

Spring 2014

The Ouachita Circle Spring 2014

Ouachita Baptist University

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The ouachita
Circle
SPRING 2014

TRANSFORMATION



Turner Studio dedicated

Honors Program marks 50 years

Beanies, mortarboards & more

Ouachita is, by its very nature, a transformation destination. The university's mission statement declares: "Ouachita Baptist University is a Christ-centered learning community. Embracing the liberal arts tradition, the university prepares individuals for ongoing intellectual and spiritual growth, lives of meaningful work and reasoned engagement with the world." That is, in a word, transformation.

Whether it's the transformation of recent high school graduates into Ouachitonians or undergraduate students into proud alumni and Tigers for Life, Ouachita is in the business of transforming young people into God-honoring difference makers who impact the world around them.

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth," counsels 2 Timothy 2:15. That has been the Ouachita way for 128 years and counting.

With the recent commencement celebration of Ouachita's 357 newest graduates still fresh in the air, transformation is a timely theme for this issue of *The Ouachita Circle*. Among the transformational topics addressed in this edition:

- Dr. Scott Duvall, chair of the Pruet School's Department of Biblical Studies, reflects on the "wonderfully difficult" milestone of graduating from Ouachita. "It's mostly the people but it's also the place," he explains. "Much like a greenhouse provides an optimum environment for growing new plants, so Ouachita offers a healthy setting for growing kids into adults." Check out his insightful theme interpretation on pages 2-3.
- A key contributor to many students' academic and personal transformation over the years has been the Carl Goodson Honors Program. This year marks the program's 50th anniversary of promoting academic exploration and excellence. According to Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the honors program and professor of Christian missions, "For those who choose honors, a four-year experience at OBU just wouldn't be the same without the learning and fellowship they experience here." Read more on page 9.
- Gov. Mike Beebe was the keynote speaker for this year's OBU Business Administration Day luncheon. Issuing a call for creative entrepreneurship coupled with a strong work ethic, Gov. Beebe declared, "America will remain strong because of smart, bright, educated people who are willing to take chances." Page 10.

As our students experience incredible transformation during their years at Ouachita, that truth is captured in this issue's cover photo illustration by 2014 graduate Kristen Barnard. What does transformation look like for Ouachitonians? It's a life-changing journey that travels from beanies to mortarboards – and beyond.



Trennis Henderson
Vice President for Communications

**"Transformation is a process,
and as life happens there
are tons of ups and downs.
It's a journey of discovery."**

Rick Warren

**"Everyone wants to transform,
but nobody wants to change."**

Frederica Mathewes-Green

**"Transformation in the world
happens when people are
healed and start investing
in other people."**

Michael W. Smith

**"Love is the only force
capable of transforming an
enemy into friend."**

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**"And do not be conformed to
this world, but be transformed
by the renewing of your mind,
so that you may prove what the
will of God is, that which is good
and acceptable and perfect."**

Romans 12:2



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The lives and careers of Gary and Matt Turner, a talented father-and-son duo remembered as gifted communicators, are being honored with the dedication of Turner Studio in their memory.

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Ouachita's CONVICTIONS, COUNSELORS & COMMUNITY SPARK TRANSFORMATION

By J. Scott Duvall

Commencement season is here. I must admit having bittersweet memories of the day I graduated from Ouachita.

Yes, it's quite an accomplishment and the celebration with family and friends was memorable – a milestone, changing the world and all that. While finishing a college degree stands as a significant achievement, I was totally unprepared for the abrupt change that graduation day would bring.

As a student you spend four years (or more) cultivating community only to have the “adults” decide one Saturday in May that the game is over and we all have to leave. That Saturday was simultaneously wonderful and painful. I would never again live and eat and play and study with that same group of people in the same place. The neighborhood was gone, and when commencement was over I found myself, surprisingly, ... grieving.



We have to grow up, and staying at OBU forever wasn't an option, but I'll never forget how difficult that day was. Wonderfully difficult, you might say. After 25 years of teaching, I think I know now why it was especially tough. What happens here is, in a word, transformational. It's mostly the people but it's also the place. Much like a greenhouse provides an optimum environment for growing new plants, so Ouachita offers a healthy setting for growing kids into adults. That's probably the reason that some of us come back to work here and many of us come back to visit.

Something special happens here for most people. You arrive an 18-year-old kid and you leave a young adult. You land as a bundle of excitement and awkwardness, anticipation and apprehension. During these four years you change, perhaps more than you will ever change again in such a short span. Transformation happens here for many people, at least it did for me.

“WE NEED FELLOW TRAVELERS TO JOURNEY WITH US THROUGH THE GOOD TIMES AND THE BAD.”

When I think about how God transformed me at Ouachita, I'm reminded of the account of another group of college students. In his book, *The Fabric of Faithfulness*, Steven Garber zeroes in on what leads college students to become faithful and stay faithful through their university years. He tells the story of Hans and Sophie Scholl, students at Munich University in the 1940s. Under the guidance of an influential professor, they formed an anti-Nazi resistance movement, The White Rose. They were Christians and distributed ideas through their newspaper about human dignity and freedom that ran counter to Hitler's dogma. Hans and Sophie and several of their friends were eventually executed by the Nazis. Their professor, the only member of the Munich faculty to support the students, also was martyred. (The 2005 movie, *Sophie Scholl: The Final Days*, powerfully portrays their courageous stance.)

As Garber studied the entire story, he observed that three things set these students apart from the rest, three things were essential to form faithfulness: a biblical worldview or set of convictions, role models such as teachers to incarnate those beliefs for the students to observe and a group of people who share those beliefs who can journey together through life. In other words, the perfect storm of faithfulness includes convictions, counselors and community.

Ouachita is transformational because it's a place with strong concentrations of these three important essentials: a biblical worldview, wise and loving mentors and a community of like-minded friends. I teach in the Pruet School of Christian Studies, and I can say without any hesitation that our greatest strength is teaching students how to value, understand and live out God's Word. This is not a statement that can be made with integrity by every Christian college in the land. It's true at OBU.

But this commitment to a biblical set of convictions goes far beyond the Pruet School. When I was a student here, the BSU (now Campus Ministries) made a deep and lasting impact on my life, and CM continues

to touch students in significant ways. All over campus, faculty, staff and administrators do their part to embody and pass on a biblical view of the world and, as a result, students are transformed.

But a biblical worldview without examples and role models and mentors isn't worth much. You have the theory but no sense of how these beliefs play out in real life. Once again, Ouachita is a transformative place because of its people – those who teach and plan and counsel and serve and do so many other things for the benefit of our students. The place provides a wealth of courageous and compassionate examples. I've heard the parents of numerous prospective students say that they can tell from the beginning that we care deeply about students.

During this phase of life, you sometimes need to talk to someone trustworthy who is not a

peer or a parent. Ouachita has those people in abundance and students are transformed by their example. When we forget the lectures, we still remember the words of encouragement, the presence at a recital or ballgame, the comforting talk and the many other times when our mentors at Ouachita embodied our biblical beliefs.

The third essential is community. We need fellow travelers to journey with us through the good times and the bad. To say Ouachita is a social place is a huge understatement. But social doesn't always include community. Along with all the fun, deep and lasting friendships are forged here. True community happens here. That's why commencement was painful. I loved my community and it hurt to give it up so suddenly.

Since then I've learned that authentic community can be found elsewhere since the Spirit of God joins us together in real community. But it happens so naturally and so quickly here. It has a lot to do with living on campus, where you are forced to reckon with important things like laundry, respecting others' space, flexibility, forgiveness, and where you reap the benefits of laughter, spontaneous trips and pranks, envisioning the future and so on. You grow close as you learn together, eat together, play together and worship together.

Ouachita isn't a perfect place but it is a transformational place because it nurtures convictions, counselors and community. God is not just involved in one of these three elements; He's in all of it, orchestrating a beautiful symphony of faithfulness. And no matter how long you've been away, most of us still remember the day we had to leave and look forward to our next visit. My only consolation to each graduating class is a plea to let God use you to cultivate the same kind of transformation wherever you go.



Dr. J. Scott Duvall, a 1980 Ouachita graduate, is the J.C. & Mae Fuller Professor of Biblical Studies and chair of the Pruet School's Department of Biblical Studies.



Julie Turner is interviewed in Turner Studio following the April 3 studio dedication in memory of her husband, Matt Turner, and father-in-law, Gary Turner. photos by Tyler Rosenthal

COMMUNICATIONS LEGACY: *Ouachita dedicates studio in memory of Gary & Matt Turner*

By Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

Honoring the memory of noted communicators Gary and Matt Turner, Ouachita's video production studio was dedicated April 3 in memory of the father and son with ties to Ouachita and Arkadelphia.

Rev. Gary Turner, who served 25 years as pastor of Third Street Baptist Church in Arkadelphia, died in 2005 at age 49 following a two-and-a-half year battle with leukemia. His son, Matt, a 2003 Ouachita graduate and a news anchor for THV-11 in Little Rock, died in a car accident in 2012 at age 32. The Gary & Matt Turner Studio is located in Lile Hall on the Ouachita campus.

Both men are being honored through a generous gift from Sen. Percy Malone and his wife, Donna. Sen. Malone, an Arkadelphia pharmacist and businessman, served in the Arkansas Senate from 2001 to 2013 and previously served in the Arkansas House of Representatives. The Malones are longtime members of Third Street Baptist Church.

THV-11 and KNWA in Northwest Arkansas where Matt Turner worked for several years are both contributing financially to the project through technology upgrades for the studio. Television Broadcasters of Arkansas also is contributing to the effort.

Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the School of Humanities, welcomed guests to the dedication service. Special guests included Rev. Turner's widow, Lisa, and their son, Andy, as well as Matt Turner's widow, Julie, and their daughter, Preslee.

Noting that Gary and Matt Turner "shared some wonderful, God-given talents," Dr. Root said, "They developed their gifts well and used them as a positive force in the lives of others.

"It was so wonderful to see Matt blossom as a student and as a professional," he added. "He did it in the right way with appreciation and affection for those he worked with and a natural rapport with the audience."

Ouachita President Rex Horne told the dedication crowd, "In thinking

about these two men, how fitting it is that we name this studio after them. They were both communicators – one from the pulpit, one from the studio.

"They both touched crowds of people," Dr. Horne said. "They made an indelible impression upon this community and the people who were touched.

"These two men have made tremendous donations that continue to go forward," he emphasized. "Now, because of the generosity of our friends Sen. and Mrs. Malone, they will continue to influence generations of Ouachita students for years and years and years to come."

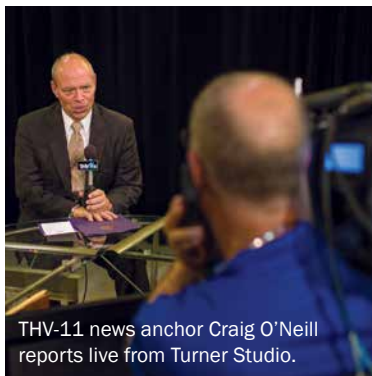
Dr. Horne said the Malones' gift will help "make sure that we do things with excellence in the studio and that we will continue to train difference makers."

McKenzie Cranford, the recipient of last year's inaugural Matt Turner Outstanding Junior Mass Communications Major Award, spoke on behalf of her fellow communications majors at Ouachita.

"We are so grateful for everyone who is supporting the communications department and making sure that we have the best possible studio for many, many years to come," Cranford said.

"Since this new studio opened last year with the renovation of Lile, we've been able to continue producing *The Ouachita Show*, which is the student-run news program on campus, and then last year a group of students started producing a sports show that covers OBU athletics and intramurals, and they've had a lot of fun with that and gained a lot of valuable experience in the studio," she explained. "The studio also is serving as a place for everyone in the video production classes and broadcast journalism classes to come and experience what a real video production studio is like.

"To me, it's encouraging walking through Lile every day and knowing that we have access to this studio and equipment for us to take advantage of until we graduate," Cranford added. "I know it will be a great benefit



THV-11 news anchor Craig O'Neill reports live from Turner Studio.



President Horne visits with Shane Broadway, director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, and Sen. Percy Malone.

not only to us but to future generations of communication students here because the more competent we can be working in environments like the studio, the more confident we can be as we start our careers in the future.”

Sharing words of response, Sen. Malone said, “It’s my total honor to be here today. I am extremely humbled by God’s gifts to me.”

Noting that “I could talk all day about Bro. Turner and Matt,” Sen. Malone said he fondly recalls Gary Turner’s perspective that “we could be good Christians and have a good time and laugh and worship.”

He said Matt Turner “shared our concern and ability to try to do better for abused and sexually abused and neglected children,” an initiative that Sen. Malone led during his years of service in the state Senate. He said Matt was diligent in his efforts “to get the word across Arkansas about the need to do a better job of taking care of our abused children.”

Citing the ongoing impact of both men’s lives, Sen. Malone said, “They’re in a blessed place, and we don’t have to grieve as I do sometimes. We need to celebrate, truly celebrate.”

He said he is confident that the facilities and programs of Turner Studio “will be a tremendous success not only for this university, but for our young people and for Arkadelphia.”

Gary Turner was a recipient of the Arkadelphia Chamber of Commerce President’s Award and was named a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International. Active in community service, he served as president of the Arkadelphia School Board and the Clark County American Heart Association and chairman of the board for Arkadelphia Kids’ Club. He also was a board member for Courage House, Hospitality Care Center and Arkadelphia Little League and served as chaplain for the Arkadelphia Police Department and Clark County Sheriff’s Department.

Matt Turner, a mass communications major at Ouachita, joined the staff of KNWA in Northwest Arkansas in 2003 before moving to THV-11 in 2012. He was voted best news anchor by several publications and also was named to *Arkansas Business*’ “40 Under 40” for achievement in business. Ouachita’s Rogers Department of Communications established the Matt Turner Outstanding Junior Mass Communications Major Award last year.

The studio, part of the Rogers Department of Communications, was built during a major renovation of Lile Hall in 2012. A smaller studio previously housed in Mabee Fine Arts Center is now home to the new Williams/Arnold Dance Studio. To help support the ongoing work of Turner Studio or other campus projects, contact the OBU Office of Development at 870-245-5169 or visit www.obu.edu/give.



photo by Kelsey Bond

School of Fine Arts dedicates Williams/Arnold Dance Studio

Ouachita’s School of Fine Arts features a new dance studio on campus thanks to the generous gifts of several donors.

School officials and guests gathered April 11 to dedicate the Williams/Arnold Dance Studio located on the ground floor of Mabee Fine Arts Center. Lead donors included Dr. Paul and Cheryl Williams and the Sharon and Bill Arnold Family Foundation, as well as significant contributions from Dr. Mike and Melissa Carozza, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Glover and other donors.

“Through the vision and generous donations of Dr. and Mrs. Williams, the Arnold Foundation and other faithful donors, the dance studio and rehearsal facility has become a reality,” said Dr. Scott Holsclaw, dean of the School of Fine Arts.

“Almost 20 years ago, Ouachita established a degree in musical theatre,” he explained.

“Dance classes were offered as a required component of this degree.”

After holding dance classes in Sturgis Physical Education Center and later at Henderson State University’s dance facility, Holsclaw added, “As the program grew, so did the need for space. The school began offering two classes one day a week for musical theatre majors and now they offer four classes two days a week with more than 60 students enrolled.

“The interest in dance has increased and the School of Fine Arts now offers these classes not only for musical theatre students, but also for students wanting to take dance as an elective and students wanting to continue their dance training when they come to Ouachita because of their past experiences in dance.”

The dance studio is located in the space previously occupied by the television production studio which relocated to Lile Hall in 2012. The renovated space features a sprung dance floor designed to provide needed support for dancers. It also includes a preparation area and an office.

“The School of Fine Arts is proud to have this new facility and looks forward to how this space will enhance its programs,” Holsclaw emphasized. In addition to providing space for dance and stage movement classes such as Ballet, Tap and Voice & Movement, he said the facility will be used by the Ouachita Sounds, Tiger Tunes hosts and hostesses and musical theatre recital preparations.



Cheryl Williams visits with Dr. Scott Holsclaw, dean of the School of Fine Arts.

photo by Cara Curtis

#OBUgrad

2014 Spring Commencement



14



by the numbers

127TH Spring Commencement

166 357 Ouachita Graduates
Honor Graduates

18 47 Members of Alpha Chi
Honors Program Graduates

3 ROTC Officer Graduates





photo by Molly Anne Turner

Ouachita students experience Sundance Film Festival firsthand

By McKenzie Cranford

Two years ago, Rebecca Jones, assistant professor of communications at Ouachita, attended the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, as part of her doctoral work. Her class also participated in the Windrider Forum at Sundance, a gathering that brings together students and filmmakers to discuss the relationship between faith and film.

"Overwhelmed by the significance of the experience in my life," Jones said, "I left Utah with the hope of one day returning with Ouachita students." This year, that goal became reality.

Looking back almost two years to the summer of 2012, Ouachita implemented a new strategic grant program to encourage creative educational efforts in the university community. Seeing this as the ideal opportunity to help fund an OBU at Sundance class, Jones teamed up with Dr. Doug Sonheim, chair of the department of English and modern foreign languages, to prepare a grant proposal. Later that year, they were awarded a three-year grant for the project.

After a year of planning logistics, recruiting students and making plans for the course, the inaugural OBU at Sundance class descended on Park City a week in January. Along with Jones; her husband, Jason; Dr. Sonheim; and his wife, Dr. Amy Sonheim, professor of English, the group included eight Ouachita students ranging in majors from mass communications to Christian studies to computer science and business. Ouachita President Rex Horne and his wife, Becky, also joined the group for part of the festival.

Once in Utah, each student had the opportunity to see 10 films. These independent movies, much different than your average Hollywood flick, included dramatic narratives, world-class documentaries and some comedies.

Reflecting on the experience, Dr. Horne said, "I think as Christians, who desire to impact culture, this class and the festival help one see what this culture perceives to be important."

Dr. Doug Sonheim added, "Since film is such an important part of our culture and something we consume on a regular basis, it's beneficial for Christians to be familiar with it on a deeper level."

In addition to viewing the films, the group participated in the Windrider Forum each morning. The forum, led by Christian filmmakers and scholars from Fuller Theological Seminary, Pepperdine University and Biola University, challenged the more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students in attendance to think about how faith and film connect.

"There are some really significant stories told through film that can impact

us emotionally and spiritually," Jones noted. "Some of our students have an interest in telling those types of stories, so we want to encourage them in that."

At Windrider, the students also had the opportunity to interact with directors of Sundance films that they saw during the week. "It's hard to put into words how incredible the experience at Sundance and Windrider was," said Sophie Demuth, a junior Christian studies and speech communication major from Rockwall, Texas. "This week has shown me both the power of film and how God is present in movies. It will impact how I engage with and talk to other people about these aspects of our culture."

"We have so much gratitude to the Windrider Forum for welcoming us to be a part of their group," Jones added. "I'm thankful for the investment that they are making in young Christian filmmakers and students."

This year was especially significant because it was the 10th anniversary of the Windrider Forum. One highlight of this milestone was a special appearance by successful Christian television producer Mark Burnett (*Survivor*, *The Voice*, *Shark Tank* and *The Bible Series*) and a private screening of his movie, *Son of God*, which was yet to be released.

Throughout the semester, the students continued to meet once a week to discuss their experience and learn more about film criticism and film techniques. "When we wrote the grant for the class, we wanted it to be more than just the Sundance experience because we wanted to allow some time for that experience to unfold in our students' lives," Jones explained.

"I think it's important for Christians to understand creative processes and why we as human beings make stuff – particularly works of art and especially stories, which we have an obsession with," said Dr. Sonheim. "The question 'Why do we tell stories?' is really a theological question that we were discussing and unpacking over the course of the semester."

Dr. Horne said he hopes that as a result of this course "some students and faculty will be involved in not only presenting the questions of society, but also help in addressing troublesome issues they are presented with."



McKenzie Cranford, a senior mass communications major from Irving, Texas, served this spring as a practicum student writer in the OBU News Bureau.



photo by Kristen Barnard

Carl Goodson Honors Program: 50 years of academic excellence

By Jessica Stewart

Highlighting its 50-year commitment to academic excellence, Ouachita's Carl Goodson Honors Program hosted its fourth annual Black and White Reception during the spring semester. The 50th anniversary celebration featured reflections from several individuals connected with the program, including Dr. Tim Goodson, the son of honors program namesake Dr. Carl Goodson.

"For those who choose honors, a four-year experience at OBU just wouldn't be the same without the learning and fellowship they experience here," explained Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the honors program and professor of Christian missions.

"Graduates are always quick to express appreciation for how the program taught them to do independent research, to write professionally and prepare for graduate seminars, as well as teaching them to take charge of their own education," she added.

Dr. Carl Goodson, the program's founding director in 1964, was remembered for his vision and commitment. Goodson served at Ouachita as a professor of religion and vice president for academic affairs. Following his retirement in 1982, the honors program was named in tribute to him.

"He wanted Ouachita to be academically excellent," recalled Goodson's son, Tim, a Little Rock physician. "Everything he did was done in a pursuit of excellence and integrity."

Dr. Joe Jeffers, Holt Professor of Chemistry and Pre-Medical Studies, was an honors program student at Ouachita during the program's first year. Recalling Goodson's leadership in 1964, Jeffers noted, "We had to do a paper and really it was all just getting started."

After earning his PhD from Purdue University in 1972, Jeffers returned to Ouachita as a faculty member and became director of the

honors program two years later. He established the directed studies and honors theses that students still participate in today.

In his role as director, Jeffers had the opportunity to help lead the effort to honor Dr. Goodson by naming the honors program after him.

Jeffers said he did so "in part because Dr. Goodson was the first director but much more than that because of his integrity and scholarship that he brought to the campus."

Students and guests attending the reception also heard from honors alumni Rachel Poole and Phillip Williamson as they spoke about their time in the program.

Poole, a 2007 Ouachita graduate, now serves as an instructor of education at OBU. She recalled that she conducted her directed study and honors thesis on Christian education by looking at Jesus as the master teacher. "Seven years later I am still using this thesis in my Foundations of Education class as devotionals

to set the stage for future teachers who want to learn from and be like the master teacher," she added.

Williamson, a 2010 Ouachita graduate, also holds a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. Affirming the significant impact of his professors in the honors program, Williamson said, "My takeaway from the honors program is to think critically and connectedly. You must be able to put all of the puzzle pieces of life together."



Jessica Stewart, a student writer in the OBU News Bureau, is a senior Christian media/communications and mass communications major from Mansfield, Texas.



Gov. Beebe delivers keynote address at OBU Business Administration Day luncheon

By Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

Declaring that education and economic development are “the two cornerstones of how you build quality of life for your people and how you build the state,” Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe delivered the keynote address at Ouachita’s annual Business Administration Day luncheon March 19.

The luncheon, hosted by Ouachita’s Frank D. Hickingbotham School of Business, honors business school students as well as the school’s advisory board members who represent leading businesses and industries throughout the state.

“Business Administration Day has become a meaningful tradition for all the key stakeholders of the Hickingbotham School of Business,” said Bryan McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School. “We enjoy hearing insights from members of our Executive and Business Advisory Boards during morning meetings, and then we love the opportunity to enjoy lunch with students, faculty, advisory board members and key community and business leaders.”

Ouachita “has a history of great leadership,” Gov. Beebe said. Noting that the day’s activities are “all about business,” he said the university’s Hickingbotham School of Business “is named after a pretty good entrepreneur.”

Suggesting that “Arkansas has probably, per capita, a disproportionate number of extraordinarily successful home-grown entrepreneurs,” he cited such examples as Sam Walton, J.B. Hunt, Murphy Oil, Tyson Foods, Acxiom, Dillard’s, Riceland and TCBY.

“This was done by people who were taking risks; entrepreneurs who had a vision and a work ethic,” Gov. Beebe said. “They were people who were willing to take those chances necessary to build something and then watch it grow.”

Emphasizing that education and economic development must work together hand-in-hand, he said, “You can’t have good jobs without an educated workforce and you can’t have an educated workforce that does you any good if you don’t have good jobs for them when they get out of school.

“When we talk about economic development, we start with education and I’m not just talking about K-12,” he added. “I’m talking about cradle to grave.

“In today’s world, we need more than a high school diploma. ... We need constant training and retraining and relearning in an economy that moves so fast,” Gov. Beebe said. “Education never quits. It’s an escalator that people can get on and get off in various stages of their lives but they should never quit learning.

“Let’s talk about jobs,” he continued. “A country that doesn’t make stuff isn’t going to last very long. Certainly the service industry is important for us to be able to have a good, viable economy but we also need to know how to make stuff. Manufacturing is still and should still be a major part of what this country is all about.

“Manufacturing has to be part of our total economic effort,” Gov. Beebe reiterated. “It takes education, it takes training and it takes workforce training.

“You’ve got to have a work ethic, too. It takes cooperation and effort from all of us,” he insisted. “Over and above that, we’ve got to be high tech.

“America is strong because of our diversity. America will remain strong because of smart, bright, educated people who are willing to take chances and are willing to go out there and make something new happen or who are willing to invest in a workforce that can meet our needs,” the governor said.

“You young people have the responsibility going forward to continue that entrepreneurial business acumen tradition,” Gov. Beebe told the business students. “We’re counting on you all. We need you. America needs you. Arkansas needs you.”

Reflecting on the success and impact of the annual luncheon, McKinney said Ouachita President Rex Horne “often speaks of difference makers, and we certainly enjoyed hearing from a difference maker today. ... We know the governor has many demands on his time, and we are so grateful he chose to devote this day to OBU and our students.”

photo by Tyler Rosenthal



Ouachita to introduce new sport management emphasis this fall

For students interested in pursuing careers in the business side of the sports industry, Ouachita is launching a new sport management emphasis this fall.

The 12-hour emphasis is a collaborative effort between the university's Hickingbotham School of Business and the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies. Participating students will graduate with a major in either accounting or business administration with the option of adding a second major in kinesiology and leisure studies or another field.

"The business side of sports is running the team as an effective team – locating teams, selecting coaches and sometimes players, marketing the team to fans, managing fans' in-game experience, social media," noted Dr. Kent Faught, professor of management and holder of the Jay and Lynn Heflin Chair of Business.

"Sport management has become a very popular program in the last decade," he added. "Our goal is to provide students with some of the knowledge and skills needed to succeed, help place them in a successful career path and then expect them to work toward achieving their goals."

"Our active encouragement of multiple majors or emphases is a strength because students are able to pursue multiple career paths because they are competent in multiple areas," Faught explained. "I would anticipate most sport management emphasis graduates to have the additional skills of other majors or emphases to bring to their future employers."

The sport management emphasis will include five course options, including Big Data/Data Mining; Sport Law; Program Design & Management; Organization and Administration of Health, Physical Education & Recreation; and Sport Management Internship.

In addition to courses taught by Faught and Dr. Mike Reynolds, professor and chair of the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies, Faught said the Sport Law course will be taught by Hot Springs attorney Chris Turnage, a licensed NFL sports agent.

Faught added that he and Bryan McKinney, dean of the

Hickingbotham School of Business, also have had discussions with a Ouachita alumnus who is a sport management executive with a Major League Baseball team. They anticipate that he and other sports professionals "will help us with developing a strong network for internships and job placements in the future."

According to Dr. Stan Poole, vice president for academic affairs, "The sport management emphasis in business is a great example of the kind of

"An attraction of the sport management offering at OBU is our interdisciplinary approach." – Dr. Mike Reynolds

strategic approach to academic offerings we've been working toward over the last few years.

"By collaborating across departments and schools, our faculty in business and kinesiology have crafted a program that will take advantage of our existing strengths to create a new opportunity that will be highly appealing to many prospective students," he added.

"The Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies is excited to be a part of the new sport management emphasis housed in the School of Business," Reynolds said. "An attraction of the sport management offering at OBU is our interdisciplinary approach."

"Courses offered in the Department of Kinesiology and Leisure Studies will approach sport management from the lens of the athletes, athletic administrators and coaches," he explained. "This will add a unique flavor to the sport management emphasis."

For more information about Ouachita's sport management emphasis, contact Bryan McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business, at 870-245-5513 or mckinneyb@obu.edu.



photo by Ian Monteiro

International students and MKs share global flavor

By Wayne Bryan

Have you ever tasted shalotka? It is a dessert made from apples that is familiar in Penza Oblast, Russia, about 400 miles south of Moscow.

The dish, not quite a cake and not quite an apple cobbler, is made in a casserole dish. It was one of three Russian dishes served at Ouachita's 2014 International Food Festival.

"The recipe calls for tart apples, so I used Granny Smith apples," said Rachel Timokhina, a student at OBU. "The batter poured over the apples is made from sugar, flour, eggs and vanilla."

Rachel, a native of Malvern, said the dish is from her husband's grandmother back in Penza. Slava Timohkin, her husband, is a native of Penza and an OBU graduate. He now works as a campus safety officer. He and Rachel brought two dishes to the food festival to share with fellow students, faculty and guests. "We met on a Tiger Serve Day," Rachel said. "We were on the same team raking leaves, cleaning up someone's backyard," Slava said.

The Timohkins brought a second dish, called Winter Salad. Its origin is in Belgium, Slava said. "There were a lot of Belgians living in our area of Russia in the early 19th century, and they brought the dish in," he said. "It used to have many ingredients, but it was simplified during the Soviet era."

The dish is basically a potato salad with potatoes, carrots, eggs, pickles, dill weed and mayonnaise with sliced olives on top. Slava adds the traditional chicken to the dish, but he also adds beef.

"I tried to stay as Russian as possible, but the pickles and mayonnaise are both American in flavor," he said.

Ouachita's International Club and the Daniel & Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education hosted the annual festival in Walker Conference Center.

Sharon Cosh, a staff coordinator of the event and the coordinator of OBU's English as a Second Language program, said the event helps make the international students feel united with their American peers and is a way for the international students to represent their own countries by preparing and sharing some of their favorite traditional foods.

"We want to create an awareness of internationals on our campus. This gives them a chance to be identified and lets them have a day when they can celebrate things that are dear to them," Cosh said. "If each one of the students prepares a dish that represents something from their cultures and we all share together, suddenly it's communal."

"There are around 40 international students from 33 countries who have come to study here," said Ian Cosh, OBU's vice president for community and international engagement. "We also have missionary kids who were born in the U.S. but have lived and been educated mostly in other countries."

In addition, Cosh said, more than 40 American students are either currently studying abroad or have expressed an interest in spending some of their college years studying in another country.

He said the event is a great way for students to learn about other cultures through the experience of sharing food. The dinner attracts more than 500 people annually. The food is presented according to its continent of origin.

In the Americas section, Abby Thomas, a sophomore history and English major from Little Rock, prepared a dish from Paraguay.

"I have gone there for the past six summers with a group from Immanuel Baptist Church," Thomas said. "We have a sister church partnership with the First Baptist Church of Asunción."

She made a tray of mbeyu, a flatbread made with cornmeal and cheese.

"I could not find the kind of cheese we use in Paraguay," Thomas said, "so I bought some Mexican queso - that was the closest I could get." Thomas served as one of the food coordinators on the planning committee for the festival.

Ben Lange-Smith, a junior biology and kinesiology major from Harare, Zimbabwe, also serves on the committee. "This is the time when we can come out and be ourselves," he said. "It's our day to shine and to show the world and all the other cultures what we have to offer."

The evening also featured entertainment, with music from several cultures. A group of international and MK students performed songs in their native languages, and the Tiger Steel Drum Ensemble, directed by Dr. Ryan Lewis, played Caribbean music. Dr. Rob Rucker, a veterinarian from Arkadelphia, also performed traditional Cajun music.

"It is great to see hundreds of students and people from around the area here for an event like this," said Ouachita President Rex Horne. "The international students and those studying abroad literally bring great flavor to the campus that we can all enjoy."

Wayne Bryan is a staff writer for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette Tri-Lakes edition. Reprinted with permission.



photo by Kristen Barnard

Nagasaki Cross reflects call for cultural, spiritual peace

By Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

Standing just over 14 inches high by 6.75 inches wide and weighing less than seven pounds, the Nagasaki Cross does not strike an imposing presence. But its meaning does.

The cross sculpture recently was forged from materials salvaged from a school building damaged by the U.S. atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki in 1945 at the end of World War II. The cross is engraved with tributes to both Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the site of the first atomic bomb explosion three days earlier. It also stands as a memorial to the devastating 8.9 magnitude earthquake and 23-foot tsunami that triggered widespread death and destruction throughout the region in 2011, including a nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

The Nagasaki Cross, which recently went on public display in Ouachita's Riley-Hickingbotham Library, is a gift from Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka, Japan. The cross was presented by Dr. Gary Barkley, president of Seinan Gakuin, to Dr. Michael Arrington, executive director of the International Association of Baptist Colleges & Universities and a former vice president for academic affairs at Ouachita. The IABCU is a cooperative group that includes Ouachita and 46 other Baptist institutions from 16 states as well as Japan and Nigeria.

Ouachita and Seinan Gakuin have maintained an academic exchange program for nearly four decades, with Ouachita's first international exchange program established by President Emeritus Daniel Grant during his tenure as president. Since 1975, more than 100 students each from Ouachita and Seinan Gakuin have participated in the exchange program.

"Since Seinan Gakuin was founded by a Baptist missionary, the cross is a significant reminder that even in the midst of war and devastation, Christ is still at work in a world that sometimes seems overcome by war and violence," Arrington said. "It is a significant gift from our Japanese sister school." Plans call for the cross to rotate among Ouachita and other IABCU schools with ties to Seinan Gakuin or Japan.

Inagaki Youhinori, the Japanese artist who created the sculpture,

currently teaches at Nagasaki Junshin University. In his artist's statement, he explains that during the 2011 demolition of the Chensei school building in Nagasaki, he was invited to create a peace memorial.

Emphasizing that the cross' materials "have been reborn into a new existence by passing them once again through a cast iron furnace," Youhinori wrote, "Undoubtedly, this reminds us of nothing less than the cross which stood as an instrument of execution on the hill of Golgotha, and our complete purification and cleansing from the curse through Christ's suffering."

Citing the overwhelming pain and loss suffered at Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Fukushima, Youhinori asked: "Can we not say that the cross, which memorializes the suffering that has enlightened us, at the same time allows us to think of this suffering as the words of the cross, divine words that surpass the wisdom of this world and encourage us to consider the way in which we should proceed?"

As Riley-Hickingbotham Library displayed the Nagasaki Cross, Dr. Ray Granade, OBU's director of library services and professor of history, reflected on the significance of the exchange program and the sculpture.

"Traveling to and in a different culture provides one with snapshots of 'the other,' of those who speak and live differently from one's personal experience," he said. "Living in a different culture, even in the 'bubble' of an educational institution in that culture, almost guarantees to change one's outlook on life."

Noting that "the exchange program responsible for bringing the Nagasaki Cross to OBU is our oldest," he added, "In that way, the cross represents countless changed lives for both American and Japanese students. Those lives are changed culturally by their educational experience.

"The cross also represents lives changed spiritually by a living encounter with the wooden cross on which this steel one is patterned and with the One who hung and died there," Granade concluded. "Encounters with both crosses change one's life and one's worldview."



Jeff and Sarah Teague (center) are honored at the *TIME* Dealer of the Year ceremony by Moritz Loew (left), vice president of advertising sales for *TIME*, and Tim Russi, president of Auto Finance for Ally Financial. *photo courtesy of TIME*

Teague earns national *TIME* Dealer of the Year award

By Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

Jeff Teague has had a lifelong love of cars, including owning automobile dealerships for more than 30 years. That interest, along with his commitment to community service, paid off in a big way this year.

Teague, a 1978 Ouachita graduate who served on Ouachita's Board of Trustees from 2007 to 2013, recently was honored nationally as the 2014 *TIME* Dealer of the Year. The annual award, considered the most prestigious honor a new-car dealer can receive, was presented at the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) annual convention in New Orleans. Teague was selected from among 56 nominees across the nation.

Describing the honor as "truly the highlight of my professional career," Teague said, "We had a rehearsal the day before the announcement. During this rehearsal each of the 56 nominees was recognized, and a short biography was read for each one. To hear the significant civic involvement and generous philanthropy of these dealers was inspiring. Then, to be chosen from that group, out of 15,000-plus dealers in the U.S., as the National Dealer of the Year, was quite humbling."

"This award recognizes the best of the nation's dealers, not only for their business successes, but for their extraordinary commitment in giving back to their local communities," explained Tim Russi, president of Auto Finance for Ally Financial, which sponsors the award in cooperation with *TIME* and NADA. Each year, Ally donates \$10,000 to the charitable cause of the winner's choice as well as donations in honor of each of the regional finalists and nominees.

Affirming Teague's selection for the national award, Ouachita President Rex Horne said, "Jeff Teague is known as a fine businessman. I also know him as a friend, a devoted family man and one who is involved in his church and community. I am pleased for so many to recognize Jeff in his professional life. We are proud to call him our own."

Teague, who graduated from Ouachita with a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics, worked as a salesman for Shepherd Auto Sales in Arkadelphia during his college years. A few years after graduation, he and his father purchased a Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership in Walnut Ridge, Ark. During the next several years, he married his wife, Sarah, a 1983 Ouachita graduate; they had three sons, Justin, David and Jeff II; and Teague acquired Buick, Pontiac and GMC franchises. He also became an instrument-rated pilot.

Teague sold his business in 1989 and the following year moved to El Dorado, where he bought the Chevrolet dealership. Over the years, he added Oldsmobile

and Toyota franchises as well as a Ford, Lincoln, Mercury dealership.

Looking back over his years of success, he cites his father's partnership in acquiring his first dealership. "I am forever grateful to him for that," Teague noted.

In addition to his father, another major influence in his life was Bill Dixon, Ouachita's Vice President for Student Services Emeritus.

"My years at Ouachita were formative, indeed," Teague reflected. "Halloween night of my freshman year, I was out pulling pranks and happened to make the acquaintance of Dean Bill Dixon. It was a poor first impression, and I knew I needed to make amends.

"Dean Dixon looked beyond the immediate circumstances and believed in me," he said. "He gave me a second chance, providing opportunities for me to learn and grow in character in addition to my academic progress at school. Not only did this experience encourage me to think about my actions and their consequences, it motivated me to try to look beyond immediate circumstances, to a person's intentions, and to give that second chance to other individuals when the situation merited it."

Drawing on those valuable life lessons, Teague has built a life of community involvement and service. A member of Rotary International, El Dorado Chamber of Commerce, El Dorado Economic Development Board and Batesville Chamber of Commerce, he also serves as board chair of Citizens Bank of Batesville.

A pilot for 26 years, Teague is chairman of the South Arkansas Regional Airport Commission. He frequently puts his flying skills to work for people in need, including flying church staff members to charitable initiatives. He was retained on standby by a local liver transplant patient and flew to New Orleans to bring home a child who was a victim of domestic kidnapping.

The Teagues are members of First Baptist Church of El Dorado, where he has served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and finance committee chairman. They also are patrons of the South Arkansas Arts Center, South Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Crystal Bridges Museum of Art. He sponsors Boys & Girls Clubs baseball and soccer teams, Arkansas Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries, Main Street El Dorado, Union County 4-H, Salvation Army and the South Arkansas Historical Foundation.

After being honored as *TIME* Dealer of the Year, Teague said, "I'm truly overwhelmed. I did not expect this." The reality, however, is that it was a recognition earned through a lifetime of service.

Former Ouachita student Barrett Baber captures Grammy Gig of a Lifetime

Winning the nationwide Grammy Gig of a Lifetime competition was a dream come true for former Ouachita student Barrett Baber ('02). Baber, who won the contest based on public online voting, performed live at Club Nokia in Los Angeles and was featured in the 2014 Grammy Live coverage. He was selected from more than 2,000 entries that generated 6.5 million votes from across the nation.

"The support I have received from my Ouachita family has been incredible," Baber said. "Arkansans have played a huge role in my getting to participate in the Grammy Gig of a Lifetime, and I know a large number of those were my OBU friends. They had my back then, and they have my back now."

Baber, his brother, Andrew, and his parents, Mark and Janie, all attended Ouachita. In addition to his music career, Baber is following in his mother's footsteps as a high school teacher – teaching debate and forensics at Fayetteville High School.

"Barrett and his family have strong ties to Ouachita," said Ouachita President Rex Horne. "We've enjoyed following his career and we're delighted with this recent success."

But winning the Grammy Gig competition wasn't Baber's only musical milestone this year. He followed that up by winning the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism's Song of Arkansas contest with co-writer Kenny Lamb.

Celebrity judges chose from more than 230 entries to narrow the field to seven finalists whose songs were voted on by the public. Once again, Baber came out on top with the song, "A.R.K.A.N.S.A.S. (Get There from Here)."

"I'm super excited about winning the contest, mostly because I love Arkansas so much and I'm excited to represent the state in such a unique way," he noted.

"We knew it was a song for Parks and Tourism, but I'm from Arkansas. I'm an Arkansas guy," he said. "I knew I would use it on a next project regardless of if it won. We wanted a song that was catchy but also promotes Arkansas as a place people can come to on vacation, can come to live and can do anything they imagine from here in Arkansas."

"It's been amazing the way people have responded to it," he reflected. "I think they get the message and agree with it, that no matter what you dream in life you can accomplish those things from here in Arkansas."

It was at Ouachita that Baber picked up his brother's guitar and started playing for the first time. Songwriting came naturally to him and just one year later, Baber released his first project, *Songs of the Broken Hearted*.

"So many things at Ouachita prepared me for this moment," Baber said. "I got my first guitar at OBU my freshman year, I wrote my first song at OBU, I played my first gig at OBU. All my music theory classes and countless opportunities to sing in Tiger Tunes, with the Ouachita Singers, playing coffee houses – Ouachita was the start of something hopefully much larger. I have no idea what the future holds, but I know Ouachita will always be the special place where it all began."

As a sophomore at Ouachita, Baber survived the crash of American Airlines flight 1420, which crashed in Little Rock on June 1, 1999, with 24 members of the Ouachita Singers on board. He helped save the lives of a flight attendant and three others before escaping the wreckage.

"You hear it all the time, people saying that every day is a gift. But it really is," Baber told *People* magazine shortly after the crash. "I spend more time with people. And relationships mean a lot more now."

"Barrett and many other Ouachita students and faculty members on board the flight acted selflessly to meet the needs of and in some cases, save the lives of fellow passengers," said Jon Merryman, Ouachita's alumni director and fellow crash survivor. "It didn't surprise me though. Service is so engrained in the lives of those studying and serving at Ouachita that in that moment, Barrett put others' needs before his own to lead others to safety."



photo by Kyle Proctor



photo by Sandy Williams

Ouachita wrestlers rank 4th nationally; Ward named D-II Coach of the Year

By Kyle Parris, OBU Sports Information Director

In just its fourth year of competition, the Ouachita Tigers wrestling team sent five qualifiers to the NCAA Division II Championships in Cleveland, Ohio, and finished fourth in the nation. All five Tigers earned All-America honors during the tournament and Head Coach Kevin Ward was named the NCAA D-II Coach of the Year.

Five wrestlers qualifying for the national tournament and earning All-America honors are program records for Ouachita. The Tigers now have 10 All-America wrestlers in program history, including two national runners-up. Their performance in Cleveland caps a series of program firsts this season, including the team's winning regular-season dual record.

"I am so proud of Coach Ward and our wrestling team," said Ouachita President Rex Horne. "Just to think that we started from nothing a few years ago and now celebrate our team finishing fourth in the nation with five All-Americans and our coach winning Coach of the Year in Division II."

Ward, the founding coach of Ouachita's wrestling program, is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. A four-year starter on OSU's NCAA Championship wrestling teams, he was a two-time NCAA qualifier and 2005 Big 12 champion. He also was named a three-time Academic All-American by the National Wrestling Coaches Association.

Ward pointed to his wrestlers and staff at Ouachita as primary reasons for the program's outstanding success. "We never based our plans for this program on finishes," he said. "We based it on people and building our program with the right kinds of student-athletes and competitors."

Ward said he was honored by the recognition but credited the team's success to his entire staff, including first-year assistant coach Chris Chionuma. "Chris has been a positive all the way around for this team," Ward said. "His impact on the guys is a direct influence on our tournament results this year."

Ward emphasized that trophies and titles should not be what solely defines a program, but

he acknowledged the tournament success was a huge step for a young program and a great reward for the hard work the team has put in this season.

Ouachita Athletic Director David Sharp affirmed the program and its success.

"It's a great accomplishment for Coach Ward and the five student-athletes to receive these national accolades," Coach Sharp said. "To have five All-Americans and a Coach of the Year is something for the university to be proud of."

Overall, the Tigers finished the 2013-14 season with five wrestlers ranked nationally in the top eight of their respective weight classes.

Josh Myers, a 141-pound junior, finished as the national runner-up. He had a dominant tournament, winning his first three matches by a combined score of 27-5. No opponent was able to score more than three points against Myers in the tournament. He dropped a close 2-1 decision in the championship match against Daniel Ownbey of University of North Carolina-Pembroke.

Junior 184-pounder Dallas Smith, a 2012-13 national runner-up, finished third. Smith battled back from a quarterfinal loss by decision to win three straight matches. He defeated Nick Burghardt of Maryville (Mo.) University by fall in the consolation final.

Bobby Williams, a 157-pound senior, bounced back from an opening round decision, winning three of his last four matches by pin. Williams defeated Derrick Weller of Lindenwood (Mo.) University by fall at the 1:30 mark of the first period to finish seventh.

Nate Rodriguez, a 133-pound true freshman, shrugged off an opening round loss to score two falls and a major decision win in the consolation bracket. Rodriguez defeated Isaiah Hurtado of San Francisco State University with a first-period fall to finish seventh.

Garrett Evans, a 125-pound sophomore, dropped a decision in the quarterfinals, but fought his way back through the consolation bracket to finish eighth. Evans was ranked in the top eight of his weight class throughout the season.

Ouachita alumnus Steven Bostick named head coach of Tiger swim teams

By Kyle Parris, OBU Sports Information Director

Steven Bostick has been named the new head coach of Ouachita's men's and women's swimming and diving teams, according to Ouachita Athletic Director David Sharp. Coach Bostick, a 2008 OBU graduate and four-year letterman, began his duties in his new role April 14.

"I am very excited to have Coach Steven Bostick join the Ouachita athletic staff to lead our men's and women's swimming teams," Coach Sharp said. "His knowledge of the sport is very impressive, and his connections with coaches and prospective student-athletes will enhance our recruiting efforts here at Ouachita."

"Being a graduate of Ouachita and former swimmer, he understands what Ouachita stands for and how the total experience as a student and athlete can affect young men and women," Sharp added.

Ouachita President Rex Horne echoed Coach Sharp's excitement in welcoming the former Tiger swimmer back to campus.

"I am most pleased that Steven Bostick has agreed to become our next swim coach," Dr. Horne said. "His passion and proven ability will be greatly appreciated by our swim teams and campus. Steven is one of us. He understands and embraces our mission. I am looking forward to the leadership of Coach Bostick."

Coach Bostick has most recently been the swimming and diving head coach at Buchholz High School in Gainesville, Fla., where he began as an assistant in 2009. He also has served as owner and head coach of High Tide Aquatics in Gainesville where he and his staff trained senior-level athletes.

Coach Bostick described his return to Ouachita as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"To be welcomed back to that family with the support of President Horne, Coach Sharp and the swimming alumni is an amazing feeling," he said. "I look forward to my role in coaching, sharing and expanding the privilege that is Ouachita athletics."



Coach Crowder gains 700th career victory in women's basketball

Garry Crowder, head coach of women's basketball at Ouachita, gained a new title this season – Mr. 700.

Crowder, who has coached at Ouachita since 1995, earned his 700th career victory Feb. 8 with the Lady Tigers' 71-61 win over Southern Nazarene University. As the longest tenured collegiate women's basketball coach in Arkansas, he also is closing in on 300 victories at Ouachita.

In addition to the milestone victory, the win helped the Lady Tigers secure a spot in the Great American Conference championship tournament and senior guard Nashia James scored her 1,000th point as a Lady Tiger. She is the third player to hit 1,000 career points in GAC history.

Coach Crowder's 700th win was number 296 at Ouachita. He amassed 404 wins as a high school basketball head coach prior to coming to OBU. The Lady Tigers earned three more wins to close out the season, leaving Crowder with 703 career victories and 299 at Ouachita.

"I am very proud of Coach Crowder for his accomplishment of over 700 victories," said Ouachita Athletic Director David Sharp. "He has done an outstanding job for 19 years in leading our women's basketball program. His basketball knowledge and expertise in coaching are exemplary. He also leads by example in the way he lives and conducts his life."

Crowder, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Henderson State University, began his coaching career at Taylor High School in 1979.

"Taylor had really good girls' basketball," Crowder said, "and they were needing a coach when I finished college. Dr. Mickey O'Quinn, who was the head of the kinesiology department at Henderson, recommended me for that job."

At Taylor, Crowder posted a 65-36 record in three years, winning at least 20 games in all three seasons.

In 1982, Crowder moved to Jessieville High

School, where he coached for 13 years.

"I had some brilliant young players," he noted. "God blessed me with some great talent." During his tenure there, Crowder compiled a 339-73 record, including 11 conference championships, nine district tournament titles and seven regional tournament championships. With a high school coaching record of 404-109 and a winning percentage of 78.8, Crowder began searching for a coaching job at the collegiate level.

"I had always had a desire to coach in college," Crowder explained. He said Ouachita officials "felt that I was the best candidate, I guess, and, lucky for me, I got the job."

Crowder began coaching at Ouachita in the 1995-96 season, and his team set a school record with 18 wins in his first year.

Also during that season, Crowder's squad defeated national powerhouse Arkansas Tech at home. "I remember Dr. Elrod coming down in the locker room with Coach Vining, and they, you know, did one of those Gatorade baths on me."

Building off his first season, Crowder established Ouachita as one of the best Division II women's basketball programs in the region. In his 18 seasons, the Lady Tigers have participated in post-season play 11 times and have played twice in the NCAA Division II championship tournament.

Crowder's teams have set Ouachita's single-season wins record four times since setting it in his first year, with the 2008-09 team still holding the record with 23 wins.

Reflecting on his milestone accomplishments, Crowder insists the players are the reason for his successful career.

"There are two things if you have coached long enough to win 700 games. It means I am old, and I have coached a lot of good players. Players win games, and I have been blessed with



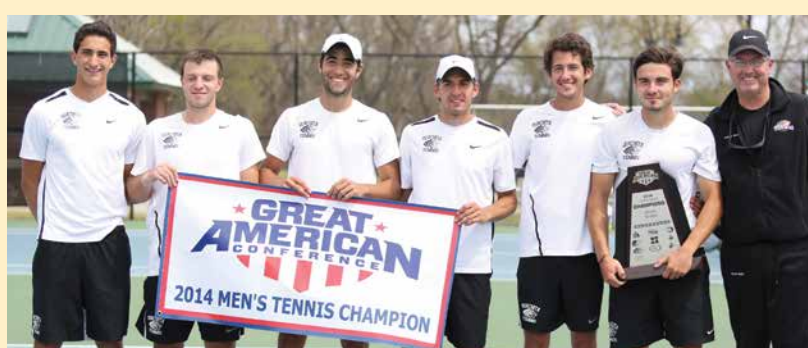
photo by Wesley Kluck

a lot of good talent.

"Ouachita is a wonderful place to work," Crowder emphasized. "I'm around people who have the same value system that I have. We love living in Arkadelphia. We love where we go to church. This is where we have made home and that is why I have stayed 19 years."

"I have been able to coach a lot of really quality people, in addition to some outstanding basketball players," he said. "And that is more than the wins. It's the relationships, the friends you make and the people you meet."

Compiled from reporting by Brandon Smith, The Signal staff writer, and Trennis Henderson, OBU vice president for communications



TIGER TENNIS THREEPEAT Ouachita's men's tennis team became the first program in Great American Conference history to win three straight tournament titles in any of the league's 13 sports. "In my 25 years this is one of the finest groups of guys I have ever coached," said Head Coach Craig Ward. "It was a privilege to be a part of this team." *photo by Great American Conference*



STADIUM CONSTRUCTION Cliff Harris (center) was on campus Feb. 14 to personally demolish the home football stands at A.U. Williams Field to make way for the university's new Cliff Harris Stadium scheduled to be completed in time for the fall 2014 football season. After the demolition, Harris visited with Football Head Coach Todd Knight and Athletic Director David Sharp.



photo by Gary Gerber

Ouachita Singers earn showcase performance

The Ouachita Singers, Ouachita's premier choral ensemble, was selected by audition to perform at the Southwestern Division of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). The concert was held at Robinson Center Music Hall in Little Rock, Ark.

"This is quite an honor for Ouachita Singers to be recognized among our ACDA division as one of the top choral ensembles," said Dr. Gary Gerber, chair of the division of music and director of choral activities. "Being selected to sing at the conference is like winning the regional conference of the NCAA basketball tournament and going to the Final Four."

The Southwestern Division of the ACDA is comprised of seven states, including Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. For this year's convention, 34 college choirs submitted an audition CD. Ouachita Singers was one of only three university choirs selected to perform.

The ACDA hosts division conferences every other year for high school to college level choirs. According to ACDA's website, the "performances by accomplished choirs" provide other members in attendance a "practical forum in which to develop their skills and professional knowledge."

Ouachitonian, Signal & Rundown earn awards

The *Ouachitonian* yearbook, *The Signal* newspaper and *The Rundown* sports show were honored with numerous awards in recent months.

Chelsea Byers, a senior mass communications major from Campbell, Texas, was awarded Television Producer/Director of the Year at the 2014 Arkansas College Media Association (ACMA) annual convention. Ouachita student publications received a total of 51 awards at the convention, including 32 awards for the *Ouachitonian*, 13 awards for *The Signal* and six awards for *The Rundown* and other TV productions.

The *Ouachitonian* also was awarded a Gold Medalist rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's annual Medalist Critiques and

received All-Columbian honors in each judging category. Gold Medalist and All-Columbian honors are the highest honors awarded by the CSPA.

Additionally, the *Ouachitonian* earned seven Gold Circle Awards for individual student work from the CSPA and was featured in the 2014 *Jostens Look Book* as an example of excellence and creativity.

Mauri Sparks, a senior Christian studies/Christian ministries and mass communications major from Queen City, Texas, is editor-in-chief of the *Ouachitonian* and Emily Terry, a junior mass communications major from Bryant, Ark, is editor-in-chief of *The Signal*.

Abby Lindsey crowned Miss OBU 2014

Abby Lindsey, a junior business administration/management major from Van Buren, Ark., was crowned Miss Ouachita Baptist University 2014 on March 1. Lindsey will compete in the 2014 Miss Arkansas Pageant this summer.

As Miss OBU, Lindsey received a \$1,000 scholarship from the university as well as wardrobe, photography and other stipends from businesses that supported the event. She also was awarded the Kristen Glover Private Interview Award and the Kiley Jane Wright Artistic Expression in Talent Award.

Lindsey is the daughter of Kenny and Sherri Lindsey of Van Buren, Ark. She has been a member of EEE women's social club for three years and served as president of Gridiron Girls and junior class vice president for Student Senate. Raising awareness of dangers online, Lindsey's platform is social network safety.

First runner-up was Kelsi Bodine, a senior history major from Webb City, Mo. Second runner-up was Abbey Little, a freshman mass communications major from Percy, Ark. Third runner-up was Shelby Medders, a freshman Christian studies/missions major from Little Rock, Ark. Fourth runner-up and Miss Congeniality was Gracie Lundstrum, a junior mass communications and speech communication major from Springdale, Ark.

Former Miss OBU and Miss Arkansas 2004 Lacy Glover served as emcee for the pageant. The pageant was directed by OBU alumnus Justin Harper.



L.J. Brooks' mom, Pamela, takes the ceremonial first shot on the L.J. Brooks Memorial Basketball Court as his father, Lester Brooks (left), watches along with the dedication ceremony crowd. *photo by Kristen Barnard*

Basketball court built in memory of L.J. Brooks

Highlighting the legacy of L.J. Brooks, an influential student leader who died in December 2012, members of Student Senate and Ouachita Student Foundation dedicated an outdoor basketball court in his memory April 25. The court is located next to OBU's sand volleyball court near the Student Village.

Student Senate President Lindsey Fowler of Arkadelphia expressed appreciation to the crowd "for everything you've done and for coming out to celebrate with us today the life of L.J. and the impact that he's had on our campus."

Addressing Brooks' family and friends, Ouachita President Rex Horne said L.J. "was about competition, about being a good athlete but he was also about joy," Dr. Horne described him as an individual "who epitomized the best of our students as a student leader, as a difference maker, as one who loved the Lord and loved the gospel and shared the love of Christ with everyone he met."

Brooks' father, Lester, said, "God gives us all dreams and visions. Our job is to fulfill our dreams and visions, to discover our purpose in life." He said L.J. "was about connecting to all of God's children. He wanted everybody to share what he knew about the Lord. OBU gave him an opportunity to come here and fulfill his vision."

Finance majors manage Ary Investment Fund

A group of Ouachita students attended the Global Asset Management Forum in New York City March 19-22. They had the opportunity to attend breakout sessions led by Wall Street professionals and network with other student teams from across the nation.

The students are members of Ouachita's Eddie and Phyllis Ary Student Investment Fund management team. The Ary Fund is a stock portfolio managed by senior finance students in the Hickingbotham School of Business.

Each student involved in the fund becomes an analyst of an assigned sector of the economy. The students present stocks to the group that they think

would be a good investment, and the group makes final decisions as a team.

The fund began in 1999 when Eddie Ary and James Philpot, Ouachita finance professors, came up with the idea to establish a program to give students the opportunity to actively learn about investing. Following Ary's retirement in 2012, Dr. Chris Brune, assistant professor of finance, became faculty advisor of the fund.

"It's a perfect way to apply the things we learn in class to a live portfolio," Brune said. "Students learn to analyze stocks, but also learn how to present their recommendations and work together as a team."

Senior biology team presents research in D.C.

Dr. Lori Hensley, associate professor of biology, and four senior biology students were selected to participate in the 2014 "Posters on the Hill" program in April in Washington, D.C.

"Posters on the Hill" is an annual poster session for undergraduate students hosted by the Council of Undergraduate Research. Out of approximately 600 applications submitted for evaluation, the Ouachita team was one of only 60 institutions chosen for this year's event. It also marked the third year that Dr. Hensley has been invited to lead a team of students.

The third invitation to participate "demonstrates the determination and hard work of these students and shows that others find relevance in the work they are doing here," Dr. Hensley said. "It is certainly encouraging."

Students attending included: Drake Hardy, a senior biology major from Royal, Ark.; Ryan Strebeck, a senior biology and Spanish major from Texarkana, Ark.; Laura Strossner, a senior biology major from Conway, Ark.; and Mikey Sullivan, a senior biology major from Kingwood, Texas.

During the trip, the students met with U.S. senators and representatives in their offices, attended a reception and gave a poster presentation on Capitol Hill. These opportunities to meet with members of Congress allowed the students to highlight the importance of undergraduate research.



photo by Tyler Rosenthal

OBU musical theatre stages *Guys and Dolls*

Ouachita's musical theatre program staged the acclaimed musical *Guys and Dolls* April 10-13 in Jones Performing Arts Center.

"What I enjoy most about the show is the music and fast-paced dancing," said Garrett Whitehead, a senior musical theatre major from Cleburne, Texas, who played Nathan Detroit. "All of the characters are hysterical; you cannot help but love the crazy antics they get into. It also helps that the cast is amazing."

The musical was the result of "thousands upon thousands of hours" of hard work, said Daniel Inouye, assistant professor of theatre arts and director of the show. "It's very collaborative. One of the great things about theatre is that you have to have other people on board, all working toward the same goal."

In addition to Whitehead, Timothy Drennan, a senior musical theatre major from Paron, Ark., played Sky Masterson. Alexis Morgan, a freshman musical education major from Frisco, Texas, was cast as Sarah Brown along with MaryLacey Thomson, a senior musical theatre major from Plano, Texas. Jordan Miller and Caitlin Secrest were double cast as Miss Adelaide. Miller is a senior musical theatre major from Rockwall, Texas, and Secrest is a senior vocal performance major from Arkadelphia, Ark. Dr. Jon Secrest, Ouachita professor of music, served as music director and Lauren Linton, a senior musical theatre major from Coldwater, Miss., was stage manager.

Four students named finalists at theatre festival

Four Ouachita students were named finalists in auditions at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) held at Centenary College.

Joe Ochterbeck, a senior theatre arts and mass communications major from Maumelle, Ark., was named a finalist in KCACTF's Regional Irene Ryan Acting Auditions. Ochterbeck was nominated for his work as Carthage Kilbride in last fall's production of *By the Bog of Cats*. Ochterbeck selected Lauren Linton, a senior musical theatre major from Coldwater, Miss., to serve as his acting partner during the auditions.

Mary Handiboe, OBU associate professor of theatre arts, said Ochterbeck is the first student from Ouachita to advance to the final round of the Irene Ryan Auditions on the regional level. This placed him in the top 16 students out of approximately 200 participants from a six-state region.

Chad Burris, a junior musical theatre major from Van Buren, Ark., and Garrett Whitehead, a senior musical theatre major from Cleburne, Texas, advanced to the final round of auditions for the Regional Musical Theatre Initiative (MTI). Burris, who placed first in the region, will have the opportunity to attend the elite Open Jar Institute summer program in New York City.

Nine students honored as state NATS finalists

Nine Ouachita students were named finalists at the 39th annual Arkansas National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) conference.

NATS, founded in 1944, is the largest professional association of teachers of singing in the world. Jubilant Sykes, a Grammy-nominated baritone, was the featured artist for the Arkansas conference.

Ouachita students named NATS finalists include: Victoria Mantooth, a senior vocal performance major, first place in the senior women division; Josh Wayne, a junior choral music education major, first place in the upper music theatre division and second place in the junior men division; Tori Clark, a sophomore choral music education major, second place in the sophomore women division; Tara Clem, a junior musical theatre major, second place in the lower music theatre division; Beth Crisler, a freshman vocal performance major, second place in the freshman women division; Seth Russell, a sophomore vocal performance major, second place in the sophomore men division; Alexis Morgan, a freshman choral music education major, third place in the lower music theatre division; Caitlin Secrest, a senior vocal performance major, third place in the senior women division and fourth place in the upper music theatre division; and Joel Rogier, a senior vocal performance major, fifth place in the upper music theatre division.



photo by Kristen Barnard

McMillan leads Christian Focus Week concert

Singer/songwriter John Mark McMillan headlined Ouachita's 2014 Christian Focus Week concert in Jones Performing Arts Center. Christian Focus Week, an annual campus event hosted by Campus Ministries, features daily worship sessions, breakout sessions and related events.

McMillan has been described by *Relevant* magazine as "a true worship pioneer." His 2005 album, *The Song Inside the Sounds of Breaking Down*, features the popular worship song "How He Loves." Recent albums include *The Medicine*, *Economy* and *Borderland*, which was released in March.

"John Mark McMillan is one of the most important songwriters in Christian music," said Jake Fauber, a senior church music major from Marion, Ark. "He's an honest writer and his use of poetic devices paints a picture of the gospel of Christ in his music."

The concert opened with a performance by former Ouachita student Noah James Mitchell, who also led worship during Christian Focus Week. The theme for this year's emphasis was "words," based on Ephesians 4:29.

"Christian Focus Week is about focus and growth on who Christ is and what He called us all to do," said Connor Goad, a senior Christian theology and philosophy major from Hot Springs, Ark. "It's a time that we come together as a campus and a community and grow as one body."

Students earn national "Simply Speak" awards

Six Ouachita students earned the "Speak Simply" award in the Undergraduate Research Poster Contest at the American Chemical Society (ACS) National Meeting in Dallas March 17. A total of 13 students from the J.D. Patterson School of Natural Sciences presented their work.

"At least 1,000 undergraduates made research presentations on their individual projects at the spring meeting," said Dr. Marty Perry, OBU's Nell I. Mondy Professor of Chemistry. "The contest only recognized 15 students total out of all the students presenting. Ouachita students earned six of these

awards and have now earned 10 of the 30 awards during the past two years."

Ouachita students who earned "Speak Simply" awards include: Pete Brunson, a senior biology major from Monticello, Ark.; Mallory Burroughs, a junior biology major from Hot Springs, Ark.; Tim Horton, a senior professional chemistry and physics major from Arkadelphia, Ark.; Jessie Meyer, a senior biology major from Woodway, Texas; Jason Stevenson, a senior biology and chemistry major from Guy, Ark.; and Kelsey Willis, a senior chemistry and biology major from Redfield, Ark.

Horton earns top chemistry award at Alpha Chi

Ouachita student Tim Horton earned the best presentation in chemistry award at this year's Alpha Chi National Convention. Horton is a senior chemistry and physics double major from Arkadelphia, Ark., and serves as president of Ouachita's Alpha Chi chapter.

"The conference is a great forum for our top students," said Dr. Lori Hensley, Ouachita's Alpha Chi faculty sponsor. "Alpha Chi emphasizes academic achievement and servant leadership." Hensley serves as professor of biology and holder of the J.D. Patterson Chair of Biology.

Horton's award-winning presentation was titled "Inhibiting Recognition of the B-Cell Receptor by the Tyrosine Kinase Syk." He said he hopes his work eventually will lead to treatments for autoimmune diseases.

While the research he presented was conducted at the University of California at Berkeley, Horton said, "It was the training I've received from numerous professors here at Ouachita that prepared me to get the position at Berkeley. I feel that the award was an affirmation of the caliber of the science department here at Ouachita."

Ouachita junior Dustin Walter, a biology and chemistry double major from Marion, Ark., received the \$1,500 Alfred H. Nolle Scholarship. Walter's research involved modifying proteins to determine if they could be used to treat fungal diseases.

class notes

connecting the circle

—1950s—

Bob Mayes ('50) celebrated his 90th birthday on Dec. 12, 2013, with his wife, **Bettie (Franks '49*)** and two sons, Dan and Carl.

James Hampton ('51) completed his first book, *Through a Valley of Shadows*, in October 2013. The book chronicles his missionary life and that of his family in Eastern Africa with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board from 1956 to 1996.

George ('56) and Ouida (Ingram '56) Peters celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 30. They have five children, George Peters, Jr., Alice Peters, Carla Smith, Eva Bakalekos and **Jamie (Peters '76*) Cantrell**; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

—1960s—

Rosemary (Langley '62) Bell was inducted into the Searcy Education Foundation Hall of Honor as an outstanding educator in January. She also is a past member of the Searcy Beethoven Club and a current member of Chapter AA of P.E.O. She is active in her community and has served as an accompanist at First Baptist Church for 39 years and plays in the handbell choir. She and her husband, **Robert Bell ('64*)**, have one son, Rob Bell; and two grandchildren.

Paul Jones ('64) and his wife, Brenis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December 2013. Since retiring, they have traveled to several countries and he continues to manage rental property. They have three children and 11 grandchildren.

Lynne (Crittenden '68) Huggins retired in August 2012 after 26 years in elementary education including the past 21 years in Christian education. This past November, she and her husband, Steed, were selected as grand marshals at the Faith Christian School homecoming in Grapevine, Texas. They are enjoying retirement in Texas.



Ouachita's Ben M. Elrod Center for Family & Community recently donated more than 150 new books to Ascent Children's Health Services in Arkadelphia. **Leigh Anne McKinney ('95)**, coordinator of public school initiatives; and Ashlyn Meece, student program assistant, presented the books to Athena Holmes, Ascent's early childhood coordinator, and Jan Lowry, administrative assistant. "We look forward to delivering this gift of books each year," McKinney said. "It is our pleasure to see the eager acceptance of books by children who really appreciate having a book of their own to take home."

—1970s—

Dr. Patricia (Greene '72) Griffen was selected as the 2014 president of the Arkansas Psychological Association. She has been part of the association's leadership in recent years, including serving as chair of the Diversity Committee for three years. She has been in private practice for a number of years in Little Rock. Her husband, Judge Wendell Griffen, is also a Baptist minister. They have two sons, Martyn and Elliott.

Brice ('77) and Vicki (Wilson '79) Wagner will retire from education this year after 35 and 37 years of service, respectively. They are expecting their first grandchild in June.

Stefan ('78) and Melissa (Stroud '78) Eubanks live in Bentonville, Ark., where he is in his fifth year of teaching at Ambassadors for Christ Academy. He teaches Bible, biology, logic, outdoor education and is also the trap shooting coach. She stays home to take care of her mother, teaches piano and substitutes as the pianist at their home church, First Baptist Church of Garfield. They have three children, Kate, Ben and Dusty, and two grandchildren.

Lynn (Brooks '78) Hargis, who retired in 2004 from Abilities Unlimited in Hot Springs, Ark., has returned to Abilities Unlimited as program

coordinator for School to Work Transition and Work Activity programs. In recent years, she has volunteered on behalf of Arkansas military families and was inducted into the Honorable Order of St. Joan of Arc through the U.S. Armor Association for her service.

Martin Thielen ('78) recently published his sixth book, *The Answer to Bad Religion Is Not No Religion: A Guide to Good Religion for Seekers, Skeptics and Believers*. He currently is senior pastor of First United Methodist Church of Cookeville, Tenn.

—1980s—

Bill Sudbery ('82) lives in Mary Esther, Fla., and owns Sea Spray Studios in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. He and his wife, Melissa, have one daughter, Linda, and three grandchildren.

Carl Turner ('83) has been serving since December 2013 as associate pastor of administration/education/communication for Southport Community Church in West Sacramento, Calif.

Mary Alice Chambers ('84) retired in 2010 as a captain in the Arkansas Army National Guard. She is in her seventh year as a GED instructor for the Arkansas Department of Corrections, Hawkins Center for Women. She is in her 18th

year as part-time band director at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts in Hot Springs, Ark. She plays in the Little Rock Wind Symphony, UALR Community Orchestra and volunteers for productions in the annual Hot Springs Music Festival.

Mae (Williams '84) Jones recently published her book, *First What? The Role of a Pastor's Wife*. The book is a synopsis of interviews with pastors, wives and church members. Mae works as a financial analyst for the city of Winston-Salem, N.C. She and her husband, **Dr. Kendall Jones, Sr. ('85)**, have been married for 28 years and have two sons, Kendall and Allan Jones.

—1990s—

Marty Smith ('91) was awarded the 2011-2012 Arkansas High School Coaches Association's Outstanding Coach of the Year Award for Boys Basketball. The award, voted on by all high school basketball coaches in Arkansas, was presented at the 2012 Arkansas High School All-Star Game.

Dr. Kay (Holleman '93) Calvert earned her doctorate in educational administration and supervision in August 2013. She also achieved National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in November 2013. She currently is serving as president of the Arkansas Reading Association.



Wendelyn Osborne ('93), second from left, joined Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe, legislators and other supporters as Gov. Beebe signed HB 2121 into state law. The law, which took effect last summer, ensures that individuals with craniofacial anomalies receive the comprehensive, quality healthcare deemed necessary by the treating physicians. Osborne has worked with state legislators and physicians since 2003 to pass the bill, which requires insurance companies to cover patients' corrective surgical procedures and treatment as determined by a nationally accredited cleft-craniofacial team.



Ouachita Wrestling Head Coach Kevin Ward recently started a Tiger Youth Wrestling Club in Arkadelphia. The team is coached by Chris Chionuma, OBU wrestling graduate assistant; Aaron Butler, student assistant; and OBU wrestler Taylor Poe. Tiger youth wrestlers and their parents include **Rickey and Lydia (Gutierrez '02) Rogers** with sons Rickey and Ryan Rogers; **Brandi (Byrd '95) Womack and Richard Womack ('97)** with sons Rhett and Ross Womack; and **Amber (Bryant '99) Goodrum** with sons Keaton and Sawyer Goodrum.

April (Works '94) Kappler has accepted the position of business administrator at First Assembly of God Church in Pine Bluff, Ark. She previously served 11 years with the Pine Bluff Arsenal and was awarded the Commander's Award for Civilian Service by Col. David Musgrave. She and her husband, Brad, have two children, Dustin (15) and Casie (5).

Clint Rickett ('97) was recently promoted to therapy coordinator for First Step Inc. in Hot Springs, Ark.

Ben Wright ('99) served as a member of the MRIGlobal team that announced in December 2013 that they had concluded a five-year program to produce a mannequin robot and high-containment chamber to test protective clothing under a range of conditions for the U.S. Department of Defense. The IPEMS robot is fully dressed in a standard individual protection ensemble protective gear.

—2000s—

Brent S. Gambill ('01) has joined Mitchell Communications Group as senior director of digital and social media. Mitchell has offices in Fayetteville, Ark.; Chicago; and New York City. Brent and his wife, **Tilly (Carter '02)**, are relocating to Fayetteville.

Adam McClure ('02) married **Kipp Harmon ('02)** on Nov. 12, 2013, at the Dallas Arboretum. They now live in Plano, Texas, where he works for Cabela's in Allen and she is the owner of Circle Park Bridal Boutique in Addison.



John Elkins ('03) married Jennifer Bush on Dec. 7, 2013, at DeGray Lake Resort State Park. They now live in North Little Rock.



Alan Wheeler ('03) opened his own criminal defense law practice in Denton, Texas, in October 2012, after serving two years as an assistant district attorney for Denton County. He and his wife, Erica, now live in Providence Village, Texas.

Brandon O'Brien ('04) published a book, *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes: Removing Cultural Blinders to Better Understand the Bible* in November 2012, with Randy Richards, a former OBU professor. The book recently was reviewed in *Relevant* magazine.

Eric Rockwell ('05) married Casey Carder on Feb. 17, 2013, in Savannah, Ga. He is a regional sales representative for ASC Warranty and she is the deputy director and supervising attorney of Arkansas Tobacco Control.



Chris Whiddon ('05) married Amanda May on June 8, 2013, at First Baptist Church of El Dorado, Ark.



Josh Moore ('06) married Janie Morgan Donaldson on Nov. 2, 2013, at Marlsgate Plantation in Scott, Ark. They now live in the Little Rock area.



Jonathan Stewart ('06) recently moved from Los Angeles to New York City where he is the supervising producer of creative at Condé Nast Entertainment. He oversees original series production and special video projects for *GQ*.

Sam Castleberry ('07) graduated in May with a Master of Arts in Theology from

Drew University. In August, he will begin a PhD in religion and South Asian studies at Syracuse University.

Derrick Stewart ('08) married Rachel Damery on Aug. 31, 2013, in Rochester, Ill. They now live in Fort Worth, Texas, where he works full-time at Ideal Impact and attends Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and she is attending nursing school through Texas Woman's University.



Brady Canright ('09) married **Katy Krikorian ('11)** on Dec. 17, 2011. They now live in El Dorado, Ark., where he is the youth pastor at First Baptist Church and she is assistant director at First Baptist Church Child Learning Center.



Chloe O'Connor ('09) married Michael Ford on Nov. 25, 2013, in Fayetteville, Ark. They now live in Fayetteville where he is a page designer and copy editor at NWA Media and she is the art director at the *Northwest Arkansas Business Journal*.

Jeffrey Stokes ('09) will produce *One Flea Spare: A Chicago Directorial Debut* in Chicago. The play is about four strangers quarantined together in the same room for 28 days during the plague's sweep through London in 1665. Stokes has assembled a team of designers to help him collaborate on the production. They currently are in the fundraising process and have launched a website on Indiegogo.

Hayden (Tucker '09) Walker was named the recipient of the 2013 James Earl Massey Student Preacher Award at Beeson Divinity School, Samford University.

Salatin shares passion for alternative farming at spring Nell Mondy Lecture

Joel Salatin, an alternative farmer and owner of Polyface, Inc., was featured as part of Ouachita's Nell Mondy Lecture Series. Salatin presented his lecture titled "Folks, This Ain't Normal" Feb. 3.

The lecture focused on society's shift from "simple" to "complicated," citing society's need for immediate results. "It's not all about today," Salatin argued. "Not everything has to be fixed today or even in a season."



Salatin also pointed to most people's lack of familiarity with earth's natural resources. "He mentioned that many people living today do not know where the food purchased at the grocery store grows or even how it is grown," said Dr. Detri Brech, professor of dietetics. "He emphasized the importance of having real-life experiences with food."

"There's a difference between a real tomato and a plastic grocery store tomato," Salatin said. "Why do we keep eating the fake, plastic tomatoes? It's not right."

Instead, Salatin proposed that individuals become more responsible in the way we live. By tending one's own garden or raising one's own chickens in the backyard, "we learn about the good we eat," he said.

Salatin is a full-time alternative farmer for Polyface, Inc. – known as "The Farm of Many Faces" in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. According

to its website, Polyface, Inc. "services more than 5,000 families, 10 retail outlets and 50 restaurants through on-farm sales and metropolitan buying clubs." The Salatin family farm has been featured in numerous media outlets including *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Gourmet* and *ABC World News*.

Salatin's work "is relevant to our campus, community and world," Brech said. "His message is to use the resources we have to protect the environment." She added that he seeks to "inspire us to be better caretakers of the earth."

Salatin earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Bob Jones University and has since authored eight books, including *Pastured Poultry Profits: Net \$25,000 In 6 Months On 20 Acres*; *Holy Cows and Hog Heaven: The Food Buyer's Guide to Farm Friendly Food*; and *The Sheer Ecstasy of Being a Lunatic Farmer*.

The Nell Mondy Lecture Series, coordinated by OBU's J.D. Patterson School of Natural Sciences, focuses primarily on the fields of chemistry, food science and nutrition. "The purpose of the lectures is to enrich the learning experience of students, faculty and other professionals through providing speakers from diverse geographic and educational backgrounds," explained Dr. Sara Hubbard, assistant professor of chemistry.



Taylor Tomlinson, a student writer in the OBU News Bureau, is a senior mass communications major from Carrollton, Texas.

–2010s–

Trey Baldwin ('10) has accepted the position as field director for James Lee Witt for Congress.

Eli Cranor ('10) was named the head football coach for the Clarksville Panthers in March. He worked in Arkadelphia for the past two years as the Arkadelphia Badgers' offensive coordinator. He and his wife, Mallory, now live in Clarksville, Ark.

Patrick Lemmond ('10) married **Alyse Eady ('10)** on Dec. 7, 2013, at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church in Little Rock. They now live in Little Rock, where he is an accountant with Crowe Horwath and she is a news anchor at CBS affiliate THV-11.



Kinsey Ann Carpenter ('12) married Rex Gorman on Oct. 19, 2013, at the Carpenter home near Memphis, Tenn. They now live in the Memphis area where he serves on the student ministry staff at Bellevue Baptist Church and she is a PreK-8th grade music teacher.



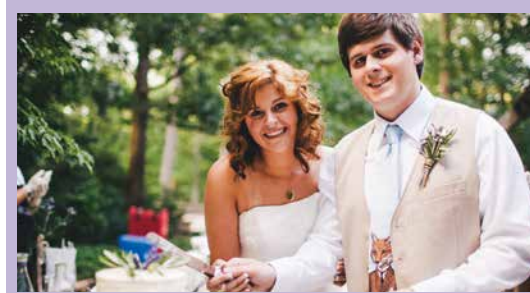
Alyson Walker ('12) married David Watkins on Dec. 30, 2013, in Raleigh, N.C. They now live in Raleigh, where they are both students at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He will graduate in May 2014 with a Master of Arts in Christian studies and she will graduate in May 2015 with a Master of Arts in ministry leadership.



Grant Turner ('10) married Ashley Gearhart on July 20, 2013, at Elfindale Chapel in Springfield, Mo. They now live in Arkadelphia, where they both work at Ouachita. He is a hardware specialist in IT Services and she is the gifts processor in the Office of Development.



Cory Epps ('12) married **Stephanie Batsel ('12)** on Jan. 13, 2013, in Little Rock. They now live in Benton, Ark., where he is the associate worship pastor at First Baptist Church of Benton and she is a financial services specialist at Farm Credit of Western Arkansas.



Kelli Wilson ('12) married Steven Davis on June 30, 2013, at Garvan Gardens in Hot Springs, Ark. They now live in Little Rock.

Tyler King ('11) married **Kelli Caldwell ('12)** on Jan. 19, 2013, at First Baptist Church of Keller, Texas. They now live in Lead Hill, Ark., where he serves as the youth minister for First Baptist Church and she is the K-6 music teacher at Bergman Elementary School.



Katelyn Mustain ('12) married Jesse Bianconi on Nov. 2, 2013, in Double Springs, Ala. They now live in Shreveport, La., where he is a staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City and she is a registered dietitian for Overton Brooks VA Medical Center.



Katelyn Bell ('13) married Adam Skarda on March 16, 2013, in Des Arc, Ark. They now live in Little Rock, where he is in medical school at UAMS and she is pursuing a master's degree in occupational therapy at University of Central Arkansas.



Quint Ashburn ('12) married **Maggie Taylor ('11)** on June 22, 2013, at Second Baptist Church in Russellville, Ark. They now live in Beebe, Ark., where he is a football coach and history teacher at Des Arc High School and she is working on her master's degree in music education at the University of Central Arkansas.



Landon Riley ('12) married **Kayla Kagel ('12)** on Nov. 9, 2013, in Royal, Ark. They now live in Texarkana, Texas, where he serves as youth pastor at First Baptist Church of Texarkana.



Patrick Krauss ('13) married **Kristen Ashburn ('13)** on Jan. 11 at North Monroe Baptist Church in Monroe, La. They now live in Dallas, Texas, where he works for Murphy USA and she is pursuing a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling.

Brandon Perry ('13*) married **Kate Dodge ('13)** on May 24, 2013, in Solgohachia, Ark. They now live in Waco, Texas, where they are part of the Antioch Discipleship School staff.



Turner Roberts ('13) married **Meredith Reeves ('13)** on May 25, 2013, in Almyra, Ark. They now live in Liberty, Texas, where he is a youth minister at First Baptist Church and she is a speech teacher at an elementary school in Splendora, Texas.



Layne ('98) and Ruth (Gailey '03) Johnston welcomed daughter Rayna Claire on Oct. 23, 2013. They now live in Maumelle, Ark.

Clay ('99) and Stacy (Breeding '05) Cunningham adopted daughter Kynley Hope on March 11. She was born on Dec. 19, 2013.



Adam and Kara (Ketner) Langley ('02) welcomed daughter Brynn Elise on March 7, 2013.



Chris Wright ('02) and his wife, Erin, welcomed son Connor Scott on Jan. 22, 2013. He joins big brother Cade.



future *tigers*

—1980s—

Philip Darr ('86) and his wife, Kelley, welcomed daughter Jayne Ann on Dec. 6, 2013. She joins big sisters Morgan (11) and Lizzie-Kate (8).



Kelley (Crews '00) George welcomed son Oliver Raymond on Jan. 12.



Jean-Michel Hatton ('04) and his wife, Fleur, welcomed daughter Marie-June Belle Désirée on Feb. 10. She joins big brother Hugo (2).



—1990s—

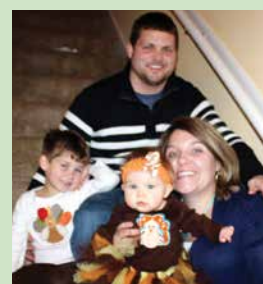
Lane ('97) and Betsy (Bell '00) Bailey adopted daughter BelleAnn Elizabeth on Dec. 23, 2013. She was born on June 1, 2012. She joins big brother Gowen (7).



Brent ('01) and Tilly (Carter '02) Gambill welcomed son Lawson Grant on Jan. 22. He joins big brother Carter (3) and big sister Nora (1).



Chris ('05) and Jill (Hickey '06) Davis welcomed daughter Caroline in March 2013. She joins big brother Charlie (4). They now live in Wynne, Ark., where Chris teaches business at the high school and Jill is an RN at Lebonheur Children's Hospital.



Where's your class note?

Submit your **class notes**, including **wedding, baby** and **alumni reunion photos**, at www.ouachitaalumni.org or by calling the alumni office at (870) 245-5111.



Kristy (Newton '05) Freyaldenhoven and her husband, Gabe, welcomed daughter Molly Kate on Dec. 30, 2013. She joins big sister Madison (5) and big brother Logan (3). They now live in Russellville, Ark.



Jennifer (Patton '05) Merritt and her husband, Daniel, welcomed daughter Olivia on May 5, 2013.



Ross LaPrade ('06) and his wife, Jessica, welcomed son Greyson Shepard on Jan. 22.

Thirty-nine 2014 Ouachita graduates named to Who's Who

Thirty-nine Ouachita students were selected for inclusion in the 2014 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 2014 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:

Tori Abellera, 21, a mass communications major from Garland, Texas.

Emily Anderson, 22, a psychology major from Siloam Springs, Ark.

Kristen Barnard, 21, a mass communications major from Hot Springs, Ark.

Hannah Bridges, 21, an English major from Clarksville, Ark.

Ashley Briggs, 22, a worship arts major from Alexander, Ark.

Barrett Burger, 22, a biology major from Camden, Ark.

Hannah Bushey, 22, an early childhood education major from Stuttgart, Ark.

Rusty Butler, 22, a worship arts major from Little Rock, Ark.

Amy Campbell, 22, a biology major from Russellville, Ark.

Jared Carlin, 22, an accounting major from Lubbock, Texas.

Johanna Casey, 22, a kinesiology/fitness major from Lowell, Ark.

Jacob Catlett, 22, a philosophy and Christian studies/Biblical studies and theology triple major from Malvern, Ark.

Jake Coffman, 22, a music major from Tyronza, Ark.

Michael Crowe, 21, a business administration/finance and management major from Donaldson, Ark.

Ellen Eubanks, 22, an English major from Arkadelphia, Ark.

Tim Ferris, 23, a business administration/finance and marketing double major from Triangle, Zimbabwe.

Kyle Fischer, 22, a Biblical languages and Christian studies/Christian theology double major from Texarkana, Texas.

Kelsey Frink, 22, an early childhood education major from Marion, Mass.

Tim Horton, 21, a professional chemistry and physics double major from Arkadelphia, Ark.

Jenna Hurst, 21, a Christian studies/missions and Spanish double major from Gurdon, Ark.

Alexis Kamerman, 22, a Christian studies/Christian ministry major from Searcy, Ark.

Amelia Lindsey, 22, a biology major from Camden, Ark.

Clay McKinney, 21, a business administration/finance and management major from Hughes Springs, Texas.

Asaf Moreno, 21, a Spanish and English double major from Mexico City, Mexico.

Grant Novak, 22, a Biblical studies major from

Haughton, La.

Michelle Perez, 22, a political science and business administration/finance and management double major from Maracaibo, Venezuela.

Carli Sasser, 21, a choral music education major from Hamburg, Ark.

Megan Scarbrough, 22, a biology major from Fayetteville, Ark.

Buck Schroeder, 21, an accounting and business administration/finance double major from Conway, Ark.

Ryan Strebeck, 22, a biology and Spanish double major from Texarkana, Arkansas.

Laura Strossner, 22, a biology major from Conway, Ark.

David Sypult, 22, an accounting and business administration/finance major from Rogers, Ark.

Hunter Threadgill, 22, a philosophy and psychology double major from Cordova, Tenn.

Kirby Von Edwins, 22, a biology major from Little Rock, Ark.

Logan Webb, 21, a Christian studies/Christian missions major from Benton, Ark.

Garet West, 22, a mass communications major from Bolivar, Mo.

Mary Rachel Wolf, 21, a biology major from Hot Springs, Ark.

Will Wooten, 22, a biology major from Conway, Ark.

Justin Young, 22, a business administration/management and finance double major from Springdale, Ark.

Jacob Watson, OBU alum, performs in *Violet* on Broadway

by Taylor Tomlinson

Jacob Keith Watson ('11) made his Broadway debut last month in the Tony-nominated musical *Violet*. Presented by Roundabout Theatre Company, the production opened April 20 at American Airlines Theatre and will run through August 10.



"I think the importance of this for me, personally, is in the impact it will have on both my career and on my abilities," Watson said. "I have learned so much from this process, but even more from every single Broadway veteran that I get to see work every day. For my first time on Broadway, I seriously could not have invented a better experience and environment to learn and create in. It is the beginning of my dream coming true."

According to Roundabout, *Violet* chronicles the journey of a young woman as she searches for beauty "amidst the image-obsessed landscape of the 1960s."

With music by Jeanine Tesori and book and lyrics by Brian Crawley, *Violet* is a four-time 2014 Tony nominee and a winner of the Drama Critics' Circle Award and Lucille Lortel Award for Best Musical. In its Broadway premier, directed by Leigh Silverman, Watson performs alongside recognized Broadway actors such as two-time Tony winner Sutton Foster.

"To land his first Broadway role in this production as a featured performer with the likes of Sutton Foster is a major accomplishment," said Dr. Jon Secrest, Watson's voice coach at Ouachita. "Miss Foster is one of the three most sought-after female performers in the Broadway ranks."

"Something I have learned from the incredible artists I am currently working with is that you have to always strive for more, to dig for more," Watson said. "Even when it seems the work may be done, that's when the real work begins. That is exactly what my teachers at OBU were constantly teaching me and I am so unbelievably thankful for them every single day."

"I definitely believe my experience at OBU was an incredibly important step toward the beginning of my career as an actor," he added. "OBU has some of the greatest and most passionate teachers that there are in theatre."

Josh Moore ('06) and his wife, Morgan, welcomed son Liam Alexander on July 27, 2013.



Kathryn (Kittrell '07) Comunale and her husband, Matt, welcomed son William Cade on Dec. 22, 2013. They now live in Spring, Texas.



Matthew ('09) and Sarah (Hassell '08) Clarkson welcomed son John Alexander on Nov. 28, 2013. They now live in Forney, Texas, where Matthew teaches high school chemistry and astronomy and Sarah is an ICU nurse for UT Southwestern in Dallas.

-2010s-

Jeff Green ('10) and his wife, Bailey, welcomed son Elliott William on Dec. 14, 2013. They now live in Fort Worth, Texas, where Jeff is a senior transfer recruiter at Texas Wesleyan University.



Abby (Pate '11) Higgins and her husband, Brian, welcomed son Beau Matthew on Sept. 19, 2013.



Chris and Rachel (Willhoite) Norcross ('11) welcomed son Luke Christopher on Oct. 31, 2013. They now live in Dallas, Texas.



Clinton ('12) and Anja (Talbert '13) DeWitt welcomed son Knixon Len on March 21. He joins big sisters Ella and Karsyn.

-Faculty & Staff-



Dr. Justin and Jennifer Isenhour welcomed son William Frederick on March 22. He joins big brother Owen. Dr. Isenhour is an assistant professor of music at Ouachita.

Dr. Steven and D.J. Thomason welcomed daughter Virginia Ava on April 3. She joins big brother Gabriel. Dr. Thomason is an assistant professor of political science.



Aislyn Farrell and her friend, Olivia Ward, show their Tiger pride while hiking in Pinnacle Mountain State Park in Little Rock. Aislyn is the granddaughter of Ouachita President Rex Horne and his wife, Becky.



in memoriam

—1930s—

Frances (Benton '32) Meador of Fordyce, Ark., passed away on Feb. 17. She is survived by her three sons, John, Hugh and **Joe Bill Meador ('66)**; eight grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

—1940s—

Retired U.S. Army **Col. Jack Swaim ('40)** of Houston, Texas, passed away on April 11. He is survived by his sons, Thomas Preston, Patrick Lee and Richard Swaim.

Clara (Hollon '41) Overton of Hot Springs, Ark., passed away on April 8. She is survived by her three sons, **James Overton ('74*)**, **Rev. Kenneth Overton ('73)** and **Rev. Charles Overton ('76)**; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Sammie (Ashcraft '41) Pickard of Albuquerque, N.M., passed away on Dec. 13, 2013. She is survived by her sister, Shirley Pike; two sons, Dr. Jim Pickard and Rev. Joe Pickard; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Walter "Jiggs" Ramsey ('42) of Benton, Ark., passed away on April 1. He is survived by his brother, **Carl Ramsey ('51)**; and children, Becca Bane and Walter "Jiggs" Ramsey, Jr.

Lurline (Turbeville '42) Thompson of El Dorado, Ark., passed away on March 9. She is survived by her children, Frank Thompson, Jr., Carolyn Orr and Celia Thompson.

Carr (Moore '45) Priddy of Sherwood, Ark., passed away on March 2. She is survived by her husband, Albert Priddy, Jr.; two children, Melissa Howard and Alan Priddy; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Dr. J. Donald "Don" Corley ('47) of Arkadelphia passed away on March 25. He is survived by his two daughters, **Betty (Corley '72*) Colgrove** and **Cindy (Corley '77) Viala**; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Orville Roberts ('47) of Benton, Ark., passed away on Dec. 24, 2013. He is survived by his two children, Don Roberts and Judy Yearry; and four grandchildren.

Earline (Holt '48) Calhoun of Burnsville, Ark., passed away on Feb. 17. She is survived by her husband, Wayman Calhoun; sisters, Kathleen Just, Phylis Davidson and **Betty (Holt '55) Dunnam**; children, Dr. David Calhoun and Karen Erickson; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

Finke explores religious freedom in Birkett Williams Lecture

Emphasizing that "almost every country has some sort of assurance of religious freedoms," Dr. Roger Finke delivered Ouachita's spring Birkett Williams Lecture.

Finke, professor of sociology and religious studies at Penn State University, presented "Origins and Consequences of Religious Restrictions: A Global Overview" as part of the university's endowed Birkett Williams Lecture Series.

Amid varying levels of religious freedom around the globe, Finke noted, "It's very easy to think of Muslim nations as not having any religious freedoms, and everyone else being okay." He cautioned that such assumptions are not accurate.

Finke explained that his studies found at least three myths associated with religious freedoms. "First, that with the exception of Muslim nations, religious freedoms are largely protected; second, that with the exception of Muslim nations, religious persecution rarely occurs; and third, that the activities of religious groups, especially minority groups, must be restricted to prevent religiously motivated violence."

Finke cited extensive research to show that those myths fail to provide an accurate reflection

of the complex world of religious freedom and restrictions.

Through his findings, Finke argued that "the change of religion and state relations is one of the real key factors to understanding religion." He added that countries that provide religious freedoms are less likely to experience "religiously motivated violence."

"Dr. Finke's finding that an open, free religious marketplace makes it less likely that any one religion will grow strong enough to be viewed as a threat by a government is a very important one when discussing religious freedom with governments suspicious of religion," said Dr. David Caddell, associate professor of sociology. "Dr. Finke has made a genuinely significant contribution in this area. We were fortunate to have him here at OBU."

Since earning his doctorate in sociology from the University of Washington, Finke has become "one of the leading and most prolific scholars in the sociology of religion," Caddell noted. Finke is the founding director of the Association of Religion Data Archives, the largest clearinghouse for religious data in the world.

According to the ARDA website, the association "strives to democratize access to the best data on religion. Founded as the American Religion Data Archive in 1997 and going online in 1998, the initial archive was targeted at researchers

interested in American religion. The targeted audience and the data collection have both greatly expanded since 1998, now including American and international collections and developing features for educators, journalists, religious congregations and researchers."

Finke also is the author of several books, including *Places of Faith: A Road Trip across America's Religious Landscape*, *The Price of Freedom Denied: Religious Persecution and Conflict in the 21st Century* and *Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion*. He also has published articles, including "Cross-National Moral Beliefs: The Influence of National Religious Context" and "The Effects of Professional Training: The Social and Religious Capital Acquired in Seminaries."

"Professor Finke brought to campus a fresh perspective on church-state issues," said Dr. Randall Wight, dean of Ouachita's W.H. Sutton School of Social Sciences, which hosted this semester's Birkett Williams Lecture. "Seeing the power of the Association of Religion Data Archives website from its director's hand was alone invaluable."



Taylor Tomlinson, a student writer in the OBU News Bureau, is a senior mass communications major from Carrollton, Texas.

Rose “Rosie” (Glover ’48*) Dunham of Little Rock passed away on April 12. She is survived by her daughters, **April (Dunham ’70) Lane**, **Nancy (Dunham ’74) Taylor** and **Leann (Dunham ’77*) Broadway**; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Arvel Wilson (’49) of Malvern, Ark., passed away on Feb. 16. He is survived by his wife, **Jasmine Wilson**; son, **Doug Wilson (’78)**; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

—1950s—

Alta (Brasell ’50*) Allison of Little Rock passed away on April 26. She is survived by her husband, **Clarence Allison (’50)**; two children, **Mark (’78) Allison** and **Kay (Allison ’82) Maunder**; and five grandchildren. The Allisons served as Ouachita’s missionaries-in-residence in 1991-1992.

Robert Galloway, Sr. (’50) of Stuttgart, Ark., passed away on March 18. He is survived by his wife, **Caroline Galloway**, and three sons, **Bob, Jr.**, **Scott** and **Neal Galloway**.

Bertie (Beck ’50) Roberts of Texarkana, Texas, passed away on March 30, 2013. She is survived by her two sons, **John Byrd** and **Jim Byrd**; one stepson, **Philip Roberts**; 11 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; and four great-great grandchildren.

Dr. Frank Claiborne (’51) of Appleton City, Mo., passed away on Jan. 19. He is survived by his wife, **Idavee Claiborne**; sister, **Betty Seitz**; three children, **Cynthia Compton**, **Paul Claiborne** and **Tim Claiborne**; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Martha (Osborne ’51) Lutter of Concord, N.H., passed away on Nov. 10, 2013. She is survived by her children, **Julie Lutter**, **Marlis George** and **Mark Lutter**; and three grandchildren.

William Townsend (’51) of Rockwall, Texas, passed away on March 26, 2013. He is survived by his wife, **Lawa**; daughter, **Mary Margaret Worley**; and three grandchildren.

William Fowler (’53*) of Batesville, Ark., passed away on Feb. 14. He is survived by his sister, **Zoe Fowler**; two daughters, **Barbara Fowler** and **Julia Darley**; and two grandchildren.

Jeral Hampton, longtime Ouachita trustee, remembered for life of faithful service

Jeral Hampton, one of Ouachita’s longest serving trustees, died Feb. 3 at age 92.

Hampton, a 1943 graduate of Ouachita, served as a member of the Ouachita Board of Trustees for 32 years. He began his trustee service in 1964 and concluded his final term in 2003.

“Jeral Hampton loved the Lord, his family, work and Ouachita,” said President Rex Horne. “He was a tireless advocate for our university.

“Jeral’s devotion is worthy of emulation,” he added. “We thank the Lord for his life, service to

Ouachita and ongoing legacy.”

Hampton, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War, retired as a National Guard lieutenant colonel. A longtime member of First Baptist Church of Booneville, Ark., he served as a deacon, trustee and Sunday school teacher. He is survived by his son, **John Taylor Hampton**; daughter, **Jane Woolley**; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial gifts may be made to the **Jeral and Betty Hampton Endowed Scholarship Fund**.

Eugene Ryan (’54) of North Little Rock passed away on April 2. He is survived by his wife, **Martha (Moreland ’53) Ryan**; sister, **Dollie (Ryan ’47) Sims**; and daughters, **Pat DeVall** and **Debbie Binns**.

Marvelle (Hoggard ’56) Johnson of Elkhorn Creek, Ky., passed away on Feb. 21. She is survived by her husband, **Lloyd Johnson**; siblings, **Lynn Taylor** and **Donnie Hoggard**; and three children, **Robin Johnson**, **Bryce Johnson** and **Stephanie Perkins**.

Joseph “Joe” Robbins (’56) of Texarkana, Ark., passed away on Jan. 9. He is survived by his sisters, **Martha Creamer** and **Lou Couch**.

Raymell (Pound ’57*) Riggs of Cabot, Ark., passed away on Feb. 8. She is survived by her husband, **Joe Riggs (’58)**; son, **Michael Riggs**; and one grandchild.

Richard “Dick” Morris (’59*) of Duncanville, Texas, passed away on Feb. 13. He is survived by his wife, **Colleen Morris**; brother, **Walter Morris**; two daughters, **Paula Jones** and **Elaine Capers**; and three grandchildren.

Wilma Plumlee (’59) of Franklin, Ark., passed away on Oct. 12, 2013. She is survived by her sister, **Loma Plumlee (’59)**.

—1960s—

Lurlyne (Hardy ’63) Myers of Wappapello, Mo., passed away on Feb. 17. She is survived by her sister, **Reeda (Hardy ’58) Hampton**; three

children, **John Myers**, **James Myers** and **Libby Gall**; and five grandchildren.

Lora (Curtis ’64*) Housley of Pine Bluff, Ark., passed away on March 8. She is survived by her daughter, **Elizabeth Housley**.

Sherrie (Snapp ’66*) Bosworth of Branson, Mo., passed away on March 2. She is survived by her husband, **Hugh Bosworth**; six children, **Matthew Dozier**, **Christopher Dozier**, **Brandon Bosworth**, **Priscilla Needham**, **Eleanor Upton** and **Elizabeth Perrone**; and 12 grandchildren.

Rev. Henderson “Royce” Christmas (’66) of Hamburg, Ark., passed away on Jan. 4. He is survived by his wife, **Betty Christmas**; sister, **Joyce Rhodes**; three children, **John Christmas**, **Tim Christmas** and **Lisa Rose**; and seven grandchildren.

Charles “Charlie” Williams (’66) of San Antonio, Texas, passed away on Nov. 9, 2013. He is survived by his wife, **Janice Williams**; brother, **Robert Williams (’68)**; two sons, **Ryan** and **Jason Williams**; and five grandchildren.

—1970s—

Rev. Joseph Dickey (’70*) of Little Rock passed away on Dec. 6, 2013. He is survived by his wife, **Doris Dickey**; and two children, **Christi Zumwalt** and **Dr. Kevin Dickey**.

Jerry Don Childers (’71) of Gurdon, Ark., passed away on April 14. He is survived by his wife, **Patricia Childers**; and siblings, **Joe Childers** and **Glenda Tipton**.

Arber James, Jr. ('74) of Little Rock passed away on Feb. 21. He is survived by his wife, Janice Hervey-James; and six children, Phyllis Johnson, Michelle Jones, Tonia James, Mia Jones, Carlos James and Philip Spreads.

James "Jimmy" Cope ('75) of Jacksonville, Ark., passed away on April 15. He is survived by his siblings, "**Bubba**" **Cope, Jr. ('72)**, Donna Burris and Betty Rains; four children, Mandy Evans, Chris Cope, Zachary Cope and Landon Cope; and two grandchildren.

Marcia (Dale '75) Powell of Springdale, Ark., passed away on April 15. She is survived by her husband, **Anthony Powell ('73)**; two brothers, Don and Ned Majors; four children, Amy Meade, Beverly Smith, Tony Powell and John Powell; and eight grandchildren.

Earnest Simes ('77) of West Helena, Ark., passed away on April 10. He is survived by his wife, Loree Allen-Simes; mother, Nevader Simes; siblings, Jewel Hamilton, Zeron Evans, **Judge L.T. Simes ('77)**, Raymond Simes and Alvin Simes; four children, Jessica Simes, Ashley Simes, Zelda Perry and Earnest Jr.; step-children, Kimberly Payne and Jirmar Allen; and one grandchild.

Dr. Robert Brown ('79*) of Cabot, Ark., passed away on Jan. 3. He is survived by his wife, **Debora (Pratt '78*) Brown**; mother, Virginia Brown; siblings, Pauline and Rick Brown; and six children, Jonathan, Kristen, Joy, Lawrence, Abi and Kidist Brown.

—1980s—

Nancy Cole ('81) of Forrest City, Ark., passed away on March 11. She is survived by her parents, Thomas W. and Doris Cole; and brother, Thomas W. Cole III.

Adrienne (Bone '83) Wilbers of Clinton, Ark., passed away on March 28. She is survived by her husband, Andy Wilbers; mother, Faye Bone; brother, **Steven Bone ('80)**; two sons, Charles and Matthew Wilbers; and one grandchild.

Jean (Ketzscher '86*) Thompson of North Little Rock, Ark., passed away on April 15. She is survived by her daughters, **Susanne (Ketzscher '70) Angliss** and **Jackie (Ketzscher '79) Hudspeth**; and seven grandchildren.

Shawn Presley ('87) of New Albany, Ohio, passed away on April 1. He is survived by his parents, Rev. Emmett and Ferne Presley; and siblings, Andrew, Shearon and Sabrina.

—1990s—

Ben Crowley ('98) of Little Rock passed away on March 20. He is survived by his wife, Amanda Crowley; parents, Bill and Nancy Smith; sisters, **Lisa (Crowley '92) Sullivan**, Kelly Smith and Annie Smith; and his daughter, Ella, who will arrive in July 2014.

—2010s—

Andrew Hernandez ('12) of Arkadelphia passed away March 22 at age 25. He is survived by his parents, Andres Hernandez Mendoza

and Servanda Jacinto Lopez; three brothers, Oscar Hernandez, David Noriega and Damian Noriega; and three sisters, **Edith Hernandez ('08)**, **Mariela Hernandez ('09)** and **Valeria Torres (OBU freshman)**. His mother works on Ouachita's building services staff.

—Faculty & Staff—

Helen Roark of Malvern, Ark., passed away on Jan. 28 at age 89. She served at Ouachita for 17 years as secretary to the president, working with Dr. Daniel R. Grant and Dr. Ben M. Elrod. Memorial gifts may be made to Ouachita's Daniel and Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education.

**denotes former student*

Ouachita community mourns unexpected loss of junior Shelby Seabaugh at age 21

Shelby Seabaugh, a junior Christian studies/philosophy major at Ouachita from Magnolia, died unexpectedly March 27.

Shelby, 21, is survived by her parents, Dr. Michael and Laurie Seabaugh, and her siblings, Haydn and Gracen. Dr. Seabaugh, a 1985 Ouachita graduate, is pastor of Central Baptist Church in Magnolia. She also is survived by her fiancé, Joshua Cassidy, and her grandparents, Dr. Rodney and Rosemary Griffin of Magnolia and Wayne and Glenda Seabaugh of Hot Springs Village.

Shelby was involved in a number of campus organizations at Ouachita, including the Ouachita Student Foundation, EEE women's social club and Pruet Sisterhood. A Tiger Network Leadership Award recipient, she also was involved in the Carl Goodson Honors Program and was on the Dean's List.

Recalling that "Shelby was excited about coming to Ouachita," President Rex Horne said, "Her smile and enthusiasm about Ouachita was contagious. Now for nearly three years on campus, I saw her smile and felt her joy of being in this special place."

Affirming the Seabaugh family's commitment to "faithfully serving the Lord," he said, "We will all pray for the Seabaugh family. We all feel a depth of sorrow and want to help shoulder the burden of grief. It's certainly a loss to Ouachita.

"There is also gratitude," Dr. Horne added. "Because of Jesus' resurrection, this is not a final

goodbye, but a brief time until we'll see Shelby again. In the meantime, we will cling to the One who gives life, forgiveness of sin and hope."

"Shelby Seabaugh had an infectious smile, a genuine love for people and a passion for Christ," said Dr. Scott Jackson, associate professor of Christian ministries in Ouachita's Pruet School of Christian Studies. "She truly displayed a contagious Christian faith.

"Recently, Shelby taught a Bible study in my Communicating the Gospel class," he reflected. "Her passage was from Colossians 1:15-20 which reads in part, 'And he (Jesus) is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.' Shelby taught with great humor, theological savvy and passion for Jesus. She knew Him well and loved Him dearly. I'm thankful that today she is in His glorious presence."

Memorial services were held April 2 at Central Baptist Church and April 3 in Jones Performing Arts Center on the Ouachita campus. Memorial gifts may be made to Ouachita Baptist University, Camp Siloam Springs or Central Baptist Church of Magnolia.





President Horne recognizes emeriti faculty Dr. Ouida Keck and Dr. Bob Webster. photo by Kristen Barnard

Retiring faculty & staff honored for faithful service

Four faculty members with a combined total of almost a century of service to Ouachita retired at the end of the spring 2014 semester. In addition to the faculty members, eight longtime staff members also retired from service.

Two retiring professors, Dr. Ouida Keck and Dr. Robert L. Webster, were honored as emeriti faculty by university trustees during their spring meeting. Faculty members Jim Dann and Sally Dann announced their retirements later in the semester.

Affirming the retiring faculty and staff members' impact on the Ouachita community, President Rex Horne thanked the retirees "for the contributions you have made and for the years you have invested of your lives here at Ouachita. You've made an impact; you've made a difference."

Dr. Keck, who served as the Addie Mae Maddox Professor of Music, was named Professor Emerita of Music. A 1971 Ouachita graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree, she also holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Arkansas and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Keck, who served 30 years at Ouachita, began teaching piano part-time in the music department in the 1970s and joined the faculty as a full-time assistant professor in 1982. After several years away, she returned to Ouachita as an associate professor in 1996 and was promoted to professor of music in 2001. Under her instruction, Ouachita produced student keyboard competition winners on the state, regional and national levels. Among her many leadership roles, she chaired the University Committee and served as president of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Dr. Webster, who held the George Young Chair of Business, was named Professor Emeritus of Accounting. Serving at Ouachita since 1993, he joined the faculty as an associate professor of accounting and chair of the Department of Accounting. He was promoted to professor of accounting in 1999.

A 1968 Ouachita graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration, Dr. Webster also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Syracuse University, a Master of Science degree in accounting from Long Island University and a Doctor of Business Administration degree from Louisiana Tech University. He also served as a commissioned officer in

the U.S. Army.

Jim Dann, assistant professor of kinesiology and leisure studies, has served at Ouachita since 1982. A Ouachita graduate with a Master of Science in Education degree, he also holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida.

From 1981 to 2008, Dann served as head coach of both men's and women's swimming. Under his leadership, OBU swim teams were ranked in the Top 10 nationally 16 times for the men's swim team and three times for the women's team. Over the years he coached 175 All-America swimmers, 15 national champions and two Olympic trial qualifiers. He earned NAIA national coaching awards and was named conference coach of the year several times. He also served as director of the Sturgis Physical Education Center and formed the City of Arkadelphia Swim Team (COAST) in the late 1990s for students in K-12.

Sally Dann, assistant professor of kinesiology and leisure studies, has served at Ouachita since 2000. She holds degrees from the University of Florida, Nova University and the University of Central Arkansas.

Dann came to Ouachita as a lecturer in physical education. She became an instructor of kinesiology and leisure studies in 2005 and was promoted to assistant professor in 2013. She also has served since 2007 as athletic academic coordinator.

Retiring staff members include:

Evalyn Cowart, administrative assistant in Riley-Hickingbotham Library's Technical Services (32 years of service)

Evelyn Bettis, Foster Grandparents Program (30 years of service)

Bill McCrary, Academic Services coordinator and VA consultant (26 years of service)

Bill Hulan, Facilities Management Building Services (20 years of service)

Mary Jones, Facilities Management Building Services (20 years of service)

Diane Osburn, Student Financial Services (20 years of service)

Sharis Armstrong, financial aid counselor in Student Financial Services (16 years of service)

Lula Wright, Facilities Management Building Services (15 years of service)

Ouachita trustees elect new faculty and staff members

Ouachita trustees approved two new faculty members and one new staff member during the Board of Trustees' March meeting.

Myra Ann Houser and Allyson Phillips were named to Ouachita's Sutton School of Social Sciences effective this fall. Houser was named assistant professor of history and Phillips was named assistant professor of psychology.

Houser, a 2007 Ouachita graduate with majors in history, mass communications and Russian, holds a Master of Arts degree in comparative history from the College of William and Mary and a PhD from Howard University. She has taught African history courses at Howard and served as a teaching assistant at William and Mary. Her husband, Jason Smith, a 2008 Ouachita graduate, currently is director of youth at Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Phillips, who grew up in Little Rock, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Colorado Christian University and a master's degree and PhD from the University of Alabama. She has served as an undergraduate instructor, teaching assistant and guest lecturer at the University of Alabama. She and her husband, Cameron, will relocate from Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Trustees also approved Sonya Arnold's position as student success coordinator in OBU's Academic Success Center. Arnold, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from American InterContinental University, previously served as a human resources consultant at Oregon State University. At Ouachita, she works with the tutoring program, meeting one-on-one with students, and assists the Academic Success Center with various student success programs.

Trustees previously approved two other staff members in their December 2013 meeting.

Hannah Bishop, a 2013 Ouachita graduate from Conway, serves as an admissions counselor. Her territory includes northwest Arkansas, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon and Washington.

Vickie Young serves as a financial aid counselor in Student Financial Services. She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Henderson State University. She previously worked as an admissions and financial aid advisor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Ouachita Faculty & Staff Update

Faculty granted tenure & promotions

Faculty members recently granted tenure are: Dr. Tully Borland, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; Dr. Joey Dodson, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies; Dr. Maggie Garrett, Assistant Professor of Music; Daniel Inouye, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts; Dr. Chris Mortenson, Assistant Professor of History; and Dr. Steve Thomason, Assistant Professor of Political Science.

Faculty members granted promotions are: Donnie Copeland, from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Visual Arts; Dr. Kayla Dwelle, from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Mathematics; Dr. Kent Faught, from Associate Professor to Professor of Management; Dr. Lori Hensley, from Associate Professor to Professor of Biology; Dr. Rob Hewell, from Associate Professor to Professor of Music; Dr. Kevin C. Motl, from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of History; and Dr. William C. Viser, from Associate Professor to Professor of Christian Ministries.

Curlin named NEH Summer Scholar

Dr. Jay Curlin was selected as a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Scholar from a national applicant pool. He will participate in a seminar titled "Tudor Books and Readers: 1485-1603" with 15 other scholars. The five-week program will be held at the Plantin-Moretus Museum in Antwerp, Belgium; at Senate House Library, University of London; and at the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford.

"Everything about the seminar sounds like paradise to a bookworm whose visions of Heaven have always been huge libraries with towering bookshelves filled with beautiful old books," said Curlin, who serves as Ouachita's Kathryn Maddox Professor of English.

As part of the seminar, Curlin will present his own research to his fellow scholars for discussion and review.

Wolfe among ALA Emerging Leaders

Lacy Wolfe, assistant professor and circulation/reference librarian, is among 56 librarians in the nation selected for the American Library Association's Emerging Leaders Class of 2014.

The Emerging Leaders program is open to librarians under age 35 years or those new to the library profession. The program allows honorees to participate in project planning work groups, network with peers and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership role early in their careers.

Dr. Ray Granade, director of library services and professor of history, described Wolfe's recognition as "a testimony to her that someone so early in her career would be active enough to

have that activity recognized and honored. ... It's always exciting to watch a young faculty member so ably represent OBU in the councils of a discipline and then return with new ideas and experiences to enliven the local scene."

Barnes named Support Staffer of Year

Tammy Barnes, administrative assistant in the Office of Campus Activities, recently was honored as Ouachita's 2014 Support Staff Member of the Year.

"I am very honored to be selected by my colleagues to receive this award," Barnes said. "Campus Activities is the hub of the student center so we are always busy assisting the faculty, staff and students."

"Every person on campus provides essential service; this is certainly true of our support staff," Dr. Horne said. "Tammy Barnes exemplifies the best. She carries out her work efficiently and diligently."

"Tammy is incredibly loyal to the university and to the people she works with," said Tim Harrell, director of campus activities. "It is because of her efforts that much of campus life goes so smoothly."

Brech named Outstanding Educator

Dr. Detri Brech, OBU professor of dietetics, was awarded the Outstanding Nutrition Educator Award at the Arkansas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics annual meeting at Arkansas Children's Hospital.

Emily Hastings, a senior dietetics and nutrition major from Leawood, Kan., nominated Brech for the award. "Dr. Brech is such a dedicated professor and dietitian," Hastings said. "She's incredibly passionate about her field, and she gives her all to teaching students."

"It is a delight to present information in class to students who love the field of nutrition as much as I do," Brech said. "I feel blessed to teach students at Ouachita."

Halaby introduces Palestinian exhibit

Dr. Raouf J. Halaby was invited to write the introduction for the catalog of the international art exhibit "How Green Was My Valley" in New York City. He also moderated the exhibit's "Artists' Talk" symposium on April 4. The exhibit was held April 3-27 at the White Box Art Center in SoHo.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Halaby, professor of English and visual arts. He said he had the opportunity to "meet artists, art critics, art historians, gallery owners and art aficionados from all over the world."

Halaby's introduction for the catalog highlighted the Palestinian influence and subject matter of the exhibit. The exhibit featured paintings, installations, sculptures and digital art by 15 Palestinian artists from around the world.



photo by Tyler Rosenthal

CHRIS BRUNE

Assistant Professor of Finance

By Jon Merryman, OBU Director of Alumni

Growing up in Arkansas, Chris Brune ('94) knew about Ouachita and its reputation as a respected Christian university. But it was the personal friendships, relationships with professors and knowledge he gained as a student in the Hickingbotham School of Business that gave Dr. Brune a deeper appreciation for the university's mission.

While Brune was a student, the business department experienced great transformation as it became the Hickingbotham School of Business and added new majors. Brune was actually among the first students to graduate with a major in finance from Ouachita. Now, he feels he has come full circle, returning in 2009 to teach after earning his Master of Business Administration and PhD degrees from the University of Arkansas and working 10 years in the financial services industry.

"Ultimately, I felt a sense of calling in returning to Ouachita, and I especially appreciate the Christian environment, teaching focus and opportunity to stay in Arkansas," he noted.

"Chris is an accomplished researcher, a tremendous colleague and a gifted classroom instructor," said Bryan McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School. "But those praises don't begin to scratch the surface. He is so phenomenally giving to his students of his energy, time and insights. He lives his faith before them, and shows students what it looks like to live out Colossians 3:23 on a daily basis. Dr. Brune does everything with all his heart, as though it is service rendered to God. He is a tremendous asset to the Hickingbotham School of Business and to Ouachita."

Personal finance, corporate finance, insurance and investments are among the courses Dr. Brune teaches at Ouachita. In 2012, he also became faculty advisor for the Eddie and Phyllis Ary Student Investment Fund – a stock portfolio managed by senior finance students in the Hickingbotham School with each student serving as an analyst for a sector of the economy.

In March, members of the student management team attended the

Global Asset Management Forum in New York City where they had the opportunity to meet and learn from managers from top global financial firms. The fund, with a current balance of \$125,000, experienced a 27 percent gain in 2013.

"It's real-life investing but in a controlled environment," Brune explained. "Students gain invaluable experience through monitoring stocks, making recommendations and working together as a team to manage an actual portfolio."

"Dr. Brune is one of the most knowledgeable professors I have ever met," said Jonathan Curry, a senior accounting and business

"I enjoy seeing their growth in not only their knowledge of finance, but also in their faith and as individuals."

administration/finance major from Little Rock. "He devotes himself to making sure we understand the material and apply it in our lives. As a member of the Eddie Ary Student Investment Fund team, I can speak for the group and say that it was one of the best learning experiences we have had at Ouachita. I learned more than I thought possible! I appreciate so much Dr. Brune's dedication to our learning and growth both as students and as we continue in our careers."

While Brune loves teaching about investing, investing in the lives of his students is what brings him the most joy.

"The best part of my job is working with students," he declared. "I enjoy seeing their growth in not only their knowledge of finance, but also in their faith and as individuals."



photo by Tyler Rosenthal

SUSAN HURST

Director of Student Financial Services

By Jon Merryman, OBU Director of Alumni

The world of student financial aid is always changing, but one thing has remained constant: Susan Hurst ('86) has helped thousands of families navigate those waters to make a Ouachita education a reality.

Susan grew up near Ouachita in Gurdon where her youth directors at Beech Street Baptist Church always were Ouachita students or graduates. "I was impressed with them," she recalled. "They always made sure we were on campus for events, and I fell in love with Ouachita."

Not long after graduating from Ouachita, Susan was invited to serve as director of financial aid. "Financial aid is not something learned in a classroom," she noted. "At times I have to be a financial counselor, personal counselor, career counselor, educator and a legislative advocate. The challenge is balancing all of that with empathy and compassion while staying objective."

"While there aren't classes on financial aid counseling per se, I could not do what I do every day without lessons learned from professors in the business department like Eddie Ary, Margaret Wright and others. I also gained invaluable knowledge about higher education and how the university functions as a student worker in Dr. Grant's office during the school year and each summer."

In 2003, after nearly a decade of service as director of financial aid, Susan left Ouachita to spend more time with family, eventually working in public school accounting near her home. Missing the interaction with students and families, Susan returned to Ouachita in 2010.

"I love helping families understand that a Ouachita education is worth it!" Susan declared. "As a mom, I saw my daughter, Jenna, struggle with the decision of where to attend college. I was so thrilled when God called Jenna to missions and she felt led to attend Ouachita. Jenna has had four wonderful years here. ... She has learned so much and made lifelong friends. Ouachita has been worth the investment for our family."

Susan wants parents to understand that families typically can afford to send their child to Ouachita with careful planning and commitment. "It

used to be that most families I counseled had saved money for their children to attend college. Scholarships and aid were a bonus. That is rarely the case today. Ouachita is an exceptional value, and our students, 97 percent of whom receive university aid, graduate with less debt than the national average because of outstanding scholarships, thanks to our generous donors."

"Susan works so well with families to help explore every financial aid possibility out there. She is able to lead families through the process, making it easy for them to understand," said Lori Motl, director of admissions counseling. "Susan's dedication and love for Ouachita shines through. She truly loves our students and wants to see them succeed."

"I love helping families understand that a Ouachita education is worth it!"

"Susan does phenomenal work for Ouachita," agreed Dr. Brett Powell, vice president for administrative services. "She has the unique ability to understand very technical rules and regulations and communicate those in a way that makes sense. Ouachita is fortunate to have Susan not only for her expertise but also for the caring way she serves our students."

Reflecting on her commitment to help students gain a Ouachita education, Susan said, "Ouachita remains one of the most affordable four-year private universities in the country. Wherever you may be today, begin to set money aside for your children to study at Ouachita so you aren't forced to make the cheapest decision for your child's education, but the best one. It may seem cliché, but oftentimes you get what you pay for – and the Christian, residential university experience, to me, is worth the cost."

Transformation: Graduates to Gold Tigers

Each spring there are two campus events within weeks of each other that give me perspective about our service here at Ouachita. The first one each April is the annual gathering of our Gold Tigers. Gold Tigers are alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more from Ouachita.

This year, members of the Ouachita class of 1964 were inducted as our newest Gold Tigers. As this august group shared their memories of Ouachita, it became obvious that there were more than a few who still regret (or revel in!) some rowdy activities five decades ago on these hallowed grounds.

Several hundred participants attend this luncheon. This year among those returning was Jim Ramay. I presented him the “Worthy Ouachitonian” citation as we celebrated with him the 75th anniversary of his graduation from Ouachita. Jim remarked that as he toured campus, the only thing he recognized was Cone-Bottoms Hall. He then went on with many complimentary remarks about the beauty of our current campus.

If I could paraphrase our 1939 graduate, he could well be implying that the campus has been transformed between his student days decades ago and his visit in 2014. I enjoy words and their definitions. Transformation is a rich word. Our English definition is similar to the word in the biblical language. Transformation is to change in form, appearance, nature or character. Surely Ouachita has changed in appearance. The new buildings are wonderful. These will be joined in the next months by Cliff Harris Stadium, a beautiful new Elrod Center for Family & Community and the Rosemary Adams Department of Visual Arts in the remodeled Moses-Provine Hall.

Ouachita’s education and experience certainly are exceptional. As I observe students from my office window, at events or in personal conversations, I sense personal transformations are taking place. This is how it should be for all of us. With the

blessing of longer life, I can see that things that once mattered most now matter less, if at all. On the other hand, there are opportunities that now are important. Time and its use should transform even our priorities. This is what the presence of Christ continually effects in our lives. This is transformation in its truest sense.

Oh yes, I mentioned earlier two events. Besides the Gold Tiger Reunion, there is our May commencement ceremony that follows a few weeks later. We have just graduated our largest class of Ouachitonians in more than 30 years. These young

“As our graduates serve God and mankind, let us pray that they will be agents of transformation wherever they serve.”

men and young women have been part of a transformative process. It is our prayer that their nature and character have been challenged and strengthened.

As our graduates serve God and mankind, let us pray that they will be difference makers and agents of transformation wherever they serve and however long God gives them on the earth. Perhaps one day in 2089, one or more will return and compliment the beauty of campus and even more, the transformative power of Christ working through this special place, Ouachita Baptist University.



Rex Horne

OUACHITA HOMECOMING

REUNIONS

TUESDAY, SEPT. 30

CLARK COUNTY ALUMNI DINNER

FRIDAY, OCT. 3

CLASS OF 2004 10-YEAR REUNION

CLASS OF 1994 20-YEAR REUNION

CLASS OF 1984 30-YEAR REUNION

SATURDAY, OCT. 4

SWIMMING & DIVING REUNION TAILGATE

40 YEARS OF OSF REUNION

GAME DAY

GRAB SOME BREAKFAST AT
DR. JACK'S COFFEEHOUSE (8-11 A.M.)

OCTIGER FEST (9-11 A.M.)

OCTIGER FEAST! (11 A.M.-1 P.M.)

PRE-GAME ACTIVITIES (12:30 P.M.)

FOOTBALL GAME VS. SWOSU (1 P.M.)

STREET FESTIVAL (5:30 -8:30 P.M.)

TIGER TUNES

THURSDAY, OCT. 2 (7:30 P.M.)

FRIDAY, OCT. 3 (7:30 P.M.)

SATURDAY, OCT. 4 (5 & 8:30 P.M.)

FOR TIGER TUNES TICKET
INFORMATION, VISIT
OBUTIGERTUNES.COM

TRADITIONS, TOUCHDOWNS & TUNES

GROW

VISIT US AT
OUACHITAALUMNI.ORG
FOR EVENT DETAILS &
ONLINE RESERVATIONS.

GETTING READY FOR OUACHITA'S WORLD
THURSDAY, OCT. 2, & FRIDAY, OCT. 3

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
OBU.EDU/GROW

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, OCT. 3

BUDDY BENSON MEMORIAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT

DOWNLOAD THE OUACHITA APP
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OR WWW.TINYURL.COM/OBUANDROID (ANDROID)
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CEO OF DREAMLINE BEDDING*

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