bell, the next several days proved to be disastrous.

Then-President George K. Davies announced the bell's missing status the next morning during the chapel service, pleading that it be returned. Each day, the pleas became more passionate, until

anger finally bubbled to the top. Eventually, they sent a note to the president explaining the bell's location. The next day, Gunza and Kinsky were stopped on their way to breakfast by two upperclassmen and forced to retrieve the bell, carry it back up the stairs in McCormick, and re-hang it.

The year 1951 holds an exciting story in the history of the bell heists. Three women, Joan Becker Starnes, Jean Oakes Olcott, and Joan Mackey McKnight, decided it would be the year that girls took the bell.

The girls meticulously planned the theft, practicing with several "dry runs" before actually stealing the bell. In those days, rules were much stricter on students, especially females. They were to be in their dorms by 10 p.m. every night and were not allowed upstairs in McCormick Hall except for one day out of the year.

The trio waited and observed the night watchman's patrol to pinpoint an opening, unscrewed a light bulb on the McCormick fire escape to avoid detection and waited for a moonless night. When everything was in place, they executed their plan. Sneaking into McCormick Hall, they went up the creaking staircase, retrieving the bell and hiding it under the stairs at the entrance to Virginia Hall, less than 300 feet from its home.

The next day, the college was chaotic when no bell sounded for classes. The girls flew under the radar, with comments like "Do you think the boys of Craig or the men from Rankin took it?" and "Girls couldn't possibly lift the bell - it's too heavy! It had to be the guys," circulating the campus. The girls waited three days before admitting their "crime" to the authorities, revealing the hidden bell and having it returned to McCormick unharmed.

In 1990, two seniors, Mike "Sledge" Sledzinski and Ben



The signatures of decades of Tusculum students can be found on the walls of the McCormick Hall bell tower.

Kalny carried on the tradition of stealing the bell. The two young men went into McCormick Hall one Friday afternoon about an hour before it was to close for the weekend. Kalny had somehow acquired a key to the belfry, and the duo climbed the stairs to the bell.

Because of the bell's previous thefts, the bolt holding the bell had a number of spot-welds to prevent it from being taken again. However, the boys decided this precaution was not going to stand in their way. Using a hacksaw blade (which Kalny kept as a souvenir) they sawed off the end of the bolt and left McCormick, unlocking a window on the way out.

Very early the next morning, Sledge lifted Kalny through the unlocked window, and Kalny opened the door for Sledge. The two went to the belfry and lifted the bell from its spot, hid it under a blanket and in broad daylight, carried it from McCormick to Virginia Hall. They hid the bell in the closet of one of their rooms, where they kept it for several days. Eventually, they sent a letter to the Dean revealing the bell's location.



The McCormick bell rings out across campus.

Compiled by the staff of College Communications

# Pioneering Students

## A Home Away from Home

### Three Sri Lankan Students Find Their Places at Tusculum College

In her 221 years, Tusculum has served as a place to grow up, to become self-aware and as a second home to thousands of students. This is no different for Shaveen Perera, Rukshan Michael Fernando and Dulaj Bandara Lansakara, three men from Sri Lanka who now attend Tusculum through the Scholarships for USA program.

Lansakara explained that Sri Lanka is a small island community. It has a warm climate, and its population is about evenly distributed between four major religions including Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam.

A digital media major, Lansakara graduated in 2010 and immediately went to work in Sri Lanka's financial district. He explained that he did this because of the Asian mindset. "I wanted to remain close to my family," Lansakara said.

However, he had always held an interest in the arts, including sculpture, painting and animatronics. Because of this love, Lansakara quit his job in December of 2011 and began searching for a program that would allow him to work in digital media.

"At first I looked for programs in New Zealand," Lansakara explained. "It is less known than the American film industry, but significantly cheaper, but when I talked to my agent, he pointed out schools like Tusculum in the U.S." Lansakara said he picked Tusculum because of the location. He loves being surrounded by nature and found the cost of living in Greeneville significantly more reasonable than in other places in the country.

Upon arriving at Tusculum, Lansakara was a little



Professors and staff have helped Dulaj Lansakara adjust to life in the U.S.

overwhelmed with the differences in cultures. He explained that the first three months he was at Tusculum were spent getting used to the culture and community. "It was different from Sri Lanka," he said, "but the people were really nice and helped me feel comfortable, and I mean not only the

people on campus. Out in Greeneville, I've met a lot of nice people."

Similarly, Fernando found an inviting atmosphere at Tusculum.

"There I was, in a new town, among new people, in a completely different culture," he said. "I didn't know how to act, what to say or do or who to interact with. Fortunately for me, Lincoln Trent '15 came around and was kind enough to take me around campus and show me 'Narnia' (the forested trail to the Doak House). Like any true friend would, he introduced me to American fast food and bought me a humongous meal from Taco Bell. I was shocked with the portion sizes and unlimited refills!

"It's safe to say that he was the first friend I made at Tusculum. And that's what's so beautiful about this community. The people from this area are so nice to you and go out of their way to make you feel welcome. Most would say southern hospitality, but I think it's more than that. I feel that they truly care."

Fernando also explained that some of his first and favorite memories at Tusculum include trying things out for the first time, like learning to skateboard with his freshmen resident assistants and signing up for Dr. Michelle Freeman's accounting class after being warned that many students find it academically challenging.

Perera, an economics major also pointed out that, "Tusculum is a welcoming place." He explained that the block is very comfortable for him and credits the support of the faculty and staff at Tusculum for his successful assimilation on campus. "I am very happy with my choice," he said. "Tusculum is a great place to go to school."

All three students credit the faculty and staff at Tusculum for helping them transition to life in the United States.

Lansakara pointed out that not only the professors in his major, but all the professors like Dr. Angela Keaton, associate professor of history, went out of their way to help him understand his subjects.

"I'm pretty sure I can get a really good job," Lansakara said. "Not only has professor (Sam) Crowe helped me build up my portfolio, but I can use my other classes in the work place. In Sri Lanka, everything is more specific. You just focus on what you want for your career and nothing else."

"What's great about Tusculum is that as soon as I took that first step toward a better future, Tusculum took ten more for me. To say that I love this school is an understatement."

Michael Fernando



Michael Fernando will serve as student body president next year. Above, he talks to Brianna Werder during a Student Government Association meeting in the spring.

Here I have taken math, history and religion courses. I think I could use them all in my work."

Fernando added, "I feel truly blessed to have come here. The teachers, the staff, the people in general have been such an asset to my experience here. The opportunities are endless. All you need to do is apply yourself and work hard. People will notice that and go out of their way to make sure you succeed."

"All I had to do was take the first step by coming to college and giving it my all. What's great about Tusculum is that as soon as I took that first step toward a better future, Tusculum took ten more for me. To say that I love this school is an understatement."

By Ryan Barker '15  
history and creative writing major  
from Laurens, S.C.

# Pioneering Alumni

## Taking Tusculum Overseas

### A 'Man on the Move,' Brad Cox '11 finds an unexpected career in Taiwan

A 2009 visit to Taiwan with friend and classmate Steven Lin '12 (also featured in this magazine) set in motion a career for Brad Cox '11 that he never expected.

Cox currently resides in Taiwan, where he teaches English to kindergarten students. It was during that initial visit with Lin, a native of Taiwan, that he found a love for the area and the people.

"I never thought that I would come back. I just came here for a month, and then I thought that was my final goodbye."

Unsurprisingly, in his teaching and in his side interests, Cox uses his film and broadcasting degree in many different ways. One of his friends is well-known on YouTube, and Cox edits his videos, as well as makes his own while riding his bike. He also videos his many travels from Japan and the Philippines. He is currently learning Chinese so that he will be better able to speak with the locals of Taiwan.

Cox met lifelong friends while attending Tusculum, and his classes and workload prepared him for the job he has now. His bosses provide him curriculum, and he prepares a whole show for 18 children with props, scripts, effects and everything else for a full production, all skills he earned from his major.

"Success to me, really, was finding the job here. I had

never worked much, and I guess I just found the job and have an income for the first time. I'm living the grown up life here that I never did in America. I've made myself here."

Karen Cox, who is both his mother and the Student Support Services administrative assistant at Tusculum College, is very proud of her son. "We are proud of him, and this is a great experience."

Cox started school earlier than all the other children, so Karen feels that he always overturns every obstacle that he faces.

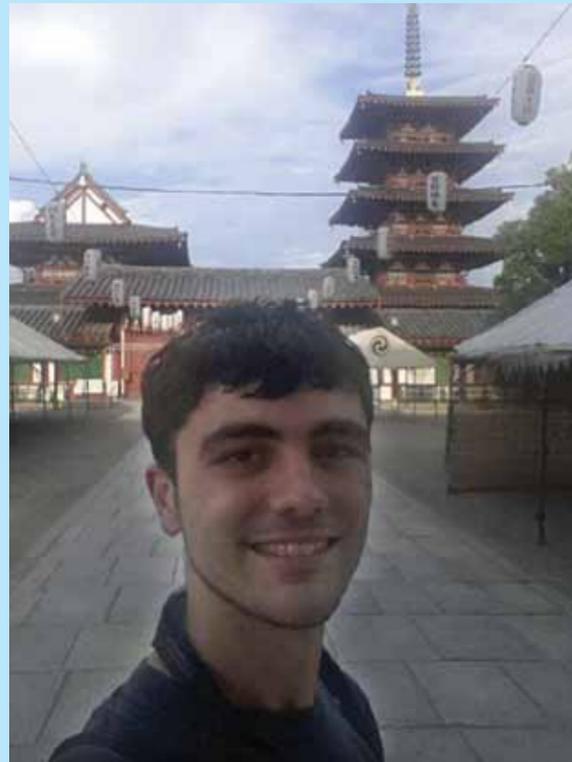
He has taught Karen perseverance, because if he wants something, he makes it happen. "Since he was five, all he's wanted to do was go to Japan. He said he was going to move there, and I'd have to come see him. His plan is to come home for three or four months and then go to Australia. He wants to stay there for about six months. He's a man on the move. He wants to see what's around the next bend."

His brother, Jay Cox '13, has been to visit him. They rode scooters, tried the food and spent time with his students.

"Seeing Brad teaching kids in his class was simply hilarious

for me. You just have to know the guy to see how funny it is. He does a great job of it and needs to try out teaching if and when he moves back to the states," said Jay.

Jay added the fact that Brad always does what he says he is



Brad Cox '11 first visited Taiwan with his friend Steven Lin '12, a native of the country, never expecting he would return to begin his career in the Asian country.

One of the ways that Brad uses the skills he learned as part of his film and broadcasting major is in making videos as he rides his bike around the island nation.



going to do makes him proud. "Even when he was young, he had big ideas and followed through. That is what makes me proud. I have learned one thing from him, and that is never look back, keep looking forward. Try new things, meet new people and live life to the fullest. He is kind of a free spirit."

Tusculum seems to be in the Cox family's system, as Brad's sister, Kelsie Cox is a current student at Tusculum College.

Cox recommends Taiwan for everyone, it's "small, but not too small. Living is cheap, free health care, good money for living standards. You can do anything for a year."

His top advice is that students should always learn a second language so they can enjoy the experience when they go to new places and get to know people.

By Corrine Absher '15

a senior digital media major from Kingsport, Tenn.



Brad's kindergarten students perform during a ceremony.

# Pioneering Alumni

## Blazing an entrepreneurial trail

### KD Bowen experiencing success with sports stores in two states

Tusculum College alumnus Keddren “KD” Bowen has blazed an entrepreneurial trail, taking the retail world by storm with his sports stores Fanatics 101, with two locations, one in Johnson City, Tenn. and one in Asheville, N.C.



KD Bowen '03

While he has been very successful with both stores, Bowen struggled getting started with his career when he first graduated. He stayed the course, with the belief that “God will give me the strength and the ability to succeed at whatever I put my mind to.”

Today, he is not only the owner of Fanatics 101, but also the co-founder and president of Appville 101, a website that allows businesses to easily create and manage apps in a variety of formats.

Bowen graduated from Tusculum College in 2003 with a degree in sports management. While at Tusculum he was a part of the Pioneer Football team.

Prior to attending college, he was not always encouraged to look toward higher education. When Bowen graduated high school he had been told he should work in a local factory. He used his faith in God and pursued bigger and better dreams.

“My goal was to obtain a job in the front office of a professional sports team,” said Bowen. He was working jobs here and there after graduating college, but could not find anything permanent. Bowen continuously submitted resumes and was turned down for not having enough customer service skills.

Bowen then decided that he would open an urban fashion kiosk at the Mall at Johnson City. He wanted to do this for six months in order to have enough customer service experience to qualify for the type of jobs he was seeking.

Getting the kiosk going was tough, but after five attempts at opening a kiosk, his request was approved.

The urban fashion kiosk proved successful, and to focus on his love for sports he opened another sports-related kiosk.

This kiosk took off almost immediately, with sales outpacing his urban wear market, so he closed it to focus on the sportswear operation. He became an independent business owner in a sports-related field in his own right and never looked back.

Bowen opened up his first store front Fanatics 101 in 2006 as a temporary tenant, and it became a permanent retail store in 2009. He opened a second Fanatics 101 in the Asheville Mall in 2011. He is a success, but has no plans to stop. Appville 101 opened in 2013.

Like the little engine that could, Bowen thought he could and had the tenacity to persevere until his dreams became a reality.

By Ashley Bell '15  
senior journalism and professional writing student  
from Nashville, Tenn.



Bowen has opened two Fanatics 101 stores, one in Asheville, N.C. and this one in Johnson City.

## From Niswonger Scholars to career success

### Three alumni use experiences in program as foundation for professional achievement

The Niswonger Foundation Scholarship and Leadership Program offers scholarships to students who exhibit leadership potential, academic excellence and community service, providing financial assistance toward their higher education and engaging them in giving back to the Northeastern Tennessee region. Since its establishment, 52 scholars have graduated. Three of these, Nick Darnell, Jessica Freshour and Adam Miller, are Tusculum College alumni who have gone on to develop successful careers in the region.

The Niswonger Scholars program was designed to aid students in advancing their education and building successful careers. The students are identified through a rigorous nomination and selection process. They are not limited to specific colleges or career paths, but pledge to return to Northeast Tennessee after graduating for at least one year of service for each year they receive the scholarship.

This dream was envisioned by Scott M. Niswonger '87 H'06, majority shareholder of Landair Transport, Inc. and chairman emeritus of Forward Air Corporation, who is also a member of the Tusculum College Board of Trustees.

**Nick Darnell '06** is a native of Greeneville and graduated from Tusculum with his bachelor's degree in elementary education. Darnell was inducted into the Alpha Chi National Honor Society and helped found the College's chapter of College Republicans.

Now serving his ninth year as an educator, Darnell teaches eighth grade American history at East Ridge Middle School in Hamblen County and was recently recognized as “Teacher of the Year” for the region at his grade level. He is the head sponsor of the school's Junior Beta Club, chairman of the school improvement committee, a member of the data team and a lead mentor. He earned his master's degree in educational leadership and his specialist degree in school system leadership, as well as an administrative endorsement, from East Tennessee State University. He plans to pursue a career in school administration, first as a principal and later on the state or national level in education policy. Darnell and his wife Emily reside in Morristown.

**Dr. Jessica Epley Freshour '06** is a professor at the Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy at ETSU, where she received an award for being an outstanding faculty last year. She



Nick Darnell '06



Jessica Epley Freshour '06

graduated from Cocke County High School in Newport. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology with a medical concentration.

Dr. Freshour earned her doctorate in pharmacy from East Tennessee State University's Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy. She served as class vice president and was a founding member of the Kappa Psi pharmaceutical fraternity. She was also selected as a National Walmart Scholar.

Dr. Freshour is a published pharmacist whose passion for pharmacy and education drew her to become an assistant professor at ETSU and maintain a pharmaceutical practice in Johnson City. “I work with a team of pharmacists during the morning where I can sometimes take students to observe our work, our rounds and our procedures,” she said.



Adam Miller '08

Please see Scholars, Page 25

## More than 700 people receive professional care in free health care clinic hosted by Tusculum



Dental procedures, left, proved to be the most popular service provided at the clinic, which also provided vision services, below, and other medical care. Several of the Tusculum students, faculty, staff and alumni who volunteered helped in the hectic patient registration area and initial health check station.

Last fall, Tusculum College responded to a regional need for health care services by hosting the Remote Area Medical health care clinic on the Greeneville campus on Nov. 8-9. With the help of the Greeneville community, Tusculum was able to serve 761 people.

“Through generous donations and over 6,700 hours of volunteer work, we were able to provide a total of \$413,494 worth of professional medical care to the men, women and children who attended,” said Mark Stokes, chaplain of Tusculum College. “Medical professionals in dental, optometry and general healthcare dedicated their time and expertise to this event.”

An array of medical services were available to those in attendance, including, but not limited to, free on-site glasses, screenings for diabetes and hypertension, chest x-rays, chiropractic services, tooth extractions and some gynecological procedures.

“Almost 2,000 dental procedures and 100 medical examinations were conducted, as well as 317 pairs of glasses were given to people in need,” said Stokes.

Volunteers at the clinic included faculty, staff, alumni and students of Tusculum College, as well as medical students from other colleges and universities and hundreds of volunteers from outside the local community.

With the success of the event, organizers are considering the clinic to become a recurring event.



## Student tuition, room and board to stay the same for next academic year

Students and parents of students welcomed good news when it was announced in October that there will be no increase in tuition and room and board fees for Tusculum College students in the 2015-16 year.

Members of the Tusculum College Board of Trustees voted to freeze fees for the upcoming year during their fall meeting.

“We are pleased to announce that tuition, room and board at Tusculum College will remain at the same rate,” said President Nancy B. Moody. “It is our challenge and our duty to control costs for our students to the best of our ability.”

The tuition freeze will be applied to both the residential and the Graduate and Professional Studies programs.

Students from both programs have responded positively. Kyle Dickson, a sophomore from Glasgow, Scotland, who is majoring in sports management, said, “When I decided to study internationally, I did a lot of research to find the best college for the best price, and I’m glad that Tusculum is doing its part in maintaining that.”

Colleen Cox, a management student in the Graduate and Professional Studies program, said, “I’m thrilled that Tusculum isn’t raising the tuition for next year. As a working parent, it’s very important to me to have an affordable education.”

Michael Emery, a junior psychology education major from Bean Station, added, “It’s great that we’re getting the same experience for the same amount of money.”

## Scholars

Starts on Page 23

She admires and respects her Tusculum professors. “They really supported me on my climb to success, along with my family and all of the people behind the Niswonger Scholars program,” Dr. Freshour said. “I’m proud of the way that Dr. Nancy Moody has run the College and the progression it has taken. I’m extremely happy for the new science building, and I would like to thank the community of Greeneville for the support and making the experience of going to Tusculum easy and enjoyable.”

**Adam Miller '08** was valedictorian of his Hampton High School class and graduated *cum laude* from Tusculum with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. While at Tusculum, he served as the chair of the constitution committee of the Student Government Association and was a resident advisor. In addition, Miller completed an internship with Mazer Corporation in Johnson City.

He received his master’s degree in business administration from ETSU and is currently employed as a systems analyst at the Johnson City Power Board. He was named one of the Tri-Cities Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for 2014. Miller, his wife Jessica and daughter Fiona currently live in Hampton.

The Niswonger Foundation Scholarship and Leadership Program continues to help students grow to their full potential and succeed. There are 20 students in the program and five will be joining the program in Fall 2015.

By Kevin Franklin  
junior digital media major from Concord, N.C.



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## 1915 Wedding Gift from Nettie McCormick Donated to College

The photograph shows a solemn looking young couple seated in a nicely appointed parlor. Glowing sun from the large windows of Rankin House illuminates the room. The light shines on his white suit, her pretty dress and a silver tea and coffee service on the table in front of them. It is their wedding day in 1915.

The couple in the image are Elma Rankin, daughter of Tusculum professor Thomas S. Rankin, and her bridegroom, Donald Richard Beeson. The elegant Tiffany tea and coffee service on the table was a gift from a cherished family friend of the bride, Nancy "Nettie" Fowler McCormick. Taken alone, the silver objects themselves are beautiful, but the story of this couple and their ties to Tusculum College, the McCormick family and the life they built together outshines even a Tiffany masterwork.

Rankin met Beeson, a Pennsylvania native, when he came to Tennessee to work as a surveyor in Johnson City. The couple's daughter, Anne Beeson Gouge '40, remembers the story well.

"Daddy was walking along the street one day when he heard mother singing in a church nearby. He followed the sound of her voice, thinking it beautiful, and the rest is history," Gouge said.

The entire family is musical. Beeson was an accomplished banjo player, frequently using his skills to entertain his Boy Scout troop. His wife, a 1908 graduate of Tusculum, was a singer and pianist. Her favorite song was "His Eye is on the Sparrow." Nettie McCormick thought so highly of the young woman's musical ability that she sent Beeson to the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music for a year's study. McCormick's association with Tusculum went beyond a mere beneficiary relationship. Letters from the Rankins to McCormick show that she forged personal relationships with the family, taking an interest in their goals and talents.

One hundred years later, the tea and coffee set gifted to the young couple is again at Tusculum College. The family donated this cherished item to the College in memory of the Beesons and the Rankin family. Oftentimes, objects like these are donated to museums and cultural institutions solely on their own merits. Tiffany is an important name in the decorative arts, their creations worthy of display all on their own.

Tusculum is lucky to have the deeper story behind these particular items, and it is known from family documents and history how the couple interacted with the famous philanthropist McCormick. The Museums of Tusculum also has the photo of the young couple taken on the first day of their married life, their first steps as husband and wife taken on Tusculum's soil.

With the exciting addition of the tea service, the College's museum studies program will begin working on plans to display the items and reveal this aspect of the Rankin family history in the near future.

By Dollie Boyd

Director of the Museums of Tusculum College

To the right are the late John and Betty Beeson Helms, who enjoyed the tea set during their lifetimes. Upon Betty's passing, her daughter, Mary Poliak, donated the coffee and tea set to the College.



## Dishner, Piloni and Wennogle join governing body

# Board of Trustees welcomes new members

Dr. Nancy Dishner, executive vice president of the Niswonger Foundation; Jane Piloni, retired medical secretary and a 1959 graduate of Tusculum College, and Tom Wennogle, president of Jarden Zinc Products, have been elected to the Tusculum College Board of Trustees.

"We were very pleased with our additions to the Board of Trustees," said Kenneth A. Bowman, a 1970 graduate of the college and chair of the Board of Trustees. "Nancy, Jane and Tom all have extensive experience and leadership skills that will benefit the Tusculum community as the college grows."

After 30 years of service in education, **Dr. Nancy Dishner** retired as vice provost for enrollment services and director of the Roan Scholars Leadership Program at East Tennessee State University before joining the Niswonger Foundation. Prior to this position she was a tenured professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. She served five years as a full-time faculty member. She has also served as a public school teacher in Unicoi County.

Dr. Dishner has served on the boards of the Johnson City Public Building Authority and the Johnson City/Jonesborough/Washington County Chamber of Commerce. She established and chaired the Partners in Education program for Johnson City and Washington County.

She is a member of the ETSU Foundation and serves on the Executive Council for the Niswonger Children's Hospital. She is vice chair of the Board of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association, a steering committee member on the State Collaborative on Reforming Education, and on the Board of the Tennessee College Access and Success Network. She is chair of the ETSU Roan Scholars Steering Committee. She is an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church.



Nancy Dishner



Jane Piloni



Tom Wennogle

**Jane Piloni** rejoins the Board of Trustees, having served until 2012. Along with her late husband, Bill, a 1960 alumnus and former trustee, the two provided their support and leadership to the college in a variety of ways, providing students with opportunities to pursue their academic dreams through the establishment of an endowed scholarship, serving in leadership positions in college fundraising campaigns and regularly attending college athletic, arts and lecture events.

According to Dr. Bowman, Piloni exemplifies the civic arts values subscribed to by Tusculum College through her service to others and her community as an officer in home and school associations and as an active member of Bloomfield (N.J.) Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Greeneville. She has also served on the Executive, Enrollment, Trusteeship, Student and Religious Life committees and the subcommittee on the presidency.

**Tom Wennogle** joined Jarden Zinc Products in early 2008 and was appointed president a year later. He has more than 30 years of executive and management leadership experience in a wide variety of corporate and operational environments.

Focusing on revenue growth, expertise in launching new products, exceptionally strong customer relationships and an aptitude for building cohesive teams best encapsulates his wide-ranging track record and success in the industrial sector. Throughout his career, he has acquired extensive experience in the North American, European, Asian and South American markets.

For 10 years, Wennogle was an adjunct professor at Ashland University in Ohio. He has also served as a member of the Board of Directors in the private business sector on numerous occasions. He and his wife Lori have been married for 36 years.

## Tusculum wins men's golf championship

### Earns first berth to postseason NCAA tournament

The Tusculum men's golf program marked a milestone in dramatic fashion this spring when Nick Forsberg birdied the 18th hole to lead the men's golf team to the 2015 South Atlantic Conference (SAC) Men's Golf Championship.

The Pioneers finished with a two-day score of 597, including Tuesday's final round 302 to claim the program's first SAC Championship and their sixth conference title overall. Tusculum finished two shots ahead of runner-up Wingate University, who made a furious second-day charge.

Tusculum also claimed the league's automatic berth to the NCAA Division II Super Regional in May, which was held in Dade City, Fla. It was the Pioneers' first NCAA postseason appearance in school history.

Forsberg, a junior from Staples, Minn., finished with a one-under par total of 143, including a final round 73 to win by three shots over 2014 SAC Tournament champion Benedict Gebhardt of Wingate. It was Forsberg's first collegiate medalist title.

Tusculum, who entered the final round sporting a six-shot advantage, maintained the lead throughout most of the day. Wingate trimmed the deficit to two shots after 12 holes, but the Pioneers moved their lead back to four shots after the 15th hole. With two holes remaining, Wingate made up the four-shot deficit and tied the Pioneers with just two holes remaining.

With the SAC tournament, Tusculum claimed its fifth team title this season and fourth tournament trophy this spring. The five team championships establish a new



Bob Dibble



Nick Forsberg

program single-season record for most titles in a year, breaking the previous record of four set by the 2010-2011 squad.

The year also brought another honor for Bob Dibble, head coach for both the men's and women's golf teams, as he was selected as the 2015 recipient of the Tennessee PGA Distinguished Career Award.

The Distinguished Career Award recognizes current or former Tennessee PGA Section members who have had outstanding careers as PGA Professionals based on service to his or her club, course or employer, service and leadership to the association, community service, professional playing record and teaching ability. The Distinguished Career Award acknowledges these Tennessee PGA Professionals as vital and significant contributors to the game of golf.

For the past quarter of a century, Dibble has directed the golf fortunes at Tusculum College. Dibble, a native of Peoria, Ill. has coached the men's team for 25 years and started the women's program in 1997.

## Women's lacrosse enjoys outstanding inaugural season

Women's lacrosse, Tusculum's 16th intercollegiate sport, emerged as a contender for the South Atlantic Conference title in the Pioneers' inaugural campaign. Tusculum finished with a 10-5 regular season record, third in the South Atlantic Conference (SAC), an outstanding showing for a first-year program.

Head coach Jenna Handshoe was recognized as SAC Coach of the Year for women's lacrosse and four student-athletes earned all conference honors - Cheyenne Bray of Collierville; Kelsey Crow of Franklin; Madison Malone of Maple Grove, Minn., and Brooke Wagner of Snellville, Ga.

The sport made its debut on Feb. 7, as the Pioneers recorded a 13-8 victory at Converse College. Tusculum followed with a 15-4 victory over St. Andrews University in the first-ever women's lacrosse match at Pioneer Field. Tusculum recorded its first-ever SAC victory on Mar. 7, with an impressive 16-11 victory at Wingate University.

## Four Pioneers earn conference 'Scholar Athlete of the Year' honors

Four Tusculum College student-athletes reaped "Scholar Athlete of the Year" honors for their respective sports from the the South Atlantic Conference.

The Scholar Athlete of the Year honorees from Tusculum were David Cooper for cross country, Nick Forsberg for men's golf, Kate Hutchinson for women's tennis and Lukas Winkelmann for men's tennis.

Two of the honorees are multiple recipients of the award. Winkelmann has won the men's tennis honor for the past three years. Cooper earned the cross country honor for the second straight season.

The SAC Scholar Athlete of the Year Award is a distinction that recognizes excellence in athletics, academics, service and leadership. It is presented to one student-athlete in each of the conference's 18 championship sports and is selected by the league's faculty athletics representatives.

Cooper, who graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in biology after carrying a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade point average, is a three-time Capital One Academic All-America® Men's Cross Country/Track & Field Team selection.

"For four years, David embodied what it means to be a student-athlete," said Tusculum Cross Country Coach Cory Pratt. "He represented Tusculum so well on the course, in the classroom and in the community."

Forsberg, a junior from Staples, Minn., carries a 3.65 cumulative grade point average while majoring in sport management. "Nick is a young man of excellent character and drive," said Tusculum Golf Coach Bob Dibble. "He has become a leader of our team and has always been very reliable."

Forsberg earned All-SAC second team honors as a freshman and was named his team's most valuable player during his freshman and sophomore campaigns. During his sophomore year, he earned runner-up honors at the 2014 SAC Men's Golf Championship.

Hutchinson, graduated in May with a degree in pre-medicine and maintained a 3.81 cumulative grade point average. She has been named an ITA Scholar-Athlete three times in her career. "Kate is a true leader by example both on and off the court," said Tusculum tennis coach Tommy Arnett. "I know she will serve humanity in the role not only of a fine medical doctor, but as a person who helps the world be a better place for us all to live in."

A 2014 All-SAC honorable mention selection, Hutchinson compiled a 15-4 overall singles record this season playing primarily at the fourth flight. She was 9-2 in conference action and won seven of her last 10 matches to close out the season.

Winkelmann, who graduated in May with a degree in pre-medicine, is the first SAC men's tennis player to earn Men's Tennis Player of the Year and Scholar Athlete of the Year accolades in the same year in three consecutive seasons. In addition, he was named the 2014-15 Tusculum College Male Athlete and received the SAC President's Award.

The Böblingen, Germany native spent the entire season ranked in the top-10 of the ITA/NCAA Division II National Singles Rankings and the top five of the Southeast Region poll. He finished the season with a perfect 18-0 singles record at the top flight and finished his collegiate career with a 50-match regular season winning streak.

Winkelmann is a three-time Capital One Academic All-America® At-Large first team selection. "Lukas has established himself as a leader among his peers in the classroom as well as on the tennis court," said Coach Arnett. "He is an outstanding young man who balances academics, athletics and his personal life. We are all very proud of Lukas and wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors."



David Cooper



Nick Forsberg



Kate Hutchinson



Lukas Winkelmann

## Hale elected to SAC Hall of Fame

Former Tusculum College cross country runner Amanda Musick Hale '05 has been elected to the South Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame.

The Class of 2014-2015 includes Hale, longtime SAC football official Charles "Slim" Carriker, Mars Hill University football tight end David Cassell, Carson-Newman University football linebacker Mike Clowney and Wingate University graduate Dr. Russell Booker.

The class of 2015 will be officially welcomed into the SAC Hall of Fame at the conference's annual banquet in June in Asheville, N.C.

Hale posted one of the greatest running careers in conference women's cross country program from 2001-2004.

During her storied career, Hale won a school record 10 individual titles, including the 2003 South Atlantic Conference Championship, to become the first Pioneer to earn SAC Runner of the Year accolades. She owns eight of the top 13 times (5,000-meter) in school history.

In 2001, Hale and teammate Sue Lewis became the first Tusculum student-athletes to compete at a NCAA Division II National Championship event when they qualified for nationals. During that 2001 season, Hale was the SAC Freshman Runner of the Year.

The four-time All-SAC First Team honoree won the Tusculum Invitational a school record four times during her career, while leading the Pioneers to six team championships.

In 2001 during her rookie campaign, the Lebanon, Va. native finished no worse than third in her first seven races, including wins at the Creeper Trail Invitational, Tusculum/Greene Valley Invitational and the Land of the Sky Invitational. She also posted consecutive runner-up performances at the SAC Championship and the NCAA Southeast Regional to punch her ticket to the NCAA Nationals where she posted a 124th place finish.

In 2002, Hale battled through an injury-plagued season, with her only win of the year coming at the Tusculum Invitational. Despite the sluggish start, she finished strong at the SAC Championship with a seven-place showing and posted a 14th place performance at the NCAA Regional to earn All-Region Second Team accolades.

Her junior year was one of the best seasons ever posted by a Tusculum harrier. She won five of her first six events, including titles at the Creeper Trail Invitational, Tusculum Invitational, Maryville Invitational, Lenoir-Rhyne

Invitational and the SAC Championship with a time of 19:15 (4th in Tusculum history). Hale finished fourth at the NCAA Regional to advance to the NCAA Nationals in Cary, N.C. for a second time in three years. She was also named the Tusculum Female Athlete of the Year for the 2003-2004 academic year.

In 2004, Hale posted a solid performance as she recorded six top five showings, including a win at the Tusculum Invitational and a second-place finish at the Roanoke College Invitational. She also finished third at the Lenoir-Rhyne Invitational and Maryville Invitational in consecutive races. Hale finished sixth at her final SAC Championship to become the first Pioneer runner to earn All-SAC first team honors four consecutive years. She followed with a third place finish at the NCAA Regional to advance to nationals for a third time.

She was named SAC Runner of the Week on six occasions, while also shining in the classroom. Hale was a member of the Tusculum Athletic Director's Honor Roll, the SAC Commissioner's Honor Roll and the NCAA II Cross Country Coaches' Association All-Academic Team. She graduated from Tusculum in 2004 with a degree in business management.

She is married to Les Hale and the couple resides in Lebanon, Va. She was inducted to the Tusculum College Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.

Hale becomes the fifth Tusculum honoree to be inducted into the SAC Hall of Fame, joining former Tusculum and Mars Hill athletic director Ed Hoffmeyer, Tusculum women's tennis player Lesley Murray '04, Tusculum All-American cornerback Ricardo Colclough '04 and Tusculum All-American offensive lineman Alan Dunn '04, who was inducted in last year's Hall of Fame class.



Amanda Musick Hale

## Former Pioneer signs with Tampa Bay following NFL Draft

Tusculum College defensive end Caushaud Lyons has signed a preferred free agent contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers following the conclusion of the 2015 National Football League Draft.

Lyons, a 6-5, 295-pound senior from Ellenwood, Ga., was a consensus NCAA Division II All-American last fall while accounting for one of the finest seasons ever by a Tusculum defensive lineman. He led the Pioneers with 89 tackles, which is a new program single-season record for a defensive lineman. Of those stops, 19 were for loss, which are the second most in Tusculum history and most by a Pioneer lineman. His 1.5 tackles for loss per game average led the South Atlantic Conference.

At a Pro Day held at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in March, 22 NFL teams were in attendance. Lyons posted times of 4.86 and 4.87 seconds in the 40. He also recorded a 30 1/2-inch vertical and a 10-foot broad jump. He had a 4.55 short shuttle and 7.51 3-cone drill.

In March, Lyons made the FootballInsiders.com 'Top FCS Draft Prospects' list. He was invited to the Medal of Honor All-Star Game allowing him to showcase his skills in front of the watchful eyes of NFL Scouts.

The 2014 consensus All-Region pick averaged 8.1 tackles per game, which are the most in the South Atlantic Conference and Super Region 2 for defensive linemen and fourth most in the nation (NCAA Division II). His 8.1 tackles for loss are third in the league overall. The All-SAC first team selection also averaged 0.77 sacks per contest, which is second in the conference and 38th in NCAA Division II.

He led the Pioneers to a 6-5 record and a third place finish in the South Atlantic Conference. Tusculum rebounded from a 1-5 start and closed out the season winning five of its last six games.

Lyons wrapped up his collegiate career with 181 tackles, a new Tusculum record for a defensive lineman. His 28 career



Caushaud Lyons

## AVCA names Knott to '30 Under 30' list

Tusculum College volleyball associate head coach Aly Knott has been named a recipient of the American Volleyball Coaches Association Thirty Under 30 Award. This award was created in 2009 to honor up-and-coming coaching talent at all levels of the sport. To qualify for the award nominees had to be 30 years old or younger in 2014.



Aly Knott

Knott has completed her third season on the Tusculum coaching staff. Knott assists with all operations of the program, while also serving as recruiting coordinator and strength and conditioning coordinator.

During her tenure with the Pioneers, Knott has accounted for three consecutive winning seasons, including back-to-back 20-win campaigns in 2012 and 2013, both resulting in consecutive trips to the NCAA Division II Tournament.

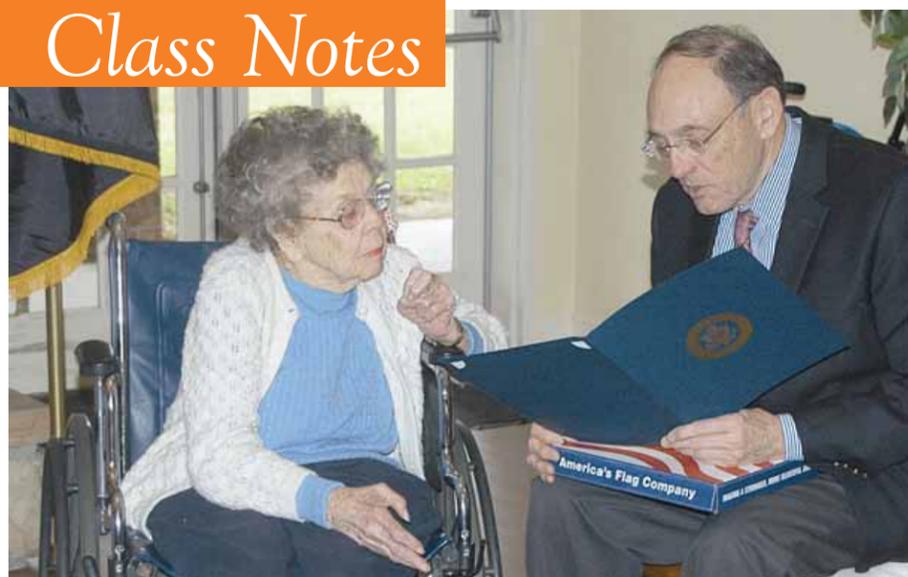
Aly and her husband Richard Knott were married last summer. Richard has completed his third season on the Tusculum volleyball coaching staff.

tackles for loss are 10th in school history and second most by a Pioneer lineman. His 13 career sacks are tied for seventh in program history (third for a defensive lineman).

Lyons finished one of eight national finalists for the Gene Upshaw Award, which recognizes the top NCAA Division II lineman in the country. He was also national finalist for the Cliff Harris Award, which honors the top small college defensive player of the year for NCAA Division II, Division III and NAIA.

Lyons is looking to join a success fraternity of former Pioneers who have signed with NFL teams, including wide receivers Kevin Wolcott (Tennessee Titans) and Rashaad Carter (Baltimore Ravens), offensive lineman Alan Dunn (Tampa Bay Buccaneers) and defensive back Ricardo Colclough (Pittsburgh Steelers, Cleveland Browns, Kansas City Chiefs, Carolina Panthers).

# Class Notes



**Frances Wade Ostergren '34** of Sevierville, TN, was honored by U.S. Rep. Phil Roe for her service during World War II recently and celebrated her 103rd birthday on Dec. 12. Frances served as a nurse during World War II and has been a member of American Legion Post 104 for more than 60 years. Roe presented Ostergren with a certificate from Washington, D.C., a small American flag and an ornament. *Photo by Jake Old, courtesy of The Mountain Press*

## '50s

**The Rev. Don Wright '53** and **Dorothy Jaynes Wright '54** have moved into a new home in Canton, MI. Don is returning to service at First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn, MI, as pastor emeritus.

## '60s

**Charles Eames '66** has retired as a public librarian. Charles is active in community affairs in Waycross, the town in southern Georgia he has called home for nearly 33 years. He reads stories to young children, leads singing as a volunteer at nursing homes and is a sought-after speaker. He enjoys hearing from fellow classmates. His email is cbejrr@yahoo.com.

**Dennis A. Wolford '68** of Lafayette, TN, received the A.C.H.E. Regents Senior Level Health Care Executive Award at the Tennessee Hospital Association's annual meeting on Nov. 7 in Nashville. He was recognized for his 44 years of service and leadership in the healthcare field and his community. Dennis has been CEO of Macon County General Hospital for 30 years.

## '70s

**Sidney Courtney '72** and **Claudia Strohmer Courtney '73** are now retired and living in Dover, DE. The Courtneys enjoyed their trip to campus for alumni weekend last year with Sidney's roommate **Paul Parren '72**.

**Bill Dunham '73**, a financial advisor with the Johnson City Branch of Wells Fargo Advisors, has been named first vice president-investments/investment officer. Bill has served with Wells Fargo Advisors for 14 years and has

15 years of experience in the financial services industry. Dunham lives in Piney Flats with his wife, Bonnie.

**Wayne Eichele '73** of Ventura, CA, and his wife Pam have retired and are looking forward to the next chapter of their lives. They have just returned from a trip across the Canadian Rockies via the Rocky Mountain Rail Road. They plan to cruise to Alaska and tour Italy in the future. Wayne volunteers several hours a week at an elementary school. He would love to hear from fellow alumni and can be reached at weichele@bcglobal.net.

## '80s

**Dory Wetzel Creech '82** of Kingsport, TN, is a finalist for the 2014-15 Supervisor of the Year honor representing the First Region of Northeast Tennessee. She is assistant superintendent of instruction for the Kingsport City Schools.

**Diane Turner Montgomery '86** was guest director of Roanoke College's winter production of "Blithe Spirit" by Noel Coward.

## '90s

**Sherri Voiles Brown '91 '93** has joined Realty Executives - East Tennessee Realtors of Greenville as an agent.

**Angie Cruze Duignan '96** has been promoted to program director at Alta Resources in Fort Myers, FL.

**Cindi Gresham DeBusk '98** was named to the Leadership Knoxville class for 2015. Cindi is the owner of GCS Group in Knoxville and is

a member of the State of Tennessee Board for Licensing Contractors.

**Laura Jenkins '98**, who has taught at Mountain View Elementary School for the past 24 years, has been recognized with the Joe Quirk Educator of the Year, presented by the Etowah Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Starr Regional Medical Center.

**Billie Parsons Schneider '99** has been named principal at St. Anne Catholic School in Bristol, VA. Schneider has taught in Catholic schools for 33 years and is in her 28th year at St. Anne's.

## '00s

**Bobbie Phillips '01** of Maryville, TN, has joined the Celina Insurance Group as a marketing representative in East Tennessee.

**Trevis Gardner '02** is currently vice president of operations for the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority.

**Chad Jordan '02** has been named athletic director of Christian Heritage School in Dalton, GA. Jordan is currently serving as the school's assistant athletic director and a football and golf coach. Jordan teaches computer applications, health, physical education and speech at the school and is the school's prefect coordinator.

**Craig Pritchett '03** has been named the next head football coach at Brevard High School in Brevard, NC. Craig is currently a graphic arts teacher and the defensive coordinator for the football team at Ridgeland High School in Rossville, GA.

**Brent Dyson '04**, a native of Damascus, VA, has been promoted to assistant vice president and business development officer for The Bank of Marion. Dyson has been manager of The Bank of Glade Spring, a branch of The Bank of Marion, since 2005.

**Rodney Ellison '07** has been named Powell High School's next head football coach. Rodney will join the Knox County, TN, school next August as the 2015-16 school year begins. He is currently a physical education teacher at Norwood Middle School in Anderson County and will also teach physical education at Powell.

**Justin Johnson '08** of Gloucester, VA, has been named marketing and sales coordinator for the Richmond International Raceway.

## '10s

**Amber Sharp-Brown '11** has completed her Master of Science in sports medicine at Georgia State University. She is employed as an assistant athletic trainer at Westminster Academy in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

**Jessica Kent '11** is a third grade teacher at Talbott Elementary School. She has worked the past five years as an assistant to pre-first grade and kindergarten.

**Danielle Armstrong '12** has accepted a full-time position as an apprentice technical writer in Orlando, FL.

**Jessica Miller '12** works with grades K-5 in special education and with exceptional children services at Jefferson Elementary School in Jefferson County.

**Tyler Bright '13** has been promoted to business system analyst with Mountain States Health Alliance.

**Marcie Stuart '13** is a sixth grade math teacher at Jefferson Middle School in Jefferson County.

**Eric Tobler '13** of Oak Ridge, TN, is chief executive officer of Tobler Enterprises and is the managing partner for the CRWC partnership.

## Weddings

**Alison Leigh David '95** was married to Robert McKinley Hagerman on Sept. 20, 2014. The couple is living in Abingdon, VA. Alison is a realtor with Jones and Associates Realty.

**Lesley Murray '04** was married to Ryan Hawk on October 25, 2014, at 9 Oaks Farm in Monroe, GA. Bridesmaids included **Rebecca Muncy '05** and **Julie Maples '05**. The couple is residing in Monroe.

**Ryan Phillip Huff '09** and **Brook Renae Johnson** were married December 13, 2014, at The Charles in Johnson City. The couple are living in Knoxville.

**Kirstie Lauren Gust '12** and **Collins Van Liew** were married on October 5, 2014. Kirstie is a financial management associate at KPMG in Chicago, IL.

**Leslie Sierra Shelton '13** and **Trey Whitfield '12** were married on Nov. 15, 2014, at The Blackthorn Club at the Ridges in Jonesborough. Groomsmen included **Neill Blakeney '12**, **Marquise Snead-Johnson '11** and **Gareth Rowlands '11**. Ushers were **Andy Goellner '13** and **Dakota Norton '14**. **Hannah Laposky '12** served as a bridal book attendant and greeter. The couple is living in Nashville. Leslie is the special education coordinator at Lead Prep Southeast, and Trey is the regional controller of First Call Ambulance Services.

## Tusculum alumni honored as 'Teachers of the Year'

Several Tusculum alumni were honored as "Teacher of the Year" in their school systems and **Kristy Sproles '00** was named statewide teacher of the year for social studies at the high school level.

Sproles, a teacher at Sullivan Central High School, is the 2015 Tennessee Council for Social Studies teacher of the year for high school. Sproles was nominated for the award by her fellow teachers and her school principal. She is known for her classroom activities to help history come alive for her students. For example, she has had students come to a banquet dressed as European historical figures and they have to stay in character throughout the event. She teaches Advanced Placement European History, Advanced World History, U.S. History, personal finance and self defense.

Tusculum alumni swept the Teacher of the Year honors for both the Greeneville School System and the Hamblen County School System.

In the Greeneville School System, **Finette Craft '10** was named the honoree for the pre-kindergarten-4 level; **Aundrea Gunter '08** for the grades 5-8 level, and **John Morrell '93** for the grades 9-12 level.

Craft is a third grade language arts teacher at Hal Henard Elementary School. Gunter is an eighth-grade science teacher at Greeneville Middle School. Morrell teaches Advanced Placement American, European and World History for grades 9-12 at Greeneville High School.

Tusculum alumni **Johnathan Richardson '02**, **Nick Darnell '06** and **Olivia Breeding '12** were the system wide Hamblen County teachers of the year. Richardson, elementary teacher of the year, is a music teacher at Manley Elementary School. Darnell, who was also named Teacher of the Year for the region on the middle school level, teaches eighth grade American history at East Ridge Middle School. Breeding, an Algebra I teacher and head of the peer tutoring program at West High School, was selected as the high school teacher of the year.

The Tennessee Teacher of the Year Program is designed to promote recognition, respect and appreciation for teachers; stimulate interest in teaching as a career, and encourage public involvement in education. The program is sponsored annually by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Niswonger Foundation.

**Jade Bussell '14** and **Jonathan Essary** were married November 8, 2014, at Christ United Methodist Church in Greeneville. Bridesmaids included **Ashley Fritz '14**, **Kristen Lane '14**, **Latisha Stover '14** and **Bailey Lawson '15**. The couple is living in Greeneville, where Jade is a case manager for Frontier Health.

**Emily Shipsey '14** and **John Polny** were married on September 26, 2014. Emily is a visitor services specialist at Discovery Center at Murfree Spring in Murfreesboro.

## Births

**Brian L. Pike '95** and his wife, **Alexandra Mora**, are celebrating the birth of their first child, **Gabriel Alexander Pike**. He was born at Gleneagles Hospital in Singapore on Jan. 6, 2015. Brian is stationed at the Naval Medical Research Center in Singapore.

**Lauren Abramson Baes '02** of Franklin, TN, and her husband, **Kevin**, celebrated the birth of their son, **Jack Adair Baes**, on October 26, 2014. He weighed six pounds and 10 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. Proud grandparents are **Roger and Sanda Montgomery Abramson '64 '65**.

## Memorials

### '30s

**Ellen Fletcher Kay '37** of Tequesta, FL, passed away September 17, 2013. She was a retired receptionist of the Bath and Tennis Club.

**Mary Elizabeth Ross Reel '38**, a longtime resident of Rogersville, TN, passed away on Feb. 17, 2015, following a period of declining health. Mrs. Reel retired from teaching in the Hawkins County School System.

### '40s

**Irene Bolton France '41** of Jonesborough, TN, passed away October 7, 2014. She was a career educator and retired as librarian/media specialist at University School in Johnson City, TN, where she served for 25 years. Her survivors include sister and Tusculum alumna **Marie Gilley '44**.

**Muriel Ann Olson Mason '43** of Mandeville, LA, passed away on Monday, Dec. 1, 2014.

**Patrick H. Miller '43** of Kingsport, TN, passed away on Oct. 18, 2014. Mr. Miller was a member of the Tusculum College Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. Miller retired as senior financial associate at Tennessee Electric Company, Inc.

**Winifred "Win" Mitchell '43** of Carbondale, IL, passed away October 10, 2014. Mrs. Mitchell was a retired nurse.

**Virginia Ann "Jan" Taylor McCartt '44** of Kingsport, TN, passed away March 3, 2015.

**Evelyn Smelcer Holdway '45** of Morristown, TN, passed away Feb. 7, 2015. She was a longtime supporter of instrumental music, frequently attending concerts and provided financial support to regional band programs, including that of her Alma Mater.

**June Barrett Mittman '45** of Wilmington, NC, passed away September 26, 2014. Mrs. Mittman balanced her duties as a housewife with substitute teaching and later a position as youth director for the American Red Cross.

**Helen Bicknel Kinsler Sparling '47** of Sweetwater, TN, passed away on December 5, 2013. Mrs. Sparling was a retired engineering statistician who worked at E. I. DuPont.

**Betty Louise James Van Blarcom '47** of Mountainside, NJ, passed away March 26, 2015.

**Emma Eilene Kyker Grubbs '48** of Auburn Hills, MI, passed away on January 5, 2015. Mrs. Grubbs was a retired elementary school teacher. Her survivors include sister and Tusculum alumna **Mary Kyker '48**.

**Dr. Kenneth J. Chapman '49** of Columbus, OH, passed away on August 3, 2014. Dr. Chapman was an OB-GYN in the Columbus area for 31 years.

**George Arthur Westbrook '49** of Hendersonville, NC, passed away January 15, 2014. While attending Tusculum, he met and married **Evelyn Tripp '49**. Mr. Westbrook retired as director of administration of Champion Paper Company. His survivors and Tusculum alumni in addition to his wife are sons **Thomas Westbrook '75** and **William Westbrook '79**.

'50s

**Edgar A. Bergholtz '50** of Cottageville, SC, passed away on September 28, 2014. He was a retired FBI special agent, working mainly in the area of organized crime.

**Lt. Col. Jack Hoover Jenkins, USAF (Ret.) '50** of Centennial, CO, passed away June 18, 2014. Lt. Col. Jenkins was an accountant.

**Phyllis "Mimi" Pierce McAmis '50** of Greeneville, TN, passed away Nov. 17, 2014. Mrs. McAmis retired as a bookkeeper for Central Drug Store. Her survivors include Tusculum alumni daughter **Terri Morrell '04**, granddaughter **Sarah Morrell Mathes '03**, sister **Wanda Pierce Hall '54**, brother **Jimmy Pierce**

## Tusculum loses two alumni leaders, Bill Pilloni and Joe Schwartz

The end of 2104 and beginning of 2015 saw Tusculum College losing two of its alumni leaders and long-time supporters.

**Joseph S. Schwartz '59** of Cherry Hill, NJ, passed away Nov. 19, 2014.

**Louis William "Bill" Pilloni '60** passed away on Jan. 12, 2015.

Mr. Schwartz was a Life Trustee of Tusculum College and had served as an active member of the Board of Trustees from 1995 to 2011. He was the retired president and owner of Guaranteed Brake Parts, Inc., his family's auto parts rebuilding company. He and his wife **Kathy (Cheek) '58** served their Alma Mater as decade chairpersons for the alumni phase of the Tusculum College 2000 Campaign and in key leadership roles in the Bicentennial Campaign. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cheek-Schwartz Endowment Fund at Tusculum.

Mr. Pilloni had served his Alma Mater as a trustee from 1998 to 2005. He and his wife, **Jane Shanks Pilloni '59**, have been true friends to Tusculum, supportive and engaged in the life of the College for many years, including serving in leadership roles in the Tusculum 2000 Campaign and Bicentennial Campaign. Mrs. Pilloni is currently serving as a Trustee of the College. Mr. Pilloni worked for Packing Industries and retired as a business manager with Prudential Insurance Company of Northern New Jersey. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pilloni Endowed Scholarship at Tusculum, which was established by the Pillonis in 1998 to assist deserving students with financial need.



Bill Pilloni



Joe Schwartz

**'60**, sister-in-law **Betty McAmis King '50** and her husband, **Dick '51** and sister-in-law **Mary McAmis Smith '53**.

**Mr. Edwin P. Krieger, Sr. '52** of Tampa, FL, passed away on July 23, 2014. Mr. Krieger was a retired FBI special agent and worked for the Florida Attorney General's Office.

**Harley Lee Reel '53** of Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ, passed away on October 8, 2014. Mr. Reel had enjoyed a productive 40-year career in business.

**Homer H. Clevenger '54** of Kingston, TN, passed away May 17, 2015. During his career, Mr. Clevenger served as director of industrial relations for Kingsport Press in Kingsport, TN, vice president of industrial relations for Arcata National in New York City and vice president and general council for Ricoh Corporation in San Jose, CA.

**Marilou Neas Humphreys '57** passed away September 28, 2014, after a difficult journey with Alzheimer's disease at her daughter's home in Orlando, FL. She was a career educator.

'60s

**Eva J. Hill White '61** of Greeneville, TN, passed away October 31, 2014. Mrs. White was a school teacher in the Greeneville City School System. Her survivors include daughter and Tusculum alumna **Sharon White Jefferson '98**.

**Luke McCormack '61** of Murfreesboro, TN, passed away on March 1, 2015. Mr. McCormack was a member of the original cadre of Peace Corps volunteers who served in the Philippines.

Afterwards he did government service in Vietnam and South America before completing his career life in service to disadvantaged Tennesseans.

**Annette Clark Gernhardt '64** of Chesapeake, VA, passed away on September 12, 2014. She was a retired technical editor, writer and publications specialist for Northrop Grumman.

**Faline Mather Gray '65** of Lansdale, PA, passed away unexpectedly on September 10, 2014. She and her beloved husband **William K. Gray, Sr. '65** had celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on August 28. Mrs. Gray had spent her career in education and served as a foster parent for 17 years.

'70s

**Ronald W. Beers '70** of Monroe, NC, passed away on November 24, 2014. Mr. Beers was retired as assistant director of the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Survivors include his wife and Tusculum alumna, **Pamela Rhea Beers '74**.

**Gregory Manual Kyle '79** of Morristown, TN, passed away on March 24, 2015, after a long bout with lung disease. Mr. Kyle was well known throughout East Tennessee as a sports photographer for the *Citizen Tribune* and official photographer at Walters State Community College.

'80s

**Ellis Junior Jackson '86** of Knoxville, TN, passed away March 30, 2009. Mr. Jackson

## Fall 2015

- Mike Rayburn, "What If...," Aug. 24, 7 p.m., AHB Auditorium
- Sharyn McCrumb, "The Overmountain Men", Sept. 22, 7 p.m., Behan Arena Theatre
- Theatre-at-Tusculum presents "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Nov. 13-14 and 19-21 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 15 and 22 at 2 p.m., AHB Auditorium
- Tusculum College Band Christmas Concert, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m., AHB Auditorium
- Tusculum College Community Chorus Christmas Concert, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m., AHB Auditorium

## Coming in Spring 2016

Theatre-at-Tusculum presents "The Odd Couple,"  
Central Ballet's "Cinderella"  
FLY Dance Company  
Tusculum Band, Community Chorus concerts and more!

worked at the U.S. Department of Energy's K-25, X-10 and Y-12 facilities in Oak Ridge, TN.

**Mary Katherine "Kaye" Marshall '87** of Henderson, Ky., formerly of Greeneville, Tenn., passed away on November 12, 2013. Ms. Marshall was a registered nurse and had worked 17 years for the State of Tennessee Department of Human Services.

**Dennis E. Crow '89** of Elizabethton, TN, passed away on April 8, 2015. Mr. Crow was retired from Sprint after 25 years of service as an equipment supervisor.

**John Stephenson '89** of Memphis, TN, passed away December 30, 2006. Mr. Stephenson had been an eighth grade teacher at Kingsbury Junior High School.

'90s

**Michael Stan Perry '94** of Gaffney, SC, passed away Dec. 23, 2013. Mr. Perry was a district manager with Piedmont Natural Gas.

**Jeffery Louis Ginsberg '95** of Knoxville, TN, passed away unexpectedly October 18, 2014. Mr. Ginsberg was a former business owner, city councilman and president of the Oak Ridge

Chamber of Commerce. He most recently was vice president of human resources for LeGacy Resource Corp.

**Deborah Hyden '96** of Duluth, GA, passed away July 31, 2012. Ms. Hyden was a well respected attorney in Gwinnett County.

**Ruth Ellen Waller Williams '96** of Piney Flats, TN, passed away unexpectedly on January 30, 2014. Mrs. Williams was a teacher at Sullivan East High School until the fall of 2013.

**Raymond Dennis Powers '97** of Kingston, TN, passed away on July 3, 2014. Mr. Powers was a maintenance supervisor for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

**Paul Brian Guy '93** of Greeneville, TN, passed away on March 14, 2015. Mr. Guy was a retired computer services manager.

**John George Kosmak '98** of Gray, TN, passed away Jan. 7, 2015, at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville following a battle with leukemia. Mr. Kosmak had been serving as an adjunct professor in the Tusculum School of Business. He was retired from the U.S. Air Force and had worked for the Postal Service since 1995 and

Acts, Arts  
Academia  
Performance  
& Lecture  
Series

started teaching as an adjunct at Tusculum in 2000.

'00s

**Douglas Eric Baker '00** of Liberty Hill, TN, passed away November 11, 2014. Mr. Baker had been a manager of Starbucks in Knoxville, TN, and a member of the staff of Holston Home for Children in Greeneville, TN.

**Misti Summer Anderson '02** of Greeneville, TN, passed away on April 4, 2015, after a courageous battle with Hemangiopericytoma. Mrs. Anderson had taught at McDonald School for the past seven years and was also a beloved volleyball and softball coach at the school.

**Gregory Rex Hopson '02** of Greeneville passed away on Jan. 22, 2015. He was employed at WalMart Regional Distribution Center.

**Tamara Allison '04** of Maryville, TN, passed away September 11, 2007. She had worked at TDS Telecom.

**William Mims '04** of Dandridge, TN, passed away February 3, 2009. Mr. Mims worked at ITT in Knoxville, TN, and was selected as "Teacher of the Year" in 2008.

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MUSEUM STUDIES MAJOR  
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