

Summer 2012

# The Ouachita Circle Summer 2012

Ouachita Baptist University

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*The* Ouachita  
**Circle**  
SUMMER 2012

*TRANSITIONS*

**Celebrating faithful service**

**Life & Evans get new look**

# Transitions produce life lessons

Ah, transitions! It has been suggested that most people are open to change as long as it doesn't involve doing things in a different way.

The reality is that many transitions of life include challenges, stress, upheaval and sometimes even grief. But transitions also can produce anticipation, joy, growth and fulfillment – even in the midst of challenges, stress, etc.

Here at Ouachita, transition is a way of life. And that's a good thing. It starts with our students transitioning from high school to college, from freshmen to upperclassmen and from undergraduates to alumni. In the span of four years or so, Ouachita students gain knowledge, wisdom, insight and independence as they transition into lifelong service and ministry. Friendships, marriage, careers, families and travel are among the many life transitions embraced by countless Ouachita students and graduates. Ah, transitions!

Transition also is a part of daily life for faculty and staff members. We bid farewell to retiring colleagues who have faithfully served Ouachita as we also welcome new faculty and staff who join us on the Ouachita journey. New and renovated campus facilities; remodeled and relocated office space; new majors, strategic plans and initiatives are among transitions that help keep the Ouachita experience fresh and focused.

This edition of *The Ouachita Circle* is dedicated to the issue of transitions. In the theme interpretation article on page 2, Lauren Land, director of career services, reflects, "By being mindful of the lessons of the past, each transition we experience is an opportunity to learn and to stay curious."

A striking example of transition is the series of essays honoring 13 retiring faculty members who served at Ouachita for a combined total of more than 300 years. The heartfelt tributes penned by their colleagues reflect the deep and abiding friendships that make such life transitions bittersweet.

Another major transition on campus is the renovation of Evans Student Center and Lile Hall. The student center has gained new life with the creation of Evans Food Court and Dr. Jack's Coffeehouse. The transition of Lile Hall into the newly remodeled home of the School of Humanities will be marked with a Sept. 13 dedication service.

Transitions are a pivotal part of life, often unleashing a mix of smiles and tears, blessings and fears. As Ecclesiastes 3:1 declares, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." Ah, transitions!



Trennis Henderson  
*Vice President for Communications*

**“Not in his goals but in his transitions is man great.”**

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

**“A permanent state of transition is man’s most noble condition.”**

*Juan Ramón Jiménez*

**“Life is one big transition.”**

*Willie Stargell*

**“Life, it seems, is nothing if not a series of initiations, transitions and incorporations.”**

*Alan Dundes*

**“The new covenant was put into action at Jesus’ death. His death marked the transition from the old plan to the new one.”**

*Hebrews 9:16*



9



10



12

## 2 Transitions of life

Lauren Land, director of Ouachita's Office of Career Services, describes how life transitions often provide significant opportunities for personal and professional growth.

## 4 Celebrating faithful service

In honor of 13 longtime faculty members who retired this year with a combined total of 339 years of service to Ouachita, their colleagues share words of tribute for jobs well done.

## 8 Ouachita road trip

Ouachita's Board of Trustees recently approved a framework for strategic planning that chairman Gene Whisenhunt describes as a "roadmap" for the university's growth and direction.

## 9 Out with the old ...

What did you do this summer? Workers at Ouachita were busy renovating Lile Hall and Evans Student Center, featuring the new Evans Food Court and Dr. Jack's Coffeehouse.

## 10 Commencement 2012

As the Class of 2012 gathered with family, friends and faculty on the lawn of Cone-Bottoms Hall, President Horne encouraged Ouachita's newest alumni to pursue lives of service.

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# *Life transitions provide diverse opportunities to learn and grow*

*by Lauren Land*

I love to sing along to the radio, and my Pandora music station is almost always programmed to “Hits of the ’90s,” a throwback to my college years. While traveling with my family this summer, the lyrics from a once-popular song struck a chord: “Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end.” I looked back at my oldest children, who will be entering kindergarten this fall. While this “new beginning” is bittersweet for me as a parent and marks the end of their early childhood years, I am excited for this new chapter as my children learn to explore, ask questions, develop wisdom and move toward independence.

Simply put, transition is the passing of one state to another that results in a shift in how we perceive the world around us. Times of transition are often exciting: a new job, a new child, a new city. Transition may also be tinged with fear and apprehension, possibly even grief. While change itself is unavoidable, we can choose how we respond to it.

Transition offers the opportunity to learn and to grow. This certainly holds true at the start of an academic year as syllabi are distributed and the first notes are scribbled into notebooks and iPads. While exciting, this new beginning presents new challenges to the freshman class in particular.

Ouachita’s faculty and staff stand firm in the commitment to prepare students for success during their college years by serving as guides and mentors. One tangible example of this commitment is the OBU Experience course. Now in its third year, the eight-week course is designed to guide new students during their transition to college life. The course explores such topics as academic, social and spiritual growth as well as the history and traditions that bind the Ouachita community together.

Senior Catie Bennett has served as a student instructor for the class and also helped shape the overall curriculum. “The OBU Experience is designed to help students learn all things Ouachita – from the traditions of the Battle of the Ravine to identifying a major and future career,” she says. “During their weeks in the OBU Experience, students learn all they need to know to achieve the highest level of excellence in their college careers and for the rest of their lives.”

Sometimes, a life event sparks a transformation. For Keisha Pittman ('04), a recent transition was the result

*“WHILE CHANGE ITSELF IS UNAVOIDABLE,*

of a life-changing event that occurred in 2008. While busily recruiting new students in her role as director of Ouachita's admissions counseling office, she noticed a small swelling in her neck and soon received an alarming diagnosis: non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

After fighting a successful battle with cancer, Keisha took every opportunity to share her story of hope and on most weekends found herself traveling throughout Arkansas as an advocate of cancer awareness and community support. Her passion has now turned into a career as she concludes her work as an OBU development officer and begins a new role with the American Cancer Society of Northwest Arkansas.

"As life would sometimes have it, circumstances and experiences transition the heart and can help develop new passions that challenge you in a new direction," Keisha explains. "My personal journey with cancer stirred in my heart a desire to get more involved in the work of the American Cancer Society and the amazing programs they have for volunteers, caregivers and, most importantly, survivors."

The opportunity for self-evaluation is another element of transition that is difficult for many people, yet can open our eyes to new possibilities. As the director of Ouachita's Career Services Office, I have the unique opportunity to meet one-on-one with students as they prepare to make the move from college to career. Since many students approach these discussions with a sense of stress and unease, we first take time to assess each student's personal interests and strengths. This allows them to recognize past successes and begin to create a roadmap that will guide them toward the career they want to pursue. We also talk about areas that can be improved with further study, internships

and work experience.

A pressing goal of the Career Services staff is to continue to formalize a program that will match our alumni with students who are interested in pursuing a career in a particular field. Ouachita has an outstanding network of alumni who are leaders in a number of diverse fields throughout the nation and world and we want to share these success stories with our students who are just beginning their career exploration.

We are asking alumni to share their journey of self-evaluation and transition with our students through the Alumni Sharing Knowledge program. The Career Services team will match a student with an alumnus whose career path is of particular interest to them, enabling them to establish an ongoing dialogue with the alumnus about their journey and what has guided them through stages of transition.

As our students quickly learn, transition often requires flexibility and foresight. For example, the job one will hold in five or 10 years may not even exist today.

Brent Gambill's ('01) career began with law school, but a love for baseball and broadcasting led him to join the public relations team for the Los Angeles Dodgers. Brent then moved to SiriusXM Radio in Washington, D.C. While producing on-air programming for Major League Baseball, he saw great promise in the use of brand-new social media outlets as a means of communication. This foresight gave Brent the opportunity to spearhead the social networking initiatives for all of SiriusXM's sports programming.

Now recognized as a leader in the field, he recently transitioned into a new career as vice president and director of digital and social media with Martin-Wilbourn Partners in Little Rock.

When starting his new job, Brent observed on Facebook, "Not every day you start a new job. Last time I did, iPhones and Twitter did not exist. Here's to an exciting new challenge."

I recently read a great devotion by Towera Nyirenda, a seminary student at Regent University. Titled "Don't Miss God in the Transition," her devotion notes that throughout Jesus' ministry, transitioning people from one state to another is His goal, whether it be in thoughts or actions.

Some people choose to make leaps of faith with Christ, but too often, individuals miss the transitions He has planned because they are afraid or the timing doesn't seem right. In these moments, a familiar verse rings true: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).

We will all experience countless periods of transition throughout our lives and I truly believe these are moments to anticipate and often celebrate. By being mindful of the lessons of the past, each transition we experience is an opportunity to learn and to stay curious.

Former YWCA President Pauline Kezer says it well: "Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights."



*Lauren Land, a graduate of Louisiana State University, is the director of Ouachita's Office of Career Services.*

WE CAN CHOOSE HOW WE RESPOND TO IT."

# Celebrating

**In honor of Ouachita's 13 retiring faculty members who combined for 339 years of service to the university, fellow faculty members were invited to share a few words of reflection and tribute about their colleagues.**



**GLENN GOOD**  
*Professor Emeritus  
of Physics*  
**43 years of service**

*By Joe Jeffers, Holt Professor of Chemistry and Pre-Medical Studies*

Glenn Good can do anything – yes, anything. He does carpentry, engine repair, electrical, electronics – you name it, Glenn can do it. And do it first class. His physics and engineering background along with his Louisiana farm roots produced a man who is not afraid of work. He is willing to help anyone he knows. But be careful; even at 71, he can outwork anybody I know.

Where Glenn shines most is with students. His physics classes and labs are loved by students. He is an excellent teacher – and witty. He spends hours outside the classroom helping students with problems and concepts. He has endless patience. Well, he does get annoyed with students who are not willing to put forth the effort. When former students come back to campus, they always ask about Mr. Good. (I know Glenn just retired from Ouachita after 43 years of service, but I use the present tense because I cannot picture him gone.)

Glenn will be missed. Just as he would do anything for his students, he will do anything for his friends. For years, he set up the physical science labs for his colleagues, and he doesn't teach physical science labs. If something needs fixing, Glenn is the go-to guy.

Glenn volunteers at DeGray Lake State Park every summer, teaching square dance; he is a regular "science guy" at area schools; and he picks up litter in his neighborhood. He is an avid birder. Glenn is a genuine Good Guy. I am happy to call him friend.



**TONA WRIGHT**  
*Professor Emerita  
of Kinesiology and  
Leisure Studies*  
**41 years of service**

*By Mike Reynolds, Chair of the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies*

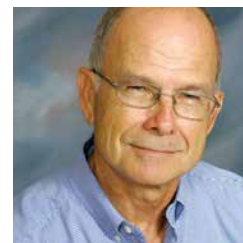
According to Teachers without Borders, there are nearly 60 million teachers in the world. Their "attributes of a great teacher" (and I would add colleague, mentor and friend) include dedicated, motivating, engaging, entertaining, fully knowledgeable of subject matter, inspires others, challenges others to think, egoless, innovates in teaching methods, lifelong learner, infinitely patient, non-judgmental, empathetic and takes pride in others' achievements. Tona Wright embodies all these attributes, but missing from their list is the greatest gift, the gift of time.

All of us who as students had the honor of taking a course taught by Miss Wright know she is an outstanding teacher. We also know she freely gave each of us the greatest gift, the gift of her time.

Examples include special tutoring sessions for struggling students, administering oral finals in History of Physical Education when a multiple-choice quiz would have been easier, assistance with filling out a degree plan, offering a special studies course allowing a student to graduate on time or even helping a student obtain a ride home for spring break. For 40-plus years, Miss Wright has always

been free with her time. This spring, even though she was technically "retired," Tona spent countless hours discussing outdoor recreation equipment with students interested in making purchases.

In retirement, it will be no surprise if her time continues to include helping students in many ways. That's what great teachers do. Tona Wright will always be a great teacher.



**RICHARD MILLS**  
*Professor Emeritus  
of Sociology*  
**39 years of service**

*By Hal Bass, Professor of Political Science*

Few faculty members throughout Ouachita's 125-plus years can claim the OBU connections that Richard Mills has established and maintained. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees here. He met Pam, his wife of 44 years, as a fellow student in the campus cafeteria line. Both his daughters and their husbands are Ouachita graduates. Numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews complement the Mills family links to the OBU community.

After completing his doctoral studies in 1973, Richard returned to Ouachita as a member of our sociology department. He has spent the last 39 years serving his beloved alma mater, including 36 years as department chair.

It has been my honor and privilege to work alongside Richard. What I have appreciated most is his collegiality. His office suite has been the gathering place for the denizens of McClellan Hall since we moved there in 1979. He generously and graciously provided the coffee that sustained us through our early morning and afternoon classes.

# Faithful service

Retiring faculty members honored by Ouachita colleagues

Richard's approach to his disciplinary calling has been experiential. One manifestation has been his community outreach. Richard has consistently engaged the diverse elements of the Arkadelphia community. In a contest to greet folks at Wal-Mart by name, I would bet on Richard against any and all Ouachita challengers. Another example was his innovative interterm "Prisons" course, which literally took his students behind the bars of state correctional institutions.

McClellan Hall won't be the same without him. We enjoy the assurance that his commitment to Ouachita will carry forward into retirement.



**RUSSELL HODGES**  
*Associate Professor  
Emeritus of Music*  
**34 years of service**

*By Ouida Keck, Addie Mae Maddox Professor of Music*

In the entire time I have known Russell Hodges, I remember him wearing a hat only for commencement ceremonies. However, during his tenure on the faculty at Ouachita, his versatility resulted in his being known as the wearer of many hats.

His hat as musician/recitalist was evident in the solo and collaborative performances he presented on campus, at state and national meetings, and as church organist/choir director. For years, OBU's Service of Lessons and Carols, which he helped plan and for which he played creative and glorious arrangements of traditional carols, has been a meaningful worship experience for many.

Russell's hat as teacher had many sides – teaching organ, piano, theory, church music courses, music history and literature, fine arts music and liberal arts. He produced organ majors who are

active as church organists throughout the nation. And Russell was responsible for designing and supervising the installation of the 34-rank Reuter organ, considered by some to be the finest organ in the state.

In 1994, Russell continued his education by earning an MLS degree, giving him another hat, that of music librarian, a position he held while teaching until he retired.

Russell's hat as advisor and committee member was respected by all. His knowledge of the curriculum and its history earned him the reputation of being the one to call for answers to any advising question.

I am one of the fortunate faculty members who enjoyed 34 years of observing his many hats, talents and dedicated service given to his students, colleagues and to academic standards.



**EDDIE ARY**  
*Associate Professor  
Emeritus of Finance*  
**32 years of service**

*By Bryan McKinney, Dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business*

It is my joy to celebrate the career of Eddie Ary. The challenge is limiting my praise to the space I've been given. All who knew Professor Ary could testify to his goodness, humility and selflessness. It would be consistent with Eddie's nature to read the entries regarding the other retirees and bypass what I've written here about him. In a world full of self-promoting Tweets and Facebook status updates, Eddie's focus on others was such a breath of fresh air. His door was always open to visit with students and colleagues.

While all could see Eddie's humility and selflessness, Eddie was also innovative and adaptive. Ouachita faculty members taught 24 online courses in the summer of 2012. Any guesses on who brought OBU into the online era? Eddie Ary. He developed an online Personal Finance class years ago that set the standard for those who would follow.

When the Hickingbotham School of Business sought accreditation with AACSB, new standards for research were expected from professors. In addition to teaching, professors were suddenly expected to maintain a research agenda. While some could have complained of the additional work load, Professor Ary quietly went to work, and he became one of the school's most consistent publishers.

Professor Ary taught me much about faith, life, work and service. Above all, he showed me what Philippians 2:3 looks like in real life. I count myself blessed to have known and served alongside Eddie Ary.



**NONA ANDERSON**  
*Professor Emerita of  
Modern Languages*  
**24 years of service**

*By Julia Jones, Instructor of Modern Foreign Languages*

Nona Anderson retired from teaching last spring. She certainly deserves to retire after many faithful years of teaching, including 24 years at Ouachita.

So as retirees do, Nona has moved out of her Ouachita office to make room for a new Spanish language instructor. She emptied the bookshelves, the file cabinets and even the drawers of the desk. There is not a folder or even one red pen to be found.



But those who know Nona realize that while she may retire, she will always be a teacher. And so, even in emptying her office, she has done what teachers always do in the summer – she began preparing for the next school year.

She spent time and a great deal of care filling quite a few boxes with some of her favorite teaching books and other resources to leave behind. She even went so far as to add notes to explain how she used these resources in her classes. Nona was generously spending her time to help in the preparations of the Spanish language instructors who are making their OBU debut this fall.

Nona also took the extra time last spring to make certain that each of the Spanish majors was clear about the courses and programs left in their degree plans. She also made sure each of the graduates had anything she could give them to help with their next year's plans.

Nona has even generously reminded those still at Ouachita that she is only a phone call away if her help is needed. She is even planning to tutor this year. Because Nona will always be a teacher, retirement didn't mean that she emptied her office and went home. She left knowing that she did everything she could to make this next academic year a successful one for both instructors and students.



**SIM FLORA**  
*Professor Emeritus  
of Music*  
**22 years of service**

*By Craig Hamilton, Chair of the Department  
of Music Education*

Music with a smile – that's how I would describe Sim Flora.

I met Sim in 1983. He had already played professionally in St. Louis and California and was coming to Ouachita to work on a master's degree. We were friends from the beginning.

Throughout the years, Sim and I have played shows, combo gigs, recitals and jazz band gigs together. We have presented clinics, led workshops, taught summer camps, conducted master classes, rehearsed bands, written music and copied parts. We have listened to hundreds of hours of music and practiced even more with the Jamey Aebersold recordings. We have had deep conversations about life, family, music and education. We have laughed a lot, cried a little and shared hundreds of meals and gallons of coffee.

Often we take for granted the things that are closest to us. Ouachita knows Sim as the beloved theory professor and musician, but Dr. Sim Flora is also one of the best trombone soloists and arrangers for trombone choir in the world. His debut CD, *Sound Doctrine*, is music that he arranged and played. His arrangements have been played by some of the top artists and ensembles in the United States. He has been featured throughout the world as trombone soloist and clinician. Sim Flora is a featured artist for Rath Trombones, custom-built instruments by Michael Rath of England.

In all of this, Sim Flora is one of the nicest, most genuine and talented people I know. I am honored to know him as friend.



**STEVE GARNER**  
*Assistant Professor  
Emeritus of Music*  
**22 years of service**

*By Charles Wright, Professor Emeritus of Music*

Dr. Steve Garner joined the music faculty of Ouachita Baptist University in the fall of 1990 as assistant professor of music and chair of the Department of Church Music. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from William Carey College, and Master of Church Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to coming to Ouachita, he held teaching positions at Dallas Baptist College, William Carey College and Lamar University. At the time of his faculty appointment at Ouachita, he served as minister of music at Calder Baptist Church in Beaumont, Texas.

During his tenure here, Dr. Garner demonstrated his passion for and commitment to teaching, bringing to students his wealth of knowledge, experience and academic training in church music. This background provided students with the foundation and knowledge necessary for success in church music.

Steve Garner is remembered by his students and colleagues as a loyal and caring faculty member who possessed and demonstrated integrity, a sense of responsibility, a positive work ethic and a willingness to go beyond the call of duty for the benefit of students and the university. He will also be remembered for the many beautiful and artistic vocal recitals he performed to the enjoyment and appreciation of the Ouachita community.

Those of us in the area of fine arts thank Dr. Garner for his dedicated service to the university as well

as to the many students who had the privilege to study with him. We wish Dr. and Mrs. Garner good health and happiness as well as God's blessings in their retirement.



**IRINA TROFIMOVA**  
*Professor Emerita of  
Modern Languages*  
**21 years of service**

*By Johnny Wink, Betty Burton Peck Professor of English*

A child of the Russian intelligentsia, the granddaughter of a Nobel Prize winner in physics, a woman with a small library of poetry in her head, a person who remembers meeting the likes of Shostakovich and Pasternak as a child, Irina Trofimova came to Ouachita in 1991 to ply her pedagogical trade.

"Bistri, bistri!" I still hear this imperative in my mind's ear from time to time. It was Irina's command to go faster, faster, as she put us through our paces in an exercise called synchronic translation. That one Russian word, said twice, became for me a symbol of Irina's insistence that we strive for excellence as we wrestled with a language made difficult by many inflections and long, strange-sounding-but-often-quite-beautiful words.

I joined Professor Trofimova's Russian class the first year she taught it and proceeded to spend three happy years in Russian studies with her and an equally happy year in German.

By the end of the first semester of my endeavors with Irina, she had joined the ranks of My Best Classroom Teachers of All Times.

Chaucer says of his Canterbury-bound clerk, "Gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche." I can say the same for Irina. When she came to Ouachita, she was already fluent in English and had in Russia acted as a translator for such English-speaking luminaries as Edward Kennedy and Arthur Miller.

Profoundly well-versed in her subjects and deeply eager to teach them, Irina has put many a pupil on the fast track to great success in further study of Russian and German. Irina has offered only first year German, but I've known somewhere near a dozen students who have gone to Henderson for Intermediate German or to Salzburg on the exchange program and who have returned to tell me that, thanks to Professor Trofimova's tutelage, they have been way ahead of the proverbial learning curve.





**SHIRLEY DUMAIS**  
*Assistant Professor  
Emerita and  
Circulation/  
Reference Librarian*  
**17 years of service**

*By Sharon Cosh, ESL Coordinator*

The character of a person is often revealed through action more than words. For five years, from fall 2005 through 2010, ESL students in the American History/Culture class discovered that beneath the soft-spoken, reserved surface of Assistant Professor and Circulation/Reference Librarian Shirley Dumais, this adventurous night-owl could easily be enticed into taking the classroom on the road, as long as she was the driver!

Unforgettable trips, filled with rich cultural experiences, ranged from local and state sites to volunteerism in New Orleans and history and culture lessons on-the-go on two separate trips to Washington, D.C., and New York. She planned tours of the New York Times building, and invited the students to join her family in New Jersey for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.

When an eager group of international students hatched a plan to go to Florida, she agreed to another nocturnal 13-hour drive. Habimana from Rwanda was impressed that she drove non-stop and "never got lost, despite not having a GPS!" Shirley recalls that the trip to Orlando provided Habimana his first memorable walk on a beach.

Over the years, she quietly built trust, forging lasting memories with multiple international students. Ravshanov from Kazakhstan remembers her as "dedicated and generous," willing to help all international students "feel at home at Ouachita." Her love for students and obvious knowledge of the subject matter, enriched by her own legendary Native American heritage, will forever endear her as a dedicated educator to students from around the globe.



**ROSEMARY  
"COOKEY" FLORA**  
*Lecturer in English*  
**19 years of service**

*By Doug Sonheim, Chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages*

With quiet grace, Cookey Flora devoted herself to her students. She would teach whatever courses we needed to cover, usually composition courses,

teaching hundreds of students to punctuate correctly, write clearly and think critically.

Often when I walked past her office door, I heard her patiently working with a Composition 1 student who needed extra help. "What's the verb?" she would ask, and then, "We need to find the direct object, so what question do you ask?" Returning from campus errands, I would pass again by her office, hearing her still, pressing on, often with the same student: "It's an intransitive verb, so what sentence pattern must it be?"

Cookey coordinated the Speer Writing Center, mentoring English majors who were employed by Ouachita to help students become better writers. These student tutors speak fondly of their time under Cookey's supervision. Many say working for Cookey was formative. Grant Ragland, Ibrahim Garba, Anna McKenzie – these and many more owe some measure of their professional success to their work with Mrs. Flora in the Writing Center. Jamie (Thigpen) Pelfrey spoke of Mrs. Flora's office as the safest place on campus to discuss life. In this devotion to students and to the discipline of English, Cookey proved a faithful worker for Christ and His kingdom.

As colleagues, we admire Cookey's hardy work ethic. "Cookey was our friend and colleague," said Dr. Amy Sonheim. "She proved as steady as rain and equally as refreshing. I could set my watch by Cookey's faithfulness."



**LINDSAY VAN  
SICKLEN**  
*Assistant Professor  
and Periodicals  
Librarian*  
**13 years of service**

*By Ray Granade, Director of Library Services*

By her own description, Lindsay Van Sicklen left Richmond, Va., for Arkadelphia "kicking and screaming," leaving family and friends across the psychological barrier of the Mississippi River. She is staying here in retirement rather than scampering back east; she has made what she found into home.

That ability to turn unfamiliarity into home and strangers into acquaintances has been Lindsay's hallmark these 13 years. She is a hugely social person who reaches out to and maintains contact with people in all her communities. Her social skills, as she calls them, established our connection with the evangelical library community and her avid participation in campus activities afforded the library a wide-ranging local presence.

Lindsay's ability to make unfamiliar territory into home applied also to work. Despite light experience

in periodicals, her forte became helping patrons find information they wanted in materials within her purview. Her emphasis on maximum access for patrons, particularly students, meant moving periodicals into the digital age.

Lindsay's legacy lies not in materials, their arrangement or even their accessibility; it lies in former student workers. Lindsay had about 60 during her tenure. She talked with each one beyond training and supervising to learn hopes and fears and particularly aspirations. Though it meant starting over with new student workers, Lindsay generously encouraged each to transfer to his or her major academic department. It would, she said, provide experience that would stand them in good stead as they planned life after graduation. I hope that she gains from our loss as they gained from hers.



**JAN DUNCAN**  
*Professor of Modern  
Languages*  
**12 years of service**

*By Jeff Root, Dean of the School of Humanities*

Since 2000, students who have majored in French have majored in Dr. Jan Duncan. It takes a special person to be both a solo act in a major and a team leader as a department chair. Jan had the touch. She taught students with a wide range of majors in the elementary classes, and those who chose to major or minor in French often had eight Jan Duncan courses by the time they marched at commencement.

That she became close to her students was obvious, but what her colleagues perhaps admired most was that Jan never ran out of material and methods to keep the students on their toes. (Most of us run through our bag of tricks in three or four courses.) Her deep knowledge of the French language and stories from her numerous trips to France provided many points of contact between the students and the material.

As department chair, Jan embraced a broad range of languages and supported faculty members with commitment to their academic fields and concern for each one personally. She also was particularly close to international students. Through Jan, some met Christ for the first time. Others saw Christ in action through her love and consistency. In particular, Jan gave generously of her time to a succession of visiting professors and students from China. Legend has it she introduced a group of Chinese students to America through the wonders of Arkadelphia's Waffle House. Cultures met when the soy sauce hit the waffle.

# Keldon Henley, Wesley Kluck begin new VP roles

By Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

Introducing a major change in administrative leadership roles, Ouachita President Rex Horne recently announced that two longtime vice presidents would switch positions.

Dr. Keldon Henley, vice president for student services since 2003, has assumed responsibility as vice president for institutional advancement. Dr. Wesley Kluck, vice president for institutional advancement since 2005, now serves as vice president for student services.

Henley also has served since 1999 as dean of students. Scott Haynes, director of residence life at Ouachita, succeeds Henley in that role.

Dr. Horne noted that the three men “are excited about the new assignments and opportunities. I think this will enable them to use their experience and abilities in ways that will enhance Ouachita.”

Emphasizing that both Henley and Kluck “bring a lifetime of devotion to Ouachita and a commitment to helping Ouachita advance,” President Horne added, “This is an ongoing commitment of mine to place our people in places of challenge and opportunity.”

As vice president for institutional advancement, Henley will be responsible for supervising the offices of admissions counseling, career services and Ouachita alumni. He also will oversee the work of the Ouachita Student Foundation.

“Ouachita is an extraordinary university that



Dr. Keldon Henley



Dr. Wesley Kluck



Scott Haynes

offers its students unparalleled opportunities and experiences,” Henley said. “I’m tremendously excited to serve in institutional advancement.

“Strong staff teams are already in place in each of the program areas within the division,” he added. “I look forward to leading the effort to help move the university forward through recruiting outstanding students, strengthening ties with alumni and former students and developing a career services program that will help our graduates secure positions where they will have the opportunity to be lifelong difference makers.”

Kluck’s role as vice president for student services includes campus activities, campus housing and residence life, campus safety, counseling services, health services, recreational life and student life.

“Since moving back to Arkadelphia in 1984, I have always enjoyed opportunities to partner with college students in learning, serving and just having a good time together,” Kluck said. “I feel this

love for college students has prepared me for the new experiences in the position of vice president for student services.”

Henley, Kluck and Haynes are Ouachita alumni. Henley graduated *magna cum laude* from Ouachita in 1986 with a Bachelor of Music degree. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in marriage and family counseling from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Education degree in higher education from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.

Henley, a licensed professional counselor and licensed marriage and family therapist, began serving at Ouachita in 1993 as university counselor. He also has served as associate dean of students and dean of students.

Kluck, a 1977 *summa cum laude* graduate of Ouachita, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in math, chemistry and biology. He also holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Arkansas Medical School. In addition to his vice presidential role, Kluck serves as university physician and teaches photography.

Haynes is a 2006 *magna cum laude* graduate of Ouachita with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mass communications. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in counseling from Denver Seminary. In addition to his roles as dean of students and director of residence life, he serves as hall director of Flippin-Perrin residence hall.

## Trustees approve “roadmap” for Ouachita’s growth and direction

Adopting a detailed “framework for strategic planning by the university,” Ouachita Baptist University trustees approved a pair of documents that provide guidelines for institutional planning and strategic direction for the coming years. The historic actions took place during the Board of Trustees’ summer meeting on the Ouachita campus.

The two documents, “Guidelines for Institutional Planning, Assessment and Program Review” and “Fostering Foresight and Faithfulness: A Strategic Plan for Ouachita Baptist University,” were developed by faculty and staff in conjunction with the school’s recent self-study for reaccreditation for the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Ouachita, which was reaccredited last year by the Higher Learning Commission following the university’s in-depth three-year self-study, was first accredited in 1927. Ouachita has held continuous academic accreditation since 1952.

An overarching goal of the strategic plan, according to the document’s introduction, is to develop “an organic strategic plan that would both guide us into the future and anchor us to our historic mission as a Christian liberal arts university.”

Primary goals include advancing excellence in teaching and learning;

enhancing student life experiences; strengthening human, physical and financial resources; and fostering internal and external communication.

Among specific initiatives to accomplish those goals are supporting teaching effectiveness through enhanced learning environments, promoting student success and academic engagement, working toward building a more diverse university community, renovating and expanding student life and residential facilities based on enrollment growth and examining available technologies to improve connectivity.

Dr. Byron Eubanks, chair of the Planning Committee, told trustees, “The goal was to have an ongoing, functioning, well-operating strategic plan that worked. In the big picture, what the strategic plan tries to do is provide a plan to keep us focused on going in the right direction.”

In addition to the strategic plan, the guidelines for institutional planning include a seven-year review cycle “designed to examine every branch on the institutional tree: academic programs, academic support programs and administrative units.”

Describing the strategic plan and guidelines as “a clear roadmap” for Ouachita’s future growth and direction, trustee chairman Gene Whisenhunt affirmed that faculty, staff and trustees “are making a huge difference in this world and in the lives of young people.”



# Evans & Lile: Out with the old & in with the new



Two major renovation projects on campus this summer include remodeling Evans Student Center and Lile Hall, two facilities originally dedicated in 1973. Student center updates feature an open floor plan with expanded food options, seating and stage area. Evans Food Court “has been completely updated to give a new face to the Chick-fil-A and Tiger Grill outlets as well as adding a new dining option, Sandella’s Flatbread Café,” said Dr. Brett Powell, vice president for administrative services. “The coffee shop has also been moved to Evans as part of the new Dr. Jack’s Coffeehouse, where concerts, movies and other events will be held.” The coffeehouse is named after Ouachita’s founding president, Dr. John W. “Jack” Conger.



Lile Hall, the new home of Ouachita’s School of Humanities, features a new video production studio, convergent newsroom for campus publications, two Mac computer labs, a photography studio and expanded classroom and office space. The remodeled facility also houses the Academic Success Center, Office of Communications and TRIO offices. A dedication service to celebrate the renovation of Lile Hall is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 13.



photos by Wesley Kluck & Brooke Zimny



photo by Nicole McPhate

## Class of 2012 challenged to pursue lives of service

Quoting founding President John W. Conger's words, President Rex Horne told Ouachita's 2012 graduating class that "knowledge is no blessing unless it is used well and wisely."

Marking Ouachita's 125<sup>th</sup> annual spring commencement, a copy of President Conger's inaugural commencement address from 1888 was carried in the academic processional along with the university mace.

"We're in a world that has great challenge and great opportunity, and we believe that the hope for change rests in you," Dr. Horne told the graduates. "All of us are most impressed with you and your generation and the commitment that you have."

University officials conferred a total of 325 degrees on 318 graduates, including 259 Bachelor of Arts degrees, 46 Bachelor of Science degrees, 13 Bachelor of Music Education degrees and seven Bachelor of Music degrees.

Ouachita's 2012 graduating class featured 120 honor graduates, including 24 who graduated *summa cum laude* with a grade point average of 3.95 or higher, 37 who graduated *magna cum laude* (3.75 GPA) and 59 who graduated *cum laude* (3.5 GPA). University officials also recognized 17 graduates who completed Ouachita's Carl Goodson Honors Program and 18 members of the Alpha Chi national honor society.

Three ROTC graduates commissioned with the rank of second lieutenant in the U.S. Army also were recognized: Jedidiah Allen of Mineola, Texas; Clinton DeWitt of Arkadelphia, Ark.; and David Nixon of Celeste, Texas.

During the ceremony, Senior Class President Nolan West, a biology major from Bolivar, Mo., led the invocation and Jesse Pruet, a Christian studies and biblical languages major from Harrison, Ark., read Scripture. Gene Whisenhunt, chair of the Ouachita Board of Trustees, led the closing prayer of dedication.

Dr. Deborah Root, professor and chair of the Rogers Department of Communications, served as the commencement marshal. Several retiring faculty members served as honorary marshals: Nona Anderson, professor

emerita of modern languages; Shirley Dumais, assistant professor emerita and circulation/reference librarian; Rosemary Flora, lecturer in English; Dr. Sim Flora, professor emeritus of music; Dr. Stephen Garner, assistant professor emeritus of music; Glenn Good, professor emeritus of physics; Dr. Richard Mills, professor emeritus of sociology; Lindsay Van Sicken, assistant professor and periodicals librarian; and Tona Wright, professor emerita of kinesiology and leisure studies.

"Friends, thank you for your service. You have made us a better university," President Horne told the retiring faculty members. "We will not forget your sacrifice and toil at Ouachita across the years. You have done well."

Dr. Horne presented a special Purple & Gold Heart Award to Faye Connell, whose grandson, T.J. Connell, received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in Biblical studies and Christian ministries. As Mrs. Connell pushed her grandson's wheelchair across the stage to receive his degree, Dr. Horne noted that she had assisted T.J. throughout his studies at Ouachita, driving him to campus each day from Hope, sitting with him in class and helping him with his notes and studies.

"The military has what's called a Purple Heart that's such an inspirational recognition and medal," Dr. Horne said. "Ouachita has what's called the Purple and Gold Heart Award that's given occasionally for certain meritorious service and sacrifice." The commencement crowd responded with a standing ovation as he concluded, "Certainly there's no more fitting recipient today than Faye Connell."

In his commencement address, President Horne noted that Dr. Conger emphasized that "character begets character" and that "our life should confirm the belief of our hearts."

He suggested that when the 2012 graduating class gathers for its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gold Tiger reunion in 2062, service will be a hallmark of their lives. "There is no word that would better serve this Alma Mater nor is there a word that would please more our Savior than the word service," Dr. Horne said. "In service, it's always about people."



## Men's tennis team captures inaugural GAC championship

The Ouachita men's tennis team captured the inaugural Great American Conference championship this year, joining the Tiger football team as conference champs in the first year of GAC competition.

Other honors earned by the Tiger tennis team include Head Coach Craig Ward being named GAC Coach of the Year and three players being named All-GAC: sophomore Helge Knuth and freshmen Marko Boskovic and Kenny Brasil.

During Ward's tenure as head coach since 1990, the Tigers have earned two No. 1 rankings, two Final Four appearances and six Elite Eight appearances in the NCAA championships. The team has featured 25 All-America players and 23 Academic All-America players.

"One of the great privileges of my life has been coaching the men's tennis team at Ouachita," Ward said. "Since 1990, approximately 100 young men from countries across the world have chosen to play tennis for the Tigers."

The 2011-2012 eight-member team, composed entirely of international students, includes student-athletes from Barbados, Brazil, Germany, Romania, Serbia and Spain.

The Tigers won the GAC championship with a 5-1 victory over East Central University following a 5-0 win over Harding University.

After earning the conference title, Ouachita hosted an opening round match of the NCAA regional playoffs at Heflin Tennis Center against St. Edwards University. The Tigers defeated St. Edwards 5-3, moving on to the NCAA National Championships in Louisville, Ky.

Ouachita went on to defeat Bluefield State University 5-0 in the NCAA Round of 16 before falling to West Florida University 6-1 in the national quarterfinals. West Florida reached the championship match where it fell 5-0 to Armstrong Atlantic State University, which claimed its third national title in five years.

The Tigers, undefeated in conference play, finished the season ranked No. 12 in the nation among NCAA Division II teams and ranked No. 2 in the South Central region.



Hungarian and Romanian football players and their coaches pose with three Ouachita football coaches during a summer football camp in Hungary. Tiger Football Head Coach Todd Knight and two assistant coaches, Shep Campbell and Roy Thompson, led the international team and skills camp. "We had two Hungarian teams and one Romanian team that attended camp," Coach Knight said. "The camp was a huge success building relationships, teaching the fundamentals and schemes of football and sharing our faith with these coaches and players." The Ouachita coaches worked with David and Fran Mitchell, associational missionaries in Bartholomew Baptist Association, and Southern Baptist international missionaries Paul and Tina Brock.

## 40 OBU student-athletes earn Academic All-Conference honors

Excelling both in athletics and academics, the Ouachita Tigers and Lady Tigers had 40 student-athletes who earned Academic All-Conference honors in the Great American Conference's inaugural season.

Ouachita women's soccer led the way with nine players being honored followed by Tiger baseball with eight players recognized. Students nominated for the honor must be at least sophomores with a 3.30 GPA or higher.

Ouachita players who earned Academic All-Conference honors for the 2011-2012 season are:

**Baseball:** Duncan Collins, a junior Christian studies major from Texarkana, Ark.; Nick Crump, a junior biology major from Camden, Ark.; Josh Everett, a junior Christian studies major from Paragould, Ark.; Landon Flax, a junior business major from Fort Collins, Colo.; Brock Green, a senior business major from Hot Springs, Ark.; McCrae Jones, a sophomore business major from Kaufman, Texas; Beau Martin, a senior political science major from Germantown, Tenn.; Kurt Pepperhorst, a senior business major from Carlyle, Ill.

**Men's Basketball:** Emmanuel Engulu, a senior Biblical studies and Christian theology major from Fort Worth, Texas; Tyler Posey, a senior mathematics and secondary education major from Sparkman, Ark.

**Women's Basketball:** Elise Holman, a sophomore political science, Christian media/communications and mass communications major from Berryville, Ark.; Sarah Pugh, a senior kinesiology/fitness major from Kaufman, Texas; Tamara Robinson, a senior business administration/marketing major from Mabelvale, Ark.

**Women's Cross Country:** Johanna Casey, a sophomore kinesiology/fitness major from Lowell, Ark.; Rebekah Ward, a sophomore biology major from Little Rock, Ark.; Leah Whitlow, an early childhood education major from Bentonville, Ark.

**Football:** Casey Cooper, a junior history major from Conway, Ark.

**Women's Golf:** Caitlin Jones, a senior early childhood education major from Benton, Ark.

**Softball:** Brianne Baley, a sophomore biology major from Dripping Springs, Texas; Rebekah Dindak, an early childhood education major from Allen, Texas; Rayn House, a sophomore dietetics/nutrition major from Paris, Texas; Alexis Johns, a senior mass communications major from Arlington, Texas; Teresa Mursuli, a sophomore kinesiology/fitness major from Katy, Texas; Sara Strassemeyer, a communication sciences and disorders major from Flower Mound, Texas.

**Women's Soccer:** Sarah Broyles, a sophomore kinesiology/fitness major from Longview, Texas; Taylor Gay, a junior dietetics/nutrition major from Little Rock, Ark.; Carrie Lieblong, a junior biology major from Austin, Ark.; Miranda Lytle, a senior dietetics/nutrition major from McKinney, Texas; Sarah McKimmey, a history major from Heath, Texas; Alexandra Patterson, a junior biology major from Greenville, Texas; Morgan Pitchford, a sophomore biology major from Columbia, Mo.; Mary Whisenhunt, a junior communication sciences and disorders major from Little Rock, Ark.; Beth Wendl, a senior biology major from Plano, Texas.

**Men's Tennis:** Helge Knuth, a sophomore business major from Mandelbachtal, Germany.

**Women's Tennis:** Lilia Sokolova, a Russian major from Yoshkar Ola, Russia; Samantha Street, an accounting and business administration major from Rogers, Ark.

**Volleyball:** Kelsey Bodine, a secondary education/history major from Webb City, Mo.; Allison Frizzell, a junior secondary education/mathematics major from McKinney, Texas; Kristyn Howk, a senior chemistry major from Rowlett, Texas; Jillian Jeffcoat, a junior secondary education/history major from Frisco, Texas.



photo by Wesley Kluck

### **The Drowsy Chaperone makes Ouachita debut**

Ouachita's Department of Theatre Arts and Division of Music presented *The Drowsy Chaperone*, a musical within a comedy that pays homage to the golden age of musical theatre.

"*The Drowsy Chaperone* is truly one of the wittiest, craziest shows I have ever gotten a chance to direct," said Daniel Inouye, OBU assistant professor of theatre arts and director of the production. *The Drowsy Chaperone*, which opened on Broadway in 2006, won five Tony Awards, including Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score.

Lead members of the cast included Gabi Baltzley of Little Rock, Ark.; Hannah Garner of Saginaw, Mich.; Stewart Kelly of Keller, Texas; Shay Michael of Grapevine, Texas; Cody Myers of Van Buren, Ark.; Joel Rogier of Glen Carbon, Ill.; Caitlin Secrest of Arkadelphia, Ark.; Ben Stidham of Dallas, Texas; Bethany Swiontek of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Heather White of Houston, Texas; and Garrett Whitehead of Cleburne, Texas.

Dr. Jon Secrest, professor of music, served as the show's musical director. Grace Whitaker, a recent OBU graduate from Hillsboro, Texas, was choreographer. Mary Handiboe, associate professor of theatre arts, was costume designer, and Eric Phillips, professor of theatre arts, was technical director and scenic designer. Tyler Herron, a theatre arts major from Rosston, Ark., served as stage manager.

### **Persson earns national literature essay award**

Ouachita student Jody Persson has been awarded the 2012 Carol Gay Award for her essay "Take It to the Porch: Meeting the Other in *To Kill a Mockingbird*."

The Carol Gay Award, sponsored by the Children's Literature Association, recognizes outstanding undergraduate research papers in children's literature. As the winner of the national award, she presented her paper in June at the association's annual conference at Simmons College in Boston.

Nominations for the award are submitted by university faculty around the nation. Dr. Amy Sonheim, professor of English, nominated Persson's paper. "The judges seem to have chosen Jody's paper because she read *To Kill a Mockingbird* in a fresh way that articulated the narrative's tendency to cross boundaries of even more than race, crossing boundaries of sinners and saints, too," Sonheim noted.

"It is really affirming and encouraging to have someone who is not my professor tell me that my work has quality," said Persson, an English major from Sherwood, Ark. "When someone you don't know likes reading your work, it shows that it has true value."

### **Three alums among Top Ten in Miss Arkansas**

Three Ouachita Baptist University alumnae were among the Top Ten participants in the 2012 Miss Arkansas Pageant, including Bethany Whitfield ('11), who was named second runner-up.

Whitfield, a former Miss OBU, competed this year as Miss Greater Little Rock. Other Ouachita graduates in the Top Ten included Miss Sweetheart of Arkansas Brooke Ault ('12) and Miss Diamond Lakes Abby Turner ('11). MaryLacey Thomson, a sophomore musical theatre major at Ouachita and the reigning Miss OBU, finished in the Top 15.

In addition to her second runner-up honor, Whitfield received the Crowd Favorite Award. Ault received the Coleman Dairy Talent Award, the Tommy Lyons Overall Talent Award and the Alpha Overall Talent Award. Turner received the Tony Bowls/Mon Cheri People's Choice Award and a Service Before Self Community Service Award. Thomson received the Frances Wilson Non-Finalist Vocal Award.

Former Miss OBU Kristen Glover ('11) served the past year as Miss Arkansas 2011. Miss Arkansas 2004 Lacy Fleming Glover ('04) and Miss Arkansas 2010 Alyse Eady ('10) were among co-hosts for this year's pageant in Hot Springs.



photo by Jessica Chang

## Ouachita SIFE team wins regional competition

Ouachita's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team was named regional co-champions at the SIFE Regional Competition in Dallas, Texas. As a regional champion, Ouachita's team advanced to national competition in Kansas City.

Competing teams each present the projects they have completed throughout the year that have sought to meet SIFE's goal to empower people in need "by applying business and economic concepts and an entrepreneurial approach to improve their quality of life and standard of living."

Ouachita's team of six presenters and its director showcased the 11 projects SIFE has been involved with in the past year, such as working to open a pregnancy resource center, "Go Green or Go Home" initiatives on campus and outreach projects in Honduras.

Members of the presentation team include SIFE President Britta Stamps, a business administration/management and marketing and political science major from Fort Smith, Ark.; Stephanie Batsel, a business administration/marketing and music major from Mansfield, Texas; Judith Brizuela, a business administration/management and psychology major from Cortes, Honduras; Michael Crowe, a business administration/finance major from Donaldson, Ark.; Brittney Jones, a business administration major from Texarkana, Ark.; and Austin Walsh, a psychology major from Dallas, Texas.

Tanner Ward, a business administration/finance and mass communications major from Bryant, Ark., serves as the presentation team's director. Dr. Jim Files, assistant professor of accounting, is the faculty sponsor.

## Psychology students recognized for research

Ouachita students Taylor Bartel and Whitley Berry had their psychology research accepted to the Southwestern Psychological Association's annual conference. The students both presented their research at the regional conference in Oklahoma City, and Berry's work earned a Psi Chi Regional Research Award from Psi Chi international honors society in psychology.

Berry is a May 2012 *magna cum laude* graduate of Ouachita with a major in psychology. Her research, "Love your neighbor as yourself? An exploration of intergroup bias," explored the perceived physical attractiveness and stereotypes that students from Arkadelphia's rival universities may hold about each other.

Bartel, a May 2012 *magna cum laude* Ouachita graduate with majors in psychology and biology, presented his research, "What would you do? The effect of moral decisions on decision fatigue," at the conference. His research evaluated the effects of making a variety of decisions by willpower.

## Academic Awards Banquet honors achievements

Highlighting a variety of academic and leadership achievements throughout the past year, Ouachita Baptist University's 2012 Academic Awards Banquet honored students in each of the university's seven academic schools.

John Gomez, a biology, chemistry and English major from Conway, Ark., earned Ouachita's highest academic honor as the university's Overall Academic Achiever. He also was named the top academic achiever in the Patterson School of Natural Sciences.

Top academic achievers in each of the other schools include: Reuben Cash, an accounting major from Springfield, Tenn., Hickingbotham School of Business; Jesse Pruett, a Christian studies and Biblical languages major from Harrison, Ark., Pruet School of Christian Studies; Melissa Butters, an early childhood education major from Denison, Texas, Huckabee School of Education; Grace Janzen, an art/graphic design and history major from Tulsa, Okla., School of Fine Arts; Jody Persson, an English major from Sherwood, Ark., School of Humanities; and Trevor Huxham, a history and Spanish major from Plano, Texas, Sutton School of Social Sciences.

Ouachita's outstanding seniors, selected by faculty and staff, are Jacob Lively, a biology major from Queen City, Texas, Senior Outstanding Man, and Abby Dekle, a biology major from Sachse, Texas, Senior Outstanding Woman.



# class notes

connecting the circle

## —1930s—



**Ava (Fish '35) Halbert** celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 23. She is one of two remaining members of the Class of 1935 whose names are on the Tiger statue plaque. She was born in Garnett, Ark., and grew up in Star City, Ark., where she still lives today. She graduated from Ouachita with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music. She has three children, **Charlotte (Halbert '67) Kirby**, **Judy (Halbert '69) Leagans** and **Sammye (Halbert '73) Fuller**; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Attending her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party were: (back row from left) **Charlotte (Halbert '67) Kirby**, **Ben Kirby ('67)**, **Ellis Leagans**, **Judy (Halbert '69) Leagans**, **Bill Fuller ('73)**, **Jodi (Kirby '90\*) Dildy**, **Matthew McCrary ('99)**, **Sammye (Halbert '73) Fuller**, **Monica (Leagans '98) Hardin**, **Andrea (Leagans '96) McCrary**; (front) **Tad Hardin ('99)**, **Ava (Fish '35) Halbert** and **Brian Kirby ('94)**.

**Lawrence ('62) and Donna (Mason '62\*) Harrison** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 2. They have three children, **Laurie (Harrison '86) Key**, **Larry Harrison ('89)** and **Lane Harrison ('93)**, and five grandchildren.

**Norman ('63) and Beverly (Gallegly '64) Coad** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Aug. 25.

**Dr. Ed Coulter ('65)** was honored with the naming of the Ed Coulter Student Emergency Fund at Arkansas State University-Mountain Home, following his recent retirement as chancellor.

**Tommy ('66) and Charlene (Carr '64\*) Cupples** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 27.

**Jim Larkin ('68)**, who is a potter in Hot Springs, was honored by the Arkansas Arts Council as a 2012 Arkansas Living Treasure. His story was featured in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's* Tri-Lakes edition in May.

## —1970s—

**Neal Sumerlin ('72)** retired on July 1 after 36 years of service as a full-time faculty member at Lynchburg College. During his career, he served as a mentor to the U.S. Chemistry Olympiad Team and spearheaded the building of the Belk Astronomical Observatory at Lynchburg College in 2007. He is married to Jane Sumerlin and has two children, Daniel and Anna.

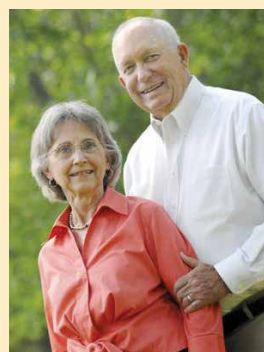
**Olan Reeves ('73)** and his son **Philip Reeves ('12)** traveled to Macau, China, during spring break with Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock where they helped distribute more than 8,000 Bibles to mainland Chinese tourists visiting Macau on vacation. Their team was led by **JaNan (Arnold '94) Davis**.

## —1940s—

**Dale ('49) and Delores (Tope '48\*) Maddux** celebrated their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary in June. They have served a total of 39 years in full-time ministry, including four years in the pastorate and 35 years in associational missions, 30 of which were with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. Dale is now serving in his 15<sup>th</sup> interim pastor ministry since their retirement in 1993. They have two sons, Marcus and Clark, and three grandchildren.

## —1960s—

**Bing ('60) and Jacquelyn (Shepherd '64) Colvin** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 2. They are the parents of **Dr. Kip Colvin ('88)**, **Amy (Colvin '88\*) Brunson** and **Scott Colvin**, and have two grandchildren.





**Brenda (Ingram '78) Klockenga** and her family relocated to Lee's Summit, Mo., where her husband, Richard, is now a vice president at John Knox Village. They moved from Crystal Lake, Ill., where she taught for seven years as a technology instructor at Trinity Oaks Christian Academy. They have two sons, Chris (15) and Daniel (14).

## —1980s—

**Dr. Lewis Shepherd, Jr. ('80, MSE '82)** has been named vice president for student and external affairs at Henderson State University. Shepherd had served since 2009 as Henderson's vice president for external programs. He previously served 29 years at Ouachita, including as assistant to the president for special programs.

**Rev. Ken Locke ('81)** is pastor of The Downtown Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tenn., which was recently featured in the "Visit to a Vital Congregation" series of *Congregations* magazine.

**Julia (Estes '82) Carter** received her PhD in Education from Capella University in November 2011. In attendance at her graduation were her parents, OBU professor emeritus **Jack Estes** and **Bonita (Hatfield '68) Estes**, husband **Dan Carter ('87)**, and children **JT Carter ('01\*)** and **Jessica (Carter '02\*) Hanks**. Julia and Dan will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in November.

**Trey Berry ('84)** has been named vice president of academic affairs at Southern Arkansas University.

**Mike Auten ('88)** graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in May with a Doctorate of Educational Ministry degree with a focus on relational family ministry. He is currently associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Clyde, Texas, and recently celebrated his 20<sup>th</sup> year of ministry there.

**Darla Bailey ('88)** was honored as the Social Work Honorary Alumna of the Year at Baylor School of Social Work in recognition of her work as the founder of an innovative day health center for adults with disabilities.

## —1990s—



**Miranda (Childs '90) Bebee** recently was inducted as the 118<sup>th</sup> president of the Arkansas State Dental Association, making her the first female president of the ASDA.

**Jennifer (Tedder '94) Booth** has been writing for various Southern Baptist publications for the past five years and is now hosting an Internet radio show titled "My Journey of Faith."

**Justin Moseley ('99)** received his Master in Educational Administration & Supervision degree from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He recently was named superintendent of Abundant Life School in Sherwood, Ark.

## —2000s—

**Andy Turner ('03)** married Chelsey Brummett on July 21 at Davidson Campground near Arkadelphia. They will live in Benton, Ark.

**David Elliff ('05)** married Mary Marsh on May 19 at Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, Ark. The couple will live in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Ashlee Hill ('05)** moved to Little Rock to work for Teddy Bear Portraits as an account representative, photographer and portrait consultant. She previously worked for five years as a family service advocate with Head Start in El Dorado, Ark.

## Faculty & Staff Update

### OBU students honor Duvall & Wink

Dr. Scott Duvall and Dr. Johnny Wink were honored by Ouachita students during the 2012 Academic Awards Banquet. Dr. Duvall, J.C. and Mae Fuller Professor of Biblical Studies, was named by students as the Lavell Cole Most Inspirational Professor. A 1980 Ouachita graduate, Dr. Duvall also holds degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served at Ouachita since 1989. Dr. Wink, Betty Burton Peck Professor of English, was honored by the Carl Goodson Honors Program as the program's Most Valuable Professor. A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Arkansas, he has taught at Ouachita since 1973.

### Cains are missionaries-in-residence

Phil and Kimberly Cain, Southern Baptist missionaries in Niamey, Niger Republic, West Africa, are serving this fall as missionaries-in-residence at Ouachita. Cain serves as the associate cluster strategy leader for the Central Sahel Cluster in Africa. He is the team leader for the Zerma people group, teaches discipleship classes and evangelizes using a chronological Bible storying method. Mrs. Cain works with women and children among the Zerma people. The Cains' daughter, Caroline, is a freshman at Ouachita and their son, Caleb, is 13 years old.

### Flora produces Trombonanza

Dr. Sim Flora, professor emeritus of music, has created and produced Trombonanza, a one-of-a-kind musical event, Sept. 9 in Jones Performing Arts Center. The concert features a trombone ensemble of professional musicians from across the nation as well as vocal performances. Highlighting a mixture of classical and jazz music, Trombonanza includes many well-known pieces plus a number of original pieces composed by Dr. Flora.

### Hays, Duvall earn national award

Dr. Danny Hays, dean of the Pruet School of Christian Studies, and Dr. Scott Duvall, chair of Biblical studies, have earned national recognition for their book, *The Baker Illustrated Bible Handbook*. The book was named the top Bible reference/study book in the 2012 Retailers Choice Awards sponsored by *Christian Retailing* magazine. The handbook features more than 1,100 pages filled with illustrations, maps, photos and 112 articles on a wide range of Biblical topics.

# DEFINING *the* DIFFERENCE

*Ouachita Baptist University Donor Appreciation Report*

The Ouachita Office of Development recently published a “Defining the Difference” donor appreciation report highlighting donor gifts for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. In addition to donors listed in the report, several names were inadvertently omitted from the printed report. The Office of Development is grateful for each of Ouachita’s faithful donors and would like to recognize the following contributors:

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**Clint Pumphrey ('06)** married Darcy Baskin on Sept. 16, 2011, at a historic farmhouse near Trenton, Utah. A second ceremony for friends and family was held April 28, 2012, at Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Ark. The couple now lives in Logan, Utah, where Clint holds a faculty position in Utah State University's Special Collections and Archives department.



**Andrew Curry ('07)** married Erin Hawkes on May 26 at Cedar Lodge in Arkadelphia, Ark. They now live in Rogers, Ark., where he is employed at Watkins, Boyer, Gray and Noblin Law Firm.

**Nicole Daye ('07)** married Truett Horne on June 2 in Berry Chapel on the Ouachita campus. The couple lives in Dallas.



**Annie (Saunders '07)** married Daniel Pevy on April 21 in Ruston, La. They currently reside in Ruston, where she works as a speech pathologist at a local nursing home.



## —2010s—

**Tyler Burleson ('10)** married Kristen Dorsey on May 19 at First Southern Baptist Church in Bryant, Ark. They will live in Brandon, Miss., where he serves as high school student minister at First Baptist Church of Brandon.

**Trinka (Newman '10) Kremers** married Bradley Kremers on March 10 at the Terry House Mansion in downtown Little Rock. They are living in North Little Rock.



**Chris Nissen ('11) and Jenna (Lindsey '12)** were married on Jan. 7 in Van Buren, Ark. They currently live in Bryant, Ark.

## future *tigers*

## —1990s—

**Kevin Taylor ('97)** and his wife, Regina, welcomed son Liam Michael on May 7. He joins siblings Nicholas Chase (4) and Chloe Faith (2).



## —2000s—

**Jamie (Garrett '00) Thornton** and her husband, Anthony, welcomed daughter Lona Bliss on Nov. 21, 2011.



**Brent ('01) and Tilly (Carter '02) Gambill,** welcomed their daughter Nora Katherine on May 11. She joins big brother Carter (1).



**Jonathan ('03) and Lauren (Vinsant '05) Kelley** welcomed daughter Evelyn Rose on Sept. 21, 2011. She joins big brother Spencer (3).

**Nancy (Swanigan '03) Stephens** and her husband, Joshua, welcomed daughter Ella Louise on Feb. 24. They are living in Louisville, Ky.

**Justin and Barri (Cosh) Bridges ('04)** welcomed their twin sons, Connor Ian and Syler Hinton, on May 2. They join big brother Truett (2).



**Brandon ('04) and Amy (Packer '05) O'Brien** welcomed son James David on March 2.

# What's new?

Submit your **class notes**, including **wedding**, **baby** and **alumni reunion photos**, by logging on to the Ouachita Online Community at [www.obualumni.org](http://www.obualumni.org) or by contacting Jon Merryman at [merrymanj@obu.edu](mailto:merrymanj@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5111.

# Trustees name Hensley and Jeffers to endowed chairs

Ouachita's Board of Trustees have named Dr. Lori Hensley and Dr. Joe Jeffers to endowed chairs in the J.D. Patterson School of Natural Sciences.

**Dr. Lori Hensley**, associate professor of biological sciences, was named the J. D. Patterson Professor of Biology. Dr. Hensley joined the Ouachita faculty in 2002 as a visiting instructor of biology and was named assistant professor the following year. She was awarded tenure in 2008 and promoted to associate professor in 2009. She holds degrees from Bowling Green State University and the University of Tennessee-Memphis and held a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences before coming to Ouachita.

Dr. Hensley's recent research has focused on treatment possibilities for the type of cancer known as Ewing's sarcoma. She and her students have twice been selected in a national competition for distinguished recognition from the Council on Undergraduate Research. She and her husband, Steven, have two sons.

**Dr. Joe Jeffers**, professor of chemistry and biology, has been named the Charles S. and Elma Grey Goodwin Holt Professor of Chemistry and Pre-Medical Studies. Dr. Jeffers, a 1966 Ouachita graduate, joined the Ouachita faculty in 1972 as an assistant professor of chemistry and biology. He holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from Purdue University and pursued postdoctoral study at the Open University in the United Kingdom and the University of Texas at Austin. He earned tenure in 1978 and was promoted to associate professor in 1979 and to professor in 1986. He held the Alice and W.D. Burch Professorship of Chemistry and Pre-Medical Studies from 1994 through 2003. He has received several Patterson research grants and Ouachita faculty development grants and has secured external funding for many research projects and teaching seminars.

The Ouachita Student Senate honored him with the Outstanding Teacher Award in 1991. Dr. Jeffers was appointed chair of the Department of Chemistry in 1980, and in 1995 he became chair of the Division of Natural Science. He was appointed founding dean of the J.D. Patterson School of Natural Sciences in 2002. He concluded his service as dean this summer and is returning to full-time teaching this fall before taking a sabbatical next spring. He and his wife, Charlotte, are the parents of two adult children.

Trustees approved several other personnel issues during their summer meeting, including two new faculty members:



**Dr. Lori Hensley**



**Dr. Joe Jeffers**

**Dr. Heather Thayer** was named assistant professor of music in the School of Fine Arts. Dr. Thayer earned a Bachelor of Music in horn and violin from Eastern Michigan University in 2000. She holds two master's degrees from Bowling Green State University, one in horn performance and the other in music theory, both awarded in 2004. She completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in horn performance from the University of North Texas in 2011. She has served as an adjunct instructor of aural skills, music theory and applied horn at four universities, including Ouachita and Henderson State University for the past two years. She also has taught private horn lessons in Texas public schools and has performed in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

**Lacy S. Wolfe** was named assistant professor and circulation/reference librarian in Riley-Hickingbotham Library. Wolfe received both the Bachelor of Arts degree in English (2002) and the Master of Liberal Arts degree in social sciences (2005) from Henderson State University. She earned the Master of Library Science from Indiana University in Bloomington in 2011. She served for three years as a library assistant in the reference and circulation departments for the Central Arkansas Library System in Little Rock. As a graduate assistant at Henderson, Wolfe worked in the English as a Second Language Center where she taught TOEFL prep classes. Recently serving as a student financial services advisor for Brown Mackie College in Indianapolis, she is a member of the American Library Association. She and her husband, William, relocated from Indianapolis this summer.

Trustees also approved several administrative staff positions:

**Jason Bean** was named Ouachita's new director of recreational life. Bean holds degrees from the University of Arkansas and John Brown University and currently is pursuing a PhD in education from the Talbot School of Theology. He has served the past four years as youth minister at Park Hill Baptist Church in Arkadelphia. He also has taught mathematics at Ouachita and Henderson

and previously managed Castle Bluff Camp. His wife, Sarah, serves as hall director of Westside 2 residence hall. They have two children, Emma and Caleb.

**Ian Deetz** is serving as hall director in Anthony Hall with additional responsibilities in Career Services. He graduated from Ouachita in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and a minor in Christian studies. He previously was a youth ministry intern at Houston Northwest Baptist Church. His wife, Cara, also is a Ouachita graduate.

**Ashlee Giles** is returning to Ouachita as an admissions counselor. Earning bachelor's and master's degrees from Arkansas Tech University, she served as an admissions counselor in 2007-2009 before working at Henderson as assistant director of residence life. She returned to Ouachita for several months in 2010 before her husband, Robert, who works for the Arkansas State Parks system, was transferred out of the area. He recently was transferred to White Oak State Park and they have relocated to the Arkadelphia area.

**Hillary Hill** is serving as hall director of Frances Crawford East and as an assistant director in Campus Activities. Hill is a 2012 Ouachita graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology and a minor in psychology. As a student, she was involved with Campus Ministries through Backyard Bible Clubs and the Big Brother Big Sister Program as well as with Elderserve through the Elrod Center for Family and Community.

**Rachel Jones** is serving as hall director in Maddox Hall and as assistant director of recreational life. She comes to Ouachita from Oklahoma State University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in international business in 2011, with minors in marketing, management and Spanish. Jones was a resident assistant in the residential life division at OSU, and was honored as RA of the Year in 2010. She was active as a small group leader in her church, a volunteer with Special Olympics and a member of the OSU women's tennis team. She is married to Wilson Jones.

**Allison Grigsby Sweatman** is serving as hall director in Frances Crawford West Hall and as an assistant director in Campus Activities. She graduated from Ouachita this spring with a Bachelor of Arts in mass communications and minors in English and Christian studies. While a student, she served three years as a resident assistant in Gosser Hall. She also served in Campus Ministries as the Noonday ministry leader. Her husband, Andrew, also is a Ouachita graduate.

**Sarah (Huckabee '04) Sanders** and her husband, Bryan, welcomed daughter **Scarlett Wiles** on May 10.



**Matt ('09) and Holly (Crouch '07) Morrison** welcomed son **Caleb James** on March 7.



**Karsten Zimny ('05)** and his wife, **María Ortiz de Zúñiga**, welcomed daughters **Isabel** and **Teresa** July 10. They join big sister **Monica (2)**.



**Jonathan and Brooke (Schaefer) Hayes ('08)** welcomed daughter **Paisley Annette** on Oct. 9, 2011. Jonathan is a sales tax auditor at Dillard's Corporate and Brooke is an account executive with the Hatcher Agency in Little Rock.

**Kimmie ('07) and Danny Brown ('09)** welcomed **Daxton Ramón** on Dec. 2, 2011. The Browns live in Los Angeles.



## *in memoriam*

### **-1930s-**

**Eulalee (Smith '33) Greene** passed away on Jan. 3. She is survived by her daughter **Martha (Greene '62) Freeman**.

**Christina (Doyle '37) Spear** of Little Rock passed away on May 24. She is survived by her daughters **Melanie Spear** and **Diane Puglisi** and two grandchildren.

**Mildred (Patishall '37) Webster** of Arkadelphia passed away on April 6. She is survived by her son **Dr. Bob Webster ('68)**, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Maurine (Hankins '38) McGugan** of Bryant, Ark., passed away on April 1. She is survived by her daughter, **Linda Kubicek**, two grandsons and one great-grandson.

**Mark Glover ('39\*)** of Little Rock passed away on July 6. He is survived by his daughter, **Judy Caruthers**, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

### **-1940s-**

**Martha (Clark '40\*) Morgan** of North Little Rock passed away on May 2. She is survived by her sons, **Clark Morgan** and **Frank Morgan**, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Wayne Ward ('43)** of Louisville, Ky., passed away on May 23. He is survived by his children, **Larry Ward**, **David Ward** and **Rebecca Fulgham**, four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

**Houston Knight ('46\*)** of Pearland, Texas, passed away on March 26. He is survived by his brother, **Gene Knight**.

**William Keltner ('47)** of Harper Woods, Mich., passed away on June 16. He is survived by his wife, **Nelda Keltner**, and daughter **Jeanne Jones**.

**Jo (Bryant '48\*) Felton** of El Dorado, Ark., passed away on April 21. She is survived by her husband, **Jarrell Felton ('49)**; children, **Barry Felton**, **Walter Felton ('83)** and **Jane (Felton '74\*) Proffitt**; three grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

**Faye (Maddux '48) Gonzalez** of Corpus Christi, Texas, passed away on April 25, 2011. She is survived by her children, **Steven Gonzales** and **Nancy Gonzales**, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Marlin Gennings ('49)** of Little Rock passed away on July 8. He is survived by his wife, **Sue Gennings**; children, **Grady Gennings**, **Paul Gennings** and **John Gennings**; stepchildren **Rock Cato ('80)**, **Elizabeth Cato** and **Byron Cato**; six grandchildren and 15 step-grandchildren.

**Iris (Eskew '49) Huckabee** of Arkadelphia passed away on July 17. She is survived by her son **Bob Huckabee ('71)**, one granddaughter and one great-grandson.

**Garret Ham ('07)** and his wife, **Callie**, welcomed daughter **Kaylin Michelle** on Sept. 26, 2011.



## —1950s—

**Juanita (Greene '51\*) Burnette** of Little Rock passed away on April 9. She is survived by her sons, Carlisle Burnette, Dennis Burnette and Mark Burnette, and two grandchildren.

**Georgiana (Blair '51\*) Wiseman** of Texarkana, Texas, passed away on April 11. She is survived by her children, Richard Wiseman, Shirley Askew and Linda Sanders, and three grandchildren.

**Margaret (Bodenhamer '52) Barnes** of Anderson, S.C., passed away on Feb. 3. She is survived by her children, Jean Stutler and Jack Barnes, Jr.; five grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

**Billy Dunn ('52)** of Lufkin, Texas, passed away on May 1. He is survived by his wife, Beverly Dunn; children, Glenda Kelley, Karen Braun, James Dunn and Timothy Dunn; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Judy Boullioun ('53)** of Little Rock passed away on April 8. She is survived by several cousins and friends.

**Annette (Carter '53) Waters** of Little Rock passed away on June 29. She is survived by her children, Brian Waters and Beth Hodde, and six grandchildren.

**Celia (Atkinson '58\*) Birdwell** of Garland, Texas, passed away on April 24. She is survived by her children, Becky Shermis, Teresa Joerger and Michael Porier; stepchildren, Donald Birdwell and Gary Birdwell; four grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

**George Ann (Robinson '58\*) Sims** of Batesville, Ark., passed away on May 23. She is survived by her children, **Georgette Sims ('90)** and **Noel Sims ('79\*)**.

## Thirty-six students named to Who's Who

Thirty-six Ouachita students were selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

The students were chosen for Who's Who by OBU's faculty, staff and 2012 senior class based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

The following Ouachita students are included in Who's Who:

**Rebecca Atkinson**, an early childhood education major from Arkadelphia, Ark.

**Stephanie Batsel**, a music and business administration/marketing major from Mansfield, Texas.

**Kendall Calvert**, a church media/production arts major from Mansfield, Texas.

**Kinsey Ann Carpenter**, a choral music education major from Mason, Tenn.

**Natalie Carroll**, a music education major from Harare, Zimbabwe.

**Reuben Cash**, an accounting and business administration major from Springfield, Tenn.

**Abby Dekle**, a biology major from Sachse, Texas.

**Cheyenne Flemister**, a business administration major from Monticello, Ark.

**Max Ford**, a biology and chemistry major from Arkadelphia, Ark.

**John Gomez**, a biology, chemistry and English major from Bluefield, Va.

**Mason Hayes**, an accounting major from Cabot, Ark.

**Leigha Hill**, a communication sciences and disorders major from Bolivar, Mo.

**Natalie Holmes**, an early childhood education major from Richardson, Texas.

**Paul Heunefeld III**, a worship arts major from Heber Springs, Ark.

**Trevor Huxham**, a history and Spanish major from Plano, Texas.

**Grace Johnson**, a vocal performance major from Tyler, Texas.

**Austin King**, a political science major from Arkadelphia, Ark.

**Natasha May**, a Christian studies major from Cherokee Village, Ark.

**Wesley May**, a Christian studies major from Hardy, Ark.

**Cara McKinney**, a biology major from Hughes Springs, Texas.

**Katelyn Mustain**, a dietetics and nutrition major from Lewisville, Texas.

**Kezia Arya Nanda**, a psychology and speech communication major from Jakarta, Indonesia.

**Zach Nottingham**, a mass communications major from Windhoek, Namibia.

**Beulah Osueke**, a psychology major from Sugar Land, Texas.

**Nate Peace**, a Biblical languages, mass communications and Christian studies major from Bedford, Texas.

**Jeremy Prine**, a church music major from Hazen, Ark.

**Laura Sikes**, a communication sciences and disorders major from Greenbrier, Ark.

**David Street**, a biology major from Cherokee Village, Ark.

**Allison Grigsby Sweatman**, a mass communications major from Cabot, Ark.

**Wendy Vick**, a biology major from Conway, Ark.

**Jeffery Neil Wacaster**, a business administration major from Hot Springs, Ark.

**Nate Wade**, an accounting major from Big Sandy, Texas.

**Caitlyn Wamble**, a Christian studies major from Pine Bluff, Ark.

**Nolan West**, a biology major from Boliver, Mo.

**Haley Whisenhunt**, a communication sciences and disorders major from Little Rock, Ark.

**Jessica Winston**, a biology major from Sheridan, Ark.

## —1960s—

**Rozelle Goodson ('63)** of Little Rock passed away on Feb. 3. She is survived by her children, **Mary Goodson ('67)**, **Nancy (Goodson '68) Mills**, **Margery (Goodson '70) Lumpkin**, **Charlotte Goodson ('72\*)** and **Dr. Timothy Goodson ('79)**; 14 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

**Robbie (McNeil '64\*) Mooney** of Gilmer, Texas, passed away on April 3. She is survived by her husband, David Mooney; daughters, Jennifer Bass and Jillana Mooney; and three grandchildren.

**Susan (Ritter '66) Cunningham** of Mountain Home, Ark., passed away on June 14. She is survived by her husband, **Dr. Tommy Cunningham ('66)**; children, **Tom Cunningham ('92)** and Rebecca Camp; and five grandchildren.

**Carolyn (Wilkins '66\*) Hobson** of Searcy, Ark., passed away on June 1. She is survived by her husband, Jerry Hobson; son, Jerry Hobson; 17 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Carolyn (Earnhart '68) Ewing** of Kennewick, Wash., passed away on April 26. She is survived by her husband, Rick Ewing; children, Kimberly Schauss, James Ewing, Dawn Messina and Bryan Ewing; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## —1970s—

**James Carmack ('73)** of Little Rock passed away on April 21. He is survived by his wife, Lavern Guthery-Carmack; sons, Russell, Aaron and James Carmack; four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

**Barbara (Peebles '75) Shaver** of Gurdon, Ark., passed away on June 7. She is survived by her children, Charles Shaver and Mandy Glass, and seven grandchildren.

**Ella (Noble '77) Davis** of Little Rock passed away on May 25. She is survived by her husband, Alvin Davis; son, Melvin Davis; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Mack Harris ('77)** of Plano, Texas, passed away on May 14. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Harris; son, Andre Harris; and one granddaughter.

## —1980s—

**Stephen Hudson ('82)** of Arkadelphia, Ark., passed away on July 7. He is survived by his wife, Lisa Hudson, and children Rebecca Ann, Joshua and Andrew.

**Wendy (McInvale '85) Kizzar** of Huntington Beach, Calif., passed away on June 27. She is survived by her husband, **Mark Kizzar ('85)**, and children **Mike Kizzar ('10)** and Katherine Kizzar.

## —2010s—

**Grant Laviolette ('14\*)** of Shreveport, La., passed away on June 14. He is survived by his parents, Judy Laviolette and L.J. Laviolette.

## —Faculty & Staff—

**Algie Mae Knox** of Arkadelphia, Ark., a retired employee of Ouachita and foster grandparent, passed away on April 6 at age 89. She is survived by her sons, Eddie Fort and Leon Blackmon; stepchildren, Elnora Stephens, Diana Johnson, Tommy Knox, Debra Carter, Kenny Knox, Patsy Dixon, Oddis Knox and Rickey Knox; 14 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.



## Roots honored with Education Seminar Room

by Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

**D**r. Paul Root and his wife, Mary Windham Root, longtime faculty and staff members at Ouachita, were honored recently with the dedication of the Dr. Paul and Mary Root Education Seminar Room.

The seminar room, housed in Ouachita's Huckabee School of Education in McClellan Hall, was funded through a donation from the Clinton Family Foundation. President Bill Clinton named Dr. Root his "favorite teacher" during the years Dr. Root taught history and social studies at Hot Springs High School.

Dr. Root, professor emeritus of education at Ouachita, and Mrs. Root, retired academic coordinator of Student Support Services, dedicated their professional careers to the field of education and were leaders in school integration and racial equality issues.

Dr. Merribeth Bruning, dean of the Huckabee School, said university officials were "delighted to be able to honor Paul and Mary Root in this way. It has really been a joy to work on this project and it has really been a joy to know Paul and Mary Root."

"This is a great occasion for us here today and one that is so richly deserved by Paul and Mary Root," said Ouachita President Rex Horne. "When I think of them, I think of two people who get it, who understand not only about education but understand about vision, understand about needs, understand faith and the desire to make a difference in this world."

Dr. Horne noted that "because of the relationship the Roots have had with President Clinton over many years," he invited President Clinton to "perhaps make some kind of gift to get things started." In response, the Clinton Family Foundation provided a financial gift in honor of the Roots that covered the cost of the project.

In a letter of congratulations to the Roots, President Clinton wrote, "Since Paul Root first inspired me as my 10<sup>th</sup> grade history teacher in Hot Springs, he and his wife, Mary, have been wonderful friends. They have played an important role in my life and work as well as in the lives of so many others all over Arkansas and around our nation.

"Paul has always been an invaluable advocate of quality education and equal access for all. He spent years working on desegregation efforts all over the state at the grassroots level," President Clinton added. "During their years as beloved professors at OBU, Paul and Mary cultivated intellectual curiosity in so many students."

Dr. Root first joined the Ouachita faculty in 1964. He served a total of 22 years at Ouachita, including serving as dean of the graduate school, professor and chair of the Department of Education and director of the Arkansas Technical Assistance and Consultative Center.

He also served as special assistant to Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton from 1983 to 1987 and as special assistant to the director of the Arkansas Department of General Education from 1987 to 1989 before returning to Ouachita.

Mrs. Root began her career in education as an elementary teacher. She taught elementary education at Oakland City College before working as an elementary consultant and multi-ethnic specialist for the Arkansas Technical Assistance and Consultative Center on Ouachita's campus.

For 10 years, Mrs. Root directed the preschool program at First Baptist Church of Arkadelphia. She later joined the Arkansas Department of Education as a licensure officer. She continued her licensure work at Ouachita in 1990, where she also served as the academic coordinator of Student Support Services until her retirement in 2001.





# Rebecca Jones, Assistant Professor of Communications

Rebecca Jones ('96) knows a lot about transitions. Since coming on staff at Ouachita in 1999, she has held four different positions, had six different office locations and seven different supervisors. But one thing has remained the same: the Ouachita environment. In her roles in admissions counseling, public relations, development and now as assistant professor of communications, "one role has smoothly led into the next," she said. "I really enjoy the people I get to work with and interact with on a daily basis."

While serving in the development office, Jones was invited to work with a group of students to revive and reorganize the Ouachita Student Foundation. It was during that time that she realized her love of leading and working with students. "It was so great to see that our students were willing, talented and capable leaders. Helping shape what OSF would become for the future led me to realize what was next for me – and that was teaching and guiding students in a classroom environment. Continuing to work with OSF students and seeing them raise over \$100,000 in scholarship money for fellow students last year alone has been one of my greatest joys in my time at Ouachita."

Jones said she enjoys watching students progress toward graduation and determine what is next. "It's a time filled with uncertainty and fear and I enjoy walking through transitions with my students. Whether I meet students through advising, classes, OSF or working on our annual Advertising/PR Campaigns class project, I believe God places us in others' lives for a season."

Jones currently is working on her dissertation for her PhD work focusing on children's spirituality and parent/child communication about faith. She hopes her research will benefit other parents and help them become more comfortable with engaging their children in spiritual discussions, activities and experiences.

"People often ask me, 'How do you do it? You have two kids, classes at Ouachita and working on your PhD!' It struck me recently that it's only by the grace of God. I'm thankful to get to do these things and very thankful to get to serve at Ouachita."

Jones and her husband, Jason, executive director of the Arkadelphia Promise, are the parents of two sons, Anderson (8) and Sullivan (6).

photo by Wesley Kluck



stepping  
up  
for  
Ouachita



honoring

## MOLLY KIRCHER

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Chenal Country Club  
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CONTACT NICOLE HERNDON AT (870) 245-4278 OR HERNDONN@OBU.EDU

# John Hardman, Director of Facilities Management

staff *profile*

This summer brought lots of transitions to Ouachita's campus. John Hardman, overseeing the renovations to Lile Hall and Evans Student Center, has been pleased to see some long-awaited projects come to fruition.

"Our TRIO programs will now have a more centrally located space, allowing athletics to have the space they need in SPEC," Hardman noted. "ROTC will now have its own space which will give more students the opportunity to experience the program and help fund their education. Evans Student Center will be more welcoming and usable for students, giving them a place to gather and grow in community with one another. These are great changes to our campus."

Hardman started working in construction at age 15, working at Hardman's Lumber Company in Arkadelphia. "I thought my dad was trying to kill me, but I am thankful to have learned a great work ethic at a young age," he said. "To this day, I still get to get my hands dirty – teaching those working with me here in facilities management how to do things right and do them well."

Hardman said his favorite project to oversee in recent years was the construction of the facilities management complex near A.U. Williams Field. "We prepared for this move for 15 years, running electric and water to the area. We were finally able to move from 8,200 to 32,000 square feet last year, giving each area its own space. Our move was also important as we made space for Ouachita's excellent wrestling program."

Since Sept. 14, 1989, when Hardman started at Ouachita as a mechanical supervisor working on heating, air and plumbing, he said the favorite part of his job has been the people at Ouachita.

"I love the people I work with," he emphasized. "We strive to do our part to keep the buildings and grounds here well-maintained. Sometimes it is hard to navigate all the projects we want to complete, assessing needs and wants. But what drives our team is our desire for families to come to campus and think, 'If Ouachita takes that much care in their beautiful campus, I know they'll take great care of my kids.'"

Hardman and his wife, Nancy ('79), Ouachita's Linn Professor of Communication Disorders and Pre-Med Studies, live in Arkadelphia and are active members of Second Baptist Church.

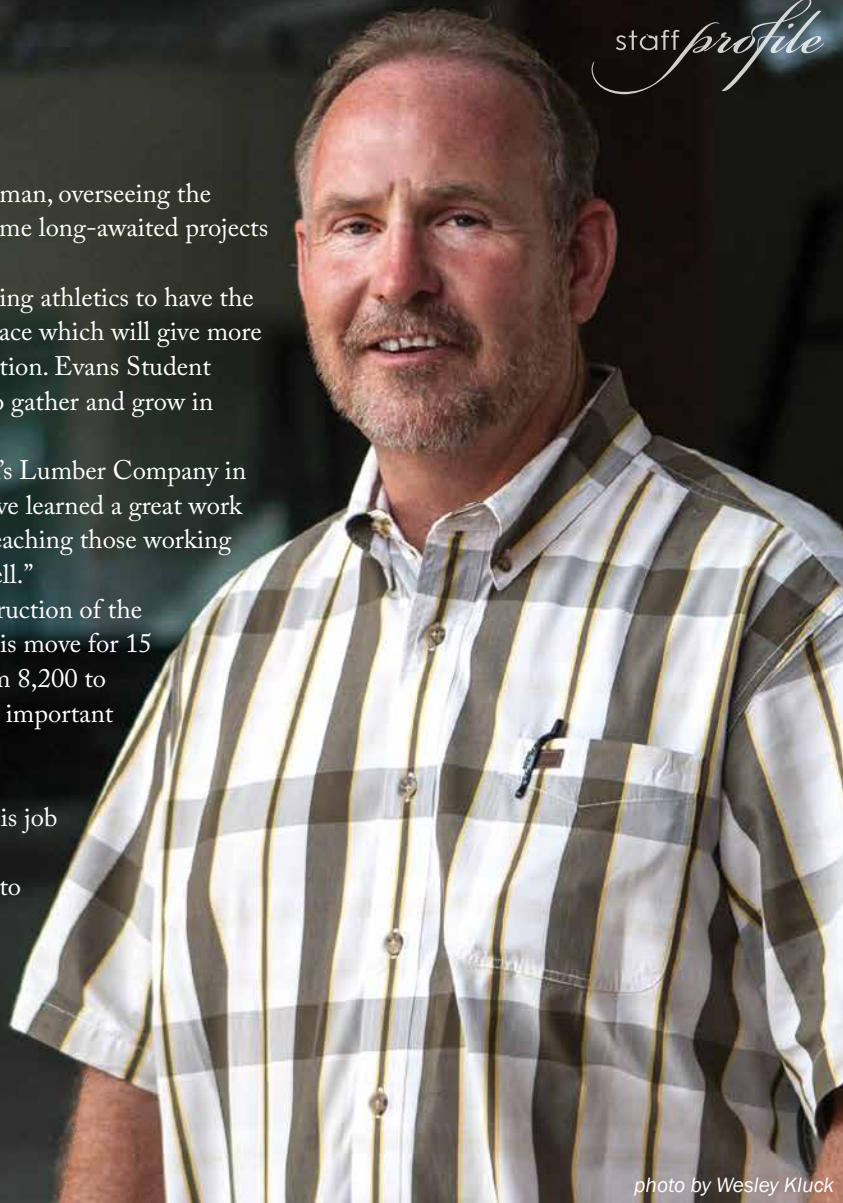


photo by Wesley Kluck

photo by Keisha Pittman

A wide-angle photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, several golfers are on a green, some in mid-swing or preparing a shot. A large pond with a fountain is on the left. The background shows a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

Pleasant Valley Country Club  
SEPTEMBER 24

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# Dealing with life's transitions: Don't blink

**H**ow are you dealing with your life's transitions? At first you may think: What transition? It is my thought that if the word "life" had not already been used to define one's existence, it would be a good word for all the transitions, changes and passages from one stage, concept or circumstance to another.

*The Ouachita Circle* is largely devoted to reporting the transitions of the Ouachita community. You find in Class Notes information about births, marriages, events to celebrate, retirements among our faculty, staff and alumni and the passage through death to eternity. On a personal family note, this issue of *The Circle* even includes a photo celebrating the marriage of our son, Truett, to 2007 Ouachita graduate Nicole Daye this summer in Berry Chapel.

***"Whatever the future holds, ... remember that God truly makes all things new."***

Those outside of university life may think there is little change on campuses like Ouachita. Nothing could be further from the truth. Whether your focus is on our students, those who serve here, technology, physical facilities or adaptation to internal and external needs for change, transition is all around us.

One of the enjoyable aspects of transition is the newness of the next phase. I enjoy meditating fairly often on a part of a verse near the end of the Bible, "Behold, I make all things new" (Revelation 21:5). The word "new" in this verse speaks to that which is unaccustomed or unused. Transitions are new. Some lead us to a place that we do not know amid unaccustomed challenges, but also opportunities that have not been used.

Has the case been made that we are all in transition from the time we are born until we pass to eternity? Even there I believe we continue to have new, wonderful experiences and opportunities. If we struggle with the theology, perhaps country singer Kenny Chesney's song, "Don't Blink," captures it in a way we can all understand. The background is an old

man of 102 being interviewed about what he has learned over more than a century of life. Reflecting on his life, he says:

"Don't blink; just like that you're 6 years old  
And you take a nap  
And you wake up and you're 25  
And your high school sweetheart becomes your wife.  
Don't blink; you just might miss  
Your babies growing like mine did  
Turning into moms and dads.  
Next thing you know your better half  
Of 50 years is there in bed  
And you're praying God takes you instead.  
Trust me, friend, a hundred years  
Goes faster than you think, so don't blink."

(I wonder if any president of Ouachita has used a country song in their article before? This could be another transition!)

I had lunch recently with a lifelong friend, the son of my childhood pastor. He remarked on the irony of my returning to Ouachita where I first entered college many years ago. His observation is true. It was, however, a real transition because of the years that had passed, the changes that life had brought and the opportunity yet unused.

Who can know the transition of the coming year? Some transitions are impacted by age. Our students are at one phase of life while faculty and staff cover other phases. Career experience, expectation and satisfaction color the transitions that inevitably come. One's health and hopes for the remaining years play into the continuing changes.

Whatever the future holds for you, faithful reader, I pray that you will be grateful for life and even the transitions. Remember that God truly makes all things new.

Don't blink!



*Rex Horne*



*Grow*

Thursday, Oct. 4 - Friday, Oct. 5  
WWW.OBU.EDU/GROW

# Tiger Tunes

Thursday, Oct. 4 (7:30 p.m.)  
Friday, Oct. 5 (7:30 p.m.)  
Saturday, Oct. 6 (5 & 8:30 p.m.)

FOR TIGER TUNES TICKET  
INFORMATION, VISIT  
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ONLINE



- Tuesday, Oct. 2 | Clark County Alumni Dinner
- Friday, Oct. 5 | Alumni Milestone Award Panel  
Class of 2002 10-Year Reunion  
Class of 1987 25-Year Reunion
- Saturday, Oct. 6 | OctTiger Fest  
1980s Mixer: Totally Gnarly After-Party



*Game Day*

- Breakfast at Dr. Jack's  
Coffeeshouse (8-11 a.m.)
- OctTiger Fest (9-11 a.m.)
- Tiger Tailgate & Picnic (11 a.m.)
- Pre-Game Activities (12:30 p.m.)
- Football Game (1 p.m.)
- Street Festival (6:30-8:30 p.m.)



*Reunions*



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