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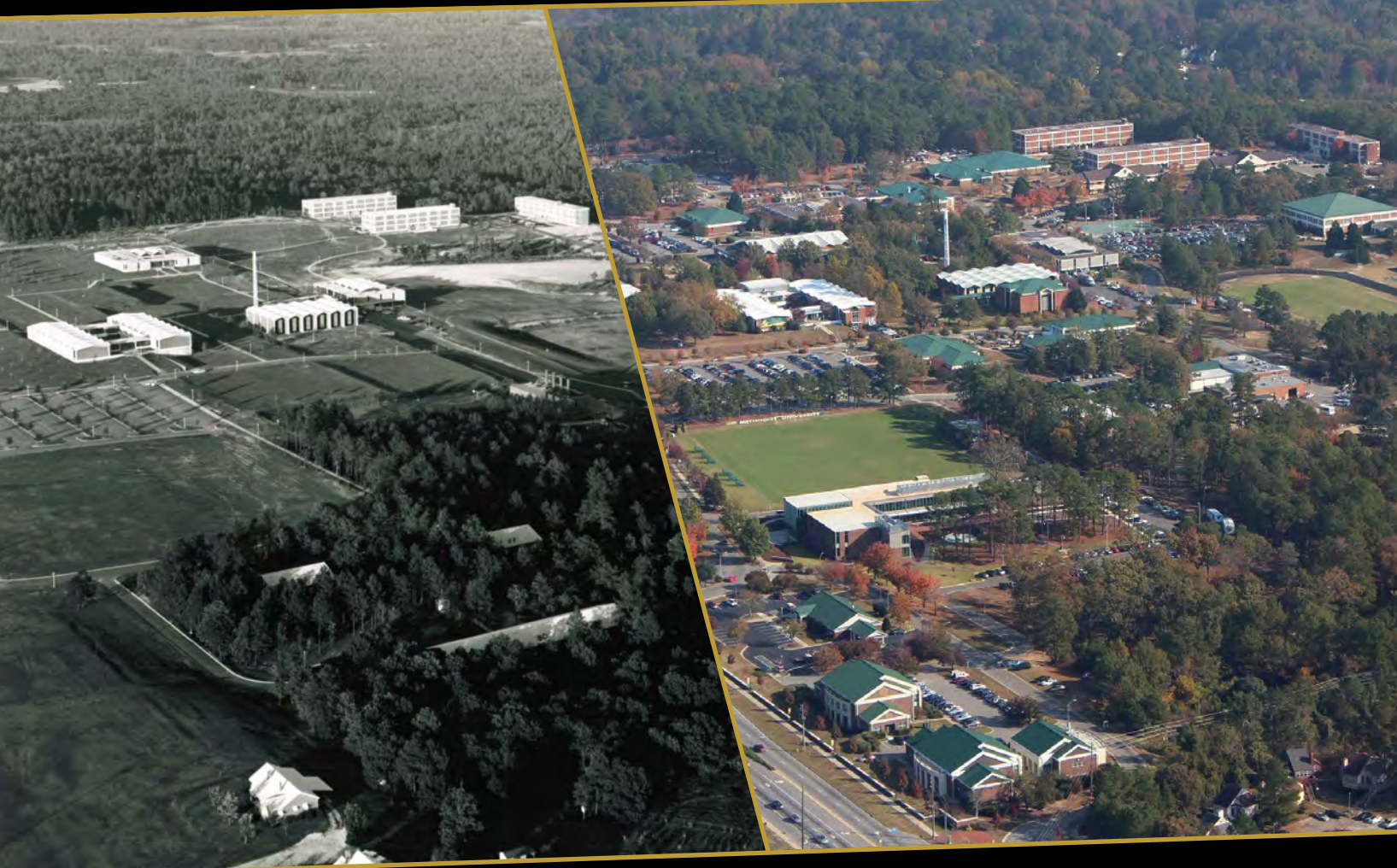
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MU Today Magazine

Methodist University

Spring 2017

A perspective on 60 years of excellence



[Engage. Enrich. Empower.]

MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E
 SPRING 2017

60 *Years*



This photo, which continues on the inside back cover, shows the Berns Student Center, Davis Memorial Library, and the Trustees Building as seen in the 1960's.



MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E
SPRING 2017

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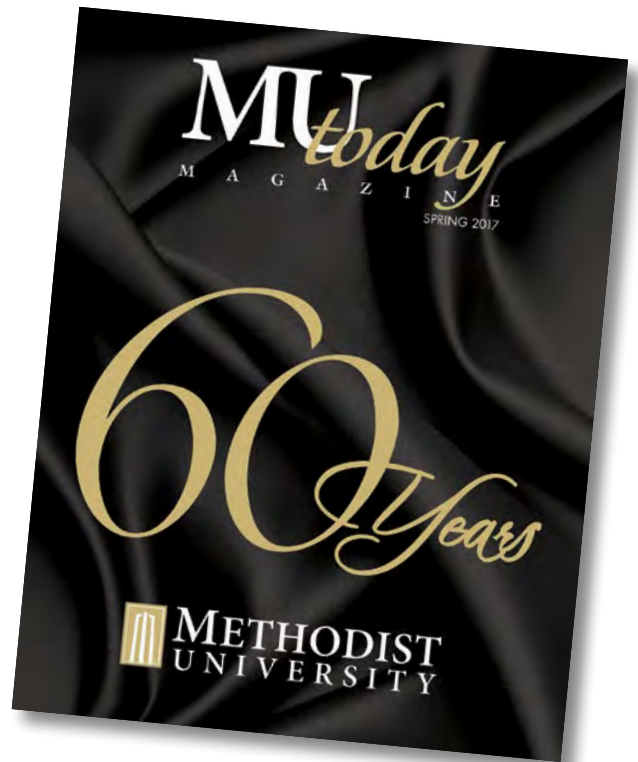
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On the cover: Methodist celebrated turning 60 years old this winter. Inside, read stories and memories that tell several parts of Methodist's 60 years of history.

About Methodist University: Methodist University is related by faith to the North Carolina Annual Conference, Southeastern Jurisdiction, The United Methodist Church. Methodist University is an independent corporation rather than an agency of the Conference and is responsible for its own debts and obligations.

Methodist University does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, gender, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, or disabilities for otherwise qualified persons in the administration of its admissions, educational policies, scholarships, loan programs, athletics, employment, or any other university-sponsored or advertised program.

 **METHODIST
UNIVERSITY**



In this '60s photo students are conversing where the Hendricks Science Complex is today.



MU Today is downloadable. Go to Methodist.edu and download a version to your desktop, tablet or smartphone.

The newly constructed Berns Student Center is shown in this '60s photo.

60 Years of Excellence

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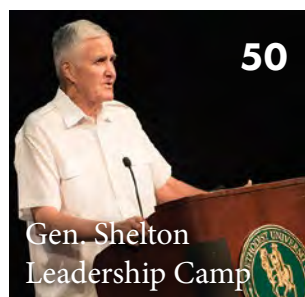
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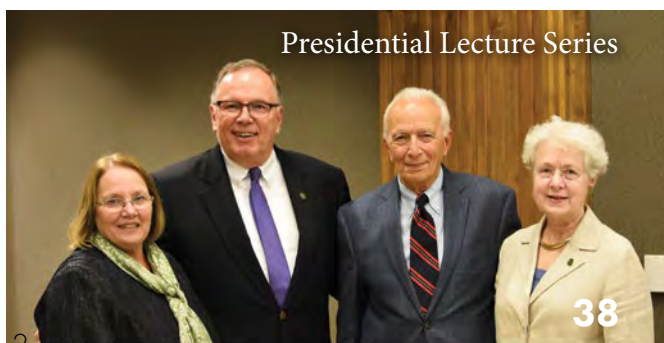
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Wanda '66 and Dave Herring '65

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Methodist College was chartered by the state of North Carolina on Nov. 1, 1956. What started off as a vision from a handful of Fayetteville citizens has developed into a thriving, world-class university.

Then and Now

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Curtain tieback circa 1810-1825



Drawer pull circa 1810-1825

Arias and Artifacts

New additions valued at \$40,000 have been added to the Lafayette Collection

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Memories

Members of the MU community reflect on the past 60 years.

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Dr. L. Stacy Weaver, first president of then-named Methodist College, oversees the construction of the Davis Memorial Library in this photo circa 1964.

60 Years of Excellence

After its official chartering on Nov. 1, 1956, Methodist College opened its doors in 1960 as Fayetteville's only liberal arts college.

Upon accepting the presidency of Methodist College, Dr. L. Stacy Weaver pledged the school would be "Christian in concept and dedicated to academic excellence." When Dr. Weaver arrived, he raised the funds needed to build Methodist, oversaw construction of the campus, and recruited the original staff, faculty, and student body. Methodist opened in the fall of 1960 with 128 students; enrollment peaked during Weaver's tenure at 1,100 students in 1967.



Shown here is the Davis Memorial Library as it is today.



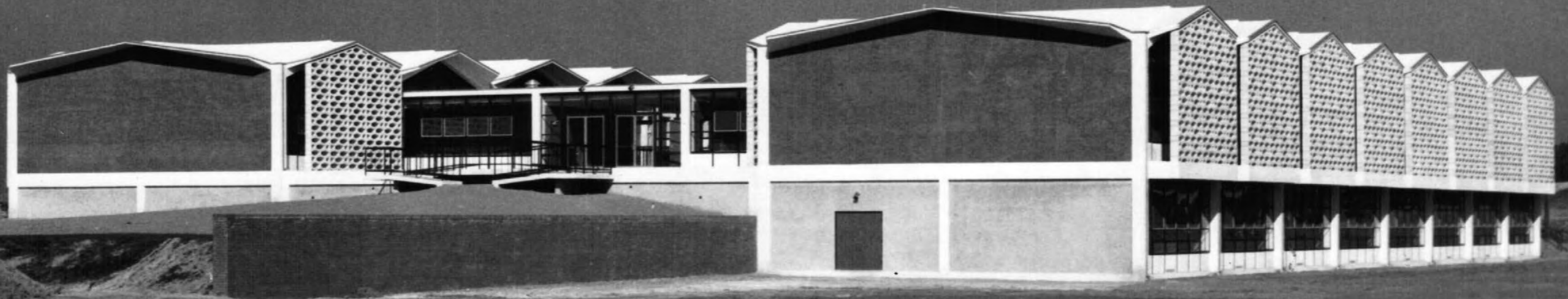
An aerial photo from the 1960s of then-named Methodist College shows the main campus consisting of, from left, the Science Building, Berns Student Center, the Trustees Classroom Building, and the Boiler Plant.

In June 1957, the trustees adopted as the college motto “Veritas et Virtus,” Latin for “Truth and Virtue.” Seeking a thoroughly “modern” look, the trustees retained the architectural firm of Stevens and Wilkinson of Atlanta to design the campus. The end result was a campus consisting of three terraced, interlocking malls and contemporary buildings with vaulted roofs and masonry sunscreens. Site preparation for the campus and construction of the first four buildings began in the fall of 1958.

In September 1960, Methodist College opened for business with 12 faculty members, and four buildings: the Classroom Building, the Student Union, the Science Building, and the Boiler Plant. Construction continued with three apartment buildings (temporary residence halls) and a temporary gymnasium, which were built in 1961 and 1962. During 1963 and 1964, the Yarborough Bell Tower, Davis Memorial Library, and four large residence halls (Cumberland, Garber, Sanford, and Weaver) were completed.

"I have the best job in America because of these amazing students and their stories of commitment, sacrifice, and dedication. I feel truly blessed to be President of our university at this time in our history."

— Dr. Ben Hancock Jr.
President, Methodist University



On February 27, 1960, Methodist College's first six students were accepted. Here with the Public Relations Director, Charles McAdams, they are being given their first look at the new campus. The photo shows, from left, Francis Hall, Marsden Pope, Charles McAdams, Irving Barefoot, Patricia Jackson, Joe Ward and Margaret Weston.



Shown here is the Trustees Building as it appears in present day.

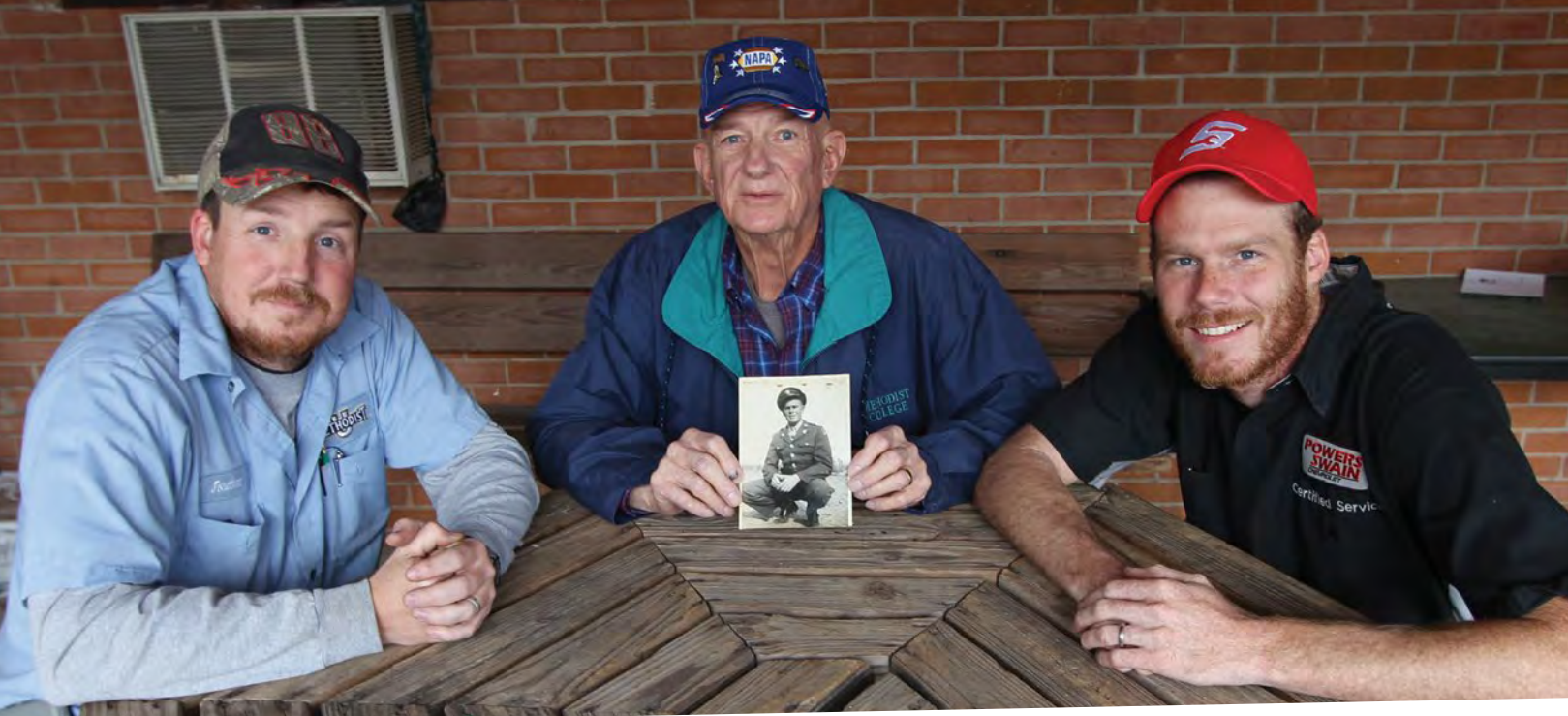
This photo shows an aerial view of Methodist University in 2016.

Under the direction of presidents Dr. L. Stacy Weaver, Dr. Richard Pearce, Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, and our current president, Dr. Ben Hancock, the college has grown immensely. Methodist University's fall 2016 enrollment was 2,499 students and campus now includes more than 50 buildings.



METHODIST UNIVERSITY *60 Years*
EST. 1956

Many of these and more details of the first half century of the University's story can be found in the book by alumnus and University Historian Bill Billings '68, "From Cotton Field to University: A History of Methodist University 1956-2006," which is available in the University Bookstore.



Rambeaut family has helped keep Methodist working for three generations

Before Methodist was open for business, George Rambeaut was one of the men working with a contractor on the construction and early work done on the campus site. When the college opened, he was hired to stay on, working for more than 20 years. It was the start of a family tradition.

George's son, Travis Rambeaut, joined the maintenance staff twice between the early seventies and 1996, when he retired with a total of 17 years. The same year, one of Travis' sons, Jonathan Rambeaut, started in the Maintenance Department full time after several summer stints. A few years later, Jonathan's younger brother, Stephen Rambeaut, started working summers and also went full-time for a couple of years in the early 2000s.

"There were two of them, Daddy and Mr. James Elliot, that were here," Travis said. "They did whatever had to be done. All that was here when they initially started was the boiler plant. They had one little office in the boiler plant, and that was the total sum of the Maintenance Department. It was where the football weight room is today. I was probably five or six when he started working here."

Travis said his father, who was originally a farmer in Harnett County, was often on campus at night after events, cleaning up. As a child, he sometimes came with his father to help clean up after events like basketball games in the old gym. George Rambeaut worked at Methodist until a lung disease made him unable to work, and he passed away in 1977.

Now 63, Travis Rambeaut came to Methodist after his father left. He "pulled two hitches," he says, working a stretch in the early 70s and returning in 1984 to work until 1996.

"I came out here with him from time to time, I don't know, I just always wanted to work here," Travis said. "I started out on grounds, then I ended up doing boiler operations, looking after the boiler room. I was also doing the mechanical shop at the time, did some electrical too."

When Jonathan and Stephen were children, they sometimes came to work with their dad, tagging along when Travis made

rounds on the weekends or was working on the boilers, and pretending to drive the tractors that used to be parked in the mechanic shop for the evening. Both felt the draw to work alongside their father and grandfather, at least in spirit, as they grew older. Now 39 and 32, respectively, they think fondly of the many people who have worked in Maintenance and Housekeeping over the last several decades.

"It's almost like the ones who were here when I was little were kind of like a family," Stephen said. "Mr. James, he's passed now, but he was here when my grandfather was here. He would tell me different things about my grandfather. My grandfather passed before I was born, but if we were doing something, sometimes he'd say, 'Me and your grandfather used to do this.'"

What their father didn't teach them about the job, Mason Sykes did. Jonathan, who is the general maintenance supervisor now, remembers that while Sykes would ask for a lot from his department, he wouldn't ever ask anything that he wouldn't do himself.

Stephen, who works at Power Swain Chevrolet now, said Sykes taught about more than the job.

"He added to the values our parents taught us," he said. "About being honest and building your character up. I still use things I learned back then."

"It's good to work in a place with so many memories," Jonathan said. "Somewhere people have known you since you were little. It's interesting sometimes, especially when I run into the ones that know my dad. We talk and laugh and carry on about old times. It's good to have that feeling. I always said growing up that I wanted to be like my dad."

To grow up and use some of the same equipment that they had played around as kids, or that their grandfather and father had worked around, or worked on, is a special kind of dream for a lot of sons, one that the Rambeaut family made come true.

Left to right, Jonathan Rambeaut, Travis Rambeaut (holding a photo of his father George Rambeaut), and Stephen Rambeaut.

Among good company: Methodist has hosted world-class talent

Methodist University has had the privilege of hosting many famous musical artists, politicians, members of the U.S. military, entertainers, and authors throughout the years. Below is a list of some of the famous men, women, and groups the University has hosted, including politicians like Hillary Clinton, who dropped by in 2006 for a rally ahead of the North Carolina Primary election, and singers like Jim Croce, who visited before his hit songs "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown" and "Time in a Bottle" became No. 1 singles.

2010s

N.C. Symphony, orchestra
Fayetteville Symphony, orchestra
Richard Benedetto, White House correspondent
Gen. Hugh Shelton, leader



Bebe Rexha, musician
Nick Jonas, musician
Judy Woodruff, news correspondent
David Price, U.S. Congressman
Josh Wilson, musician
Doris Kearns Goodwin, author
Building 429, band
Family Force Five, band
Hawk Nelson, musician
Satellites and Sirens, band
Lybecker, band
Anjelah Johnson, comedian
Pat McCrory, N.C. Governor
Matt Nathanson, musician
Ben Rector, musician
Stevie Starr, entertainer
Dr. Sanjay Gupta, medical correspondent
Recycled Percussion, band
Lt. Gen. Russel Honoré, military leader
B.o.B, rapper
Seventh Day Slumber, band
Kiros, band

2000s

Loni Love, comedian
Dan Meyer, sword swallowers



Charlie Hall, musician
Mama Lou, strong woman
Rehab, band
Hillary Clinton, U.S. Senator
Mike McIntyre, U.S. Congressman
Bob Etheridge, U.S. Congressman
Jim Hunt, N.C. Governor
Pete Holmes, comedian
Robin Hayes, U.S. Congressman

1990s

Scott "Carrot Top" Thompson, comedian
Jerry Richardson, owner of the Carolina Panthers
Jesse Helms, U.S. Senator
Lee Smith, novelist

1980s

Elizabeth Dole, U.S. Senator,
Bob Jordan, Lt. Gov. of N.C.
Rondell Sheridan, actor
Roberta Peters, singer
American Ballet Company, ballet group
Barry Drake, musician
Ken Acorn, musician
Southern Star, band

1970s

Lillian Carter, mother of President Jimmy Carter
Gérard Abensour, author
Charles Kuralt, news correspondent
Terry Sanford, N.C. Governor



Shirley Chisholm, U.S. Congresswoman
Neverlands Chamber Orchestra, orchestra
Jimmy Webb, musician
Jim Croce, musician
Itzhak Perlman, violinist

The Drifters, music group
The Vogues, music group
Hazel Otis and the Tempests, music group
The President's Army Band, band
Philadelphia Ballet, ballet group
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, orchestra
Steam, music group

1960s

Jay and the Americans, music group
Little Anthony and the Imperials, music group
Dr. Davidson Nicol, diplomat
The Embers, band
Nathan Twining, pianist
Denes Zsigmondoy, violinist
Alirio Diaz, classical guitarist
Dr. H. Warner Kloepfer, human geneticist



Interviews look back on 60 years of memories

In honor of the 60th anniversary, MU Today collected memories and reflections from several longstanding members of the Methodist University community.



Bob Allen Trustee Longest serving trustee

“Looking back, I think that Methodist has really excelled by virtue of their diversification and meeting what the student population was desiring to see. Some schools have decided

they’ll be liberal arts schools, period, end of conversation, and those schools have not really done as well in their enrollment. One of the first things we did that diverted was the School of Business, and that was back in the eighties. I’m not sure we even realized or anticipated the kind of levels of success we’ve had from those moves, but they seemed to be the right thing at the right time.”

“I had the privilege of being in my 20s and 30s and having association with those early founders, those gentlemen in their 60s and older. They were giants in the community, legislators, and prominent business people. There was a core of Methodists, and I came out of the same church and background, but they also brought in other leaders outside of that, from other denominations. We probably had more leadership out of this community involved in the board in those days than any other area board, and that would include local government. I can still



Elaine Porter Faculty Emeritus

“Forty years of my life were spent in the Methodist College community which supported and nurtured my husband, Alan Porter, and me as we raised our family with the campus as our backyard. We moved

on to the campus into the faculty apartments on the south edge of the campus just as the third class enrolled in 1963. At that time we found the campus dotted with pine trees and an abundance of sand spurs. The Classroom Building, one of three existing buildings, was the hub of the campus, housing the offices of the president, dean, registrar, the Business Office, Admissions, and a

hear Wilson Yarborough saying, ‘Well, me and Bobby will take care of that.’ He volunteered me for more things than I can ever remember. They were all doers, aggressive doers. They did not know the meaning of ‘You can’t do that.’ Looking back on it was a very unusual thing, there’s no question about it.”

“When Methodist got to their lowest ebb in enrollment, and we were having difficult times with finances, the state came to us and made us a proposition to purchase lifetime rights to put the property behind Methodist on the river into a land trust the state had. It was 300 acres of land. The board was really divided about that. It was one of the very few times that board ever really was so deeply divided, between selling off that tract of land and keeping it. Anyway, I think we made the right decision to keep it. Like every good decision, it was properly discussed, thought out, and analyzed.”

“One time, when Dick Pearce was president, we had a HUD loan on all the dormitories, and the loan had a reserve fund that HUD also controlled. We were so close on cash that Dr. Pearce wanted to go see HUD in Greensboro and convince them to release some of the reserve funds to help us make the payment, and he wanted me to go with him since I was chairman of the board. My family’s business had a jet helicopter at the time, so I told Dr. Pearce I’d pick him up on the front lawn and we’d fly up. He got in and said, ‘Bobby, where are we going to land this thing?’ I said, ‘I can land right on the lawn at HUD.’ He said, ‘It doesn’t seem exactly right we’re going up there in a jet helicopter to tell these people we can’t pay our bills.’ I said, ‘You know, you’re right, maybe we better not land on the lawn there.’”

chapel, as well as most of the academic departments. It was our privilege to serve under three successive presidents and to witness many “firsts” for the college: the first graduation ceremony, the first inauguration of a president, the first yearbook, the first wedding of enrolled students on campus, the first student and faculty recitals, the first musicals, the first annual concert tour of the chorus, the installation of the first three language labs, and the first national fraternities and sororities, just to name a few.”

“Some highlights of special interest or everlasting memories to me were the acquisition of the nucleus of the Lafayette Collection, later to be housed in a specially designed and furnished Lafayette Room in the Davis Memorial Library; the acquisition of the historic Mallett-Rogers House; Dean Arnold Pope practicing his bagpipes at the south end of the campus; the hymns playing from the bell tower; and, eventually, the installation of telephones in each faculty office. Initiating the faculty sabbatical program was a monumental accomplishment from which many of us benefited greatly.”



Sandra Combs Student Health Services Director Longest serving staff member

“When I started out here I was very young, fresh out of nursing school. I was really gung ho, I was like one of the students. As the years progressed I became not one of the students, but like the

mother of a student, and as things have progressed now I’m the grandmother, maybe even a great-grandmother to some, I don’t know.

I think that the biggest change is how it’s gone from a close-knit family and knowing everybody to such an explosion

of growth. You could walk into any building and ask your coworkers about their children. It was a very family-oriented atmosphere. It still is, there are still people who love one another and care for one another, we just don’t have that one central family. We have many, now.”

“When I started here in 1967, there was a 16-bed infirmary and we had a lot of students who would be admitted to the infirmary overnight. We used the upstairs for isolation, if somebody was suspected of having anything really contagious, we’d separate them. With the advent of more vaccinations and immunizations, that has sort of died away. We’d get college kids with measles.”



Dr. M. Elton and Jerry Hendricks President Emeritus and former first lady

“The night or two before Homecoming the students used to paper the campus all over.

One night they wrapped the president’s home completely in toilet paper,” Elton said. “It had been going on for years before I came. In fact, Dr. Pearce would get Maintenance and Housekeeping to add extra paper in all the bathrooms because he knew the students were going to take it all out. It was fine, but it stopped after I asked the student leaders to help clean up the mess after.”

“We stood at the window and watched them,” Jerry said. “One night we almost laughed out loud because one of the little students out there was the son of a minister, and they were just having so much fun.”

“One night, a Sunday morning about 1:30, the lights went out on campus, and it was dark until Thursday,” Elton said. “An underground cable that distributed power all across campus had shorted. Nobody in Fayetteville, certainly not on our staff, was really prepared to deal with 5,000 volt underground cables. That

was in many ways my most difficult and trying time. The next week I went to see the power company and said, ‘We can’t have this anymore,’ so the power company came in and replaced all the underground cables with meters at every building.”

“After the power failure, if he ever got up in the night, he would always go out to the window and make sure the lights were still on,” Jerry said.

“When I first got to Methodist, people in the churches across North Carolina and in the community would kind of get me over in the corner, and they’d say, ‘Elton, is the college going to make it?’ When we built the Riddle Center, people stopped asking me. That was sort of a symbol that we were here to stay,” Elton said.

“When we came here we noticed that so many of the faculty, they were like, ‘We’re not going to allow this to fail,’” Jerry said. “There were a group of faculty, some people call them the patriarchs, the original faculty of the college, and this was a vision for them,” Elton said. “They weren’t about to let this college go under. There was a real esprit de corps atmosphere.”

“During the time I was there, we had significant changes, physically, on campus,” Elton said. “I counted one time something like 30 building projects, a building a year after the Riddle Center.”

“We grew, but I think we were able to hold on to the character of the institution over those years. Although now we have 2,400 rather than 250 students, we were still able to hold on to that character. That’s one of the things I was interested in as we got stronger and better, that we didn’t lose the flavor of what it was like.”



Dr. Robert Christian
Professor Emeritus
Longest serving faculty, retired

“When I came for my interview, Reeves Fine Arts Building was being constructed. In fact, one of my memories is the sight and smell of the roof being put on. The smell of that hot tar

aroma of that hot tar and, I remember he said, and the students thought it was so funny, maybe he should change his topic for the meditation and preach on hellfire and brimstone.”

“It was a very tightly knit, caring community. As far as the faculty is concerned, we would picnic together, we did lots of things together. It wasn’t departmental gatherings, it was everybody, and often bring a covered dish. There was a wonderful feeling of camaraderie.”

“Every now and then I’ve taught multiple generations of the same family. Years ago, I called the roll on the first day and I was really into it and I called this name and the student sat up suddenly. I said, ‘I’m so sorry, I think I called you by the wrong first name.’ He said, ‘Yes, you did. He’s my dad!’ I had taught his father about 25 years before. He was just amazed. The next thing it was, ‘My dad sends his greetings, he just loved your course.’”

was unmistakable. In those days, required chapel was held over in the Berns Center and the Maintenance Department had to set up 1,100 chairs and take them down every time, every week. Dr. Womack, then the academic dean, squired me around and we went to that chapel service and I met people that day who would become some of the best friends I’ve ever had, and I was just there for the interview. Garland Knott, he was the chaplain at the time, was up on a makeshift platform trying to lead that worship service. He had a great sense of humor, and he would refer to the



Gene Clayton
Assistant to the President for Special Projects, retired

“After we moved the campus from the old Boiler Plant to individual boiler rooms, we had to reconfigure and redesign the boilers in Cumberland and Sanford Halls, which were men’s dorms at

said, ‘Ok, it could take three or four days,’ but he said he would however long it takes. The first couple of days he’d come in and say, ‘Gene, any hot water yet?’ and the answer was always ‘at least one more day.’ This went on for seven or eight days. Every day past the third, his voice changed in tenor, but he stuck with it. We didn’t have any complaints from students; they knew we were trying to get it fixed. When I look back on it, it’s funny, but it wasn’t funny at the time.”

“When Dr. Hancock brought me in and said, ‘I have an issue I want to discuss with you, the donors would like to make a \$500,000 commitment to the university and name the tennis complex in your honor,’ I was speechless and very surprised. I was pretty honored and very appreciative.”

the time. During this period of time, there’d be no hot water in those two dorms and the students were not particularly happy about that. So Elton Hendricks said to me, ‘I am making a commitment, I am not going to use hot water in my shower in my house until you get hot water in Cumberland and Sanford.’ I



William Billings '68
University Historian
Author of “From Cotton Field to University: A History of Methodist University, 1956-2006”

“When I look back at this photo of the charter being signed at the state capitol, the person who stands out to me is Terry Sanford. I was in seventh grade when this was chartered. When he was governor, he had a motto, ‘If you have the will and the skill, we will help you find a way to go to college.’ Well, I was just a poor boy from east Durham, I didn’t have any money, so when it was time to go to school I wrote to the governor because of his motto. One day I got a call and he said, ‘This is the governor’s office, what can I do?’ I’ve never forgotten Terry Sanford for keeping his pledge and returning my call. I was floored, flabbergasted. Then,

when I got to Methodist I realized how instrumental he had been in founding the school. I think he and the other founders would be shocked that Methodist has become a university with 2,400 students. I think they’d be very proud.”

Methodist University celebrates 60th anniversary with Founders Week celebration



The University celebrated the signing of its 1956 charter during the week of Oct. 31 to Nov. 5, 2016. On Oct. 31, students were able to stop at any of 60 selfie spots around campus that highlighted facilities and programs supported by MU donors. On Founders Day, the Signature Service committee hosted a steak and potato luncheon for faculty, staff, and students in the cafeteria. There was a cake cutting later in the day to celebrate the signing of the University’s charter. Students signed postcards for donors on Nov. 2, a flag football game was held on Nov. 3 to benefit the Loyalty Campaign for Student Scholarships, and campus clubs and organizations hosted service activity projects in Berns Student Center.



Above, Dr. Ben Hancock speaks at the cake cutting event in Berns Student Center, one of the highlights of Founders Week. Left, Trustee Chair Mary Lynn Bryan and Dr. Hancock cut the 60th anniversary cake. Center, Dr. Kim Scruton and Dr. Warren McDonald enjoy the Founders Day celebration. Right, staff members Doris Munoz, left, Michelle Stokes and Antoinette Bellamy enjoy the celebration.



Professors compare notes on their Methodist Journeys

In honor of the 60th anniversary, MU Today sat down for a conversation about Methodist from the perspectives of the longest-serving faculty member and one of the newest.

Left, Dr. Beth Overman and Dr. Margaret Folsom have fun discussing their teaching experiences.

Dr. Margaret Folsom and Dr. Beth Overman arrived in Methodist's Biology Department at different times, but they share a lot of similarities. Both were raised on family farms – Folsom in Iowa and Overman in Goldsboro, N.C. – and both received their doctorates from North Carolina State University after transferring from other schools.

Their timing is not the same, however. Folsom, who is the longest-serving full-time faculty member, arrived in 1973, while Overman, who started this fall, is one of the newest faculty on campus.

After working together for a semester, the two sat down to discuss their experiences at Methodist and thoughts

from their perspectives. The following has been edited.

Overman: How did you get to Methodist?

Folsom: After I got married we moved to Raleigh, and I wrote letters of inquiry to every small college within a 50-mile radius. Methodist had a vacancy. I came here thinking I'd stay a couple of years, try out the small college thing, and the couple of years have stretched into more than 40.

Why do you think you stayed so much longer than you planned?

Because I felt like I was doing some good. I felt like it mattered. It mattered every day what I did. How did you come here?

I actually came here first as a kid, with the Methodist Church's Youth Annual Conference. I was in high school at the time, and campus felt big. After I finished my postdoc, I didn't want to move away from North Carolina, so when it came time to apply for jobs I deliberately limited the search and patiently waited for that perfect job to come around. When I came here to interview, there were so many surprise connections to people I met with, and during the entire interview I could not

ignore what a good fit I thought this would be. I was very thankful the interview went well. What was it like to be on the faculty when you first came here?

There were fewer of us. We knew all of the faculty members and you shared students with all of them. You probably made friends with each other more easily. You made a point of getting to know people you hit it off with. I was one of the youngest faculty members when I came here, and I felt very much at the bottom of the pecking order. My department chair was Pauline Longest, who intimidated me to no end. I never called her Pauline. We went shopping together, but I never called her Pauline.

Every once in a while I do something and I still think, "Well, Mrs. Longest would be proud of you." I suppose if I ever had a role model it was probably Mrs. Longest. She was a take-no-prisoners sort of woman, and I'm glad that I worked with her. How has your experience been so far?

It's been very welcoming, from a new person's perspective. I think one of our strengths is a diverse faculty across the university. When you teach in a STEM field, one of the best ways to encourage all students to succeed is to have diverse faculty in both expertise and background. Our school has that, I believe, and I think our students can benefit from that.

We have seven people in the Biology Department now. When I started there were two. Has it been like what you thought it would be?

No, honestly. In previous teaching positions, where the majority of my classes were full of traditional students, fresh out of high school. I was not prepared for half of my students to be nontraditional, returning for a new career, and more often than not older than me like they are here. Now I think that's maybe one of Methodist's best strengths. I've loved

getting to know what makes that student tick. I've learned they are by and large very hard-working, focused, and applied. They can see the connections in what I'm teaching, and bring a unique, enriching perspective to every class. If they have learned as much with me as I have with them, then we're accomplishing something good together.

What advice would you give me as I'm starting out here?



As the longest-serving faculty, Dr. Margaret Folsom has the honor of leading the graduation procession before each commencement as the faculty marshal.



Dr. Beth Overman poses for her faculty orientation photo taken this summer.

Don't let students get by with doing less than their best, don't feel like you have to make it easy to get good evaluations. Also, don't let them waste this chance to learn. Push them as hard as you can push them, and then a little bit harder, because I think down the line that's absolutely the best thing for them. And don't let them cheat themselves out of learning by memorizing superficial talking points.

I like that academic rigor is something this department takes seriously. I remember when I interviewed it was clear that upholding rigor was a departmental focus. I think it speaks very highly of who Methodist is at the core, that we want this piece of paper to mean at graduation. If you could change anything here, what would it be?

More space. I would like one or two more biology labs, and I would like to have another nice lecture room. If you have a dedicated lab for each class, you can do

more project type work. I know we added a new building in 2007, but we've also basically doubled our number of faculty members since then. We are one of the largest majors on campus.

I'd love to see our students have more opportunities for undergraduate research, though that is an expensive thing in money and time.

We do try institutionally to encourage student research, which is good, but it depends on your definition of research. While our students can work on a few projects on an off-and-on basis, mainstream research which is published in top-notch journals requires more space and infrastructure, more equipment and even support staff than I can imagine becoming available at Methodist for the foreseeable future. Our senior seminar students do get literature research experience and some get lab experience as well. I was

pleased to see the senior seminar project of one of our recent graduates mentioned on the web site of the medical school he is attending. But while we offer our students some meaningful options, I think for most students the best combination of experiences is to learn theory in our classes and apply for summer internships at some of the big universities with ongoing well-funded projects and work with the research faculty members involved with them. That way they get to experience the small class experience here, and still get to see what full-time research work is like.

Sometimes you ask a question that has no answer, and sometimes you do all this work and at the end you still say, "I don't know." It's a very humbling thing, but it's real science, participating in and contributing to the body of scientific work out there. Then, someday, someone else can build off the work you've done.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR METHODIST UNIVERSITY

BUILDING EXCELLENCE



“We raise money for campaigns like this, not because we can, but because we must. We raise money to build buildings like this, not because we can, but because we must. This is not the end of the journey. That is our calling. That is our legacy. This is our future.”

— Dr. Ben Hancock Jr.
Methodist University President
at the Building Excellence Campaign
Celebration on Oct. 20, 2016.



Methodist University celebrates Building Excellence by surpassing campaign goal



On Oct. 20, 2016, Methodist University celebrated the conclusion of the Campaign for Methodist University – Building Excellence with an announcement that the campaign had surpassed its goal by more than \$6 million.

“This is a celebration of excellence,” said President Ben Hancock. “If you look at the support that’s come to this campaign – a record number of support, record number of donors, record participation from alumni, faculty and staff, and so many – and then you look at the leadership of this campaign ... In part, we celebrate the impact that philanthropy has on a culture of excellence. Philanthropy is just a vehicle to be successful to those three platforms of a culture of excellence: people, programs, and facilities.”

The original goal of the campaign was to raise \$35 million, but members of the Board of Trustees stunned the crowd of more than 100 attendees as they revealed a sign showcasing how much money the campaign raised –

\$41,266,820. Not only did the campaign surpass its goal, it also broke many University records, with 4,467 individual donors contributing 19,199 donations.

Campaign and Board of Trustees Chair Mary Lynn Bryan called the close of the campaign a “wonderful 60th birthday gift” for Methodist University.

Funds from the campaign will go toward scholarships, endowed faculty positions, academic programs, campus life enhancements, new and renovated academic buildings, and expanded athletic facilities.

The campaign celebration was held in the new Thomas R. McLean Health Sciences Building, one of the several construction projects included in the campaign. The ceremony doubled as a dedication for the building, which is now the home of the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.



Above: Campaign Chair Mary Lynn Bryan and Vice Chair Harvey T. Wright reveal the total to delighted guests.

“This is our future,” MU President Ben Hancock addresses those gathered for the Thomas R. McLean Health Sciences Building dedication and campaign celebration.

Below: Dr. Hancock speaks on the future of Methodist University.
 Top row, left to right: Executive Chef Juan Ramirez serves carved turkey sandwiches with fresh bread.
 Bob Allen and Ramon Yarborough are recognized. Student Government President Jason Sparrow speaks.
 Middle row, left, MU Chorale, led by Dr. Michael Martin, performs. Second-year DPT student Joseph Barron shows off pediatric equipment.
 Bottom row, left to right, University Chaplain Rev. Kelli W. Taylor offers a prayer of thanks.
 Middle: Attendees mingle before the celebration starts. Dr. Todd Telemeco tells guest Harry and Claire Shaw about the latest Human Performance Laboratory equipment.



From left, Rev. Gil Wise '83, Jason Sparrow, Bob Allen, Mary Lynn Bryan, Sharon Matthews, Ron Matthews, Dr. Ben Hancock, Rev. Matthew W. Charlton, Dr. Delmas Crisp, Matthew French, Rev. Kelli W. Taylor, and Sheila Carr Kinsey turned over the ceremonial shovels to celebrate the beginning of the construction project.



Left, Dr. Hancock introduces the Matthews. Center and right, Ron and Sharon Matthews give their remarks.



A lot of prayers became reality last semester when Methodist University broke ground on the Sharon and Ron Matthews Ministry Center. About 150 people attended the ceremony on Dec. 16. The 17,000-square-foot building is now under construction and expected to be completed in 2018. The center, which will include a chapel and offices for the Religious Life program, is the first phase of a renovation and expansion of the Reeves Fine Arts Building.

The Matthews, longtime supporters of Methodist University, donated \$2.5 million to the project that will bear their name as part of the Campaign for Methodist University – Building Excellence capital campaign. The two previously owned Family Foods, Inc., which operated a number of Taco Bell franchises, and now own Family Futures, Inc., a development real estate company. Ron Matthews is an active member of the Methodist University Board of Trustees who has

“This is such a miracle to see this happen in our lifetime.”

– Ron Matthews

served as a member of the National Campaign Committee and the Executive Committee and as chair of the Development and Church Relations Committees.

Matthews told the crowd that he and his wife had prayed for ways to serve when the idea for the ministry center came to them.

“This is such a miracle to see this happen in our lifetime,” he said.

Board of Trustees Chair Mary Lynn Bryan praised the couple’s faith and work in the community through this and other projects.

The Matthews attend Haymount United Methodist Church and have done much to spread the Gospel.

“You are just very, very special and very kind,” Bryan said. “And all of the board is very, very pleased that you are part of this family.”

Cold weather meant the ceremony was held inside the Union-Zukowski Lobby in the Reeves Building, but the crowd went outside at the end for the ceremonial shovel photos.



Joined by the renovated and expanded Union-Zukowski Lobby and the John M. Reeves Fine Arts Building, the Matthews Ministry Center will provide the University with much-needed performance space. The acoustically superior space will seat up to 325 people for religious and secular programming and house the Religious Life program, which supports students on their spiritual journey through worship and religious study opportunities, mission teams, and social justice efforts.

Construction begins on the Gene Clayton Tennis Center



The groundbreaking for the Gene Clayton Tennis Center was held on Nov. 1, 2016. The new 3,000 square-foot facility will allow all of the tennis-related programs to have their own central space, which will include a classroom, offices, and locker room. The facility will overlook the eight-court tennis complex with new spectator seating. This facility is made possible through the generous contribution made by Marta and Howard Bullard. Construction is expected to be complete by spring 2017.



Faculty member Mark Tarentino, left, students John Dangerfield, Jacob Groce, Michael Jones, K.J. Hardie, and faculty member Frances Barragan participate in the groundbreaking.



Head Men's Tennis Coach Kemper Baker, seated, and Women's Tennis Coach John Blackburn show their excitement for the new Gene Clayton Tennis Center.

This architectural rendering shows the completed Gene Clayton Tennis Center.



Soccer lights up the night

Phase 1 of the soccer complex renovation and expansion is complete with the addition of new lighting, which will allow for evening practices and games.



Phase 2 will include new seating, concessions, and restroom facilities.



For more information on these and other projects, contact the Advancement Office at 910.630.7200 or visit www.CampaignForMU.org.

2016 WINTER COMMENCEMENT

Lieutenant General Nadja Y. West, surgeon general of the U.S. Army and commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Command, was the keynote speaker for Methodist University's 44th Winter Commencement. Lt. General West was awarded an honorary doctorate by Methodist University and afterwards she presented



Lieutenant General Nadja Y. West addresses the class of 2016.



Sharon and Ron Matthews receive honorary degrees from Dr. Hancock.

Dr. Hancock her gift: a coin from her battalion. Sharon and Ron Matthews, long time supporters of Methodist University, also received honorary degrees. Coty McWain was presented with the Sam Edwards Award, and Katherine Clarke

was recognized as the Distinguished Graduate. Kaliah Pemberton, this year's only commissioning cadet, was sworn in as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and received thunderous applause from the crowd. João Graciano, who became the

first MU graduate from his country, Angola, presented his country's flag to Dr. Hancock. The flag will take its place among the hall of flags in the Berns Student Center.



Above left, Distinguished Graduate Katherine Clarke addresses her fellow classmates and right, Coty McWain receives the Sam R. Edwards award.



Lt. Gen. West congratulates Kaliah Pemberton. Pemberton was sworn in as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

"Lt. General West's many accomplishments, values, and body of work is in line with what we value here at Methodist University. It's an honor to have her as our commencement speaker."

— Ben Hancock
President, Methodist University



Nicholas McLean waves and smiles for the camera.



Master of Business Administration graduates clap, from left, Birgit Sexton, Anja Sakotic, and Karen Hinkell.



Left, Dr. Michael Martin poses with graduate Courtney Williams.



João Graciano, the first MU graduate from Angola, presented MU with his nation's flag.



RSB SYMPOSIUM AND AWARDS DINNER RECOGNIZES SEVEN

The Reeves School of Business held its second annual Symposium and Awards Dinner in November, recognizing seven people in the business community. The evening's speaker was Jeremy Miller, who spoke on "Sticky Branding." Miller is a brand builder, speaker, and bestselling author of "Sticky Branding." He works with companies to develop branding and marketing strategies that make them stand out and drive sales. The following awards were presented:

Alumni Business Person of the Year

Charles A. Allen V '11 MBA

Allen is vice president of his family's business, Green Biz Nursery and Landscaping, and co-owner of the local Two Men and a Truck franchise, which he started in 2008. With the knowledge he gained pursuing his MBA, Allen implemented a successful reorganization of Green Biz's financials and set up new systems for equipment maintenance and controls, customer care, billing, transportation logistics, and labor rate calculations.

Business Person of the Year

Stewart Bell

The third-generation owner of Bell's Seed Store, which has been located in downtown Fayetteville since 1919, Bell graduated from

Campbell University with his degree in business before joining his father, William Bell Jr., at the store. He has kept the business in touch with the next generation of customers by supporting local high schools through Future Farmers of America and school greenhouse programs. A proud member of the downtown community, the business also supports the Downtown Alliance, CARE Clinic, and Bell is on the board of the Salvation Army of Fayetteville.

Entrepreneur of the Year

John S. Calhoun

Calhoun started Cape Fear Discount Drugs in 2003. After working for chain pharmacy stores for a number of years, Calhoun realized that stores in the Fayetteville area weren't providing the best service possible to their customers. His son, Jeremy, convinced him to open Cape Fear Discount Drugs to better meet the needs of the Fayetteville community. Calhoun opened Cape Fear Discount Drugs on Raeford Road in 2003 with Jeremy and one employee. Five years ago, he opened his second location on Ramsey Street.

Above the 2016 RSB award winners pose with their awards, from left, James L. Townsend, John S. Calhoun, Lisa Saleeby-Powell, Stewart Bell, Charles Allen V, Mary M. Holmes, and Zan Monroe.

Greater Good Award

Mary M. Holmes

Holmes is executive director of the Cumberland Community Foundation (CCF). Under her leadership, the Foundation has grown from \$7 million to \$70 million in assets, which are mostly endowed unrestricted, designated, and scholarship funds. Before joining the CCF, Holmes worked as a commercial banking executive. She has served on numerous local and statewide boards of directors, including the Cape Fear Regional Theatre, Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, Fayetteville State Foundation, N.C. Center for Nonprofits, Community Foundations Serving N.C., and the N.C. Network of Grantmakers.

Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur

Lisa Saleeby-Powell

Saleeby-Powell is president of Future Unlimited, which owns five McDonald's restaurants in Cumberland County. Saleeby-Powell has won numerous civic and business awards, including the Regional People Award from McDonald's for "developing people and leveraging their strengths." In the community, she currently serves as the chair of the Methodist University Board of Visitors and has also been involved with the Kiwanis Club, Operation Insasmuch, Village Baptist Church, The American Red Cross, Patriot Hut, and the Ronald McDonald House.

Silver Spoon Award

James J. Townsend '80

Townsend is president and founder of InfoStrat, an IT Solutions company in Washington, D.C. He is considered a leading expert on Microsoft solutions for government, and a pioneer of Microsoft Dynamics CRM as a development platform. He has published multiple articles and books on software development, and is the publisher of "The Townsend Report," a blog about Microsoft Dynamics, startup companies, customer service, and information technology in the public sector.

Small-Business Excellence Award

Zan Monroe

Monroe is owner of The Monroe Company and CEO of The Fayetteville Regional Association of REALTORS. Monroe began taking public speaking engagements for the state REALTOR® organization. The experience reminded him of how much he enjoyed teaching others and led him to start his speaking and consulting company in 1995, as well as go on to publish books and audio presentations.

The next RSB Symposium is November 16, 2017.

*Sponsorships are now available.
methodist.edu | 910.630.7496*

“Elemental” combines ceramic and abstract art at the McCune Gallery



The David McCune International Art Gallery at Methodist University hosted “Elemental: Ceramics and Abstract Paintings,” a showcase featuring ceramic artist Akira Satake and painter Victoria Pinney for its fall 2016 show.

Akira Satake was born in Osaka, Japan, and has been living in the United States since 1983. In 2003, he relocated from Brooklyn, N.Y. to Swannona, N.C. Satake has been awarded the National Award for Excellence in Contemporary Clay by the Philadelphia Museum. “A Craftsman’s Legacy,” a national weekly television series on PBS, has featured his life and work.

“For me, the act of creation is collaboration between the clay, the fire, and myself,” said Satake. “Collaboration means finding out what the clay wants to be and bringing out its beauty in the way that the beauty of our surroundings is created through natural resources. Undulations in sand that has been moved by the wind, rock formations caused by landslides, the crackle and patina in the wall of an old house; all these owe their special

beauty to the random hand of Nature. The fire is the ultimate random part of the collaborative equation. I hope the fire will be my ally, but I know it will always transform the clay in ways I cannot anticipate.”

Victoria Pinney is a largely self-taught artist who works in an open studio in Asheville, N.C.’s River Arts District. She uses a mixture of oil paint and elemental substances, such as wax and sand, to give her art a historic feel. Pinney is one of a select group of curated artists included in the Western North Carolina Design Guide. In 2015, she

was featured in “American Art Collector.” In January 2016, she was recognized as an Emerging Artist in “Art Galleries and Artists of the South.”

“I find that things like rusted rail cars, crumbling stone walls, the mottled bark of a sycamore tree – even peeling paint – become microcosms of beauty that inspire my paintings,” said Pinney. “The textured surface is as essential to the painting as color or shape.”

Above, students Tony Taylor and Xinyue Li discuss a painting from Victoria Pinney.

“It is a privilege to have Satake and Pinney’s work on display on our campus.”

– Silvana Foti
Gallery Director



Top, student David Tucker takes in a piece by Akira Satake. Left, Gallery Director Silvana Foti provides an introduction to the artists and their work. Right, an opening attendee takes in a piece by Victoria Pinney. Bottom left, Art student Stacey Summers studies a painting from Victoria Pinney.

Presidential Lecture Series welcomes Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow

Richard Benedetto



*Above: Richard Benedetto presents his lecture "Politics and the Media."
Right: Benedetto answers questions with Dr. Ben Hancock.*



Richard Benedetto, a former White House correspondent, spent the week of Sept. 26 at Methodist University as a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow.

The Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows program has brought prominent artists, diplomats, journalists, business leaders, and other nonacademic professionals to campuses across the United States for more than 35 years for one-on-one dialogue with students, faculty, and staff.

Benedetto, who was also a columnist for *USA Today*, and a former political columnist for the Gannett News Service,

retired in 2006. He reported on government and politics on the local, state, and national levels for nearly 40 years and continues his involvement in journalism as a consultant for C-SPAN, writing political commentary for various publications, and teaching journalism in Washington, D.C.

As a founding staff member of *USA Today*, Benedetto wrote the national newspaper's first Page One cover story.



Above, Benedetto participated in a commentary and discussion during a screening of the Presidential debate.

He covered the presidencies of Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush.

Benedetto's visit included a Presidential Lecture Series talk on Sept. 27, which was open to the public, and several campus activities which were designed exclusively for the campus community.

On Sept. 26, there was welcome reception for Benedetto. A screening of the first U.S. presidential debate followed later that evening. The Political Science program hosted the debate discussion.

"This is a rare opportunity to experience and discuss the presidential debate alongside a well-known Washington insider," said Christopher Cronin, associate professor of political science.

On Sept. 27, Benedetto spoke on "Politics and the Media" during the annual Presidential Lecture Series. Benedetto spoke on the changing role of the media.

"It's up to us when we see something wrong in our profession to blow the whistle," said Benedetto in regards to how the media was handling the election and its coverage.

Benedetto spoke on the volatile and emotional nature of the presidential election, saying the media wasn't helping by being biased toward one candidate. He said the role of the media is to observe and report, but many media outlets instead chose to focus on the good or bad qualities or actions of the candidates in its reporting.

Benedetto's discussion on politics and the media continued during an interview on MU Radio conducted by Mass Communications Chair Dr. Kevin Swift. Swift interviewed Benedetto about his time as a political correspondent, during which Benedetto shared stories of his reporting on past presidents. Benedetto also spoke to students in business, mass communications, and political science classes.

At the end of his visit, Benedetto thanked the students, staff, and faculty for welcoming him and treating him like a part of the MU family.



Benedetto opened the week with a lecture in Yarborough Auditorium.



Richard Benedetto shares a story of his time covering the Clinton presidency with Dr. Kevin Swift, chair of the Mass Communications Department.

Methodist University's Longleaf Press releases first novel



Above: Author Robert McKean reads from his novel at the release event.

Top: Every seat was filled for the book launch. Bottom: Stacked copies "The Catalog of Crooked Thoughts" were available for McKean to sign.

Methodist University's literary press kicked off the release of its first novel, "The Catalog of Crooked Thoughts," Nov. 30, 2016 with a visit from the author, Robert McKean, who gave a special reading and book signing to a packed room in the Hendricks Science Building.

McKean's novel was the winner of the 2016 Longleaf Press Novel Contest.

"Longleaf Press has published original literary works at Methodist University since 1998 and currently has over 30 poetry titles in print," said Dr. Michael Colonnese, managing editor of the press and director of MU's creative writing program. "McKean's novel is not only Longleaf's 2016 contest winner but also its first book of fiction."

Recipient of a Massachusetts Cultural Council grant for his fiction, McLean has published in *The Kenyon Review*, *The Chicago Review*, *Dublin Quarterly*, *Armchair/Shotgun*, *34th Parallel*, and many other journals. His short story collection was a finalist in the *Flannery O'Connor Award*, and the *Mary McCarthy Prize* competitions.

"Robert McKean's 'The Catalog of Crooked Thoughts' offers a moving depiction of grief's unraveling of the self and relationships after the death of an only child," said MU Professor Michael Potts, who reviewed the book. "This profound and beautifully written work deserves a place in the canon of contemporary literature."



MU Student Cheri Molter and English Professor Shannon Ward have a book signed by McKean.



McKean's novel can be purchased online at Amazon.com



Nearly 50 students gathered for the "End the Drug War Now: It's Time for a New Approach" discussion hosted by Dr. Spence Davis, associate professor of financial economics, and professor of sociology Dr. David Rogoff.

Lecture questions drug war, legalization

On Sept. 20, 2016, the Methodist University Reeves School of Business presented a "Big Issue Series" lecture titled "End the Drug War Now: It's Time for a New Approach."



Davis, right, speaks on the history of America's war on drugs with an economic analysis.



Dr. David Rogoff discusses the issues with students, faculty, and staff in attendance.

MU Faculty members Dr. Spence Davis and Dr. David Rogoff took on the war against drugs in their September lecture, "End the Drug War Now: It's Time for a New Approach." The two discussed the issue with emphasis on the economic and sociological effects, their respective teaching areas.

"People are fighting it out for drugs," Davis said. "The estimate of how much we spent on the drug war, since '71, is over a trillion dollars."

As well as the economic cost, the pair argued the societal cost of drug-related violence between illegal market competitors was too high a price.

"Two things happen when things are illegal," Davis said. "You are going to really fight, and the price and profit go through the roof. The reason is there's an increase in risk, and they want a reward to take that risk. The second thing that happens, by definition, is, who takes it over? The bad guy, the black market."

As a solution, the two suggested decriminalization and legalization efforts. The lecture was part of the Reeves School of Business' "Big Issues Series."

Robertson gives TEDx talk on adversity and triumph



La Toya Robertson '09 recently had the honor of giving a talk at the 2016 TEDx event in New Bedford, Mass. TED Talks began in 1984 at the Technology, Entertainment and Design Conference, and TEDx events continue the nonprofit organization's mission, "ideas worth spreading," in independent local events under the TED license.

Robertson, who is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, spoke on "Vision = Victory: How Visualization Can Help You Reach Goals." She talked about how she survived the struggles of being raised in an impoverished and drug infested neighborhood to become an accredited television and music composer, songwriter, property owner, philanthropist, world traveler and Ph.D. candidate. She received a standing ovation.

Her 16-minute talk has since been viewed almost 19,500 times on YouTube.

The same day that she was scheduled to speak, Robertson also released a book that she co-authored, "The College Cheat Sheet," which outlines how to maximize the college experience to position yourself for gainful employment. The book is a mix of research-backed information and anecdotes from the authors.



MUSNA donates toys to pediatric department



Courtney DeGarmo and Stephanie Mazze show off some of the donated items.

The Methodist University Student Nurses Association (MUSNA) held a toy drive in October for the UNC Chapel Hill Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Department, collecting \$250 worth of toys and books.

The UNC department specializes in treating various types of pediatric cancers (hematological disorders and malignancies) in children up to 18 years of age from all over North Carolina, regardless of their family's income.

"The children undergoing treatment average several needle sticks per visit," said Stephanie Mazze, child life coordinator for the department. "The clinic has a 'treasure chest' filled with small prizes that each child gets to choose from after every needle stick procedure, reinforcing a positive outcome after each procedure."

The UNC Pediatric Hematology/Oncology center relies on outside donations to fund these programs and is grateful for the donation from MUSNA.

The club also donated toys for waiting rooms and books on grief for families of children who have passed away. These books are given to the families at no charge and help explain the grief process when faced with the loss of a child or sibling.

Nursing student Courtney DeGarmo said MUSNA hopes to spread awareness of the club and the University's nursing program with this and other community service projects.

"Several students in MUSNA plan to one day work in the field of pediatric oncology, which is why we decided to hold the toy drive," DeGarmo said. "The clinic provides care to several families located in Fayetteville, as well as the surrounding cities."



Student Lakpa Lama, center in green scarf, meets with some of the villagers who would benefit from her biogas project.

MU student's Davis Peace Project brings biogas to rural village in Nepal

Not even monsoons can stop Monarchs from promoting peace around the world, but they can delay a project, as student Lakpa Diki Lama found out this summer. A winner of the annual Davis Projects for Peace grant competition, Lama won \$10,000 for her proposed project, to build biogas plants in rural Nepal. The projects are traditionally started and completed during the summer, but Nepal's rainy season meant the project got a late start.

Instead, Lama spent the summer doing as much of the preparation work possible, as well as meeting with local families and officials to secure partnerships and assistance with the project, which was to benefit the village of Dhunkharka in the Kavre province, about 15 miles from the capitol, Kathmandu. Thanks to the help of the Kathmandu Mid-town Rotaract Club, Lama was able to supervise the project from a distance when she returned to her studies in the fall. The final project started construction in December as a collaboration with the people in the village of Dhunkharka, the Rotaract Club, biogas company GGC Nepal Ltd., and the government of Nepal. With the government's help, the project was also able to expand from a planned 10 biogas plants to 20, each of which will help at least one family.

"The birth of this project has given hope to the villagers and taught them about renewable energy," Lama said. "It has also encouraged the Rotaract Club and I to expand the project through grant-matching and different funding. Their engagement in the project will empower to create a better and sustainable future for themselves and empower villagers to future generations."

Biogas units provide a cleaner and safer source of sustainable energy for light, heating and cooking, enabling rural families to stop using wood fires for those needs, which can be a costly commodity for some. The small plants also provide fertilizer for farmers.

"The villagers were very happy when the project was introduced," Lama said. "One lady said she'd seen other villages adopt biogas plants, and she'd always wanted to get one. I was moved by the community support they showed."



Lama, center, helps clear a monsoon-damage road on her way to the village. Her group had to make several stops to clear roads on their trip.



Recipients of Lama's biogas project.



IPO welcomes record number of international students



Above: Four MU students from Laos, from left, Thidphachack "Dady" Phannolath, Phonepaseuth "Tina" Sourinsak, Phavadee "Nook" Phasavath, Phonphachanh "Mina" Sengmanikham.

The International Programs Office welcomed a record 205 students this fall, including 65 new incoming students. The group represents 69 different countries. On Sept. 8, the office held its annual welcome dinner with the president and other members of the MU community. The evening's theme was "Asia" and included food and entertainment from across the continent.

Rodrigo Diaz, a senior from Canada majoring in healthcare administration, attended the dinner for the first time this year.

"It was good to end this way," Diaz said. "The whole Asian theme was amazing, with Indian dance and South Korean songs. I just enjoyed everything."

One of the annual dinner traditions is that the international students and other guests are encouraged to dress

in traditional or current fashions from their home countries or other non-American cultures.

"It's great because you have the chance to try the food from all over the world, and the food represents lots of culture, as well," said Amei Wei, a sophomore from China who is majoring in finance and math. "It's a great moment when people from 69 countries wear their own traditional attires together."

Jesed Pando, a sophomore from Bolivia who is majoring in computer science and mass communications, said she liked how the evening was organized to be interactive. Each new student is given a chance to go to the podium and briefly introduce themselves before shaking hands with a line of people.

"It was a great introduction for new internationals," Pando said.

Above: International MU students gather for a photo.

Monarchs respond to Hurricane Matthew with service and love



MU and UMC volunteer groups during the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew.

The Methodist University campus rode out the winds and rain of Hurricane Matthew with very little damage beyond downed trees, none of which caused any structural damage. Situated on higher elevation than many others in Fayetteville, the main campus also avoided flooding. Surrounding areas were not so lucky, however, and with power providers unable to restore electricity quickly, the school closed for a week. Students also got an extra two days off as the following week started with the scheduled two-day Fall Break.

In an update to campus at the end of October, President Ben Hancock gave his heartfelt appreciation to all the MU employees who “went above and beyond the call of duty to serve others during the campus emergency.”

Service

While arrangements were made to take care of those students unable to leave campus, the Religious Life office was also making arrangements to help Fayetteville residents struggling in the hurricane’s aftermath. On Oct. 13, University Chaplain Kelli W. Taylor took a group of 11 students, along with a couple of MU employees, to the Arran Lakes neighborhood in west Fayetteville. Teaming up with members from other United Methodist Church congregations, the group

worked on mucking out houses that had flooded.

“The team pulled out all the soaked flooring and carpet, as well as wallboard, and helped families sort through flooded items for salvageable keepsakes,” Taylor said. “It was very emotional for both the student team and the homeowners.”

When students returned to classes on Wednesday, that morning’s chapel service featured Housing and Residence Life Assistant Director Nan Fiebig and Student Government Association President Jason Sparrow, who spoke about how they saw the presence of God through the people of MU.

“In my three and a half years of being at Methodist, I’ve never seen faculty, staff, and students come together as one community like we did when overcoming such a disaster,” Sparrow said.

Dean of Students William Walker also offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the campus’ deliverance through the storm.

“I was honored to be part of the chapel service,” Fiebig said. “It was heartening to see how the hurricane strengthened our community in a time when it could have been easily divided.”

That week, the campus also joined with other UMCs in the Gateway District of the N.C. Annual Conference to participate in a flood bucket project. The goal was to gather and pack materials for 100 flood buckets – large plastic buckets filled with donated



MU and UMC volunteers united to form salvage teams for area homes.



MU volunteers form an assembly line to prepare flood buckets.

cleaning supplies – which would then be distributed to families in need. Each congregation was given a different item to collect, and MU held a drive to collect 100 pairs of work gloves as its contribution to the buckets. On Saturday, Oct. 22, as part of the Homecoming and Family Weekend celebration, volunteers made up of alumni, students, parents, and employees packed all the items, filling 105 flood buckets.

For the next two weekends, Monarchs kept going, traveling each Saturday to work on relief projects. On Oct. 29, a group worked with Habitat for Humanity in the Habitat Village community in Fayetteville. On Nov. 5, a group traveled down the interstate to Lumberton, working at a relief distribution site and mucking out houses.

Food drives

In Athletics, the annual fall food drive, Cans Across the Conference, wrapped up on November and gave all of its donations to the Fayetteville Urban Ministry. The food drive, which is coordinated by the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, collected 3,319 non-perishable food items.

The Center for Community Engagement also held a food drive before Thanksgiving, in response to a call for help from local food bank Second Harvest, which was running low and had extra need after the hurricane.



Flood buckets are loaded for transport.

“Flood Them With Love”

Toward the end of the semester, MU organizations set up nine angel trees around campus for the “Flood Them With Love” project, which encouraged people to take one of more than 200 paper ornaments from the trees and then buy a Christmas gift for an unnamed child who was listed on the ornament. The toy drive items were for students at Margaret Willis Elementary, where MU students regularly volunteer as tutors and where Hay Street UMC also offers help to families with additional needs. MU’s Director of Student Religious Involvement Dwayne Stinson supervises the program.

“This partnership is not just about tutoring or Christmas gifts. We work to develop relationships with the families of these 43 students. We invest in them long-term,” Stinson said. “Twenty-six families with students at MWES were displaced by Matthew, so we continue to have opportunities to serve.”

In support of this project, the MU Maintenance and Custodial departments also collected donations and presented Taylor with a check for \$566, which was used to buy 48 of the toys for the Christmas project.



Bottom right: Carpentry Assistant Russell McCutchan, left, and Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Howard Bragg and MU Maintenance and Custodial staff present Rev. Kelli W. Taylor with a check.

Health Fair puts students on the "Road to Wellness"



Students in the Nursing program smile for a photo as their classmate monitors the blood pressure of a health fair attendee. Standing, Carl Jensen, Kathy McGlothen, Skye Lewis, Alyssa O'Neill, James Williams, and Assistant Professor of Nursing Dr. Shannon Matthews. Seated, Courtney Jimenez, and Sarah Elliott.

The Student Health Center held its annual Health Fair in October, with the theme "Road to Wellness." Community and campus organizations set up in Berns Student Center and on the Quad with information and give-away items designed to promote physical, environmental, spiritual, and emotional wellness.

"We are doing body engagement, personal development, meditation and mental wellness, and we are talking about breast cancer," said Coordinator for Health Services Alicia Kuch. "In the chapel, they're doing spiritual wellness. It's all for the betterment of your body and health."



Doctor of Physical Therapy student Amanda Jorinscay, right, checks out the wrist of fellow student Elizabeth Fuller.



Dr. Lisa Huggins Oxendine, left, stands at a table with Physician Assistant Program students Kelcey Connolly, Hannah Palko, Katie Denton, and Marshall Price.



Student Javahn Tyson Bryant, right, discusses health and wellness with fellow students during the health fair. He was joined by Austin Griffin.



Residents raise money for Cumberland Hall's "Mr. Josh"

Students who live in Cumberland Hall greet custodian Josh Gillis every day, so when student Erran Greene noticed something seemed off with his usual morning hello, Greene stopped to see what was wrong. Greene, who is also a resident assistant (RA), found out that Gillis' wife, Clara, was having health issues and is in need of kidney transplant.

"Erran came to me and asked if we could do an auction of some kind, and he suggested a fundraising auction where residents could bid on RAs," said Cumberland Residential Coordinator Kyle Beaman. "He spent a month putting it together, convincing RAs to volunteer and talking about how they could help."

The auction, which was held in the fall, raised \$800 in one night. The final amount was a surprise when it was presented to Gillis, who has been with Methodist for 17 years. As well as arranging the auction, Greene made a video to raise support for the project and set up a GoFundMe page for Mrs. Gillis' medical bills, gofundme.com/Clara-Gillis. So far, the page has raised an additional \$300.

Since then, Greene and other RAs in Cumberland Hall have continued to look for ways to raise money. Now, as well as just saying hello, Greene and the other RAs get an update about Mrs. Gillis from "Mr. Josh" every morning.

Some members of the custodial and maintenance teams have also helped raise money, signing up for automatic withdrawals each paycheck to the National Foundation for Transplants, transplants.org, where Gillis also has a donation page.

"In the short time that I have attended this school I've noticed that there are people who work diligently every day to make the facilities on campus feel like home," Greene said. "One of these unsung heroes is a custodian who takes great pride in his work and in his family, Mr. Josh Gillis. Gillis and others sacrifice time with their families and friends to make the college experience have value. Even though it may go unnoticed, they continue day in and day out. There are many of these types of people and each has a name, a family, and a purpose. I want these unsung heroes to know that we do notice them and we support them."

If you would like to help, donations can be made to www.gofundme.com/Clara-Gillis.

Housekeeping staff Josh Gillis, center, with Cumberland Hall residents Austin Sizemore, left, Mark Stanford, Josh Brown, Erran Greene and Lenny McNeill, and Cumberland Residential Coordinator Kyle Beaman.

Summer campers take the General Shelton Leadership Challenge

Last summer, Methodist University became one of five schools in the country to offer the General Shelton Leadership Challenge, a summer outreach program designed by The General Hugh Shelton Leadership Center.

Shelton, who founded the center in 2002 after retiring as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, came to campus in July for the opening ceremony at the beginning of the six-day residential summer camp. Shelton addressed the campers and their families and was presented with a coin by Dr. Andrew Ziegler, director of MU's Tally Leadership Center.

Shelton explained that the Challenge is designed similar to the Army's Ranger training, where everyone gets a chance to lead, to make mistakes, and to improve. He encouraged everyone to give their best efforts in order to get the most out of the experience.

Before retiring as the senior officer of the U.S. military and the principal military advisor to the president of the United States, Shelton was also the commander-in-chief of U.S. Special Operations Command. A graduate of North Carolina State University, his lengthy and decorated career also includes being knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and being awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

Along with activities and instruction on campus during the week, the 30 high school students attending the Challenge traveled to Camp Rockfish to do the high ropes course and to Fayetteville Urban Ministries to complete a service project.

"The General Shelton Leadership Challenge was a great experience," said MU student Devan Cox, one of the camp leaders. "I learned many new things and expanded my leadership skills. You build connections with all the campers that will last a long time."

Fellow student Bradley White was also a camp intern.

"The Challenge was phenomenal," White said. "I took several leadership strategies away from this camp and I use them on a daily basis. I would strongly encourage all students who consider themselves leaders to attend. Even if you are not completely sold on leadership, come and give it a try. You never know when you will have to step up to the call and lead in life, so why not take the chance to prepare yourself now?"



Camp benefactors Linda and Ralph Huff welcome General Shelton.

The General Shelton Leadership Challenge, which returns this summer, is open to rising freshmen, sophomore, juniors, and seniors in high school. The Challenge is designed to help students expand their knowledge and skills of what it takes to be an effective leader. The cornerstones of values-based leadership – such as honesty, integrity, compassion, diversity, and social responsibility – are the foundations of the experience.

The Challenge's core curriculum focuses on leadership roles and accountability, team building, leadership styles and situations, social responsibility, integrity as a leader, public speaking, changing behaviors, and goal setting.

Register now for this summer

This summer's Challenge will be July 16-21. The forms to register can be found online at www.methodist.edu/Shelton. This year's cost is \$600, which is all-inclusive for the week. Applications must include a \$100 deposit to reserve the student's spot in the program. Applications will be accepted until all 30 available spots are filled.

For more information on the 2017 General Shelton Leadership Challenge, contact Assistant Camp Director for Administration Suzanne Langley at 910.480.8474, slangley@methodist.edu, or Camp Director Daniel Bennett at 910.630.7456, dbennett@methodist.edu.



Trey Smith, left, and Charles Moorman give a presentation on the core values of honesty and social responsibility at the General Shelton Leadership Challenge graduation ceremony on July 22, 2016.



Leadership Challenge Peer Leader Jon Savannah Carter, receives her certificate of completion and celebrates with Doris Munoz.

Team 2, one of three teams of the Leadership Challenge, gather for a photo.



Retired General Hugh Shelton addresses attendees at the start of camp in Huff Concert Hall on the campus of Methodist University.



"Much Ado about Romeo and Juliet" debuts on Huff stage



Taj Allen, left, and Erin Arauz perform a scene from "Much Ado about Romeo & Juliet."

Methodist University and Sweet Tea Shakespeare presented a new take on two classic Shakespeare plays this fall. "Much Ado about Romeo & Juliet" ("MAARJ") was part of a collaborative project, "MU/ST," that pairs MU and Sweet Tea Shakespeare actors.

"MAARJ" was an unconventional twist to two of Shakespeare's most famous plays. Part scripted, part improvised, full of music, audience interaction, and surprises, "MAARJ" was a unique take on the play that stressed and explored the connections between the plays, from balcony scenes to dance parties, from the virtues of honor to the hot tempers of passion.

"This project linked MU to a vibrant local company, allowing our students to

learn from and perform with excellent Shakespearean actors," said MU Theatre Chair Evan Bridenstine. "We look forward to the possibility of another collaboration!"

The cast featured MU students Taj Allen, Darien Jones, Skylar Wood, Erin Arauz, and Elizabeth Dowden; MU alumna Teresa Hammonds; Fayetteville State University and Sweet Tea Shakespeare student actor, Traycie Zapata; and Sweet Tea Shakespeare actors Tohry Petty, Nic Fulton, and Jessica Osnoe. The project was directed by MU Theatre Department Chair Dr. Evan Bridenstine, and Fayetteville State University Associate Professor and Sweet Tea Shakespeare Artistic Director Jeremy Fiebig.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with Methodist University on this project. It's wonderful to work with such energetic and capable MU students and alums on these classic texts," said Fiebig. "We hope the bridges we're building with MU will serve us for years to come."

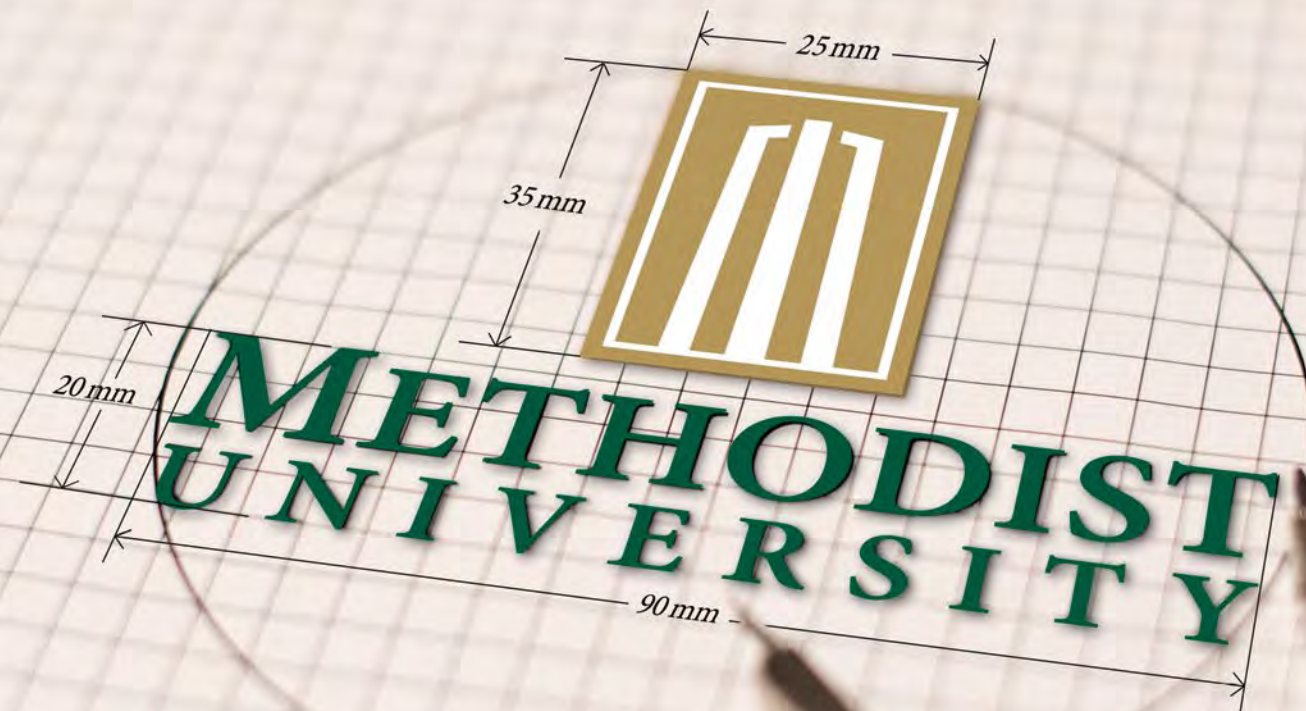
About Sweet Tea Shakespeare

Sweet Tea Shakespeare, a function of Fayetteville State University, seeks to celebrate the wonder of Shakespeare by providing simple, elemental, magical theatre experiences in an atmosphere of beauty and community.

Above, MU students Darien Jones and Samantha Hill don masks in the promo poster.



ENGINEERING



DESIGN YOUR ENGINEERING CAREER AT METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Methodist University welcomed its first Engineering class this fall. Engineering is a high-demand field with exciting career opportunities. This new program joins MU's other nationally recognized programs in health sciences, business, and forensic science. Visit methodist.edu to apply or schedule a tour of our campus.



Engineering Director Dr. Denise Bauer

Dr. Bauer joined MU in 2015 to oversee the development of the Engineering Program. She earned a B.S. and M.S. in Engineering from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

www.methodist.edu/engineering

MU announces Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program

Gronski hired as director



Maren Seotaert, left, and Logan Frame demonstrate an occupational therapy assessment skill that measures wrist joint mobility.



Dr. Meredith Gronski

Methodist University's second doctoral program, Occupational Therapy*, is expected to begin teaching classes in fall 2018. The program will be the first of its kind in North Carolina. In 2014, The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) recommended a clinical doctorate as a single point of entry to the profession. MU's OTD Program is aimed at students who have a baccalaureate degree in any area and have never practiced as an occupational therapist before. The program will prepare students to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy exam and become licensed occupational therapists.

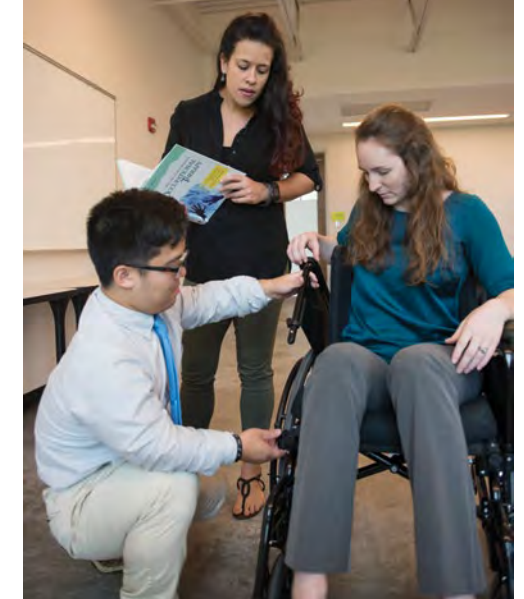
Dr. Meredith Gronski, the program's founding director and chair, joined Methodist as a consultant in 2015 and then became full time in 2016. She has worked to develop the program and is currently focused on guiding it through the accreditation process. Gronski received her bachelor's degree and her doctorate of occupational therapy from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Before coming to Methodist, she was an assistant professor of occupational therapy and otolaryngology at Washington University as well as the lead therapist for children, youth, and families in the Washington University School of Medicine, which is her area of specialization. Board certified and licensed to practice in North Carolina, she also serves on the American Occupational Therapy Association's Commission on Practice and is on the executive board of the North Carolina Occupational Therapy Association (NCOTA).

"Occupational therapy is an exciting profession that serves individuals and communities as a bridge between medical science and the social-cultural human arts," Gronski said. "Our students will launch their careers to address chronic disease, disability, and mental health conditions in a variety of clinics, schools, home-based care, and communities. OT is not just about recovery from an illness or disability, but it is authentically focused on the capacity for participation in meaningful daily activities to improve health and well-being in anyone, regardless of age or health status. We have developed a curriculum that will embody these professional foundations with interdisciplinary collaboration in mind."

Gronski said the program will not just create occupational therapists, but leaders who shape the future of the profession.

"The OTD program at Methodist University aims to deliver the most contemporary, high-quality educational experience to train future practitioners that are compassionate and ethical leaders who will engage, enrich, and empower the lives and communities they serve," she said.

Executive Vice President and Academic Dean Dr. Delmas Crisp said the program is a good fit for Methodist, which has a large network of clinical and community-based sites that offer expansive clinical fieldwork and service learning opportunities. On campus, the program will use custom-designed classrooms and labs in the Thomas R. McLean Health Sciences Building,



From left, Timothy Yu, Jamie Turner, and Julianne Watson learn how occupational therapists can customize wheelchair seating for clients with a variety of disabling conditions.

which opened last year and also houses the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program.

"Methodist University has a proven track record offering health science programming that highlights inter-professional collaboration, including the DPT, the Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies program, and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Athletic Training, and Kinesiology programs," Crisp said.

Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) Program has submitted its application for candidacy and is awaiting a pending new program approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). As well as SACSCOC, the program aims to be accredited by the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). Currently, the OTD Program is considered a "Developing Program" by ACOTE. There are several phases involved in the pre-accreditation process, with a final decision not expected until 2020, prior to the first cohort graduating from the three-year program.

Doctor of Physical Therapy reaches final stage of candidate accreditation



The Methodist University Doctor of Physical Therapy Program is in its final stage of candidate accreditation through its accrediting board, The

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). A self-study will be submitted in August 2017 that will be reviewed in October 2017, with a site visit scheduled for spring 2018, once candidacy is voted on and approved by CAPTE.

*Pending New Program Approval by SACSCOC

Homecoming and Family Weekend gets clear skies



Representatives from the Class of 1966 celebrating 50 years. From left, Glenn Bell '66, and Gordon Dixon '66.



Methodist University football players, right, prepare to tackle as a player from Huntingdon College hikes the ball to begin the play. Huntingdon College defeated Methodist University on Oct. 22, 2016, with a final score of 47-14.



Students Aaron McDowell, Jesseca Bell, and James Atkinson chat between plays at the Homecoming football game against Huntingdon College on Oct. 22. More than 150 alumni, faculty, staff, students, and guests packed Monarch Stadium for the game.



Shamar Johnson and Kaliah Pemberton were crowned the 2016 Homecoming King and Queen during the Homecoming dance on Oct. 22.

When power and water issues in the wake of Hurricane Matthew closed campus for a week in mid-October, Methodist University's community had quite the task when it came back with Homecoming and Family Weekend less than a week away. Thanks to the amazing hours put in by staff, and the blessing that there was almost no damage to repair on campus beyond trees and debris, the fall's biggest weekend went on as scheduled on Oct. 21 and 22.

Amanda Cook '92 was one of the alumni who came home. Coming from Greensboro, she brought her husband and children to campus for her first return visit since 1996.

"It's been really nice," Cook said. "We went to the football game and the soccer game. We walked around some of the buildings and went inside Garber. I lived in Garber for all four years. We also took a walk on the trail."



The Alumni Awards Ceremony on Oct. 22, 2016, honored outstanding alumni, faculty, and staff. The honorees were, from left: Johnny Wilson '99, who won the Distinguished Alumni Award; Howard Bullard, Jr. and his wife Marta (not pictured) won the Philanthropist Award; Dena Breece '00, MBA, CPA, received the Outstanding Alumni Service Award; Wendy Vonnegut, J.D., won the Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award; and Rhyann Breen '07 won the Distinguished Young Alumni Award.



The men's and women's basketball teams hosted alumni players for a blast from the past game in the March F. Riddle Center as a part of 52nd annual Homecoming and Family Weekend.



Methodist University alumni Ralph Chew '10, right, and Ravon Sheppard '14, left, sing pieces they sang during their time at MU with fellow alumni and current members of the MU Chorale.



Austin Lang rushes the ball down the field during the men's soccer game. The soccer team won its game against Piedmont College with a final score of 5 to 2.

PARENTS PROGRAM @ MU

As the parent of an MU student, you want to stay connected to the University and to your student. Signing up is easy. Email your contact information to alumnioffice@methodist.edu and you'll receive the university magazine, *MU Today*, and the newsletter, *Monarch Parents Stay Connected*, along with information about events, campus news, volunteer opportunities and important deadlines.

- ◆ Email your contact information to alumnioffice@methodist.edu
- ◆ Follow MU on Facebook at [facebook.com/MethodistUniversity](https://www.facebook.com/MethodistUniversity)
- ◆ Follow us on Twitter at [@Methodist_News](https://twitter.com/Methodist_News)
- ◆ Follow us on Instagram at [@methodistuniversity](https://www.instagram.com/methodistuniversity)



For more information, contact Sandy Ammons, VP for Advancement and University Relations at alumnioffice@methodist.edu or 910.630.7609.

We welcome your questions and comments.



Let's Connect

Keep up-to-date on everything happening at MU with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram! Interact with us on social media and watch out for opportunities to win prizes!



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Limited Edition 60th Anniversary polo shirts



Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Methodist College on Nov. 1, 1956 with a limited edition polo shirt with the 60th Anniversary logo. Shirts are available for purchase by cash or check through the Advancement Office.

Ladies' and Mens' *short sleeve* white polo shirts
Sizes: S, M, L, and XL: \$20

Ladies' and Mens' *long sleeve* white polo shirts
Sizes: S, M, L, and XL: \$26
XXL: \$28

Shirts are 65/35 poly/cotton blend.
Add \$5.00 for shipping and handling.



For more information call the Advancement Office at 910.630.7200 or stop by the Mallett-Rogers House.

Methodist receives several designations for military and veteran services

Three different rating agencies have recognized Methodist University as a choice institution for current and former service members and their families. For the 2017 year, Methodist was ranked by outside agencies as “Military Friendly,” “Best for Vets,” and a “TOP SCHOOL.”

“Being recognized by these organizations as a military and veteran friendly institution reflects Methodist University’s unwavering commitment to its active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their families,” said Billy Buckner, director of MU at Fort Bragg. “We are honored to have them as a part of the MU family. Their commitment to excellence, vast experiences, and diversity make us a better institution and we plan to make next year’s programs even better.”

Buckner estimates that more than 600 students currently at Methodist are military-affiliated by either active duty, veteran, a family member, dependent, national guard, or reserve.

Military Friendly



The “Military Friendly” ratings have been handed out by Victory Media for more than a decade and set the standard for companies and colleges demonstrating positive employment and education outcomes for veterans and their families. For the sixth year in a row, Methodist was designated a Military Friendly School by the company.

“All of our Military Friendly award recipients set the standard for excellence,” said Daniel Nichols, chief product officer of Victory Media and head of Military Friendly development. “They offer exceptional examples of what it means not just to build a program that meets federal requirements, but one that serves the military and veteran community from classrooms to careers.”

The Military Friendly ratings were published in *G.I. Jobs*, *Military Spouse*, and *Vetrepreneur* magazines.

Best for Vets



In their eighth annual ranking, *Military Times* listed Methodist University as one of their Best for Vets colleges. The rankings are created by evaluating many factors that help make colleges and universities a good fit for service members, military veterans and their families.

“We limit our list to encourage competition, and we genuinely hope this helps raise the bar for veterans on campus,” said Amanda Miller, editor of Best for Vets.

The survey factors in data from the Veterans Affairs and Defense departments, as well as three Education Department sources: the IPEDS Data Center, College Scorecard data and the Cohort Default Rate Database. Winning schools must document services, special rules, accommodations and financial incentives offered to students with military ties; and describe many aspects of veteran culture on a campus.

TOP SCHOOL



Military Advanced Education & Transition (MAET) named Methodist a TOP SCHOOL in its December issue, which included its 2017 MAE&T Guide to Colleges & Universities research study. The Guide bills itself as the “most comprehensive research tool yet for servicemembers, education services officers and transition officers.”

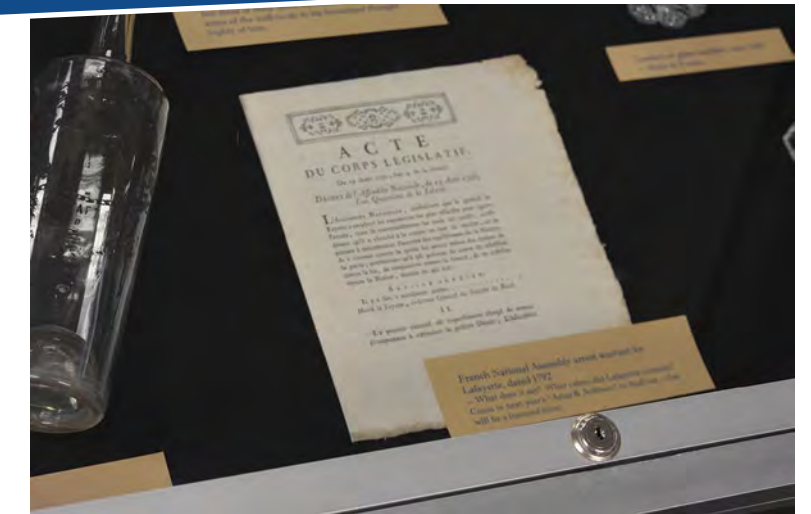
MAET evaluates schools by their achievement in military culture, financial aid, flexibility, general support services, on-campus support and online support services.



Arias and Artifacts celebrates Lafayette, new collection items



Arleen Fields speaks with Gene Dillman at the Arias and Artifacts reception.



A French National Assembly Warrant against General Lafayette dated 1792 is a new addition.



Dr. Menno Pennink plays his viola as part of the celebration.

As part of September's 10th Annual Lafayette Birthday Celebration, Methodist University hosted Arias and Artifacts, which included the unveiling of a new donation of several Lafayette memorabilia items.

The Marquis de Lafayette was a French nobleman who, at age 19, defied his king and sailed to America in 1777 to fight against England in the Revolutionary War. The artifacts were donated by Gene Dillman '73, a dealer in political memorabilia who has been scouring the market for Lafayette items for years. The items, valued at more

than \$40,000, included elegant pottery, commemorative ribbons, jewelry, glassware, and even an original printing of Lafayette's 1792 arrest warrant.

The event's program included the artifact display inside the Davis Memorial Library and a reception, followed by a live concert of French music in Hensdale Chapel.

Methodist University houses The Lafayette Collection, which is open to the public by appointment.

For more information on the collection, contact Archives Librarian Arleen Fields at afields@methodist.edu.



Andrew Spangler performs.



A Parisian vase with General Lafayette's portrait.



Vocalist Gail Morfesis performs at the event.

MU Celebrates 2016 Hall of Fame inductees



The 2016 individual honorees, from left, Hank Klein '91, Carol Brogan '01, Tazz Petty '09, Lori (Silvasy) Stephenson '88, and Rebekah (Kelly) Quinn '08 with Dr. Hancock.

The Methodist University Department of Athletics welcomed its 19th Hall of Fame as part of its annual Homecoming festivities. Five individuals and three teams joined the ranks amongst the best athletes to ever don the Green and Gold.

The 2016 induction class includes women's golfer Carol Brogan '01, men's golfer Hank Klein '91, softball player Rebekah (Kelly) Quinn '08, men's track and field athlete Tazz Petty '09, and women's soccer player Lori (Silvasy) Stephenson '88. The Teams of Distinction for 2016 are the 1986 volleyball team, the 1994-95 men's golf teams and the 2001-02 women's tennis teams.

The 10th women's golfer to be enshrined in the Methodist University Athletics Hall of Fame, Brogan was the 2001 NCAA Individual Champion and helped lead the Monarchs to four consecutive National Championships. She was a two-time First Team All-American (2000, 2001), and capped her career by being named the 2001 National Golf Coaches Association (NGCA) Player of the Year. A three-time member of the National All-Scholar Team, she averaged 77.8 strokes per round as a senior and her scorecard of 71-76-73-74-294 (+6) at the 2001 NCAA National Championships broke the individual scoring record. She was the first Methodist golfer, male or female, to be a member of four national championship teams.

Klein, another in a long list of accomplished golfers at Methodist, was a three-time First Team All-American (1989, 1990, 1991) and captained the 1991 National Championship team. He was also a member of the 1990 Methodist team that captured a national championship. Twice he was a first team all-conference selection (1989, 1991) and in 1990 was crowned the Virginia State Amateur Champion. He is the ninth men's golfer to be inducted.

Rebekah (Kelly) Quinn was a softball standout from 2005 to 2008 for the Monarchs. The two-time USA South Player of the Year (2007, 2008), she was a Second Team All-American after each of those seasons and helped lead the Monarchs to a pair of regular-season conference championships, two conference tournament championships and three NCAA Tournament appearances. She still reigns as MU's all-time leader in runs (152) and holds single-season records in runs (54) and triples (10). She earned first team all-conference honors in each of her last three seasons and the Monarchs had a four-year record of 139-42 (.768) during her career.

A holder of three Methodist school records, Petty was a five-time All-American on the track for the Monarchs. His times of 6.34 in 55m and 6.80m in the 60m still stand as individual records at MU and he was a member of the 4x100m relay team that

posted a time of 40.81 that still stands as well. He was a four-time Mason Dixon Conference champion in the 55m and in 2005 he was the conference champion in the 100m. Twice he earned All-American accolades for the 55m at the NCAA Indoor National Championships (2008, 2009), he was a two-time All-American in the outdoor 100m (2008, 2009) and the 4x100m relay team earned All-American honors at the NCAA Outdoor National Championships in 2009.

The final inductee, Lori (Silvasy) Stephenson, was a standout on the women's soccer team. A member of the inaugural team

at Methodist, she was a four-year starter and led the Monarchs to conference championships in 1985, 1986 and 1987 with a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances. A two-time first team all-conference selection, she was a Second Team All-American in 1986 and was named the North Carolina Female Athlete of the Year. Additionally, she was a two-time member of the Intercollegiate Soccer Association of America's (ISAA) Adidas Scholar-Athlete Team. Her involvement in soccer has continued to this day as she has been on the Texas A&M women's soccer staff since 2001.



Jarman wins McLean Foundation Coach of the Year



McLean Foundation Coach of the Year Award Winners

- 2009 - Francie Barragan, women's tennis
- 2010 - Steve Conley, men's golf
- 2011 - Duane Ross, track & field
- 2012 - Tom Inczauskis, women's golf
- 2013 - Tom Austin, baseball
- 2014 - Justin Terranova, men's soccer
- 2015 - Steve Conley, men's golf
- 2016 - DeeDee Jarman, women's basketball

DeeDee Jarman

DeeDee Jarman, head coach of the Methodist University women's basketball team, has been named as the recipient of the eighth-annual Thomas R. and Elizabeth E. McLean Foundation's Methodist University Coach of the Year Award.

The award recognizes the top head coach at the University as voted on by a committee of Methodist University faculty and staff. Jarman is the first basketball coach, men's or women's, to earn the award.

Entering her 21st season at the helm of the Monarchs, Jarman, who also serves as the department's senior associate athletic director and senior women's administrator (SWA), has compiled a career record of 292-214 (.577) and stands as the program's all-time winningest coach. Her teams have won a total of five conference championships and made two appearances in the NCAA Tournament.

While her success on the court is unquestioned, it is the efforts of coach Jarman off the court where she sets herself apart.

Her team sports a 96 percent graduation rate since she assumed the head coaching position and the community involvement of her team is unparalleled, evidenced by her team winning the Student Athlete Advisory Committee's Community Outreach Award for civic service each of the last six years.

Coach Jarman and her team partake in community events such as Fayetteville's Adopt a Street Program, the Salvation Army's Adopt a Family Program at Christmas, Cumberland County Special Olympics, and most notably the team's annual Play4Kay event in February. A long-time supporter of the Play4Kay initiative, Jarman's efforts last year raised a Methodist-record \$12,144.

A constant presence as a supporter of MU's other athletic teams, Jarman also plays large roles in the department's administration of home football games as well as special events hosted in the Riddle Center when basketball is out of season.

For the record – Methodist University's Teams of Distinction

The 2016 Teams of Distinction feature two of the most successful men's golf teams of all time, the two most successful women's tennis teams, and the most successful volleyball team that Methodist has boasted.

The 1994 and 1995 men's golf teams each won National Championships and featured a total of seven All-Americans, including the 1994 team that saw Sammy Hudson, Jamie Hurless, Ryan Jenkins, Jim Nickerson and Ben VanNess all earn top billing. VanNess and Jenkins shared Conference Champion honors in the 1995 season, and Jenkins went on to win the individual title at the 1995 NCAA Championships, the second win at the NCAA Championships of his career.

The 2001 and 2002 women's tennis teams featured the greatest player in Methodist history in Elena Blanina, a two-time NCAA Champion in singles (2001, 2002) and a two-time ITA Champion

in doubles with playing partner Carla Simpson (2000, 2001). The 2001 team posted a record of 13-3, while the 2002 team was 13-2. Each squad captured the conference championship and Blanina was named the Conference Player of the Year each year, while Simpson was the 2001 Rookie of the Year. In all, Methodist had 10 all-conference singles players and four all-conference doubles teams during the two-year run.

Finally, the 1986 volleyball team goes in as the only Methodist volleyball team to compete in the NCAA Tournament. With a record of 32-15, the Monarchs claimed the first conference championship in program history and the 32 wins are the second-most all-time. Three players were named all-conference that season, including first team all-conference honoree Vivian Culverhouse.

Tom Austin enshrined in ABCA Hall of Fame

Methodist baseball coach Tom Austin added to his long list of accomplishments as the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) included Austin in its 2017 Hall of Fame Class.

The ninth coach in NCAA Div. III history to reach the 1,100-win plateau, Austin has left an indelible mark on the Methodist University baseball program. Through 37 years as head baseball coach at Methodist, Austin sports a 1,106-501-9 (.684) career record. His teams have eclipsed the 20-win mark in every season during his tenure and include 17 seasons of at least 30-wins and back-to-back 40-win seasons in 1986 and 1987. Never has one of his Methodist teams finished below .500 for a season.

Austin ranks ninth overall among all-time NCAA Division III head coaches and third among active Division III head coaches in victories. During his tenure at Methodist, Austin has guided the Monarchs to six NCAA Division III College World Series appearances (1986, 1988, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996), finishing no lower than fifth in any of those appearances. The Monarchs' best finish was runner-up in 1995.

Under Austin's guidance, Methodist has tallied 17 Dixie Intercollegiate/USA South Athletic Conference championships, six NCAA Div. III South Regional titles and 22 NCAA Div. III National Tournament berths, including trips in 2013 and 2015. Methodist has also earned recognition as the country's top-ranked NCAA Div. III team during three different seasons.

His 1986 squad set an NCAA Division III single-season record for stolen bases with 334. That same team also set the NCAA Division III single-season record for walks with 440.



Tom Austin

Austin has received numerous coaching honors during his career, including being selected the Dixie Intercollegiate/USA South Athletic Conference Coach of the Year 11 times, the ABCA/Diamond NCAA Div. III South Region Coach of the Year seven times and the North Carolina College Coach of the Year twice.

A total of 29 players under Austin have garnered ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Div. III All-America honors a total of 36 times, and 135 players have been selected first team All-Dixie Intercollegiate/USA South Athletic Conference.

A native of Philadelphia, Austin attended Seminole Community College in Sanford, Florida, where he was an All-Florida Conference outfielder and set the state junior college stolen base record. From there, Austin transferred to Rollins College, where he received his bachelor's degree in history in 1972. He then earned his master's degree in education from Rollins in 1976.

Austin began his coaching career at his high school alma mater – Bishop Moore High School – serving as football and baseball coach from 1973-79. He was included in the inaugural USA South Hall of Fame Class in 2010.

A Lifetime ABCA member, Austin has been involved in the ABCA for four decades and served as a clinician at the 2015 ABCA Convention in Orlando.

The 10-member class was officially inducted into the Hall of Fame at the ABCA Convention on Jan. 6, 2017 in Anaheim, California. Induction to the ABCA Hall of Fame is the highest honor bestowed by the organization. The ABCA was founded in 1945 and the Hall of Fame began in 1966.



Eirik Nordseth

Eirik Nordseth named Mason-Sykes Cup Winner

Recent Methodist University graduate and former men's soccer player Eirik Nordseth was announced as the Mason Sykes Cup award winner for 2015-16.

Named for Methodist coach Mason Sykes, the award is handed out annually to the University's top student-athlete. Based on outstanding athletic achievement, and a minimum grade-point average of 2.0, the Methodist coaching staff has chosen an annual winner every year since 1986. Nordseth becomes the first men's soccer player to take home the award.

Nordseth put the cap on a stellar career by garnering Third Team All-America, First Team All-South Atlantic Region and First Team All-USA South honors

in his final season. He was second in the conference with 16 goals and totaled 35 points on the season for a team that went 14-5-3, won the USA South Conference Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

With 62 career goals and 139 career points, Nordseth stands as the Monarchs' career leader in each category. He was a four-time first team all-conference honoree, a four-time all-region selection, the 2011 USA South Rookie of the Year and a two-time conference tournament MVP.

A native of Steinkjer, Norway, he is currently playing soccer professionally in his home country.

All-Time Mason Sykes Cup Winners

- 1986 - Doug Garner, baseball
- 1987 - Karen Grant, women's track and field
- 1988 - Jansen Evans, baseball
- 1989 - Mike Brewington, baseball
- 1990 - John McCullough, men's golf
- 1991 - Anne Thorpe, women's soccer & Jay Kirkpatrick, baseball
- 1992 - Mike Rohr, baseball
- 1993 - Ryan Jenkins, men's golf
- 1994 - Anne Uleman, women's basketball, softball
- 1995 - Kelly Cap, women's golf
- 1996 - Mike Adamson, men's golf
- 1997 - Jason Childers, men's basketball
- 1998 - Tracey Gage, women's golf
- 1999 - Tracey Gage, women's golf
- 2000 - Heather Hugus, softball
- 2001 - Elena Blanina, women's tennis
- 2002 - Elena Blanina, women's tennis
- 2003 - Michelle Meadows, women's golf
- 2004 - Adam Horton, men's golf
- 2005 - Charlotte Williams, women's golf
- 2006 - Charlotte Williams, women's golf
- 2007 - Katie Dick, women's golf
- 2008 - Susan Martin, women's golf
- 2009 - Susan Martin, women's golf
- 2010 - Susan Martin, women's golf
- 2011 - Paige Caldwell, women's golf
- 2012 - Ashlynn Chavis, women's track and field
- 2013 - Mike Wesko, men's golf
- 2014 - Max Reber, football
- 2015 - Max Reber, football
- 2016 - Eirik Nordseth, men's soccer



Nordseth in action.

Methodist names Scholar-Athletes for 2015-16 Academic Year



Wildeboer at bat in 2016.

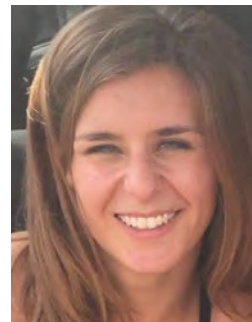


Pete Wildeboer

For the third consecutive year, Methodist baseball player Pete Wildeboer has been named the University's Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Women's track & field athlete Lindsey Pritchard is the female honoree.

Wildeboer, a junior from Castle Hayne, N.C., made it four straight years now that a baseball player has been named as he won for the third time. The annual awards are given to the varsity student-athlete that posts the highest grade-point average in a given academic year. The recipient must have been a full-time student in both the fall and winter semesters and possess a GPA of at least 3.2.

In 32 games played this season, including 28 starts, Wildeboer



Lindsey Pritchard

hit .223 with 22 runs scored and eight extra-base hits.

He drove in 14 runs and was a perfect 7 for 7 in stolen bases. In the series-opening win over Greensboro, he went 5 for 5 with four runs, two RBI and a pair of stolen bases.

Pritchard, a freshman sprinter from Strongsville, Ohio, suffered a serious knee injury just prior to the start of the indoor season, causing her to be unable to compete in her rookie campaign. After rehabbing for the past year, Pritchard is expected to return for her sophomore season and contribute as one of MU's top sprinters.

The Male and Female Scholar-Athletes of the Year are awarded as part of MU's Fall Convocation.



E'Montie Dears (11) makes would-be tacklers miss. In just 8 games, the MU Junior from Florence, S.C. ran for a total of 881 yards this season, averaging 104.63 yards per game.



Love is in the air.

60 alumni couples in honor of 60 years

Over the last 60 years, many Monarch couples have tied the knot. In this special anniversary issue, we take a look at 60 alumni couples and their lasting relationships.



Danielle Smith-Arbe '04 and Erick Arbe '04



Renee '88 and Michael Bain '88



Barbara '68 and John Baranowski '67



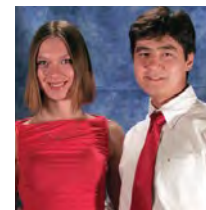
Brittani '09 and Brian Barrows '10



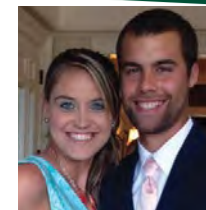
Nancy '72 and David Bouteiller '69



Kelsie '09 and Barton Bowser '09



Anastasiya Saakova '13 and Artur Khalikov '12



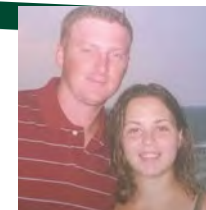
Hayley '13 and Zach Klees '13



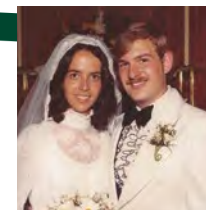
Ashley Abrams '05 and C.J. Komons '08



Rachel '12 and Tripp Lancaster '11



Betsey '03 and Rian Lane '02



Linda '75 and John Lang '75



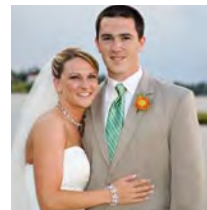
Jessie '11 and Nathan Bright '11



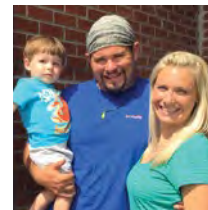
Jody '05 and Jeffrey Brooks '05



Zan '09, '11M and Tom Burick '08



Kathy '07 and Cory Calloway '08



Melinda '09 and Anthony Cassone '10



Katherine '08 and Bobby Culver '08



Gina Martinez '14 and CPT Jose Martinez '12



Lyndsey '05 and Hugh Matthis '04



Kim '02 and Jared McCullen '00



Yvonne '77 and Richard McDowell '76



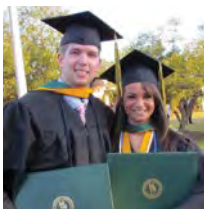
Ashley '12 and Corey McGuire '11



Victoria '13 and Jake McSwain '14



Kara '06 and Danny Dawson '11



Ashley Deese Eldredge '11 and Dan Eldredge '11



Simone '95 and Kevin Dennison '95



Audra '06 and Derek DiStefano '05



Meg '81 and Gordon Dixon '66



Adrienne '02 and Richard Dombrowsky '02



Kristie Meave-Allen '11M and Charles Allen '11M



Jennifer '02, '11M and Brandon Mish '03



Kristen '12 and Sam Morrison '09, '10M



Kristyn '11, '13M and Frank Olivarez '11



Erika '10 and Matthew Parrish '08



Tonie Minges '76 and James Peterson '76



Jackie '69 and Bill Estes '69



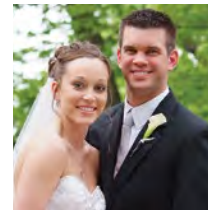
Susan '98 and Rob Foreman '92



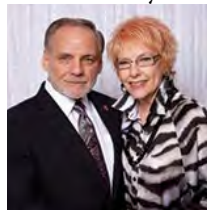
Paige '11 and Chas Golibart '10



Teresa '12 and Brian Goodwin '10, '11M



Kayci '11 and Matt Gowins '10



Wanda '66 and Dave Herring '65



Malinda '01 and Matt Plumer '00



LuShonda '01 and Jeremy Priebe '02



Jonnie '70 and John Sarvis '73



Mary '67 and Mike Saunders '67



Beth '73 and Jim Spence '72



Ashley '11, '12M and Trey Such '12, '13M



Stacie '02 and Bill Hooks '01



Amanda '11 and Ryan Hull '11



Cannie '04 and Tavares Hunter '02



Lindsay '05 and Hank Jenkins '09



Laura '71 and Bob Johnson '71



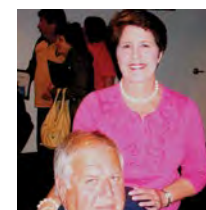
Teri '04 and Ridge Johnson '01



Lauri '97 and Chaplain Stanton Trotter '97



Katherine '08 and Micah Vugrinec '07



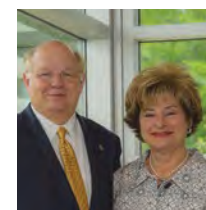
Alice '69 and Jim Wilkerson '70



Linda '83 and Gil Wise '83



Mary Jo '73 and Flint Worrell '72



Mary '68 and Harvey Wright '70

Renny Taylor '86 of Nash Central High School was named the 2016-17 Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools Teacher of the Year and the Boys Basketball Coach of the Year by the Big East Conference.

Jim Espinoza '89 was recently promoted to Service Delivery Manager for the Customer Experience Department at DFW International Airport.



William Halliburton '90 was recently named police chief for Dunn, N.C. Halliburton brings over two decades of law enforcement experience to Dunn. He spent 19 years with the Statesville Police Department, including three years as assistant chief. He has spent four years as the chief of the Albemarle Police Department.



Rickey Hill '90 was named Loyola Competitive Cheerleading and Dance Coach. Prior to coming to Loyola, Hill was the Spirit Coordinator at Virginia Tech from 2004-13. Before his time at Virginia Tech, Hill had extensive coaching experience as the head cheerleading and dance coach at Methodist University, James Madison University, and Winthrop University.

JoLie Kurtz '91 was recently promoted to the corporate headquarters of The Safariland Group where she will be overseeing the Mustang Survival Company. She and her family have relocated to Jacksonville, Fla.



Ericson P. Kimbel '92 was appointed to partner by Reed Smith L.L.P. in the firm's global Energy & Natural Resources Industry Group (ENR), and Construction & Engineering team based in Pittsburgh. Kimbel received his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and his Bachelor's degree, cum laude, from Methodist University. He also received a Master's degree in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

Jason Dorsett '99 was named chief operating officer of Mount Airy City Schools. A Mount Airy High School graduate, Dorsett, obtained his Master of School Administration degree from Appalachian State University. Since 2012, he has been the principal of Jones Intermediate School where he was named 2014 Wells Fargo District Principal of the Year.



Dr. Elmore D. Lowery '99 was recently promoted to the Dean of Continuing Education at Fayetteville Technical Community College. He served many years in Law Enforcement and finished his tenure with the State Bureau of Investigation in August. He joins his wife, Dr. Vernon Lowery, in education and is working to make sure all students are afforded the opportunity of free education.



Dr. Vernon Lowery '99 was named Cumberland County Principal of the Year. Lowery will compete against Principals of the Year from other school districts for the Sandhills/South Central region title. The 17-year education veteran has served as a school administrator for nine years.

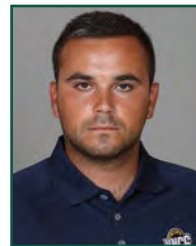


Felix Sarfo-Kantanka, Jr. '99 was the recipient of the 2016 Phoebe and Frank Hall Humanitarian Award for Service to Vintage Virginians at the 13th Annual Senior Connections, The Capital Area Agency on Aging Empty Plate Luncheon.



Justin DeFont '04 is making his mark at the Audubon Country Club. DeFont recently wrapped up his first year at Audubon where he has instituted new programs and operational changes. The 34-year-old pro spearheaded monthly men's "toss-up" tournaments; monthly complimentary women's clinics; a regular play-with-a-pro series with DeFont and three other pros, and a free ball-fitting event. DeFont's changes have led to greatly increased participation and enjoyment.

Major R. Bryan Anderson '08M was promoted to the post of Deputy Police Chief by The Mooresville Police Department. Anderson has been with the MPD since 1999, serving as a patrol officer, special response team leader, lieutenant, captain and most recently as major.



Mike DeMara '08 joined the UNCG coaching staff after stints at Old Dominion, the University of Great Falls, and Methodist University.



Benjamin Gray '09 was recently presented with the Microtel Hotel of the Year award for the Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham in Georgetown, Del. where he serves as general manager. Additionally, Gray and his team were awarded the Wyndham Hotel of the Year, and one of their Front Desk Associates was recognized as the Wyndham Front Office Employee of the Year. Gray and his hotel staff were chosen out of more than 4,500 hotels and 600,000 employees worldwide. The honors come after just one year in operation and mark the first time a Microtel property was chosen as a Wyndham Hotel of the Year.



Jeffrey Pelletier '10 has been named president of Junior Achievement of Greater New Bedford, by the Board of Directors. Pelletier is a prior member of the JASM Board of Directors and is an active supporter of nonprofit organizations across Massachusetts.



Kimberly Sublett '11M successfully passed the Professional Management Professional (PMP) exam to become PMP certified.



Andrea Candlish-Nissen '12 took part in the first ever Alpaca Owners Association Spin Off Judge Accreditation. She is one of eight women in the United States to earn this distinction. The Spin Off competitions provided invaluable information to alpaca farm owners on best uses for their fiber.



SHARE YOUR NEWS

Did we miss something? We would like to hear about your personal and professional accomplishments. Send alumni announcements or corrections to Kirbie Dockery by emailing alumnioffice@methodist.edu.



Ashley McGuire '12 graduated with a doctor of chiropractic degree from Sherman College of Chiropractic on June 18, 2016. Ashley and her husband **Corey McGuire '11** relocated to Cary, N.C. where she works for Whole Family Chiropractic.



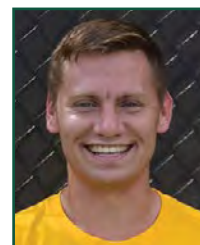
Bryan Morales '12, who spent seven years in the military as an infantryman and then an airborne medic, is one of three students in the East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine's Class of '20 chosen for the Brody Scholar award, the most prestigious scholarship available. The scholarship is valued at about \$112,000.



Dakun Chang '14, John Duckworth '08, James Ondo '05, Josh Speight '11, pictured left, and **Wyatt Worthington '12** competed in the PGA Professional Championship at Turning Stone Resort in Verona, N.Y. in June. Speight and Worthington finished tied for fourth and sixth respectively to qualify for the PGA Championship at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J. last July.



Isabella Graf '16 is a tennis professional at the prestigious Moorings Yacht & Country Club in Vero Beach, Fla.



Taylor Buchholz '16 was named the new head tennis professional at the Rome Tennis Center in Rome, Ga.



Michael Carruth '99 announces his engagement to Kayla Noble. The couple is planning an April 23, 2017 wedding in Punta Cana. Michael is the assistant superintendent at Pennsauken Country Club and Kayla is a radiology technician.



Claude Bernard '13 is engaged to Chanel Hines and planning a 2017 wedding. Claude is living in Upper Marlboro, Maryland and works for Alliance Physical Therapy as an occupational therapist. His fiancé is a training administrator for Defense Security Services.



Christopher Kelley '13 announces his engagement to Chelsea Kellinger. Chris is a golf professional at the Country Club of York and Chelsea is a nuclear submarine officer for the U.S. Navy.



Nicole Williams '13 is engaged to **Mark Collins '15**. The couple is planning to marry September 10, 2017 in the United Kingdom.



Cassandra Walter '15 is engaged to **Ross Leggett** and planning a September 2017 wedding. Cassandra is a nurse at CarolinaEast Medical Center.



SHARE YOUR NEWS

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Adam '92 and Terrah Nanney Hall '94 celebrated the birth of their daughter, Kate Elizabeth, on May 23, 2016. She weighed 8 lbs. 8 oz. Adam and Terrah have been blessed with five sons and five daughters in 21 years of marriage.



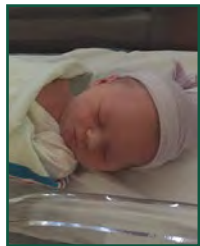
Brandon Hayden '08 and his wife Sarah welcomed Addison Leeann May 11, 2016.



Rebecca Kennedy Lockhart '04 and her husband Richard welcomed their daughter, Caroline Jan, September 7, 2016. She weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 19.75 inches. Her big brothers are James and Joel.



Sam '09, '10M and Kristen Robinson Morrison '12 welcomed Noah Andrew August 28, 2016. He weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz. and measured 20 inches.



Derek '05 and Audra Gustafson DiStefano '06 welcomed their third daughter Madilynn Mae October 19, 2016. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 20.5 inches. Madilynn's older sisters, Cayleigh and Julianna, are beyond excited to welcome their baby sister into the family. Derek and Audra feel so blessed.



Lindsey Cosgray Mettinger '10 and her husband Ryan celebrated the birth of their second child, Brooke Amelia, October 27, 2016. Brooke weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. and measured 20.5 inches.



Jenny Sorensen Casarotti '06 with her husband Seth and their son Paxton, welcomed their daughter Skylin on April 14, 2016.



Treniece Burton Watson '11 and her husband Alex welcomed their third child, Ian Xavier, August 13, 2016. Ian weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and measured 19.5 inches.



Michael '06M and his wife **Jennifer Willoughby Lashley '05 '07M** welcomed Eli Joseph on September 24, 2016. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and measured 20 inches. Eli joins his five-year-old sister Emma.



Maggie Gaines-Hackney '11 and her husband Drew celebrated the birth of their son, Karver Dayde, on November 7, 2016. He weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and measured 20 inches. Maggie and Drew's daughter Finnlie loves being a big sister!



Jake Pleczkowski '09 married Peggy Feldon September 16, 2016 in Mattituck, N.Y. **Matt Bova '09, Nick Bova '08, and Nick Cannon '09** served as groomsmen. Jake is the head golf professional at Naples National Golf Club.

William "Billy" Holbrook '92 and Sharon Revels '94 were married August 6, 2016 at Celebration Golf Club in Celebration, Fla. The couple resides in Winter Garden, Fla.



Kelsey Carter '10 and Drew Harrell were married April 16, 2016 at Panorama Farms in Charlottesville, Va. **Laura Gilbert Milligan '10, Jordan Grady Brown '10, and Sara Yeatman Currier '09** were in the bridal party. Kelsey is a director of events and Drew is the chief radiation therapist at UC Davis Cancer Center.



Ashley Deese '11 married **Daniel Eldredge '11** April 16, 2016 at The Pinehurst Resort. The wedding party was full of alumni including **Felica Back Eggie '11, Courtney Fernandez Petty '11, Katherine Jade Lister '12, Brian Graefe '11, Zachary Rivenbark '11, and Joseph Brislin '10**. Ashley is a digital producer for the Smithsonian and Dan is an account manager for CEB, a best practice insight and technology company.

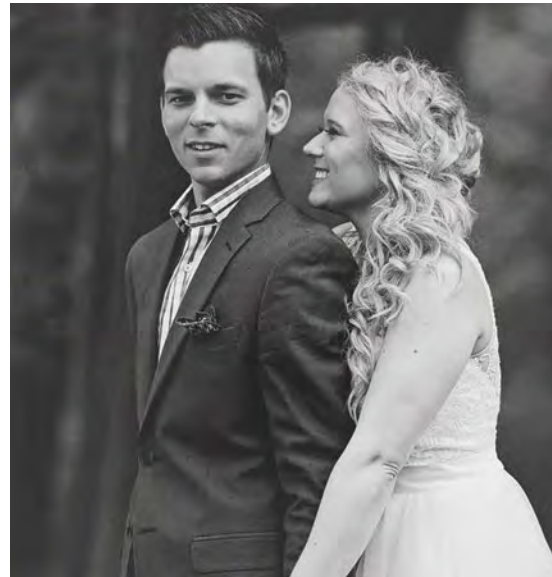


◀ **Vanessa Gault '11** married Tristan Steffen July 2, 2016 in Garland, N.C. The bride's brother **Charles Gault '13** gave the bride away and **Camy Hunt-Bennett '88** served as minister. The maid of honor was a current MU student, Mandy Johnson. Vanessa is an interlibrary loan assistant at the Methodist University Davis Memorial Library and Tristan is a park maintenance worker for the City of Apex.

Lindsie Bentham '12 and Jeremiah Graham were married May 21, 2016 at Letchworth State Park in Castile, N.Y. **Jennifer Hamel '11, '14M, J.D. Williamson '13,** and **Landon Bentham '08, '10M** were in the wedding party. Lindsie is a merchandiser/buyer for the Country Club of Sapphire Valley and Jeremiah is the head golf professional at Wade Hampton Golf Club.

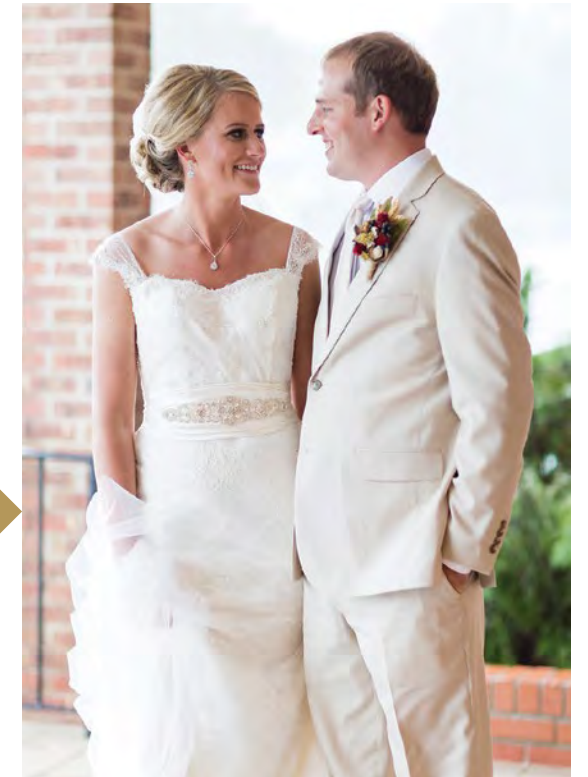


◀ **Courtney Creech '12, '14M** married Staff Sgt. Johnathan Harvey May 7, 2016 at the Duplin Country Club in Kenansville, N.C. The couple met when Courtney was 12 and John was 16 and reconnected 10 years later in Raleigh, N.C. Courtney works for Weston Banks Wealth Partners as a Client Relationship Manager and Life Insurance Coordinator and John is the Transportation Manager for the 916th ARW and an active Reservist for the 916th LRS at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.



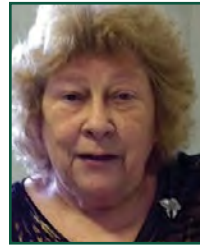
◀ **Marissa Smith '13** and Jake McDaniel were married October 15, 2016 at the Cape Fear Vineyards in Elizabethtown, N.C. Marissa is currently a teacher for Cumberland County Schools.

Stephanie Wood '13 and Tyler Honeycutt were married October 8, 2016 in Erwin, N.C. **Bryant Wood '13, Emily Huneycutt '13,** and **Kirbie Britt Dockery '03** were in the wedding party. Stephanie is a physical education teacher for Cumberland County and Tyler is a service manager for Prestage Farms.



◀ **Courtney Pearson '14** married Christian Weber August 13, 2016 at Baytree Lakes in Harrells, N.C. Courtney is a chorus teacher at York High School in Yorktown, Va. and Christian is a diver engineer for the U.S. Army. The couple met in 2014 when Chris was stationed at Fort Bragg.





Harriett Smith McDonald '64, of Raeford, died June 11, 2016 at the age of 73. Harriett was a member of Antioch Presbyterian Church. Harriet taught for many years in the Hoke County School System. In 1998, Harriett began teaching at Pinecrest High School in Moore County, where she taught until taking early retirement in 1988. While teaching at Pinecrest, Harriett received both the Outstanding Language Arts Award from Moore County Schools and the Governor's Award for Excellence in teaching Language Arts.



Mary Helen Pearsall '71, went to be with her Lord on July 25, 2016. She graduated from Burgaw High School in 1966, and magna cum laude from Methodist College in 1971 in Religion and Philosophy. In 1973, she received a Masters of Education in Guidance and Counseling from UNC-Chapel Hill. From 1974-75, Mary Helen was a guidance counselor at Robinson School in Santurce, Puerto Rico. She worked from 1976-2006 in Raleigh for the N.C. Division of Services for the Blind as a Rehabilitation Counselor. After retirement, Mary Helen volunteered and served on the Board of the FRIENDS of the N.C. Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. In 2006, Mary Helen was made a member of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.



Thomas Hawthorne Garber '73, "Tom", age 65, passed away on October 3, 2016 at his home in Arlington, TX with his wife, Johanne, by his side. Tom was born on September 20, 1951 in Clifton Forge, Va. Tom spent his formative years growing up in the Panama Canal Zone, graduating from Balboa High School in 1969. He completed his education in the United States, where he earned a bachelor's degree from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C.



Veronica Threet Howard '73, age 65 of Fayetteville, N.C., departed this life on September 3, 2016.



Retired Major Thomas Erwin Powell '73, 72, was called home to our Lord and Savior on May 25, 2016. Mr. Powell had a distinguished military career including two tours in Vietnam. He was a member of the rescue team at Son Tay, North Vietnam, and his actions on this raid earned him the Distinguished Service Cross. He was inducted into both the Special Forces Regiment and the Commando Hall of Honor. After 22 years of actively serving his country, Mr. Powell began his Civil Service career.



Ann Thomas Matthews '75, 63, of Fayetteville, died August 13, 2016. Ann was born on July 1, 1953, in Fayetteville and grew up on Army bases throughout the world. A graduate of Methodist College, Ann enjoyed a wonderful four-decade long career in broadcasting at radio stations across our country.



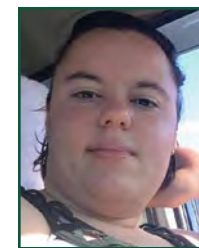
Wilma Jean Lewis '85, 63, of Fayetteville, died May 26, 2016. Wilma was a special education teacher at Westarea Elementary School.



Dorothy Jean "Dot" Rolan Harkey '89, 82, of Spring Lake, passed away peacefully March 28, 2016, in Vintage Inn in Williamston, N.C. Dot was a loving wife and mother. She was a graduate of Methodist University with a B.S. in Nursing. She was a talented pianist and organist and supported her husband and served with him in his pastoral ministry. She was a member of Manola Baptist Church, Woodland, N.C., and a member of Pendleton Eastern Star. She was a past member of Spring Lake Eastern Star and Lillington Eastern Star.



Retired U.S. Navy Master Chief Gene Allen Morrison '90, 67, passed away June 12, 2016 in Durham, N.C. He was also a retired civil service statistical analyst at Womack Army Medical Center. He was a member of the Pro Bowling Association and loved playing golf.



Crystal Renee Stewart '12, 28, of Fayetteville, passed away May 29, 2016. She was a member of Galilee Free Will Holiness Church. She worked for Advance Auto on Eastern Blvd. in Fayetteville, N.C. Crystal was always smiling and enjoyed spending time with friends and family. She will be missed by all who loved and knew her.



Patricia Ann Conrad, 74, of Fayetteville, passed away on Wednesday, May 4, 2016. Patricia was an employee of Methodist College. She was secretary to the Vice President for Business Affairs for many years, and later in her career became Coordinator of Campus Telephones.

Remembering ...



DR. RICHARD W. PEARCE

Methodist University's second president, Dr. Richard W. Pearce, died peacefully in his home in DeLand, Fla. on Sept. 15. He was 92. The MU Flag was lowered to fly at half-staff in his honor through the week.

The Methodist College Board of Trustees elected Pearce president of Methodist College April 3, 1973, to succeed Dr. L. Stacey Weaver. A graduate of Hendersonville High School in Hendersonville, N.C., Dr. Pearce was the vice president and dean at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Fla., before coming to Methodist. A U.S. Navy veteran, he also held J.D., M.A., and B.A. degrees from Stetson University, where he had taught business and chaired the Business Department. Prior to joining Stetson,



Pearce was in private law practice for 10 years in Pierson, Fla. Dr. Pearce announced his retirement to the Methodist College Board of Trustees on April 14, 1983.

Dr. Pearce guided Methodist through a tough time with financial skill and by standing by tough and unpopular decisions. During his tenure, the operating deficit was cleared and the college experienced an operating surplus. His acute business knowledge and experiences enabled the college to survive during this very difficult time. Pearce Hall is named in his honor.

He is survived by his daughter, Karen Pearce, and his son, Richard Pearce.



HON. EDWIN MAURICE BRASWELL

The Honorable Edwin Maurice Braswell, who in 2015 was recognized as Loyalty Day Supporter of the Year by Methodist University, passed away at the age of 94 on Jan. 30. Along with his late wife, Ruth Cox Braswell, he had been a faithful supporter of Methodist since 1972.

Braswell made Fayetteville his home after receiving his law degree from UNC Chapel Hill, which he attended on the G.I. Bill. Before college, Braswell survived a storied service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, where he was a tail gunner on a B-17 bomber and flew 41 combat missions over Europe.

During the war he was listed as missing in action three times, and spent time as a prisoner of war in Romania.

In his legal career, Braswell was district attorney, superior court judge, and a judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. He was former president of the North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges and North Carolina District Attorney's Association, and former vice president of the North Carolina Bar Association.

The Braswells were longtime members of Haymount United Methodist Church, where he served for several years as a lay leader, along with many other positions.

He is survived by two sons, Edwin Maurice Braswell Jr. and Mark Walter Braswell, and a daughter, Susan Braswell Moore.



DOHN BROADWELL SR.

Former Trustee Dohn Broadwell Sr. passed away Feb. 15 at the age of 85. Broadwell, who served as a trustee from 1997 to 2005, was a Fayetteville real estate developer. Along with his brother, the late Waverly Broadwell, he owned Broadwell Construction in the 1950s and 1960s before forming Broadwell Land Company in the 1970s. His companies were responsible for the development of several neighborhoods for military families near Fort Bragg, and the Military Business Park in Fayetteville.

Broadwell was the Reeves School of Business Center for Entrepreneurship's

1987 Entrepreneur of the Year and a former member of the Methodist University Board of Visitors. A passionate conservationist, he was a former member of the state chapter of The Nature Conservancy, and he was named the 1999 Conservationist of the Year at the North Carolina Governor's Conservation Achievement Awards. He was also awarded the Al Prewitt Economic Visionary Award in 2013.

He is survived by three sons, Dohn Broadwell Jr., Charles Broadwell, and Richard Broadwell.

BRINGING MU TO YOU

Can't make it to campus? Don't worry we are Bringing MU To You. Methodist University regional events bring alumni, parents, and friends of MU together for educational, social, and cultural opportunities. Attending a regional event is an excellent way to build and grow social and professional networks, remain informed about news from campus, and display pride in your alma mater. Whether you're new to an area or have been along-time resident, it's never too late to start attending regional events.



Orlando, Fla.

Above: Participants of the Bringing MU To You gather in Orlando.

Schedule of upcoming events:

- Mar. 21 | Swansboro, N.C.** - White Oak River Bistro
- Apr. 7-8 | Fayetteville, N.C.** - Alumni Soccer Weekend
- June 16 | Greenville, N.C.** - NCCUMC Reception
- June 17 | Suffolk, Va.** - Frogland Jam
- June 23 | Lake Junaluska, N.C.** - WNCCUMC Reception

For more information about these alumni events or to host one in your area, please contact Kirbie Dockery, *Director of Alumni Affairs*, at 910.630.7167, 800.488.7110 ext. 7167, or kdockery@methodist.edu.



Above, Ben Hoover '06, Robbie Fritz '05, James Ondo '05, Joe Brookfield '05, Brandon Grecco '05, and Adam Kushner '06.

Far left, Richard Parker '95, Sara Beechey Muldoon '92, Alana Swain '10, Michael Jacobs '99, Joey Wuertemberger '01, Jerry Hogge, Leighann Albaugh '02, Chad Middaugh '07, James Walden '09, and Carol Brogan '01.



Fayetteville, N.C.



Above, MU President Dr. Hancock addresses the Fayetteville crowd.



Far left, Alan Porter, Bill Dudley, Betty-Neill Parsons '64, and Stephen Driggers '76. Left, Micah '07 and Katherine Vugrinec '08.

Charlotte, N.C.



Top left, Richard and Stana Jones were all smiles in Charlotte.

Above, from left, Jeff Headman '12, Rachel Purser '13, Sam Morrison '09, '10M, Kristen Morrison '12, and Zan Burick '09, '11M.

Left, Leslie Dunn Lipscomb '05 and Dianne Dunn Jones '01.



Washington, D.C.



From left back row, Dan Eldredge '11, Ashley Deese Eldredge '11, Jansen Evans '88, Felicia Evans '87, Samantha Gamble '09, Rafael Bernaola '07, Oriana Clayton '14, Jim Townsend '80, Chris Broyles '14, Kevin Scott, Debbie Hancock, Dr. Ben Hancock, and Patrick Hanna '99.

Richmond, Va.



From left, Felix Sarfo-Kantanka '99, Dr. Ben Hancock, Sarah Dicks, and Chip Dicks '73.



Sharonda Lindsay and David Lindsay '79 enjoy the view in Richmond.

Raleigh, N.C.



From left, Judy Bailey, Debbie Beavers '72, and Hon. Margaret Dickson.



Dr. Assad Meymandi and Hon. Margaret Dickson celebrated their birthdays with MU alumni and friends in Raleigh.

Greensboro, N.C.



From left, Kirbie Dockery '03, Raevin Harvey '13, Bryan Hockaday '14, Jesse Tenhagen '13, Marissa Kuzbyt '12, and Andrew Parker.



Brock Williams '69 and Louise Reynolds '69 in Greensboro.

Philadelphia, Pa.



From left, Bob Giannini '70, Mark Kirsch '98, Jerry Hogge, Wendy Whitley, Charles Naiberk, Dale Seibert '70, Ronnie Olson '70, Carol Olson '70, Hon. Jim Ammons, Vana Bris-Bois, Jim Townsend '80, Marcella Townsend, and Charles Bris-Bois '66.



Above, Vana Joy and Charles Bris-Bois '66 in Philadelphia.



Above, BJ Simpson '07, Ryan Carfara '08, Mark Kirsch '98, Jerry Hogge, Matthew Sullivan '00, and Scott Reilly '06.

Atlanta, Ga.



Above, in Atlanta, from left, Jesus Adames '04 and Peggy Walsh '87.

Greenville, N.C.



From left, Tom Walden, Rev. Gil Wise '83, Trey Such '12, '13M, Rev. Dr. Jerry Jackson '75.

Frogland Jam, Suffolk, Va.



From left, Hon. John Brown '71, Harvey Wright '70, Mary Wright '68, Wyatt Davis '69, Dan Fowler '74, Kathy Keil, Ed "Tuna" Keil '70, Debbie Hancock, and Dr. Ben Hancock.

New York City, N.Y.



From left, Mison Kim, Elyssa Muldoon, Jerry Hogge, and Chris Muldoon '03. Right, Nate DeGoede '05, Richard Hagie '08, Nick Bova '07, Jerry Hogge, Michael Manavian '97, Greg Kashe '12, Brandon Gaydorus '15, Chris Muldoon '03, Matt Mendell '14, and Brice Busse '10.



Impressionism to Modernism

MASTERWORKS OF EARLY PHOTOGRAPHY



Feb. 9 – Apr. 8

OPENING RECEPTION
Feb. 9 | 6-9 p.m.

(Clockwise from top) Alfred Stieglitz (1864-1946): *The Steerage*, ©1907, photogravure, 13 1/8 x 10 1/2 in.; Edward J. Steichen (1879-1973), *Calla Lily*, ca. 1921, Platinum print, 9 1/2 x 7 3/4 in.; Karl Struss (1864-1946), *New York Street Scene with Flatiron Building*, ca. 1915, Gelatin silver print, 4 1/2 x 3 1/2 in. ©1983 Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Ft. Worth, TX, P1983.25.1217; Gertrude Käsebier (1852-1934), *Untitled (Billiard Game)*, circa 1909, Platinum print, 7 5/8 x 9 1/2 in. Collection of Michael Mattis & Judith Hochberg. Courtesy of art2art Circulating Exhibition.

METHODIST UNIVERSITY

DAVID McCUNE INTERNATIONAL ART GALLERY

910.425.5379 or 630.7000
DavidMcCuneGallery.org

GALLERY HOURS

Tues., Wed., and Fri.: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thurs.: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., & Sat.: Noon - 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays, Mondays, and March 7-11.
Admission is free. Donations appreciated.



Grant Funding Courtesy of the
Cumberland County Tourism Development Authority (TDA)



This exhibition has been organized by art2art Circulating Exhibitions, LLC.