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Spring 2021

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Bridgewater College

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BRIDGEWATER

The Bridgewater College Magazine | Spring 2021 | Vol. 96 No. 2

THE NEXT CHAPTER

illuminating the way





Gemma Leonard

Major: Health & exercise science
College connection: Gemma received the College's Founder's Day Award in 2021.



Corey Gloyd

Major: Music
Future plans: Corey plans to become a college music professor and will attend graduate school at Texas Christian University.



Annabell Knapp

Major: History & political science and global studies double major
Future plans: Annabell plans to obtain her master's in security, peacebuilding and diplomacy from Loughborough University in London.



Daniel Jones

Major: Biology
College connection: Daniel worked on research projects all four years at BC. Working with two different professors solidified his interest in graduate school and microbiology research.



Tito Alcazar

Major: English
Future plans: Tito will attend Brown University to get his master's in American studies, his minor at BC.



SENIOR SENDOFF

To hear these five seniors talk about their favorite memories at Bridgewater College and what's next for them, go to bridgewater.edu/2021seniors



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ON THE COVER: The John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons stands illuminated at dusk on the campus mall. Read more about the library transformation on p. 12.

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Facebook Feedback

"Bridgewater, THANK YOU for making this happen. My daughter was a graduate of the CLASS OF 2020!! May 2020 I decorated the front of the house with Bridgewater banners, GRAD letters and balloons. Weeks later I told my daughter I wasn't taking any of the decorations down until she got to have an in-person ceremony as she and many others deserved. (After seasons, rain, sunshine, snow, storms and bugs we finally can take down the decorations 😊 So Grateful. Not only for my daughter but her four years were great for me too as a parent." — Jibril Wallace, parent of Jaceal Wallace '20

See photos from this year's Commencement celebrations on p. 4.



From the

PRESIDENT'S DESK

AS WE HAVE SHARED throughout the last year, and described in some detail in the last issue of *Bridgewater* magazine, BC was able to provide a majority of our student body with the Bridgewater Experience of in-person learning and on-campus living for a full academic year in the midst of a pandemic. I could not be more grateful for the dedication and sacrifice of each member of our college community in making that a reality.

Now, as we emerge from the pandemic, this issue will tell a new story—"The Next Chapter: Illuminating the Way." It truly feels like we are coming out of the darkness of the pandemic, ready to light the way forward. People are connecting in ways they haven't in nearly a year and half. And, fortunately for the College, we never took our eyes off this moment. In the midst of the day-to-day tasks of making sure hand sanitizers were filled, masks were being worn and students could get meals without lingering too long in the dining hall, we always kept our sights on what must come next. Our faculty and staff remained focused on our future.

This truly is a season of renaissance for BC. In this issue of the magazine you'll learn more about the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons and its impact on engaged learning. You'll read about the College's first endowed school: the Bonnie Forrer and John Harvey Rhodes School of Arts and Humanities. And you'll see the excitement in the launch of our Screamin' Eagles Marching Band. In addition to this forward momentum, we planned and made progress toward launching a transformational fundraising campaign (more on that in later issues). We reimagined the Center for Career Development and initiated a search for its director. We continued research on new majors and minors to attract our newest Eagles to Bridgewater. Quite simply, we never stood still, despite the challenges, and for that I am proud of our entire community for their imagination, determination, enthusiasm and tireless work.

It is my hope that when you finish reading this issue you are as excited as we all are about the possibilities of what comes next. I also hope you are making plans to visit campus this fall to celebrate Bridgewater College and the connections that have sustained us—at a sporting event, Homecoming, Family Weekend and more. We can't wait to see you!

Thank you for your dedication to Bridgewater College. I look forward to your continued involvement to ensure that our students benefit from all that we have to offer them and are prepared for all that the future holds for them.

With best regards,

David W. Bushman, Ph.D.
President

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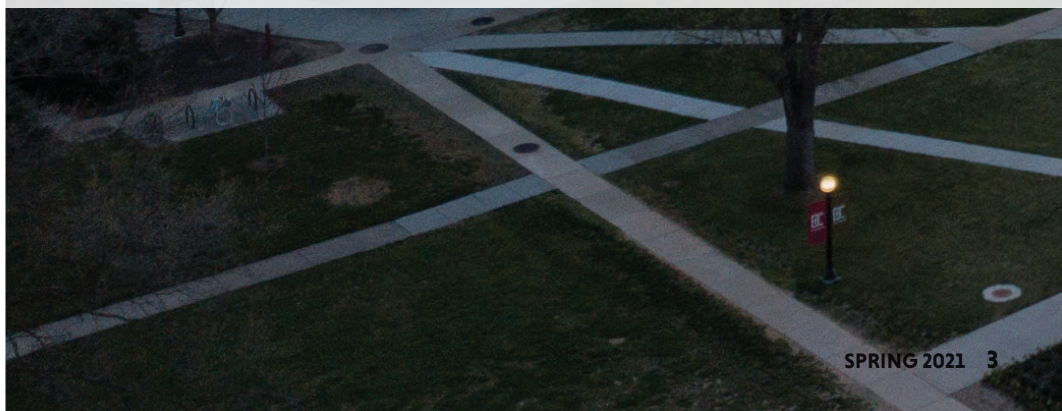
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“

I'm forever thankful for the connections, memories and everlasting friendships I've made. You are all incredibly remarkable people, and I hope you can look back at your time at Bridgewater and realize that being here is part of the reason why.”

— Grace Kellar, Class President of the Class of 2021,
in her Commencement speech



Celebrating together



THE BEAMING SMILES on parents' and students' faces were full of pride for the academic and personal accomplishments the newest Bridgewater College graduates achieved. But there was something else behind their joy: a sense of gratitude for celebrating together. In a world where digital conversations have replaced in-person interactions, the opportunity to hug their loved ones and take a photo together was truly cherished.

The Bridgewater experience centers on close connections, and the faculty, staff and students at BC have worked tirelessly this year to maintain those bonds with careful planning and adherence to health regulations in place for COVID-19. This effort was perhaps most apparent at Bridgewater College's 141st Commencement exercises on Saturday, May 1, when students, their guests, faculty and staff gathered on the campus mall. Members of the Class of 2021 were honored in one of four ceremonies that day—organized by division—including graduates from four different master's programs: master of science in psychology-mental health professions, master of arts in digital media strategy, master of science in athletic training and master of science in human resource management. In addition, members of the Class of 2020 were invited

back to campus on Sunday to walk across the stage after being honored in a virtual Commencement ceremony in May 2020.

Portions of the ceremony were pre-filmed and played on large screens positioned around the mall, while others, such as Dr. Steve Longenecker's commencement address and the conferring of degrees by President David Bushman, took place live.

Longenecker, Edwin L. Turner Distinguished Professor of History at the College, is retiring from Bridgewater College at the end of the 2020-21 academic year after 32 years as a professor in the Department of History and Political Science. In his address, titled "It is a Small School," Longenecker paid tribute to the Bridgewater experience and reflected on the ways the community has persevered through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The title of Longenecker's address is based on Daniel Webster's famous statement before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1818 when he represented Dartmouth College in a case about contract law: "It is, sir, as I have said, a small college. And yet there are those who love it!"

"Despite the unique circumstances of the small-college experience experienced by the Class of '21, I encourage you



to value your accomplishment," Longenecker said. "You received a first-class small-college education like every other class in the history of Bridgewater College in circumstances much unlike those of any other class in the history of Bridgewater."

Among the 321 undergraduate students in the Class of 2021, 137 earned bachelor of arts degrees and 134 earned bachelor of science degrees. Eighteen members of the undergraduate class graduated *summa cum laude*—the top academic honor, which requires students to achieve at least a 3.9 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Thirty-two graduates earned *magna cum laude* honors—a 3.7 or better average. *Cum laude* honors, requiring a 3.4 grade point average, were earned by 65 graduates.

For the first time, Bridgewater College graduated students from four different master's programs. Three students graduated with a master of science in psychology—mental health professions; five students graduated with a master of arts in digital media strategy; 13 students graduated with a master of science in athletic training; and 11 students graduated with a master of science in human resource management.





Across the Mall

Rhodes School of Arts and Humanities Announced



On March 17, Bridgewater College announced the establishment of the Bonnie Forrer and John Harvey Rhodes School of Arts and Humanities. The Rhodes School will combine the College's existing Division of Communication Studies, Fine Arts, and Literature with the current Division of Humanities and Social Sciences to create the College's first endowed, named school.

The result of a \$5 million gift from **Bonnie '62** and the late **John Rhodes**, the creation of the Rhodes School recognizes the central role the arts and humanities play in Bridgewater's liberal arts mission to educate the whole person and graduate engaged citizens. The endowed fund will support greater opportunities for student success as well as a strengthened faculty of teachers, scholars and mentors.

The funds from this transformative gift will enhance faculty development; strengthen investment in equipment, digital resources, specialized soft-

ware and computer hardware to support teaching and learning in lectures and studios; provide more opportunities for student research and conference travel; establish a new pre-tenure sabbatical program; and establish an endowed chair for the School.

Bonnie Rhodes is a dedicated member of the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees. She and her late husband, John, are the primary benefactors of the College's John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons, a tribute to Bonnie's father.

NEXT UP

The fall edition of *Bridgewater* magazine will take an in-depth look at how the establishment of endowed schools will strengthen the College's future.

Dr. Johanna Birkland joins the Center for Engaged Learning as Director of Student Research

Providing opportunities for hands-on student academic research is one of the many ways Bridgewater College distinguishes itself from peer institutions.

"Research is one of the ways we empower unique, creative minds and give students the confidence to fully engage the processes that make them successful contributors to their communities," says Center for Engaged Learning Director Dr. **Jamie Frueh**.



Johanna Birkland

Starting July 1, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies and Theatre Dr. **Johanna Birkland** will take on a new position as Director of Student Research, housed

in the Center for Engaged Learning. In her role, Birkland will explore ways that Bridgewater encourages, facilitates and celebrates student research.

"The skills learned in student research can be applied to all careers," Birkland says. "Undertaking student research is also an opportunity for students to develop different kinds of connections with faculty, staff, alumni and the community than they might typically find in the classroom."

Birkland would love to hear from BC alumni on how participating in college research made an impact on you. She may be reached at: jbirkland@bridgewater.edu.

1,741

Number of views on the virtual connections videos produced by the Alumni Relations team during COVID-19.

Check out the Alumni Relations Facebook page to hear professors talk about their areas of interest, to see interviews with athletics head coaches and more.

BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GIFT FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Only colleges and universities—large or small—with momentum and demonstrable commitment to students and their futures are able to attract \$1 million gifts. Bridgewater College is proud to be one of those institutions.

A donor who wishes to remain anonymous made a \$1 million contribution to the College last fall in honor of their close friend, the late Dr. **A. Edward "Ed" Burgess '62**, who passed away in February 2020. The gift will help lower the cost of attendance for students, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

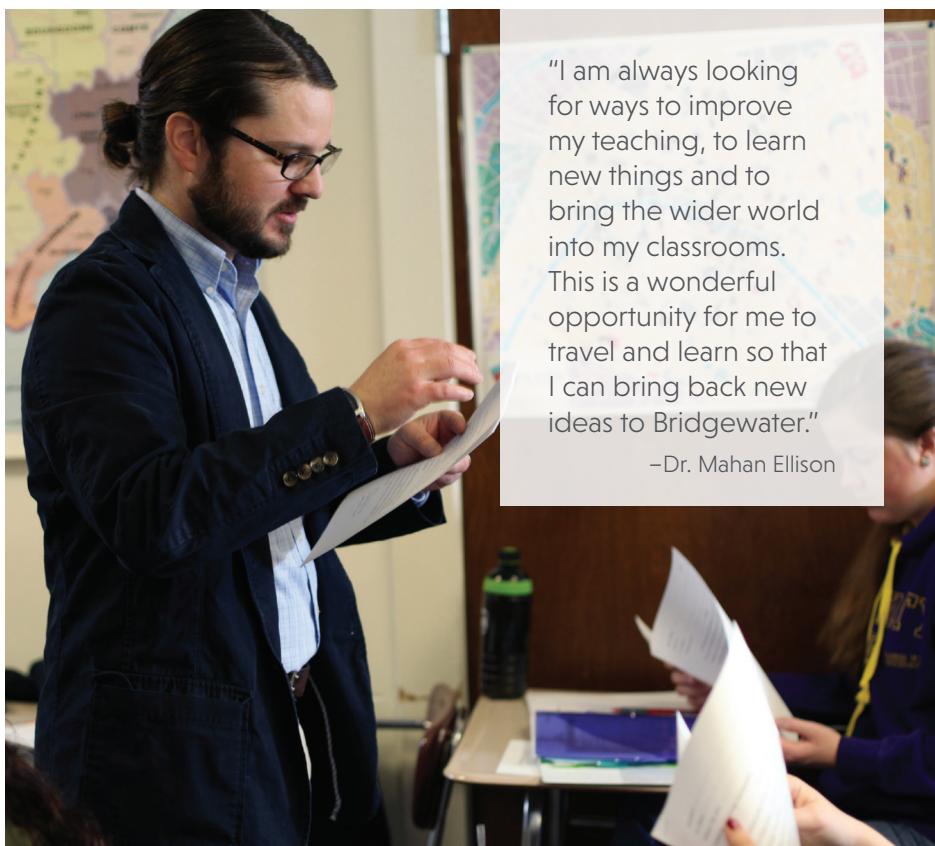
"This is a momentous gift for the College," says Bridgewater College President **David Bushman**. "Overcoming the challenges of access for our students is a principal commitment for BC. The financial hardships created by COVID-19 have only heightened the need for direct student support. With our endowment now in such a strong position, we are poised to expand our focus to current scholarship support in which 100 percent of the donation is distributed as scholarships to current BC students."

The donor's \$1 million gift has been divided between two funds: \$900,000 established the A. Edward Burgess Current Scholarship Fund, from which scholarships will be distributed over several

years according to student need, and \$100,000 established the A. Edward Burgess Endowed Scholarship Fund, which is permanently invested in the Bridgewater College Endowment and will award scholarships from investment earnings.

Burgess was a dedicated alumnus, serving as president of the Bridgewater College Alumni Association from 2003-04, and co-chairing his 50th reunion committee. According to his family, he was proudest of his work with classmates to establish the Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship Fund, presented to the College during the class's 50-year reunion celebration in 2012. His class set the record for the largest 50th reunion class gift at that time and established a new standard for 50th reunion class gifts. The momentum from the class of 1962 has resulted in \$4.5 million raised collectively from 50th reunion class gift initiatives alone since 2012.

"Ed was a leader," says Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dr. **Maureen Silva**. "This gift in his honor will have a remarkable impact on Bridgewater College, as we seek to educate the leaders of tomorrow. We lost a friend too early in life, but he will live on in the accomplishments and successes of the students who will benefit from these generous gifts to the College."



"I am always looking for ways to improve my teaching, to learn new things and to bring the wider world into my classrooms. This is a wonderful opportunity for me to travel and learn so that I can bring back new ideas to Bridgewater."

—Dr. Mahan Ellison

Dr. Mahan Ellison receives Fulbright Scholar award

Dr. **Mahan Ellison**, Associate Professor of World Languages and Cultures, has been awarded a Fulbright U.S. Senior Scholar teaching and research award in Morocco and Spain. Over the summer of 2021 and during his sabbatical in the fall of 2021, Ellison will teach and conduct research at the Research Laboratory for Morocco and the Hispanic World at Ibn Zohr University in Agadir, Morocco, and the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies at the Autonomous University of Madrid. This is only the second year that a shared Fulbright award between Morocco and Spain has been given, and Ellison is the first recipient of this award in the humanities.

The Fulbright award will allow Ellison to engage in further research on contemporary African authors writing in Spanish, the Spanish colonial wars in Africa and representations of Africa and Africans in contemporary Spanish literature. His final project will be a book-length work in English that focuses on the representation of nature in fiction and poetry written by Moroccan authors in Spanish.

\$361,909

Amount raised from 1,019 individual donations during the College's Day of Giving on March 11, 2021. Thanks to every generous gift, this year's total is more than double the amount raised during last year's event.



Hear President Bushman's message of thanks to every Day of Giving donor at bridgewater.edu/2021ThankYou



ESSENTIAL WORK

Dr. **Harriett "Betsy" Hayes**, the Division Head of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Lawrence S. and Carmen C. Miller Chair in Ethics, received a 2020 Founders Award from Essential Partners via a virtual gala on Oct. 2, 2020. Hayes was recognized for her work with the campus-wide Dialogue Initiative at Bridgewater College over the last eight years and the College's work with Essential Partners. The dialogue initiative was born out of the 2012 Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) as part of the College's reaccreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission

on Colleges (SACSCOC). Originally, the initiative was organized around academic citizenship, with the idea of wanting students to feel they were both citizens in the classroom and in their broader communities. Included under the academic citizenship umbrella was a focus on helping students learn how to engage in civil discourse as a means of perspective-taking, collaborative problem-solving and finding one's own voice.

"When the initial QEP was designed it felt really organic," Hayes says. "It felt like this is so much a piece of who we are and who we want to be."

Today, both academic citizenship and public discourse are part of the general education curriculum. The College has also worked with Essential Partners to host reflective structured dialogue workshops for SOAR mentors and faculty, who are helping to incorporate the practice into the classroom and in everyday life on campus.

"I like to say we're working at being a dialogic campus, a place where we practice these skills," Hayes says. "It takes a lot of intention to stay engaged with these kinds of practices."



Bridgewater College wins top awards for rebranding initiatives

Bridgewater College took home the highest honor in two categories at the 2021 CASE District III Institutional Awards, which represent the best in Advancement in CASE's Southeast district.

Both winning entries have direct ties to Bridgewater's Infinite Connections branding campaign, which was launched in fall 2019. The new brand identity, created along with Bridgewater's branding partner, Lipman Hearne, included an updated visual identity for the College and a strategic communications framework to incorporate the brand in marketing materials and digital platforms, including a redesigned website.

In the marketing category, Bridgewater won gold in Visual Identity Systems for the visual identity portion of its Infinite Connections campaign. In the publications category, the College won gold in Student Recruitment, Publications Packages for its suite of recruitment communications created in 2019 and still used today.

"We are so pleased with the results of our rebranding efforts and the ways in which our work now aids us in articulating to various audiences the great value of a Bridgewater education," says Associate Vice President of Marketing and Communications **Abbie Parkhurst**. "We are honored by CASE's recognition, which further illustrates the power of our brand and messaging."



L to R: Michael Steele, Emerson Sykes, Symone Sanders, Dr. Blair L.M. Kelley and Charlotte Clymer

ENDOWED LECTURES PROGRAM CONTINUES VIRTUALLY

During the 2020-21 academic year, the College hosted five virtual lectures as part of its endowed lecture series program. The lectures were free and open to the entire Bridgewater community as well as the public. Next year's speaker program is in the works.

Sept. 16, 2020: Michael Steele, former Chair of the Republican National Committee and former lieutenant governor of Maryland

Sept. 30, 2020: Emerson Sykes, American Civil Liberties Union lawyer with a focus on First Amendment free-speech protections

Oct. 12, 2020: Symone Sanders, strategist, communications consultant, CNN political commentator and senior advisor for Joe Biden's 2020 presidential campaign

2021 FACULTY RETIREES

Shane Stevens

Instructor, Mathematics and Computer Science
Head Track & Field Coach
39 years of service

Dr. Stephen (Steve) Longenecker

Edwin L. Turner Distinguished Professor of History
Professor of History, Emeritus
32 years of service

Dr. Mwizenge (Jack) Tembo

Professor of Sociology, Emeritus
31 years of service

Dr. Alice Trupe

Professor of English, Emerita
24 years of service

Tom Rosengarth

Associate Professor, Economics and Business Administration
16 years of service

Dr. Laura Yordy

Associate Professor, Philosophy and Religion
14 years of service

Deborah Dunn-Frederick

Instructor, Health and Human Sciences
13 years of service

Ronald (Ron) Kline

Instructor, Economics and Business Administration
13 years of service

Dr. Jeffrey Steve Isaacs

Instructor, Mathematics and Computer Science
12 years of service

Dr. Clifford (Doug) Harmon

Instructor, History and Political Science
10 years of service



Row 1 (L to R): Martha Kline Allen '84, Karen Kline Fleishman '79, Orrin M. Kline Jr. '57, Jane Kline, Emily Hammer '10, Abigail Allen '22 and Elizabeth Fleishman Rhodes '10

Row 2 (L to R): Rick Allen, Cameron Cave, Chad Rhodes, John Fleishman '77 and Daniel Fleishman.

Children pictured: Mila Rhodes, Quinn Rhodes and Ava Rhodes



Third-generation Bridgewater College student Abigail Allen '22 says Bridgewater has been—and always will be—special to her family, because of their long history with the College and the Church of the Brethren. Allen cherishes her childhood memories at Bridgewater including attending Homecoming, football games and parades, as well as staying in a residence hall with her cousin during one visit.

Allen, a family and consumer sciences major with concentrations in nutritional science and gerontology, plans to further her education after graduation and go on to work in a management position at a retirement community. She recently concluded her last year on the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet.

Want to be considered as a Legacy Family for this space in the magazine? It's easy. Gather the Bridgewater College graduates in your family, take a high resolution (1 MB or larger) photo and email it to us with a description of who's in the picture. You can submit Legacy Family photos to jluck@bridgewater.edu.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. HOPE RIAS

While attending Spelman College and studying history, Dr. **Hope Rias** volunteered to teach young students how to read. It was then that her path became clear: that becoming a teacher was a way for her to shape communities.

"I had never felt more alive than when I was with those students," she says.

From the time she entered the St. Louis, Mo., school system at age 3, Rias says she was always aware of race.

Part of St. Louis' desegregation busing program, Rias' private school had few teachers of color; few teachers who looked like her.

As part of the faculty for the Teacher Education Program at Bridgewater College, Rias now teaches her students—future teachers—how to look at communities in multiple, layered ways. Her pedagogy centers on anti-racism and teaching others to use their power to stop racism. She also teaches a course in sociology and leads a FILA-150 seminar titled "The Souls of Black Folk."

"I integrate diversity into everything that I do," she says. "For me, teaching has always been for the good of all of society."

Rias' research scholarship focuses on school desegregation and the achievement gap, particularly in St. Louis, a city that did not achieve desegregation until 1983—almost 30 years after *Brown v. Board of Education*. Rias' first book, *St. Louis School Desegregation: Patterns of Progress and Peril*, was published in 2019.


"I'm making the argument that the racial tensions our country is going through right now might be traced to schools, because we did not give Americans interaction with each other when we said we were going to," she says.

Rias, one of seven Bridgewater College professors who earned tenure starting July 1, came to Bridgewater in 2015 through a faculty diversity grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund. The grant allowed professors from underrepresented groups who had completed all Ph.D. work except for their dissertation to teach a lighter course load while they finished their doctorate work.

"Besides her wonderful advising and mentoring and her excellent classroom instruction, what makes Hope such a success in this program, not just as a faculty member of color but as a model for all of our faculty at Bridgewater, is she's quite a successful scholar," says Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. **Leona Sevick**.

Sevick says the grant aided the College's mission of strengthening hiring practices of faculty members from underrepresented groups.

BC Enriches My Life



"Bridgewater helped to prepare me for a successful music education career, and the College's programming continues to bring me joy to this day. That's why I give back."

"Using appreciated securities to support BC is, simply, a good investment decision."

—Judy Nolen Henneberger '64

Gifting appreciated assets (stocks, bonds, mutual funds or property) can lower the cost of your contributions.

For more information on this and other planned giving options, go to bridgewater.givingplan.net or call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 540-828-5448.



SEE INSIDE

Take a tour of the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons soon after it opened in February 2020 at bridgewater.edu/learningcommons

Vision for the Future

The John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons sets students up for success for decades to come.

BY JESSICA LUCK

If you stand at the original entrance to the Bridgewater College campus—at the crossroads of Broad and Third streets—and look toward the campus mall, the view in front of you looks much like it did decades ago. But as you begin to walk toward Rebecca Hall, a dramatically different view begins to emerge. By the time you make your way to the two-story glass tower entrance to the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons, it's clear that the more than five-decades-old Alexander Mack Memorial Library has been transformed into something extraordinary.



FROM LIBRARY TO LEARNING COMMONS

Online photo sliders show side-by-side transformations from the Alexander Mack Memorial Library to the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons.



Front desk: bridgewater.edu/ThenNowCirculation

The façade: bridgewater.edu/ThenNowBuilding

Students studying: bridgewater.edu/ThenNowStudents

The façade has been altered to incorporate panoramic windows with vistas of campus, and the interior has received a transformational upgrade. The primary purpose of the building—to support and enhance learning—remains intact, but the way in which the College accomplishes that goal has changed dramatically.

In 1961, the College sought philanthropic investments to construct a modern library that would further academic instruction and allow for flexibility in use. The Board of Trustees was open to naming the new facility for any donor who contributed a substantial portion of the construction cost. Absent that, the board would name the building as a tribute to Alexander Mack Sr., founder of the Church of the Brethren.

Although the Mack Library, as it became affectionately known, served the needs of students and faculty for many years, changes in technology and the evolution of students' learning styles meant an update was essential to continue to foster student success. In fact, the magnitude of those changes in learning demanded that any update take the form of a thorough reimagining, inside and out.

A library renovation was added to the College's 2020 Strategic Plan, and in 2014 President David Bushman tasked a Library Study Committee with drafting a proposal for a modern library that served the core mission of the College and acted as a centerpiece for the academic community.

"We're not breaking with our past,"

says study committee co-chair and John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons Director Andrew Pearson. "We're continuing that vision and moving into the next century."

Just as the physical building bridges the College's past with the present, so too does Bridgewater's continued focus on student success. The Forrer Learning Commons embraces that goal by combining academic and technology resources, tutoring and more into one space.

"The Mack Library served as this solid foundation upon which the institution could build," says Dr. Maureen Silva, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "It served as that initial spark, and it continues to light the way."

Establishing a vision

A shift had emerged in academic libraries during the last 10 years. Research and study needs remained, but students were starting to work differently. They were completing project-based assignments and becoming more collaborative. They were increasing their use of technology. Libraries (both academic and public) were viewed as community hubs where the exchange of ideas and meetings took place.

"The vision to transform the library was based on the realization that the nature of an academic library had shifted from a place where you go solely to find information into a place where you go to create something with that information," President Bushman says.

In March 2014, Pearson, study committee co-chair and Director of Information Technology (IT) Kristy Rhea, and architectural consultant Raymond Hunt attended the Academic Library Planning and Revitalization Institute in Denver. There they were introduced to best practices at other academic libraries, including the University of Denver's recently renovated library, now called the Anderson Academic Commons. A few themes emerged: A successful facility includes a variety of study areas to support different learning modes, and an increase in light and sight lines invigorates a facility with new energy that inspires different forms of study, research and social engagement.

"We wanted to engage a design that would meet the rhythm of our students," Pearson says. "We didn't just want to create a location with furniture; we wanted to create an experience."

During the planning phase, it was determined the Mack Library was located in the perfect place. Drone shots taken from overhead illustrated how the building was situated at the crossroads of campus. And the location had a natural energy about it: "The library's presence during the day is magnified at night by its illumination of the campus mall. It radiates the energy and activity of a learning community that educates the whole person," states an excerpt from the *Lighting the Way for the Next Generation* Library Study Committee report.

The goal then became for the commit-

OPENING DAY

February 24, 2020



Above: Students, faculty and staff enjoyed touring the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons on opening day. Below: The Forrer Learning Commons remained a resource for students during the 2020-21 academic year, despite the pandemic.



The great room



One of the study rooms

tee to draw a road map for the needs of the Bridgewater College community. Because the library brings together so many different constituencies, the committee consisted of 19 members from several stakeholders on campus: the library, IT, Student Life, Admissions, the Office of Institutional Advancement, the Finance Office, Academic Affairs, the Writing Center, faculty and students. The committee took inventory of how the current library functioned, as well as conducted close to 70 interviews with representatives from every program on campus. Commit-

tee members collected feedback on not only how programs interacted with and used library services but what their ideal exchange would look like. Several recurring ideas emerged during the interview process: "community," "open," "flexible space," "meeting space," "information hub," "cross-discipline study" and "student service and support."

And program directors weren't the only group surveyed. With student success as the main focus, the committee designed a survey to gain input from students on furniture and seating, the environment,

amenities and services. Tables or group study rooms were preferred over single chairs and carrels. The need for food, drink and café space was highlighted. And students said they would be more likely to use services such as the Writing Center, IT HelpDesk, Academic Advising and Academic Support if they were all located in one central location. The need to create a one-stop shop for students where they could engage with each other and find additional resources outside of the classroom was clear.

"We were tasked with thinking outside the box and not thinking about a traditional library," Rhea says. "It was about what the College needed and what a building could do to bring services together to propel the academic side of the house."

The committee's final report, presented to President Bushman, identified 24 types of spaces for consideration within the renovation. The report findings allowed the Quinn Evans architect team to start at "the 50-yard line," says Pearson.

"What was really helpful and really smart was there was a group of folks that were brought to the project committee that had different perspectives that were complementary in the context of one another that informed the design holistically," says Chuck Wray, lead project architect with Quinn Evans. "It was nice to see that kind of spirit about this building because it really was true to the mission that was established. You could tell there was tremendous buy-in across campus and that this could possibly be one of the most transformative things that happens on campus for a long time."

Study committee representatives and the architectural team visited other colleges and universities to take note of design ideas and hear best practices. Some of those elements are woven into the finished product, such as the study pods in the Great Room and the expansive fireplace adjacent to the café.

Quinn Evans also led a second student survey on furniture preference. The College administration then had furniture samples delivered to the Mack Library so that students could try out each piece and share what they liked best. Rhea says the input was key in that students demonstrated not just what they preferred but how they would use each piece. Meeting students' needs was a priority.

"In that respect, the space is more personal to the students because they had the ability to provide feedback on what



For Operation Booklift, students volunteered to move 50,000 books into their new home at the Alexander Mack Memorial Library. (Photos courtesy of Bridgewater College Special Collections)

*Timeline information collected by Chris Conte '14 and Special Collections Librarian Stephanie Gardner for the Bridgewater College Special Collections exhibition commemorating the Alexander Mack Memorial Library's 50th anniversary in 2013.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1883 – Bridgewater College's predecessor, the Virginia Normal School, consisted of one school building, which held a library on its first floor from 1883-1889. It's uncertain if or how many of the College's books survived the fire of 1889, which destroyed the building once standing on the site of Flory Hall.

1890 – College Hall, now known as Memorial Hall, was constructed to replace the former main building. The library moved to College Hall in 1890, staying there until 1904. The library was located in what is today the first room to the left of the entrance.

1904 – The growing library was moved to the ground floor of the newly completed

Founders' Hall (today the Registrar's Office in Flory Hall). Bridgewater's collection of books expanded rapidly to 10,000 by 1910.

1929 – The library moved to the basement of Cole Hall, following the building's completion that same year. The new home contained enough shelf space to hold approximately 30,000 volumes.

1963 – By the mid-20th century, the library's collection had grown to 50,000 volumes and books were stored across campus. The BC Board of Trustees approved plans for a new library, and the Alexander Mack Memorial Library was completed in 1963. On Sept. 18, 1963, students volunteered to participate in Operation Booklift, during which they moved 50,000 books to

their new home in just four hours and nine minutes.

The only campus building ever constructed for the sole purpose of serving as a campus library, Mack Library boasted 32,689 square feet of space, shelving for approximately 115,000 volumes and seating for 275 students. The College's special collections, including research and archives space, was allotted 1,200 square feet. In addition to its own impressive collection of manuscripts and rare books, Mack Library's vault and Brethren Room housed records for the Reuel B. Pritchett Museum, the town of Bridgewater and regional Church of the Brethren congregations. The library was also a government documents repository.

resonated with them," says Quinn Evans interior designer Shannon Wray.

Witnessing the transformation

The College broke ground on the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons project in May 2018. The construction, which added 10,000 square feet of space, took under two years, and the building opened on Feb. 24, 2020.

"Before, you had a library from the '60s that could have been on any campus," Shannon Wray says. "What you have now is unique and specific to Bridgewater. It doesn't exist anywhere else."

Two of the most dramatic and distinctive aspects of the physical transformation are the glass Clinton E. De Busk Tower entrance and the cantilevered great room (see sidebar on p. 17 for a full list of spaces named by donors) that provides expansive views of the campus mall. Bringing the outside in, and adding as much natural light as possible, was integral to the design, according to the Wrays.

"The building architecture responded to the campus," Shannon Wray says. "Whereas the previous library was insular, this one is much more transparent and outwardly focused. We said, 'How can we make this glow and be a beacon on campus?'"

When looking at the blank floorplans,

Chuck Wray says the shell of the building looks similar to the Mack Library with its modular layout. But one look around the renovated Forrer Learning Commons proves the College's vision to create a modern, engaged academic learning hub was realized.

The split-plan first floor draws visitors up the stairs and to the concierge desk in the Morgridge Center for Collaborative Learning. Here, visitors can inquire about books from the 90,000-volume Alexander Mack Memorial Collection, as well as connect with technology support from IT and the Digital Scholarship Gurus (see sidebar on p. 16 for more information about the gurus program), the Writing Center, peer coaching, tutoring and research support, and practice presentation and audio recording rooms. Career Services also has an office space that is integrated with the learning support programs, underscoring the importance of focusing students on their careers throughout their four years on campus.

On the first and second floors, quiet study areas are complemented by group meeting spaces and engaged learning classrooms—many of which were named by donors who invested in the project. The modern furniture is flexible and movable by design, so that students can tailor the space to their needs. Interactive walls that can be drawn on provide new

opportunities for study techniques, and digital assets such as large screens and power outlets near every study space ensure that students can embrace 21st-century learning modalities. The Alexander Mack name remains prominent in the new Forrer Learning Commons in the form of BC's entire collection of bound volumes, with the majority of the Alexander Mack Memorial Collection housed in compact shelving on the lower level adjacent to the College's archives and special collections—a move that opens up flexible learning space on other floors.

Additionally, the art gallery, portico, great room and Smitty's Café offer a variety of opportunities for engagement and enrichment. Outdoor seating spaces allow the activity of the Forrer Learning Commons to spill outside, where students and faculty can read, dine and interact with one another.

The opportunity for connection, though, extends to the program partners now housed under one roof. Pearson has organized regular meetings with all Forrer Learning Commons partners to brainstorm ways for increased collaboration.

"Co-locating the student support functions with academic library functions results in improved retention from freshman to sophomore years," Chuck Wray says. "Bridgewater really got it. They understood the value in co-locating them and

The Next Chapter

The Writing Center and Math Center continue to regularly assist students in their studies, but as technology use has grown, a new kind of support service need at BC emerged. Enter the Digital Scholarship Gurus—students who assist other students, as well as faculty and staff, in a variety of digital projects. Since the program started in spring 2017, gurus have provided support and tutorials for their peers, primarily on WordPress and Adobe Creative Cloud, along with tips for effective audio and video recordings, photography, website development and more.

“A guru is usually someone—regardless of major or career path—who has a desire to help others,” M. Holden Andrews '20, MDMS '21 says. Andrews was one of two coordinators for the 2020-2021 academic year.

DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP GURUS: HELP FOR A DIGITAL AGE

BY OLIVIA SHIFFLETT

Emily Goodwin, Director of Instructional Design in the College's Information Technology (IT) Center, started the gurus program as a way for more experienced students to help other students, as an increasing number of digital projects

were being incorporated into classes at BC. Gurus are paid for their time, and, since fall 2019, one or two student coordinators have served as managers for the program. Coordinators have typically been gurus for one or two years and have often been graduate students in the Master of Arts in Digital Media Strategy (MDMS) program at BC.

The gurus have enjoyed increased visibility on campus since moving into the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons. Their dedicated office on the first floor, next to the main circulation desk, is also adjacent to the Learning and Research Services Suite, where students can seek help on other class projects from the research librarians. The office is typically staffed by a coordinator, while the rest of the gurus usually station themselves throughout the Forrer Learning Commons for maximum accessibility. There are generally between three and seven gurus each



M. Holden Andrews '20, MDMS '21, right, served as one of the coordinators for the Digital Scholarship Gurus in 2020-21.

semester, not counting the coordinators.

In addition to assisting students during their regular office hours, gurus go into classrooms (virtually and in person) to present how to use a program for a particular assignment, which is one of the primary ways they provide support to faculty. They also offer group help sessions on a particular topic or software several times a semester.

Gurus have a “passion for creating digital content, helping others create that content and helping their fellow students succeed,” says Dwayne Murrell '20, MDMS '21, the second program coordinator in 2020-21. Murrell says he became a guru because he wanted to expand his creative skillset and then pass those skills on to other students. The gurus are passionate about their work and eager to find ways to keep learning and growing in the role.

“The work doesn't stop, but it's always fun and always creative,” Andrews says.



Listen to Digital Scholarship Gurus explain more about the program at bridgewater.edu/dsgurus

showcasing it. I think it pays dividends for decades to come.”

Sherry Talbott, Director of Career Services, which is now housed in the Academic Resource Suite along with the Writing Center and academic tutoring, has already started collaborating with the neighboring Writing Center to provide workshops for writing tutors so they can better understand how to aid their peers with resumes, cover letters and personal statements. She believes that being located in a more highly visible area creates more opportunities for students to connect with Career Services and other resources while allowing for more organic, creative collaboration across the board.

“Our vision was a symbiotic energy of these different services collaborating in such a way that they exceed the sum of their parts,” Pearson says. “The things you are doing together here are something you could never accomplish by yourself.”

On opening day, students, faculty and

staff streamed in the front doors to witness the library's transformation. The students immediately settled into individual study spaces, gathered together in group study rooms and spent the day enjoying their new connectivity hub.

President Bushman walked over to the Forrer Learning Commons the next night to show the building to a friend. At 9:30 p.m. he estimates 500 to 600 students—a third of the campus—were in the building, using it exactly how the administration and design team imagined it.

“It was really gratifying to see that,” he says. “This building exceeded expectations in every way imaginable.”

Although the College was forced to shift to remote learning a few weeks after the Forrer Learning Commons opened due to COVID-19, the Learning Commons remained a resource for students in the 2020-21 academic year when they returned to campus. Samantha Hince '22 covered opening day for the student

news organization BCVoice. She says every student she spoke with had positive reactions and that there was a palpable excitement as they explored the space. Hince completed an internship last year with the Office of Career Services and says she spent so much time in the Learning Commons she and her friends jokingly referred to one of the study rooms as her personal office.

“I think the biggest benefit that the Learning Commons offers students is a flexible work space,” she says. “Between group study rooms, personal study desks and individual reading nooks, there's a space for any type of work you need to do. I also think it's wonderful there are so many great resources easily accessible to students.”

Emily Helms '16 was one of the student representatives who served on the Library Study Committee. She loved the experience of collaborating with faculty and staff on a vision for the new space.

NAMED SPACES

Bridgewater College is eternally grateful to every donor who contributed to this truly transformational project. The following are current named spaces at the John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons:

THE BUILDING

John Kenny Forrer Learning Commons
Clinton E. De Busk Tower
Alexander Mack Memorial Collections

MAIN FLOOR

Morgridge Center for Collaborative Learning
Smith Family Café (Smitty's)
Robert H. '59 and Mary Susan King Portico
Beverly Perdue '68 Art Gallery
Dr. Kenneth '63 & Nancy Bowman Academic Resource Suite
David T. Christian '06 & Caitlin R. Christian '07 Staircase
Stuart R. '63 & Lorraine C. Suter Learning and Research Services Suite
Wilkerson Family Practice Presentation and Audio Recording Room

Mark A. Sherman '92 Fireplace
Andrews Family Café Seating
D. Cory Adamson '91 Café Seating

UPPER LEVEL

The Class of 1969 Great Room
The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation Study Area
Fred O. Funkhouser Instruction Room
L. Daniel '50 and Louise '54 Roller Burtner Family Instruction Room
Edgar '58 & Kathy '60 Simmons Director's Office
Frank '81 & Aida Roa Great Room Seating
Thompson Family Foundation Instruction Room
Technology
Paul P. '63 & Martha A. Vames Family Study Room
D. Cory Adamson '91 Study Room
The "Reiding" Room
Shively Family Study Room

Wil '63 & Joyce Nolen Study Room
Donna Price Walker '75 Study Room
Carolyn Hupman Beach '69 Study Room
Hope Harman Hickman '78 Study Room

LOWER LEVEL

Robert R. Newlen '75 & John C. Bradford Special Collections
Janice W. & Ronald E. Sink Family Brethren Room
Kloster Family Study Area
Benjamin '82 & Sherrie '85 Wampler Archival Reading Room

EXTERIOR

Wampler Family Plaza
Alison's Reading Terrace

Today, she serves as Assistant Director of Admissions and transfer counselor in the College's Office of Admissions. She says the Forrer Learning Commons—now a featured stop on prospective student tours—has made a "tremendous difference in the number of students who see Bridgewater College as a possible school choice than in the past."

"For me, it's being able to contribute to an idea that will last long beyond my time at Bridgewater," Pearson says. "That's a very satisfying moment as a professional librarian, to recognize that the work we've done here will benefit the College and the students for decades—that's a rare opportunity. And that I had the opportunity to do that here at Bridgewater College is the highlight of my career."

President Bushman envisions the fall of the 2021-22 academic year as a kind of second grand opening after COVID-19, a time when the Bridgewater College community can come together and truly make the space their own.

"The Learning Commons is not 'finished.' I don't think it will ever be finished," Rhea says. "We hope people will continue to think of new ways to use it."

Community support

At \$13.2 million, the Forrer Learning Commons is the largest donor-funded capital project on campus to date, both in terms of absolute dollars and in percentage of total cost. The transformative project attracted a breadth of contributions and broadened the College's donor base, including 34 major gifts, 22 of which were from donors who made a gift at

the major gift level (\$25,000+) for the first time. In addition, two Virginia foundations, the Mary Morton Parsons Foundation and The Cabell Foundation, offered matching grants.

"In many ways, we were able to transform our relationships with alumni and friends around fundraising: We can do this. You can be a part of something bigger," President Bushman says. "This was a really important proof of concept. Our alumni have been inspired that we can build something like this together."

Bonnie Forrer Rhodes '62 and her late husband, John H. Rhodes, are the primary benefactors of the Forrer Learning Commons, a tribute to Bonnie's father, John Kenny Forrer, who had to leave Bridgewater College in 1928 after the sudden death of his father. Not only did Forrer, who went on to serve as Director and President of the Peoples Bank of Stuarts Draft, care for his family while working on their cattle farm, but he cared for his community as well. He was active in the Mount Vernon Church of the Brethren throughout his life and held formal positions as Deacon, Sunday School teacher and congressional delegate to the Brethren District Meetings. He counseled many members of the congregation on personal and family matters.

"My father was the person in the community who when someone needed help, they went to him," Bonnie Rhodes says. "He took care of his family, extended family and the community. I really admired him for that."

John and Bonnie Rhodes, too, have been dedicated to helping their communities, through charitable giving to a

variety of causes. Bonnie Rhodes also currently serves as a member of the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees.

"I think giving makes life richer," Rhodes says. "Anything that we can do to make things better in this world."

She says Bridgewater College in particular holds special meaning for her and her late husband, a Pennsylvania State University graduate who as a young boy attended the Patton Masonic School for Boys, a small school located in Elizabethtown, Pa. It was John Rhodes' beloved teacher, Mahlon Clark, who encouraged him to further his education at Penn State.

Bridgewater College mirrors that kind of close-knit community that fosters connections and encourages success.

"We thought the Learning Commons was a wonderful project," Rhodes says. "This is a place that will really inspire students to study and do well. Any student who visits campus will say, 'This is really special.' I think it's a wonderful thing for Bridgewater."

Silva says it was almost surreal to step into the finished Learning Commons space and see the architectural designs brought to life. But what the designs couldn't convey was the energy in the space as people engaged and collaborated in the way that was intended.

"That moment brought clarity to why we do the work that we do," Silva says. "This project is meaningful for the College, it's meaningful for the students. The investments from our donor partners are so impactful and will serve the institution for years to come." She pauses and then adds, "How do you articulate the fulfillment of a dream?"



'One for the win'

Bridgewater College football Head Coach Michael Clark leaves a legacy that extends far beyond the field.

BY JESSICA LUCK



SOME OF MICHAEL CLARK'S earliest memories revolve around football. His father, Joe, coached high school football, and 5-year-old Clark and his older brother, Joe D., would ride the team bus with their dad and his players to games. The Clark brothers wore team jerseys and served as de facto mascots. They played their own games of football together behind the bench during games.

The elder Joe Clark, who is in the Ohio High School Hall of Fame for 237 high school coaching victories, wasn't a big believer in early contact football for his children, so Mike Clark didn't start playing football until ninth grade. He enjoyed the competition, and, once he started playing, he knew he wanted to go on to the collegiate level. Clark played quarterback for his dad at Cincinnati Indian Hill High School his junior and senior years of high school.

But he wasn't just learning how to play the game: He was learning what it meant to be a coach whose players worked hard out of respect.

"Part of me said, 'If I'm a coach, that's how I would like to try to be too,'" Clark

said. "I can go back now and say those two years I got to play for my father are still a highlight."

At the University of Cincinnati, a Division I school, Clark was a four-year letter winner in football as a defensive back. He helped the Bearcats to a 9-2 record and a top 20 national ranking during the 1976 season. At graduation in 1980, he was given the school's Mr. Bearcat Award as the outstanding graduating male senior. Clark earned his undergraduate degree in English literature.

After college, Clark began his coaching career as the defensive line and linebackers coach at Murray State University under Head Coach Frank Beamer. After a stint as a wide receivers coach at his alma mater, Clark rejoined Beamer at Virginia Tech in 1988, serving as the Hokies' defensive coordinator under Beamer for five seasons.

Clark counts Beamer as one of his biggest coaching influences.

"I think Mike could have been a lot of things," Beamer told the *Daily News-Record* in a March 2021 article. "A lawyer, a doctor probably. He's such a smart guy, so when it came to coaching football, I

trusted what he was saying a lot."

In 1993, Clark moved to Virginia Military Institute serving as the Keydets' defensive coordinator in 1993 and quarterback coach in 1994. Clark had two forced coaching moves in Division I, which was part of his motivation in becoming Bridgewater's 14th head football coach in January 1995. He wanted his eldest daughter to finish high school at the same place.

At the time Bridgewater College's seventh president, Phillip Stone, took office in August of 1994, the football program had languished historically. Student athletes were not sticking with the program all four years. More people were tailgating on River Road than attending games. Stone decided to make a coaching change to reinvigorate the program. His goal was to champion a commitment to excellence in every program at the College, including football. He knew that giving student athletes a chance to be competitive would affect work ethic and success on and off the field.

During the interview process, Clark asked Stone about his dedication to the



Bridgewater College went 10-0 in the regular season to clinch the Old Dominion Athletic Conference title in 2019.

football program. Stone told him: "I may not be an athlete, but I'm a competitor." And Stone questioned whether Division III would be a big enough stage for the former DI coach. Clark promised him five years, with the caveat that it would take some time to rebuild.

Clark's first three seasons saw 0-9, 5-5 and 2-8 records. But he stayed the course, using his connections to recruit players and coaches who saw his vision.

"I like the fact that he didn't just shake his head and say this program is not meant for success," Stone says. "He just kept talking about winning and putting it on a winning platform."

Current Athletic Director Curt Kendall, head baseball coach at the time, remembers watching one of the last football games in the fall of 1999. He saw a difference on the field that day: The players were bigger, stronger and more talented. Bridgewater football was about to turn a corner.

"Mike's always been a guy who knew how to motivate people," Kendall says. "He trusts his staff and gives them responsibility, which goes a long way in getting

them to understand the plan moving forward. He had good insight on what needed to be done."

BUILDING A PROGRAM

Clark always maintained a competitive mindset, even when the scoreboard didn't go his way. He can still remember ringing the Memorial Hall bell when the team broke a 27-game losing streak and recorded their first win under Clark in 1996. At the bell, a TV station reporter asked Clark how he felt. His answer: "I hope it becomes a big story when Bridgewater loses a game."

In 1998, Clark started 13 freshmen in the final game that season. The team finished with an 0-10 record, but there were some close losses. Clark saw the potential in his young team. He and his coaching staff convinced the players to "stay and fix this."

"I'll always be grateful for that group that hung with me," Clark says. "On my good teams I've been surrounded by good people."

Matt Huffman '02 was one of those freshmen. Clark was instrumental in his decision to come to BC as the

Bridgewater, Va., native was also considering the University of Virginia. He remembers Clark stopping by his house one evening after dinner to discuss a unique "window of opportunity" with the football team. In his first year, Huffman says Clark and a dedicated group of players committed to each other they would turn things around. They held each other accountable on and off the field and "developed a great culture," Huffman says.

Jermaine Taylor '04, who was inducted into the Bridgewater College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2018, joined the team in 2000, the year the Eagles went 10-2, earning an at-large NCAA bid and beating Washington & Jefferson before being eliminated in overtime by Trinity University in the Sweet 16. At the time, Taylor remembers Clark telling his team: "Why not us?"

"It was the question we needed to push to the next level," Taylor says.

Scott Lowe, a radio color commentator alongside Bill Phipps for BC football for 11 years, says the 2001 Division III semi-final game against Rowan University was the most memorable in his time cover-



Then-President Phillip Stone celebrates with the 2003 team after winning the Oyster Bowl and being crowned ODAC champions.

ing the Eagles. Bridgewater scored a game-winning touchdown with no time left on the clock to earn a spot in the Division III national championship game.

"When I started broadcasting BC football games, it would have been hard to believe that not only would the team become competitive, but far superior to many opponents—winning by wide margins—to being nationally relevant," he says. "That's all Coach Clark. He put BC football on the map forever."

Although Bridgewater fell to perennial powerhouse Mount Union 30-27 in the Stagg Bowl, the game placed the football program—and the College—on a national stage. Stone says two benefits were an increase in enrollment and general pride across campus.

"The Stagg Bowl was one of those mountaintop experiences," Clark says. "It was neat to see how that game energized the College and the community."

Clark, who retired this spring after his 26th season with the Eagles, leaves a legacy that is unmatched. He is the longest-tenured coach in Bridgewater College football history and is the longest-tenured active collegiate head coach in Virginia. His 167 wins are the highest of any active head coach in the Commonwealth. He was the Don Hansen's Football Gazette 2001 National Coach of the Year and was twice named the South Region Coach of the Year by that publication. He's been named Virginia State Coach of the Year six times and has 16 winning seasons under his belt, including six Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) championships (most recently in 2019), a 36-game conference

winning streak and 17 NCAA playoff games. Under Clark, Bridgewater has become the most prominent ODAC school in national competition, recording 10 of the conference's 15 NCAA tournament victories and its only two final four appearances.

"I've lived my dream," Clark says. "I got to coach a team that had runs at the national level as a college head coach. I never imagined it would have been at Division III, but it was the opportunity I was given. I like to tell people: 'Sometimes you don't get to pick your opportunities but you get to pick what you do with them.' I was lucky I was here at the right time."

LEAVING A LEGACY

When the College announced in January 2021 that Clark would be retiring, well-wishes and memories poured in on social media, and in emails, texts and phone calls to Clark.

"I thought the really unique thing was that they all talked about the experience, the relationships they built and the things they learned," Clark says. "Things they were able to pull from their Bridgewater College experience and how much they were able to use that in their lives with their families and jobs. To me, that was the thing that really made me feel best."

Huffman, now a cardiologist in Lynchburg, Va., still says one of Clark's most famous phrases out loud multiple times a day: "Manage your business." The sentiment carries through on and off the field: Be accountable and do what needs to be done in all areas of your life to be successful. The phrase is even engraved on

a plaque in the weight room in Nininger Hall.

"The culture of BC academics and the football program instilled in me work ethic and motivation to be successful in different aspects of life," Huffman says. "Learning to connect with teammates from various backgrounds was a huge life skill that I still utilize now on a daily basis with patients and partners."

After graduation, Taylor earned NFL camp invitations from the Green Bay Packers and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He also started at linebacker for the Berlin Thunder in NFL Europe during the 2005 season.

"I'll never forget my first preseason game at Lambeau Field with 60,000 fans in the stands," Taylor says. "It was one of the proudest moments of my life, knowing the journey and the support to be in that moment. The name on the back of the jersey identified me as a player, but I was a representative of Bridgewater College and so much more."

Taylor, who is a systems engineer with Raymond James Financial in St. Petersburg, Fla., says Clark is a "positive straight shooter" who genuinely cares about his student athletes even after their collegiate careers.

"His phrase 'Football is a bonus' helped me identify and capitalize on the bonus opportunities in life while knowing what's important. To enjoy the experiences and learn from the teachable moments."

"I feel honored in not only the ability that I was able to have an influence, but that I was in a position where people could influence me, too," Clark says.

On campus, Clark was known as some-

one you could always call if you needed help. He also attended theatre programs, music recitals and other athletic events to support the BC community.

"He was the best supporter of all the athletic programs at BC, big and small," says longtime women's basketball coach Jean Willi. "He truly wanted to see others, both coaches and athletes, succeed in their sport. He would always find a way to help other programs as well, whether it was equipment needs, staff needs or facility needs. Mike is an Eagle through and through."

One of Clark's traditions was handing out letters to parents on Senior Day. He personalized each one to share thoughts about that player.

"That was a highlight," Clark says. "It's probably the non-football things that will really have long-term value for me."

And Clark received a handwritten letter of his own this spring from former President Stone. In it, Stone thanked him for his friendship and everything he did for the College.

"He certainly leaves a legacy in football that's going to be hard to ever match," Stone says. "He made football and all athletics an integral part of Bridgewater College. And he will always be known as a mentor and teacher. The effect he had on young men, that's going to be quite a legacy that's going to live on for many, many years."

"You might replace him as a coach but not as an individual," Kendall says.

Clark isn't sure what he'll do next. But he's going to take some time to figure it out. He plans to do some trout fishing, work on his golf game and spend time with his family including his wife, Sharon, daughters Megan Clark Velez '04 and Erin Clark Reel and their families.

"I'm most proud of that fact that I have grown children who are my best friends and I've been married over 41 years," Clark says. "And I have former players who are my friends who come back to see me—that goes beyond the field."



NEXT IN LINE

Eagles football Assistant Coach Scott Lemn—current offensive coordinator and quarterback and tight ends coach—has been named the team's next head coach, starting in 2021-22. Lemn, a first team All-American at James Madison University and the Rimington Award winner as the nation's top center, has been an integral part of the coaching staff for the last 11 years.

"Scott has developed over the past 11 seasons as a coach under Mike Clark's guidance and is ready to take over our highly successful program," Athletic Director Curt Kendall says. "Scott was a key contributor to the 2019 ODAC championship."

"It's a great honor to be the one who follows Coach Clark," Lemn says. "The mentorship he's provided me has been invaluable."

As a coach, Lemn's goal is to make it about the players: Work for the players and they'll work for you. He says the benefit of being on a college campus is spending time with students at an impactful time in their lives and being able to serve as a mentor.

"Playing football is a great part of your experience at Bridgewater but it doesn't have to be your whole experience," Lemn says. "Being involved in a variety of things is important. It only adds to the value of your experience while you're here as well as later in life. If you want to be a doctor, lawyer, head coach—the options are endless. You can come to Bridgewater and easily achieve that goal."

Bridgewater Career Highlights

TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NCAA Division III runner-up (2001)
NCAA Division III semifinals (2003)
NCAA Division III quarterfinals (2002, 2005)
NCAA Division III Sweet 16 game (2000)
NCAA Division III first round (2004, 2019)
ODAC champions (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2019)

COACHING ACCOLADES

Don Hansen's Football Gazette National Coach of the Year (2001)
Don Hansen's Football Gazette South Region Coach of the Year (2001, 2003)
D3football.com South Region Coach of the Year (2019)
AFCA Region 3 Coach of the Year (2019)
VaSID State Coach of the Year (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2019)
Richmond TD Club State Coach of the Year (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2019)
Norfolk TD Club State Coach of the Year (2001)
ODAC Coach of the Year (2000, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2019)

The Screamin' Eagles are about to take flight

Marching band is back at
Bridgewater College

BY OLIVIA SHIFFLETT



Noel Harrison '24

Picture this: Dozens of students, decked out in their crimson-and-gold best, taking the field in style with their instruments and flags in the Jopson Athletic Complex. The stands are full, and everyone's eager to see the first football game of the season.

Get ready—the Screamin' Eagles are going to soar!

WHY MARCHING BAND?

The marching band and color guard will take their place among the latest examples of top-notch musical groups and ensembles at the College, including the Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Strings, Concert Choir and Chorale. The new marching band has roots in a strong and enthusiastic pep band that started in the early 1990s. (See sidebar on p. 25 for a brief history of marching band and pep band at BC.)

But the marching band program, open to both music and non-music majors, will serve as more than just a musical outlet for students.

"Not only will a marching band add excitement to our sports and campus events, it's also a wonderful way to teach teamwork and communication and leadership skills that are transferrable into nearly every vocation," says Dr. Jeff Pierson, Professor of Communication Studies & Theatre and Division Head of Communication, Fine Arts, and Literature.

The marching band, which includes brass and woodwinds, color guard, front ensemble and full drumline, will perform at home football games and some away games, join in Homecoming week events and participate in local festivals, parades and exhibitions. In the spring, band members will have the opportunity to be part of the basketball pep band.

A marching band also offers students valuable leadership skills with the chance to take active roles as a section leader or drum major. This opportunity for real-world experience will be especially beneficial to instrumental music education majors who are planning future careers as high school band directors.

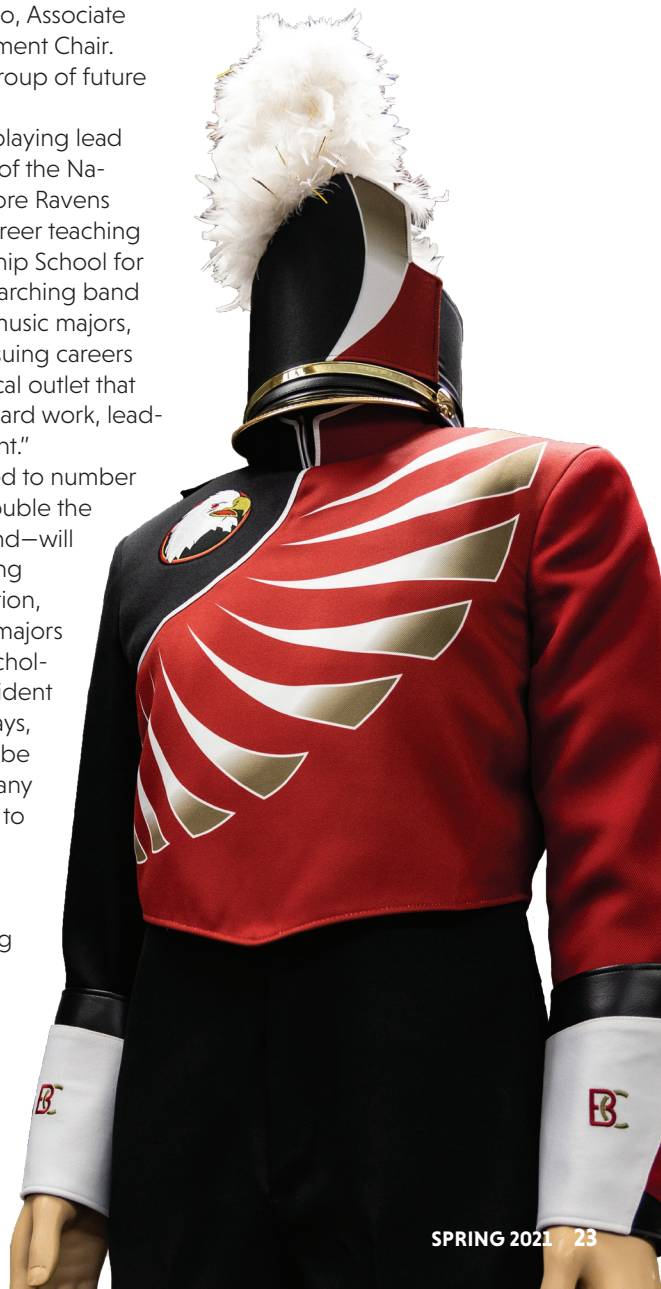
"There are not many other schools in the region that offer the small liberal arts college

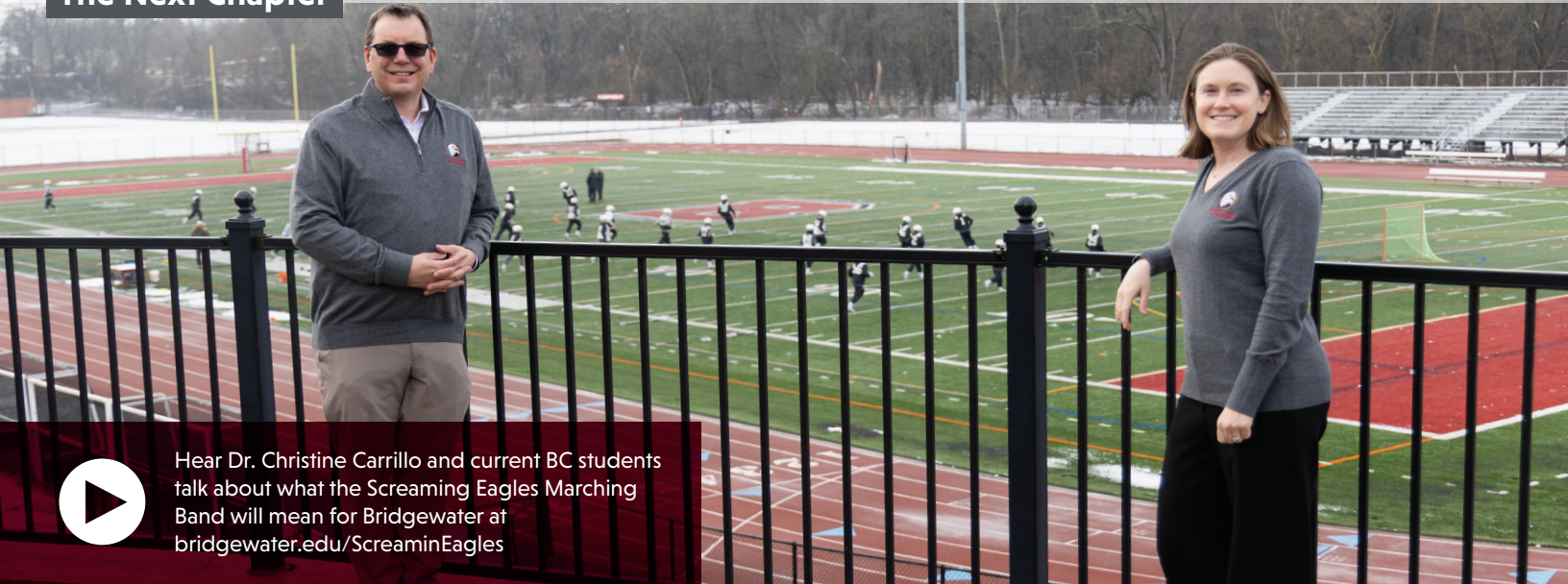
experience as well as a marching band experience," says Dr. Christine Carrillo, Associate Professor of Music and Department Chair. "This will attract a whole new group of future Eagles."

Robert Meeks '10 has been playing lead trumpet in the marching band of the National Football League's Baltimore Ravens since 2015, in addition to his career teaching music at the Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women. He says that marching band is exceptional preparation for music majors, especially instrumentalists, pursuing careers in music education. "It's a musical outlet that teaches you about discipline, hard work, leadership, respect and commitment."

The marching band, expected to number 110 students in a few years—double the number of the current pep band—will serve as a tool for both recruiting and retaining students. In addition, participating students from all majors will be invited to audition for scholarships. Michael Post, Vice President for Enrollment Management, says, "It is exciting to know that we'll be able to provide students, with any college major, the opportunity to continue doing what they love when they attend Bridgewater College."

Carrillo is also hoping to bring in students from nearby Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) to join the Screamin' Eagles. Through an articulation agreement with BRCC, their students will be able to register for the marching band as





Hear Dr. Christine Carrillo and current BC students talk about what the Screaming Eagles Marching Band will mean for Bridgewater at bridgewater.edu/ScreaminEagles

Director of Athletic Bands Barry Flowe and Associate Professor of Music and Department Chair Dr. Christine Carrillo

an activity and receive college credit at both institutions.

Sara Urry Booth '14, Director of Music at Buffalo Gap High School, directed the pep band for two years at BC when she was a student. Booth says the marching band is a great opportunity for students coming out of high school who want to "keep their love and passion for music alive in a different avenue." She believes a few of her recent graduates may transfer to Bridgewater for the marching band experience.

"They want that family, the sense of belonging on the field," she says.

HIRING NEW LEADERS

Music specialist and band director Barry Flowe will join the Department of Music as Director of Athletic Bands in July. In the new role, Flowe will oversee the Screamin' Eagles Marching Band as well as teach courses in music education at Bridgewater.

Flowe brings three decades of experience leading middle school, high school and college bands, including 19 years as Pep Band Director at Randolph-Macon College, in Ashland, Va., and 10 years as Director of Bands at Patrick Henry High School, also in Ashland.

"We are thrilled to have Barry join our department, as his extensive background in teaching, as well as his marching band leadership experience, is exactly what we were looking for," says Carrillo.

As a music specialist, Flowe has been instrumental in landing innovative performance opportunities for his students, such

as playing in the Orange Bowl Parade on New Year's Eve in Miami, the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade and New York City Veterans Day Parade. Both he and Carrillo share a goal of having the Screamin' Eagles Marching Band perform at regional events and parades as well as at national and international events to show Bridgewater College on a bigger stage.

"I've been so impressed with everything I've seen at Bridgewater College and with everyone I've met—from students to faculty and staff," Flowe says. "One of the most exciting aspects of this job for me is starting a marching band program that builds on a fantastic and well-established pep band."

Carrillo says Flowe, with a background in teaching at the secondary education level, will add to the music department's robust roster of faculty who bring their areas of expertise to prepare music education teacher candidates for a successful career after college. And his connections with band directors all over the state is an additional boon, as part of his role will be liaising with high school band directors to connect with prospective students.

"So many of our music majors are pursuing careers in music education. I am excited for our students to have a secondary music specialist who will provide them with incredible experiences that will help them become strong music teachers," Carrillo says.

Carrillo recently hired a drumline instructor as well: Jon Wilson, a 2017 graduate of Bridgewater College. Wilson, the Band and Choir Director at Shelburne

Middle School in Staunton, Va., majored in music education at Bridgewater.

Color guard instructor Brandon Gray will round out the marching band leadership team. Gray has been teaching color guard for more than 10 years with James Madison University's Nuance winter guard and with the Fort Defiance High School Marching Band.

THE GIFT THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE

Judy Nolen Henneberger '64 and her late husband, Ed '63, supported the College in numerous ways throughout the years, including two gifts that funded upgrades to the Concert Hall at the Carter Center for Worship and Music and helped transform music education classrooms on campus into interactive learning spaces. Henneberger's most recent gift, in honor and in memory of her husband, provided funding for the startup costs of the marching band.

"Giving to Bridgewater College has been a natural thing for me and my husband because of our great appreciation for what the College has done for us and for what it continues to do for others," Henneberger says. "Being able to help current and future students on their paths to success has brought us such joy."

Dr. Maureen Silva, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, says the College is incredibly thankful for alumni and donors such as Henneberger, who support Bridgewater's vision for the future in establishing new avenues of learning

and experiences for its students.

"It's really an honor to be in partnership with the College on establishing the marching band program," says Henneberger, who was a music major at Bridgewater and went on to work as a music educator in the Fairfax County Public School System. "Through the years I've seen how a marching band program can enhance one's intellectual abilities, social abilities, group collegiality, school spirit and so many other things. It brings the community together in a lot of different ways, which is tremendous."

In appreciation of the Hennebergers' support, the College will name the forthcoming band pavilion, both a rehearsal and storage space for the marching band, the Ed and Judy Nolen Henneberger Band Pavilion. The pavilion is scheduled for construction during the summer; the Screamin' Eagles inaugural band camp will take place in August.

PREPARING FOR TAKEOFF

Luke Cronin '23 was ecstatic when he heard Bridgewater was starting a marching band, as he plays trumpet and was part of a marching band in high school.

A music major with a focus on education, Cronin hopes to be a band director and high school music director one day and believes that being in Bridgewater's marching band will take his career preparation to the next level. He'll take on



Merary Mejia-Contreras '24

a leadership position with the Screamin' Eagles by serving as one of two drum majors.

Health and exercise science major Noel Harrison '24 wanted to be part of a color guard or dance club at BC, after joining color guard during her senior year of high school. When she learned Bridgewater was adding a marching band, she was

excited to be part of the color guard and help build new traditions. The second incoming drum major for the Screamin' Eagles, music major Najee Griffin '22, says band "makes you feel part of a group, something bigger than yourself."

When the Screamin' Eagles perform, they will bring together the entire Bridgewater community—alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff—in one shared experience.

"I might just cry tears of joy when I am at Jopson Field seeing our new Screamin' Eagles Marching Band performing, celebrating both them and a return to more of the live and in-person Bridgewater experience I love so very much," Division Head Pierson said in a recent message to alumni.

When Rockbridge County High School's Director of Music Miranda Fitzgerald '15 heard about the formation of the marching band at BC, she said "it felt like a beacon of light in the middle of the pandemic, something to be excited about when so many things weren't happening.

"The marching band is going to be a catalyst for a new stage of BC."

The History of Marching Band and Pep Band at BC



In this undated photo from the 1950s, the College's marching band makes its way down College Street. (Credit: Bridgewater College Special Collections)

The Screamin' Eagles will not be the first marching band at Bridgewater College. According to Francis F. Wayland's *Bridgewater College: The First Hundred Years, 1880-1980*, the first student pep band formed at BC in 1944, and a marching band made its debut at Homecoming on Oct. 28, 1950. It appears to have disbanded in the late 1960s or early 1970s, but not before winning "best band" three years in a row at the annual Veterans Day parade in Harrisonburg, Va. The Screamin' Eagles Pep Band formed at BC in the early 1990s, playing at home basketball games initially. Dr. Stephen Longenecker,

Edwin L. Turner Distinguished Professor of History, recalls attending the first rehearsal for the pep band. He became the group's first faculty advisor and played alto saxophone for nearly 30 years.

As the football team began to enjoy success a few years into Head Coach Mike Clark's tenure, students began to get excited about playing for football games as well, and the pep band started to travel with the team. Longenecker says, "Everything about sports is better when you win, even the band." The pep band accompanied the Eagles to several playoff games, including the Stagg Bowl (the NCAA Division III national championship game) in 2001.

As the first pep band in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC), Longenecker says that other coaches complained about the noise they made and that it was fun to give the team a bit of an edge in the early days. "We showed up, and they couldn't send in the plays verbally anymore. They had to use signals instead."

With the steady growth of student enthusiasm and participation over the years, the pep band grew to include approximately 50 to 60 participants. The Screamin' Eagles Marching Band is expected to grow to at least double that number, bringing even more energy to Jopson Field in the years to come.



The Screamin' Eagles Pep Band



"In order to work effectively and communicate with people from different cultures, we need intercultural skills to help us understand each other, have empathy for one another and adapt ourselves to different situations and different ways of doing things."

Dr. Manuela Gabriel, Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion

Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion Dr. Manuela Gabriel serves as chair of the Intercultural Advisory Council. Her goal is to help students, faculty and staff understand the importance of inclusion on a broader spectrum beyond race and ethnicity.

Bridging Differences

The College's new Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion brings a global perspective to building intercultural competency on campus.

BY KAREN DOSS BOWMAN '91

DR. MANUELA GABRIEL describes herself as a "bridge-maker" since birth. The daughter of an Egyptian father and Italian mother, she learned from an early age to navigate between two very different cultures within her family and among friends.

As Bridgewater's new Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion, Gabriel strives to build bridges across the broad range of backgrounds and perspectives within the campus community. Her primary responsibilities include providing vision and direction for inclusive initiatives, strategic programming,

policy development as well as diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) training and engaging with students on issues related to diversity.

"The experience I bring to Bridgewater College definitely started from my birth because I was raised in a biracial, bicultural family," says Gabriel, who moved to the area from California with her husband, Francisco, and daughter, Isabella. "I have always been involved in different cultures, language traditions and communication styles."

A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD

Born in Egypt, Gabriel moved with her family to Italy when she was 6 years old. A self-described "globetrotter," Gabriel moved to Québec, Canada, for her undergraduate and master's degrees. Plans for a short-term study abroad experience in Spain during graduate school turned into a five-year pursuit for her doctorate.

Gabriel earned a Ph.D. in international and intercultural studies from University of Deusto (Spain), an M.A. in intercultural



Larissa Niles '23 and Ayinde Roberts '20 were paired in 2019-20 as part of the Eagle Success program.

In 2015, Bridgewater College instituted a small-scale peer mentoring program, known as Eagle Success, designed to help students who have been identified as being at-risk for a successful transition to college. The goal is to even the playing field for students who may not have all of the tools and experience other students have when entering college, by providing mentoring and programs designed to facilitate a successful transition and foundation to thrive on campus. Funding from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund has strengthened the program and allowed for additional connection opportunities.

ENSURING EAGLES' SUCCESS

mediation from University of Sherbrooke (Canada) and a B.A. in modern languages from Bishop's University (Canada). Licensed as a qualified administrator to use the Intercultural Development Inventory, Gabriel speaks four languages: English, French, Italian and Spanish. She also can understand and speak a little Arabic—her father's first language.

Always interested in understanding how people from different cultures and backgrounds work together and how to interact successfully with those from different cultures, Gabriel is actively involved in research on DEI best practices and innovative strategies. She was drawn to Bridgewater's small, close-knit community.

"I believe I can really make a difference here, and actually see the direct impact of DEI work by enhancing a culture of equity and inclusion that will prepare our students with the necessary skills they will need to be leaders in our global society," Gabriel says.

BUILDING INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCY

Gabriel's background helped cultivate her experience in diversity and inclusion issues. Growing up, she recalls people frequently asking about her family's life: what languages they spoke at home, their values or what kind of foods they ate. She is passionate about helping people from different backgrounds better understand each other through the development of intercultural competence to be able to shift cultural perspectives and gain skills in how to appropriately adapt to cultural differences and commonalities.

"In order to work effectively and communicate with people from different cul-

tures, we need intercultural skills to help us understand each other, have empathy for one another and adapt ourselves to different situations and different ways of doing things," Gabriel says.

A unique qualification Gabriel brings to the role is a deep understanding of the role DEI plays in student retention. Research shows that students are more likely to stay enrolled at institutions and persist to graduation when they feel a sense of belonging.

"We can create our diversity in terms of numbers, but if we are not creating spaces where people can really feel they belong, then there's no inclusion," says Gabriel, who serves as chair of the Intercultural Advisory Council and oversees the student peer mentorship program, Eagle Success. "Diversity cannot stand on its own—we need diversity, equity and inclusion. If we are not creating an inclusive and equitable campus environment and workplace, then it can have a negative impact, especially in the retention of historically underrepresented populations."

Dr. Leslie Frere, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students, says DEI efforts are critical at a place like Bridgewater, where connections and community are an integral part of the mission.

"We want everyone to feel like part of the Bridgewater family, and that means helping students, faculty and staff understand and appreciate our differences," Frere says. "Manuela brings a wealth of experience with diverse populations and inclusion work, and she offers the added benefit of a strong foundation in retention work. With her expertise, we have the opportunity for a more cohesive, strategic approach to our DEI initiatives on campus."

Student mentors are matched with a small group of first-year students, whom they meet with regularly to answer questions and help connect them with social and academic resources at Bridgewater.

Dr. Manuela Gabriel, Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion, says a key program component is that the mentors are diverse in terms of major, gender, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity. They serve as role models and help students build relationships.

"The biggest factor that will positively retain our students is that they are involved at the College, and they feel a sense of belonging," Gabriel says.

DIVERSITY BEYOND NUMBERS

At Bridgewater, Gabriel strives to move conversations about diversity beyond a focus on numbers and percentages. Instead, she wants to help students, faculty and staff understand the importance of inclusion in the broader spectrum.

"It's about recognizing and understanding identity from an intersectional perspective and being willing to consider factors such as race and ethnicity, mental and physical abilities, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background and multiple axes of identities," Gabriel says. "I would like to shift the conversation from simply increasing our diversity numbers—which is one of our goals—but also making sure that we are building an inclusive and equitable workplace and campus community for students, faculty and staff."

One way that Gabriel plans to expand this focus is to engage faculty and staff in cultural self-reflection conversations and offer training on intercultural competencies. For example, a good starting point is to teach community members to recognize their unconscious biases—the attitudes, preferences and assumptions that any person holds toward another individual or group of people. These beliefs are formed from birth, outside of a person's awareness, and impact perceptions of and interactions with others.

"Diversity, equity and inclusion should be infused and embedded in every aspect of campus," Gabriel says. "DEI efforts have a starting point, but there is no ending. These efforts will be ongoing. There always will be ways that we can become more inclusive and more interculturally competent."

Staying Connected During COVID

BY JESSICA LUCK

IN THE EARLY DAYS of the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone was looking for ways to feel less isolated and to maintain connections with their loved ones. Zoom birthday parties and digital happy hours quickly became the norm, but for two groups of Bridgewater College alumni, they gained something unexpected during the pandemic: reconnections with their classmates.

In July 2020, Mike Tokarz '79 decided to organize a weekly Zoom happy hour for BC alumni who lived in the same residence hall—"THC" (third Heritage center)—in the late '70s and early '80s. He enlisted the help of Ted Barker '79 in reaching out to alumni. The number of invitees grew every week, ultimately reaching about 20, with weekly participants ranging from eight to 12. Some of the participants hadn't seen each other since graduation decades ago and were excited to catch up with one another. The alumni take turns giving updates and sharing photos of their lives. The group abides by only one ground rule: no politics.

"There are definitely some people I haven't seen since Bridgewater," says Neal Mohlmann '80. "But voices never change. It's just nice to hear their voice."

According to Barker, the group has never missed a week—not even during the holidays.

"Most of these guys have been close friends for more than 40 years," Barker says. "There's something truly special about Bridgewater College to begin with, and how that group of guys came together at that point in time."

Members live all over the country, with one alumnus, Patrick "Whim" Toothe '83, joining the call from his home in the Bahamas.

"You might go years without seeing each other, but when you get back together you talk like it's yesterday," Barker says. "The mark of true friends."

Lauren Kondor Grove '08, Jennifer Midgette '08, Abby Morris '09 and Colleen Schwind '10, all members of the BC women's lacrosse team, have been meeting virtually through the app Houseparty

since the start of the pandemic. The group video conferences every Sunday to catch up and play games like Uno.

"It's something every week to look forward to," Midgette says.

Pre-pandemic, the four would reunite a couple of times a year for events such as Homecoming at BC and send occasional texts. But the COVID-19 lockdown meant increased opportunities to connect. They have talked about everything during their Sunday sessions: the pandemic, work, marriage, children, dating, pets. The consistent communication—the group has never missed a week—has led to stronger relationships.

"We laugh, we reminisce, we talk about our daily life," Schwind says. "It's just good, solid connection. Even though it's through a video chat, I've felt so much closer to these girls for the last year."

The group is planning an in-person girls weekend in June. They booked an AirBnB outside of Williamsburg, Va., and already have one activity planned: to play Uno in person.

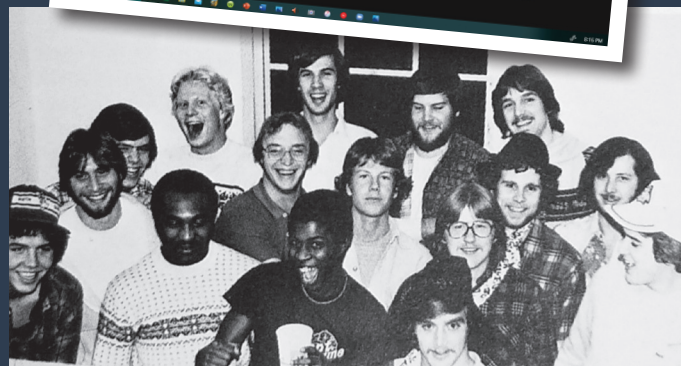
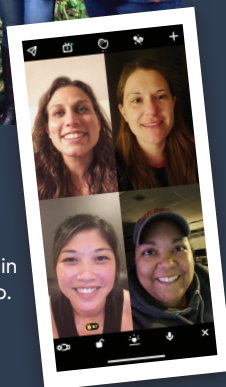
"You might go years without seeing each other, but when you get back together you talk like it's yesterday. The mark of true friends." —TED BARKER '79

Weekly Zoom participants include: Ted Barker '79, Howard Cosier '79, Dave Darden '79, Dennis Deacon '81, Jeff Johnson '79, Larry Kidd '82, Jeff McCartney '77, Neal Mohlmann '80, Mike Owens '81, John Pillsbury '81, Alvin Rankin '78, Tom "Ernie" Singleton '78, Doug Sloan '81, Phil Sweat '79, Mike Tokarz '79, Patrick "Whim" Toothe '83 and Stewart Von Herbulis '79.

Right: Photo of the third floor Heritage Hall center residents from the 1979 Ripples.



Top: Lauren Kondor Grove '08, Colleen Schwind '10, Abby Morris '09 and Jennifer Midgette '08 in a pre-pandemic photo.



CLASSNOTES

WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU! Please email news on births, deaths, marriages, job changes, achievements, etc., to alumnews@bridgewater.edu. Log in to bridgewateralumni.com or mail to Office of Alumni Relations, College Box 40, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA 22812. Include your name, maiden name, class year, spouse's name and class year if applicable, mailing address, phone and email address. Please avoid using abbreviations and limit your submissions to 75 words or fewer.

1956

Dave and Laura Jean Stone Rittenhouse '59 of Dunmore, W.Va., were featured in the Feb. 12, 2020, issue of *The Pocahontas Times*. The couple has been making valentines for each other since they met at Bridgewater College in 1955. They celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary in August 2020.

1959

Laura Jean Stone Rittenhouse (see Dave Rittenhouse '56).

1960

Tom Rhodes of Warsaw, Va., was featured in *The House & Home Magazine* for his wood carvings

in a small woodland known as "The Enchanted Forest." The Enchanted Forest includes nearly 80 storybook and television characters he carved as tableaux into the trees, after a state arborist confirmed they would not be harmed. He also cleared a walking path of twisting trails that extend for nearly a mile for visitors to view the carvings. The Enchanted Forest is located at 211 Wallace St. in Warsaw, Va.

1963

Jim Davis of Farmville, Va., retired on Aug. 1, 2020, as Superintendent of the Piedmont Regional Jail (PRJ). He earned a master's degree from the University of Virginia and has

worked in corrections for more than 35 years.

1964

On Sept. 28, 2019, **Daniel J. Myers** and his daughter, **Teresa Myers Callender** '87, both of Rockingham, Va., were inducted into the 2019 Virginia Livestock Hall of Fame at Virginia Tech. The Virginia State Dairymen's Association nominated Myers and Callender for the honor. They own and operate a well-known Holstein breeding establishment, Walkup Farms, south of Harrisonburg, Va. The two are known for their passion for the dairy industry.

1965

Gilbert & Sullivan Austin has named **Ralph MacPhail Jr.** of Bridgewater, Va., Artistic Director *Emeritus* effective Jan. 1, 2021. MacPhail first directed in Austin, Texas, in 1998, and, upon his retirement from Bridgewater College in 2005, GSA appointed him the company's first artistic director. He has directed many of the company's main stage shows since 1998, and a number of mid-season smaller productions as well. In March 2020,

MacPhail directed *Mr. Jericho* in Austin.

1968

Forrest Caricofe of Smithville, Ohio, was drafted into the U.S. Army while attending BC and served as a sentry dog handler in South Korea before returning to Bridgewater to complete his sociology degree. Today he frequently publishes posts online on a variety of subjects. He also enjoys working on the lawn and flowerbeds at his home.

1968

Lilchy Huffman of Staunton, Va., is the reigning Ms. Virginia Senior America for 2019 and 2020. The Ms. Senior America program honors women who have reached the "Age of Elegance," those who are 60 or older. Due to COVID-19, the 2020 state and national pageants were canceled, and Huffman was asked to continue her reign for the second year.

1969

The Rev. **Robert E. Alley** of Harrisonburg, Va., completed his second genealogy book, *Joseph Alley & Elizabeth Miller*,



1. Dave '56 and Laura Jean Stone Rittenhouse '59 began making Valentine's Day cards for each other after they met as students at Bridgewater College in 1955. They have made Valentine's cards for each other every year since. Credit: Laura Dean Bennett/*The Pocahontas Times*
2. Tom Rhodes '60 has created nearly 80 tree carvings along the Enchanted Forest Trail. Visitors are greeted by such characters as E.T., The Grinch and Harry Potter. Credit: Dianne Saison/*The House & Home Magazine*

Call Out

We are looking for volunteers to serve as Class Reporters for the Class Notes section. Class Reporters will keep in touch with their fellow classmates and collect updates for two issues of the magazine a year.

Email jluck@bridgewater.edu for details.

3. Pre-pandemic in February 2020, a number of Bridgewater College alumni visited Hilton Head, S.C., and met for dinner at the home of Sherri Bittner Krohl '79 in Hilton Head Plantation. Row 1: (L to R) Hope Harmon Hickman '78, Craig "Mole" Waters '78, Sherri Bittner Krohl '79, Anita Hall Waters '78, Greg Harper '78, Cheryl Verjinski Brower '81 and Diane Dulin. Row 2: Mary Helen Ellis Tucker '83, Johnny Milleson '78, Jim Tucker '79, Bette Milleson, Keith Brower '78, Kim Harper and Mike Dulin '77.



4. Members of the Class of 1974 caught up at their 45th class reunion luncheon during Homecoming in fall of 2019. The class has started to plan for its 50-year reunion in 2024. Seated: Betty Wright Wade and Gerri Garber Rigney. Standing: Jeff Heppard, Marion "Bo" Trumbo and Rick Claybrook.



Their Descendants & Ancestors, in the spring of 2019. His first book, *Nickell-Nichol Donaghe Burke Ancestors & Descendants of John McCastle Donaghe Nichol and Nancy Ann Burke*, was completed in the fall of 2015. Several more volumes are at various stages of research and writing.

1971

Robert "Rob" Sharps of Oakland, Md., has been inducted into the 2019 class of the Southern Garrett High School Hall of Fame. While attending Southern, he excelled in football, basketball and baseball. He previously was inducted into the Southern Football Hall of Fame. He was also recognized as "One of the 50 Best" basketball players in the history of the school.

1974

As a retired judge, The Hon. **Rick Claybrook** of Harrisonburg, Va., has assisted courts across northern and western Virginia as needed. In 2019, he completed service as President of the Bridgewater Ruritan Club and as

Zone Governor. He helped organize First Night Harrisonburg, a family-oriented and alcohol-free New Year's Eve event for more than 20 years. The final event was held on Dec. 31, 2019.

1975

Nancy Hopkins-Garriss of Rockingham, Va., retired as Executive Director of Pleasant View Inc. in January 2021. For the last 35 years, she has brought new life to Pleasant View and the individuals who call it home. Individuals can be a part of three experiences that started during her tenure: day support services, residential program services and spiritual support services. Before joining Pleasant View, she worked for Friendship Industries, a non-profit packaging company in Harrisonburg, Va., that employs people with disabilities.

1981

Kathy Asbury Black's seventh and final oath of office for Commissioner of the Revenue of Shenandoah County, Va., was administered by her husband, the Hon. **Kevin C. Black** '81,

Circuit Judge for the 26th Judicial Circuit of Virginia.

1987

Teresa Myers Callender (see Daniel J. Myers '64).

During December 2020 and January 2021, **Jennifer Phillips Carpenter** of Christiansburg, Va., had a solo art exhibition, "It's COLORED PENCIL," in the Sara Braaten Gallery at the Bower Center in Bedford, Va. She is a charter member of the Colored Pencil Society of America and a member of the Floyd Artists Association, the League of Roanoke Artists and an active member/secretary of The Market Gallery in Roanoke, Va.

1989

Dr. Barry Davis of Morrisville, Pa., was selected as a featured speaker for the 2021 American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Virtual Convention. Davis, Head Baseball Coach at Rider University, spoke on "Transforming a Losing Environment into a Consistent Winner." He recently earned a doctorate in

sports leadership from Concordia University in Chicago. He was inducted into Bridgewater College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014.

1990

In October 2020, **Matthew Garber** of Fairfax Station, Va., retired as a Colonel from the U.S. Army after 30 years of active duty service. He served as physical therapy consultant to the Army Surgeon General and Director of Rehabilitation and Human Performance for the Army Medical Department. Currently he is Associate Professor and Assistant Director for Clinical Education in the doctor of physical therapy program at The George Washington University.

Fonda Harlow Morris of Fort Defiance, Va., was inducted into the Fort Defiance High School Athletic Hall of Fame in October 2019. She excelled as an athlete in basketball, volleyball and softball. She taught at Hugh K. Cassell and Wilson elementary schools before becoming Principal at Clymore Elementary School. She has taught for 18

Lawrence W. "Laurie" Miller '74

Dedicated to Helping Others

BY CHARLES CULBERTSON

By their very nature, transitions and new chapters represent all that is fresh and changing in the world. However, for Lawrence W. "Laurie" Miller '74, they are also comfortable old habits. Miller, whose personal and familial associations with Bridgewater College span many decades, has begun more new chapters in his life than an epic novelist, and as this former educational counselor fine-tunes his retirement years, he plans to make his next chapter complement an earlier one.

Miller was born north of Harrisonburg, Va., on the family farm in 1952. When he

was 5, the family moved to Bridgewater, Va., when his father, Lowell A. Miller '40, took a job at the College. His dad served Bridgewater as its treasurer and business manager until his retirement in 1983.

Miller credits a solid rearing in the principles of the Church of the Brethren (CoB) for the initial development of his social conscience. In particular, he acknowledges an "activist" Sunday school teacher at the Bridgewater CoB for piquing his interest in service for humanity. This interest would grow within him as he attended Turner Ashby High School and Bridgewater College, where he majored in history and political science.

From 1975-76, Miller—operating through the auspices of the Brethren Volunteer Service—was a house parent in a Baltimore home for troubled adolescent boys.

"The experiences of those adolescents were very different from the ones I'd had growing up," says Miller. "It was a real eye-opener, and sparked my interest in counseling."

In 1977 he earned his master's in counseling from James Madison University and completed some seminary work at Eastern Mennonite University.

Settling down to a life of new chapters, Miller became a public school counselor and for 16 years counseled at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Before retiring in 2017, he worked in student programming at EMU and Blue Ridge Community College.

Over the years, Miller has "fiddled around" with learning Spanish—something close to his heart as he is interested in issues facing Latin American immigrants. He volunteers with New Bridges in Harrisonburg and three area churches to provide transportation to asylum seekers who must get to Northern Virginia for court appearances.

He is also chair of the board of directors at Our Community Place in Harrisonburg, which provides support to homeless and marginalized people.

"I'm aware that I had a lot of benefits in my life, and I believe that part of living in this world is giving back a bit of what I've been given," he says.

He notes that when his wife, Ellen Burkholder Miller '79, retires this year, they plan to travel to some Latin American countries for an immersion in the Spanish language—a new chapter that will bring Miller back to one of his core interests and renew his passion for giving back to a society that has given so much to him.



years and spent another 12 years in administration.

1992

Dr. Jeffrey Carter has been elected to Manchester University's Board of Directors. He serves as President of Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Ind. He earned a master of divinity from Bethany Theological Seminary and a doctor of ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary.

1993

Jarrett Hatcher of Staunton, Va., has joined the Bridgewater College men's basketball program as an Assistant Coach, whose duties include scouting, working with alumni relations and assisting during practices. He previously was head coach of the varsity boys basketball team at Robert E. Lee High School (now Staunton High School), where he teaches social studies.

Ted Risher has been named a Senior Project Executive for The Scion Group, consultants for higher education student housing projects. He earned an M.S. in real estate development from Johns Hopkins University. He has more than 20 years of experience advising public sector and mission-driven institutions on real estate development projects.

1995

Dr. Brenda Miller Walton has been named Principal of William Monroe Middle School in Greene County, Va. Most recently, she served as Director of Teaching and Learning for the county. Previously, she was a principal and assistant principal with Augusta County Public Schools. She earned a master of education in educational leadership from the University of Virginia and a doctorate in organizational leadership from Shenandoah University.

1996

On Dec. 1, 2020, **Jeremy Camp** of Winchester, Va., became the new Senior Planner and Zoning Administrator for Clarke County. He previously was Planning and



5. Jarrett Hatcher '93 has joined the BC men's basketball program as an Assistant Coach.
6. Lt. Col. Jennifer Rothgeb Martin '97 graduated with a master's in strategic studies from the United States Army War College.
7. "Now the day is over, night is drawing nigh" an acrylic painting by Barbara Brigham Mowery '00, who served as Artist in Residence at Lacawac Sanctuary in Lake Ariel, Pa.
8. Dr. John Almarode '02 received a 2021 Outstanding Faculty Award presented by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and Dominion Resources.
9. Rebekah Sours Castle '04 was named the Director of Economic Development and Marketing for Augusta County, Va.

Zoning Director for Front Royal, Va., for more than eight years. He has a master's in geography and economics from Marshall University.

Detra Funk Tutton of Front Royal, Va., has been promoted to Dean of Instruction at Front Royal Christian School. She has more than 18 years of Pre-K through 12th-grade teaching experience. She earned a master of education in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis on teacher leadership from Regent University.

1997

Casey Childs of Berryville, Va., has been named Head Football Coach at Clarke County High School. He has served as the team's Defensive Coordinator since 2007. He will continue to serve as the school's Director of Athletics, a position he has held since 2008.

Allen Hicks of Stafford, Va., has been named Principal of Stafford High School, effective July 1, 2020. Most recently, he served as Principal at Hampton Oaks Elementary School. He earned a master's degree in educational leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University.

On June 5, 2020, Lt. Col. **Jennifer Rothgeb Martin** of Afton, Va., and a member of the Virginia Army National Guard, graduated with a master's in strategic studies from the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. She is assigned as a Deputy G3 Operations Officer with the Virginia Army National Guard Joint Force Headquarters. While at the Army War College, she completed a research project on The Army National Guard's Retention Management program.

2000

Sebastian Gomez Abero of Arlington, Va., has been named Deputy Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation (OASB). He joined the SEC's Division of Corporation Finance in 2007, where he has held several roles, including staff attorney in

the Office of Health Care and Insurance, special counsel in the Office of Financial Services, chief of the Office of Small Business Policy and deputy chief counsel. Since July 2018, he has served as senior advisor to Chairman Jay Clayton.

Andrew Blount has been named Principal for Greenbriar West Elementary School in Fairfax, Va. For the past seven years, he has served as Assistant Principal at Centreville Elementary School. The Fairfax County Special Education Parent Teacher Association (PTA) recognized him as the 2020 Educator of the Year. He is credited with the development of a Unified Special Olympics sporting event for all seven schools in the Centreville pyramid.

Jennifer Jenkins has been named the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation for the town of Luray, Va. An International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist, Jenkins has worked more than 20 years in the areas of landscaping, tree care, environmental education and program coordination. She graduated from the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute in 2013. Most recently, she was arborist for the city of Winchester, Va., from 2011-20.

In August 2019, **Barbara Brigham Mowery**, a landscape painter working in acrylics, served as Artist in Residence at Lacawac Sanctuary in Lake Ariel, Pa. Several of the pieces made during this residency were exhibited at the Art League of Ocean City, Md., at Bishop's Stock Fine Art, Craft and Wine in Snow Hill, Md., and in a juried show at Annmarie Sculpture Garden and Arts Center in Dowell, Md.

Murray Rodes of Waynesboro, Va., has been named Director of Finance for the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. He previously served as the Finance Manager for St. Anne's-Belfield School. He also worked for the Blue Moon Fund and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. He earned a master's in business administration from Virginia Tech.



Abby Blair Woerner '15 shares how Bridgewater College helped make her dreams a reality
bridgewater.edu/AbbyWoerner

Abby Blair Woerner '15

Living Her Décor Dream

BY OLIVIA SHIFFLETT

Abby Blair Woerner's creative abilities were first sparked when she took pottery classes with Michael Hough, Associate Professor of Art at Bridgewater College. Though Woerner '15 was an English major, she embraced the opportunity to make pottery and develop a new skill that she'd always wanted to learn. All of Hough's pottery students have the opportunity to sell their work at the end of the semester in the semi-annual pottery sale, and, after making more than \$500, Woerner realized it was possible to indulge her creative side and earn money from it in the process. After graduating in 2015, Woerner worked in the College's Admissions Office for a year and a half before devoting herself to her growing business full-time.

Woerner comments about that first pottery sale, "After the sale, I thought, 'OK, I can do something I love and make money doing it.' If that hadn't happened, I would have never had the confidence to go out and sell something I made for a living."

The business—Blair Made—emerged from her desire to do something with her husband, Steven Woerner, a 2016 graduate of BC, and make a little extra money. Her husband wanted to do woodworking, while she wanted to be the designer for whatever they made together. They launched a business out of their home making wooden signs that they sold on Etsy. In the first month they sold 40

signs, and business has snowballed from there.

When they ran out of room in their Staunton, Va., home, they rented a studio workspace and hired their first employee. As sales continued to increase—and as they grew tired of carrying materials up to the third floor—Woerner noticed an empty storefront on Beverley Street in Staunton, a prime downtown location. Though she never would have expected it when they first started the business, they opened a storefront location in November 2020.

The inside of the Blair Made store is filled with modern farmhouse-style signs featuring quotes and spring-inspired floral themes. They continue to make customized orders as well.

"We want the art we put into people's homes to be meaningful, something that's going to last," she says.

In addition to signs, the storefront now offers candles, T-shirts, jewelry and decorative pillows, while the back and upper level serve as the workspace and shipping headquarters.

Woerner finds joy in the freedom and flexibility of owning her own business: "Making my own schedule, bringing my dog to work with me [Hiro, a border collie mix, is the store mascot and greeter], designing the store, coming up with our next things."

"I'd love to have a five-year plan, but the last five years have taught me that I couldn't begin to plan the next five!" she says. "All we can do is keep doing the next right thing, and things will fall into place."

Megan Orndorff Huffman '03

Making Community Connections

BY KYLIE LEHMAN MOHLER '03

Megan Orndorff Huffman '03 has passion for nonprofit collaboration work "in her DNA." Huffman, whose mother started a nonprofit when she was young, has always been involved in service organizations and connected to her community. Huffman majored in communication studies and minored in psychology at Bridgewater College and earned a master's in nonprofit public relations from Boston University. She credits her time at Bridgewater for fueling her love of guiding and helping others. The small school size and approachability of professors enabled her to build confidence in her skills.

"My Bridgewater degree was truly in leadership," says Huffman, who is the permanent class president for the class of 2003 and a member of the College's President's Advisory Council.

Huffman and her husband, Dr. Matt Huffman '02, strive to balance time for family with work and social causes as they raise their two young girls in Lynchburg, Va. She values supporting entrepreneurial grassroots organizations and elevating the voices of those without big advertising dollars. Her nonprofit leadership positions and extensive volunteer board positions, such as serving as Vice President of the PTO at her children's school, are a testament to her devotion to community.

"I can't stop my inclination to give back, as I am most drawn to the intersection between nonprofits and businesses," Huffman says.

When COVID-19 hit her city, Huffman knew it was time to build up the vital nonprofit sector that was hurt by the economic recession. Citing data that volunteerism as well as donations to nonprofits are on the rise, she went to the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation with her vision to bring together nonprofits, businesses and volunteers to enrich the community.



As part of her focus on giving back, Megan Orndorff Huffman '03 has helped build little free food pantries in her city of Lynchburg, Va.

ALISON CREASY PHOTOGRAPHY

The community foundation had a similar aspiration and contracted with the SHARE Good platform based in Omaha, Neb., to bring an easy-to-use website to the region. SHARE Greater Lynchburg was born, and Huffman's work as its executive director allows her "to touch all the organizations dear to my heart." The SHARE Greater Lynchburg platform allows community members and businesses to connect with 109 nonprofits, as well as search for more than 100 volunteer opportunities and even purchase items from nonprofits' wish lists. Huffman's vision includes more collaboration between same-sector groups, and eventually offering nonprofit networking events.

Huffman, whose "favorite space is connecting," is thrilled that her latest undertaking touches the lives of many and supports community revitalization during such a critical time.

"My faith foundation, my upbringing and major influences like Bridgewater College have taught me that I'm most fulfilled when I put down deep roots, bloom where I'm planted and serve my community well," she says.

2001

Brandy Pierce Lowery of Staunton, Va., has been named the lead pharmacist at the University of Virginia Pantops Pharmacy. She previously worked at the Harrisonburg Rockingham Free Clinic. She earned her doctor of pharmacy from Shenandoah University's School of Pharmacy.

2002

Dr. John Almarode, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning at James Madison University, received a 2021 Outstanding Faculty Award presented by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and

Dominion Resources. The award recognizes superior accomplishments in teaching, research and public service at Virginia's institutions of higher learning. He has presented his work to the U.S. Congress, U.S. Department of Education and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He has authored more than a dozen books on effective teaching and learning in today's schools and classrooms.

2003

Kimberly Garber Dove of Broadway, Va., and a social studies teacher at Wilbur S. Pence Middle School, was named the 2019-20 Rockingham County Teacher of the Year. She

taught in Augusta County Public Schools for 11 years, before joining Rockingham County Public Schools. She loves the opportunity to introduce students to the democratic process and voting through civics classes.

In July 2020, **Megan Orndorff Huffman** was hired as part-time Executive Director of SHARE Greater Lynchburg, which promotes innovation by increasing the exposure of all local nonprofits and their needs. SHARE was created to help the local community find solutions for weathering the economic and health impacts of COVID-19. Huffman earned a master of science in nonprofit public relations from Boston

University. She brings 15 years of experience in nonprofit fundraising, marketing and public relations to the position.

2004

Augusta County has named **Rebekah Sours Castle** of Mount Sidney, Va., as the new Director of Economic Development and Marketing. She previously served as the department's marketing coordinator for more than six years. She managed the development of AugustaVAbusiness.com, which won an International Economic Development Council Gold Award in 2017. She also spearheaded the creation of the county's tourism site and has grown the tourism program to



10. Jessica Carneal '11 and Rishan A.N. Chaudhry were married July 25, 2020.
11. Nicole Sydnor Cumberland '10 has been named Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for Pulaski County.
12. Brea Hinegardner '14 is the Digital Content Manager for the Minnesota Twins baseball team.

include social media and printed materials.

Christopher J. "CJ" Harris Jr. earned a master of professional studies in publishing from The George Washington University's College of Professional Studies. He was also inducted into the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Lila Orrock Hiltz of Richmond, Va., has been named the 2020 Elementary School Counselor of the Year by Henrico County Public Schools. She is the counselor for Donahoe Elementary School.

2005

Joshua Carico has been named Head Football Coach at Harrisonburg High School. He has served as an assistant coach for the past eight years. He served as Interim Head Coach during HHS's first-round playoff loss to William Fleming High School at the end of the 2019 season.

2006

Dr. Todd Brennan and his wife, Leslie, have a second daughter, Nola Ann, born June 5, 2020. Brennan, a podiatrist in Florida, has coauthored a children's book, *The Footprint Hunt*, with his wife. The book is available on Amazon.com and teaches children how to identify animal footprints common in Florida. The family, which includes another daughter, Declyn Rose, born July 11, 2018, lives in Tampa, Fla.

Joanna Bowman Shipp of Boones Mill, Va., was appointed

to the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board for a three-year term beginning Nov. 1, 2019. The board was established by the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 to develop and administer a coordinated program of advertising and promotion to increase the demand for dairy products and ingredients.

2007

Brad Hewitt has been promoted to Chief Credit Officer for Farm Credit of the Virginias, and will continue serving out of the Harrisonburg, Va., branch office. He joined FCV in 2008 as a loan officer and served as a credit analyst and a credit manager before being promoted.

2008

In October 2020, **Kathryn Austin Stauffer** of Grottoes, Va., joined the staff at Veterinary Emergency Services in Verona, Va., as an Associate Veterinarian.

Emily Weir Goss and Scott welcomed a son, John Wesley, born Aug. 20, 2019. The family lives in Charlottesville, Va.

Danielle M. Ritchie, a Senior Deputy in the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Circuit Court and Clerk's Office, has been recognized as a Master Deputy Court Clerk from the Virginia Court Clerk's Association (VCCA). Ritchie, who joined the clerk's office in 2013, completed leadership and management courses through the VCCA, the Department of Judicial Services

and the National Association of State Courts.

Daniel Rudy and Tabitha welcomed their first child, Evelyn Susan, born Sept. 29, 2019. The family lives in Roanoke, Va.

Chelsea Spade and Liza Koonin adopted Destiny Koonin-Spade in July 2020. Destiny was born on Jan. 22, 2019, and entered their care in August 2019. The family lives in Harrisonburg, Va.

2010

Nicole Sydnor Cumberland of Radford, Va., has been named Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for Pulaski County. Previously, she was an associate attorney for Davis, Davis and Davis Attorneys. She earned her juris doctorate from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law and was admitted to the Virginia Bar in 2015. She is a member of Women in Law and served as a teaching fellow under Judge Abraham J. Caruthers.

Larry Helmick of Madison, Va., is the new Head Football Coach at Madison County High School, where he graduated in 2006. Before becoming head football coach, he coached the offensive line and was the head coach of the junior varsity football team.

Vincent and Chasidy McGlothlin Reese have a son, August Vincent, born Aug. 2, 2019. Vincent is an Account Director with Tax Law Solutions, a strategic tax planning, consulting and management firm. The family lives in Greenville, S.C.

2011

Jessica Carneal and Rishan A.N. Chaudhry were married July 25, 2020. The couple lives in Oakton, Va.

Amanda Everhart Simmons and **James "Jimmie" Simmons** '12 have a son, James, born Oct. 15, 2019. The family, which also includes a daughter, Josephine "Josie," lives in Chester, Va.

2012

Hillary Greene Davis and Steven, have their first child, a daughter, Flora Beau, born May 25, 2020. Hillary is the Director of Creative Strategy at Mary Baldwin University. The family lives in Frederick, Md.

John Phillips is the Assistant Men's Golf Coach at the University of Virginia, one of the premiere programs in the Athletic Coast Conference (ACC), for Head Coach Bowen Sargent. While pursuing a master's degree at Virginia Commonwealth University, Phillips worked as a graduate assistant for Head Coach Matt Ball.

James "Jimmie" Simmons (see Amanda Everhart Simmons '11).

2013

Dilan and **Victoria Wilson Najjar** '14 have a daughter, Artemis Gayle, born Jan. 10, 2020. The family lives in Waynesboro, Va.

Kimberly Underwood Ottman and Trevor, have a son, Andrew Thomas, born June 25, 2019. The family lives in Timberville, Va.

Carrying on the Family Legacy

BY KAREN DOSS BOWMAN '91

When David Smith, a farmer from Midland, Va., started selling concrete cattleguards in 1960, he made his products in an outbuilding on his property, known as Smithland Farm. More than a half-century later, his oldest grandson, Ashley Smith '85, presides over Smith-Midland Corporation (SMC)—now a multimillion-dollar, publicly traded manufacturer of precast concrete products.

"My granddad once told me, 'If I had known the company was going to get this big, I might have been too scared to start it,'" says Ashley, Smith-Midland President and Chief Operating Officer and a member of the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees. "I'm proud and blessed to have been able to build on the foundation he and my father started and to carry on their legacy."

Smith-Midland has designed award-winning precast concrete products, such as architectural panels, for some of the most visible structures on the East Coast, including the Hahn Hurst Basketball Practice Center at Virginia Tech and the Westin Virginia Beach Town Center, which is the tallest building in Virginia at more than 500 feet.

SoftSound, the company's absorptive sound wall product, runs for miles along major highways, shielding nearby neighborhoods from noise. The company has provided security barriers for numerous high-profile national events such as government and athletic events. And one of Smith-Midland's newest products, beach prisms, helps reduce or prevent beach erosion. It received a judges' award in the National Precast Concrete Association's Creative Use of Precast program.

Ashley's father, Rodney Smith, a life trustee of the BC Board of Trustees, joined the business in its first year. The company, which now employs around 230 people, has three precast concrete plants in addition to Smith-Midland: Smith-Carolina in North Carolina and Smith-Columbia in South Carolina.

Ashley, who began working for the business as a teenager, has done virtually every job at the company, including operating forklifts, transporting heavy equipment and casting products. His three brothers—Roderick, who also attended Bridgewater College, Matthew, class of 1989, and Jeremy—also hold leadership positions in the company. Matthew is President of Concrete Safety Systems and Vice President of Sales and Marketing and Roderick is General Manager at Smith-Midland Corporation.



At Bridgewater, Ashley, a business administration major, was involved in intramural sports, and he enjoyed hiking and camping with friends at places like Hone Quarry and Todd Lake.

"I have good memories of times in the classroom and outside the classroom—just wonderful friendships and discussions late at night about life and anything else," says Ashley, whose son, Alex '23, is now a student at the College. "I appreciate that Bridgewater is a small school where students get to know the professors and develop a personal relationship with them. Bridgewater is a special place."

Ashley is passionate about serving others and giving back—values he learned from his parents, grandparents and fellow members of Midland Church of the Brethren. Smith-Midland invests more than \$100,000 each year in training and development opportunities for employees and supports their spiritual wellness through Marketplace Chaplains, an employee care service. The company's Smithland Cares team supports employees through unexpected challenges. A leader in his church and community, Ashley belongs to C12, a peer mentoring network of Christian executives.

"We were always taught to give of our time and treasures," says Ashley, who lives in Midland with his wife, Ann. "When I think about places to support—places that could have an impact on future generations—Bridgewater's an obvious choice. I am very honored to be on the board and grateful for the opportunity to give back."

2014

Brea Hinegardner of St. Louis Park, Minn., is Digital Content Manager for the Minnesota Twins baseball team. She handles all the club's social media platforms—Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. If there is a tweet from @Twins, chances are Hinegardner wrote it. She also collaborates with the public relations team, sending press releases when the franchise signs a free agent, calls a prospect up from the minor leagues or makes a trade.

Darrin McKenzie has been named Head Football Coach at Nelson County (Va.) High School. Since 2006, he has been in charge of the running backs and outside linebackers as an assistant coach at the school.

Christopher Michael of Elkton, Va., is the art teacher at East Rockingham High School. He has been named Teacher of the Year at two Shenandoah Valley schools and is involved in the art community. His wife, **Rachel Donaldson Michael '16**, is an Operations Specialist for Merck. Most recently, she was operations manager for Walmart's supply chain.

In February 2020, **Kelsey Murray** became Marketing Events Specialist for Willow Valley Communities in Lancaster, Pa., a senior community of 2,400 residents.

Victoria Wilson Najjar (see Dilan Najjar '13).

2015

Holly Daniels and **Andrew Garrison '16**, have a son, Miller Preston Scott Garrison, born Nov. 14, 2020. The family lives in Prince Frederick, Md.

2016

Ashley Linville Balch and Matthew have a daughter, Nimue Hope, born Nov. 26, 2019. The family, which also includes another daughter, Freya Louise, lives in Fredericksburg, Va.

Andrew Garrison (see Holly Daniels '15).

Kevin Gidari has been named the varsity boys Head Soccer Coach at Broadway (Va.)

High School. Most recently, he coached the Spotswood High School junior varsity boys soccer team.

Joshua Gooden was re-elected for a second term as Mayor of Elkton, Va., on Nov. 3, 2020. "I am looking forward to continuing to serve my hometown, its businesses and residents," Gooden says.

Rosalyn Lake-Montero was named The SEED Foundation's 2020 Teacher of the Year. She teaches Spanish at SEED Public Charter School of Washington, D.C.

Rachel Donaldson Michael (see Christopher Michael '14).

Gabriel Segal is a teacher at Sleepy Hollow Elementary School, a Title I school in Falls Church, Va. His 2020 summer vacation plans were canceled due to COVID-19, and he used the money he had set aside for his vacation to pay off the students' lunch debt, which amounted to more than \$600. He also donated \$250 to the school Parent Teacher Association (PTA). He received many emails from parents who were grateful for his assistance.

2017

Zach Staton, who has established himself as a go-to media member on the topic of the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), is a weekend television sports anchor in Fargo, N.D., home of the North Dakota State Bison. As a student at Bridgewater College, he worked in the broadcast room at the radio station that carried James Madison University's football games. James Madison and North Dakota State met for the 2019 FCS Division I Championship in Frisco, Texas, with the Bison becoming National Champions.

2018

Quentin Boric has been hired as a Graduate Assistant Coach for women's soccer at the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Ky. While pursuing a master's in health and human performance, he will work with the goalkeepers, the position

he played at Bridgewater. He will also coach the junior varsity program.

Zellie Wothers of Sykesville, Md., has been named Associate Client Relationship Manager at Maller Wealth Advisors, a full-service financial planning and investment management company. Most recently, she was a Specialized Asset Services Analyst for Wells Fargo.

2019

Corey Huffman has joined Farm Credit of the Virginias as a loan officer, working out of the Harrisonburg, Va., branch.

2020

Calista Ariel has joined the ASICS Greenville (S.C.) Elite Track Club's post-collegiate Olympic development program. The club provides recent college graduates with the opportunity to train for elite events, including the U.S. Olympic Trials. Ariel was a two-time All-American in track and field, and had qualified for the 2020 NCAA Division III Indoor National Championships in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, when the COVID-19 global pandemic ended the season in March 2020.

Jennifer Clune MSAT '20 has joined the staff of Ferrum College as Assistant Athletic Trainer. Most recently, she completed a clinical immersion with the women's basketball and baseball programs at Mary Baldwin University. She also did a clinical rotation during the 2018-19 academic year at Bridgewater College and had a shadowing experience at Washington (Md.) College.

Olivia Heeb-Wade completed a swim at Lake Moomaw as a fundraiser for the Covington (Va.) Rescue Squad. She swam a total of 15.2 miles in six hours and 46 minutes. She has completed other swims in the community, and the rescue squad has provided standby in case of a medical emergency. The fundraiser was Heeb-Wade's way of showing her appreciation for the Covington Rescue Squad.



13. John Phillips '12 is the Assistant Men's Golf Coach at the University of Virginia.
14. Joshua Gooden '16 was re-elected for a second term as Mayor of Elkton, Va.
15. Olivia Heeb-Wade '20 completed a swim at Lake Moomaw as a fundraiser for the Covington (Va.) Rescue Squad.

MEMORIALS

Grace Rebecca Glick Fleishman '36 of Bridgewater, Va., died Oct. 17, 2020.

Anna Elizabeth Garber Crist '39 of Bridgewater, Va., died April 1, 2020.

Patricia Menefee Mavity '39 of Easton, Md., died Dec. 26, 2019.

Chester Lehman Wenger '39 of Lititz, Pa., died Oct. 1, 2020.

Helen Kinzie Crumpacker '40 of Roanoke, Va., died May 12, 2020.

Hazel Clark Turner '41 of Gilbertville, Mass., died Oct. 11, 2020.

The Rev. Mark Winston Andes '42 of Burlington, N.C. died Nov. 11, 2019.

Dr. Samuel Henry Flora Jr. '44 of Bridgewater, Va., died Nov. 18, 2019.

Mary Virginia Garber Geiser Jennings '44 of Bridgewater, Va., died April 11, 2020.

Miriam Rohrer Odom Smith '44 of Brevard, N.C., died Aug. 2, 2020.

Doris Marie Miller Good '45 of Bridgewater, Va., died Aug. 16, 2020.

Dr. Donald Stover Myers '45 of Roanoke, Va., died Sept. 22, 2020.

Mary Ellen Phibbs '45 of Glendale, Calif., died Feb. 25, 2020.

Margaret Schmidt Garner '46 of Bridgewater, Va., died Jan. 5, 2020.

Garland O. Bowman Sr. '47 of Roanoke, Va., died Aug. 18, 2020.

Jean Lea Fifer '47 of Harrisonburg, Va., died April 24, 2020.

Cecil Filmore "Filly" Gilkerson '47 of Harrisonburg, Va., died Jan. 8, 2020.

John William Clayton '49 of Bridgewater, Va., died Feb. 7, 2020.

Edgar Allen Flora '49 of Bridgewater, Va., died June 27, 2020.

Dawn Kathryn Glick '49 of Dayton, Va., died July 2, 2020.

David Charles Simmons '49 of Virginia Beach, Va., died Aug. 14, 2020.

Rosemary Naff Stevens '49 of Hayesville, N.C., died Feb. 4, 2020.

June Sadd Kline '50 of Catlett, Va., died Sept. 10, 2020.

Barbara Judy Taylor '50 of Annapolis, Md., died Dec. 11, 2019.

Charlotte Louise Shiflet Davidson Young '50 of Harrisonburg, Va., died Sept. 18, 2015.

Eunice E. Argenbright Arey '51 of Bridgewater, Va., died Aug. 17, 2020.

Edna Diehl Britton '51 of Nokesville, Va., died Dec. 22, 2019.

Helen Garber Fleishman '51 of Charlottesville, Va., and formerly of Harrisonburg, Va., died Jan. 5, 2020.

C.T. "Trip" Hardesty III '51 of Berryville, Va., died Dec. 8, 2020.

Alfred "Fred" Felix Landis Jr. '51 of Roanoke, Va., died April 11, 2020.

Bryon Reubush Morris '51 of Staunton, Va., and formerly of Bridgewater, Va., died Sept. 4, 2020.

Carl Ivan "Shu" Shumate '51 of Bristol, Va., died Oct. 9, 2017.

Ruth Celesta Glick Welliver '51 of Lewisburg, Pa., died Dec. 20, 2019.

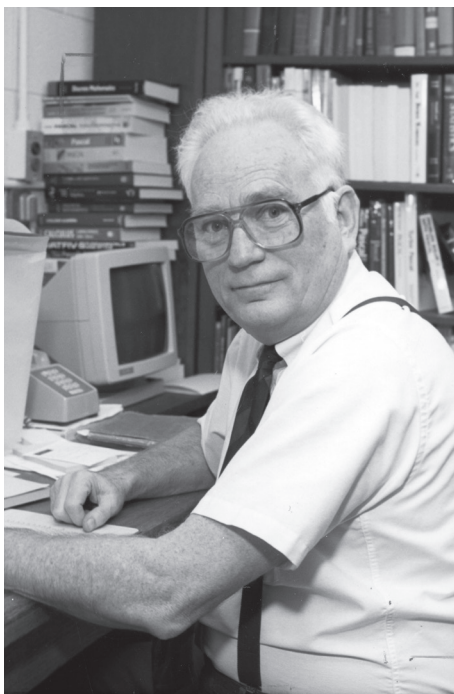
Edward Alan Byrd '52 of Bridgewater, Va., died Oct. 13, 2020.

Robert "Bob" Linwood Fariss '52 of Roanoke, Va., died Jan. 12, 2020.

Cmdr. Richard Bond Wampler '52 of Harrisonburg, Va., died Dec. 24, 2020.

Henry Baker Carey '53 of Staunton, Va., died Oct. 29, 2020.

Olin David "Buddy" Hedrick '53 of Cave, W.Va., died Oct. 3, 2019.



BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Professor Emeritus

Dr. Dean Royce Neher of Bridgewater, Va., who taught physics, mathematics and computer science at Bridgewater College for 33 years, died on Feb. 12, 2020. He was 91 years old.

He was born Feb. 10, 1929, to the late Roy and Wava Neher.

Neher graduated from McPherson College and earned a Ph.D. in physics from the University of Kansas.

While at Bridgewater College, he developed the coursework for the physics major and was the advisor for the Physics Club; Alpha Chi, a national scholastic honor society; and the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet (IYC). Through IYC, he and BC students served the youth of the Church of the Brethren by planning district retreats and Roundtable, a yearly conference held at Bridgewater College.

Neher had a lifelong passion for advancing the ideals of peace and justice. He served in Brethren Volunteer Service, with his unit being the first to assist with reconstruction in Europe following World War II. He served on the Board of Directors for On Earth Peace and was chair for several years. He was a member of Scientists Against Nuclear Arms.

Locally, he was a member of the Rockingham Council on Human Relations, an organization dedicated to desegregation during the era of the civil rights movement.

He was an active member of the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, serving in a variety of leadership positions and on various commissions and boards at both the local and district levels. For more than 20 years, he served on the Refugee Resettlement Committee, helping to resettle 28 refugee families.

He is survived by his children: Christa Wine '79 of Mount Sidney, Va., Peggy Jenkins '88 of Grottoes, Va., Dan Neher '81 of Harrisonburg, Va., and Brad Neher '84 of Bridgewater, and four grandchildren.

William "Bill" Ross Riffle '53 of Thurmont, Md., died Oct. 23, 2019.

Josephine Spangler Wampler '53 of Bridgewater, Va., died May 1, 2020.

Joann Isenberg Boyd '54 of Johnson City, Tenn., died Jan. 2, 2021.

The Rev. Dr. Lee B. Sheaffer '54 of Mechanicsville, Va., died Nov. 5, 2020.

Alfred William Cheatwood Jr. '55 of Roanoke, Va., died Jan. 28, 2020.

Douglas B. DeLawder '55 of Frederick, Md., died May 23, 2020.

Julia Mae Housman Gusler '55 of Danville, Va., died Oct. 2, 2019.

Henry Naranji Solanky '55 of Bulsar Gujarat, India, died Nov. 5, 2020.

John R. Wagner '55 of Chapel Hill, N.C., died March 9, 2020.

Rita Jean Manuel Barnes '56 of Glen Burnie, Md., died Nov. 30, 2019.

The Rev. L. Clyde Carter Jr. '56 of Daleville, Va., died Feb. 28, 2020.

Edna Foley Phillips '57 of Roanoke, Va., died Aug. 14, 2018.

Shirley Fulcher Wampler '57 of Richmond, Va., died Sept. 15, 2019.

Mae Coline Davis Gibson '58 of Auburndale, Fla., died Oct. 17, 2020.

Sheldon Odell Melton '58 of Staunton, Va., died Feb. 27, 2020.

Robert Howell King '59 of Front Royal, Va., died Sept. 6, 2020.

Mary Scruggs Carruth '60 of Tryon, N.C., died Aug. 13, 2020.

John E. Glick Jr. '60 of Estero, Fla., and Roanoke, Va., died Dec. 8, 2019.

Edward Norton "Ted" Hallock '60 of Frederick, Md., died June 13, 2020.

Arthur Jackson Ridder '60 of Mount Crawford, Va., died Nov. 27, 2019.

Joyce Ellen Fitzwater Brangan Smith '60 of Bridgewater, Va., died Nov. 17, 2020.

Ruth Davis Clark '61 of Roanoke, Va., died Feb. 14, 2020.

Homer "Buddy" Dulaney '61 of Afton, Va., died March 15, 2020.

Kenneth W. Huffman '61 of Harrisonburg, Va., died Nov. 1, 2020.

Swall Tyler '61 of Middleburg, Va., died March 9, 2020.

Janet Marie Estep Whetzel '61 of Dayton, Va., died Oct. 1, 2020.

Dr. Allen Edward "Ed" Burgess '62 of Richmond, Va., died Feb. 28, 2020.

Life Trustee

The Rev. L. Clyde Carter Jr. of Daleville, Va., a 1956 graduate of Bridgewater College and a Life Trustee of Bridgewater College, died on Feb. 28, 2020. He was 84 years old.

Carter was born on April 4, 1935, in Bassett, Va., to the late Leonard Clyde Carter Sr. and Gladys Stone Carter.

Carter is survived by his wife of 60 years, Karen Stone Carter. He is also survived by a daughter, Claudia Carter Egge '83, two sons, Kermon Carter and Leonard C. Carter III, and five grandchildren.

Carter graduated in 1961 from Bethany Theological Seminary in Chicago. He was licensed to the ministry at the Bassett Church of the Brethren in 1961. He was ordained to the ministry in May 1962 by the Midland Church of the Brethren in the Eastern District of Virginia (now the Mid-Atlantic District).

During 50 years of ministry, Carter served as pastor of Midland Church of the Brethren from 1961-72, the Daleville Church of the Brethren from 1972-79 and the Mount Bethel Church of the Brethren from 1979-95. He served as conference moderator for the Eastern District of Virginia in 1966 and for the Virlina District in 1993. He served on the Virlina District Board, in several local ministerial associations, as state president of the Weekday Religious Education program and on the Community Action Board of Directors. For many years he served as the pastor to pastors of the Virlina District.

Carter joined the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees in 1998 and was elected a Life Trustee in 2007. He served on the College's Public Relations and Church Relations committees.

Carter's ministry has been marked by an emphasis on peacemaking and counseling. He served as a conscientious objector with Brethren Volunteer Service in Germany from 1956-58, working in refugee camps in northern Germany and Berlin. He served as a volunteer mediator, certified state court system mediator, magistrate, family counselor and refugee advocate. He also operated a counseling service from his home for many years.

Life Trustee

J. Manley Garber of Woodbridge, Va., a Life Trustee of Bridgewater College, died on Sept. 13, 2020. He was 95 years old.

Garber was born on Jan. 26, 1925, in Sangerville, Va., to the late Daniel (D.W.) and Blanche R. Garber.

Garber served for 68 years as a member of the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors; he was the longest-serving board member of an electric cooperative in the United States. After retiring, he was named board member *emeritus*.

Garber joined the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees in 1970 and was elected a Life Trustee in 1996. He served on the College's Committee on Development and Public Relations and was Chair of the Committee on Board Affairs.

He was a founding member of Woodbridge Church of the Brethren and a founding member and Director of Prince William Hospital. He served as a board member of First Manassas Bank and Commonwealth Savings and Loan.

He received many accolades and awards and, in 2018, was presented the Prince William Chamber of Commerce's Charles J. Colgan Visionary Award.

Garber is survived by his wife of 22 years, Kay Kim Garber. He is also survived by his children, Neil Garber of Weyers Cave, Va., Gerri Garber Rigney of Bridgewater, Va., Danny Garber of Woodbridge, Va., and John Garber of Waynesboro, Va.; 11 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and three stepsons, Young Kim of South Korea, Richard Kim of Raleigh, N.C. and Jay Kim of St. Louis. He was preceded in death by his first wife, the former Jeannette Minnick.

Life Trustee

Jerry F. Morris of Harrisonburg, Va., and a Life Trustee of Bridgewater College, died on Feb. 25, 2020. He was 80 years old.

Morris was born to the late Guy and Lena Morris in Fort Worth, Texas, on Nov. 5, 1939. He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Becky, a daughter, Tracy Gunn, and husband, Alec, of Waynesboro, Va., a son, Ricky Morris, of Roanoke, Va., three grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Morris was an alumnus of Texas Christian University with a major in television broadcasting. He served six years in the Air National Guard.

In 1970, Morris left his sales position at Packaging Corporation of America to join his partners in starting Packaging Services Inc., a corrugated box manufacturing plant in Weyers Cave, Va. Morris and his partners expanded their packaging companies throughout the mid-Atlantic. In 2000, Morris co-founded InterChange Group, a warehousing, logistics and real estate development company in Harrisonburg, Va.

Morris joined the Bridgewater College Board of Trustees in 1996 and gained Life Trustee status in 2010. He served on the College's Executive Committee and the Investment Committee, among others.

Morris was active in community and trade associations serving on the boards of Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Fiber Box Association and Freedom Alliance. He also was a long-term Rotarian and active member of Asbury United Methodist Church.

John Marvin Spencer '62 of Williamsburg, Va., died Nov. 3, 2019.

Mary Grace Adams '63 of Bridgewater, Va., died Dec. 18, 2019.

Jerry Franklin Lambert '63 of Woodstock, Va., died Oct. 14, 2020.

Dr. Charles Curtis Rhudy '63 of Jonesborough, Tenn., died June 6, 2020.

Ron Squire Steffey '63 of Williamsburg, Va., died April 1, 2020.

Peter Van Deman '63 of Marshall, Va., died Jan. 7, 2020.

Harry Richard Morrison '64 of Bentonville, Va., died Nov. 16, 2019.

Sharon Fladeland Clark '65 of Naples, Fla., formerly of Leesburg, Va., died July 31, 2020.

Mary Louise "Marylou" Hobbs '65 of Alexandria, Va., died Oct. 30, 2020.

Brenda Joyce Campbell Houff '65 of Fishersville, Va., died July 3, 2020.

Dr. Robert H. Patterson '65 of Haymarket, Va., died Sept. 17, 2020.

Wilbur Hart Rittenhouse '65 of Bridgewater, Va., died Dec. 25, 2020.

Rebecca Alma Weeks '65 of Floyd, Va., died June 13, 2020.

Joseph Elwood Beahm '67 of Broadway, Va., died June 10, 2020.

Charles "Bud" Bert Somers III '67 of Bridgewater, Va., died May 13, 2020.

Wayne A. Winters '67 of Greencastle, Pa., died Dec. 23, 2020.

James "Jim" Wilson Armstrong '68 of Raphine, Va., died April 14, 2020.

Robert "Bob" Walter Calloway II '68 of Fredericksburg, Va., died Dec. 4, 2019.

David Byers Clapper '68 of Meyersdale, Pa., died Oct. 24, 2020.

The Rev. Dr. Gordon Ernest Deyerle II '69 of Roanoke, Va., died May 9, 2020.

Peyton B. Florence '69 of Jacksonville, Fla., died Nov. 17, 2019.

Glendon Gary Bell '70 of Hainesport, N.J., died April 2, 2020.

Sandra Lee Ritter Bowen '70 of Stephens City, Va., died Nov. 23, 2020.

D'Earcy Paul Davis III '70 of Harrisonburg, Va., died July 21, 2020.

Lowell Herring Good '70 of Midlothian, Va., died Aug. 2, 2020.

Karen Fay Adams Wyrick '70 of Rockingham, Va., died Aug. 8, 2020.

Thomas Wayne Dovel '71 of Charlottesville, Va., died Oct. 25, 2020.

Melissa Keen McDonald Houser '71 of Fort Worth, Texas, died Dec. 8, 2020.

Jack Lee Whitley Jr. '71 of Bridgewater, Va., died Aug. 6, 2020.

Susan Horst Neal '72 of Saluda, Va., died April 12, 2020.

Glenn Allen Huffman '75 of Bridgewater, Va., died Aug. 2, 2020.

The Rev. Dr. Barry Dean Sink '77 of Rocky Mount, Va., died Nov. 14, 2020.

Keith Culley '80 of North Chesterfield, Va., died March 3, 2020.

Kevin Lee Coffman '82 of Broadway, Va., died Dec. 11, 2019.

Mary Beth Craig Lambert '82 of Franklin, W.Va., died Feb. 25, 2020.

Cheri Lee Layman Dixon '83 of Rockingham, Va., died Jan. 30, 2020.

Michael John McDonough '87 of Wraysbury, Staines, England, died on May 7, 2020.

Mark Frederick Atwood '89 of Richmond, Va., died May 29, 2020.

James Kevin Shaffer '89 of Oakland, Md., died Jan. 3, 2021.

Jeanette Susan Mitchell Winegard '89 of Port Republic, Va., died Sept. 8, 2020.

Frank Robert Jenkins II '91 of Duluth, Ga., died April 13, 2014.

Michael Scott Whittle '92 of Woodstock, Va., died Nov. 7, 2019.

Mark Galen Deavers '93 of Broadway, Va., died April 9, 2020.

Todd Brian Faber '98 of Chester, Va., died Nov. 30, 2019.

Brandon Charles Fletcher '24 of Bel Air, Md., died Sept. 19, 2020.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN PROGRAM HISTORY, the Bridgewater College women's soccer team won the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) championship. The championship game against Washington and Lee University on April 11 went scoreless for the first 90 minutes of regulation and 20 minutes of overtime. The Eagles went a perfect four-for-four on penalty kicks to clinch their victory over the Generals for a final score of 4-2.



Go to bridgewater.edu/WomensSoccer to watch a season recap video





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Bridgewater College welcomes you back to celebrate Homecoming in person this fall. Mark your calendars now!

HOMECOMING

October 15-17, 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION: bridgewater.edu/homecoming

