

# News @ Mercer

May 2006

A Newsletter for Mercer University Faculty, Staff, Students & Friends

## School of Music to Become University's 11th Academic Unit

Mercer's Board of Trustees, in its annual spring meeting last month, took action to establish a school of music. The two-and-a-half-hour session was the last regular Trustees' meeting of President R. Kirby Godsey's 27-year administration.

President Godsey announced a major gift from Carolyn Townsend McAfee and J. Thomas and Julie Crangle McAfee to endow a new School of Music. The action was approved unanimously by the Board.

"The University is grateful for the deep and enduring devotion that the McAfee family has for Mercer," said President Godsey. "This gift will enable Mercer to continue to develop a stellar music program."

The music school, which will become effective July 1, 2006, will become the eleventh school of the University and the eighth established under the administration of Godsey. Currently, the Department of Music is housed within the College of Liberal Arts.



Thanks to the generosity of (left to right) Julie Crangle McAfee, Carolyn Townsend McAfee and J. Thomas McAfee, Mercer will be adding a School of Music on July 1, 2006.

"Mercer has the most significant private music program in the region," said Dr. John Roberts, chair of the Department of Music. "Establishing a school of music demonstrates the seriousness of the institution's commitment to the professional music programs as well as to the liberal arts education."

## Mercer Poised to Provide Leadership in Uniting Baptists

Mercer University joined former United States President Jimmy Carter in bringing together the leaders of Baptist conventions and organizations from throughout North America to explore opportunities for establishing a unified voice. The meeting was held last month at The Carter Center in Atlanta, with participants representing more than 20 million Baptists in the United States and Canada.

"The meeting was historic. It was historic because of the diversity of Baptists represented. North and South. Black and white. Conservative, moderate, and progressive. Canadian and U.S. And it was historic because of the resolve of the participants to create a new Baptist witness for Christ in North America," observed Mercer President-Elect Bill Underwood.

The gathering was the first time Baptist organizations representing such diversity of

race, culture, geography and convention affiliation had joined together to explore additional opportunities for fellowship and cooperation. While discussions at the meeting covered a wide range of topics, the leaders focused on the major issues facing their organizations as well as the commonalities of their faith.

Out of their deliberations came a statement called "A North American Baptist Covenant," which affirmed



Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter

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## Godsey to Continue at Mercer in Name and with New Title

At its April meeting, Mercer's Board of Trustees unanimously approved a motion to appoint President Godsey to the position of Chancellor and University Professor, effective July 1, 2006. The term of the appointment is five years.

"I have been asked by Trustees what happens after five years," said David Hudson, chairman of the Board. "Well, I would like there to be five more. But, this is all [Godsey] would agree to right now."

As Chancellor, President Godsey will work on projects as assigned by President William D. Underwood.

"I am gratified by Dr. Godsey's willingness to continue service to the University in this new capacity, and look forward to our work together on behalf of Mercer," said Underwood.

Final action by the Board was a tribute to President Godsey.

Hudson said, "Dr. Godsey talks extensively about the Mercer Experience and how Mercer wants each student to make a difference in the world that only that one student can make. Dr. Godsey himself epitomizes the Mercer Experience. He has brought to Mercer a place that only he envisioned, and he has transformed this institution into an outstanding university as only he could have done. We are profoundly grateful that he chose to commit these 27 years of his life to Mercer."

He added that it is only appropriate that the historic Administration Building, with "its spires [that] point to the heavens," bear President Godsey's name. Therefore, the building, which has been the seat of every Mercer President since 1876, will now be known as the **R. Kirby Godsey Administration Building**. The action was approved with an extended standing ovation.

"It was a wonderful day," President Godsey said in an interview with The Telegraph. "It's a very humbling experience. I've spent many hours and years in that building. It's a wonderful tribute."



The Mercer Board of Trustees voted at its April 21 meeting to name the historic Administration Building the R. Kirby Godsey Administration Building.

# Physician Assistant Program Announced for Macon, Atlanta

## First Program Class to Matriculate in Fall 2007

The Center for Health and Learning, a partnership of Mercer and Piedmont Healthcare, announces the creation of a physician assistant program to begin in fall 2007. The initial class of 25 graduate candidates will earn a master of medical science degree from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Mercer, currently known as Southern School of Pharmacy.

"The offering of a physician assistant program is an important first step that the University has taken to increase the number of health science programs available to its students," said H.W. "Ted" Matthews, dean of Southern School of Pharmacy and vice president for the health sciences at Mercer. "This program provides Mercer students another health career option, especially for those who are interested in the practice of medicine. This field is in great demand and provides excellent career opportunities."

The new physician assistant program is one of the reasons for the changing name of Mercer's 103-year-old pharmacy school, which will officially become the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences on July 1, 2006. "This change reflects the additional health science offerings that will be beneficial to our students and University in fostering inter-professional education," Matthews added.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the physician assistant is among the fastest growing occupations in America, and is expected to grow faster than average than all other occupations through the year 2014. In May 2004, the median salary of physician assistants was nearly \$70,000.

The 28-month program will be based on Mercer's Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus in Atlanta and will eventually enroll 80 to 100 graduate candidates. Coursework will include studies in biology, physiology, anatomy and biochemistry, among others.

In addition to the master's degree-level program, Mercer will also introduce a bachelor's degree-level pre-physician assistant program on its Macon campus. Undergraduate students successfully completing 90 hours of coursework in the program, including all College of

Liberal Arts general education requirements and a certain number of hours of patient care, will be guaranteed admission into the highly-competitive master's program in Atlanta.

"With the development of a three-year pre-physician assistant program on the Macon campus, we will address a critical need in health care while also providing a fantastic opportunity for our undergraduates," said D. Scott Davis, associate executive vice president and vice provost for Mercer.

"Many of our students are interested in a career in a health-related area, and the development of this program allows a unique situation," he explained. "Currently, a student at Mercer can prepare for medical or dental school, or pursue a pre-pharmacy or pre-physician curriculum while also enjoying the benefits of a liberal arts base. The students in the pre-physician assistant program will have that same opportunity. They will receive a B.S. degree in health science from the College of Liberal Arts at the completion of their first year in the graduate program in Atlanta."

The physician assistant program will be conducted in coordination with Piedmont Healthcare. In June 2005, Piedmont Healthcare and Mercer announced the estab-

lishment of the Center for Health and Learning, a partnership that is creating a number of joint initiatives, including nursing, pharmacy, research and other medical and allied health education programs.

"We, at Piedmont Healthcare, are pleased to be working with Mercer University as they develop their new physician assistant academic program," noted Steve Taylor, M.D., executive vice president and chief medical officer of Piedmont Healthcare. "Physician assistants are a valuable professional resource for us at Piedmont, and anything we can do to facilitate the training of additional top-notch PAs will help us maintain and even further improve the high quality of patient care provided here."

For more information about Mercer's Physician Assistant program, contact the Office of the Senior Vice President - Atlanta at Mercer University at 678-547-6397 or PAprogram@mercer.edu.



On July 1, 2006, Southern School of Pharmacy will become **College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**.

## News @ Mercer

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Mercer University is an equal educational and employment opportunity institution.

Founded in 1833, Mercer is a 7,300-student, comprehensive, private university offering undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees through the College of Liberal Arts, the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics, the Tift College of Education, the School of Engineering, the Walter F. George School of Law, the School of Medicine, the Southern School of Pharmacy, the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing and College of Continuing and Professional Studies. Mercer has campuses in Macon and Atlanta, as well as three regional academic centers, and operates the Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) in Warner Robins and the Mercer University Press in Macon.

For 16 consecutive years, *U.S. News & World Report* magazine has ranked Mercer among the leading colleges and universities in the South.

# Pope Inducted into Macon Sports Hall of Fame

Director of Athletics Bobby Pope was inducted into the Macon Sports Hall of Fame last month during the annual ceremony at the Macon Coliseum.

"I'm humbled and very honored," said Pope. "I'm not sure I actually deserve it. To be inducted along with the quality of athletes and the other people associated with athletics in Middle Georgia is very flattering."

Pope had his plaque join those of 12 other honorees on the Wall of Fame in the Coliseum's foyer prior to the induction banquet in the Coliseum.

The dean of athletic directors in the Atlantic Sun Conference, Pope is in his 17th year at the helm of Mercer athletics.

During his tenure at Mercer, he has seen the growth of the program to 14 sports, as well as the addition of the first full-time coaches for men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis and cross country.

Facility upgrades have been a priority since he became athletics director, as evidenced by the state-of-the-art University Center, home to the men's and women's basketball and volleyball. The building houses all coaches' offices as well as locker rooms for all teams. Claude Smith Field, the home field for baseball, received a facelift in the fall of 2003. A new softball facility is on the drawing board and is scheduled to be complete in the very near future.

Pope is also very active in the A-Sun, having served two years as president in the late 1990s. He has served on numerous committees and currently is a member of the sports policy committee.

For nearly two decades, he was a sports reporter, director and sports anchor at WMAZ-TV. Pope called high school football and basketball games from the mid-60s through 1972 on WMAC-AM radio and began his involvement with Mercer athletics in 1970 when he was the "Voice of the Bears." He served as Mercer's sports information director from 1980-1992.

He remains very involved in the community, serving as treasurer of the Macon Touchdown Club as well as serving on the Mayor's Recreation Master Plan Committee and the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority.

"Bobby Pope has been the voice of athletics for Macon and the Middle Georgia area for many years," said Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey. "As the athletic director at Mercer, he has successfully guided the University's 14 athletic programs for 17 years as the only charter member remaining in the Atlantic Sun Conference. Our athletic program is among the most highly regarded in the Conference. One of the attributes that sets Bobby apart as a successful athletic director is his desire for Mercer's student-athletes to succeed in the



*Bobby Pope, Mercer Athletic Director*

classroom as much as they succeed in the various athletic venues. This past fall semester, the cumulative grade point average for all of the Institution's student-athletes was 3.018. On behalf of my colleagues at Mercer, I want to express congratulations to Bobby for this very

appropriate recognition."

A native of Thomaston, Ga., Pope graduated from Georgia College. He and his wife Carol have two children: Andy, a 1998 graduate of the University of Georgia, and Krissy, a 2001 Mercer graduate.

## Georgia Public Television's "State of the Arts" Program to Feature Robert McDuffie

Tune in to hear Robert McDuffie discuss his concert career, his activities in Rome, Italy, and his work with the Department of Music at Mercer University. The program includes interviews with McDuffie's parents in Macon and Mercer University President and CEO R. Kirby Godsey.

Dates and Times:  
Wednesday, May 10 at 8 p.m.  
Sunday, May 14 at 4 p.m.  
Monday, May 15 at 2 a.m.

Check your local listing for the Georgia Public Network channel.



*Robert McDuffie*

## 2006 Mercer Spirit Award Winners

### *Macon Campus*

**Nancy L. Stubbs**, Department of Christianity

Nancy L. Stubbs has been employed as an administrative secretary by Mercer University in the Christianity Department of the College of Liberal Arts since Sept. 7, 1993. She was nominated by Dr. Richard F. Wilson, professor and chair of her department since 2001. Wilson described Stubbs as an "integral part of the Christianity Department" and as the "glue" in the Harry Vaughan Smith Distinguished Visiting Professor in Christianity Lecture Series each February. He also said that Stubbs is a genuine Mercerian — a servant leader who challenges students and faculty alike to strive to do the best we can. "The Christianity Department is a better place because of all that Mrs. Stubbs does. The College of Liberal Arts is a better place because Mrs. Stubbs is here. The University is a better place because Mrs. Stubbs reminds that we all can be — and should be — Mercerians."



*Nancy Stubbs is congratulated by President R. Kirby Godsey on receiving the 2006 Mercer Spirit Award.*

service-oriented, highly motivated and an excellent representative of both the Bursar's Office and the University. He exhibits a care of detail when assisting students, co-workers and the public in general. He has become synonymous with "good customer service." In her nomination, Tanya Burton, Williams' supervisor, stated that he goes above and beyond what is expected, and provides top-rate customer service with a friendly smile and courteous manner. He volunteers to participate in Mercer events, taking an active role in the planning of the Atlanta Campus Christmas luncheon and per-

### *Atlanta Campus*

**Gregory Williams**, Bursar's Office – Atlanta (not pictured)

Greg Williams has served in the Atlanta Bursar's Office since Aug. 3, 1999, first as a student accounts assistant and then as a student accounts specialist. Williams is professional,

forming in the "Humbug Choral Group." He is cheerful in his assistance to co-workers and employees in other departments whenever needed. He has an outstanding attitude and is loyal to his department and the University. He has earned the respect of all with whom he comes in contact.

### **Uniting Baptists —**

*continued from page 1*

their desire "to speak and work together to create an authentic and genuine prophetic Baptist voice." It was signed by all 18 participants.

The covenant reaffirms their "commitment to traditional Baptist values, including sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and its implications for public and private morality." It also commits them to "their obligations as Christians to promote peace with justice, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, care for the sick and the marginalized, welcome the strangers among us, and promote religious liberty and respect for religious diversity."

The historic meeting developed from conversations that started in January among Carter and Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey and President-Elect Bill Underwood on issues and concerns facing Baptists today. The former U.S. President expressed an eagerness to bring Baptists together and invited Underwood to assist in recruiting the participants.

This was not the first time this year that Underwood had participated in a gathering of Baptists for such discussions. In January, Mercer called together some 200 Baptist church and lay leaders to begin a dialogue concerning how best to sustain the University's Baptist identity in the wake of ending its 172-year relationship with the Georgia Baptist Convention

last November. Carter had wanted to participate in the summit, but had a previous commitment out of the country.

At Mercer's Baptist Summit, the University's leadership reaffirmed the University's commitment to its historic Baptist traditions of religious freedom, intellectual freedom and respect for religious diversity and expressed plans to seek partnerships with other Baptist associations to promote the Baptist values.

Underwood said that "Mercer's role in organizing the meeting at The Carter Center evidences Mercer's emergence as a truly national Baptist university that will continue exploring opportunities to relate to a wide diversity of Baptist groups and organizations."

Attending the meeting at The Carter Center with Carter and Underwood were Godsey, Mercer University; the **Rev. Jerry Sanders**, president, and the **Rev. Dr. David E. Goatley**, executive secretary-treasurer, **Lott Carey**, Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Inc.; the **Rev. Dr. Major Lewis Jemison**, president, Progressive National Baptist Convention; **Marv Knox**, editor, *Baptist Standard*, the news journal of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; the **Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley**, general secretary, American Baptist Churches, USA; the **Rev. Dr. Gary Nelson**, general secretary, Canadian Baptist Ministries; the **Rev. Dr. Tyrone Pitts**, general secretary, Progressive National Baptist Convention; the **Rev. Dr. William J. Shaw**,

president, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; **Dr. Walter Shurden**, director, The Center for Baptist Studies of Mercer University; the **Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert Jr.**, general secretary, National Baptist Convention of American, Inc.; **Dr. John V. Upton Jr.**, executive director, Baptist General Association of Virginia; the **Rev. Dr. Daniel Vestal**, coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship; **Dr. Charles R. Wade**, executive director, Baptist General Convention of Texas; **Dr. Bill Wilson**, co-chair, Mainstream Baptist Network, and **Dr. Jimmy Allen**, a former president, Southern Baptist Convention, and a founder, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

"The Baptist voice has certainly been muted by the Southern Baptist Convention," said Godsey. "While none of these groups by themselves has a large voice, together, they have a very significant voice. Their willingness to work together to become a more unified voice of Baptists is a very important step. President-Elect Underwood will provide the principal leadership in organizing the continuing conversations among these diverse Baptist constituencies."

Determined to move forward in seeking opportunities to work together as Christian partners, the participants agreed in the covenant to plan a convocation of Baptists to celebrate their commitments to Baptist values and traditions. Underwood expects the convocation to take place in 2007.

## Faculty Recognized with Awards

During commencement season, several faculty members are being recognized for excellence in teaching or in research. Congratulations to all those being honored.

### Ajay K. Banga, Ph.D.

Chair and Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Science  
Special Research Award – Southern School of Pharmacy

### Kevin Barnett, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
School of Engineering Teacher of the Year Award

### Duane Evans Davis, Ph.D.

Professor of Religion and Philosophy  
Outstanding Faculty Award, College of Continuing and Professional Studies

### Mary Ann Drake, Ph.D.

Professor and Director of Interdisciplinary Studies  
The Vulcan Award for Teaching Excellence

### Eimad Houry, Ph.D.

Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science  
Spencer B. King, Jr. Distinguished Professor Award – College of Liberal Arts

### D. David McIntyre, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Accounting  
Distinguished Faculty Award – Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics

### David G. Nelson, Ph.D.

Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics  
SGA Professor of the Year Award

### debra leigh walls rosenstein\*, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Education  
Cathryn Futral Excellence in Teaching Award

\* *Dr. rosenstein's legal name is spelled without capitalization.*

## New Faculty and Staff

### Macon Campus

**Angela Alger**, administrative secretary, Student Support Services; **Travis R. Childers**, shipping/receiving clerk, Physical Plant; **Erika S. Noble**, research assistant, School of Medicine; **Joel V. Sherlock**, assistant vice president of development, University Advancement; **Dr. Paige W. Tench**, assistant professor, Medical School; **Sylvia A. Zunino**, administrative assistant to the vice president, Audit and Compliance.

## University Notables

### College of Liberal Arts

**Dr. Nancy Dopke**, assistant professor of chemistry, and student Prayash Patel, presented a poster of his research at the 231st American Chemical Society National Meeting, Atlanta, March 27. The poster was titled "Matrix-assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization Mass Spectrometry of d<sup>8</sup> Metal Complexes."

**Dr. John Marson Dunaway**, professor of French and interdisciplinary studies and director of Mercer Commons, authored an essay that appears on the Simone Weil Web site at <http://rivertext.com/weil.html>. The essay, titled "Toward a Weillian Philosophy of Vocation," was delivered at the 2005 annual colloquy of the American Weil Society in San Diego, Calif.

**Randy Harshbarger**, assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies, presented a poster titled "The School, The Garden and The Cemetery: Linking Analysis of Texts with Community Action" at the conference on "The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: The Cognitive-Affective Connection" held at Oxford College of Emory University, Oxford, Ga., March 24.

**Dr. Douglas Hill**, professor of music and director of instrumental ensembles, performed in the Colony IV Brass Quintet in the Mulberry Street United Methodist "Hymn Festival," Macon, Feb. 19. The group also performed a concert of "Brass and Organ Music" with Ms. Nelda Chapman, organist at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, during the Cherry Blossom Festival, Macon, Feb. 20. Hill also presented a band rehearsal clinic for the Falcon Cove Middle School Symphonic Band and Concert Band from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. in the McCorkle Hall

Music Building Instrumental Rehearsal Room, Mercer University, April 6.

**Drs. Douglas Hill**, professor of music and director of instrumental ensembles, and **Monty Cole**, assistant professor of music, directed members of the Mercer Wind Ensemble and Jazz Combo during a tour of Tennessee and North Georgia High Schools, March 27-28. A concert presentation and master class was presented at the Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Hixson High School, Hixson, Tenn.; Ridgeland High School, Rossville, Ga.; and Lakeview-Ft. Oglethorpe High School, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

**Dr. Lori A. Johnson**, assistant professor of political science, presented a paper and chaired a panel at the Western Political Science Association meeting, Albuquerque, N.M., March. Her paper, titled "Supreme Court Justices Going Public," was a content analysis of the public statements, speeches and writings of Supreme Court justices on the Rehnquist Court. The panel she chaired addressed the topic "Law and Religion."

**Dr. Michael K. Moore**, associate professor of biology, co-authored several papers and posters that were presented at the 67th Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists, Gatlinburg, Tenn., March 29-April 1. He co-authored the papers "Animal Diversity and Community Structure in Phytotelmata of *Heliconia aurea* from Trinidad, W. I." and "Use of Logs, Palm Fronds, and Bromeliads by Arachnids in Montane Rainforests of Trinidad, W. I." He also co-authored the posters, "The Harvestmen (Arachnida, Opiliones) of Trinidad, W. I., with Comments on New Locality Records," "A Potential New Species of Harvestmen (Opiliones, Manaosbiidae) from Morne Bleu Ridge, Trinidad, W.

I.," "Observations of Parental Care in the Neotropical Harvestmen *Phareicranaus calcariferus* (Opiliones, Cranaidae) from Trinidad, W. I.," and "Field Observations of the Natural History of the Harvestmen (Arachnida, Opiliones) of Trinidad, W. I."

**Dr. Matthew Oberrieder**, assistant professor of philosophy, organized and chaired a six-paper panel titled "Love, Death, and the Divine" at the 12th Annual Conference of the Association for Core Texts and Courses, Chicago, April 6-9. The panel featured papers from Sophocles, Plato and Dante. Oberrieder's paper, "On the Apotheosis of Alcibiades in Plato's Symposium," considered the significance of Alcibiades' reenactment in the dialogue of the judgment of Dionysus in Hades in Aristophanes' comedy, *Frogs*.

**Dr. Anya Silver**, associate professor of English, gave a poetry reading at The Golden Bough, Macon, for First Friday April 7.

**Dr. Alan Smith**, associate professor of biology, and senior biology major Jun Ahn, presented a paper, "Detection of the Causative Agents of Lyme Disease and Ehrlichiosis in Individual Southern Black-Legged Ticks Collected from White-Tailed Deer of the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge," at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists, Gatlinburg, Tenn., March 29-April 1.

### Walter F. George School of Law

**Jim Fleissner**, professor, made two presentations at a training program for the three U.S. Attorneys

*continued on next page*

## University Notables, continued

Offices in Georgia. His part time service as deputy to Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald in the prosecution of I. Lewis Libby has included recent involvement in responding to various pretrial motions concerning discovery and other matters. Fleissner was the principal author of the response the United States filed on March 17 to the defendant's motion to dismiss the indictment on the ground that the delegation of authority to the Special Counsel was not in conformity with the Appointments Clause of the Constitution. He was also a featured speaker at the 19th Annual Media and the Law Seminar, Kansas City, Mo., April 7. More than 200 media lawyers and members of the press attended.

**David Hricik**, associate professor, gave presentations on ethical issues in patent practice at the University of Akron School of Law's 8th Annual Richard C. Sughrue Symposium on Intellectual Property Law and Policy, Akron, Ohio, March 6, and at the 11th Annual Intellectual Property Institute of the Washington State Intellectual Property Law Association, Seattle, Wash., March 24.

**David Ritchie**, visiting associate professor of law, recently gave a series of talks at the Universidade Gama Filho, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. During his visit he was asked to serve on the Editorial Board of *Revista Ciencias Sociais*, a peer-edited journal focusing on law and society. Ritchie will join the permanent faculty as an associate professor in July.

**Jack L. Sammons**, Griffin B. Bell Professor of Law, presented a paper titled "St. Augustine, Lawyers, and Lying" at the Annual Conference of Religiously Affiliated Law Schools held at Baylor Law School, Waco, Texas.

**Michael Sabbath**, Walter Homer Drake Professor of Bankruptcy Law, was a speaker at the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute's 32nd Annual Seminar on Bankruptcy Law and Rules, Atlanta, Ga., April 6-8. Sabbath wrote papers and delivered talks on "The Automatic Stay Under the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005" and "Discharge and Dischargeability."

### School of Engineering

**Dr. Marjorie T. Davis**, professor and chair of the department of technical communication, was selected as a semi-finalist for Women of the Year in Technology Award 2006. The award is sponsored by Women in Technology (WIT), an all-volunteer, not-for-profit association promoting the advancement of women in the field of technology. WIT is a founding society of the Technology Association of Georgia, an umbrella membership organization that serves more than 5,000 members of the Georgia technology community. Davis presented a paper at Society for Technical Communication Atlanta Currents Conference, March 25, titled "Technical Communicators and Online Instruction." She also participated in a panel discussion on distance learning for technical communicators.

**Drs. Richard Mines**, professor and director of environmental engineering, Laura Lackey, associate professor of biomedical and environmental engineering, and Phil McCreanor, associate professor of environmental engineering, participated in the American Society for Engineering Education Southeastern Section Conference, hosted by the

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., April 2-4. Mines presented a paper titled "Engineering Student Self-Assessment in a Capstone Design Course," co-authored by Lackey and **Dr. Hodge Jenkins**, assistant professor of mechanical and industrial engineering. Lackey served as President of the Section for the 2005-2006 year. McCreanor presented a paper titled, "Projected and Deliverables Used in a Freshman Engineering Design Course."

### School of Pharmacy

**Dr. Ajay K. Banga**, professor, received an \$118,800 grant from Altea Therapeutics for "Delivery of Small Molecules Using Thermal Microporation."

**Dr. Michael W. Jann**, professor, co-authored "Altered Methylprednisolone Pharmacodynamics in Healthy Subjects with Histamine N-methyltransferase C314T Genetic Polymorphism" in *Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* 2006; 46: 408-417.

**Drs. Diane L. Nykamp**, professor, and **Leisa L. Marshall**, clinical associate professor, authored "Preparing Scientific Papers for Publication: A Guide for Pharmacists Writing a Clinical Review" in *The Consultant Pharmacist* 2006; 21: 4-7-411.

### School of Medicine

**Dr. John Hudson**, professor of medicine and cardiology, received the J. Willis Hurst Bedside Teacher award at the American College of Physician Georgia Chapter meeting, Savannah, Ga., March 24-26. Since 1991, the award has been presented annually to a full-time medical educator in recognition of outstanding clinical teaching.

**Dr. Mariela Molero**, instructor of medicine, won first prize in the oral resident research competition at the American College of Physicians Georgia Chapter meeting, Savannah, Ga., March 24-26. A second-year resident, Molero won for her project, "Willingness of Residents to Deceive Health Insurance Companies on Behalf of Patients." Ten research projects were presented by residents representing all of the residency programs in Georgia.

**Dr. Mike Russell**, assistant professor of physiology, organized and chaired a featured topics session at the Experimental Biology meetings in San Francisco, titled "Mechanisms of Hypoxic Vasoconstriction." He also presented a poster titled "Phylogeny of Hypoxic Vasoconstriction" which was published in abstract form in the *Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Journal*, vol. 20, no. 5.

**Dr. Mike U. Smith**, professor of medical education and director of AIDS education and research, was appointed as an adjunct member of the faculty of the Emory University Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) in Atlanta. CFAR is a pre-eminent research institute in the field. Dr. James Curran, former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is the director of CFAR. Smith also received \$25,000 from the Emory University Medical Care Foundation as co-principal investigator on a project titled "Developing a Peer counseling Program for Young People Living with HIV."

**Jennifer M. Williams**, radiation safety officer, was awarded funding by the National Institute of

Environmental Health Sciences to receive professional training at the 2006 Great Environmental Safety Trainers Institute in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In addition, Williams and **Alan Baca**, director of Health and Safety, attended the Southeastern University Radiation Safety Officer conference, Nashville, Tenn., April 3-6, to share experiences and discuss solutions in areas such as licensing, inspections, administration and occupational safety.

### Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics

**Dr. Linda L. Brennan**, associate professor of management and director of graduate studies, presented "Growing Beyond the Founder: Trying to Change Roles and Responsibilities in Leverage Consulting" at the annual meeting of the Society for Case Research, Chicago.

**Drs. Frank Ghannadian**, associate dean and professor of finance, and **Victoria Johnson**, professor of management, presented their paper, "Socially Responsible Investing: Attitudes and Behaviors of Mid Level Managers," to the annual meeting of the Association of Private Enterprise Education, Las Vegas, April 2-4.

**Dr. Kirk C. Heriot**, associate professor of management, published "In Defense of Silos: An Argument Against the Integrative Undergraduate Business Curriculum" in the April issue of the *Journal of Management Education*, vol. 30, 2, pp. 316-332. The article was co-authored with **Drs. Noel Campbell** and **Zach Finney**. He was also an invited speaker for the Mountain Adventure Conference, a regional meeting of electric cooperatives from seven southern states, April 19-21. Heriot and Campbell presented their paper, "Using Rural Electric Cooperatives as a Catalyst for Economic Development." The Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives (KAEC) sponsors the conference. Conference attendees represented rural electric cooperatives in Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

**Dr. Ali Reza Jalili**, associate professor of economics, authored a paper titled "A Descriptive Overview of Islamic Taxation" which was published in March 2006 issue of the *Journal of American Academy of Business*. He also authored a paper titled "Impacts of Aggregation on Relative Performances of Non-Survey Updating Techniques and Intertemporal Stability of Input-Output Coefficients" which will appear in the Summer 2006 issue of *Economics of Planning*.

**Drs. Victoria Johnson**, professor of management, and **Linda Brennan**, associate professor of management and director of graduate studies, have been named editors of *Computer Mediated Relationships and Trust: Managerial and Organizational Effects*, to be published by Idea Group Publishing, 2007.

**Dr. Kenneth Lord**, professor of marketing and director of graduate studies, authored "Cross-border Restaurant Patronage: Cultural Determinants of Perception and Satisfaction," published in the current issue of *International Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Administration*. In March, he was appointed to the editorial advisory and review board of *Direct Marketing: An International Journal*. He also directed two workshops, "Building

Strategic Relationships: Applying Marketing Concepts to Public Affairs” and “Bringing Press Releases Out of Obscurity,” for public affairs officials of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Tallahassee, Fla. and Jackson, Miss.

**Dr. Allen K. Lynch**, associate professor of economics and quantitative methods, appeared on CNBC’s “On The Money” multiple times to discuss various economic and modeling aspects of the NCAA basketball tournament. In addition, the results of a statistical model to predict tournament entry and game results were summarized in a *Wall Street Journal* article.

### Tift College of Education

**Drs. Mary Kay Bacallao**, associate professor of education, and **Karen Michael**, assistant professor of education, presented “Computers in the Mathematics Classroom: A Tool or a Crutch?” at 17th International Conference for the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education, Orlando, Fla., March 22. Their presentation focused on infusing technology and curriculum to create thought-provoking lessons that engage learners.

**Dr. Kevin Jenkins**, assistant professor of education, served as a moderator/panelist at the “Working in the Public Interest: Challenging Poverty Through Law” conference, University of Georgia School of Law, Athens, Ga. He moderated the panel “School Funding Disparities: Meeting the Standards Through Litigation.”

**Drs. William O. Lacefield**, associate professor of mathematics education, Sherah Carr and deb rosenstein, assistant professors of early childhood education, presented “Meaning Ways to Integrate Literacy throughout the Early Childhood Curriculum” at the annual Children’s Literature Conference, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Ga., March 28-29.

### McAfee School of Theology

**Dr. Thomas B. Slater**, professor of New Testament Studies, has published “Translating Hagios in Colossians 1:1 and Ephesians 1:2” in the current issue of *Biblica*, one of the premier journals in biblical studies. The study challenges the customary translation of the Greek term as a noun, “saints.” Slater states that in these two instances, it makes better sense to translate hagios as an adjective, “holy.” This is his second publication in the *Biblica* journal.

### Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

**Elaine Grier**, assistant professor of nursing, presented at the national gathering of Marriott nurses in Chicago, April 5. The conference title was “Engaging Aging.” Grier’s presentation was titled “Nursing Assessment of Aging Work Force Members.” Sixty nurses who work in large Marriott hotels throughout the country were in attendance.

**Brenda Rowe**, associate professor of adult health nursing, presented “The Nuts, Bolts and Challenges of the Documentation Process” to Georgia Public Health Nurses at Georgia Public Broadcasting, March 28.

### College of Continuing and Professional Studies

**Dr. Margaret Eskew**, visiting associate professor of English, has recently been awarded two certificates by the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) in recognition of her service as an English Content Advisory Committee member for review of the framework of the GACE examination for teachers and individual items in the English content area proposed for inclusion.

The department of counseling and human sciences conducted induction ceremonies for three honor societies on April 12. The student inductees and their family members totaled more than 200 individuals. The ceremony took place in Henry County. Outstanding scholastic criminal justice students were inducted into the Alpha Phi Sigma National Honor Society. Outstanding human services students were inducted into the Alpha Delta Omega National Honor Society. Outstanding community counseling students were inducted into the Chi Sigma Iota National Honor Society.

### Division of Library Services

**Robert G. Gardner**, senior researcher in Baptist history, Jack Tarver Library, recently had two articles, “Baptists: Overview” and “Cooperative Baptist Fellowship,” published online in *The New Georgia Encyclopedia*.

### Staff and Administration

**Mary Lou Beall**, coordinator of the Douglas County Regional Academic Center, attended the 76th Annual Southern States Communication Association, Dallas, Texas, April 6-8. Her paper on “The Aristotelian Constitutional Foundation” was in the top three papers in the area of “Rhetorical History.” Beall and her daughter, Rev. Megan Beall, BA, ’97, M.Div. ’00, co-authored “Nationalism and Sportsmanship,” which also ranked in the top three papers in the category of “Redefining the Politics of Identity and Nationalism.”

**Dr. Peter C. Brown**, associate vice president of the Mercer Center for Community Engagement, served as panel member and convener on the topic of “Institutionalization of Community Partnerships in the University and in the Community” at the national conference of Community Outreach Partnership Centers sponsored by the Office of University Partnerships of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Baltimore, Md., March 29-31. He was also an invited presenter on the topic of “The University as an Engine of Economic Development” at the conference. He has recently served as technical advisor to Barton College, Wilson, N.C., and American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon, as they develop campus/community partnerships and neighborhood revitalization projects.

**Brandi Davis**, student life specialist, was named “Staff Member of the Year” by the Student Government Association at their annual transition banquet. She was presented with a special plaque for the award.

**Dr. Horace Fleming**, executive vice president and provost, was named “Administrator of the Year” by the Student Government Association (SGA). He was presented with a special plaque at the annual SGA transition banquet.

**Dr. John Christopher Grant**, assistant professor of political science, College of Liberal Arts, and assistant director for Service-Learning, Mercer Center for Community Engagement has made presentations at Balti Pedagogic Institute, Tiraspol Pedagogic Institute and Moldova State University as a Fulbright scholar in Moldova. Grant is also donating his time as a consultant to Clipa Siderala, a Moldovan non-profit organization that organizes support services for children and especially orphans. He is evaluating the effectiveness of programs and general operations. Grant had an article titled “The Domestic Origins of U.S. Foreign Policy” published in the *American Studies Journal of Moldova*.

**Dr. David L. Innes**, associate vice president for Research Compliance, recently received his JD from the Walter F. George School of Law. He was also named by the Council on Accreditation of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International to a second three-year term as an Ad Hoc Specialist. Innes’ compliance background and legal expertise in animal welfare issues augments site visitor teams with expertise mainly in laboratory animal medicine. Innes has just returned from an accreditation site visit in the mid-Atlantic Coast area after a five-day, extensive four member team review of the animal program at a major research university.

**Betsy Johnson**, director of career services, Atlanta, had an article published in the *Georgia Journal of Professional Counseling*. “The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and Career Decision Making: An Effective Tool When Working with Nontraditional Adult Students” is available at <http://www.lpcaga.org>.

**Diane Lang**, administrative assistant to the vice president and dean of students, won the “Mercer Mile” award at the annual QuadWorks transition banquet. She was presented with a certificate of appreciation for all of her contributions to the organization.

**Dr. Eric Spears**, director of International Education, gave the keynote address at the department of sociology’s annual Social Research Conference on April 3. This year’s conference theme was “The Movement of Culture in a Global Society.” Spears presented “Fora FMI! Globalization, National Economic Restructuring, and Social Movement Activity in the Brazilian Favela of Sao Pedro.”

The Office of Student Affairs was voted “Department of the Year” in a student poll held by the Student Government Association. They were rewarded with a luncheon in their honor.

Submit notables by e-mailing your information, title and department to [News@Mercer.edu](mailto:News@Mercer.edu).

Please do not use acronyms.

## Summer Students Will Enjoy “Global” Experience

Planes, trains and automobiles will be the vehicles of choice for many globe-trotting Mercer students this summer.

As part of Mercer’s Summer Experience, there will be five faculty-led study abroad programs for undergraduate students. These guided trips abroad provide the perfect opportunity for students to travel around the world, while earning academic credit. In addition to experiencing what they are studying, these trips allow students the time to bond with their mentors and peers.

Professors Eimad Houry, Will Jordan and Randy Harshbarger will be leading a trip to **Morocco/France**. This trip will be held **May 7-27, 2006**. Students will stay on a university campus in Morocco where they will have the chance to interact with students and faculty. In addition to studying politics in Francophone Morocco, activities will include visiting exotic bazaars, riding camels and trying new and delicious cuisine. After spending two weeks in Morocco, students will examine immigration-related issues by visiting neighborhoods in Paris where more than one million Algerian and Moroccan immigrants reside.

Dr. Scott Nash will be leading his annual archeological dig in Corinth, Greece, from **May 16-June 7**. The group will be working at an excavation site at nearby Isthmia. The archaeological project is sponsored by the American School of Classical Studies in Athens and is directed by the Ohio State University Excavations at Isthmia. After two weeks of excavation work, the group will travel to several other sites and will conclude their trip in Athens. The students will be enrolled in Christianity 410, Archaeology and Religion. All the students will have the opportunity to participate in a noncredit, voluntary class in Modern Greek.

The Office of Study Abroad is pleased to offer **Mercer’s Caribbean Experience, May 31-June 21**. Professors Eric Klingelhofer and Gary Blackburn will lead this pilot program that will provide students the opportunity to study archaeology and photography on the beautiful island of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Students will have the opportunity to take advantage of everything the island has to offer, while earning academic credit. Extracurricular activities will include sea kayaking, snorkeling, horseback riding, sailing and scuba diving.

Professors Charlie Thomas, Achim Kopp and Eric O’Dell will be taking a group of students to live in **Paris, France, June 5-24, 2006**. Mercer students will experience Parisian life as they reside in apartments in central Paris for one

month, while studying philosophy, classics and art for academic credit.

Professor Edward Weintraut is taking four students to Germany for a six-week stay from **June 28-August 5**. After a week of cultural and linguistic immersion, the students will be enrolled at the Speak and Write Institute in Marburg, where they will take a course in intermediate German. The group will explore historical and cultural features offered by the city and environs of Marburg. The trip will conclude with a week-long tour of Germany, which will include travel to Berlin, Dresden, Weimar, Buchenwald, Eisenach, Nuernberg and Rothenburg ob der Tauber.

For more information about these trips, please visit the Office of Study Abroad’s Web site at [www.mercer.edu/study+abroad](http://www.mercer.edu/study+abroad) or call ext. 2573.



*Mercer students (left to right) Rhett Frasier, Garrett Ratcliffe and Brandon Bowden look out from the deck of a private home in the Marienhoj area of the island of St. Croix during a trip held over Spring Break 2005 with Dr. Eric Klingelhofer.*



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