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AGENDA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF
THE CORPORATION OF MERCER UNIVERSITY

December 4, 2009
W. Homer Drake, Jr., Chairman

I. Call to Order

II. Meditation and Invocation

III. Approval of the Minutes of the April 17, 2009
and September 18, 2009 Meetings of the Board of Trustees

IV. Report of the President of the University

V. Matters of Current Business

   1. Report of the Audit Committee
   2. Report of the Educational Policy
      Committee
   3. Report of the Development Committee
   4. Report of the Finance, Investment,
      and Property Committee
   5. Report of the Executive Committee

VI. Recognition and Installation of New Trustees

VII. Appointments of Officers, Standing Committees,
and Advisory Boards

VIII. Matters of Other Business

IX. Benediction

X. Adjournment
II. PROVOST

Wallace L. Daniel is provost and professor of history at Mercer University. Prior to coming to Mercer in July 2008, he was the Ralph L. and Bessie Mae Lynn Professor of History at Baylor University, where he spent much of his earlier teaching career. He served as editor of the *Journal of Church and State* from 2006-2008, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1996-2005, and chair of the Department of History from 1992-1996. His field is Russian history, and he has specialized in the period of Catherine II (the Great) and in Russian cultural and social history after the fall of the Soviet state. His undergraduate and graduate degrees are from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa Honorary Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. He serves on the Keston Center Advisory Board, the Center for Health and Learning Board of Directors, and on the Editorial Council of Journal of Church and State. In 2008, he was awarded the Cornelia Marschall Smith award at Baylor University, for teaching, scholarship, and service.

Dr. Daniel’s most recent publications include:

- *The Orthodox Church and Civil Society in Russia* (College Station, Texas: Texas A&M University Press, 2006)
- Wallace L. Daniel, Peter L. Berger, and Christopher Marsh (eds.), *Perspectives on Church-State Relations in Russia* (Waco, Texas: J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies, 2008)

Presently, he is working on an intellectual biography of Father Aleksandr Men, the renowned parish priest who was murdered in 1990.
The Engaged University
Wallace L. Daniel, Provost

Alfred North Whitehead, in his famous essay *The Aims of Education* (1929), warns “So far as the mere imparting of information is concerned, no university has had any justification for existence since the popularization of printing in the 15th century . . . The justification for a university is that it preserves the connection between knowledge and the zest of life, by uniting the young and the old in the imaginative consideration of learning.” Whitehead’s statement is provocative, and it calls us to account, by raising the question of what kind of university we will be in the twenty-first century. How will students who come to Mercer be educated?

At Mercer, we aspire to build a “community of learners.” Such a community aims to do much more than transfer knowledge from faculty to students. In the learning paradigm, as defined by educators Robert Barr and John Tagg more than a decade ago, the purpose of this community is to create an environment in which students become learners—part of a community that makes discoveries and solves problems—in which the quality of student learning is placed at the center of attention.

In this environment, what we might do best for the students is teach them “how to learn.” Several models of learning communities exist for the twenty-first century. The following is one of them, whose attributes relate to the foundation on which Mercer is already built and give this university the opportunity to be a leading voice:

- Having students read primary texts, rather than relying on standardized textbooks;
- Engaging in open-ended conversations about large questions raised by these primary sources;
- Developing written and oral communication skills;
- Emphasizing the ethical aspects and considerations involved in all of the key issues we face in our society;
- Connecting the classroom to the world, theory to practice, and the university to the community and to the global environment.

When I graduated from the University of North Carolina many years ago, I looked to two model professors. Both were powerful teachers, whose love of their subjects and knowledge in the classroom impressed me deeply. Yet they shared little else.

The first primarily conveyed information, and he did so brilliantly and passionately. I
could hardly wait for his lectures, knowing that my own door into a world larger than my own would be opened wider than before.

The second model professor had a much different approach. Dr. Samuel Hill was a professor of religious studies, and I enrolled in his class on “Twentieth-Century Theology.” He also was a compelling lecturer, although he exercised this skill rarely. Neither did we use a textbook in his class, and instead read the original writings of the great theologians—Karl Barth, Rudolph Bultmann, Reinhold and Richard Niebuhr, Martin Buber, and Paul Tillich. Dr. Hill began each class with a brief review of the reading, then guided the discussion, exploring the ideas the readings presented. The result was a lively, often contentious, many-sided conversation that led to some tentative conclusion. Dr. Hill, too, struggled with the materials and the questions; he told us that, and he was clearly deeply engaged. In turn, he engaged the forty students in the class thoroughly, and I must say, in my own case, unforgettably.

Looking back over the many years since then, both professors remain firmly etched in my mind. I can picture their mannerisms and their joy in teaching young students. Yet in considering what I learned and what has stayed with me, there is no doubt which approach of these two professors proved more effective and long lasting. I can still recall much of the readings in Dr. Hill’s class, still struggle with the issues of life and meaning we addressed, and continue to read and think about the open-ended problems we explored.

To the university of the twenty-first century, Dr. Hill’s approach speaks compellingly. A community of learners is built around exploration and conversation. In such a community, each person—whether faculty, staff, or student—is a participant and is actively involved.

The learning community is very consistent with Mercer’s mission—a mission that sees the world as ever-changing, as open to discovery that never ends, as constantly in need of creative minds. “The historic principles of religious and intellectual freedom . . .,” which the mission statement underscores, are essential to such a vision. Every year, at Mercer, we see the learning community at first hand and in multiple ways, in the students’ testimonies, in their emphasis on working with professors, on participation in research, on the whole process of discovery, and in the adventure of the mind. These features should become “hallmarks” of a Mercer University education.

Discovery is a process that begins early in one’s university education and continues throughout. Students and faculty working together, seeing the world as unfinished, sets students on a path that does not end with graduation, but continues long after the degree is awarded. Students who become fully engaged in this endeavor cannot but see learning as a lifetime activity, a process rather than a task to be completed, a creative enterprise in which
nothing is fixed forever, an adventure that calls one constantly to view the world anew.

The University as a Community of Learners

A New Paradigm. The development of a new paradigm of discovery, creativity, and inquiry, requires different ways of teaching and learning than those used in the past. While the new paradigm builds on the foundation already laid at Mercer University, it also requires a connection between teaching and research, a commitment to teaching “how to learn,” and a desire to relate theoretical knowledge to the world of practice. In a lot of places at the University—in some schools and colleges and in individual cases—such approaches are characteristic; we need to expand them, encourage and support them, and make these opportunities and approaches endemic to our academic framework. To such an end, we aim to continue to develop the initiatives defined for the preceding academic year. The development of a community of learners is a cultural change that requires time, a shift in commitments and resources, and long-term initiative and creativity that, to be effective, has to be driven by faculty members.

In the academic year 2008-09, the Provost’s Office made progress on each of the goals earlier established, as follows:

I. Raising Awareness

A. Mercer University will be eligible to become a member of the Reinvention Center, a consortium of research universities focusing on undergraduate education, after the University is re-classified as a research university. As outlined by the Boyer Commission, the Reinvention Center advocates that universities “reinvent” their approaches to teaching, placing inquiry, investigation, and discovery at the core of the undergraduate experience. The provost attended this conference in the fall and was able to bring back to campus the topics that are leading the development of the “community of learners” nationally.

Outcomes:

- conversation with members of the House of Delegates about research, teaching, and assessment
- conversation with members of the University Education Committee about the same topics

B. Upper administration has repeatedly emphasized, in multiple public forums, the importance of a culture of discovery and inquiry to the University. On many occasions, including discussions with faculties of various schools and colleges at Mercer, with Boards of Visitors,
and with members of the Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees, President Underwood has underscored Mercer’s commitment to teaching and research and the connections between them.

Discovery and Inquiry comprised the subjects of Dr. Daniel’s

- talk at the University’s Opening Convocation
- meetings with faculties of various schools and colleges at Mercer
- address at the spring banquet and ceremony of the Mercer Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society
- discussions with the Research Committee of the House of Delegates and also the full membership of the House of Delegates
- article on “The Engaged University,” in the 2009 spring issue of the Mercerian
- discussions with the deans, the Academic Council, and the Provost’s Working Group members through Derek Bok’s book, The Underachieving University. The book served as a springboard to examining the challenges involved in shifting to this new paradigm.

II. Fostering Discovery, Research, and Creativity

A. The University is in the process of establishing an Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry. The Provost’s Office sees that central office as one of its top priorities, an office that will play a leading role in organizing and enhancing this research effort and promoting a culture of discovery.

B. Dr. Scott Davis, senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies, has recommended and cultivated a director of undergraduate research and inquiry, a person who possesses the chief characteristics described in the earlier report on the subject.

C. The already established Research Symposium in April 2009 featured presentations from fifty-eight undergraduate students (thirty-seven in 2008) in departments across the University. This number represented the largest group of undergraduate student participants in Mercer’s history. The research fund, under the leadership of Dr. Davis, provides funding on a competitive basis for faculty-student research, an impressive effort to enhance the academic environment. (Dr. Davis has been instrumental in building and continuing this initiative and will speak to the topic in his report).
D. The initiative “Celebrating Discovery,” which aims to send Mercer students into high schools to talk to younger students about their research and discovery, is in process of planning and implementation.

E. The development of student writing and oral communication skills continues to be a major initiative. This academic year featured a communication task force, chaired by Dr. Peter Brown, senior vice provost, which resulted in the collection of significant data on present classroom writing practices at Mercer. These data were presented and discussed at the Council of Deans’ meeting in June 2009.

F. The University General Education Committee, chaired by Dr. Priscilla Danheiser, approved the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA), which the Office of Institutional Effectiveness administered to 100 freshmen in the Fall 2008 semester and 135 seniors in the Spring 2009 semester.

G. An Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships was created, under the direction of Dr. Peter Brown, which will provide a deliberative focus to the development of a culture of discovery.

II. Projecting and Planning for 2009-10

A. Support faculty scholarship. The Provost’s Office will target a selected number (up to six) faculty members who have already demonstrated considerable promise in teaching and scholarship and who have teaching course loads of twenty-one hours or, in some cases, more.

- Deans of undergraduate schools and colleges have been invited to nominate faculty members for summer research awards of $4,500 for each of two consecutive summers.

- Awards of these stipends will be competitive, and will require demonstrated results at the end of both the first and second summers.

While the number of these research stipends is limited at first, they will be expanded in future years. They offer a beginning toward developing a culture of enhanced scholarship.

B. Reinforce the infrastructure for Mercer programs that are based on the discovery and inquiry approach


   One of Mercer’s distinctive programs, Great Books, attracts some of the
University’s most talented students. It also offers a core contextual body of knowledge that leads directly to the development of a culture of discovery, creativity, and inquiry. By exploring timeless questions, by requiring close, imaginative reading, and by connecting students with the principles underlying large fields of knowledge, Great Books promotes the kind of critical, humanistic thinking that is extremely important to a culture of scholarship. Mercer has the framework presently in place for significant enhancement of Great Books through:

- The Center for the Teaching of Western Foundations (the recipient of AIM funding and a recent Wal-Mart grant)
- A summer program for Great Books that will reach teachers in Georgia high schools as well as bring students to Mercer’s campus

Such initiatives have already demonstrated their capacity to have a significant impact on the character of undergraduate education, to attract and retain superior students, to have the potential for external funding, and to build on existing curricula.

2. Strengthen the Honors Program.

A primary contributor to the development of a discovery and inquiry culture is a vibrant Honors Program. The consultant from summer 2009, Dr. Mary Tolar—Truman Scholar, Rhodes Scholar, director of the School of Leadership at Kansas State University—named the Honors Program, Phi Beta Kappa, and Service-Learning as the three programs/societies that spearhead and build a culture of achievement on a university campus.

From these programs will come undergraduate students who will be competitive for prestigious national and international scholarships. From these programs will also come the impulses promoting discovery, creativity and inquiry, the greater use of primary sources, undergraduate research, the focus on improving communication skills, and enhancing the connections between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

In the coming year, the University will examine ways that the Honors Program can deepen its role as a catalyst for the discovery and inquiry culture.

3. Provide Ways for Students to Share Their Research with a Larger Audience

a. Begin publishing an undergraduate journal of scholarship.

As evidenced elsewhere, the publication of an undergraduate journal of scholarship creates a major stimulus for undergraduate research and scholarship. Such a publication not only provides a strong, tangible statement
encouraging scholarship, but also offers an outlet for student research. In order to carry out this initiative, Mercer will need to identify a faculty member who would be interested in overseeing the project and who will recruit students to serve as editorial board members for the publication.

The thinking is that each issue of the journal should focus on a theme; medical humanities, global health, and civil society are broad topics that interest many students.

Such a project nurtures skills that feed directly into the qualities the University aspires to develop: organizational skills, writing, research, and the entire culture of discovery, creativity, and inquiry. Additionally, the project celebrates student achievement, as discussed below.

b. Celebrate academic achievements.

The University celebrates what it considers most important. This initiative is extremely important to advancing the University’s emphasis on scholarship. Celebration is also an initiative, according to Dr. Tolar, which should be near the top of Mercer’s agenda. The University must profile and celebrate professors and students who win awards, publish books and articles, and achieve national recognition.

- The University will celebrate not only the student winners of these prestigious awards, but also the finalists.
- A reception for students who applied for prestigious national and international scholarships and a letter to parents expressing admiration and appreciation, before the announcement of any award, will go a long way toward celebrating achievement.
- Additionally, the University will find ways to recognize and celebrate faculty accomplishments. We must give more consideration to the rewards—and especially the public recognition—of faculty members (and students) whose accomplishments merit such attention. (One possibility involves using the back page of the student newspaper each month for this campus recognition).

c. Create greater opportunities both for student writing and faculty scholarship.

If the University is going to build a culture of discovery, it must examine faculty workloads to allow faculty members to devote more time to the activities
that lie at the core their profession: teaching and research. To that end, the Provost's Office proposes to:

- Ask the House of Delegates to examine the committee structure, and perhaps create a Committee on Committees to oversee faculty appointments to University committees. Normally, tenured faculty members are expected to serve on no more than two University committees, and untenured faculty members much less.

- Request undergraduate academic deans to develop a plan that allows faculty members who are teaching intensive writing courses to have a course reduction.

- Ask undergraduate deans to consider offering a course reduction to beginning faculty members to work on their research agenda, as well as to consider limiting the number of new course preparations required of them.

**Other Initiatives from the Provost’s Office**

**Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) was adopted in 2005 as part of Mercer’s reaffirmation of its reaccreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The QEP is a five-year plan to foster students’ moral development as citizens and professionals. It focuses on three areas: ethics, service-learning, and leadership. Over the five years since the QEP was adopted, several new developments have strongly bolstered this original plan, including the University General Education Committee’s adoption of civic responsibility and moral discernment as two of the four capacities that all undergraduate education at Mercer must foster, the initiation of Mercer On Mission, the appointment of Dr. David Gushee as the University Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics, and the establishment of the College Hill Alliance as a broad service partnership between the University and the city of Macon to revitalize the College Hill Corridor between Mercer’s campuses in Macon and downtown Macon.

**QEP: Ethics**

The ethics initiative of the QEP is achieving a unique formulation at Mercer, with a focus on deepening professional formation by incorporating an emphasis on practical wisdom within professional education. Much of this focus has been shaped by the recent work of Dr. William
Sullivan, senior fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. As part of a QEP activity, Dr. Sullivan first visited Mercer in the fall of 2005 for a symposium on Professionalism and Vocation Across the Disciplines. His remarks addressed the decline of civic professionalism in the professions, as documented and analyzed in his book, *Work and Integrity: The Crisis and Promise of Professionalism in America* (2005). In 2009, he returned to Macon to talk with the University deans at the provost’s retreat in August about the ideas in his most recent book, *A New Agenda for Higher Education: Shaping a Life of the Mind for Practice* (2008). He also addressed the trustees on this topic at their retreat in Savannah in September 2009. Sullivan’s “new agenda” envisions the reinvigoration of liberal education through an emphasis on developing the skills of practical reason, as well as a re-emphasis on character development within professional education.

In 2007 and 2008, faculty in law, liberal arts, and education hosted an additional two University-wide QEP symposia that also addressed character and professional formation. As result of this work, the provost funded a pilot program in the spring of 2009 to explore establishing “The Phronesis Project: Exploring Character, Practical Wisdom, and Professional Formation” as one of only two centers in the country focused on character formation in higher education. Dr. Paul Lewis (Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts), Professor Mark Jones (Walter F. George School of Law), and Dr. Kelly Reffitt (Tift College of Education) are co-directors for this project. Dean Daisy Floyd (Walter F. George School of Law) has been engaged with the Carnegie Foundation’s Preparation for the Professions projects for over ten years. Her recent appointment as University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation will greatly strengthen this ethics initiative at Mercer.

**QEP: Service-Learning**

Service-learning, in a broad sense, encompasses student volunteerism, course-based service projects, student-led advocacy, service-focused leadership training, and community engagement by students. Two of the five distinctive characteristics of the University—*service to humankind* and *community*—both reflect the University’s deep and established commitment to service-learning. The growth and visibility of service-learning at Mercer is a direct result of the QEP over the past five years.

Engaged learning and transformative growth are two hallmarks of a Mercer education. The importance of these goals is signaled by the creation of two administrative positions within the Provost’s Office: the senior vice provost for research and the senior vice provost for service-learning. These positions act as bookends to one another, working together to promote and support community-based research, course-based service-learning, and civic advocacy.
Though this report covers service-learning only, initiatives undertaken during the 2008-09 academic year demonstrate the synergies created by these two types of high-impact pedagogies and the culture of service that flourishes at Mercer.

**Awards and Recognitions**

During the past year, Mercer earned several national recognitions for service-learning. First, Mercer earned the classification as an *institution of community engagement* from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. In doing so, Mercer joined the ranks of only 175 schools nationwide to earn this distinction, including such schools as Duke and Tulane, and became the only school in Georgia other than Emory to achieve this status. The Carnegie classification process evaluates schools according to current best practices in service-learning and community outreach and has become the “gold standard” for these initiatives.

Similarly, Mercer was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll this year for a second time. Launched in 2006 to recognize colleges and universities nationwide that support innovative and effective community outreach and service-learning programs, this award recognizes Mercer’s deep commitment to service and volunteerism across all sectors of the University. Mercer students amassed more than 103,000 hours of community service in 2008—an average of fourteen hours per student—and more than 4,900 of the 7,308 students (68%) engaged in some type of service work.

The Mercer On Mission universal knee socket prosthetic was one of twelve projects featured nationally by the Clinton Global Initiative University. That project is more fully described in the report of the University minister and dean of chapel.

Finally, Peter Brown, senior vice provost and professor of Interdisciplinary Studies and Philosophy, was named one of six finalists nationwide for the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award and will appear with other finalists at the national meeting of the American Association of Colleges and Universities in January 2010. Former director of the Mercer Center for Community Engagement, Dr. Brown has long championed community redevelopment and the importance of students’ civic engagement. It was his Senior Capstone course on “The Fate of the City” that generated the concept of the College Hill Corridor. In achieving this recognition, Brown becomes the only faculty member in Georgia outside of the University of Georgia to earn this distinction in the award’s fourteen-year history.

**Programming**

Student-led human rights activism and environmental concern have generated three major conferences at Mercer: the “Caring for Creation” conference in Atlanta (February 2009), the STOP conference in Macon (March 2009), and an expanded “Caring for Creation”
conference in Macon (in October 2009).

The Atlanta schools and colleges joined with the Harvard University Medical School’s Center for Health and the Global Environment to sponsor a two-day event in February 2009 for 200 students, faculty, and staff to address issues of climate change and creation care from both scientific and faith perspectives. Mercer’s Dr. David Gushee, the Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics, was a plenary speaker. He was joined by a number of other distinguished speakers, including Dr. Judith Curry, chair of the School of Atmospheric Sciences at Georgia Tech, Dr. Michael Battle, president of the Interdenominational Theological Center, and Dr. Howard Frumkin, director of the National Center for Environmental Health at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Paul Epstein, associate director of the Harvard Center, participated in the conference and assisted in securing speakers. The Harvard Center also made a significant financial contribution to conference expenses.

With over 900 conference registrants and pre-conference outreach to hundreds at schools and churches, the STOP conference was successful in raising campus and public awareness of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children in Georgia and worldwide. The STOP conference also represents the synergies created by the combination of undergraduate research and civic advocacy. STOP president and undergraduate student Hannah Vann was a co-presenter with Dr. Mary Alice Morgan, senior vice provost for service-learning, at the North American section of the Global Studies Association, and they have been invited to present a plenary address at the national meeting of the Council for Undergraduate Research in June 2010. Dr. Morgan also briefed the Mercer On Mission Thailand group on sex trafficking in that nation before their departure. The STOP conference represented an unusual collaboration of diverse campus groups; students from First Year Seminar, Women’s and Gender Studies, Baptist Collegiate Ministries, and AGAPE (All God’s Anointed People Evangelizing) all worked together to see the conference through to its realization. Similarly, speakers who normally would not appear on the same dais—government officials, faith leaders, feminist scholars, grassroots organizers—learned that on the Mercer campus, they could make common cause.

Based on the success of the Atlanta “Caring for Creation” conference, Macon students, faculty, and staff joined together to sponsor and expand the conference in Macon in October 2009. The over 1,100 conference participants included community members from area churches. The three-day conference featured a Green Expo of commercial innovations in sustainability, as well as a Saturday Day of Service. The Day of Service focused on the weatherization of low-income homes in partnership with Rebuilding Together, as well as a river
clean-up, “green wall” construction in downtown Macon, and work on two neighborhood community gardens. The Macon conference featured a conversation between Dr. David Gushee and Jonathan Merritt, who founded the Southern Baptist Environment and Climate Initiative in 2008, addressing the issue of “Religious Resistance to Creation Care.” The conference included ten other national and local presenters. The Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard University was also a co-sponsor and participant for the Macon conference.

Leadership

Mercer Service Scholars (MSS) continues as a signature program in leadership development and service-learning. This program admitted the fourth class of fifteen exceptional students in fall 2009. Dr. Chris Grant, former assistant director of service-learning at Mercer, has assumed leadership of MSS and is expanding the corps of professors teaching in the program. He is also preparing the first cohort of students to participate in a Mercer On Mission service project with the Fuller Center for Housing in Peru.

Mercer University is also exercising growing leadership in service-learning statewide and regionally with the appointment of Mary Alice Morgan to the steering committee for the formation of a Georgia Campus Compact and the Executive Committee of the Gulf South Conference Board, the southern regional organization for service-learning. Leadership in the formation of a Georgia Campus Compact is important for the opportunities it presents to develop consortial faculty development opportunities and funding applications. Mercer hosted a meeting of this statewide networking group June 20, 2009.

Academic Initiatives Monetary (AIM) Fund

Goal Four of the Ten-Year Strategic Plan envisions developing signature academic programs that can bring prestige and prominence to the University. As an element of this strategic priority, the Academic Initiatives Monetary (AIM) Fund was established in 2008 to fund proposals from collaborative teams of faculty to develop self-sustaining, interdisciplinary centers with the potential of achieving national excellence, whether in research or teaching. Currently, five of these projects are at various stages of development in the University.

1. The Center for the Teaching of America’s Western Foundations

Dr. Will Jordan (Political Science), Dr. Matt Oberrieder (Philosophy), and Dr. Susan Malone (Education) are the co-directors of this project, now in its second year of AIM funding. The Center for the Teaching of America’s Western Foundations promotes the teaching and study of the founding principles and values of the American political system and of the Western cultural tradition that grounds it. It addresses a trend of educational neglect of these
foundations in an increasingly pluralistic American society. In the past year, the Center has received a donation through the Jack Miller Center of a Liberty Fund library valued at $18,000 and has been awarded a Wal-Mart Foundation grant of $167,100. The Wal-Mart grant will fund a three-week summer workshop for forty high school teachers from across the state. These teachers will learn to read and teach the primary texts of our Western political tradition, the books that Jefferson, Madison, and the other founding fathers had in their libraries. They and the Center will also develop lesson plans and teaching strategies that will allow these teachers to incorporate the reading of these primary texts within their history and social studies classes. The Center also sponsors lectures and symposia on campus by leading national scholars throughout the year.

2. The Center for the Treatment of Neurodegenerative Diseases

Dr. Lee Hyer (Medicine) is the principal investigator for this project, which is in its second year of funding. The Center focuses on the treatment and symptomatic relief of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s. It takes a broadly interdisciplinary approach to translational clinical trials, monitoring of disease-modifying treatments, and the clinical, psychological, and social context of treatment. In the past year, the Center has established the Mercer University Memory Clinic at the Family Health Center in Macon to provide a point of entry and recruitment for clinical trials. It has received a grant of $204,000 from the Takeda Pharmaceutical Company for translational drug studies (Dr. Samuel Shillcutt, Co-PI). An additional $3 million in grant applications have been submitted and are under review. The Center has secured matching funds from the Georgia Neurological Institute to hire a Ph.D. neuropsychologist as a postdoctoral fellow to coordinate the project. In addition, ten students (eight undergraduate students and two medical students) have been recruited to participate in research and application of interventions with persons who are cognitively impaired.

3. The Phronesis Project: Exploring Character, Practical Wisdom, and Professional Formation

Dr. Paul Lewis (Christianity), Professor Mark Jones (Law), and Dr. Kelly Reffitt (Education) are co-directors of this project, which is in its first year of funding. This project grew out a four-year exploration within the University of vocation and professionalism across the professions, which was sponsored by the University’s Quality Enhancement Plan. Professional formation has become a timely topic through the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s several reports on the professions, but it has long been a singular concern at Mercer. The School of Medicine has long had a specific mission of service “to meet the primary
care and health needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia.” The Walter F. George School of Law has received national recognition by the American Bar Association for its unique first-year professionalism courses. The Tift College of Education and the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology both emphasize character traits or dispositions (knowing, doing, being) as prerequisite for practice. The Phronesis Project proposes to deepen and highlight this Mercer distinctive throughout the curriculum, as well as to develop a unique national venue for addressing character development and professional formation through interdisciplinary, case-based workshops, symposia, and conferences on the cultivation of practical wisdom in the professions.

4. Faith-Based Palliative-Care Project

Interim Dean Linda Streit, and Dr. Janet Timms in the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing are co-directors of this project that builds a three-way partnership between the College of Nursing, the McAfee School of Theology, and the metro-Atlanta faith community. In its initial year, this project will engage faculty and students in community-based research to gauge interest in and field test materials for an outreach to metro Atlanta faith communities to develop lay health advisor training in palliative and end-of-life care. The opportunity to address culturally sensitive care for chronically and severely ill patients goes to the heart of practical wisdom in the medical and health fields. If successful, the project could become a signature service-learning outreach for nursing, pharmacy, and theology students and help address a growing need in the state for support for palliative care for chronic illnesses and end-of-life.

5. The Mercer Center for Preschool Science, Mathematics, and Health Education

Dr. Robert Lawrence (Education) and Dr. Julie Jones (Nursing) are co-directors of this project. This proposed center, in its first year of funding, will build on a strong existing partnership with a state-wide nonprofit, Sheltering Arms and its Georgia Training Institute, to develop, field test, and assess materials and methods for preschool teachers in the areas of science, mathematics, and health. The proposal is a response to an increasing national mandate for standards for pre-school education, as well as recognizing that inadequate academic preparation and childhood obesity are common variables for many at-risk populations of preschool children. The Center hopes to contribute in a unique way to a rapidly developing national conversation, to attract a newly emerging population of professionals seeking credentialing in pre-school education, and to offer exceptional research opportunities to Ph.D. students in Nursing and Education. Dr. Lawrence has extensive previous experience as director of Special Projects, Research, and Accountability for the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and is currently the principal investigator for a U.S. Department of Education
research grant on the teaching effectiveness of preschool teachers.

**Summer Sessions**

Summer enrollments in 2009 were up 10.8% over 2008, primarily in graduate programs in the Tift College of Education, the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Macon undergraduate summer enrollments increased 4.32%, and undergraduate enrollments at the Regional Academic Centers increased 1.77%. A significant proportion of these increases at the undergraduate level came from increased offerings and enrollments in online courses. Enrollments in online courses in the Macon campus undergraduate programs were up 28.0%; registrations for online undergraduate courses in the Regional Academic Centers also increased 30.1%. In 2006, 2,795 students enrolled for 18,621 hours of credit in the University’s summer sessions. In 2009, 3,705 students enrolled for 25,541 hours of credit, a 37.16% increase in three years.

**University Research**

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies reports to the provost. Formed by President Underwood in 2007, the office is charged to create and expand research opportunities and graduate programs across the university. D. Scott Davis, senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies, oversees these University functions. Highlights for the 2008-09 academic year include:

**Seed Grant Program.** A total of $127,000 was allocated to twenty-seven faculty for seed grants. This program is designed to provide funds to initiate new studies that will ultimately lead to external funding. Implemented in 2007-08, the total funding requests as a result of data generated from the seed grants exceeds $23,000,000. Recent successful proposals include funding from the KEEN Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, and the American Diabetes Association.

**Mercer Undergraduate Biomedical Scholars Program.** This program is a multi-collaborative, interdisciplinary initiative that places Mercer’s gifted undergraduates in research programs with science faculty in the College of Liberal Arts partnered with faculty in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and the School of Medicine. Sixteen Mercer students have participated in research projects that range from the synthesis of new steroids for the treatment of breast cancer; the exploration of selective receptor modulators in a model of depression; structure, function, and evolution of cell adhesion proteins in Monosiga Brevicollis; and the role of hyaluronan oligosaccharides in breast cancer treatment.

**Student Travel Program.** The University has initiated a travel program where students
can present their research projects at either a regional or national meeting. Forty-two students received travel awards for the 2008-09 academic year. A few conferences where Mercer students presented include the National Organic Symposium, the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the Tchaikovsky Festival, and the Baptist History and Heritage Annual Meeting.

**Mercer University Undergraduate Research Symposium.** This event showcases the research efforts of the undergraduates. Fifty-eight posters representing the work of eighty-six students were presented at the Spring 2009 symposium. A nationally renowned scientist or science administrator is invited as the keynote speaker each year. Recent invitees include Dr. Moses Lee, dean of the Natural and Applied Science at Hope College, and Dr. Nancy Hensel, executive director of the Council on Undergraduate Research. The 2010 speaker is Dr. Scott Huettel, co-director of the Center for Neuroeconomic Studies and associate director for the Brain Imaging and Analysis Center at Duke University.

**The Institute of Life Purpose**

The founding director for the Institute of Life Purpose is Dr. Scott Walker. Dr. Walker is a Mercer alumnus (1973) and a former Mercer trustee (1989-1994). For twenty-six years, Dr. Walker served as the pastor of the First Baptist Churches of Monroe, North Carolina; Charleston, South Carolina; and Waco, Texas. Dr. Walker received his doctorate from the University of Georgia, specializing in the area of adult developmental studies. His research and dissertation focused on the development of purpose and vocation in the life of young adults. He has taught as an adjunct professor at Wingate University, Baylor University, and the George W. Truett Theological Seminary. Dr. Walker’s work with the Institute of Life Purpose is focused on teaching, developing programs, fundraising, and relating to students.

**Purpose**

The Institute of Life Purpose was created in July 2009 for the purpose of helping Mercer University students to:

1. Understand their individual uniqueness, talents, and abilities;
2. Contemplate and understand their evolving life story;
3. Analyze and reflect on their emerging life-dream and future aspirations;
4. Understand the relationship of religious faith and life purpose;
5. Clarify and define individual life purpose in four specific areas:
   - vocation and profession
   - avocation and leisure pursuits
• family and personal relationships
• spiritual and philosophical values.

Such study and reflection will enable Mercer University students to better choose fulfilling academic majors and to enter professions that best match their unique skills, attributes, and sense of calling.

**Methodology**

The Institute of Life Purpose will create and offer classes and co-curricular seminars as well as experiential learning programs. During the academic year 2009-10, the Institute of Life Purpose will work collaboratively with the First Year Seminar Program, Senior Capstone, the Sophomore Signature Program, Mercer Service Scholars, and the McAfee School of Theology to develop classes, seminars, and retreats that will meet the needs of their respective students and programs.

**Service First**

The first experiential learning program to be initiated by the Institute of Life Purpose during the academic year 2009-10 is *Service First*. The target audience is graduating seniors.

Many college seniors approach graduation, unsure of what they want to do beyond graduation. They frequently anticipate attending graduate school or a professional school, but they do not want to matriculate immediately. Instead they desire to spend six months to two years engaged in a service activity that is “worthwhile” but that is also “a break” from school and is enjoyable and fulfilling. However, these seniors often do not know how to find such work or service opportunities, nor do they know how to seek counsel concerning their decisions. To help these graduating seniors, Service First will pursue the following goals:

1. Aggressively and effectively communicate with juniors and seniors pertaining to post-graduation service opportunities. Special focus will be placed on students who have participated in Mercer On Mission.

2. Explore multiple existing service opportunities and compile information on quality and worthy options. Examples are Peace Corps, Vista, Teach for America, teaching English in international universities and high schools, working with various social work and mission agencies, world hunger relief, water purification, poverty relief, orphan care, medical missions, etc.

3. Create service partnerships that do not already exist with entities such as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the American Baptist Convention, the Baptist World Alliance, etc.

4. Provide personal counseling and conversation for interested students and assist them
with application processes and interviews.

Center for Baptist Studies

After two years of searching for a successor to Dr. Walter Shurden, who retired in 2007 as founding director of the Center for Baptist Studies, the University decided to suspend the center and assign certain critical aspects of the center's mission to other Mercer units. Responsibility for the annual Baptist Classics Seminar, which attracts Baptist historians and other academics from around the country, was assigned to the McAfee School of Theology. The Mercer Preaching Consultation, which was jointly planned and sponsored by the Center for Baptist Studies and the McAfee School of Theology, will continue as an annual event sponsored by McAfee.

Other initiatives of the Center for Baptist Studies, such as the Baptist Studies Bulletin, were eliminated. The study, preservation, and promotion of Baptist history and principles—while no longer part of a stand-alone center at the University—remain an institutional priority and will be carried out through the McAfee School of Theology, the Roberts Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts, the American Baptist Historical Society Collection on the Atlanta campus, and other departments and ongoing programs at Mercer.
A. Academic and Advising Services

Dr. C. Jay Pendleton, vice provost and director, oversees Academic and Advising Services as well as the Academic Resource Center.

Advising Services

Pre-Health Programs

Pre-health students continue to be a large percentage of new students enrolling at Mercer. To meet the needs of these students, five fall orientations were held to accommodate the specific pre-health tracks, and newly designed handbooks were distributed to all participants.

The office took the lead in piloting a pre-med residence hall this fall, partnering with Residence Life and the School of Medicine. Students are housed on two residence hall floors, are enrolled in two University 101 courses taught by faculty with pre-health interests, and participate in co-curricular programs sponsored by the School of Medicine. This pilot program will be evaluated by early spring to determine if it merits continuation in fall 2010.

To meet the needs of pre-professional students at Mercer, the office negotiated with Kaplan to provide MCAT review tests last spring. Upcoming preparation tests this year include the MCAT and LSAT reviews, as well as free practice exams for the GRE and PCAT. Hosting these tests provides a convenient resource to Mercer students as well as those from surrounding colleges.

The office is in the process of applying for an Alpha Epsilon Delta chapter at Mercer. AED is a national honor society for pre-health students and currently only has chapters at Emory University, UGA, and Valdosta State University.

Honors Program

First-year student enrollment in the Honors Program held steady for fall 2009. Both the application and admissions processes continue to be fine-tuned to continue attracting outstanding Honors Program students.

This fall 2009, first-year Honors Program students will participate in the first annual Honors Retreat at Calloway Gardens that Dr. Sarah Gardner, Dr. Jay Pendleton, and Dr. Eric Spears led. The overnight retreat will focus on cultivating these students for undergraduate research and scholarship, with an emphasis on preparation for national scholarship and fellowship competitions. The Honors Program continues to explore funding opportunities for these students’ research experiences.
Honors Program students will have the opportunity to participate in an Honors-designated Mercer On Mission during the summer of 2010. Dr. Laura Lackey and Dr. Jay Pendleton will lead a three-week program in Kenya designed to provide potable water to a nursery school and community in the West Pokot District near Sigor. Dr. Craig McMahan, University minister and dean of Chapel, will be highlighting this program when he meets with representatives from the Clinton Global Initiative.

Roberts residence hall will be modestly retrofitted this year to serve as Mercer’s first ever Honors residence hall in fall 2010. The hall will be able to accommodate seventy students, and will provide classroom space in addition to a study, lounge, and kitchen area.

**New Student Programs**

A recently hired coordinator of new student programs, Ted Goshorn, joined the staff in May 2009, and effectively led a series of summer and fall orientations. Over 550 students and over 1,000 guests attended the summer programs, which students and their families continue to evaluate highly.

**Four-Year Graduation Guarantee**

Following Mercer’s adoption of the four-year graduation guarantee, the Macon undergraduate associate deans convened to design means by which academic components of the guarantee could be effectively implemented. In addition, office staff provided two spring faculty advisor workshops and a fall workshop that addressed advising with the pledge. A guidebook was also assembled to serve as a resource for faculty advisors.

**Undecided Students**

In spring 2009, staff designed a new course proposal to meet the needs of students who are struggling with academic major decisions. The course proposal, Academic and Vocational Design, was approved by the College of Liberal Arts and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and will be offered for the first time in spring 2010.

In addition, the office sponsored an overnight summer workshop for undecided students. The workshop provided resources regarding academic majors and career information while encouraging students to engage in self-discovery and decision-making.

**Office Programs**

The office sponsors academic programs as part of the Sophomore Signature, coordinates academic intervention programs for all students, and sponsors both initiations and activities of Phi Eta Sigma, the national honor society for first-year students. The office maintains both student and family listservs, and families receive regular updates from staff regarding key academic programs and dates. The office continues to play a critical role in
Mercer’s retention efforts through its ongoing programs for academically at-risk students, students who withdraw from Mercer, and students who fail to register for upcoming classes during advising and registration. As a result of the collective efforts of many campus offices, retention of first-year students increased to 85% this fall, a significant improvement from the 79% of fall 2008. This year’s retention number is the highest first to second year retention rate since 2000.

**Academic Resource Center**

**Multi-Program Attendance**

University-wide attendance for fall 2008 and spring 2009 totaled over 40,000 visits to all of the Academic Resource Center services. These services include tutoring labs on the Atlanta, Douglas, Eastman, Henry, and Macon campuses as well as Supplemental Instruction, the Online Writing Lab, professional test preparation workshops, and individualized study skills assistance.

**Peer Tutoring Program – Macon Undergraduates**

Drop-in peer tutoring is offered throughout the week in the Academic Resource Center on the Macon campus. Mathematics and writing assistance is provided every evening of peer tutoring, and tutoring is provided in French, German, Latin, and Spanish each week. Tutoring in biology and chemistry is very busy, and tutoring in other disciplines such as accounting, anthropology, computer science, economics, engineering, history, music theory, political science, and psychology is offered in response to faculty and student requests. In fall 2009, the Academic Resource Center was able to recruit two international students to tutor Chinese.

**Professional Tutoring Program – Atlanta, Douglas, Eastman, Henry, and Macon**

Professional mathematics and writing tutoring geared toward the University’s non-traditional, nursing, professional, and graduate students is available on a drop-in basis at scheduled times at each of the locations. Overall, attendance increased by a quarter in the academic year 2008-09 over the previous academic year. The tutoring labs maintained a solid schedule throughout the summer sessions, and tutoring in mathematics and writing was available to students preparing for professional and other exams even when classes were not in session.

**Supplemental Instruction (SI) Program – Macon Undergraduates**

The recently introduced SI program for economics is proving very popular with students in fall 2009. In addition to reducing the percentage of new students performing unsatisfactorily in historically difficult introductory courses, the SI program also encourages returning students to work collegially, to develop as leaders, and to stay on top of their disciplines as they target
graduate school and other career options.

**Online Writing Lab (OWL)**

The platform for the Online Writing Lab (OWL) was transferred to BlackBoard in late spring 2009 and the new platform is now fully operational. The transfer went smoothly thanks to the online instructional podcasts that were available to help students learn how to access the OWL.

The Georgia Baptist College of Nursing students are often required to submit their papers to the OWL, and the Nursing faculty requested a writing workshop to introduce B.S.N. and M.S.N. students to the College’s expectations for academic writing. The presentation was video-taped, and the College of Nursing plans to make the video available to future students as a standard piece of their orientation activities.

**College Study Skills – Macon Undergraduates**

College Study Skills LSK 185 and 186 classes continue to be offered on a regular basis. An “independent study” section has been added to each fall and spring class schedule to accommodate students who have previously enrolled in a summer or Opportunity Scholar sponsored LSK course.

**Macon Facility**

The Macon Academic Resource Center remains open until 3:00 a.m. during the school week, and attendance remains steady. The lab’s fifteen student production computers were replaced last year, and the older computers were relocated to the Math and Multi-Tech Tutoring Lab to facilitate tutoring in mathematics, computer science, and engineering.

During Academic and Advising Services’ First Year Friday series, the Academic Resource Center brought over thirty student workers on stage to inspire the freshman crowd.

**Freshman Summer Program – Macon Undergraduates**

The Academic Resource Center supervised tutors for the 2009 Freshman Summer Program during daily two-hour study hall sessions. Experienced tutors were recruited to provide tutoring for political science and Christianity courses. As part of the University’s freshman retention efforts, all thirty-nine students in the program were enrolled in a College Study Skills class led by Assistant Director Shaundra Walker.

**Collaboration with Tift College**

Preparation workshops for the Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators (GACE) are being conducted five times per year, and sessions held in Douglas and Henry last year accounted for over 400 tutor visits. Tift College reports that these workshops encourage new applicants to enroll in their programs and that students’ resulting successes improve
retention rates.

**Collaboration with Tarver Library**

A pilot program was started fall 2009 to test the practicality of staffing a writing tutor onsite at the Tarver Library. Peer tutors for the undergraduates are posted at Tarver Library two nights a week, and a professional tutor works in Tarver one afternoon a week to serve the Macon Regional Academic Center students.

**Upward Bound**

The Academic Resource Center in Macon provided classroom and computer lab facilities for students in the Upward Bound Program from May–July, 2009. Web design and computer applications courses were conducted.
B. International Programs

Dr. Eric Spears serves as the director for the Office of International Programs.

Study Abroad

The growth of faculty-led study abroad continues to be at the forefront of international education at Mercer University. One-hundred and forty-six students participated on faculty-led, short-term study abroad programs in the spring semester and summer sessions of 2009. Professors took students on short-term spring break study tours in the European Union (Strasbourg and Brussels), Belize, and St. Croix. Faculty members took a total of sixty-nine students from the College of Liberal Arts and the Stetson School of Business and Economics on programs to England, Germany, Italy, and Spain. There is a significant amount of growth and interest with international service-learning, which combines traditional study abroad programming with volunteerism with marginalized communities in other countries. A total of seventy-seven students participated in Mercer On Mission programs in Brazil, Greece, Guatemala, Liberia, Kenya, Thailand, and Vietnam. The program in Vietnam, which focused on the development and diffusion of prosthetics, got international recognition by the Clinton Global Initiative. More discussion about Mercer On Mission is provided in the University Minister’s section of this report.

Other traditional semester-long programs continue to anchor Mercer’s twenty-two year history in study abroad. The Oxford Overseas Study Course has been the University’s flagship program for two decades. A combination of the recent economic downturn and a high percentage of pre-professional students in the sciences, however, have impacted the number of students who apply for either a semester or year-long commitment to the Oxford program. This set of challenges has opened a new opportunity for the Office of International Programs to think more strategically about student funding to the Oxford program. Dr. Eric Spears and the director of the Oxford Overseas Study Course, Francis Warner of St. Peter’s College, have developed a two-year capital campaign designed to target Mercer alumni from the study abroad program. The objective is to strengthen or renew contact with those Mercer graduates who attended the Oxford program during the past two decades, host a reception during homecoming week of 2010, and initiate a fund-raising campaign of $500,000. These planned funds would establish the competitive scholarships to the Oxford program. This plan is being orchestrated in tandem with the Office of University Advancement.

The study abroad program is also putting together proposals for two study abroad
centers in Strasbourg, France, and China, with possible sites in Beijing, Shanghai, and Qingdao. The director of international education has benchmarked the University's study abroad programs against other peer institutions, including Wake Forest, Elon, and Furman Universities. Each of these institutions operates its own study abroad center in various countries, which makes Mercer less competitive than its peers in attracting specific types of undergraduate students. A study abroad center in the legislative capital of the European Union (Strasbourg) would enable students in business, fine arts, humanities, and the social sciences to understand the different dynamics of European integration and within a culturally unique setting. The proposed Strasbourg study center is located in the Château de Pourtalès, a 250-year old castle nestled in a magnificent park. As an ideal location for student groups and tours, it is only minutes away from the European Parliament, the European Court of Human Rights, and the historic center of Strasbourg. Numerous outdoor and recreational facilities are nearby. The town center is twenty minutes by public transportation. A Strasbourg program is planned for the 2010-11 academic year.

The recent re-introduction of Mandarin Chinese language demonstrates a new student demand for non-Western education. While Mercer maintains a very strong and strategic relationship with Hong Kong Baptist University, the twenty-first century global economy requires American undergraduate students have an understanding of Mainland China. Working with the Asian Initiatives Committee in conjunction with the College of Liberal Arts, the study abroad program is reviewing site proposals to offer a study abroad program in Beijing (with Customized Academic Programs Abroad), Shanghai (Shanghai International Studies University), and Qingdao (Qingdao University). Dr. Eric Spears visited each of these sites in July 2009. A study abroad program in China is proposed for the 2010-11 academic year. The program director is currently reviewing program and budget models for consideration and approval by the administration and Board of Trustees.

The Strasbourg and China proposals would not be limited to Mercer undergraduate students. Students from other members of the Consortium of Global Education (CGE) would also be eligible to enroll in these two Mercer programs. The CGE is a consortium of forty-two historically Baptist institutions and includes Samford and Baylor universities. Mercer was a founding member of the CGE. The proposal to invite other CGE students to enroll in these new programs is related to maintaining a critical mass of students at each study abroad center. For example, it may require that twenty students attend the Strasbourg program to be cost effective. Students from other CGE campuses could enroll in the European program if Mercer could not reach this enrollment requirement. The CGE would consider these two Mercer programs as its
own flagship study abroad programs and promote them on its Web site.

The study abroad endeavors of the past nine months reflect the University’s commitment to fulfilling the ten-year plan of sending 50% of undergraduate students abroad. According to data collected by Mercer’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness (see figure below), nearly 23.8% of undergraduate students had studied abroad prior to graduation. While this percentage of study abroad participation is above the majority of other U.S. campuses that only send 5% of its student overseas, Mercer needs to be more competitive among its own set of peer institutions. Twelve percent of traditional liberal arts programs in the United States send more than half of their graduating classes abroad (Institute of International Education, 2008). Wake Forest University has a study abroad participation rate of 65.4%; Elon University has a 90.1% enrollment rate (Institute for International Education, 2008). Fellow CGE consortium member, Baylor, has a 33.1% study abroad rate. A continued focus on new program development abroad and an increase in Mercer On Mission will help the University achieve its strategic vision and strategically benchmark it against its peer institutions.

![Percentage of Macon Undergraduate Students Participating in Study Abroad, Faculty-Led Travel, or Mercer On Mission](chart)

**ELI in China**

The English Language Institute (ELI) also proposes to launch a program in the People’s Republic of China at Qingdao University in the fall of 2010. The program director of the ELI, Thomas Tyner, is reviewing program and budget models.

The ELI would like to enter a joint-venture with a Chinese university to offer its curriculum and instruction to local students. The objective of this project is to make English as a Foreign Language (EFL) more accessible and affordable to a larger share of the Chinese student market, which is the second largest market of international students in the world.
Students who successfully complete the ELI program in China would be eligible for enrollment into the majority of Mercer degree programs, with the exception of some graduate and professional programs. In addition, the ELI would become another flagship program for the Consortium of Global Education. The ELI would partner with the CGE to be the English program provider for US-bound Chinese students. It is proposed that the TOEFL requirements would be waived for students who complete Mercer’s ELI program in China. This move would open the student recruitment market in China. It would also give Mercer a competitive advantage by positioning and branding itself in China ahead of other CGE schools.
C. Mercer Commons

Director John Marson Dunaway organized and chaired the Fifth Annual “Building the Beloved Community” Symposium (February 17-18, 2009), with the Rev. Dr. Emmanuel L. McCall (pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church in East Point and adjunct faculty member at McAfee School of Theology) and Dr. Robert Lupton (president of FCS Urban Ministries in Atlanta) as keynote speakers. Over 200 local religious leaders, faculty, staff, and students attended the two-day event on campus. For the third consecutive year, the symposium welcomed Mercer’s first black student, Sam Oni (CLA ’67), as a guest at the symposium.

The Emeriti Faculty Luncheons continue three times per semester. The product of former Commons Fellow Greg Domin’s individual Commons project, these luncheons provide emeriti faculty with regular occasions for fellowship and informative programs that keep them abreast of campus events. Upon Domin’s departure from Mercer, Dr. Whitney McMath, director of University planning and accreditation liaison, has graciously agreed to take over planning of these luncheons.

Director Dunaway led the Sixth Annual Summer Faculty Workshop on Faith and Learning from August 3-7, 2009. Eleven professors from three of the University’s respective schools and colleges gathered to discuss common readings focusing on the distinctive opportunities and responsibilities of teaching at a Baptist institution. Over eighty-five faculty members from all the schools and colleges (including Jewish, Hindu, and Muslim faculty) have participated during the first six years of the workshop’s existence.

On October 8, 2009, the Commons co-sponsored a reading on campus by the distinguished Iraqi poet Haider Al-Kabi, one of the translators and editors of a recently published prize-winning volume of the suppressed voices of Iraqi poetry under Saddam Hussein and afterwards.

The following faculty members currently serve as Commons Fellows:

- Margaret Dee Bratcher (Christianity)
- Richard Elliott (Medicine)
- Margaret Eskew (CCPS)
- Gordon Johnston (English)
- José Pino (Spanish)
- Creighton Rosental (Philosophy)
Ex-officio Fellows include Craig McMahan, University minister and dean of chapel, and C. Jay Pendleton, vice provost for Academic Advising and First-Year Programs. The Fellows meet six times during the academic year to discuss common readings and their individual projects. Because of budget constraints, all Fellows are serving again this year without the normal stipend.
D. Mercer University Press

Dr. Marc A. Jolley serves as the director of Mercer University Press (MUP). The 2009 fiscal year completed the twenty-ninth year of operation for the Press. The primary work of the Press is that of acquiring and publishing books of enduring quality, both to the academic and general reader communities.

Acquisitions for 2010

In addition to editing and publishing books each year, the editorial staff’s ongoing responsibility is to acquire the best manuscripts possible in the fields in which the Press publishes. The success of MUP is in large measure dependent upon an ongoing acquisition program that obtains quality manuscripts for future publication. Mercer University Press will publish thirty-eight new titles during the next calendar year. As in previous years, the Press continues to review approximately ten proposals for every one accepted for publication. Mercer University Press publishes an average of thirty-five to forty new titles each year, that is, five books per employee. (The Association of American University Presses average is 2.7 titles per employee.)

Marketing News

Mercer University Press attended professional meetings and scholarly conferences including Southeastern Independent Booksellers Association, BookExpo America, Publishers Association of the South, Southern Historical Association, the American Academy of Religion, and the Society of Biblical Literature, plus numerous smaller events scattered across the Southeast.

Two books won awards this past year. *The Electronic Front Porch* by Jacob Podber won the 2008 Ray and Pat Browne Literary Award for the Best Single Work in Popular and American Culture. *Elie Wiesel: A Religious Biography* by Frederick Downing won the Georgia Author of the Year Award for Biography. Furthermore, Terry Kay, author of *The Book of Marie*, received a Governor’s Award in the Humanities.

Involvement in the Life of the University

The Press continues to play an active and supporting role in the advancement of the mission Mercer University. In 2009, the Press published five books that were connected to the life of the University.

Griffin B. Bell, John P. Cole, ed., *Footnotes to History*
Anthony Coppola, *The Sicilian Judge: Anthony*
Benjy Griffith, *Whiskey before Breakfast*
Jerry Worley, Margaret Morris, and Al Stramiello, *Sometimes I Did All I Could Do*

**Special Projects**

The Press published one special project for the Georgia Court of Appeals in celebration of its 100th anniversary. This book was not for sale by the Press; the Court of Appeals bought all copies.

Georgia Court of Appeals, *A History of The Georgia Court of Appeals*

**2009 Books Published**

James Leo Garrett, *Baptist Theology: A Four-Century Study*
Jerry Worley, Margaret Morris, and Al Stramiello, *Sometimes I Did All I Could Do*
James H. Slatton, *W. H. Whitsitt: The Man and the Controversy*
Bruce Stewart, *Invisible Hero: Patrick R. Cleburne*
Lawerence A. Q. Burnley, *The Cost of Unity: African American Agency and Education*
Philip Lee Williams, *Elegies for the Water: Poems*
Fred Sauceman, *The Place Setting*, Vol. 3 (*The Place Setting: Timeless Tastes of the Mountain South, from Bright Hope to Frog Level—Thirds*)
Katherine vande Brake, *Through the Back Door: Melungeon Literacies and Twenty-First Century Technologies*
Fred Gross, *One Step ahead of Hitler: A Boy’s Journey through France*
Damon Eubank, *In the Shadow of the Patriarch: The John J. Crittenden Family in War and Peace*
Thomas E. Phillips, *Contemporary Studies in Acts*
James Dawsey, *Masters and Savages: A Novel*
Philip Lee Williams, *The Campfire Boys: A Novel*
Terry Cooper, *Reinhold Niebuhr and Psychology*
Glenn Blackburn, *Maynard Adams: Southern Philosopher of Civilization*

Joseph Early, ed., *The Life and Writings of Thomas Helwys*

John Killinger, *The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Harry Potter*

Charles Todd Quintard, *The Confederate Soldier's Pocket Manual of Devotions including Balm for the Weary and the Wounded*

Richard Iobst, *Civil War Macon* (paperback)

Eric Bain-Selbo, *Game Day and God: Religion, Politics, and College Football in the South*

William Harris Bragg, *Griswoldville* (paperback)

Keith Durso, *Thy Will Be Done: A Biography of George Truett*

Timothy Whelan, *Baptist Letters, 1741-1845: Autographs from the John Rylands University Library*

Arlynda Boyer, *Buddha on the Backstretch: The Spiritual Wisdom of Driving 200 mph*

Catharine Brosman, *Breakwater: Poems*

**To be published by the end of 2009**

Merl Reed, *Educating the New Urban South: The Story of Georgia State University*

Jamie Lorentzen, ed., *Toward the Final Crossroads: A Festschrift for Edna Hong and Howard Hong*

Malcolm Young, *The Spiritual Journal of Henry David Thoreau*


**Reprints**

Marvin Arrington, *Making My Mark* (5th printing in twelve months)

Steve Penley, *The Reconstruction of America* (2nd printing)

Elizabeth Hirschman, *Melungeon—Last Lost Tribe* (3rd printing)

Edward Spann and Michael Williams, *Presidential Praise* (2nd printing)

Benjy Griffith, *Whiskey before Breakfast: A Novel* (2nd printing)

C. Douglas Weaver, *In Search of the New Testament Church* (2nd printing)

J. O. Lambdin, *Introduction to Sahidic Coptic* (8th printing)

Marvin Arrington, *Making My Mark* (6th printing)

Anthony Coppola, *The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo* (2nd printing)

John Brinsfield, *The Spirit Divided: Union* (2nd printing)

Ben Wynne, *Mississippi’s Civil War* (2nd printing)
James Leo Garrett, *Baptist Theology: A Four-Century Study* (2nd printing)
Anthony Coppola, *The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo* (3rd printing)

**The Future**

The Press continues to strengthen its list with quality books and great writers. Along with Philip Lee Williams, Catharine Savage Brosman, and John Killinger in 2009, the Press will be adding Sam Pickering (the professor the *Dead Poets Society* is based on), John Lane, Marly Youmans, Guy Story Brown, and Dorrinda Dallemeyer. Discussions are also on-going about new books with authors MUP cannot yet announce. These writers along with continued solid academic books promise a bright future.
E. Office of Institutional Effectiveness

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE), led by Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for Institutional Effectiveness, combines accreditations, assessment, planning, and institutional research into one unit.

Office Activities

- During 2008-09, over 190 programs completed assessment plans, providing information on the performance of the curriculum, learning process, and/or services that can be used to improve programs.

- In spring 2009, 1,824 first-year and senior undergraduate students (a 39% response rate) completed the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). Mercer continues to score higher than its Carnegie peer institutions on NSSE’s five benchmarks of effective educational practice.

- OIE administered the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) to 197 traditional Macon first year and senior students. In addition, 23 senior adult learners and 15 senior nursing students took the instrument. The Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) is a national effort that provides colleges and universities with information about their students’ performance on tasks that require them to think critically, reason analytically, solve realistic problems, and write clearly.

- OIE assisted in four accreditation processes during 2008-09:
  - School of Medicine, Master of Public Health—Council on Education for Public Health
  - Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics—Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
  - School of Medicine, Fact-Finding Visit—Liaison Committee on Medical Education
  - School of Medicine, Marriage and Family Therapy—Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education

- Members of the staff also worked with the School of Medicine’s Department of Community Medicine in establishing a strategic plan for the MPH program.

- During summer and fall 2009, the office assisted in launching the new Mercer University
Web site. OIE managed the content for five sections, containing over 1,000 files.

- OIE provided data for and edited Mercer’s Phi Beta Kappa application, which was submitted in November 2009.

- The office continues to participate in Collegiate Projects Services and Campus Management ERP implementation planning functions and will continue to be involved in the implementation of the new ERP systems over the next eighteen months.

- OIE responded to numerous external surveys and assisted Mercer’s colleges and schools in their external reporting requirements. These surveys include the annual Integrated Post Secondary Education (IPEDS), U.S. News and World Reports, College Board, College and University Professional Association for Human Resources, American Association of University Professors, and Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

- OIE created registration processes for the following campus-wide events: Leadership MU, Pilgrimage to Penfield, and Caring for Creation, as well as the ballots for the Staff Council elections. The office also developed more than twenty surveys that reached over 3,000 respondents.

**Staff Activities**

- Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for Institutional Effectiveness, and Dr. Whitney McMath, director of planning and accreditation liaison, taught an Educational Leadership course, EDEL 843: Higher Education Academic Affairs, for the Tift College of Education in spring 2009. The course utilized the videoconferencing facilities of the Mercer University School of Medicine and the Tift College of Education to tie the Macon class with the Atlanta class. They have been asked to teach the class again in spring 2011.

- Dr. Jenkins and Dr. McMath were invited in summer 2009 to review the Samford University Focus Report to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) on Assessment. In addition, Dr. McMath was invited in summer 2009 to review the Oglethorpe University Assessment Focus Report to SACS.

- Dr. Jenkins conducted a workshop called “Developing and Assessing Student Learning Outcomes” on October 20, 2009. This workshop was for ninety deans and directors of the Technical College System of Georgia.

- SACS invited Dr. McMath to attend a training workshop on Evaluating Institutional Effectiveness at its annual Quality Institute in Houston, TX in July 2009. The workshop
was for those evaluating Institutional Effectiveness during the SACS On-Site and Off-Site visits. She also attended a training workshop on Substantive Change while at the conference. SACS also invited Dr. McMath to moderate a session on the Quality Enhancement Plan at its annual conference in December 2009.

- Tracey N. Wofford, director of reports, wrote an article, “Using white papers to support decision-making,” that was published in the October 2008 issue of the IEEE Professional Communication Society Newsletter. Additionally, she authored three book reviews that appeared in Technical Communication and Transactions on Professional Communication during the 2008-09 year.

- Ms. Wofford served as an adjunct faculty member for the School of Engineering, Department of Technical Communication. She taught TCO 285: Document and Web Design during the Fall 2008 semester, and taught TCO 341: Technical Communication during the Fall 2009 semester. She will teach the TCO 285 course again in spring 2010.

- Ms. Wofford presented “Optimizing Content for Your Web Sites” to Mercer’s Academic Council in September 2009. She was also invited to present “Basic Principles of Design” to the Master of Public Health students at Georgia College’s Macon campus in Fall semester 2009.

- Cindy Glance, institutional research analyst, served as president of GAIRPAQ in 2008-09, while Sarah May, director of institutional research, served as immediate past president.
Dr. Marilyn Mindingall serves as vice provost and University registrar. For the past year, the work in the Office of the Registrar has been centered on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project. The lead registrars from across the University have been heavily involved to this point. Their involvement will continue, and members of their staffs will also begin to dedicate much time to the project until its completion in June 2010. Lucy Wilson, senior associate registrar in the Macon office, continues to lead the Registrar Functional Team. Team members include Kay Webb, registrar/Atlanta; Sarah McCommon, associate registrar/Regional Academic Centers; Patsy Crammer, registrar/Law; Youvette Hudson, registrar/Medicine; Marilyn Mindingall, University registrar; Sarah May, director of institutional research; and Anita Hartley, information technology analyst. Kim Morgan, assistant registrar for computer and data management, has worked very closely with the Registrar Team during the data validation stages.

Marilyn Mindingall is the chair of the Implementation Team, which has a membership of all functional team leaders involved in the project (i.e., Registrar, Bursar, Financial Planning, Admissions, Human Resources, Payroll, Accounting, Student Affairs, Institutional Research, Administrative Computing, and University Advancement). Dr. Mindingall also works with the Steering Committee and the Faculty Advisory Committee of the ERP. Lucy Wilson also serves on the Registrar Functional Team and the Implementation Team.

At this point in the project, the work of the registrars entails issue tracking and problem solving as student data from the current student information system is translated into the new Campus Management system. Also, micro-validation of specific student files is being done after various spins of the data. Differences between the old system and the new have resulted in cross-functional issues that require changes in some inter-office processes or procedures. The cross-functional issues are identified by the functional teams and are defined as office processes or procedures that impact multiple functional areas, but are not working properly, are ambiguous, or need further definition as they are moved to the new system. These issues are either resolved by the Implementation Team or recommendations are sent forward to the Steering Committee. Some of the cross-functional issues that have been explored thus far include: tuition waiver, tracking and maintaining student insurance waiver information, holds, drops for nonpayment, administrative withdrawals, and use of addresses.

Quality service continues to be a hallmark of the Office of the Registrar. The increased work and pressures that can occur throughout the ERP project do not exempt the office from
providing the best service possible. A customer service and stress management plan has been
developed for the staff. As part of that plan, the Macon and Regional Academic Center staffs
participated in a Quick Fit exercise program throughout the summer months. Also, the staff
development workshop held in August 2009 for the Macon, Center, and Atlanta staffs included a
wellness session by the Rachel May, director of employee wellness; and a customer service
session by Dr. Tammy Crutchfield, associate professor of marketing and director of
undergraduate studies in the Stetson School of Business and Economics.
G. Student Affairs—Macon Campus

Led by Vice President and Dean of Students Douglas Pearson, the Division of Student Affairs consists of eleven departments: Campus Life, Career Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, Disability Support Services, Greek Life, Housing and Residence Life, Judicial Education, the Office of Leadership and Volunteerism, Recreational Sports and Wellness, the Student Health Center, and the Federal TRIO Programs (Upward Bound, Minority Affairs Student Support, and the Educational Opportunity Center). The Division’s mission is to enrich the Mercer student’s experience through co-curricular and extra-curricular programming that complements the academic mission of the University.

Programmatic and Service Data

Programmatic and service data for these departments during the 2008-09 academic year include:

**Campus Life**
- 126 Student organizations
- 74 Campus Life programs
- 16,429 Students attended programs

**Leadership MU Conference**
- 78 Students registered for the conference
- 50 Students attended the conference
- 53 Athletes attended the 2nd breakout session

**Career Services**
- 59 In-class presentations
- 97 Recruiters on campus
- 535 Students at recruitment events
- 676 Individual student appointments

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
- 36 Psycho-educational programs, trainings, and displays
- 195 Students served*

* The top two reported student issues were anxiety and depression.

**Disability Support Services (DSS)**
- 116 Students registered with DSS
- 477 Exams proctored
1. Legally blind student
2. Hearing-impaired students

**Judicial Cases**
4. Possession of a weapon
9. Drug misconduct
48. Alcohol
99. Total cases adjudicated

**Greek Life**
223. Fraternity men
295. Sorority women
46. National Pan-Hellenic Council members
568. Total Greeks
3.136. Overall Greek GPA
10,000. Community-service hours

**Housing**
1,562+. Students housed on campus
90%. Occupancy rate
49. Students in leadership positions
559. Educational, social, cultural, spiritual, and recreational programs in the residence halls

**Recreational Sports & Wellness:**
11. Events (Soccer, Ultimate Flag Football, 3v3 Basketball, Dodgeball, Volleyball, Basketball, 4v4 Volleyball, Bowling, Softball, 4v4 Flag Football)
12. Active sports clubs
251. Sports teams
1,146. Unique intramural participants
2,290. Total participations
5,829. Spectators

**SHAPE Committee**
542. Students participated in Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities
300. Students attended the SHAPE Carnival
20. Student organizations participated in SHAPE Carnival
TRIO Programs

Upward Bound

26  Students attended Student Leadership Weekend
100  Students participated in two college fairs
130  Students in the summer 2009 program
141  Students attended weekly enrichment sessions

EOC

6  Academic workshops
5  SAT Strategy Sessions
2,050  Participants recruited

Minority Mentors

27+  Students registered to vote
46  Opportunity Scholars—Opportunity Scholars is an extensive pre-orientation activity for incoming Mercer freshmen. This group had a 100% retention rate from fall 2008 to spring 2009.
74  Students and mentors participated in the Minority Retreat
150+  Students attended the Multi-Cultural Mixer

Student Health

2,987  visits to the health center

The Student Health Center relocated to the second floor of the Patterson Building in January 2009. The move made the Student Health Services more visible and accessible to students compared to its previous location in the School of Medicine. Although student use has not increased significantly over 2008, students indicated the new location was more convenient and more aesthetically appealing. The staff finds the work flow space to be significantly better in providing care to students.

Highlights

A number of new and/or highly successful program initiatives took place during the 2008-09 academic year. Among them were the following:

- Social Justice Month: Campus Life provided leadership and collaboration with a host of academic and student groups across the campus to develop a “Social Justice Month” that coordinated a month-long schedule of programs aimed at social awareness and acceptance of individual differences and of diversity and multi-cultural issues. The event was highly successful in increasing awareness on campus and some of the programs
featured included “Where Water Meets the Sky” that discussed HIV/AIDS, a panel on “Religion and Homosexuality,” speaker Jane Elliot who spoke about racism in “Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes Revisited”), and Speaker Elke Kennedy, who discussed her personal experience with hate-based crimes after her son was killed in a bias-motivated incident (“A Mother’s Story”). Approximately 1,350 students attended the month’s events.

- SHAPE Carnival. In February 2009, the SHAPE Committee, a committee that focuses on sexual assault, hazing, and alcohol programming and education, coordinated a campus-wide carnival that enhanced student education and awareness on a variety of wellness topics. Over twenty student organizations volunteered their time to this program, and over 300 students participated in the event itself.

- Intramural participation growth. Five years ago, a goal was set to double the student participation rates in intramural sports. That goal was reached this past year when over 1,146 unique participations were logged.

- Disability Access Study. The Office of Disability Support, under the direction of Ms. Carole Burrowbridge, completed its initial assessment of access issues on the Macon campus. Next steps for this campus-wide committee include a review of new legislation in the area of disabilities and an expansion of the evaluation to Atlanta and Regional Academic Centers.

- Expanded Music: Bearstock, a day of outdoor live music, food, and fun on the campus is quickly becoming a major community event. This past year, the event hosted 1,618 visitors, as over fifteen bands were featured in a day that ended with headliner and national recording artist Gym Class Heroes performing to a packed Porter Patch.

- Civic Engagement: As a result of a campus-wide initiative to increase voter participation, 81% of students registered to vote and 67% reported that they voted in the 2008 election.

- Homecoming: Campus Life collaborated with University Advancement to expand Homecoming this year. Nine major student events were held during the week with a total of more than 4,000 student attendees. Highlights included a tailgate party and bonfire complete with fireworks.

**New Staff**

A number of new and highly qualified staff were recruited during the 2008-09 year:
• Cindy Strowbridge, assistant director of Campus Life

• Melissa Nunn, residence life coordinator

• Aaron Adkins, director of Campus Life and student involvement. Aaron rejoins the Division (having spent three years in Housing as a residence life coordinator and assistant director) after spending three years as the coordinator of Orientation and assistant director of Academic and Advising Services.

• Sarah Perrone, assistant director of Residence Life

Goals 2009-10

• Enhanced Residential Character of the Institution. A commitment to transforming more residential facilities into living-learning centers is under way. During fall 2009, two such centers were evaluated and implemented: (1) a pre-med floor consisting of twenty-eight students in Roberts Hall, and (2) an international floor with twenty-four international and domestic students housed in Adams-Winship. Plans are currently underway to implement an Honors Building in Roberts Hall for 2010-11, and a joint academic-student affairs committee is exploring several other living-learning possibilities this fall.

• Enhanced Weekend Programming: In response to the challenge by Mercer’s ten-year goals to create a more “vibrant college environment,” professionals from the division traveled to and evaluated several campus life programs at prestigious regional institutions during summer 2009. As a result of this review, the Division developed a commitment to sustained and consistent weekend programming for 2009-10. WAM (Weekends At Mercer) was initiated in fall 2009. This initiative has already yielded twenty-one new programs scheduled, a fresh marketing campaign, and enhanced e-mail communication to students about weekend events.

• Expanded Leadership Programming: In addition to the Mercer Service Scholars program that was instituted as part of the QEP, seventeen rising sophomores have been identified and have begun to take part in new yearlong leadership intensive training program for credit. This program will end in a service-related leadership conference sponsored by the students for area high school students. In addition, a 2009 summer retreat focused on better coordination and goal-setting among various student groups on campus.

• Building Service as a Foundation. In response to President Underwood’s challenge to
create Mercer distinctives, Student Affairs is seeking ways to more fully and purposefully infuse service into its programs and departments. Four ways that have already been identified for improvement and include (1) more focused service projects; (2) more active participation in planning and coordinating campus-wide conferences, such as the “Caring for Creation” conference that occurred October 2009; (3) more purposeful and clear ties between student service and leadership; and (4) the implementation of co-curricular transcripts to capture student service and volunteerism. Early success has already been reflected in a focused community clean-up that took place on Saturday, September 12, 2009 and resulted in more than 250 students participating.
**H. New Faculty**

Faculty members are integral parts of Mercer University’s academic operations. The table below lists the faculty who joined the institution in 2009 with their titles and credentials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position, Department</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Credentials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artman, Elaine M.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ed.D. in Education Leadership, University of San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Educational Leadership</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M.S. in Business Education, Illinois State University</td>
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<td>B.S. in Business Administration, minor in liberal arts, Illinois State</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bauer, John</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of</td>
<td>College of Pharmacy and Health</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Pharm.D./Ph.D. Dual Degree, Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pharmaceutical Sciences</td>
<td>Sciences</td>
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<td>(now Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences)</td>
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<td>B.S. in Biochemistry, State University of New York at Binghamton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bouie, Jr., Edward L.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ed.D. in Educational Administration, Atlanta University</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ed.S. in Educational Administration, Georgia State University</td>
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<td>M.S. in Music Education, Georgia State University</td>
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<td>B.S. in Public School Music, Morris Brown College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bourdon, Natalie J.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of</td>
<td>College of Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Anthropology, Michigan State University, with a specialization in</td>
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<td></td>
<td>English</td>
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<td>Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Master and B.A. in Anthropology and African Studies, Michigan State</td>
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<td>Brackette, Caroline M.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Counseling, Department of Counseling and Human Sciences</td>
<td>College of Continuing and Professional Studies</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ph.D., M.Ed., B.A., University of Toledo</td>
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<td>Bush, Lucy J.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Graduate Teacher Education Program</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies, Georgia Southern University</td>
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<td>Ed.S. in Teaching Additional Languages, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>M.Ed. in Foreign Language Education, Certification for Leadership, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>B.A. in Spanish, B.S.Ed. in Social Science Education, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>Cain, Jabari P.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Teacher Education</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Henry County</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Nebraska</td>
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<td>M.A., University of Northern Iowa</td>
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<td>Carroll, Xianming Du Prel</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine</td>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Dr.P.H., Heinrich-Heine-University Dusseldorf, Germany</td>
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<td>M.P.H., Heinrich-Heine-University Dusseldorf, Germany</td>
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<td>B.M., Haerbin Medical University, China</td>
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<td>Ceglie, Robert J.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Teacher Education</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
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<td>Ph.D., University of Connecticut</td>
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<td>M.Ed. and B.S., University of Massachusetts</td>
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</table>
| Chen, Sean       | Associate Professor of Accounting, Department of Accounting  | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | Atlanta    | Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence and Accounting, Katz Graduate School of Business, University of Pittsburgh  
M.Ed., National Taiwan Normal University  
M.B.A., Youngstown State University  
B.B.A., National Taiwan University                                                                                                                      |
| Chynoweth, Brad A. | Visiting Instructor, Department of Philosophy                 | College of Liberal Arts                         | Macon      | Doctoral candidate, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
B.S., Auburn University                                                                                                                                       |
| Cleaveland, M. Catherine | Assistant Professor of Accounting, Department of Accounting | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | Atlanta    | Ph.D., M.Tx., Georgia State University  
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology                                                                                                                        |
| Collins, Geri S. | Assistant Professor, Graduate Teacher Education Program       | Tift College of Education                       | Atlanta    | Ed.D., The University of Georgia  
M.Ed. and B.S., Mercer University                                                                                                                          |
| Curry, Carolann Lee | Instructor, Medical Library and Information Science           | School of Medicine                              | Macon      | M.L.I.S., Valdosta State University  
B.A., Flagler College                                                                                                                                            |
| Daines, Dayle A. | Assistant Professor of Microbiology, Department of Basic Medical Sciences | School of Medicine                              | Macon      | Ph.D. and M.S., University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry;  
Postdoctoral Training, University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine  
B.Sc., University of Calgary                                                                                                                                |
| Davis, Lasheca   | Instructor, Adult Health Nursing                              | Georgia Baptist College of Nursing               | Atlanta    | M.S. in Nursing, Georgia State University  
B.S.N., Southern University                                                                                                                                 |
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<tr>
<td>Dunaway, Angela</td>
<td>Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor and Didactic Faculty, Physician's Assistant Program</td>
<td>College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Pharm.D., The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>Garrett, Lisa W.</td>
<td>Visiting Assistant Professor, Holistic Child Program</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ed.D., The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>Greene, Amy</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Molecular Genetics, Department of Basic Medical Sciences</td>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Savannah</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Iowa Postdoctoral Fellow, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics, National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences M.S., University of Houston B.S., St. Ambroise University</td>
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<td>Jacobs, Mary T.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ed.D., Nova Southeastern University M.Ed., Georgia Southwestern State University B.S., University of Georgia</td>
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<td>Jennings, Miranda E.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Tift College of Education</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Connecticut M.S., University of Connecticut B.A., Colby College</td>
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<td>Kimble, Laura P.</td>
<td>Professor and Piedmont Healthcare Endowed Chair in Nursing, Nursing Instruction</td>
<td>Georgia Baptist College of Nursing</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Rochester M.S.N., University of Kentucky B.S.N., Berea College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klein, Christine Mcfayden</td>
<td>Assistant Clinical Professor and Director of Introductory Experiential Education, Department of Pharmacy Practice</td>
<td>College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Pharm.D., Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy (now Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences)</td>
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| Kloeppe, Kathryn D.   | Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry      | College of Liberal Arts           | Macon  | Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
B.S. in Chemistry, University of Dallas                                                                                                                   |
| Knapp, Kenyon C.      | Associate Professor of Counseling and Assistant Dean for   | College of Continuing and        | Atlanta| Ph.D. in Counselor Education, University of Mississippi  
M.S. in Community Counseling, Georgia State University  
M.S. in Christian Psychological Studies, Psychological Studies Institute  
B.A. in Psychology, Taylor University                                                                                                                     |
|                       | Graduate Programs, Department of Counseling and Human      | Professional Studies             |        |                                                                                                                                                                |
|                       | Sciences                                                    |                                  |        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Lawrence, Jr., James  | Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Department of      | School of Medicine                | Macon  | Ph.D., Medical University of South Carolina  
M.S. in Nursing, Emory University                                                                                                                                  |
| F.                    | Family Medicine                                            |                                  |        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Leslie, Sharon L.     | Health Services Librarian                                  | Swilley Library                  | Atlanta| M.L.I.S., Clark Atlanta University                                                                                                                                 |
| Lilly, Emily          | Associate Professor, Department of Early Childhood         | Tift College of Education        | Douglas County  | Ph.D., Florida State University  
M.Ed., Valdosta State University  
A.B., Wesleyan College                                                                                                                                 |
| "Elizabeth"           | Education                                                  |                                  |        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Lopez, Orosman        | Assistant Professor of Spanish, Department of Foreign      | College of Liberal Arts           | Macon  | Doctoral candidate, Emory University  
M.A. in Latin American Studies, University of Texas at Austin  
B.A. in Comparative Religion, University of Florida                                                                                                          |
|                       | Languages and Literature                                   |                                  |        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Malagon, Audrey       | Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics             | College of Liberal Arts           | Macon  | Ph.D. in Mathematics, Emory University  
B.A. in Mathematics and Spanish, Agnes Scott College                                                                                                         |
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<tr>
<td>McCann, Richard O.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Biochemistry, Department of Basic Medical Sciences</td>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>B.S. in Biochemistry, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>McClung, Steven</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Marketing, Department of Marketing</td>
<td>Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Tennessee</td>
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<td>B. A. and M. A., Marshall University</td>
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<td>McCullough, Allen</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Music Theory</td>
<td>Townsend School of Music</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>M.M., Manhattan School of Music</td>
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<td>B.A., Brown University</td>
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<td>McKallip, Robert J.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Immunology, Department of Basic Medical Sciences</td>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Oncology, George Washington University</td>
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<td>M.S. and B.S., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University</td>
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<td>Mixon, Franklin G.</td>
<td>Visiting Professor of Economics, Department of Economics</td>
<td>Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics</td>
<td>Macon</td>
<td>Ph.D. and M.A. in Economics, Auburn University</td>
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<td>B.A. in Spanish for International Trade, Auburn University</td>
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<td>Mowery, Robyn L.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor and Clinical Director, Mercer Family Therapy Center, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science</td>
<td>School of Medicine</td>
<td>Atlanta/Piedmont Hospital</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Child and Family Development, The University of Georgia</td>
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<td>M.S. in Human Development and Family Studies, Colorado State University</td>
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<td>B.A. in Psychology, New College of Florida</td>
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| Pettis, Shalonda   | Clinical Assistant Professor and Associate Clinical Coordinator, Physician's Assistant Program | College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences     | Atlanta | Master of Medical Science, Emory University School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program  
B.S., Alabama State University |
| Pridgen, Elizabeth | Visiting Artist, Keyboard                                        | Townsend School of Music                    | Macon   | M.M., Juilliard School  
B.A., Peabody Conservatory of Music |
| Raschko, Mary L.   | Assistant Professor, Department of English                      | College of Liberal Arts                     | Macon   | Ph.D. English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
M.A. English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
B.A. in English and Theology, Georgetown University |
| Redding, Michell B. | Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice | College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences     | Atlanta | Pharm.D., Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy  
(now Mercer University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences) |
<p>| Riccardi, Patrizia | Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science | School of Medicine                          | Macon   | M.D., University of Naples Federico II School of Medicine, Naples, Italy |
| Ruegger, Stephen E.| Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Public Safety Leadership, Department of Leadership Studies | College of Continuing and Professional Studies | Atlanta | Ph.D., M.S., B.S., University of Southern Mississippi |
| Saulson, Jon M.     | Assistant Professor, Graduate Teacher Education Program         | Tift College of Education                   | Atlanta | Ph.D., M.Ed., B.A., University of Florida |
| Sekayi, Dia         | Associate Professor, Department of Educational Leadership       | Tift College of Education                   | Atlanta | Ph.D., M.Ed. B.S., State University of New York |</p>
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| Shaw, Wade H.      | Dean and Kaolin Chair of Engineering        | School of Engineering          | Macon  | Ph.D. in Engineering Management, Clemson University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | M.S. in Systems Engineering, Clemson University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | B.S. in Electrical Engineering, Clemson University  |
| Shields, P. David  | Dean and Professor of Accounting             | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | Macon  | Ph.D. in Business Administration, University of Michigan  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | M.B.A. Accounting, The Ohio State University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | B.A. English, The Ohio State University  |
| Stephenson, Winsome| Assistant Professor, Adult Health Nursing    | Georgia Baptist College of Nursing | Atlanta| Ph.D. in progress, Georgia State University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | M.S., Georgia State University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | A.A.S., Pace University  |
| Swanson, Karen Weiler | Associate Professor, Graduate Teacher Education Program | Tift College of Education | Atlanta| Ed.D., M.Ed., B.S., Northern Arizona University  |
| Walthall, Sabrina L.| Assistant Professor of Science, Department of Mathematics, Science and Information Systems | College of Continuing and Professional Studies | Macon  | Ph.D., The University of Alabama at Birmingham  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | B.S., Emory University  |
| West, Jane         | Associate Professor, Graduate Teacher Education Program | Tift College of Education      | Atlanta| Ed.D., The University of Georgia  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | M.A., Louisiana State University  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | B.S., Mississippi College  |
| Williams, Bryan C. | Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science | College of Liberal Arts        | Macon  | Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Florida  
|                    |                                              |                                |        | M.A. in Education, University of Florida  
<p>|                    |                                              |                                |        | B.A. in Political Science, University of Florida  |</p>
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</table>
| Young, Virginia A.    | Assistant Professor, Department of Biology                                           | College of Liberal Arts       | Macon  | Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology, Wake Forest School of Medicine  
B.S. in Microbiology, Clemson University |
| Zhao, Zhi-Qing        | Associate Professor of Physiology and Director of the Cardiovascular Research Laboratory, Basic Medical Sciences | School of Medicine             | Savannah | M.D. in Medicine, Shanxi Medical University, Taiyuan Province, China  
M.Med. in Physiology, Shanxi Medical University, Taiyuan Province, China  
Ph.D. in Cardiophysiology and Pharmacology, Fourth Military Medical University, Xian, China  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Surgery, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina |
III. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

A. College of Liberal Arts

The largest academic unit on the Macon campus, the College of Liberal Arts enrolled 1,387 students Fall 2009 semester, an increase of more than 6% from last fall. In addition, the College provides General Education and other fundamental courses for the other Macon undergraduate programs. Consequently, the “full-time equivalent” enrollment this semester is about 1,800.

The Admissions Office has been quite successful in attracting well-prepared students. This year’s freshman class of 403 came with SAT scores averaging 1185 and high school grade-point averages of 3.65. Almost half had been in the top 10% of their high school classes. In terms of overall demographics, the College continues to serve a traditional college-age population. More than 80% are from Georgia, with another 10% from neighboring states. Almost a third of the College’s students identify themselves as members of minority groups, with African-American enrollment now at 20% with growing representation by Asians and Hispanics. While most students identify with Christian denominations, the College now enrolls about fifty students from non-Western faith traditions.

Part of the increase in the College’s enrollment comes from a larger freshman class. Equally important has been the success of initiatives to help more students succeed academically without lowering standards. Consequently, 85% of last year’s freshmen returned for the sophomore year, an increase of ten points than a decade ago. Larger enrollments have put pressure on some academic units: Biology has 28% more students this fall than five years ago; Chemistry’s enrollments are up more than 20%. Neither department has had an appreciable increase in faculty members, and so they carry the highest teaching loads in the College—and are the most active in directing student research as well.

The increased enrollments in the sciences are a fundamental change. A decade ago, the sciences and mathematics accounted for only a third of the College’s declared majors. They now account for half, with the vast majority anticipating careers in the health professions. Many are in pre-professional programs in Liberal Arts that lead logically to eventual enrollment in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Larger enrollments in the sciences, when combined with an increasing emphasis on student research, reinforce the need for new faculty members in the sciences and mathematics. A Biology Department of eight full-time faculty
members cannot effectively teach and do research with 300 majors. Moreover, Willet Science Center is simply too small to meet the demand and is outdated as a teaching facility. The need for a new science building grows more urgent every year.

Meanwhile, the College must update its curriculum, especially in General Education, the broad sweep of basic courses that account for 45% of a student’s work towards a degree. The faculty is now debating an experimental program that would offer thematically-oriented sets of courses for some students in lieu of traditional distribution requirements. As the Great Books program offers an alternative focused on the Western tradition, so these “themes” would guide students through related courses in social justice, sustainability, and global citizenship. In the long run, however, the entire General Education curriculum needs re-thinking. It was initially designed about twenty years ago when most of the College’s students anticipated careers in law, education, ministry, and business. Providing a true liberal education for prospective physicians, pharmacists, and other health-care providers is an intriguing challenge.

A high priority for the College this spring and summer has been preparing to apply to host a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. The College can point to improvements in several dimensions since its previous application in 2006, a thriving Honors program, improving graduation rates, and a good percentage of faculty who are Phi Beta Kappa members among them. Points of concern remain comparatively low faculty salaries and reduced funds for student and faculty research.

The ability of the College’s faculty will provide strong support for the Phi Beta Kappa application. New colleagues this year bring the benefit of training at top doctoral programs nationally as well as an abundance of life experience from having lived and worked in Brazil, Japan, Kenya, and Norway. Altogether, more than 40% of the College’s faculty has come this decade. In the spring, the College said farewell to Professors William Davis, Robert Hargrove, and Roger Jamison upon their retirements. Finding their successors and filling some other vacant faculty positions will be a challenge for this academic year.

Dr. Linda Hensel in Biology was among several faculty members in the sciences receiving substantial outside funding for research and equipment. Dr. Will Jordan (Political Science) and the Mercer Center for the Teaching of America’s Western Foundations received a major grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. Dr. Sarah Gardner in History and other colleagues also received a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a summer program for high-school teachers on Southern history. In spring 2009, more than sixty students presented their research at the annual on-campus Undergraduate Research Symposium, and more than two dozen presented papers at regional and national conferences.
Once again, the results from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) show that CLA’s students rate the faculty as exceptionally capable in the classroom and unusually willing to provide counsel, direct student research, and help students plan careers. Most professionals in higher education agree that the NSSE is a much better indicator of the environment for student learning than the widely-cited rankings from *U.S. News and World Report*. The College’s NSSE results put Mercer solidly in the top 20% of undergraduate programs nationwide.

A special aspect of student experience comes in study abroad. The College continues a strong program at Oxford University, and several dozen students studied at other international universities. In the summer of 2009, College faculty led Mercer On Mission programs in Brazil, Greece, and Liberia. The one in Liberia, located at the Ricks Institute, a private school headed by Mercer alumnus Olu Menjay, is a continuing commitment. Two Ricks faculty members are seeking degrees in the College this year. For the summer of 2010, CLA faculty have proposed Mercer On Mission trips to Liberia, Moldova, Mozambique, and South Africa.

In September 2009, Dean Fallis announced his decision to return to full-time teaching and research. Provost Daniel has appointed a search committee chaired by Dr. Dale Moore (Chemistry) and including College faculty members at all stages of their careers. In speaking with the faculty about his decision, Dean Fallis noted that “this College provides a unique education, grounded in the traditional liberal arts but open to new ideas, firm in its commitment to serving students but also firm in its sense of service to the world, diverse in its students and faculty but strongly aware that learning best happens in true community. May that always be true.”
B. Walter F. George School of Law

**National Recognitions for the School.** The Walter F. George School of Law has again received national recognition from several sources. The 2010 U.S. News and World Report edition of *America’s Best Graduate Schools* once again included Mercer’s Legal Writing Program as among the best in the nation, this year ranked as second. This places Mercer’s program among the top two in the nation for each of the years in which legal writing programs have been ranked. The specialty ranking is voted on by Legal Writing Directors throughout the country, reflecting the opinion of those with specialized knowledge.

A recent issue of *PreLaw* magazine, published by National Jurist, shows Mercer as sixth among the Best Public Interest Law Schools in the country. Mercer was the only Georgia law school to be included in the top twenty-five. The rating is based on information reported in the *E-Guide to Public Interest Law Schools*, including student involvement in experiential learning and pro bono projects, curriculum choices, and financial support for students seeking public interest placements. The ranking recognizes the University’s Law and Public Service Program, which is housed at the school. The program, begun in 2006, provides clinic and externship courses, facilitates pro bono opportunities, and distributes funds for summer placements with governmental and non-profit employers and for loan repayment assistance to students who go to work for qualified employers.

**July 2008 Bar Results.** The July 2009 Georgia Bar results were released at the end of October, 2009, and Mercer Law graduates once again performed well on the Georgia Bar exam. The pass rate for Mercer graduates who took the bar exam for the first time during July 2009 administration was 87.3% (110 out of 126). The pass rate for Mercer’s all-time takers was 86.0% (111 out of 129). The pass rates for first-time takers from the other Georgia law schools were 92.5% for Emory University; 94.5% for the University of Georgia; 93.0% for Georgia State University; and 83.1% for John Marshall Law School. Mercer did not have any first-time takers in February 2009. Three Mercer graduates took the exam for the second or later time; of those, one passed.

**Admissions.** The school experienced a terrific year in admissions. Applications to the Walter F. George School of Law for the Fall 2009 entering class increased 20% over applications for the Fall 2008 class. Nationally, applications increased 6.5%. The school received 1,571 completed applications for the 2009 entering class, out of which 600 applicants were accepted. The school enrolled 157 first-year students, with a median LSAT score of 156 and median undergraduate GPA of 3.43, representing an increase of one point in the median
LSAT over last year's class. The first-year class is composed of 45% women and 20% minority students. The students come from seventeen states, with Georgia being the largest feeder state. Florida is second, and South Carolina is third. Sixty-six undergraduate schools are represented in the first-year class, with the largest feeder school being the University of Georgia. The second largest feeder school is Mercer; sixteen Mercer graduates are enrolled in the first-year class. This year's total student body is 433, which includes two transient students.

**Placement Statistics for the Class of 2008.** The National Association for Law Placement collects statistics on placement of graduates nine months after graduation. The reporting date in February 2009 shows that 88.28% of the school's 2008 graduates were employed or enrolled in a full-time degree program as of that date. Of the graduates, 65.87% are employed in private practice; 7.94% are in judicial clerkships; 14.29% are in government or non-profit work; 3.17% are in Public Interest; 0% are in Academia; 4.76% are employed in business; and 3.97% are employed in the Military.

**Renewal of Host School Status of the Legal Writing Institute.** The school has signed a new Host School contract with the Legal Writing Institute, which means that it will be the home of the Legal Writing Institute for at least the next seven years. The Legal Writing Institute (LWI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving legal writing by providing a forum for discussion and scholarship about legal writing, analysis, and research. As the second largest organization of law professors in the country, LWI promotes its activities through publications, workshops, specialty conferences, and the national biennial conferences held in even-numbered years. Mercer became the host school for LWI in 2004 under a five-year contract.

**Faculty.** Mercer Law faculty continue to be active scholars and speakers and to consistently receive high evaluations for teaching effectiveness. During the 2008-09 academic year, the school's faculty collectively published over eighty law review articles, books, book chapters, and other publications. Faculty members have presented their scholarly work at programs throughout the country, including the Annual Meetings of the Association of American Law Schools, the American Bar Association, and the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, as well as specialty meetings. Law faculty continue to serve in leadership roles in such professional organizations as the Association of American Law Schools, the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, the American Bar Association, and the State Bar of Georgia.

Two Mercer University School of Law professors are editors of a new electronic journal that features selected abstracts of scholarly works probing the threads that connect law and rhetoric. The editors, Professors Linda L. Berger and Jack Sammons, developed the e-journal
to expand intellectual dialogue and scholarship beyond the legal community about the rhetoric of law. The e-journal was released online in December by Social Science Research Network. *The Law & Rhetoric Abstracts e-Journal*, published twice a week, will be available to some half-a-million SSRN subscribers, and immediately available to more than 8,000 law professors and other academics who have directly subscribed to the Legal Scholarship Network.

One Law faculty member received tenure, and three were promoted from assistant to associate professor, effective July 1, 2009. Professor Linda Jellum, a graduate of Cornell University and Cornell Law School, received tenure. She has been a member of the Law faculty since 2004. Professors Sarah Gerwig-Moore, Suzianne Painter-Thorne, and Karen Sneddon, all members of the Law faculty since 2006, received promotions from assistant professor to associate professor. Professor Gerwig-Moore is a graduate of Mercer University and received her J.D. and M.T.S. from Emory University. Professor Painter-Thorne is a graduate of the University of Maryland-College Park and received her J.D. from University of California, Davis. Professor Sneddon is a graduate of Louisiana State University and received her J.D. from Tulane University.

**Moot Court and Mock Trial Successes.** The school experienced one of its most successful seasons ever in moot court and mock trial competitions. During the 2008-09 academic year, Mercer Law students brought home national championships in both moot court and mock trial, as well as receiving individual awards and capturing regional competitions. Additionally, the school was honored by being one of only twenty schools invited to compete in the Moot Court National Championship at the University of Houston Law Center. The invitations went to the best moot court programs in the country, based on the previous year’s winning record, and Mercer has again been invited for the current academic year. During 2008-09, Mercer students achieved the following moot court successes: placing first and third in the Emory Civil Rights Moot Court Competition; winning the Region V contest of the National Moot Court Competition and receiving the Best Oralist award; placing first and second in the Region V championship of the Ruby Vale Corporate Law Moot Court competition; winning in the regional competition of the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition; and placing second in the University at Buffalo Herbert Wechsler Criminal Law Moot Court Competition.

The school has reinvigorated its mock trial competition program, thanks to the endowment created by Tommy Malone to support the trial advocacy program. In its first year of competing at the John Marshall/ABA National Criminal Trial Advocacy Competition, Mercer brought home the national championship, defeating Harvard and the University of Houston law schools in the semifinals and finals respectively. In addition, a third-year Mercer student was
awarded the competition’s Best Advocate and Best Cross- Examiner awards.

**Law Day 2009.** The Annual Law Day celebration took place on March 6, 2009. This year’s celebration featured Paul D. Clement, the 43rd Solicitor General of the United States and a partner at King & Spalding’s Washington office. In addition to the luncheon, activities included the spring meeting of the Alumni Board of Directors, the Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association, a Law Class of 1949 Reception, Law Class of 1974 Reception, and a Reception on the evening of March 6. In addition to activities for law alumni, students, faculty, and staff, the celebration also included scholarship interviews and recruiting activities.

**Commencement and Hooding.** The school’s commencement and hooding ceremony occurred on May 16, 2009, at the University Center. The Honorable Edward H. Johnson of the Court of Appeals of Georgia was the commencement speaker.

**National Criminal Defense College.** The National Criminal Defense College, under the leadership of Professor Deryl Dantzler, hosted approximately 200 lawyers and faculty at the Walter F. George School of Law at two, two-week sessions in June and July 2009.

**Law Review Symposium.** On November 6, 2009, the Mercer Law Review hosted its annual symposium. This year the theme of the symposium is “The Legal Writing Institute: Celebrating 25 Years of Teaching & Scholarship.” Seventeen speakers, representing the best legal writing programs throughout the country, participated in the symposium, and the founder of the Legal Writing Institute was honored. Transcripts of the proceedings, along with papers by the participants, will be published in Volume 61 of the Mercer Law Review.
C. College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

The College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (COPHS), under the direction of Dean Hewitt “Ted” Matthews, has a commitment to continuous quality improvement that has served as a catalyst for many outstanding achievements on behalf of its faculty and students throughout the 2009 year. Faculty submitted more research grants than any time in its previous history, and the students continue to distinguish themselves by being recognized nationally for their excellence in scholarship and professional service in their student organizations. A notable highlight this year has been the appointment of a program director, Leslie F. Taylor, PT, Ph.D., to develop and implement a doctoral-level physical therapy program. The new program intends to admit its first students in the fall of 2010.

College, faculty, and student highlights for 2009 are as follows:

College Highlights

- COPHS graduated 135 Pharm.D. degrees, including 8 Pharm.D./M.B.A., degrees at the May 9, 2009 commencement ceremony.
- The College has 680 students enrolled in the doctor of pharmacy (589), graduate (34), and physician assistant (57) programs. COPHS anticipates an additional thirty-eight students in the physician assistant program in January 2010.
- The pharmacy program has 36 active research grants totaling $2.4 million.
- The pharmacy program has 38 research grants pending for a total of $4.6 million.
- A researcher in the pharmacy program was awarded one of only eight Georgia Cancer Coalition research grants, which was ranked the second best grant submitted for funding. This researcher also received a second collaborative grant with Emory University form the Georgia Cancer Coalition.
- The Center for Clinical Research relocated to its new 6,250 sq. ft. facility and received a grant for a phase III clinical study for over $400,000.
- Renovation was completed on four research laboratories and two large classrooms.
- The College prepared a $15.0 million proposal for a new research facility with possible funding from the Federal government stimulus package.
- Pharmacy practice faculty had 9 out of 10 pedagogical posters accepted for presentation
at the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

- The College awarded its first Distinguished Alumni Award to Dr. Daniel E. Buffington who has also received the American Pharmacists Association Pinnacle Individual Award for Career Achievement and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacist Award of Excellence.

**Faculty Highlights**

- James W. Bartling, Pharm.D. was awarded the prestigious 2009 Bowl of Hygeia, presented to him at Georgia Pharmacy Association Annual Convention. The Bowl of Hygeia award program recognizes outstanding achievements in community service by pharmacy professionals.

- Lisa M. Lundquist was selected to participate in the Academic Leadership Fellow Program of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Dr. Lundquist was one of thirty accepted nationally into the Program.

- Bradford W. Schwarz was elected to the House of Delegates for the Georgia Association of Physician Assistants, Inc.

- Pamela M. Moye was appointed to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Nominations Committee of Teachers of Pharmacy Practice Section.

- Ajay K. Banga was appointed as associate editor for the journal, *Therapeutic Delivery* and to the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Drug Delivery Science & Technology*.

- Susan W. Miller was appointed to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education Assessment and Accreditation Advisory Group.

- The College recently hired Dr. Leslie F. Taylor to develop and implement a doctoral-level physical therapy program.

- Martin J. D’Souza published three articles in the *Journal of Microencapsulation*. They are: “Formulation and characterization of catalase in albumin microspheres,” “Pharmacokinetic and biodistribution studies of Amphotericin B microspheres,” and “Development of albumin microspheres containing sp H1-DNA complexes: A novel gene delivery system.” Dr. D’Souza also published “Oral delivery of gastro-resistant


Student Highlights

- Fourth-year student Bobby Price was installed as president of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association.

- Lauren Riley, a third professional year student, was selected as a 2008-09 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Student Leadership Award recipient. Lauren was among twelve students selected for their leadership and attributes of health-system pharmacist.

- Fourth-year student Katherine P. Gillette was selected for a rotation with the Food and Drug Administration during the 2009-10 academic year. Katie is one of only eight students selected nationally for this rotation.

- Third-year student Bob Harshbarger was appointed to the National Community Pharmacists Association student executive committee. Mr. Harshbarger was one of only eight students selected nationally for this appointment.

- Quentin Farmer and Dannyelle Wilcox are recipients of the 2009 Physician Assistant Foundation Scholarship. They are the first winners for the College, and both are members of the College’s first cohort of students, which began in January 2008.

- Lindsay Watters, a second-year physician assistant student, was elected as the junior director of external affairs for the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the national organization for physician assistants. Watters’ election marks the first national office for a student in the PA program.

- David Turner, a Ph.D. student of Dr. Hailing Zhang, was selected as a United States Pharmacopeia Fellow to receive one of six 2008-09 research awards in the amount of $25,000.

- Delaram Moshkelani and Rebecca L. Neal, two students enrolled in the dual Pharm.D./Ph.D. program, were among forty-three awardees to receive pre-doctoral fellowships from the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE). They will receive $6,000 stipends to continue their studies.

- The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Mercer University Student Chapter (MUSCA) hosted the 2009 Graduate Research Association of Students in Pharmacy (GRASP) conference in June 2009. More than seventy people from ten schools attended the regional conference.
D. School of Medicine

Introduction
In 2009, Mercer University School of Medicine (MUSM) celebrates its twenty-seventh anniversary. MUSM began in 1982 with twenty-four students. Presently the school accepts ninety students per class, sixty in Macon and thirty in Savannah. According to the Georgia Board of Physician Workforce, only one-third of Georgia’s medical school graduates stay in Georgia to complete their residency training. MUSM is no exception in that only 28% of the 2009 graduates stayed in Georgia for their residency training. However, of all of the graduates of MUSM since the beginning, 65% have stayed to practice in Georgia after completing all of their training. Of this number, 83% practice in medically underserved areas of Georgia.

Savannah Campus
On August 11, 2008, the inaugural class of thirty first-year students began their course of study, beginning a four-year school in Savannah on the campus of Memorial Health University Medical Center. The school hosted a visit of the LCME Secretariat on March 29-31, 2009. The LMCE announced that it would continue full accreditation until the next full accreditation review in 2012-13. The second class of first-year students started their studies on August 10, 2009.

The leadership for the four-year school in Savannah follows:

1. William Bina, M.D., M.P.H., was appointed dean for both campuses on March 20, 2009.
2. Wayne Glasgow, Ph.D., serves as interim senior associate dean for the Savannah campus and also as chair of the Department of Basic Science for the Savannah campus.
3. Robert Donner, M.D., is the associate dean for academic affairs covering both campuses and continues as chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee as well as the chair of pathology at the Macon campus.
4. Tina Thompson, Ph.D., continues as associate dean for academic affairs for the Savannah campus.

Search for New Basic Science Faculty
Roy Russ, Ph.D., was appointed as chair of the Basic Science Division for the Macon campus. All basic science positions on the Savannah campus have been filled successfully in the past year. Recruitment is proceeding for three additional positions in Savannah and four vacant positions in Macon to join the faculty in July 2010.
Master of Family Therapy Program

The third year’s enrollment for the Master of Family Therapy (MFT) program on the Piedmont campus in Atlanta exceeded expectations as twenty-four new students began their studies; total enrollment is now thirty-eight students. Dr. Steve Livingston is program director of the MFT program on both the Macon and Atlanta campus and is supervised by Dr. Mel Strozier, chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science. The program has full accreditation with COAMFTE. Mercer now offers the only COAMFTE approved program in Atlanta.

Master of Science in Anesthesia Program

The program is fully accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) through 2018 to confer degrees for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA). Sheree Wolfenden, J.D., CRNA, is the new program director; she has been a practicing CRNA at the Medical Center of Central Georgia and program faculty member since December 2005. The class size is expanding, with fifteen new students admitted in August 2009. The program continues to develop appropriate clinical training sites.

Early Admission

The early admission selection process for the 2010 entering class will soon be complete. There were eighty applicants, a decrease of 20% from last year, but 70% higher than the year before. Thirty-four have been selected so far, which constitutes 38% of the entering class. There have been 635 applicants to date, and the school is likely to have more than the 804 from last year. Of the accepted early applicants, the grade point average is 3.46, and the average MCAT is 26.47, which are higher than last year. In addition, MUSM accepted three types of underrepresented minorities: 5 were from counties with less than 35,000 people, and 30 of the 34 (88%) were from medically underserved areas.

Committees

The Curriculum and Instruction Committee (CIC) conducts a periodic review of all medical student curricular components. The CIC constituted the Professionalism Task Group to study and develop a comprehensive professionalism and bio-medical ethics curriculum. The curriculum was presented to the CIC and the Executive Council early this fall and was approved for implementation in fall 2010.

Guaranteed Admission Track

This track continues to be successful. Six students have continued into their sophomore
year, and four new students joined this year’s freshman class. All of them are legal residents of the state of Georgia and understand the school’s mission. A number of the students in the first group helped out with campus events over the summer, and they will be meeting the second group soon. Their program over the next four years includes seminars, shadowing clinicians, and mentoring.

**Master of Public Health (MPH)**

This program’s leadership changed in July 2009. Nannette Turner, Ph.D., M.P.H., is the new program director. Planning continues in developing an undergraduate Global Health focused program in collaboration with the College of Liberal Arts (CLA). A joint CLA/MUSM committee is now considering plans for implementation. The MPH program’s enrollment met budget expectations, and is planning to expand into Atlanta and Savannah. The MPH program had a Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accreditation site visit on October 21-22, 2008. CEPH found five areas of concern and placed the program on probation for two years. The MPH program arranged for the Council’s Executive Director Consultation in mid November. It is expected that a revised self study and on-site visit will be completed during the 2010-11 academic year.

**Research**

Growing the research enterprise is a major priority. The school is collaborating with the Provost’s Office to encourage, enhance, and grow mutually beneficial research with the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Memorial University Medical Center. Dr. Wayne Glasgow has an additional appointment as basic science laboratory director for the Anderson Cancer Institute on the Memorial Health campus in Savannah. MUSM continues to explore opportunities with Piedmont Hospital and St. Joseph’s Hospital in Atlanta.

<table>
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<th>Dollars requested</th>
<th>Proposals accepted</th>
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This increased activity reinforces MUSM’s commitment to further research endeavors.

**Funding Issues**

A continuing problem facing MUSM is the lack of adequate funds to provide scholarships to medical students and to increase the MUSM endowment that can provide a flow of funds to defray some of the expenses of students. The 2009 graduating class owed an average of
$172,000, which is above the national average. MUSM and the LCME continue to be concerned with student indebtedness.

During the current fiscal year, the State of Georgia has reduced its funding for medical student education by 5%. This amounts to a decrease of approximately $1.2 million for the school in this year alone. The cumulative deficit in state funding over the past two years exceeds $3 million. This reduction is due to the downturn of projected state revenues. The school has developed a plan to adapt to this 5% loss plus a contingency plan if cuts increase to 6, 8, or 10% in the future. The implementation of this level of reduction during the current year is again especially difficult to execute as contractual agreements with faculty members and student tuition rates were put in place in May 2009 for this fiscal year. The paramount impact of this reduction is that the School of Medicine may potentially be unable to maintain its partnership agreement with the state to expand its entering class beyond ninety and its own mission to educate physicians to meet the primary care and health care needs of rural and underserved Georgia. Overall, the impacts require the school to delay filling faculty vacancies, reduce professional travel for faculty members, defer physical plant improvements, terminate three faculty positions, and postpone planned educational technology enhancements.
E. Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics

On July 1, 2009, Dr. David Shields became the dean of the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics (SSBE). Dr. Shields previously served as the dean of the Haworth College of Business and professor of Accounting at Western Michigan University. Dr. Shields also has served as associate dean and M.B.A. director at Louisiana State University and has served on the accounting faculties at the University of Houston, Texas A&M University, Rice University, the American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird), the University of Michigan, and the University of Florida. He began his career as a staff accountant for Coopers & Lybrand.

In April 2004, SSBE received initial accreditation by the AACSB – the Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business, International. This accreditation is reviewed every five years. In January 2009, deans from Wake Forest University, Rollins College, and Millsaps College spent two days reviewing Mercer’s processes for strategic planning, continuous improvement, and faculty credentials. From this review, they recommended that accreditation be unconditionally reaffirmed and extended for another five years. AACSB accreditation represents the highest independent accreditation available to schools of business.

In spring 2009, BB&T Corp. awarded one million dollars to SSBE to establish a BB&T Distinguished Professorship of Capitalism and the Center for Undergraduate Research in Public Policy and Capitalism. BB&T will also continue funding the University’s Executive Forum.

Dr. Scott Beaulier, chair of the Economics Department and assistant professor of economics, is the first to hold the new BB&T Distinguished Professorship of Capitalism. Dr. Beaulier will also direct the Center for Undergraduate Research in Public Policy and Capitalism. This center will examine the role free societies play in promoting prosperity. The center will (1) provide funding for collaborative research grants between faculty and undergraduate students seeking to write in areas related to the moral foundations of capitalism and the role of liberty in economic development, (2) fund students to attend and present papers at academic meetings, and (3) support an annual student essay contest exploring a theme related to capitalism and contemporary society.

Mercer’s Executive Forum is a corporate and community outreach program of SSBE and the Office of University Advancement. The forum is a resource for working professionals in Macon and Atlanta and provides an opportunity for business and organization leaders to hear from some of the country’s most sought-after speakers, while interacting with other business leaders.
This summer 2009, SSBE began an accelerated M.B.A. program during the day on the Atlanta campus. This accelerated program will afford qualified individuals the opportunity to earn an M.B.A. from Mercer in just one year. The day program is tailored to meet the needs of individuals who are re-tooling their careers or returning to the work place, including retired military personnel, international students, and traditional graduates desiring to stay on a day schedule. The program is cohort-based with two eight-week fall sessions and two eight-week spring sessions.

A new series entitled “Readings in Political Economy” began in the Spring 2009 semester on the Macon campus. Prominent economists present papers on current topics in economics and public policy. Presenters included Robert Lawson of Auburn University, Benjamin Powell of Suffolk University, Noble Prize Laureate Vernon L. Smith of Chapman University, Peter Boettke of George Mason University, and Bruce Yandle of Clemson University. The series is funded through a grant of the Charles G. Koch Foundation.

The faculty of SSBE, with the leadership of Dean Shields, has begun a review of all of SSBE’s programs, both undergraduate and graduate. The goal is to assure that the programs of the school are appropriately structured for business practitioners of the future.
F. School of Engineering

Dr. Wade H. Shaw joined the School of Engineering in June 2009 as dean and the Kaolin Chair of Engineering. The past year has been a period of significant transition and growing recognition for the Mercer University School of Engineering (MUSE). The focus of activity included building the enrollment, establishing a strategic agenda, and developing relationships with research supporters and technology leaders.

School Highlights

- Mr. Greg Lofton joined the School of Engineering as the staff coordinator for graduate programs.
- Dr. Mike Leonard was named senior associate dean of engineering and Dr. Aaron Collins was named associate dean of engineering.
- 108 freshmen arrived for the Fall 2009 term. Total fall 2009 enrollment is 416 undergraduate and 100 graduate students.
- A major computer upgrade was completed in the summer of 2009 that installed 128 new office and laboratory computers. The main lobby of the School of Engineering has been renovated using a gift from Moore’s Furniture of Macon.
- The editorial office for the Engineering Management Review, a journal published by the IEEE and edited by Dr. Shaw, moved to the School of Engineering. A grant will provide a stipend for a student as assistant editor starting in January 2010.
- The Engineering Scholar Challenge and Expo event occurred on November 7, 2009. This new recruiting event brings students nominated by their high school counselors to Macon to visit MUSE and compete for $500,000 in scholarship support.
- MUSE participated in the FIRST Georgia Robotics Competition held at the Aerospace Museum at Robins Air Force Base in September 2009.
- The National Engineering Advisory Board (NEAB) met in April and October of 2009. Mr. Dan Nale of Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation is the chair.
- In the summer of 2009, two Mercer On Mission teams included engineering faculty. Dr. Laura Lackey worked with her team to support schools in Kenya. Drs. Ha Vo and Ramachandran Radharamanan “Radha” visited Vietnam to provide prosthetic devices designed at MUSE for people who need artificial limbs.
• The new graduate programs in Environmental Engineering and Environmental Systems have enrolled six students for fall 2009.

• A Donor Recognition Ceremony in April 2009 honored those generous individuals and foundations who supported the construction of the Science and Engineering Building. Several rooms were named for these individuals and foundations. Special notice was paid to the Congressional Delegation from Georgia who assisted in securing federal funds to help with the construction. Named rooms included the A.V. Elliott Mechanical Engineering Suite, The Peyton Anderson Auditorium, and the Hussey, Gay, Bell, and DeYoung Study Room.

• VNUS Medical Technologies Inc. of San Jose, California gave Mercer and Dr. Hyun three radio-frequency generators and a number of disposable endovenous catheters used in the treatment of varicose veins. The gift amounted to more than $97,000 and allowed Dr. Hyun, with several students, to develop a new automatic retraction system for the catheters. A group of Hyun’s students first used the equipment for their senior design project.

Faculty Highlights

• School of Engineering faculty published thirty-nine research papers in journals and conference proceedings in 2009.

• Three Mercer On Mission trips are planned for Summer 2010: (1) A team including Dr. Lackey will go to Kenya (2) Drs. Vo and Rhada will return for a second visit to Vietnam, and (3) either Dr. Loren Sumner or Mr. David McClellan will go to the Ricks Institute in Liberia.

• Drs. Laura Moody, Joan Burtner, and Sinjae Hyun continue to build relationships with Piedmont Healthcare in Atlanta with student projects and collaborative research. A proposal to continue research with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has been submitted.

• Drs. Radha and Jeng-Nan Juang are coordinating a major engineering conference in Taiwan and the Engineering Entrepreneurship program received a $70 thousand KEEN Phase II continuation grant.

• Dr. Joan Burtner continues to work closely with the MERC Electronic & Software Systems Engineering Directorate to support CMMI certification and with Regency
Hospital Corporation to develop research opportunities in healthcare.

- Drs. Scott Schultz and Paul MacNeil have developed a research team to work with the RAPCEval Program at Robins Air Force Base and received support for six proposals. Two student masters theses have been completed and four are in progress in the area of scheduling radar warning receivers.

- Drs. Vo and Schultz have started senior design teams to develop a means to manufacture prosthetic legs. Progress so far includes an assembly team to perform final assembly, a foot team to manufacture the skeletal foot, and software to enable a CNC machine to make the custom connectors.

- Drs. Anthony Choi and Monica Bubacz received funding to participate in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Workshop on career development and research at the University of Florida.

- Drs. Laura Moody, Phil Olivier, and Sinjae Hyun attended the workshop on effective grant writing sponsored by the Counsel on Undergraduate Research Workshop in Portland, OR.

- Dr. George Hayhoe hosted the interim meeting of the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission’s Joint Technical Committee in October 2009. Dr. Hayhoe has served as a member of this working group of experts from the U.S., Canada, the U.K., Australia, and Japan to develop international standards for software user documentation.

- Dr. Shaw authored a research paper that was published in the Business Process Management Journal. This paper received a 2009 Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence.

**Student Highlights**

- In May 2009, forty-eight graduate students and fifty-one undergraduate students received their diplomas.

- Kevin Lindsay, a junior in Biomedical Engineering, received a summer research fellowship to conduct a project at Northwestern University.

- Dr. Phil McCreanor is proud to announce that sixteen invitations were extended to Mercer students to join Tau Beta Pi—the national honor society for engineering.
• Four TCO students completed their internships in summer 2009. Ashley Holmes worked at Hoshizaki America; Aaron McKinney worked at DHL Global Mail; Ursula Llaveria worked for MMI, a small entrepreneurial marketing firm; and Ashleigh Woodard worked for Emory University School of Medicine.

• MUSE’s first exchange student from Karlsruhe, Germany is studying technical communication under the exchange agreement signed between Mercer and Hochschule Karlsruhe (HsKA) in spring 2009.

• Students in TCO 361 Usability are testing four Mercer portals in the fall semester to support the University's Institutional Review Board, Swilley Library in Atlanta, the Information Technology (IT) Department, and the Mercer Medical Library.

• Students successfully installed a small capacity wind turbine in May—the result of a student design problem in the green energy realm. Professors Sumner and McClellan oversaw the effort. Students reported 130 watts of output.

Alumni Highlights

• The Alumni Speaker Series sponsored two events in 2009. Mr. Joshua K. Hilderbrand of Creare Engineers made a presentation in March titled “A Career in Research and Development Engineering.” Josh received his B.S.E. with a mechanical specialization from Mercer in May 2003 and the M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Ms. Amanda Nance visited the campus in October. Amanda received her B.S. in Technical Communication, awarded cum laude, from Mercer University in May 2002.

• Christina Yarborough (BSE/MSE 2008, Mechanical), currently a Ph.D. student in Mechanical Engineering at West Virginia University, was awarded the 2009 Gary B. Multanen/Composites Manufacturing Applied Research Scholarship. The award was based on her graduate research performed at Mercer University School of Engineering on the effects of the deformation-recovery process in shape memory polymer composites.

• Jason Cooper, P.E., (BSE 2002, Environmental) was elected the GSPE 2008 Professional Engineer of the Year in Private Practice. Jason is the Engineering Department Manager with the Macon office of Geotechnical and Environmental Consultants.
• Lt. Cmdr. Nathan Epling (USN) (BSE 1998, Environmental) was a finalist for the Federal Engineer of Year award. Epling is a civil engineer with the National Park Service in Asheville, North Carolina. Sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, the Federal Engineer of Year is awarded to an engineer employed by a federal agency that employs at least fifty engineers worldwide.
G. James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology

The James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology, led by Dr. Alan Culpepper as dean, continues to grow and mature, while laying the foundations for new growth and opportunities in the next several years.

1. **Enrollment.** The McAfee School of Theology had a spring 2009 M.Div. enrollment of 223 students, graduated 43 M.Div. students and 5 D.Min. students in May, and admitted 47 new M.Div. students in the fall. The Fall 2009 enrollment is 205 M.Div. students and 16 D.Min. students, for a total of 221 students.

2. **Faculty and Staff.** McAfee continues to experience great stability in its faculty and staff. No one left or retired this year, and no new appointments were made. Dr. Tom Slater and Dr. Graham Walker are on sabbatical leave for the fall 2009.

3. **Endowment.** The School of Theology endowment has reached $12,391,426.50, as of December 2008.

4. **Alumni.** After eleven graduations, McAfee has 339 alumni. Of the 339, 238 are in ministry (70%), which is well above the average for ATS schools. Forty-nine are pastors, one hundred others are associate pastors or serve in staff positions, fifty-one are in church related positions (campus ministers or chaplains), seven are church consultants or church planters, six are missionaries, five work for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and twenty are in social services. Twenty-four are pursuing Th.M. or Ph.D. studies or teaching.

5. **Doctor of Ministry Degree.** This degree is a professional doctorate for M.Div. graduates who have at least three years of full-time experience in ministry. The first D.Min. graduates, seven, graduated in May 2008. Last year Dr. Larry McSwain became associate dean for the Doctor of Ministry degree program. The faculty adopted changes in the program that make it more flexible for pastors’ schedules, and this fall the faculty approved a new specialization in Preaching for the Doctor of Ministry degree program. The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) gave provisional approval for this degree program in 2004. In February 2009, the ATS granted ongoing approval for the Doctor of Ministry degree program.

6. **Library.** The Swilley Library reported a total of 57,656 volumes in the Theology collection in February 2009. The continued growth of this collection is vital for the accreditation and the excellence of the academic programs in theology. The University can be proud of the service rendered by the library staff in this effort.

7. **Association of Theological Schools.** In June 2007, the ATS reaffirmed the accreditation of the McAfee School of Theology for ten years and requested a report by April
2008 on (1) “the development of a comprehensive institutional assessment plan, with particular focus on developing and implementing student learning outcomes,” (2) “progress in increasing human resources in the area of support staff and faculty,” and (3) “the process for assessing the governing board and board of visitors.” In April 2008, the faculty submitted a comprehensive report on these issues, and on June 19, 2009, ATS informed McAfee that the Board of Commissioners “commends the School for its thorough assessment of its two degree programs” and received the report regarding a comprehensive assessment plan library resources. No further reports are due.

8. The Master of Arts on Christian Ministry. In spring 2009, the Trustees approved the proposal for a new two-year, fifty-six hour Master of Arts degree. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools also approved the program this summer. McAfee will enroll students in this new degree program beginning in August 2010.

9. Lilly Residency Program. In the fall of 2005, McAfee received a Lilly Endowment grant for $2,000,000 to undertake a five-year program designed to help graduates make the transition from school to the pastorate. Implementing the proposed program, McAfee has established a series of two-year residencies for McAfee graduates in teaching churches that support Mercer. McAfee is the only one of the twenty schools that received a grant for the Making Connections Initiative in 2005 to be invited to apply for a renewal grant. This summer 2009, McAfee applied for a renewal grant of $1 million to establish the McAfee Center for Teaching Churches in 2010. If this application is approved, then the McAfee Center for Teaching Churches will be the only center of its kind that establishes a link between Baptist churches and a school of theology, and provides resources and support for recent graduates transitioning into full-time congregational ministry, while supporting participating churches and their ministers.

10. Concentration in Global Christianity. A new specialization in Global Christianity in the Master of Divinity degree program will engage students in the study of expressions of Christianity in diverse cultural settings and encourage them to have an international, cultural immersion or internship during their program of study.

11. CF Foundation Spiritual Renewal Pilgrimage to Israel. For the third year, McAfee was chosen to conduct a spiritual renewal pilgrimage to Israel for a diverse group of twenty pastors, many of whom are members of McAfee’s Board of Visitors and pastors of supporting churches. Drs. Loyd Allen and Tom Slater served as the spiritual director and Bible teacher for the pilgrimage.

12. Events. September 2009 was filled with significant events: The second annual D.
Perry and Betty Ginn endowed lectures on “Christian Faith and Modern Science” (Sept. 15), McAfee’s annual student-Faculty Retreat (Sept. 25), and the Mercer Preaching Consultation, St. Simons Island (Sept. 27-29). Professor James D. G. Dunn will give the first annual Peter Rhea and Ellen Jones New Testament Lectures in November, and Dr. Robert Smith will give the William L. Self Preaching Lectures, April 5-6, 2010.
H. Tift College of Education

Dr. Carl Martray serves as the dean of the Tift College of Education.

Enrollment and Program Updates

Tift College of Education (TCE) is pleased to report record enrollments for the third year in a row. Preliminary Fall 2009 semester enrollment data indicate a 10% increase in both headcount and credit hours over Fall 2008 semester. In terms of student headcount, TCE is the largest college/school within the University, accounting for approximately one-fourth of the University’s total enrollment. The College’s enrollment increase is due to the continued strength of existing programs, the implementation of a new Ph.D. program, and the expansion of current programs into existing campuses and Regional Academic Centers. The College is also currently exploring program expansion into new locations beyond current sites (north of Atlanta and the Newnan area).

Tift College of Education graduated its first cohort of Ph.D. candidates on August 15, 2009. With the granting of these thirty-one Ph.D.s in Educational Leadership, Mercer University is eligible to move into the Carnegie classification as a Doctoral Research University. A number of TCE graduates have accepted leadership positions throughout the state and are contributing to improvement of education in Georgia. For example, one of the newest Ph.D. graduates was recently named superintendent of the Clarke County School District, located in Athens, GA.

In fall 2009, the College admitted forty-two students to the new Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, with cohorts on the Macon and Atlanta campuses. Interest in this new program was high, and the admissions process was competitive with over ninety-seven applicants; recruitment for the 2010 cohort began in fall 2009.

The M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education, which was expanded to the Henry and Douglas Regional Academic Centers last year, continues to produce enrollments beyond expectations. As a result of the success of this program, coupled with student demand for additional educational opportunities, the College is planning to expand the graduate offerings by adding the Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership in fall 2010.

Program Approval Update

The College’s strong accreditation and program approval record, resulting from the NCATE and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission review in 2008, continues with the recent site review of the Ed.S. Performance-Based Leadership program. This review was conducted in July 2009; the Board of Examiners team report indicated that all standards have
been fully met with no areas for improvement. The College takes pride in this exceptionally strong review of its program.

**TCE Production of New Educators**

Tift College of Education continues to be the largest private producer of educators in the state of Georgia. In 2008-09, 391 candidates completed programs that prepared them for their initial teaching certificate, and 44 completed the certification program for school leaders. With the enrollment growth experienced in the College during recent years, Mercer’s presence and impact in the arena of public and private education will continue to expand. In the most recent Title II summary report, which is required of all institutions with professional education programs, Mercer’s pass rate on the required state certification tests was at 98%, as compared with the state average of 95%. It should be noted, however, that the 95% pass rate reported by the state in its recent summary is inflated as it included institutions that require their candidates to pass the tests prior to being admitted to the student teaching experience, thus giving these institutions a 100% pass rate. This practice will change in the future as a result of federal legislation designed to capture the true performance of institutions’ candidates.

**TCE and Mercer On Mission**

In summer 2009, Tift College of Education participated in Mercer On Mission for the first time. A team of ten initial certification students, drawn from the Macon and Atlanta campuses and the Regional Academic Centers, traveled to Liberia for four weeks of study and service learning. They were accompanied by three Mercer faculty members, Drs. Emilie Paille and Susan Malone from the Tift College of Education and Dr. Richard Wilson from the College of Liberal Arts, along with four mentor teachers from Georgia public schools. The TCE students, faculty, and mentor teachers joined the teachers of Ricks Institute in Virginia, Liberia, to form professional development teams that worked with Ricks elementary students over the four-week period. The returning students made a presentation to the College faculty in September 2009, sharing how this collaborative experience with the Ricks teachers and students had changed their lives both personally and professionally. The presentation ignited within the faculty an enthusiastic commitment to continuing the partnership with Ricks Institute through future Mercer On Mission opportunities, as well as additional collaborative endeavors with Ricks beyond the summer experiences, and to exploring potential educational partnerships in other parts of the world through Mercer On Mission.
I. Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

Dr. Linda A. Streit serves as the interim dean for Georgia Baptist College of Nursing. The College offers bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees on the Atlanta Campus. A pre-nursing program, initiated in the Fall 2006 semester, continues on the Macon Campus. Student enrollment for the Fall 2009 semester is 436. The College of Nursing is celebrating its 107th year as a nursing education institution.

The College is most pleased to announce the start of the doctor of philosophy in nursing program. Six students were accepted into the inaugural class for the hybrid online program of study. This rigorous curriculum prepares post-master’s nurses at the Ph.D. level to educate the next generation of nurses and assume leadership positions in administrative, research, clinical, and entrepreneurial settings. Students are able to tailor their coursework and individualize their research to focus on one of three areas of concentration: ethics, clinical scholarship, or education. The College has invested in online learning technology to provide synchronous sessions of learning which allow students to participate in coursework with minimal travel to campus. All current Ph.D. students are educators in nursing programs in the southeastern region of the United States.

The College continues to emphasize the importance of developing future leaders within the nursing profession and maintains full student body membership in the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). The NSNA annual convention was held in Nashville, and the College was well represented with over fifty students in attendance. At the April 2009 conference, the College received two national awards, including the Community Service Award and the Breakthrough to Nursing Award. College students presented a resolution addressing the importance of sun safety and of avoiding excessive sun exposure to the adolescent population. This resolution was passed by the NSNA board and members. The College is also pleased to have two students elected to serve as national officers of NSNA for the 2009-10 academic year: Diana Carbone Peck, director (South), and Devon Ippolito, Nominations and Elections Committee (Southern Election Area). In addition, three students serve on the Board for the Georgia Association of Nursing Students: Kerri Kneeece, first vice president; Kathleen Kebe, director of Breakthrough to Nursing; and Karlee Bauman, EKG editor.

After two years of planning and review, the undergraduate curriculum moved from three years of nursing courses to two years of nursing courses. Beginning Fall 2009 semester, entering prelicensure students complete fifty-seven general education hours prior to enrollment into the nursing program. The prerequisite courses are designed to create and support a
foundation for professional nursing practice. The curriculum is organized using a framework developed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), *The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice* (2008). As the new curriculum was implemented, nursing faculty continue to “teach out” the previous curriculum plan. The College holds professional accreditation with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The College provided CCNE with a substantive change report highlighting the undergraduate curriculum changes.

During the 2008-09 academic year, the College graduated 147 undergraduate students and three graduate students. Dr. William L. Self, senior pastor of Johns Creek Baptist Church in Alpharetta, Georgia, delivered the commencement address at the May 2009 ceremony. Nursing student Shannon Louise Moon was the recipient of the 2009 Griffin B. Bell Award. At the time of this report, seventy-eight prelicensure from the May 2009 graduating class were eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination. In September 2009, 100% of the seventy-five students who sat for examination passed the test; three graduates have not yet taken the exam.

Over the past year, the College of Nursing contributed to University agendas, such as Mercer On Mission, the Engaged University Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), and Academic Initiatives Monetary Fund for Research (AIM Fund). Eight nursing students and two nursing faculty members participated in a twenty-one-day visit to Thailand. During the mission trip, students were challenged to learn about the country, as well as social and health-related issues. The QEP initiative seeks to strengthen training in applied ethics through cross-disciplinary and collaborative learning opportunities. Nursing students and faculty members maintain active involvement in the initiative. The AIM Fund reflects a strategic priority to support interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and scholarship at the highest levels of excellence at Mercer University. Ten nursing faculty are participating in interdisciplinary AIM projects.

The College is pleased to announce the hiring of Laura P. Kimble as the Piedmont Healthcare Endowed Chair in Nursing. Dr. Kimble is an award-winning teacher and accomplished scholar. She has served at several universities prior to joining Mercer, including the University of Rochester, Indiana Wesleyan University, Emory University, and Georgia State University. In 2004, she was awarded Emory’s Teacher/Scholar Award, a university-wide teaching award. Her research was funded by the American Heart Association, the National Institute of Nursing Research, and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Kimble is the author or co-author of multiple research-based articles and abstracts focused on health outcomes in patients with coronary heart disease. She was named a fellow in 2003 by the Fuld/American Association of Colleges of Nursing Leadership for Academic Nursing and in 2001 as a fellow of
the American Heart Association.

The following represents some of the accomplishments of the College’s faculty:

- Drs. JoEllen Dattilo and Julie Jones, as well as Professor Daphnee Stewart, presented at the National League for Nursing Summit, San Antonio, Texas.


- Dr. Susan S. Gunby serves on the Georgia Core Center for Oncology, Research, and Education; she also serves as chair for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools site visits, and presented papers at the Mayo Clinic and Drexel University.

- Professors Fran Kamp and John Summerville authored “Using simulation experiences to promote safe entry,” *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 2009, 5(3), pp. e142-e143.


- Dr. Jackie Zalumas was appointed to the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Correctional Health Care*. Chapter: HIV in Corrections: Care of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons. [Book title: *The Person with HIV Disease: Nursing Perspectives*, 2009].

- Three faculty are currently enrolled in doctoral studies: Professors Kelli Shugart, Susan Shelton, and Winsome Stephenson.

In March 2009, Dr. Susan Gunby announced that she would be stepping down as dean of the College of Nursing. Dr. Gunby requested to remain on faculty to teach full-time. Dr. Gunby manages two graduate courses and guest presentations in select undergraduate courses. In April 2009, a search committee was appointed to begin the search for a nursing dean and the committee continues to review applicants for the position.
J. College of Continuing and Professional Studies

Dr. Priscilla Danheiser is the newly appointed dean of the College of Continuing and Professional Studies.

Enrollment Increases

The College of Continuing and Professional Studies (CCPS) is pleased to report enrollment increases in its undergraduate and graduate programs for the Fall I 2009 semester for an overall enrollment of 927. This is the sixth straight increase in enrollment when compared with the same period from the previous year and represents the highest enrollment since the formation of the College in 2003. The gains are reflected in both a 17% increase in student headcount and a 12.8% increase in credit hours when compared with the Fall I 2008 session, placing the College among the colleges and schools of the University that report the largest percentage increases in student headcount enrollment.

New Program Development, Program Revision, Online Format Development, and Program Expansion to New Sites

This fall, the College launched the Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Human Resources Administration and Development at the Henry and Douglas County Regional Academic Centers. Enrollment for the Fall I 2009 term exceeded projections. The new undergraduate program curriculum prepares students with an understanding of human behavior, particularly as related to work, and with the competencies to benefit both individuals and organizations.

For summer 2009, the College launched a post-master’s certificate program in career development. Consisting of four fully online courses, the certificate program is designed for individuals with a master’s degree in counseling or in a counseling-related field and for those currently licensed as professional counselors, associate professional counselors, psychologists, or social workers.

The College successfully expanded the Bachelor of Applied Science degree program in Organization Leadership to the Macon campus in January 2009. Ten new full-time students are enrolled in the Macon organization leadership cohort, and nine new students are enrolled as pre-organization leadership students in Macon. Because Dr. Lynn Clemons, chair of the Department of Leadership Studies, is serving as mentor for the Macon cohort and Dr. Gail Johnson is serving as academic advisor for the pre-organization leadership students, the College was able to expand the program to Macon without the addition of full-time faculty.
This fall, as a collaborative effort between the College of Continuing and Professional Studies and the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, CCPS began offering two new courses—Nutrition and Microbiology for Allied Health—in support of the first two years of the nursing curriculum on the Macon campus. The College recruited Dr. Sabrina Walthall, assistant professor of science, to fill a reallocated position in support of the new microbiology course and in support of enrollment increases in general education science courses offered to CCPS, education, and business students.

The Department of Leadership Studies reformatted the Master of Science degree program in Public Safety Leadership as a hybrid Executive Public Safety Leadership Program, including extended face-to-face as well as fully online class sessions. The new option will be offered in addition to the traditional face-to-face public safety leadership graduate program offered currently on the Atlanta campus and will allow enrollment of public safety professionals from throughout the state. In addition, the department designed a fully online undergraduate degree completion option in public safety for individuals with an associate’s degree in criminal justice from the Technical College of Georgia.

The College and in particular the Department of Leadership Studies worked with the Mercer University Piedmont Healthcare Center for Health and Learning and the leadership of Piedmont Healthcare to design a certificate program for medical practice managers, leadership for the Medical Practice, proposed to be offered in online format with three face-to-face meetings on-site at Piedmont Hospital.

The College submitted a pro forma to the University administration for two post-Master's degree programs in Counseling: a Ph.D. degree program in Counselor Education and Supervision and an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in School Counseling. The College submitted pro forma statements for expansion of the organization leadership and counseling programs to the possible Northern Arc location and for expansion of the counseling programs to the Savannah campus.

The faculty continues to develop major, general education, and elective courses in fully online and hybrid formats for delivery as additional sections of the face-to-face course offerings the College will continue to provide. The College contributed 34% of the course offerings for the 2009 Mercer Summer Online initiative.

Since January 2009, CCPS has offered one training program (3 modules) in leadership for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one Public Safety Leadership Institute (3 of 6 modules), and one training program (17 modules) in substance abuse counselor training for the state of Georgia Department of Corrections.
Faculty members within all four of the College’s departments are working to design new programs attractive to working adult learners. These efforts, all of which are in the early stages of development, include exploration of a Master of Liberal Studies degree with several concentrations, a Master’s degree in Leadership Studies with tracks, a Master of Human Services degree to include a concentration in applied gerontology, an undergraduate program in technology and informatics to include health informatics and additional interdisciplinary tracks, and new concentrations in mathematics and science for the Liberal Studies major.

**Mercer On Mission to Guatemala**

Dr. Fred Bongiovanni, professor of Sociology and Religious Studies, and Dr. Tim Craker, associate professor of Comparative Literature and Philosophy, led a three-week Mercer On Mission to Guatemala. Nine CCPS students traveled to mountain villages and orphanages through Buckner Orphan Care International to distribute clothing and engage with orphaned children, allowing the students to apply what they learned in two associated courses focused on the comparative study of the Americas.

**Accreditation of the Professional Counseling Program**

The Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accredited the College’s Master of Science degree program in professional counseling. CACREP is the independent accrediting arm for the American Counseling Association established to provide an effective measure of quality assurance for counselor preparation programs.

**College Writing Program**

The College has reallocated an existing position in the Department of Liberal Studies to a writing coordinator, Melanie Pavich. This position is charged with strengthening student writing across the College through organizing appropriate writing workshops for faculty from all departments, leading meetings with faculty who teach the writing courses, serving as a resource for individual faculty members in the design and evaluation of writing assignments, and coordinating assessment activities related to student writing outcomes. The plan of a comprehensive emphasis across the curriculum shows a commitment to developing writing skill within a context of personal reflection, citizenship, and cultural awareness.

**Faculty and New Student Profile**

The mean age of students new to the College in the Fall I session is 34.5. The age range is 18-58. Of the student population, 73% are female and 23% are male. Sixty percent of
the new students are African-American; 24% are white-Caucasian; 8% are Asian; 8% are other. For first-time college students, representing 11% of new students, the average number of years out of school is nine. For transfer students, representing 89% of new students, the average number of years out of school is four. The largest percentage of CCPS students is at the Henry County Center.

**Strengthening of the Faculty Performance Review System**

The Tenure, Promotion, and Review Committee completed a year-long review of the tenure, promotion, and review policies and procedures of the College. The review resulted in a strengthened plan for evaluating faculty in multiple and documentable ways according to student learning outcomes desired. Revisions include the addition of peer review, a third-year review for tenure-track faculty, a redefinition of scholarship to recognize multiple forms of scholarly activity, required annual discussions between faculty member and department chair and periodic discussions between faculty member and dean, a procedure by which full-time contract faculty members may apply and be considered for promotion in rank, and new evaluation rubrics.

**New Organizational Structure, New Members of the College Leadership Team**

The College added a fourth department, the Department of Leadership Studies, to the existing structure. Dr. Lynn Clemons, assistant professor of Organization Leadership, serves as chair of the new department.

**Faculty Professional Activity and Scholarship**

Since the fall of 2008, faculty members have engaged in a variety of professional activities that are serving to inform instruction and curriculum development:

- The College is sponsoring a series of *Faculty and Student Forums on Scholarship*, open to faculty and staff throughout the University.

- The College conducts College-wide and departmental adjunct faculty development workshops focused on effective teaching and learning and student success throughout the year.

**Counseling and Human Sciences**

- Dr. David Lane, coordinator of the Counseling Program, received promotion to the rank of professor. Dr. Lane is serving as editor of the *Georgia Journal of Professional Counseling* published by the Georgia Licensed Professional Counselors Association
(LPCA) and has co-authored *Please Share the Door, I'm Freezing! Creating Oneness in Marriage* with his wife, Dr. Donna Lane, an adjunct instructor in the College. Dr. Lane serves as Ethics Chair for the LPCA and is on the LPCA Executive Committee.

- Dr. Laurie Lankin, associate professor of Counseling and Human Sciences, presented a workshop at the Southeastern Conference on Cross-cultural Issues in Counseling and Education entitled “One Person, Multi-ethnic Identities,” focused on the complicated identities developed by people of multiple racial and ethnic backgrounds. Dr. Lankin presented a session, “Working with Men Who Have Been Sexually Assaulted,” at the 21st annual Georgia Licensed Professional Counselors conference. Dr. Lankin presented “Your Child’s First Semester at Mercer” for Mercer’s Family Weekend, “Parenting Your College Freshmen” for parents of incoming traditional freshmen at Mercer, and “Lessons from *Whisper of the River*” for Mercer’s traditional incoming freshmen.

- Dr. Karen Rowland, assistant professor of Counseling, served as a panelist for the discussion, “Challenges and Shifts within Black America: Health (Mental and Physical) Care, Education, Government, Criminal Justice, Economics, and the Church” at the InterVarsity National Black Student Leadership Advancement Conference in Atlanta. Dr. Rowland served as a member of the “Think Tank” panel addressing the topic “Advocacy, Assessment and Accountability” at the Georgia School Counselors Association Region VI spring meeting.

- Dr. Rowland and Dr. Diane Clark, assistant professor of Counseling, were guest speakers for the Savannah-Chatham County Elementary School Counselors’ meeting.

- Dr. Clark serves on the Veteran’s Committee and as secretary for the Licensed Professional Counselors Association.


- Dr. Caroline Brackette, assistant professor of Counseling, presented “Self-awareness and Goal Attainment” to undergraduate students at Morehouse College. Dr. Brackette presented “Self-esteem for Tweens and Teens” to Fulton County residents as part of a
“grandparents raising grandchildren support group” sponsored by Cascade United Methodist Church. In response to a request, Dr. Brackette and Dr. Rowland met with the Georgia Department of Education and school district administrators to address issues related to homeless students and migrant student education.

- Dr. Clark, Dr. Rowland, and Dr. Brackette presented papers along with students at the meeting of the Georgia School Counselors Association in November 2009.

- Dr. Kyra Osmus, program coordinator of Human Services, was elected treasurer of Tau Upsilon Alpha, the national human services honorary society. She serves on the Advisory Board and the Personnel Committee for Loaves and Fishes, and on the advisory boards of the Georgia Industrial Home and Three Rivers Home Health Care in Macon, Georgia.

- Dr. Marna Burns, assistant professor of Human Services, received the Ph.D. in psychology. She completed Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) designed to prepare citizens to assist with crises in the community.

- Dr. Arthur Williams, chair of the department, received promotion to the rank of professor. Dr. Williams serves as reviewer for the Georgia Journal of Professional Counseling published by the Georgia Licensed Professional Counselors Association and as a reviewer for the manuscript, Counseling and Empathy, submitted for publication by Brooks/Cole. He is treasurer of LPCA and serves on the executive committee.

- Dr. Brenda Callahan serves on the Advisory Board for the Georgia School of Addiction Studies and the Georgia Alcohol and Drug Addiction Certification Board. She is the faculty advisor for the Student Affiliate Organization (SAO) associated with LPCA and sponsored graduate student travel to the Georgia School of Addiction Studies in Savannah.

**Leadership Studies**

- Dr. Lynn Clemons, assistant professor of Organization Leadership and chair of the Department of Leadership Studies, was selected for participation in the prestigious Governor’s Teaching Fellows Summer Symposium, an honor reserved for only fourteen faculty members from colleges and universities in the state of Georgia each year. Dr. Clemons’ paper, “Offer Accelerated Bachelor’s Program to Attract Adults Eager to Advance,” was published in the Nontraditional Students Report.
• Dr. Clemons and Dean Danheiser served as panelists for the Leadership Douglas Education Day held in March 2009 at West Central Technical College.

• Dr. Larry Stewart, associate professor of Public Safety and coordinator of the Master of Science degree program in Public Safety Leadership, was the commencement speaker for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Law Enforcement August graduation. His speech entitled, "Consolidated Public Safety: A Re-engineered Strategy for Protecting America," centered on providing consolidated public safety to protect America more effectively.

• Dr. Richard Bohannon, assistant professor of Organization Leadership and Organization Leadership program coordinator, was the keynote speaker for the sixth annual Tropical Institute of Community Health and Development’s Scientific Conference in Kisumu, Kenya. Dr. Bohannon taught a course on leadership, strategic planning, and human resource development at Great Lakes University of Kisumu and served as the university’s commencement speaker.

• Dr. Bohannon and Corrine Williams, a graduate student in the Tift College of Education, were co-presenters at the “Caring for Creation: Ethical Responses to Climate Change” conference on Mercer’s Atlanta campus. Dr. Bohannon and Ms. Williams presented “Greening the Campus/Lifestyle Changes.”

• Dr. Stephen Ruegger, associate professor of Criminal Justice and Public Safety, presented a paper, “Criminal Justice Field Study as Experiential Learning” and Dr. Lynn Tankersley, assistant professor of Criminal Justice and Public Safety program Coordinator, presented “Field Experience as Service Learning” on a panel entitled “Experiential Learning: Internships and So Much More” at the 2009 Southern Criminal Justice annual conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

Mathematics, Science, and Information Systems

• Dr. Hani Khoury, department chair, received promotion to the rank of professor. Dr. Khoury presented “Citizenship and Mathematics: The Importance of Dialogue in Mathematics Teaching and Learning,” at the 20th Annual International Conference on College Teaching and Learning. The paper was one of a small number of accepted papers chosen for publication in the conference’s Selected Papers. Dr. Khoury presented “Climates in the Mathematics Classroom: Using Mathematics Education in Schools to Give Peace a Voice” held at St. George’s House, Windsor Castle, England.
Dr. Khoury and Dr. Colleen Stapleton, assistant professor of science, are two CCPS participants in an Academic Monetary Fund (AIM) funded feasibility study for the Mercer Center for Preschool Mathematics, Science, and Health Education in collaboration with colleagues from Tift College of Education, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, and Sheltering Arms-Georgia Training Institute.

Dr. Feng Liu, assistant professor of Information Systems, and Dr. Colleen Stapleton received University SEED grants in support of proposals entitled, “Motivation, Knowledge, and Retention in Science Courses” and “Augmented Reality Environment for Science Study.”

Dr. Stapleton led workshops, “Science in the Early Childhood Classroom,” for preschool teachers and curriculum supervisors in Cartersville and Columbus, Georgia along with Dr. John Payne, assistant professor in the Tift College of Education, who organized the sessions in preparation for the collaborative AIM project.

Dr. Zipangani Vokhiwa, assistant professor of science, in collaboration with the School of Engineering, will lead a Mercer On Mission for summer 2010. The project involves assessing and restoring a watershed and monitoring water supply and quality to an orphanage and a community in Malawi. Mercer On Mission students will serve an orphanage or village in Malawi as they work to sustainably manage watershed quality and supplies.

Liberal Studies

Dr. Margaret Eskew, associate professor of English, was selected as a University Commons Fellow. She is the editor of the Mercer/CCPS creative writing journal, Regeneration, believed to be the first undergraduate, student-produced journal of student and faculty writing in adult learning programs in the nation.

Dr. Timothy Craker, associate professor of Comparative Literature and Philosophy, presented a paper entitled “The Five Directions” in the plenary panel of the conference, American Tropics: Towards a Literary Geography, held at the University of Essex in Colchester, England.

Dr. Karen Lacey, assistant professor of English, presented a session entitled “Reading Strategies for Writing Practice: The Push to Move Online,” at the bi-annual meeting of the European Association of Teachers of Online Writing held in Coventry, England. Dr.
Lacey’s paper has been accepted for publication in *Arts and Humanities in Higher Education*, an international journal of theory, research, and practice. Dr. Lacey received the College of Continuing and Professional Studies Award for Excellence in Teaching and was selected as one of twelve Governor’s Teaching Fellows from colleges and universities in Georgia for the prestigious 2009-10 Academic Symposia.

- Dr. William Thurman, Jr., adjunct faculty member in the College, received the College’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by an Adjunct Faculty Member.

- Dean Priscilla Danheiser along with Dr. John Chalfa, chair of the College of Liberal Arts Department of Journalism and Media Studies and Ms. Kelly Jones, with the Department of Technology at Stratford Academy, led a Summer Institute, “Teaching and Engaged Learning with Technology,” for faculty members at Florida Southern College. Dean Danheiser’s column, “Come to me, Mantra of Professional Education,” was published in the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*. 
K. Townsend School of Music

Administration

In May of 2009, Dr. John H. Dickson completed his first year as dean of the Townsend School of Music (TSM). Administration within the School has been supported and improved by the following people:

- Billie Rampley, coordinator of arts marketing, is developing a comprehensive marketing plan for TSM, including view-books, publicity templates, Web site design, and alumni newsletter.
- Janet Jarriel, special consultant for development to TSM, is developing a TSM Board entitled, “Friends of Music,” as well as several special projects for fundraising
- Stanley Roberts, associate dean for recruiting and admissions, has developed a comprehensive recruiting plan that resulted in one of the largest freshman classes in TSM history.
- Janice Stubbington, administrative music assistant, has improved recital coordination and publicity.
- Patty Crocker, administrative assistant to the dean and to the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, has provided outstanding administrative leadership for the McDuffie Center that has resulted in more efficient operations.

After updating alumni contact information through the summer, the first TSM Alumni Newsletter was emailed in October 2009.

Enrollment

After experiencing an unusual decline in incoming freshmen for 2008 (ten incoming freshmen), the music faculty focused priority attention on recruiting this past year. The result was a large freshman class numbering thirty new students. Spring 2009 enrollment included sixty-four undergraduates and eighteen graduate students for a total enrollment of eighty-two. Fall 2009 enrollment included seventy-three undergraduates and fourteen graduate students for a total enrollment of eight-seven. Although the new graduate program experienced a small decline, two additional students returned scholarships for last-minute jobs. Improvements to the church music and collaborative piano programs should increase enrollments for 2010 near the restricted cap. TSM is back on track with undergraduate recruitment and anticipates a return to
a total enrollment of 100 within the next two years.

Curriculum

The Dean’s Council and TSM faculty are just completing a major revision of all degree programs for the music school. Revision of the General Education core for each degree, in addition to curricular changes in the B.M., B.A., and B.M.E. degrees, represents an enormous amount of work and excellent collaboration among faculty. These revisions provide interdisciplinary relationships with the Stetson School of Business and Economics and the College of Liberal Arts. TSM anticipates that, with University committee approval, all degree revisions will be in place for the ten-year NASM self-study, which is to be written in the current academic year and reviewed by a team-site visit in the spring of 2011.

NASM approved a new M.M. degree in collaborative piano in the spring. With the curriculum now in place, recruiting begins this fall for graduate students. Newest faculty member Professor Elizabeth Pridgen brings her international reputation as a collaborative artist, having performed with such superstars as cellist Yo-Yo Ma, to this innovative program.

Facilities and Equipment

Although the Townsend School of Music has resided in the McCorkle Music Building for only the past eight years, growth in student body and faculty has created space issues. Enrollment has doubled since entering the “new” facility. Full-time faculty has increased by three and adjunct faculty by approximately six. With only one dedicated classroom and an insufficient number of faculty studios and practice rooms, the School has resorted to increased use of Newton Chapel and the Annex for additional space. Given the proximity to McCorkle, Newton is the perfect space for renovation. It requires no new building and the excellent potential for maximum space at minimum cost.

The single-most immediate challenge for the TSM is the replacement of its piano fleet. In spring 2009, Steinway agreed to reinstate a “loaner” program for ten pianos at no charge. This partnership was created with the understanding that TSM would announce its intention to become an “All-Steinway” School in the near future. Being designated an “All-Steinway School” would be a major recruiting tool for the TSM and would ensure the continued commitment to excellence in its total facilities and instruments. Since the TSM Board has yet to be formed, the decision was made to postpone this announcement until the fall of 2010. This remains the top development project for the School and will require funding of approximately $700,000.

Centers and Institutes

Perhaps the most notable accomplishment of the spring was the remaining integration of
the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings within the curriculum and life of the School. With the infrastructure successfully built, there now exists a sense of mutual cooperation, respect, and encouragement between students, faculty, and administration. It is indeed a rare opportunity when a university can create a special project whose unique contributions focus national and global attention on the institution. The Robert McDuffie Center for Strings is such a project, and it is positioned to become a model for collegiate string education in this country. The success of the Center is irrefutable, and it has become the flagship of the music school. Goals now shift to securing the endowment.

The Townsend-McAfee Institute for Graduate Church Music recently formed an alliance with Polyphony, an organization of more than 250 pastoral church musicians. This alliance will strengthen Mercer’s connection to churches, pastors, and ministers of music who support a traditional, classical, and historical church music program. Efforts are under way for a comprehensive look at the vision and mission of the Institute with plans to establish a national youth choir and summer symposia in church music. With the announced resignation of Dr. John Simons, effective at the end of this academic year, it is anticipated that a new director of the Institute and professor in church music will seize the opportunity to take a national role in graduate church music education.

The Celebrating Grace hymnal project sponsored by the Institute is in the final stages before going to press. The Hymnal Premiere is scheduled for March 7-8, 2009 in Atlanta. The new hymnal promises to be an exceptional resource for worship in Baptist and other Protestant denominations across the country. Mercer’s “stamp” on this project should pay many dividends to the University, the TSM, and the Institute for Church Music.

**External Outreach**

Townsend School of Music continues with the Fickling Hall Recital Series for 2009-10 in which more than fifty musical events that will feature faculty, student ensembles, and guest artists. Additionally, a new Center for Strings concert series features a remarkable array of string artists, including the world-renowned Miró Quartet. The School remains committed to external programs that offer service to the community through educational outreach and recruitment such as the Mercer/Macon Youth Symphony Orchestra (which has enjoyed a twenty-player increase for a total of more than eighty players), the Mercer Children’s Choir (approximately eighty singers), and the Middle Georgia Choral Society (approximately seventy-five singers).

Special projects sponsored by the TSM offer unique opportunities for Macon’s musical culture. In September 2009, The Robert McDuffie and Friends Labor Day Festival for Strings
welcomed sixteen gifted high school string students featured in recital and master-classes, open to the public, with the world-class McDuffie string faculty.

TSM faculty continue to offer clinics and workshops in schools locally as well as throughout the state and southern region. Concerts and recitals outside the Macon area continue to be the goal of the School’s performing faculty.

Faculty

The hiring of three new adjunct brass faculty from Atlanta has created new energy for the brass program. Now featuring a faculty brass quintet, the faculty are committed to an intense year of recruiting for new brass students.

Dean John Dickson continues his performing career as conductor and conducting pedagogue. Highlights include: invitational performance with his newly formed professional chamber choir, Coro Vocati, at Spivey Hall in Atlanta; guest clinician for the Chorister’s Guild; guest lectureship for the Mississippi College Lyall Lecture Series; guest adjudicator for the International Male Choral Competition in Cornwall, England; and guest conductor for festivals including the Middle Tennessee All-State Chorus, the Texas Region XI, the Long Island Presbyterian Choral Festival, as well as various state choral events. As an editor for The Choral Journal, he authored “The Crossroads of Our Calling,” April 2009, and also wrote an article for The Baptist Heritage Council: “Do not go gentle into that good night,” June 2009.

Dr. Christopher Macklin, assistant professor of Musicology, completed an article for the forthcoming Journal of the Royal Musical Association: “Cross-cultural perspectives on secular vocal performance in early Wales.” He lectured at the Kalamazoo and Leeds International Medieval Congress. As a performer, his recording with jazz trumpeter Gerard Presencer, “Meditations” on Basho Records, was released in May and his solo performance of organum from the Magnus Liber organi was televised on “The One Show” (BBC1). He performed with the ensemble Uncloistered in Macon, Tallahassee, Rochester, and New York City.

Dr. Monty Cole, associate professor of Music, continues to perform as principal clarinet of the Ocmulgee Symphony Orchestra (Central Georgia’s newest Symphony Orchestra). He performed as saxophone artist with the Macon Symphony for its Blue Shades Concert and with the Jim Newton Jazz Orchestra in Tifton. Robins Air Force Base contracted him to offer post-graduate instruction to woodwind musicians based in Warner Robins. He is featured on clarinet on Glances from a Two-Gallon Aquarium, showcasing the music of David Harned Johnson.

Dr. Richard Kosowski, assistant professor of Voice, performed his faculty recital with Drs. Carol Goff and Martha Malone and students from the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings. Two community performances for St. Peter Claver Catholic Church and a Concert for the Cure
highlight his service to the community. Oratorio performances include tenor soloist for the Choral Society of Central Georgia’s performance of the Mozart *Requiem* and the Newnan Masterworks Chorale performance of Handel's *Messiah*. He is the soloist for the Macon Symphony Orchestra Pops Concert and is lecturer for a workshop on the changing voice for the Georgia chapter of the Music Educators National Conference.

Dr. Marcus Reddick, assistant professor of Music, has enjoyed a prolific season of performances with the Macon Symphony Orchestra, the Augusta Symphony Orchestra and numerous jazz ensembles, faculty recitals, International Conductors Workshop, the Cherry Blossom Festival, and University Wind Ensemble. He has served as guest artist at the Georgia Music Educators Association Convention with the Mercer Children’s Choir and the Albany State Jazz Ensemble.

Dr. Allen McCullough, assistant professor of Composition and Theory, completed a major orchestral work, his first piano concerto, and the revision of another significant piece, his first string quartet. The former was showcased at the Penn Composer’s Readings by the Curtis Orchestra, with Matthew Bengston as the piano soloist, and the latter has been read by quartets such as the Daedalus, Miró, and the Cassatt quartets. The American premiere of two works for choir, *Evening’s Song* and *Psalm 23*, was given by the Eakins Vocal Consorit of Philadelphia. He completed *The Role of Dodecaphony in the Barber’s Sonata for Piano*—an essay that satisfied the requirements for the Ph.D. in composition at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Ian Altman, associate professor of Piano, performed solo recitals, lectures, and master-classes at Johnson State University, Vermont, Georgia College and State University, Georgia Southwestern College and State University, and Mercer University.

Dr. Douglas Hill, professor of Music, hosted USC composition professor Frank Ticheli as part of a joint composer residency program with the Macon Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Hill’s Mercer Wind Ensemble performed in a joint concert with the Tattnall Square Academy Symphonic Band. As a founding member of the Colony IV Brass Quintet, Dr. Hill performed for the Cherry Blossom Festival. He served as director for the annual Mercer Summer Band and Orchestra Camp. As a recipient of a Summer Research Grant, Dr. Hill attended the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) international conference held on the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music campus. He also coordinates and plays in Mercer’s new brass quintet.

Dr. Carol Goff, associate professor of Music, served as collaborative artist for numerous faculty and guest artist recitals, Mercer Singers’ concerts, and student recitals. She was vocal coach for the Georgia National Association of Teachers of Singing. Dr. Goff served as
collaborative artist in master-classes with such world-renowned artists as David Daniels, Frederica von Stade and Martin Katz. She performed in a chamber music master-class for the Music Teachers National Association and participated in the Atlanta Music Club Competition. She is currently involved in a collaboration project for a CD recording with Leah Partridge, Mercer University alumna and Metropolitan Opera soprano.

Dr. Stanley Roberts, professor of Music, has served as guest conductor for the Georgia District 10 Honor Choir and the Georgia District 5 Honor Choir. He was also conductor for the Abraham-Baldwin College Choral Day. Additionally he has conducted Mercer Singers and the Mercer Women’s Chamber Choir on numerous concerts in Macon and abroad.

Dr. John Simons, associate professor of Music, served as clinician with the Mercer Children’s Choir for the Georgia Music Educators Conference, the Southeast Orff Schulwerk Society, and the National Convocation of the Baptist Church Music Conference. He was conductor of the GMEA All-State Elementary Honor Choir. Named Chair of Artists and Programming for the Macon Symphony Orchestra, he also served the community through his concerts with the Choral Society of Middle Georgia. He is the coordinating editor for Celebrating Grace Hymnal whose premier is scheduled for March 2010.

Amy Schwartz Moretti, associate professor of Music and director of the McDuffie Center for Strings, served as guest artist for numerous orchestras and festivals across the country, including: Winter Festival of the Seattle Chamber Music Society, Corvallis Oregon State University Symphony, Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, Summer Festival of the Seattle Chamber Music Society (performances were streamed online and submitted to NPR for broadcast on “Performance Today”), Portland Summer Ensembles at Reed College, and Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Moretti is also part of the group Trio RPM, along with cellist Christopher Rex and pianist Elizabeth Pridgen. She twice served as guest concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. She also served as concertmaster of CityMusic Cleveland.

Elizabeth Pridgen, visiting artist in Piano, was based in New York City as a professional collaborative artist until her recent move to Macon. A sampling of artistic performances include a concert with Charles Rex and Fred Zlotkin for Richmond County Orchestra; Young Performers Career Advancement Showcase with Jennifer Stumm; Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall; Water Island Classical Music Festival, Virgin Islands; a benefit concert with Robert McDuffie for the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation; a recital with Alejandro Saladin Cote; Music on the Hill Concert Series; Trio RPM concert; a recital with Andrés Díaz at Georgia State University; the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival; and Rome Chamber Music Festival (Rome, Italy).
Dr. Robert Parris, the Charles B. Thompson Professor of Organ and University organist, performed a special Independence Day program on an organ from 1800, located in the restored Old Salem Village in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Dr. Parris also performed a program on the historic Gerhard-von-Holy-Orgel organ (1713) in Marienhafen (Northern Germany) as part of Kultursommer 2009.

Dr. Martha Malone, professor of Voice, performed a solo cabaret concert with pianist Carol Goff at the Morris Museum of Art as part of Augusta, Georgia’s Westabou Festival. Her other 2009 performances include faculty recitals and an appearance with the Macon Symphony Orchestra. As director of Mercer University Opera, she collaborated with colleagues in the Mercer Theater program to mount a joint TSM/Mercer Theatre production of Fiddler on the Roof at the Grand Opera House, playing to more than 3,000 patrons. Dr. Malone served the community through her organization of a Mercer Arts for the Cure event, benefiting breast cancer research and education.

Students

Several TSM voice students placed in the annual state National Association of Teachers of Singing competition including: state winner—Jonathan Johnson, and semifinalists—Elisabeth Slaten, Lane Gardner, Katherine Eid, Monica Titus, and Mary Brooke Quarles. Soprano Elisabeth Slaten was invited to attend the American Institute for Musical Study (Graz, Austria). Soprano Mary Brooke Quarles was a national finalist in Classical Singer Magazine’s collegiate vocal competition held in Chicago, placing fourth in a field of more than 200 competing undergraduate and graduate singers. She was also accepted at the Bel Canto Institute for advanced opera study at the University of Houston.

McDuffie Center students Conrad Thomas, Mariechristine Lopez, Lavena Johanson, Elaine Shin, Damian Nelson, and Tim Richardson were invited to perform at the Rome Chamber Music Festival in Rome, Italy. Violist Tim Richardson won the 2009 Macon Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competition, and Violist Joelle Arnold was alternate. Center students were accepted into prestigious summer music programs: Lavena Johanson and Conrad Thomas—Brevard Music Center Summer Institute; Elaine Shin—Aspen Music Festival; Miranda Henne—Quartet Program and the Aspen Ideas Festival. In September, Mariechristine Lopez, Elaine Shin, and Lavena Johanson performed with guest artists Peter Wiley, cellist of the Guarneri String Quartet, and Hsin-Yun Huang, concert violist and former member of the Borromeo String Quartet.

Oboist Julie Collins won the Macon Symphony Concerto Competition. Emily Odum won the Maerz Scholarship, given to the outstanding sophomore music performance major from the
combined Macon colleges (Mercer, Macon State, and Wesleyan). Instrumentalists Alyssa Carpenter, Andrew Brin, and Emily Odum were selected to participate in GMEA All-College Band in Savannah. Stuart Kent was awarded a full scholarship and teaching assistantship with stipend from the University of Tennessee.

Church music graduate student Samuel Miller was awarded a full conducting scholarship and teaching assistantship from the University of Kentucky. Graduate conducting student Ting, Chaowen conducted Beethoven's first symphony in a concert with the Honduras National Philharmonic Orchestra.

Julie Collins was presented the TSM General Excellence in Music Award, as well as the TSM Excellence in Performance Award, and Shelby Danner received the Academic Excellence in Music Award.
The University Libraries, under the direction of Dean Elizabeth Hammond, remain committed to advancing the University's growing research agenda, supporting student recruitment and retention, and engaging in activities to enhance the reputation of Mercer University. The Libraries are proud of their motto “Learning Happens Here” and proud of the role they play in the life of the University. It is obvious to any campus visitor that the libraries—in Atlanta, at the Henry and Douglas Centers, in Macon—are the primary gathering place for students to study in groups, to write papers, to engage in quiet reflection, or just hang out and have a cup of coffee. The library ambience draws people in, not just to use computers or check out items, but to find a place that supports learning and inquiry. At a time when many libraries are seeing a drop in use, the University Libraries are seeing increases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library use data</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Increase over 2007-08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Door count of patrons entering the University Libraries</td>
<td>174,139</td>
<td>8.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of reference questions answered</td>
<td>16,033</td>
<td>6.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials checked out</td>
<td>53,694</td>
<td>3.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students and faculty are supported by skilled, helpful, caring library faculty and staff who guide patrons to discover rich print and electronic library resources. This work may be aided by technology—computers, printers, scanners, flashdrives, etc.—but it is the personal touch that ensures each student is able to complete an assignment, answer a question, and engage in intellectual discovery.

The Libraries have seen major enhancements of facilities, collections, services, and patron outreach:

- In summer 2009, Tarver Library received new carpeting, and library staff took the opportunity to shift the Curriculum Materials and Children’s Literature collections to more visible locations on the main floor along with redesigning study and computer spaces. A new Learning Commons service space was created on the Tarver Library main level that reflects collaboration with campus partners in the Academic Resources Center and Information Technology units to provide supplemental staffing.

- Tarver Library also now circulates media equipment as well as housing the student IT help desk and the AV delivery service, previously located at Stetson Hall. All libraries celebrated National Library Week in April with special programming, patron surveys, giveaways, tours, and refreshment.
• A major new database, *ScienceDirect*, was added to the library offerings in early 2009, bringing over 1,600 major research journals in full text to the Mercer community. This fall, a full-text version of the *ProQuest Dissertations and Theses* database was made available. These are just two of a number of new e-resources that support the growing research agenda of the University.

• In summer 2009, the Division of Library Services Instruction Summit, led by Julie Poole, coordinator of center library services, with help from Peter Otto and Lee Twombly, brought together library faculty to share presentations and ideas about library instructional techniques, use of technology, and service outreach. Participants were enthusiastic about this and future summits and indicated that they immediately applied new ideas and approaches into their library instruction sessions.

• In September 2009, Swilley Library held its Second Annual InfoExpo in partnership with Information Technology, Learning Technology, and the Academic Resource Center. The library staff had gifts and promotional items such as USB drives to give out. The library liaison to the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences received a $1,200 exhibit award from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to help fund and advertise the Expo. This year over 300 students participated.

• Swilley Library received an Express Library Technology Improvement Award from the National Library of Medicine to purchase LibGuides Web software, USB microphones for office computer links to Webinars, and Camtasia Studio, screen casting software for creating mini instructional workshops online.

In supporting research and coursework, academic libraries are increasingly bringing their special collections to light to showcase the unique research materials for the scholarly community. The University Libraries house important collections of archival materials related to Mercer History and Baptist life. The Special Collections areas are increasingly popular with local and visiting scholars using these materials for class projects, genealogy work, and intensive research activities.

In 2009, a number of projects were undertaken to enhance access to important resources by and about prominent Mercerians. Judith Brook, associate dean of library services and director of Swilley Library, accepted an offer to participate in a digitization project, involving the personal papers of Dr. Monroe F. Swilley, Jr. Working with Emory University Libraries and the University of North Texas' School of Library and Information student cohort in Atlanta, one library school student will serve his/her internship on this project at the Swilley Library. Laura
Botts, head of Special Collections, Tarver Library, is currently assisting Swilley’s part-time archivist, Arlene Desselles, and a volunteer, Richard Lancaster, in preparation for the digitization work, which begins in 2010. Dr. Swilley’s papers are divided into three major categories: theology, academic, and personal. The first phase of the digitization project is a sorting fifty-five boxes. Thus far, workers have found information in the following areas that may be appropriate for digitization: (1) sermons, (2) wedding and funerals, and (3) film. Once completed, the project will bring the digitized images to the scholarly and Baptist community via library Web pages and catalog records.

Another significant archival project was completed this year—the Griffin Bell collection. Fifty-six cubic feet of materials were processed ranging from 1946-1982—including his personal papers; his early legal career as an attorney, judge for the United States Court of appeals for the 5th Circuit, and his active involvement in the presidential campaigns of both John Kennedy and Jimmy Carter; and his later legal career as attorney general of the United States Department of Justice and head of the American delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Several hundred publications from the personal library of Albert Henry Newman, world renowned church historian, are now searchable through the library catalog. The collection includes materials from the late 1400s to the twentieth century in a number of languages other than English.

Finally, Tarver Library is processing a collection of personal papers from noted alumnus and jurist, Judge William Augustus Bootle. The materials include clippings, speeches, mementoes, and notes on the history of the Walter F. George School of Law. Once processed and indexed, the collection will be housed at the law school.
IV. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Dr. Jim Netherton joined Mercer University in October 2007 as the executive vice president for Administration and Finance. Dr. Netherton oversees Accounting, Athletics, Audit and Compliance, Auxiliary Services, Benefits and Payroll Administration, Budget and Analysis, Human Resources, Information Technology, Mercer Police, Physical Plant, University Center and the Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC).

Accounting

Ms. Julie T. Davis serves as University treasurer and associate vice president for finance. She oversees the operations of the Bursar’s, Grants and Contracts, and Student Loans’ Offices.

Bursar Offices

- After an extensive search, a new associate bursar and new assistant bursar were appointed in the Macon Office. Much of the past year has been devoted to training these individuals. Both were promoted from within and have contributed many valuable ideas for improving the operation of the office. Upon departure of the former associate bursar, operating procedures were changed and duties redistributed. Because of the turnover and several vacancies throughout the year, the office operated at less than full staff during the entire year.
- The Macon Office revamped its phone system, reducing the number of lines and minimizing telephone costs.
- The Macon and Atlanta Bursar Offices worked together to revise and streamline the drop/non-payment procedure to remove unpaid students from classes earlier in semester.
- The Atlanta Bursar Office took a proactive role in servicing RAC students at the Atlanta Campus Center and Douglas Center to eliminate the need for the Macon Bursar Office to provide remote services to these sites on registration nights.
- The Atlanta and Macon Bursar Offices completed training on the new, upgraded Blackboard system to provide service of transferring money to Bearcards for students, staff, and faculty.
- The University bursar has served as team leader for the Student Accounts Team for the
implementation of the new ERP. This responsibility has required countless hours of additional work and travel. Also serving on this team are the:

- Atlanta senior assistant bursar
- Atlanta assistant bursar
- Macon associate bursar
- Macon assistant bursar
- Macon student accounts specialist

Without the assistance of a backfill employee appointed to the Atlanta Office, the Atlanta staff would not have been able to participate.

- The University bursar worked with the director of Student Loans, Auditor's Office, General Counsel's Office, and senior vice president for finance to implement a new “Red Flag Policy.”

- The University bursar worked closely this past year with the president’s appointee, Major General Richard N. Goddard, coordinating and implementing the new “Yellow Ribbon” Veteran’s Administration tuition assistance program offered to Post 9/11 military personnel.

- The University bursar worked with the English Language Institute to structure a revised billing system to meet the needs of the newly created curriculum and evening community program.

- The University bursar served as chairperson of the Refund Appeals Committees and the Retroactive Withdrawal/Retroactive Reinstatement Committees for Macon Campus, Regional Academic Centers, and Atlanta Campus.

**Grants and Contracts Office**

The Grants and Contracts Office (GCO) experienced significant growth during the 2009 fiscal year, submitting 156 applications totaling more than $68.5 million dollars. This represents a 32% increase in the number of submissions over the prior year and approximately 500% increase in dollars requested. Additionally, grant applications in process during the first month of Fiscal Year 2010 represent approximately $6.2 million in funds to be requested.

Federal, state, and private grant expenditures for the 2009 fiscal year for research and other sponsored activities totaled $5.9 million and $12.6 million for the general University and MERC respectively, in comparison to $5.2 million and $11.3 million, respectively, for the 2008 fiscal year.
GCO activities during 2008-09:

- Continued training of GCO staff through nationally accredited programs for research and clinical trial program certifications; participated in other training sessions applicable to accounting for and administration of grants and contracts.

- Participated in field work for the facilities and administrative rate proposal that was completed in December 2008 along with the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) audit that followed. The new negotiated rate was issued July 2009.

- Established a new Procurement Justification Policy for all purchases made with government funds; created and implemented the procurement justification form.

- Updated the proposal transmittal form to reflect research risk and review approvals (approval number and approval date).

- Continued collaborative efforts with the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Piedmont Hospital for grant submissions.

- Submitted the 2008 fiscal year FISAP report and NSF annual survey; completed or reviewed annual operating reports submitted for student and faculty grant funds expended in the 2008 fiscal year.

- Prepared for Mercer’s 2009 A-133 audit of federal expenditures.

- Continued to provide training sessions and informative newsletters to faculty and staff for preparing Grants.gov applications and for identifying grant and contract funding opportunities.

Student Loan Office

The Student Loan Office participated or completed the following activities in 2008-09:

- The director of Student Loans drafted the Red Flag Policy and created an online quiz for Mercer employees to ensure compliance with new regulations.

- The office updated and revised its Web site for more efficient borrower access, including all downloadable forms to assist students with consolidations, rehabilitation of student loans, and e-signing of prom notes. It significantly reduced the department’s printing and postage costs.

- The office moved all tuition and receivables accounts documentation to an electronic database, replacing paper files, thus reducing storage space.
• The office gained access to National Student Loan Database, so that staff can quickly process benefits on accounts such as postponements, deferments, and cancellations. This provides faster and more efficient service to student borrowers.

• The director worked with the Walter F. George School of Law, the University bursar, and the associate vice president for finance to make Mercer’s Revolving Law Loan more accessible to students, thus providing more borrowing options for Mercer law students.

• The office researched several replacement systems for the current Loan Management System and recommended Campus Loan Management, as it provides the greatest array of services to students and is compatible with the Campus Management product.

• The staff has worked over the past twelve months to prepare for the new system by cleaning up current data as much as possible and resolving any outstanding issues. Implementation and training is now underway.

Athletics

Bobby A. Pope continues his leadership as director of Athletics. Academic achievement continues to be a defining trademark for Mercer student-athletes. During the 2008-09 academic year the fourteen intercollegiate teams had a combined 3.131 grade point average with 64% earning Atlantic Sun Conference All Academic recognition. Cross Country member Chereese Rowe was the winner of the Atlantic Sun Conference Female Post Graduate Scholarship. It’s the third consecutive year Mercer has captured either the male or female award with baseball players Michael Narverson taking the male award in 2007 and John Dortch winning in 2008. The post-graduate scholarship competition started in 2007.

Winter and spring sports also enjoyed success in the field of competition. Both men’s and women’s basketball teams recorded winning seasons, the only Division I school in the state of Georgia to accomplish that feat. The men finished at 17-15 with wins over SEC members Alabama and Auburn while the women were 17-14. It was the men’s first winning record since the 2003-04 season and the first for the women since the 2001-02 campaign. Women’s softball set a school record with 40 wins and made it to the A-Sun Conference championship game where they lost 1-0 to Campbell. They finished the year with an RPI rating of 48; however, they did not receive an NCAA at large bid even though they held wins over several teams that made the field. The baseball team finished at .500 with a 23-23 record with one of those wins coming against then sixth ranked Ole Miss. Men’s golf finished third in the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament, marking the team’s highest standing since the 1992 season. Men’s golf finished
fourth at the prestigious Linger Longer Invitational in a field of nationally ranked teams. The golf team ended the year at number 85 nationally, advancing from number 158 the previous season. Senior Bill Jones was invited to the NCAA regionals, becoming the first Mercer golfer to be so recognized.

The administration has approved the implementation of lacrosse as an intercollegiate sport beginning in the 2010-11 academic year for men with a women’s program to start in 2011-12. Men’s club lacrosse team has been on campus for several years. Jason Childs was named head coach of the Mercer team in August 2009 after spending the last five seasons at Presbyterian where he started that school’s lacrosse program. The announcement of lacrosse has already attracted more than 250 national inquiries. Lacrosse will share the current soccer field for games. The field was completely renovated over the summer with new sod and a sprinkler system. Work is currently underway to construct two practice fields beyond the soccer stadium to accommodate the soccer and lacrosse programs.

Mercer’s University Center has been selected as the site for the 2010 and 2011 Atlantic Sun Conference General Shale Men’s and Women’s Basketball Championships in March. Mercer, the only charter member remaining in the Atlanta Sun Conference, will host the event for the first time ever.

Since the last report, the athletic program has held several outstanding events. The “First Pitch” Classic to benefit the Bear’s baseball team was held in January 2009 with major leaguer Jeff Francouer as the featured speaker. More than 500 people attended that event. In October 2009, the Mercer Athletic Foundation, in conjunction with the Mercer Executive Forum, brought in basketball analyst Dick Vitale for programs that attracted more than 200 people in Atlanta and more than 500 people in Macon. Athletics plans to continue both of those events. Mercer also hosted the third annual Brickyard Collegiate Golf Championship at the Brickyard at Riverside, which featured fifteen of the top intercollegiate golf teams in the United States. During the weekend of the Brickyard Collegiate and the Vitale event, Mercer hosted the annual fall meeting of the Atlantic Sun Conference administrators.

The homecoming basketball game against Florida State University was a sellout and was telecast throughout the Southeast on Fox Sports South Television for the second consecutive year. That network reaches more than 15 million homes. The 2010 homecoming opponent will be Harvard University with that game scheduled for November 20.

President Underwood hosted two basketball trips during 2009. A group of more than sixty people visited Nashville, Tennessee in January for games with Lipscomb University, and in November, a party of approximately 100 took a charter flight to Providence, Rhode Island for the
World Vision Basketball Tournament hosted by Providence College. Another trip will be forthcoming during the 2010-11 academic year.

**Audit and Compliance**

Jim Calhoun serves as the vice president for Audit and Compliance.

**Internal Audit Office**

Since December 2008, the Internal Audit Office has performed operational reviews in eight areas, nine special projects, and provided advisory services for six University projects/committees.

**Corporate Compliance**

Mr. Calhoun, as HIPAA privacy officer, is leading the compliance initiative in the arena of HIPAA privacy and security through ongoing training, management, and analysis. Since December 2008, his office has received and resolved one HIPAA privacy complaint and trained 332 employees and students.

**Environmental, Health, and Safety**

Since December 2008, Alan Baca, assistant vice president and director of Environmental, Health, and Safety has assisted in special projects related to the University’s H1N1 working group, initiated the required relicensing of the State Radiation Safety License, worked with Mercer’s Physical Plant Department in the implementation and corrective actions for the Environmental Protection Agency Self Audit program on the Atlanta Campus, provided advice/leadership in the area of emergency preparedness Atlanta Campus Mock Drill, and initiated development of an environmental management system.

**Auxiliary Services**

Under the leadership of Director Ken Boyer and a small but dedicated staff, Auxiliary Services is responsible for the following campus services: Bear Card Campus Card System, bookstores, food services, vending, laundry, cable TV, alarm systems, closed circuit security cameras, rental property management, mail, and printing services.

The **Bear Card Campus Card System** continues to expand services across the University and is an integral part of campus life. With over 650 readers across all University campuses and thirty off-campus merchants in Macon, the Bear Card is the passport to life at Mercer. The Bear Card System integrates the campus identification card into a single credential used to access services, make purchases, and control access to campus facilities.

Bear Bucks, the debit card component of the of the program, provides a prepaid stored-value account. It processed over $1.3 million in sales last fiscal year, increasing campus safety
by eliminating the need to carry cash. Approximately $200,000 was spent last year using the Bear Bucks account at the thirty off-campus merchant locations in Macon that accept the card, further demonstrating the economic impact Mercer students have in the Macon community.

Recent technology upgrades have enabled the system to maintain PCI compliance system-wide and will allow the system to integrate with the campus ERP project. The control component of the program continues to aid Mercer Police, University Housing, Physical Plant, and other areas of the University by providing controlled access to University facilities and maintaining a secure atmosphere for students, faculty, and staff.

**Bookstores:** Auxiliary Services partnered with Barnes and Noble, Mercer's store operator, to remodel the Macon campus and the Walter F. George School of Law bookstores. In addition, Barnes and Noble increased its Web presence. As a direct result, gift and emblematic merchandise online sales have increased 110%. In a proactive effort to reduce costs to the students, the renegotiated Barnes and Noble contract will reduce textbook margins by 5%. It is anticipated that this reduction will increase the sales volume and return a greater commission to Mercer.

Auxiliary Services has also entered into a partnership with Memorial Hospital in Savannah, GA to provide Mercer gift and emblematic merchandise to the students, staff, and guest on the Memorial campus.

**Food Services:** Auxiliary Services and ARAMARK, Macon's food service provider, continue to refresh and enhance services provided. The meal plan offerings have been redesigned with the student in mind. In response to student focus groups, Auxiliary Services created new meal blocks with dining dollar options and also increased the dining dollars of the unlimited plan. Response has been positive, and participation within the meal memberships has increased 5%. ARAMARK continues to focus on campus sustainability.

The Side Bar Café, located within the Walter F. George School of Law, underwent a major renovation during the summer. This renovation took into consideration student and faculty surveys.

The Atlanta Food Service under the operation of Carlyle's Corporate Food Service continues to make progress in reducing operating expenses while expanding services where feasible. Auxiliary Services has begun a program with the Stetson School of Business and Economics Marketing students to develop a marketing plan for the operations. This opportunity allows the students a “real-life” project while enhancing their classroom experience and providing a much needed service to the Atlanta Food Service Program.

**Vending:** Auxiliary Services saw challenges in vending because of the economic
downturn. Auxiliary Services continues to focus on sales and opportunities for improvement through customer satisfaction surveys. As a result, it has added vending readers to the machines within the Regional Academic Centers and fresh brewed coffee vending in the Swilley and Tarver Libraries.

**Alarm Services:** Auxiliary Services assists Mercer Police with its mission of protecting and maintaining a secure environment by providing both life safety and property alarms. Mercer has a central monitoring station for all alarm systems, which is located within the dispatch facility at Mercer Police. Auxiliary Services also installs, services, and tests these systems as needed using certified technicians.

**Closed Circuit Security Cameras:** Auxiliary Services worked with Mercer Police to renovate and upgrade closed circuit security cameras on the Macon campus, saving over $30,000 on proposals submitted to Mercer Police for the same work. Auxiliary Services has also worked with both the School of Medicine and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in 2008-09 to install systems to help provide additional life and property security.

**Mail and Printing Services:** The Atlanta outsourcing operations three years ago were so successful that Auxiliary Services obtained proposals from several vendors to provide the same type of managed services for Macon. As a result, IKON Office Solutions will begin its service contract in 2010. This contract will enhance services, increase sustainability efforts within this unit, and reduce operational costs to the University.

**Human Resources Office**

Diane H. Baca serves as associate vice president for Human Resources.

**Staffing/Demographics**

Human Resources is staffed with 2.8 professionals and 2 administrative support positions, serving 1,370 Mercer employees as of June 30, 2009. A temporary “back fill” HR generalist was hired in June to assist during the ERP conversion.

One of the University’s goals is to attract and retain a diverse faculty and staff. The University had 260 hires in 2008-09 (an increase in hires of 20%), of which 73 or 28% of identified themselves as minorities. A closer review of faculty hires revealed that of the 70 faculty hires, 17 or 24.3% were from a minority group (34.9% in 2007-08). Additionally, of the 37 hires made in the professional/administrative group, 24.3% were from minority groups (28.8% in 2007-08).

**Affirmative Action Audit**

In March 2009, the University was notified that it had been selected for a compliance review. As requested, Mercer submitted all information by the deadline of April 2, 2009, and
additional subsequent requested information was sent in August 2009. No further contact has been made. The University is hopeful that an on-site visit will not occur.

**Staff Compensation**

Ms. Rhonda Lidstone has spent considerable time studying faculty and staff salary studies and their current market position. Much work has been done to improve the market information for both staff and non-Medical school faculty, including the inclusion of CIP code information based on the discipline in which the faculty is teaching and considerable consultation with the deans. Decisions regarding salary adjustments continue to focus on addressing key areas for talent retention. Information regarding performance and market relationships continues to be provided to all hiring supervisors.

In providing the classified and professional staff with the proposed 1.5% increase for this fiscal year, Mercer will have surpassed the average given by other higher educational institutions for two consecutive years. Average salaries as a percentage of market’s median improved across all employee groups from 2007-08 to 2008-09. Faculty on average went from 83.7% in 2007-08 to 84.2% in 2008-09 while professional and classified staff went from 84.8% to 85.4%.

**Recruiting/Employment Information**

For FY 2009, Mercer had the following total turnover rates including Mercer Engineering Research Center: 7.9% for faculty, 8.1% for professional/administrative staff, and 14.8% for classified staff. FY 2009 total turnover rates, excluding Mercer Engineering Research Center, were as follows: 7.9% for faculty, 8.9% for professional/administrative staff, and 15.3% for classified staff. These rates represent a decrease in turnover for all three employment categories. It is the first time since 2005 the University has seen a reversal in turnover trends.

**Information Technology**

Under the leadership of Mickey Belote as associate vice president, Information Technology (IT) made significant progress toward Mercer’s 10-year goals during 2008-09. The office completed the following tasks:

- Began a 21-month project to replace the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system with completion planned for June 2010.
- Began the migration of all faculty and staff to Microsoft’s Exchange 2007 collaboration suite, which provides enhanced e-mail, calendaring, and collaboration services.
- Began the process of outsourcing student e-mail to Microsoft’s Live@edu, which is based on the Exchange 2007 collaboration suite. Migration of student e-mail will be
completed this academic year.

- Began the process of replacing the Web content management system (CMS) to greatly simplify the management and maintenance of Mercer’s Web sites.

- Replaced telephone systems on all campuses with voice over internet protocol (VoIP) phone systems, which provide significant quality and feature enhancements over the old systems.

- Replaced the Meridian Mail voice mail system with Cisco’s Call Manager and Unified Messaging products. The new system offers many advanced capabilities that were not available in the old system.

- Replaced the entire edge network infrastructure on all campuses to support VoIP and video-teleconferencing services.

- Implemented significant network bandwidth increases on wide area network circuits to all campuses and centers to support VoIP and video-teleconferencing services.

- Developed a desktop computing serviceability policy, which will provide the groundwork for a life-cycle replacement plan.

- Implemented three state-of-the-art distance-learning classrooms in Macon, Atlanta, and Savannah. Additional classrooms will be required within the next twelve to fifteen months to support program expansion.

- Implemented video-teleconference-enabled (VTC) meeting rooms in Macon and Savannah. Plans to implement additional VTC-enabled meeting rooms in Macon and Atlanta have been developed and will be implemented as funding becomes available.

- Implemented twenty-seven technology-enhanced patient-encounter rooms in Macon and Savannah, which allow faculty to review and evaluate recorded student encounters with standardized patients.

- Implemented three additional “smart classrooms” in Atlanta.

- Completed 95% of the campus-wide wireless deployment.

- Launched a new IT Web site, which offers significantly more informational and training resources for faculty, staff, and students.

- Purchased the Moodle community-source (non-proprietary) learning management
system. Moodle is widely-used by hundreds of institutions for online course delivery and is quickly becoming a major contender with Blackboard/WebCT.

Mercer Police

Chief Gary Collins heads the department, and Willie Woolfolk, associate director, manages the day to day operation of the Atlanta branch. Mercer Police Department is a certified police agency as defined under the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Act. Its powers are outlined in Section {20-8-1} Law Enforcement Powers of Campus Policemen of the Official Georgia Code Annotated. Those duties listed in Section {20-8-1} include the enforcement of the laws of this state; the preservation of public order; the protection of life and property; the prevention, detention, or investigation of a crime; or any combination thereof.

Macon has seventeen police officers, three dispatchers, and two support staff. Atlanta has eight officers and four dispatchers. Both departments offer the following services to students, faculty, and staff: twenty-four hour seven day a week staffing and patrols; providing crime prevention tips through meetings, e-mail, and campus newspaper columns; assistance with room/office lockouts, keys locked in vehicles, jumpstarts, and escorts; conducting criminal investigations and background checks; monitoring alarms and responding accordingly; managing the parking ticket system; and communicating with other local public and private law enforcement agencies.

Achievements over the Past Year:

- In February 2009, 407 Mercer students completed an internet survey on their impressions of Mercer Police. Of the respondents, 42% indicated they believe Mercer is generally safer than off-campus areas; 48% believe the safety level is about the same as off campus; 66% have used the escort services; and 33% have received jumpstarts.
- Mercer Police received a favorable audit from the Georgia Crime Information Center for its training and record keeping related to using the Center’s resources.
- All officers on both campuses completed twenty hours of training to maintain certification as professional police officers.
- Mike Kondorf was voted the 2008 Mercer Police Officer of the Year by his peers. Vince Broccoli won the Top Gun Firearms Award.
- All officers scored eighty or above on Firearms Qualifying Rounds in 2008.

Physical Plant

Under the direction of Russell Vullo, associate vice president for facilities, Physical Plant responds to approximately 15,000 work orders annually from customer requests and preventive
The number of campus events continues to grow and place more demand on the staff and equipment required for setups while staffing and equipment have remained the same. This has resulted in increased overtime expenses and increased rental fees for equipment.

Physical Plant continues to have monthly meetings between all departments involved in events to improve the lines of communication and reduce costs. The meetings have proven particularly useful as new staff members take responsibility for event planning. Problems are identified ahead of time to allow adequate time for conflict resolution.

Physical Plant provides oversight of contracts for custodial services, grounds maintenance, and HVAC routine and preventive maintenance. Additionally, preventive maintenance contracts related to life/safety issues, such as elevator and fire safety, are in place. The Physical Plant maintains contracts or provides in-house services to ensure compliance with all city, county, state, and federal regulations.

The Physical Plant budgets have been significantly impacted by utility cost increases in gas and electricity. Georgia Power has recently qualified the Macon campus for a slightly lower rate that recently became available. The savings are projected to be approximately $80,000 annually.

**Plant Fund projects**

Physical Plant used the Plant Fund budget of $1.5 million to undertake several repair and replacement projects. The following is a list of the major projects completed.

- Replace carpet in the Adams Winship apartments, Religious Life Center, Porter Hall and MEP refractory, and Dowell Hall—Macon
- Restoration of the Willingham Auditorium—Macon
- Repair the roof and skylight of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center—Atlanta
- Renovate the Davis Building for the Physician’s Assistant Program—Atlanta
- Replace the air handler in the Willet Science Center—Macon
- Repair the sinkhole in the parking lot—Atlanta
- Replace the flooring on the second floor of Hardman Hall—Macon
- Repairs to the chilled water pump and replacement of the hot water pump in Sheffield Student Center—Atlanta
- Repairs to the Macon campus from the Mother’s Day tornados
Other University funds were used to complete the following projects:

- Renovation of the fifth floor of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center for Educational Leadership
- Renovation of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center to house the American Baptist Historical Society library
- Renovation of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center to house the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
- Renovations for Mercer Village, including Ingleside Village Pizza, Jittery Joe’s coffee shop, and expansion of the Georgia Public Broadcasting to add a television studio
- Renovation of 3015 Flowers Road for the Center for Clinical Research
- Renovations in the School of Medicine for Clinical Skills
- Minor renovation of the second floor of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center for the College of Continuing and Professional Studies

Major Future Projects

- Construction of Francar’s Wings in Mercer Village
- Renovation of the Atlanta Conference and Convention Center to add a computer lab for Educational Leadership
- Renovation of two classrooms in the Teaching and Research Center to allow additional seating

University Center

Michael Junod serves as director of the University Center. The University Center had 347,390 guests in the past year. A total of 110,807 guests utilized the Fitness Center. The University Center hosted over 200 events ranging from varsity athletic games, student-sponsored events, Mercer’s Executive Forums, and University Commencements. The University Center is open 118 (70%) of the 168 hours in the week. The University Center continues to be one of the largest employers of student workers on campus with 110 current employees on payroll. The “Bear Force” (the student work force) provides an invaluable service to the operation of the facility while providing an opportunity for the students to develop leadership and supervisory skills.
Since its inception on July 1, 1987, MERC, under the direction of Dr. David Barwick, has received over $278.8 million in contract awards. During 2008-09, MERC received in excess of $22.5 million in external research and development funding, an award record for MERC. Additionally, MERC has received in excess of $17 million in new external funding during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, which is also a record for MERC. MERC is, as it has been for the past several years, expanding with ever increasing needs for additional technical staff in a variety of scientific, engineering, and logistics areas, as well as additional administrative staff. As a result, MERC has 170+ employees, having hired an additional 40 employees since July 1, 2008, and continues to recruit additional talent on a continuous basis. At this growth rate, additional lab and office space will be needed within the next two years.

MERC’s technical staff continues to present papers at a variety of annual professional conferences in areas of interest to MERC’s R&D activities, including the International Aging Aircraft Conference, the Electronic Warfare Symposium, the USAF Aircraft Structural Integrity Program Conference, the AeroTest America Conference, the Comprehensive Automated Maintenance Environment Developers’ Conference, the DoD Advanced Composite Maintainers’ Conference, the Industrial Engineering Research Conference, and the Huntsville Simulation Conference.

External research funding continues to be a high priority at MERC, at its Warner Robins, GA, and Dayton, OH, facilities. MERC has established several new partnerships with large and small businesses since the last report: Alabama Aircraft Industry Inc in Birmingham, Alabama; Dayton T. Brown in Long Island, New York; Sierra Nevada Corporation in Sparks, Nevada; and General Dynamics in Eatontown, New Jersey. Three of the most recent and exciting new customers are the aging B-1 and B-52 bombers, the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System, and the Infrared Countermeasures Advanced Technical Evaluation. The MERC Advanced Programs staff continues to attend government and industry conferences to identify potential funding sources while learning about the new technologies emerging into its areas of research focus.

MERC was recently awarded a five-year $5.9 million contract to provide personnel to perform specialized engineering tasks for electronic warfare (EW) systems on the B-1 and B-52 aircraft. These tasks will include future planning, software development and testing, system testing, flight tests, and long-term sustainment capability. Many of these subsystems are experiencing problems with discontinued original equipment manufacturer hardware and software components and incompatibilities with advanced state of the art hardware and
software component functionality. These electronic combat subsystems and the host aircraft’s service life have been extended well beyond their anticipated design life. MERC personnel will be blended with the USAF organic staff to augment their capabilities and contribute EW and systems expertise.

MERC recently completed a $1.3 million effort to develop an F-15 C/D finite element (FE) computer model to support detailed structural analyses of the airframe and an upcoming full-scale fatigue testing of the airframe by the Boeing Company. This finite element model was deemed necessary by the USAF after the November 2007 F-15 mishap in which a major structural member failed because of a fatigue crack resulting in the loss of the aircraft. The model provides the USAF with a tool for assessing load path distribution across structural members, capturing localized areas of high stress concentration in primary and safety-critical structure “hot spots,” and supporting future needs for rapid turnaround of structural analyses. The F-15C/D FE model was validated by applying load cases and boundary conditions to the model and comparing them to earlier fatigue tests. The model has been delivered to WR-ALC, who subsequently provided the model to Boeing. This provided an FE model of the airframe that far exceeded the level of detail and complexity of previous Boeing models. By providing the MERC model to Boeing to use for a future F-15 fatigue test, the USAF saved several millions of dollars and years of effort.

MERC recently completed the second year of the Physician Directed Functional Job Analysis program for the WR-ALC Maintenance Wing. Based on work by MERC ergonomic experts, twenty-six USAF base employees who had previously suffered injuries have returned to productive, revenue-generating jobs in the aircraft maintenance wing. MERC performed detailed job site analyses to assess the required physical attributes of the job and then matched the physical abilities and limitations of the injured workers with the job requirements, often providing special tools or other accommodations to allow the worker to make meaningful contributions to physically challenging jobs. This program has provided the USAF a return on investment of 100 to 1. The WR-ALC Maintenance Wing has exercised the second option on the contract, providing the USAF with a third year of MERC expertise in this area.

MERC successfully completed the structural testing of the C-130 center wing section for WR-ALC, utilizing its 265,000 lb Materials Testing System load frame. Static and fatigue tests were completed over a period of nine months, demonstrating the extensively improved service life of redesigned C-130 wing joint components. Throughout the test period, MERC-certified personnel performed daily, non-destructive inspections using eddy current and fluorescent penetrant inspections to detect any small fatigue cracks initiated during the fatigue loading.
MERC also designed new tooling and a detailed process guide for the removal of damaged components and improved quality installation of new components by C-130 aircraft maintainers. MERC has received a $1.1 million contract to validate and refine source data to provide the information necessary for updating the C-130 WUC manuals. These manuals, used to identify key elements of the maintenance data documentation (MDD) process for C-130 aircraft, were last revised February 1, 1989 and needed to be updated to account for new aircraft design series and configuration changes; renumbering of associated technical orders in system, subsystem, and sub-subsystem number format; and to enhance the MDD collection process. The analyses facilitated by the MDD process are used in management decision-making to maintain the operational, safety, suitability, and effectiveness of the C-130 weapon system while reducing total operating costs.

Asset management and process optimization efforts demand comprehensive sets of high quality data to ensure accurate analysis, repair, and forecasting of repair and logistics needs. MERC currently has several major efforts underway that demand high quality aircraft condition data. These efforts include Condition-Based Maintenance (CBM+), High Velocity Maintenance (HVM), Asset Life Expectancy Tracking, Service Life Extension, and Maintenance and Engineering Analysis. Current data collection techniques often involve the extensive use of paper records followed by the post-process entry of summary data into an automated system. This method results in inefficiencies from collecting and recording data multiple times and inaccuracies resulting from data entry errors, lack of descriptive detail, and over-summarization of the data. The lack of standardized structured data formats makes data analysis a difficult and labor intensive task. MERC has approached the problem from the perspective of collecting highly structured engineering quality data to allow for analysis and predictive algorithm development/tuning with a significantly more effective process utilizing techniques that exploit new technologies at the point of maintenance and at the same time minimizes the impact to the condition inspector and system maintainer.

To facilitate this new data collection paradigm, MERC has developed a software tool to collect condition and repair data via a portable computing device called a shadow tool at the point of maintenance. This tool allows the inspector or maintainer to record data graphically by drawing damage and repair information directly onto a multi-layered 3-D model of the system. It provides navigation down to the specific part, manipulation of the part model, and recording and translation of graphical damage information into specific, engineering quality data, as well as capture and annotation of photographs that are included as part of the record to allow further analysis of the condition. The system includes replacing selected areas of the data collection
application currently utilized by the C-130 Individual Aircraft Tracking Program known as AIRCAT, expanding and modifying the MERC-developed AIRCAT stress analysis tool, expanding the stress analysis tool to three variants of the F-15 aircraft, and creating an aircraft configuration management tool for the HH-60 helicopter fleet. MERC has also received requests to use the tool in direct support of new Air Force initiatives such as High Velocity Maintenance and to integrate the tool with both existing Air Force maintenance data systems and new electronic technical manual systems being produced by third parties.

MERC is experiencing the greatest growth of its history. MERC enjoys an excellent reputation with all customers because of the innovative problem solving and quality of service. It is an exciting time to work at MERC!
V. MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing Communications is now under the supervision of the senior vice president and chief of staff, Larry D. Brumley. During the 2008-09 fiscal year, Marketing Communications focused much of its efforts and resources on communicating with internal stakeholders, specifically the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, students, parents, and alumni.

The goals this year were to:

- Optimize and leverage existing communication vehicles
- Inform and engage internal stakeholders
- Develop Georgia-focused media relations outreach program
- Lay a foundation for greater Southeast regional and national advertising and media relations positioning campaign

The Office of Marketing Communications accomplished the following during 2008-09:

Marketing

Marketing Communications provided support for The Grand Opera House, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (including the Mercer Athletic Foundation), the 2008 Mercer Preaching Consultation, The Executive Forum, the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, and the Townsend School of Music. The unit also provided marketing assistance to the College of Liberal Arts, Tift College of Education, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, School of Engineering, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, McAfee School of Theology, College of Continuing and Professional Studies, Stetson School of Business and Economics, and the School of Medicine.

The office assisted the development of a new sixty-foot wide by seventeen-foot tall backdrop at the University Center for commencements. The office also facilitated the replacement of light-pole banners throughout the campus and new banners identifying the University Center.

Marketing Communications facilitated and designed a special travelling display tribute to Judge Griffin B. Bell. The exhibit was transported and displayed at the John Marshall Gala in Richmond, VA, where Judge Bell was honored with the John Marshall Medal. The exhibit is now on display at King & Spalding law firm in Atlanta, where Judge Bell was a partner.
Publications

Marketing Communications produced a number of publications last year that provided news and information about the University to different audiences. Among the publications produced last year were the first two editions of *The Mercerian* in a new magazine format. The first edition, Fall 2008, won a statewide award from the Georgia Press Association. Other publications included *Profile* and the *President’s Giving Report*.

The office also handled various special publications, including the *Board of Trustees Directory* and the *University Commencement Program*.

Special Writing

The office provided remarks and scripts to many of the University’s special events. It also prepared resolutions, citations, and certificates. The staff assisted with special letters, proposals, and requests, as needed.

Design Projects

In fiscal year 2008-09, the staff wrote, developed, designed, and produced 300 items. These projects included advertisements, posters, brochures, invitations, Web banners, templates, PowerPoint presentations, fact sheets, programs, exhibits, flyers, directories, slides, admissions materials, certificates, logos, and postcards.

Online Communications

Marketing Communications created a new director of online communications position in the fall of 2008 to lead efforts to more effectively leverage the Web and electronic communications. Working with a University-wide Web Task Force, the director of online communications led a major redesign of the Mercer Web site, which launched in October 2009. The new site is designed to market the University more effectively to its constituents.

The office also wrote, designed, and distributed several new electronic newsletters, including “This Week@Mercer,” a weekly e-newsletter promoting events and programs for all faculty, staff, and students; and “News@Mercer,” a monthly e-newsletter with editions for faculty and staff and for alumni and friends.

Media Relations

The office wrote and distributed 227 news releases on major events and accomplishments for the University, as well as 51 advisories for the media and 1,968 hometown news releases. The Office contacted 1,215 media outlets and the University was mentioned or covered in the media 4,512 times.
The office facilitated four news conferences, including the announcement of a $5 million Knight Foundation grant for the College Hill Corridor and a joint conference with the Atlantic Sun Conference announcing the University’s hosting of the 2010 and 2011 basketball championships.

The office also launched an In The News blog to help track and publicize mentions within the media. Over the course of the year, 116 blog posts were recorded.

Photography

A total of 212 photography sessions were coordinated with fifteen photographers in four states during the last fiscal year. All photography for the University is taken digitally. Every photography session is assigned a number and then entered into a searchable database for easy retrieval. Event photographs are uploaded to a Web site (http://gallery.mercer.edu) that allows alumni and friends of the University to view and order prints.

The Grand Opera House

Marketing Communications is responsible for marketing The Grand Opera House and its programs, including the Broadway Series, the GrandKids Series, and all special shows. A total of 165 items were designed for The Grand Opera House in 2008-09, using e-mails, radio ads, TV ads, billboards, direct mail flyers, playbill ads and direct mail postcards. Advertisements ran in The Telegraph, Georgia Family Magazine, Eleventh Hour, Around Town North Macon Magazine, and Macon Magazine, to name only a few.
VI. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

During 2008-09, Mercer's ongoing efforts to revitalize the community surrounding the Macon campus received a major boost with a $5 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The grant included $3 million to the Community Foundation of Central Georgia to fund residents' best ideas for transforming the College Hill Corridor, and $2 million to Mercer to form the College Hill Alliance. Both programs are designed to reshape the city's first neighborhoods into a vibrant college town connected by leafy roads and bike paths to the city's downtown.

The College Hill Alliance, with offices in Mercer Village, focuses on accelerating neighborhood revitalization. Specifically, the Alliance will implement the College Hill master plan that will beautify the area, create a business case to attract private investment to College Hill, and seek additional funding for the neighborhood.

The Alliance also will fund a new round of grants for the highly successful Mercer-Knight Foundation Down Payment Assistance Program, which helps Mercer faculty and staff purchase homes in the Beall’s Hill, Huguenin Heights, Tattnall Place, and Intown Macon historic districts. Over a three-year period, the program will fund up to 30 grants to Mercer faculty-staff of up to $20,000 each. Knight Foundation funds half of the grant and the University matches the Knight contribution.

Mercer Village

Mercer Village—formerly known as the Triangle Center—has been a major focus of revitalization efforts over the past three years, and is serving as the anchor for the College Hill Corridor initiative. The vision has been to take vacant historic structures across Montpelier Avenue from campus, remodel the facilities and attract student-friendly businesses to the area. Francar’s Buffalo Wings relocated from the west side of Macon to Mercer Village in January 2009. Other improvements made to Mercer Village include the renovation of former physicians’ offices into a television studio and production space for Georgia Public Broadcasting and offices for the College Hill Alliance.

Only one vacant storefront remains in Mercer Village, and efforts are continuing to recruit a business to occupy that space. What was once a deteriorating, abandoned set of buildings across from campus has become a lively college-friendly business district that is not only attracting Mercer students, but also residents of adjacent neighborhoods.
Beall’s Hill

Following the highly successful completion of the first phase of the Beall’s Hill revitalization project, the City of Macon and Mercer—the two remaining partners in the Beall’s Hill Development Corporation—have restructured the initiative into the Hills and Heights Development Corporation. The objective is to attract new partners for the next phase of the project, which has already won national awards and resulted in the construction and renovation of more than forty in-fill and historic homes in the neighborhood that is situated between the Mercer campus and downtown Macon. Sixty-year-old public housing in the neighborhood has also been replaced with new mixed-income town homes, with new streets and lighting, reconnecting the upper and lower portions of Beall’s Hill.

NewTown Macon

Mercer has provided leadership and support for NewTown Macon since its inception in the late 1990s. Committed to commercial and residential development, NewTown Macon is public-private partnership of concerned businesses and citizens working together to improve the quality of life in downtown Macon. Given downtown’s proximity to the Mercer campus, and given the investments the institution has made in educational facilities, offices, the Grand Opera House and student housing in the central city area, NewTown’s mission is vital to University. President William D. Underwood currently serves as chair of the NewTown Macon Board of Directors.
The Office of University Advancement is under the leadership of the senior vice president, Dr. Richard Swindle. At the beginning of the last academic year, Dr. Swindle succeeded Ms. Emily P. Myers, who had served more than twenty-five very successful years in the role of senior vice president for University Advancement.

The Office of University Advancement has made significant staffing additions in the last year, filling many vacancies and adding several new positions. The goal of the office is to be adequately staffed to meet the growing needs of the University. Although this goal will take time to achieve, progress is being made.

In the past year, the office hired Mr. John Patterson as the vice president for University Development. He serves as the number two person in the Advancement Office. In addition, the following full-time development officers have been appointed: Mr. Mike Mattox for the Walter F. George School of Law, Mr. Donovan Eason for the Mercer University School of Medicine, Dr. Ron Wilson for McAfee School of Theology, Mr. Todd Smith for the College of Liberal Arts, and Ms. Jenny McCurdy for the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing. Additionally, Ms. Janet Jarriel works as the development consultant for the Townsend School of Music. The goal of the Advancement Office is to have a full-time development person for every school or college.

Additional professional staff who have been added include: Ms. Jamie Dickson, director of Advancement communications; Mr. Andy Carter, coordinator of alumni giving; Mr. Jim Cole, executive director of the Mercer Athletic Foundation; and Mr. Hugh Sosebee, vice president for External Relations, who is responsible for coordinating the relationship between Mercer’s School of Medicine and the State of Georgia.

The fundraising model that the University Advancement Office adopted includes a significant emphasis on working with the deans. The deans are asked to both identify donor prospects for their schools and to make calls on various individuals and foundations. The Office of University Advancement will tightly coordinate this new model, and thus all deans are being trained to participate actively in the fundraising activities of the University.

One important objective of the University Advancement Office in this academic year is to assure that all advisory boards and alumni boards have up-to-date bylaws and are in compliance with those bylaws. The goal is to make these groups as effective as possible in both connecting people to the University and in utilizing their experience and skills in promoting the University.
Grand Opera House

The Office of University Advancement manages the operations of The Grand Opera House, including the Broadway Series and The GrandKids program. In addition, the office also manages Mercer Ticket Sales, providing ticketing services to The Grand Opera House, Mercer Athletics events, McCorkle Music Series, Mercer Theatre, and other community performances. More than 70,000 people attend shows and other events at The Grand every year. Since 1996, over 100,000 school children have participated in Mercer’s GrandKids Arts Education Program, which moves art beyond entertainment and into a learning experience. Since 1995, the Grand has brought in more than eighty nationally touring Broadway shows. On September 22, 2009, Mercer celebrated with over 300 guests the Grand’s 125th Birthday, as well as unveiled the new state-of-the-art marquee, which contains over a mile and a half of neon and 4,400 LED lights.

Office of Alumni Services

Importantly, the Alumni Services area is focusing on new ways to move alumni activities to a higher level of importance.

For example, the Alumni Services Office this year is partnering with the Office of Enrollment Management to involve alumni in the student recruitment process. Joint alumni/admissions events have been planned, and alumni are being asked to write letters to newly admitted students. For the second year, the Office of University Advancement is planning the homecoming celebration. The goal is to move homecoming into one of the major events in the life of the University academic year.

Also, the University will be offering annual alumni trips, both international and domestic. This year, trips will include a basketball tournament in Providence, Rhode Island, and a trip to Russia in June 2010. University Provost Wallace Daniel will host the Russia trip.

During 2008-09, the Office of Alumni Services planned and conducted, or had a major role in planning and conducting, 128 alumni and special events. These included 23 Alumni Board meetings, 26 school-specific alumni events, 38 other events, and 43 special events. The estimated number of attendees for the period ending June 30, 2009 is 21,367.

Events of special note include:

- Homecoming
- Luncheon for Mercer Law graduates taking the Georgia Bar Exam
- Four Half Century Club meetings
- McAfee Preaching Consultation Conference
- 6 Mercer Connections
- 26 Alumni Board meetings
- 19 school/college specific alumni events
- 11 Alumni Days ICW the HCC meetings.
- 11 special events including the annual President’s Club meetings.

**Mercer Ambassadors**

During 2008-09, twenty-five students served as Mercer Ambassadors. The Ambassadors serve as an outreach to alumni constituencies. All are required to participate in at least two special events each semester and to support the University in the Macon Undergraduate, the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, and the Walter F. George School of Law commencements and baccalaureate ceremonies.

**Tift Scholars**

For 2008-09, 152 students received the Tift Scholarship; 44 of the Tift Scholars were freshmen. In addition to regular membership meetings, the scholars participated in four special events: Move-In Day, Tift Scholar Interviews, the annual Tift Holiday Tea, and the Tift Scholar Recognition Dinner where the Tift Scholars who graduated in May 2009 received their Tift Scholar medallions.

**Alumni Boards**

Each college or school within Mercer University, as well as two colleges that no longer exist, has an alumni association led by an Alumni Board of Directors for a total of fifteen alumni groups (associations). The office conducts outreach sessions with Professional MBA students in Savannah.

**National Alumni Board of Directors**

The National Alumni Board of Directors is the umbrella group of the University Association. The Alumni Board is composed of presidents and presidents-elect of each of the Mercer’s fifteen alumni groups. E. Michele Deriso, a 1999 graduate of the McAfee School of Theology, serves as president of the National Alumni Board of Directors.
Development and Fundraising Update

Endowed Gifts Received

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<th>Total Number of Donors</th>
<th>Alumni Donors</th>
<th>Private Gifts Received</th>
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University Club

The following areas of the University were 100% in giving for 2008-09:

- Athletic Department
- Audit and Compliance
- College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Alumni Association
- College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Faculty
- Georgia Baptist College of Nursing Board of Visitors
- General Counsel's Office
- Human Resources
- Mercer Administrators
- Mercer University Deans
- Mercer University Press Board of Directors
- Mercer University Press Staff
- Phonathon Student Callers
- President's Office
- Walter F. George School of Law Board of Visitors
- University Advancement
- University Relations and Marketing

**Major Gifts Received and/or Pledged for Fiscal Year 2008-09**

**The Exemplary Donors Circle—$500,000 and more**

- Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation  
  Barbara Baugh  
  San Antonio, TX
- Jo Phelps Fabian  
  Macon, GA
- James T. & Carolyn T. McAfee Foundation  
  Carolyn T. McAfee  
  J. Thomas McAfee, III  
  Macon, GA
- Piedmont Health Care  
  Atlanta, GA
- The Peyton Anderson Foundation  
  Juanita T. Jordan  
  Macon, GA

**The Lamar Plunkett Society—$100,000 – $499,999**

- Aileen K. Borrish  
  Fred W. Borrish  
  Douglasville, GA
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Inc.  
  Daniel Vestal  
  Atlanta, GA
• Estate of James Z. Rabun  
  Lenoir R. Milstead  
  Winchester, VA

• Estate of Jean Hendricks  
  Jeff Hendricks  
  Woodland, GA

• Fickling Family Foundation, Inc.  
  William A. Fickling, Jr.  
  Macon, GA

• John S. and James L. Knight Foundation  
  Alberto Ibarguen  
  Miami, FL

• Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation  
  P. Russell Hardin  
  Atlanta, GA

• Carolyn T. McAfee  
  James T. McAfee, Jr.*  
  Macon, GA

• Ola C. Pickels  
  Curtis L. Pickels  
  Quitman, GA

• Dorothy C. Potts  
  Robert J. Potts  
  Columbus, GA

• Anonymous  
  Waco, TX

• Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute  
  Mark Kaufman  
  Decatur, GA
• Wal-Mart Foundation
  Margaret McKenna
  Bentonville, AR

* deceased

The Billington Sanders Circle—$50,000 – $99,999

• B B & T
  Mr. David Lanier
  Macon, GA

• Bradley-Turner Foundation
  William B. Turner
  Columbus, GA

• CF Foundation, Inc.
  Lillian C. Giornelli
  Atlanta, GA

• Neva J. Fickling
  William A. Fickling, Jr.
  Macon, GA

• Frank W. & Sue Mayborn Foundation
  Frank W. Mayborn
  Temple, TX

• G. B. & C. A. Saunders Foundation
  Gerald B. Saunders
  Columbus, GA

• Georgia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Inc.
  Henry J. Hector
  Atlanta, GA

• Georgia Pine Level Foundation
  Robert F. Hatcher
  Macon, GA
• Carolyn B. Gregory
  Hardy Gregory, Jr.
  Vienna, GA

• Edward C. Klatt
  Savannah, GA

• M. Diane Owens
  Lilburn, GA

• Elizabeth Russell
  Roy E. Russell
  Brentwood, TN

• Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.
  Thomas W. Brown, Jr.
  Thomson, GA

The 1833 Founders—$25,000 – $49,999

• Community Foundation of Central Georgia
  Kathryn Dennis
  Macon, GA

• Linda Cowart
  James H. Cowart
  Roswell, GA

• Cox Communications
  Lynn C. Murphey
  Macon, GA

• Dorothy V. and N. Logan Lewis Foundation
  Edward J. Harrell
  Macon, GA

• Ruth B. Drake
  The Honorable W. Homer Drake, Jr.
  Newnan, GA
- Elizabeth Grisham Brown Fund
  Raymond M. Warren, III
  Atlanta, GA

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In 2008, some organizational changes were made in the administration of the Atlanta Campus and the Regional Academic Centers. Dr. Penny Elkins was appointed as senior associate vice president—Atlanta, and she is handling much of the day-to-day administration of the Atlanta Campus and the Regional Academic Centers in Henry County, Douglas County, Eastman, and Macon. Dr. Elkins works closely with Dr. Richard Swindle, who continues to hold the title senior vice president—Atlanta. Dr. Elkins does a superb job handling administrative issues related to Atlanta and the Centers, while also serving as an associate dean for the Tift College of Education.

The Atlanta operations of Mercer continue to experience significant growth. The fall 2009 enrollment on the Atlanta Campus was 2,945 (headcount), a 12.9% increase over fall 2008. Combined, the three Atlanta sites (Atlanta Campus, Douglas County, and Henry County) have a fall 2009 enrollment of 4,267. This is the first time that the enrollment in Atlanta has topped 4,000 students.

The Atlanta Campus will begin enrolling students for a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in fall 2010. Significant renovation work is being done on the campus for this new program. The Offices of President and Senior Vice President—Atlanta will move to the Atlanta Administration and Conference Center (AACC), as will the offices of University Advancement, the Center for Health and Learning, the Atlanta office of Human Resources, and the Atlanta-based Admissions and Marketing staff. By relocating these functions to the AACC, space will be available in the Davis Administration Building to be renovated for the new Physical Therapy Program. This will place the Physical Therapy Program and the Physician Assistant Program in the same building. Remaining in the Davis Administration Building will be the offices of Financial Planning, Bursar, and Registrar. These departments serve students on a daily basis, and, therefore, need to be close to a majority of the classrooms.

The Center for Clinical Research, which began operations last spring, continues to be an important component of the operations of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. This facility is located in the former YMCA state headquarters building, which is immediately across Flowers Road from the main campus. Phase I clinical trials are conducted in this facility.

The English Language Institute continues to thrive, with strong enrollments occurring in each term. This program brings many benefits to Mercer, including providing a means by which international students can become proficient in English before they move into many of Mercer's other programs, both in Atlanta and Macon. This program is being positioned as a "feeder" for
Macon-based undergraduate programs, especially in the engineering and science areas.

An initiative of a joint planning group to support Mercer’s quality enhancement plan, the “Caring for Creation” conference was held in early spring 2009. As a result of the conference discussions, a Green Team was formed to address sustainability issues on the Atlanta Campus and in the Regional Academic Centers, with one of the current initiatives being the implementation of a comprehensive recycling program.

A second successful initiative on the Atlanta Campus is the development of the Jesse Mercer Stewards program. Deans from each of the schools/colleges represented on the Atlanta Campus nominated academically-qualified students who exemplify qualities of altruism and volunteerism. Eleven students have been chosen to serve as ambassadors for the University, and in their first role as stewards, they actively participated in the annual “Pilgrimage to Penfield.”

The future for the Atlanta Campus and the Regional Academic Centers is very bright, and discussions are being held within the University about the need to have adequate classroom space to accommodate the campuses' significant growth. Following the move of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship from the second floor of the McAfee Theology Building to the Atlanta Administration and Conference Center last year, there is now an opportunity to renovate the second floor of the McAfee Building for general classroom use, as well as for offices. Planning is occurring in order to make this a reality.

Growth in the Regional Academic Centers necessitated the addition of a new annex at the Henry County Center. The over 4,000 square-foot annex consists of two classroom spaces, seven faculty offices, a study area, and a vending area, and the University has first right of refusal on additional space if needed. The current population of the Henry County Center is approaching 750, and projections are favorable for next year with an anticipated population of close to 800.
IX. ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Brian Dalton, senior vice president for enrollment management, heads the Division of Enrollment Management, which includes Undergraduate Admissions – Macon, Atlanta/Extended Campus, and the Office of Student Financial Planning.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions completed a successful year in recruiting the largest freshman class (616) in over a decade to Mercer University. While just falling short of goal, the transfer class was substantial as well. New or revised initiatives implemented over the past year include:

- Re-aligning financial aid leveraging model
- Enacting recruitment-related barometers
- Communicating merit aid earlier in the admissions cycle
- Restructuring the Baptist scholarship promotion
- Centralizing personal and large-scale visit programming and restoring the overnight host program
- Promoting FAFSA completion and developing a Web site for financial aid appeals
- Enacting travel reimbursement program up to $750
- Announcing the Four-Year Graduation Guarantee
- Holding tuition increases to 2.9%

**Baptist Student Recruitment Initiative**

Specific measures were taken to strengthen Baptist student recruitment initiatives, resulting in the enrollment of 183 Baptist students for fall 2009, an increase of 33.6% over 2008. Baptist students made up 30% of the fall 2009 freshman class, compared with 23% in 2008. These students’ SAT scores were 1090 at the 25th percentile and 1260 at the 75th percentile, and had an average GPA of 3.67. Some of the new recruitment initiatives include:

- Coordinating efforts between Admissions (Ray Tatum) and Campus Ministry (Don Mattingly)
- Moving from passive to active recruitment
- Mailing announcement of $1,000 Baptist scholarships to all Baptist-identified inquiries
• Modifying prior sponsorship requirement (Does require information from pastor, church and youth minister prior to enrollment)

• Sending acknowledgments in September

**Traditional Freshmen Academic Profile**

Table 1: The number and percentage of traditional freshmen with SAT or ACT scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SAT</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>No Scores</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>168</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(27.3%)</td>
<td>(72.2%)</td>
<td>(0.5%)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Traditional freshmen credentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SAT Verbal</th>
<th>SAT Math</th>
<th>Total Verbal + Math</th>
<th>SAT Writing</th>
<th>Total w/Writing</th>
<th>ACT English</th>
<th>ACT Math</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th Percentile</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>1090</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th Percentile</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>1270</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**International Recruitment Highlights**

Mercer made an effort this year to strengthen relationships with Washington D.C. The University’s recruitment plan calls for quarterly visits; being mindful of budgets, Admissions cut the number of visits to two. Ray Tatum, assistant vice president of Admissions, and Thomas Tyner, assistant director for International Education and director of the English Language Institute, visited the Embassy of Iraq to position Mercer as part of the Iraq incentive. Over the next five years, the Iraqi government will award full scholarships to 50,000 students to study in the United States.

The Kuwait Embassy officials have asked Mercer to draw up an agreement for five Kuwaiti students in both the Walter F. George School of Law and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. This agreement will be similar to the guaranteed admissions agreement Mercer already has in place. The provost will approve a final draft.

Ray Tatum and Thomas Tyner met with the Ambassador of Tajikistan for forty-five minutes in October 2009. Mercer’s graduate Muskie scholar, currently serving an internship in Washington, assisted in this meeting and added validity to the University’s interest and desire to work with Tajikistan’s brightest and best students.

From trips to China, Venezuela, and Vietnam, Mercer yielded new first-time students for fall 2009. Additionally, the University’s attendance and presence among CIS European tours
produced several applications this year. Mercer’s continued presence among the Fulbright Fairs in Europe will yield students for 2010.

Mercer held an international student simulation event with participants from the Registrar’s, Bursar’s, and Admissions’ Offices. Current international students shared some of their harrowing experiences trying to get their visas and entering the country.

Articulation agreements are underway with two California two-year colleges and one Canadian two-year college to share some of their almost 10,000 international transfer students.
Mr. William G. Solomon, IV serves as senior vice president and general counsel for the University. Since the last annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, one long-standing suit has been resolved in the University’s favor, and one new lawsuit has been filed against the University. Further information regarding the background and current status of these cases is provided below.

**Kimberly R. Welch v. Mercer University**  
(United States District Court, Middle District of Georgia)

The plaintiff was a former employee of the University who was terminated from her position in the School of Medicine due to poor work performance.

Prior to her dismissal, the plaintiff had recently returned to work from extended unpaid medical leave pursuant to her rights under the Family Medical Leave Act. Upon the subsequent termination of her employment due to unsatisfactory work performance, she filed a charge of discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) alleging that her termination was based upon her disability and/or the University’s perception of that disability in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. She alleged further that the University had discriminated against her on the basis of her race, and also alleged Equal Pay Act violations.

In January 2005, the EEOC issued a ruling that it had found no evidence that Mercer had discriminated against the plaintiff in any manner.

Notwithstanding this ruling, the plaintiff filed suit against the University as a *pro se* litigant on the grounds of alleged disability discrimination, race discrimination, and violation of the Equal Pay Act. The University filed an answer denying liability for all asserted claims.

The plaintiff later retained an attorney, who withdrew from the case within a month. After the Court granted the plaintiff a 45-day period to seek new counsel, the plaintiff retained a new attorney to represent her. During the period allowed for discovery in the case, the University took the plaintiff’s deposition, but the plaintiff’s attorney did not conduct any discovery.

The University subsequently filed a motion for summary judgment, which was granted by the District Court on May 2, 2008. On May 30, 2008, the plaintiff filed a notice of appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals (Eleventh Circuit).

On December 24, 2008, the Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court’s grant of summary judgment to Mercer, effectively concluding the litigation in the University’s favor.
This suit is a wrongful death action brought by representatives of the estate of Anthony E. Morgan against multiple co-defendants, including Mercer University and Dr. Sabry Gabriel, a faculty member in the University’s School of Medicine. The facts of the case may be summarized as follows.

While in the hospital following a left hip replacement surgery in April 2007, Mr. Morgan began suffering chest pains. He was referred to the family practice residency section of the Medical Center of Central Georgia, where he saw Dr. Gabriel and two residents under Dr. Gabriel’s direction. For his complaint of chest pain, a differential diagnosis of myocardial infarction and pulmonary embolus was formed. While various tests were given for the myocardial infarction and the same was ruled out, certain aspects of Mr. Morgan’s health situation would not allow the performance of a CT scan with contrast, the “gold standard” test for pulmonary embolism. With time, it was believed by Dr. Gabriel that the possibility of an actual pulmonary embolism was removed. Moreover, the patient was on prophylactic therapy to protect against a pulmonary embolus. Notwithstanding such prophylaxis, Mr. Morgan died in the early morning hours of May 2, 2007. An autopsy performed the next day identified a saddle-type pulmonary embolism. The report of autopsy did not identify any particular cause of death, but the death certificate that was completed by another University resident who is not a party to this action indicated the primary cause of death as pulmonary embolism.

In addition to Dr. Gabriel and the University, the other party defendants in this case are the two residents and the hospital, The Medical Center of Central Georgia.

This suit is in the early stages of discovery, and is being vigorously contested as to liability by all defendants.
“This is a very good thing that Mercer has done.” With these words, President William Clinton concluded his remarks, announcing the Mercer On Mission commitment to provide prosthetic legs for amputees in Vietnam. The Clinton Global Initiative annual meeting, which convened on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin on February 13, 2009, served to launch an exceptional year for Mercer On Mission. Seventy-five Mercer students and eighteen faculty members participated in the 2009 Mercer On Mission programs. Teams went to seven sites: Brazil, Greece, Guatemala, Kenya, Liberia, Thailand and Vietnam. Students took courses in public health, engineering, education, Christianity, classical studies, archaeology, African studies, and sociology. Along with the rigorous academic component, students logged almost 5,000 hours of service, working with at-risk and orphaned children, teaching English to Albanian refugees, assisting agencies combating the sex-trafficking industry, staffing health clinics, teaching elementary students and offering in-service programs for teachers at Ricks Institute, and, of course, providing prosthetic legs to thirty amputees in Vietnam.

Completing its third year, Mercer On Mission, under the direction of the University minister and dean of the chapel, Dr. Craig McMahan, continues to mature as a signature program of the University. Student participation increases by at least 25% each year. Due to a steadily growing interest among faculty, an ad hoc workgroup of advisers from the Provost’s Office, International Programs Office, and seasoned Mercer On Mission faculty evaluate proposals for upcoming programs and select those that are the most promising for funding. In addition to its consistent quantitative expansion, Mercer On Mission has become something of an incubator for research and publication. The prosthetics program is the most obvious example. Dr. Ha Vo, assistant professor of bio-medical engineering, has designed a prosthetic for both above the knee and below the knee amputees. At one percent of the expense of a standard prosthetic, his Universal Socket Prosthetic is particularly well-suited for developing countries such as Vietnam. The partnership between the Mercer University School of Engineering and Mercer On Mission has resulted in a catalytic symbiosis in which real-world problems are identified, researchers are incentivized with support for creative and effective responses, and students are inspired by their newly discovered capacity for bringing direct and immediate improvement for fellow human beings. The synergism of this relationship will draw in a new partner for 2010. A health care team, led by Dr. Bill Bina, dean of the School of Medicine, will accompany the engineering team to Vietnam. Composed primarily of pre-med and nursing students, this team will provide basic health care services to Vietnamese patients.
as well as physical therapy to amputees, who will need assistance in learning how to walk with their new prosthetic. With the help of this added health care team, Mercer expects to provide 100 prosthetics in 2010. In addition to the prosthetics project, three Mercer On Mission teams, representing the disciplines of chemistry, environmental science and engineering will be working independently to provide clean water for remote villages in Africa.

In 2010, more than 125 students and faculty will participate in one of nine Mercer On Mission programs. One of those teams will be composed exclusively of Mercer Service Scholars, working on a Habitat for Humanity project in Peru. The program is also looking to expand to include alumni groups.

In addition to the burgeoning responsibilities of Mercer On Mission, the University minister and dean of the chapel continues to lead in a variety of religious programs at Mercer. University Worship remains a priority. Speakers drawn from the community, faculty, alumni, and students have been addressing the theme, “Doing Justice, Loving Kindness and Walking Humbly with God.” On December 2, 2009, Mark Whitacre, nationally-known whistle-blower and subject of Hollywood’s The Informant, will speak on corporate greed and his own story of redemption. The worship experience has been enriched this semester by the participation of a group of students, campus ministers, and faculty in planning the chapel services. This successful experiment will become an ongoing practice for chapel planning in the future.

Worship at Mercer, however, reaches beyond the boundaries of Wednesday chapels. The University Minister plans and implements a variety of services, including Sunday services for Family Weekend and Homecoming. He also collaborates with Dr. John Dunaway, director of Mercer Commons, in planning and conducting the Building the Beloved Community Symposium, an annual gathering of the Mercer and Macon communities to celebrate and improve racial harmony.

Mercer University hosts eight campus ministries: AGAPE, Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Canterbury Episcopal Student Ministry, Catholic Newman Ministry, Cooperative Student Fellowship, Orthodox Student Fellowship, Reformed University Fellowship, and Wesley Foundation. The University minister leads the Mercer Campus Ministry Association in coordinating and supporting the work of these denominationally based ministries. In cooperation with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Dr. McMahan welcomed Atlanta Braves baseball legend, Sid Bream, to Mercer for a series of speaking engagements designed for students.

The University minister also contributes a spiritual perspective to campus-wide emphases such as the STOP Anti-Sex Trafficking conference, the “Caring for Creation”
conference, and upcoming events dealing with homelessness and poverty. On the near horizon are plans to develop a monthly, issue-oriented panel discussion that would explore pertinent and provocative ethical, social, and political matters from a full spectrum of angles, including religious points of view.

Teaching an Introduction to New Testament course affords the University minister the opportunity to stay closely connected to the academic dimension of the Mercer community and to be an active partner in the quest for understanding. In addition to this one course per semester assignment, he also is an invited lecturer in classes on medical ethics, faith and science, vocation, and sexuality.

The University minister also serves as pastor to the University. This role takes many forms. Notices of a death or a birth in the Mercer family come through his office. He provides emotional and spiritual support for students and faculty who are hospitalized. Frequently, students and faculty call on him for spiritual counsel in times of personal distress. The University minister is readily available for any who are in need of pastoral care and works closely with Mercer’s Counseling and Psychological Services department as well as local psychiatrists and counselors to provide the most appropriate care for troubled students, faculty, and staff.

This full range of responsibilities and opportunities allows the University minister to reflect and represent Mercer’s Baptist heritage across a wide range of University programs and activities.
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Dan A. Payne (CAS '87)  
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**Vice-President, Alumnae Weekend until 2012**
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**Vice-President, Tift Scholars until 2010**
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**Vice-President, Tift Scholars until 2012**
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Stone Mountain, GA

**Vice-President, Awards until 2010**
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**Vice-President, Awards until 2012**
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Lauren Thomas Fallin, TCS ’06
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Atlanta, GA

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Emily Smith Kell, TCS ’01
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Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant
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Karen Rowland  
Assistant Professor, Field Experience Coordinator
# I. The Grand Opera House Board of Governors

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Mark A. Stevens</td>
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<td>Henry Arrington II</td>
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<td>Doris Mills Wood</td>
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XIV. APPOINTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

I. In accordance with Article XII, Section 3 of the Bylaws of The Corporation of Mercer University, I have the pleasure of nominating W. Homer Drake for the office of Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the year 2010.

II. In accordance with Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws of The Corporation of Mercer University, and upon my recommendation, the Chairman of the Board will nominate the members of the standing committees of the Board of Trustees for 2010. A complete list will be distributed at the December 4, 2009 meeting. The Chairman of the Board, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and the President of the University are ex officio and voting members of all standing committees of the Board of Trustees except the Audit Committee (Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4).

III. I have the pleasure of nominating the members of the various Mercer University advisory boards for 2010, as shown on pp. 151-180 of the President’s Report. The President and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees are ex officio members of all advisory boards.