

# MERCER UNIVERSITY

Est. 1833

C O M M E N C E M E N T 2 0 1 3

# Message from the President



May 2013

Dear Mercer Graduate:

On behalf of the entire Mercer University community, I congratulate you on the occasion of your graduation. You have achieved one of the most significant goals of your life, and you have added immeasurably to the intellectual and spiritual foundation on which you will stand in the years ahead.

You may be receiving your first Mercer degree this spring. Or, perhaps your accomplishment represents your second or even third degree from the University. Whichever it may be, you share a common bond with all of the graduates today of having made real what was once an aspiration. As a graduate, you are entitled to feel a strong sense of fulfillment as you reflect on your hard work and personal commitment.

With each passing year, you will find that memories of your Mercer experiences will grow to mean more to you. As you reflect on the friendships, the learning experiences, the joys and the frustrations of the time you have spent at Mercer, you increasingly will come to realize that the University is a part of your life forever.

Commencement is a rewarding time for the faculty and staff as students move beyond the University to continue along their life's path. The measure of a university is not the accolades accumulated from popular college guides and national rankings. The true measure is the transformation our students experience that prepares them to be intelligent, thoughtful and compassionate leaders who are committed to making a positive difference in their community and the world. We encourage you to stay in touch with the University in the years ahead.

We are grateful that you chose to pursue your educational goals here and that you always will be a part of Mercer University.

Sincerely,

William D. Underwood

President

# MERCER TRADITIONS

Mercer University is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the South and 180 years has developed a number of cherished traditions.

### Spires and Towers

Each fall, part of freshman orientation includes a trek up a combination of ladders, spiral staircases and wooden stairs in the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus' oldest structure, to reach the tower overlooking campus. Students write their names, graduating years and sometimes favorite messages anywhere from the first stairwell to the actual tower. In addition to the majestic spires adorning the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus skyline is also known for the spires of Willingham Auditorium and Newton Chapel.

# Pilgrimage to Penfield

Since the early 1900s, Mercer undergraduates have been making the 90-mile trip from Macon to Penfield to celebrate the founding of Mercer University. The Pilgrimage to Penfield, as the tradition is now called, has evolved over the years from a celebration for graduating seniors to an integral

part of the Mercer freshman experience.

Penfield, which is located in rural Greene County, was the home of Mercer from 1833-1871. It was named after Josiah Penfield, a Savannah merchant, who challenged the Georgia Baptist Convention to match his \$2,500 contribution and support an educational institution. The Convention, fueled primarily from

Jesse Mercer's financial contribution and leadership, met the challenge and opened Mercer Institute in 1833. It was renamed Mercer University in 1838.

Today, at Penfield, students participating in the Pilgrimage find the original University chapel, the foundation of the first University academic building, and a cemetery that includes the gravesites of Jesse Mercer, as well as a number of former University presidents, trustees and leaders.

# Jesse Mercer Plaza

Statues of Jesse Mercer sit casually on benches in the middle of Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses. The youthful-looking founder of Mercer is staged at a sideways angle, looking ready for a conversation with a passing student.

Occasionally, the statue's head is rubbed by a frantic or uneasy student, hoping the tradition of good luck will work on the upcoming exam. During finals, traffic past Mercer's respected namesake increases drastically.

The statues in Macon and Atlanta are encircled by quotes from Jesse Mercer, personally picked out by former Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey.

Since the statue was installed on the Macon campus in 1995, this area in the main Quadrangle has become one of the most visited sites on campus by students and alumni. The statue, sculpted by Don Haugen of Marietta, was duplicated on the Atlanta campus in 2005.



Beginning in 2009, freshmen, as part of Fall Convocation, and graduating seniors, as part of Baccalaureate, began processing past the Jesse Mercer statue on the Macon campus, rubbing his head for the first and last times on campus.

The statue was unveiled in 1995 in conjunction with the re-introduction of the tradition of Founders' Day. The statue cost \$75,000 and was paid for by a Student Government Association fund established specifically for constructing the Jesse Mercer statue.

### FOUNDERS' DAY

For a university that is almost two centuries old, Founders' Day is bound to be special. At Mercer, while the annual celebration has a checkered history, the tradition is as strong as ever today. Founders' Day began in 1891, 20 years after the University moved from Penfield to Macon. At that time, Founders' Day was a celebration centered on Jesse Mercer's birthday. Mercer's two competing literary societies, Phi Delta and Ciceronian, each brought in a speaker to honor the heritage of Mercer and its founder.

Founders' Day remained a significant annual event for Mercer for the next 40 or 50 years, according to Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. The occasion had different formats during this period, ranging from political events attended by state governors to all-day historic celebrations.



While this tradition remained strong during the early- to mid-1900s, interest began to wane in the 1950s and 1960s. By the end of the 1960s, the tradition had been completely removed from the University calendar. The absence of Founders' Day lasted until the mid-1990s. At that time, the Student Government Association brought the event back to the Macon campus.

In 2008, as part of the University's 175th anniversary observance, five Mercer "legends" were invited to speak as part of the Founders' Day celebration. The "legends" were author Dr. Ferrol Sams, Jr.; Sam Oni, Mercer's first black student; longtime English professor Dr. Mary Wilder; attorney and author Robert Steed; and former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell.

# RINGING THE TIFT BELL

When Tift College merged with Mercer in 1986, the alumnae of the Forsyth women's school were apprehensive about Mercer's commitment to honor the Tift heritage. Mercer had joined with the Tift College Alumnae Association to create a plan to honor the historic institution, but when Mercer closed the campus in 1987, that concern was heightened by many members of past classes.

Then-President R. Kirby Godsey acknowledged the challenges of merging Tift into Mercer, especially following the closing of the school. During that period of the late 1980s, he continued to stress Mercer's commitment to honoring the legacy and heritage of Tift.

That persistence paid off for Mercer and Tift alumnae, primarily through the partnership of past alumnae and current Mercer women participating in the Tift College Scholars Program. This program provides scholarships, leadership development and, most importantly, mentoring from Tift alumnae to 125 women attending Mercer, which also named its College of Education for Tift in 2001.

The preservation of the Tift legacy is a combination of the heritage of Tift and the momentum of Mercer. Part of this history and tradition is the ringing of the Tift Bell, which was relocated to the Macon campus after the merger. Tift graduates began ringing the bell in 1959 as part of commencement festivities.

# MERCER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS

Approximately 1,900 students will participate in Mercer University's spring commencements.

To make graduation a special day for these students and their families, Mercer University will conduct five ceremonies in May.

Each ceremony will be unique and will reflect the schools and colleges represented.

#### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE – MACON

Speaker: Jean R. Sumner, M.D., '86 Charter Class Member, School of Medicine Friday, May 3, 1:00 p.m. Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon

### School of Medicine – Savannah

Speaker: William J. Hoskins, M.D.

Executive Director of Surgical Activities, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Saturday, May 4, 1:00 p.m.

Savannah Arts Academy | Savannah

#### ATLANTA

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics Tift College of Education | James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology Georgia Baptist College of Nursing | College of Continuing and Professional Studies

> Speaker: John R. Seffrin Chief Executive Officer, American Cancer Society, Inc. Saturday, May 11, 8:30 a.m. Upper Field | Atlanta Campus

#### Walter F. George School of Law

Speaker: Steve Berry, '80
New York Times Best Selling Author
Saturday, May 11, 10:00 a.m.
Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon

#### MACON

College of Liberal Arts | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics School of Engineering | Tift College of Education College of Continuing and Professional Studies | Townsend School of Music

Speaker: Claude M. Kicklighter, '55
Lieutenant General (Retired), United States Army
Saturday, May 11, 3:30 p.m.
Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon

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# Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service



n March 1999, Judge Griffin B. Bell was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in Trusteeship by the Association of Governing Boards and Universities. The longtime Mercer Trustee was one of two national honorees selected from the 50,000 board members who volunteer their time to higher education. For this noteworthy accomplishment, Judge Bell was presented a crystal Steuben sculpture and a framed certificate. The University, in Judge Bell's honor, was presented a \$10,000 unrestricted cash award. At its April 2000 meeting, the Mercer Board of Trustees voted to use the award to establish the Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service. This award, along with a replica inspired by the Steuben that was given to Judge Bell, is presented annually to deserving graduating students from among Mercer's 11 schools and colleges.

# THE HONORABLE GRIFFIN B. BELL



Originally from Americus, Griffin B. Bell graduated cum laude from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law with an LL.B. degree in 1948. He practiced law in Savannah, and Rome, before joining the law firm of King & Spalding in Atlanta as a partner in 1953.

In 1959, while a senior partner at King & Spalding, Judge Bell was appointed Chief of Staff by Georgia Governor Ernest Vandiver. In 1961, U.S. President John F. Kennedy appointed him as a judge of the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. After 15 years of service on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, Judge Bell returned to King & Spalding. He resigned from the firm to become the 72nd Attorney General of the United States on January 26, 1977, following his nomination by U.S. President Immy Carter.

He served as U.S. Attorney General until August 16, 1979, when he returned to King & Spalding, serving as chair of its Policy Committee. An active counselor and adviser to leaders in Congress, the U.S. Attorney General's office and U.S. presidents, Judge Bell's influence was wide reaching. He is truly recognized as one of the country's great Americans. Judge Bell died January 5, 2009, at the age of 90.

# 2013 Griffin B. Bell Award Recipient

### NANCY BOORE

# College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences



Nancy Boore's passion and dedication to community service is evidenced by her actions both in and out of the classroom. Graduating from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy, she will continue to serve others.

Boore's commitment and dedication stem from her upbringing. Following in her father's footsteps, Ms. Boore served as an Army officer. Her assignments included Middle East/Africa intelligence analyst at the Pentagon, Eastern Europe intelligence analyst at the U.S. Army Europe Headquarters in Germany, and professor at West Point. Boore left the Army after fourteen years to pursue a career as a physical therapist.

Boore is respected by her peers for her dedication and drive. She served her fellow classmates as President of the inaugural Doctor of Physical Therapy class and organized and led the program's

student-led academic assistance program. She also participated in information sessions, interviewed prospective students and faculty, and assisted with weekend courses.

Boore's dedication to serving others also extends out into the local community. She has spent countless hours at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center, at Helping Hands, at the Good Samaritan Health Center, and in providing individual assistance to those in need.

Boore's experience is extensive, and she is committed to making sure every voice is heard. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Western Maryland College and her Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College before enrolling at Mercer for her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

# PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2012

Chelsea Marie Flieger College of Liberal Arts

2011

Andi Thomas Sullivan McAfee School of Theology

2010

Gloria Ann Jordan College of Continuing and **Professional Studies** 

2009

Shannon Louise Moon Georgia Baptist College of Nursing 2008

**Grant Michael Jenson** Walter F. George School of Law

2007

Chpryelle Carr School of Medicine

Steuart Hutchings Botchford College of Liberal Arts

2006

**Hollie Benet Preston** Georgia Baptist College of Nursing 2005

John Michael Carroll College of Liberal Arts

**Dennis Drummond** Tift College of Education

2004

Amanda Elaine Meloun Walter F. George School of Law

Leah Marie Phanco College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

2003

Caroline Gary Walter F. George School of Law 2002

Rachel Gunter Shapard McAfee School of Theology

2001

Stephanie Anne Shelton College of Liberal Arts

2000

Virginia Campbell Leslie School of Medicine

# Wallace Odell DuVall Excellence in Leadership Award

The Wallace Odell DuVall Excellence in Leadership Award at Mercer University recognizes the outstanding leadership of a graduating senior from one of the University's undergraduate schools and colleges. For award consideration, students must be recommended by a faculty or staff member and nominated by their respective dean. Eligible candidates must demonstrate the abilities to motivate and inspire the confidence and trust of others, while possessing vision, intelligence, integrity and common sense, and having a good academic record. The selected recipient receives a financial award.

Wallace Odell DuVall (1901-1993) was an Atlanta attorney who spent most of his career in the banking industry. He served as secretary and attorney of the Atlanta Building and Loan Association, which later became Georgia Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which Mr. DuVall became chairman of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Executive Committee. A generous benefactor and longtime friend of Mercer University, he was a founding trustee of Atlanta Baptist College, which merged with Mercer in 1972 and became the University's Atlanta campus. He served three terms on Mercer's Board of Trustees, 1972-77, 1978-83 and 1985-90. The Dean's Suite at the Law School is named for him, as well as an academic building on the Atlanta Campus, where his portrait hangs.

# Noah Maier

### College of Liberal Arts



Noah Maier's concerns about diversity and acceptance, coupled with a passion for breaking prejudicial barriers, have distinguished him as a student who inspires confidence and trust in others.

On campus, Maier was actively involved in Mercer's Gay-Straight Alliance, Common Ground. Under his leadership, the organization increased its membership ten-fold and successfully brought the first Safe Space program to Mercer. As part of Mercer On Mission, he helped with the LGBT visibility in Moldova. Maier worked to stop sex trafficking in Hungary, volunteered at orphanages in the Ukraine, and organized a fund-raiser for Haiti earthquake victims. He served as Quadwork's Diversity Chair and led diversity-related activities for students. He held an anti-racism rally in 2012 that received local and national attention.

Off campus, Maier has tutored inner city students and had oversight for 3D programming classes for inner city girls. He has served as an afterschool instructor at the Boys and Girls Club of Macon as well as Teen Scene Macon. Maier plans to work as a strategist for a U.S. Congressional candidate following graduation.

# PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2012	2008	2005 and	Blair Cox	Jimmy Thomas Howell	Larissa Spell
John Andrew Jones	Stephanie Ard	Earlier	Thomaston, Georgia	Jesup, Georgia	Screven, Georgia
Rome, Georgia	Richmond Hill, Georgia	William Arnold	Daniel Crager Garden City, Georgia	Andy Lane Newnan, Georgia	Eric Trivett Lawrenceville, Georgia
2011	James Derek Cook Homerville, Georgia	Macon, Georgia	Ben Drew Cravey, III	Adam Neal	Jamanda Turner
Margaret McCampbell  Jasper, Georgia 2007	Julia Bowen Warner Robins, Georgia	Hawkinsville, Georgia	Winter Park, Florida	Decatur, Georgia	
	2007	, ,	John Christopher Elder	Frank Nelson	Jamila Wideman
2010	Stacey Irene Harwell	Megan Boyd Tullahoma, Tennessee	Columbus, Georgia	Harlem, Georgia	Riverdale, Georgia
Amy Carol Abel Senoia, Georgia 2006	Valdosta, Georgia	Michael Bryan	Rhett Fraser	Pamela Popwell	Becky Wilcox
	2006	Conyers, Georgia	Tifton, Georgia	Evans, Georgia	Fort Valley, Georgia
2009	Samson Julius Alva Sharjah, United Arab Emirates	Kala Cartwright Milan, Georgia	Crystal Garmon Toccoa, Georgia	Emily Salman <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	Megin Lea Williams Martinez, Georgia
John Christopher Elder Columbus, Georgia	der	James Derek Cook	Tiffany Gibson	Amber Sandlin	Gary Wood
Colullious, Georgia		Homerville, Georgia	Conyers, Georgia	Brinson, Georgia	Macon, Georgia

# Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal

The Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal is presented to the graduating student who best exemplifies scholastic achievement, personal integrity and character, service to the campus community and a commitment to spiritual values. The award is named in honor of Dr. Newton, Mercer alumnus, former Mercer professor, Christian journalist, distinguished pastor and renowned denominational leader.

### BRITTANY ROBINSON

Stetson School of Business and Economics



Brittany Robinson's dedication to academics and serving others is evidenced by the way she has reached out to the University, community and the world.

Robinson is dedicated to academics. She has served the Mercer athletic community as a tutor and has provided tutoring services to the larger student population. Robinson's academic successes have earned her membership in Phi Eta Sigma, Beta Gamma Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

Robinson is passionate about serving others. In addition to her tutoring, she has contributed numerous service hours to the Special Olympics, Be a Good NeighBear, the Ronald McDonald House, Relay for Life and the local food bank. As part of Mercer On Mission in the Dominican Republic, she taught Vacation Bible School to the local children, small business basic practices to the community and helped build an orphanage for more than 100 homeless children. Robinson was also an active member of Delta Sigma Pi.

After graduation, Robinson plans to attend graduate school to earn a master's degree in Accounting with a focus on taxation.

# Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award is presented to the graduating student who best exemplifies excellence in character, leadership, service to the community and commitment to spiritual values. This award was established by The New York Southern Society in 1925, and at Mercer University in 1926, in memory of Mr. Sullivan, a great humanitarian and philanthropist.

# KAITLYN SCHMITT

Stetson School of Business and Economics



Kaitlyn Schmitt demonstrated her commitment to excellence and leadership through her involvement both on and off campus.

On campus, Schmitt held multiple roles in the Mercer chapter of the American Marketing Association, in Phi Mu sorority and with Dance Marathon. She was also a member of the student Judicial Board and served as the business manager for *The Cluster*. Schmitt's off-campus volunteer work includes the Children's Miracle Network Hospital and Milestones for Miracles.

Schmitt serves as the Director of Marketing for Papa Dukes Coffee, a start-up company owned by two Mercer students. After graduation, Schmitt will begin work on her master's degree in Business Administration at Mercer University.

# THE JAMES T. McAfee, Jr. ENDOWED VISION AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The James T. McAfee, Jr., Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund recognizes outstanding leadership abilities of a junior, a senior or a graduate student in the College of Liberal Arts; Stetson School of Business and Economics; Tift College of Education; School of Engineering; Townsend School of Music; College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; School of Medicine; or McAfee School of Theology. Scholarship candidates are nominated by the dean of their school or college.

James T. McAfee, Jr., (1939-2004) provided strong leadership to Mercer University as chairman and as a member of the Board of Trustees. He was a generous benefactor of the University, and Mercer's School of Theology in Atlanta is named for him and his wife, Carolyn, a member of the University's Board of Trustees. A nationally recognized leader in the health care industry, he served as chairman of Hallmark Systems, Inc., an Atlanta-based health care ownership and management firm. He also was chairman of the board of *Baptists Today*. He was a graduate of Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, and Georgia State University in Atlanta. He received honorary doctorates from Union in 1990 and Mercer in 1999.

The James T. McAfee, Jr., Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by his wife and his son, J. Thomas McAfee, III, a graduate of Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics and a current member of the University's Board of Trustees.

### PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2012

Abraham Deng
McAfee School of Theology

Kaitlyn Schmitt
Stetson School of Business and Economics

2011

Christopher Gaunder School of Medicine

Matthew Townsend
Stetson School of Business and Economics

2010

Ashley Mooney
School of Medicine

2009

Chris L. Kiker College of Liberal Arts

2008

Bailey Edwards Nelson

McAfee School of Theology

Susan Elizabeth Yarbrough Tift College of Education

2006

Rebekah Carol Duke
McAfee School of Theology

James "Jamie" Christopher Geiger, Jr.

Townsend School of Music

### **ALISON SMITH**

### School of Medicine



Alison Smith immediately established herself as a leader in community service and volunteerism upon her arrival at the Mercer University School of Medicine in 2010. The breadth of her activities is remarkable. True to the spirit of the McAfee Scholarship, Smith has initiated programs and volunteer opportunities for her peers by co-founding the Global Health and Awareness Club and by serving as a local coordinator for the Blood Alliance, a non-profit blood center. Smith also serves as a responder and counselor for victims of sexual violence through the Savannah Rape Crisis Center and established a lending library for the inpatient psychiatric ward of Memorial University Medical Center. She is currently working with a group of other service-minded MUSM students to establish a student-staffed free clinic for the medically underserved in Statesboro and Savannah.

Smith's classmates recognize her leadership ability and hold her in very high esteem. She has been re-elected to serve as class president for the Savannah campus for a fourth consecutive year and is currently vice president of the MUSM student body, which encompasses Savannah, Macon, and Columbus.

Smith's interest in eliminating health care disparities predates her medical education. While a student at St. Olaf College her passion was demonstrated through her five-month undergraduate field research project in Tanzania that focused on the diagnosis and treatment of 400 Maasai children with intestinal helminthic infections. As a master's degree student at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University, she developed a database to track global polio immunizations for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and completed a study that evaluated family planning interventions targeting HIV- infected couples in Zambia.

After completing her MPH in global health, Smith worked full-time for CDC's Global Aids Program and Division of Parasitic Diseases, coordinating studies and public health interventions related to HIV/AIDS and malaria in more than 15 countries around the globe. Smith has received outstanding alumni awards from St. Olaf College and Emory's Rollins School of Public Health. Smith was also a 2012 recipient of the Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded annually by the Association of American Medical Colleges in recognition of leadership and efforts to eliminate inequality in health care and

Smith's professional and academic records are outstanding. Her intellect, enthusiasm and tireless devotion to assisting the underserved have impressed her classmates and faculty alike.

Smith plans a career combining public health and medicine, using her expertise to benefit underserved populations. She will be a remarkable asset to any community that she serves.

# RYAN BARTHOLOMEW

# School of Engineering



In the past few years, Ryan Bartholomew has held several jobs. He has worked as a busboy, server and a host at local restaurants. He has assembled office furniture and, most recently, he has worked as a temporary technician for a research institute. This is not particularly remarkable. What is remarkable is Bartholomew's initiative and drive directed toward helping others.

As a senior in high school, Bartholomew worked with the Miracle League, a baseball league for mentally and physically challenged children. This experience impacted him so greatly that he has found a way to continue to help this organization. In 2010, Bartholomew created a lawn care business after purchasing a set of professional yard tools from his parents. With his entrepreneurial skills and passion, he created "Dawn to Dusk Landscaping" in order to help pay for his college tuition. His passion for helping others led him to donate \$5 from each of his landscaping jobs back to the Miracle League.

Bartholomew has continued to give back to the Miracle League and his total annual donation has increased every year. This year he was able to donate more than \$350 to the league. In addition, he donated turkeys for Thanksgiving baskets for families around Macon and he purchased more than \$200 worth of toys to donate to Kids Yule Love.

Bartholomew has never talked openly about his work or marketed it. When asked how he could afford to give so much money away while trying to pay for his education, Bartholomew simply responds that "God always finds a way to give it back to me."

A Macon native, Bartholomew quietly serves the community and has found numerous ways to give to others. He maintains a 3.788 GPA as a junior in the School of Engineering with a specialization in Electrical Engineering. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree, he plans to continue his education at Mercer earning a master's degree in Computer Engineering.

# Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award is a University-wide award given at Commencement to an outstanding teacher at Mercer. Personal attention to students and a focus on superior teaching are distinguishing characteristics of a Mercer education, and this award elevates and honors these values. The award is named for two of Mercer's greatest teachers. Joe Hendricks, and his older sister, Jean Hendricks, are both legendary at Mercer for their dedication to students and for their ability to engage students in transformative learning and discovery.

Dr. Jean Hendricks was a 1942 graduate of Tift College, earned her Ph.D. from Florida State University, served as chair of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts, and was the beloved dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in Atlanta. Dr. Joseph Hendricks is a 1955 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, earned his Ph.D. from Emory University, taught in the First-Year Seminar program for 32 years (both Jean and Joe were instrumental in creating this long-running program), founded the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts, and taught for years in the Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts.

The loe and lean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes a full-time teacher in one of Mercer's 11 schools and colleges who best exemplifies the qualities that distinguished Joe and Jean Hendricks as teachers and mentors to generations of Mercer students:

- Challenging and inspiring teaching in and out of the classroom;
- Active engagement of students in the process of learning, discovery, and leadership; and
- Caring mentoring to motivate students and junior faculty to achieve their highest aspirations.

The award carries with it a \$5,000 stipend.

### MARY ANN DRAKE

# College of Liberal Arts



Dr. Mary Ann Drake excels in three areas of academe: as a mentor and friend to both faculty and students; as a campus and community leader; and, above all, as a teacher. She intentionally and enthusiastically guides her students to self discovery and has helped to transform the lives of Mercer students for three decades. She models responsible and ethical behaviors for her students as she treats them and all others with respect and dignity. Students describe her ability to help them improve their communication skills and others speak of her ability to awaken a love for learning.

Dr. Drake has been a leading proponent of service learning among undergraduates. She is a staunch community activist who has focused her energies on victims of gender and sex discrimination, usually giving voice to those who lack the power or authority to be heard — such as people who suffer from AIDS and HIV; victims of sex trafficking; battered women; the mentally disabled; and the gay and lesbian

community. In 2009, a Human Rights Advocacy Award was named in her honor. Also, Dr. Drake is frequently sought out by young colleagues as a mentor, and senior faculty colleagues treasure her wisdom and insight.

Dr. Drake earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College. She holds a master's in Liberal Studies from St. John's College and her doctorate in psychology from The Fielding Institute. Since coming to Mercer, Dr. Drake has been entrusted with a wide variety of administrative roles, and she has executed each with distinction. She is currently leading the development of a new second-year seminar on Building Community as part of the general education structure.

School of Medicine - Macon

# School of Medicine Commencement

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Friday, May 3, 2013 | 1:00 p.m.

Presiding	
Prelude	Jack Mitchener University Organist
Academic Procession*	Jack Mitchener
Invocation*	
Welcome	
Greetings from the School	
Greetings from the Board of Governors	
Introduction of Speaker	
Commencement Address	Jean R. Sumner, M.D., '86 Charter Class Member, School of Medicine
University Honors	
Special Awards	
Conferring of the Degrees	,
Awarding of Diplomas and Hooding of Medical Graduates	
Medical Graduate's Oath	Thomas Philip Malan, M.D.  Vice Dean, School of Medicine Dean, Savannah Campus
Alumni Welcome	Vice President, School of Medicine Alumni Board of Directors
Benediction*	Craig Thomas McMahan
Academic Recession**	Jack Mitchener

<sup>\*</sup> The audience is requested to rise.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

# JEAN R. SUMNER

# Commencement Speaker Doctor of Science



Jean Rawlings Sumner is a practicing internist in Wrightsville. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing where she was an honor graduate.

A member of the first class of the Mercer University School of Medicine, she served as class president her sophomore, junior and senior years. Dr. Sumner received the Distinguished Graduate award and was selected by her classmates to receive the Physician's Physician Award. She was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, the honor society of medicine.

After residency, Dr. Sumner returned home to Johnson County and served as the county's only physician for several years. Her areas of clinical interests include rural health and geriatrics.

She has been appointed to three terms on the Georgia Composite Medical Board. As board president, she was instrumental in rewriting Georgia's Medical Practice Act. Dr. Sumner presently serves as Medical Director of the Georgia Board of Medicine.

Dr. Sumner is a former Trustee of Mercer University. She now serves on the Board of Governors for the School of Medicine. She is a potter, enjoys fishing, raising chickens and painting. She is married to Joe Sumner, and they have two children and three granddaughters.

# ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARDS

A key component of medical education is the compassionate and humanistic care of patients. In support of that premise, the NBI Healthcare Foundation initiated the Humanism in Medicine Awards to recognize and honor graduating students and faculty members who have demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with patients. Mercer University School of Medicine graduating students and the faculty have, respectively, chosen a faculty member and a student who embody empathic, sensitive and respectful behavior in providing patient care.

> FACULTY HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD Justin B. Beverly, M.D.

> STUDENT HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD Lauren Hollman Fried

# COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MARSHAL

John Hudson, M.D. Professor of Internal Medicine

#### Readers

Steve Livingston, Ph.D. Program Director, Master of Family Therapy Program

Nannette Turner, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Program Director, Master of Public Health Program

Susan Cline, Ph.D.

Program Director, Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences

Alice House, M.D.

Senior Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs

❖ Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society | ◆ Gold Humanism Honor Society | † Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

#### MASTER OF FAMILY THERAPY

LaTasha Nicole Billingslea Greensboro, Georgia

Lakea Cecile Burrison Glennville, Georgia

Gregory Prescott Cooper

Carter Stevens Drew Atlanta, Georgia

Aaryn Allan Easton Loveland, Colorado

Ammeretta Leanna Gaskin Lithonia Georgia

Felicia Danielle Harris Garner North Carolin

Katrina Dionne Henry Gravson, Georgia

Nichomi Danielle Higgins Austell, Georgia

Erica Tenell James

Debra Laukaitis Forsyth, Georgia

Alexandria Kay Lawrence Dublin, Georgia

Sneha Vinod Mistry Aiken, South Caro

Amanda Nicole Nicholson Riverdale Georgia

Stephanie Anne Renaud Atlanta, Georgia

**Ebony Tereziona Rives** College Park, Georgia

Damaris Solomon Lawrenceville Georgia

Brittani Kambrion Marie Strozier Atlanta, Georgia

Jamie Briana Steele Augusta, Georgia

Robin Michelle Tarver Gray, Georgia

Ellen Shelton Thomas Macon, Georgia

Deidre Monique White Doualasville Georgi

Cassandra Monique Wright Marietta Georgia

#### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Crystal Marie Bolder . Iumhia South Carolina

Kayla Danielle Buchanan † Lithonia, Georgia

Takesha Monique Clifton Ridgeland, Mississipp

Shannon D'Iain Cooper

Christa Lorita Denard Conley, Georgia

Oluwayomi Fabayo Lawrenceville, Georg

Faith Alane Flack Marietta, Georgi

Jamir Alexander Ford Jonesboro, Georgia Meghan Renee' Gondron

Marietta, Georgia Phylicia Raquel Hammonds †

Whitney Nicole Hamilton †

Norman Hart, IV Favetteville Georgi Jennifer Lynn Jones

Tifton, Georgia Yima Ann Kadiya

Dacula, Georaid Tara Michelle Lee Rossville, Georaia

Zhen-Ying Liu Macon, Georgia

Jasmine Termill Moss †

Joseph Chimere Ohaya Favetteville, Georgia

Adehola Omisore Atlanta Georgia Jena Camille Palmer

Wavnesboro, Georgia Nikki Tere' Randall

Macon, Georaid Henaa Razzak

Chanda Selice Redd Atlanta, Georgia

Patrick Alan Reilly Boaart, Georgia Karishma Saini t

Kathleen Georgia

Christopher Thomas Scoggins † Albany, Georgia Etsehiwot Abiye Seifu †

Patience Lanae Sellers †

Fairburn, Georgia Oyindamola Idayat Sulyman Riverdale, Georgia

Melanie L. Williams Lithonia, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PRECLINICAL SCIENCES

Gloria Ananing Lawrenceville, Georgia

Shantrice Seira Appleby

Anita Bhagayathula Alpharetta, Georgia

Constance Alexandria Christian

Tyler Grant Desper Clarkesville, Georg Nader Elkabbani

Athens Georgia

Marc Douglas Erickson Locust Grove, Georgia Jesse Nathan Greene

Americus, Georgia April Nicole Hobbs

Jonathan Alexander Ioanitescu Warner Robins, Georgia

Rachel Leigh Kushner Atlanta. Georgia

Kishauna Alexandra McDonald Gravson, Georgia

Sundeep Mummaneni Alpharetta, Georgia

Diamond Tierra Odell Macon, Georgia

Spencer Osbourn Chicago, Illinois

Ogochukwu Thelma Oseji Lithonia, Georgia

Akash Ashwinkumar Patel Columbus, Georgi

Kishan Vinod Patel Murphy, North Carolina

Jose Luis Rodriguez Norcross, Georgia

Jasmine Donesha Shackelford Griffin, Georaia

#### DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Caroline Alena Peachtree City, Georgia

Eugene Demarque Bell, III Macon, Georgia

Laura Ashley Booth Newnan, Georaid

Trang Nguyen Bui •

Jacob Bruce Cantrell Doualasville, Georaid

Matthew Lee Carmichael & Convers, Georgia

John-Tyler Cene

Amanda Carole Craig Cornelia, Georaio

James Patrick Davidson \* Cumming, Georgia

Joshua Thomas Derryberry Rinaaold, Georaia Ashley Keith Edmonston

lefferson Georgia Daniel Len Edmonston ❖◆

Lauren Hollman Fried ◆ Macon, Georgia

Macon, Georaia

Stephanie Lewis Gibson ◆ Savannah, Georaid

Daniel Kendall Grahl III Fort Valley, Georgia

Seth William Gregory ❖◆ Ball Ground, Georgi Laura Ashley Griffin

Macon, Georaia Jonathan Wallace Gurr Marietta, Georaia

Dustin Carl Hoffman ◆ Loren Jared Hudspeth

Greensboro, Georaio Ashley Jana Marie Jones

Macon Georgia Nicholas Owen Kellev

St. Simons Island, Georgia

Arshia Khan Columbus, Georgia

George Ayo-Oluwa Korede

Naheed Amin Lakhani Atlanta, Georgia

Kathryn Margaret Lohmann Kennesaw Geora Melissa Ashley Lyle &

Cairo, Georgia Brooklyne Marlowe Makaya ◆ Jefferson, Georgia

Dana Lindsey Mayo

Erin Michelle Meehan Atlanta, Georgia

Mudresh Rajnikant Mehta Atlanta, Georgia

India Ashton Miller Bainbridae, Georaid

Stephen Trey Mullis Eastman, Georaia Larry Kyle Nolan

Newnan, Georaia Shabnam Nourparvar Roswell, Georaia

Allison Lindsay Overmon Lawrenceville, Georgia

Sara Catherine Pope

Catherine Edenfield Price Statesboro, Georaia

Shahnaz Yasmin Rahman Snellville Georgia

Coyt Andrew Rountree Macon, Georaia

Andres Camilo Ruiz Lawrenceville, Georgia

Brooke Ann Schraudenbach

Jonathan Evan Smith Albany, Georgia Saletha Brenetha Smith

Lakeland Georgia Jeffrey Todd Talbot ◆ Atlanta, Georgia

Kevin Douglas Waits Flovilla, Georgia Christopher Nelson White

Christopher Ross Williams ◆ Gainesville, Georgia

Sarah Jane Wright \* Macon, Georaia

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the degree. Degrees are awarded at the end of the term in which all requirements are met.

# MEDICAL GRADUATE'S OATH

AT THE TIME OF BEING ADMITTED AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE myself to consecrate my life to the service of humanity;

I WILL GIVE to my teachers the respect and gratitude which is their due;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and dignity;

THE HEALTH OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;

I WILL RESPECT the secrets which are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

I WILL MAINTAIN by all means in my power, the honor and the noble traditions of the medical profession; MY COLLEAGUES will be my brothers and sisters;

I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics, or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life from its beginning, even under threat, and I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity;

I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely and upon my honor.

— The Declaration of Geneva (World Medical Association, 1948, 1968, 1983)

School of Medicine – Savannah

# School of Medicine Commencement

Savannah Arts Academy, Savannah | Saturday, May 4, 2013 | 1:00 p.m.

Presiding	
Prelude	Savannah Brass Quartet
Academic Procession*	Savannah Brass Quartet
Invocation*	Douglas Westfall, M.Div. Staff Chaplain, Memorial University Medical Center
Welcome	
Greetings from the School	
Greetings from the Board of Governors	Chairman, School of Medicine Board of Governors, Savannah Campus
Introduction of Speaker	
Commencement Address Execut	
Special Awards	
Conferring of the Degrees	,
Awarding of Diplomas and Hooding of Medical Graduates	
Medical Graduate's Oath	Thomas Philip Malan, M.D. Vice Dean, School of Medicine Dean, Savannah Campus
Alumni Welcome	
Benediction*	
Academic Recession**	

<sup>\*</sup> The audience is requested to rise.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

# WILLIAM J. HOSKINS

### Commencement Speaker



William I. Hoskins, M.D., is Executive Director of Surgical Activities, Member and Attending Surgeon, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Professor of OB/GYN, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, New York.

Dr. Hoskins received his B.A. and his M.D. from the University of Tennessee. He served as Director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology at the National Naval Medical Center and the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland, retiring from the U.S. Navy in 1986 with the rank of Captain. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the United States Navy and the Exceptional Service Medal by the Uniformed Service University. From 1986 until 2001, he worked at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, holding positions of Associate Chief and Chief of the Gynecology Service in the Department of Surgery and the Deputy Physician in Chief for Disease

Management Teams. He held the rank of Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. From 2002 until 2007, Dr. Hoskins was Senior Vice President for Oncology and Research and Director of the Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Institute at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah. He was a Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Scientist and Clinician. He held the rank of Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah Campus. In 2007, Dr. Hoskins returned to New York and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as Executive Director of Surgical Activities for the Department of Surgery and as Co-Chair of the Patient Flow Committee. He is Past President of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists and a Past Member of the Executive Board of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Dr. Hoskins is the author or co-author of 200 peer reviewed publications, 83 individual articles and book chapters and has edited 22 textbooks.

# ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARDS

A key component of medical education is the compassionate and humanistic care of patients. In support of that premise, the NBI Healthcare Foundation initiated the Humanism in Medicine Awards to recognize and honor graduating students and faculty members who have demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with patients. Mercer University School of Medicine graduating students and the faculty have, respectively, chosen a faculty member and a student who embody empathic, sensitive and respectful behavior in providing patient care.

> FACULTY HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD M. Gage Ochsner, Jr., M.D., FACS

> STUDENT HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD Lindsev Michelle Boxxe

FACULTY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD M. Gage Ochsner, Jr., M.D., FACS

# COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MARSHAL

Reader

Ronald Garner, Ph.D. Professor of Riomedical Sciences

Robert Shelley, M.D. Associate Dean for Student Affairs

\* Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society | ◆ Gold Humanism Honor Society | † Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Amanda Marie Crawford	Hillary Williams George	Amy Elizabeth Mason	Madeline Elliott Petty
Moreland, Georgia	Claxton, Georgia	Lawrenceville, Georgia	Alpharetta, Georgia
Adam Kyle Deal	Daniel Robert Gerry ❖◆	Stephen Michael McConnell	Tiji Mathew Philip ◆
Athens, Georgia	Augusta, Georgia	Lawrenceville, Georgia	Lilburn, Georgia
Anna Kathryn Deal & Athens, Georgia	Pegah Ghafourian	Samuel Shelby McLaurin	Leslie Amanda Pittman
	Atlanta, Georgia	Macon, Georgia	Brunswick, Georgia
Joseph Anthony DePietro	Patrick Groves Hanson	Bonnie Parker McTyre	Pamela Estelle Smith
Albany, Georgia	Macon, Georgia	Valdosta, Georgia	Macon, Georgia
Jacob Matt Elkon Atlanta, Georgia	Rhiannon Leigh Holden * Cartersville, Georgia	Emory Richard McTyre *  Marietta, Georgia	Katherine Elizabeth Stein Dunwoody, Georgia
Nicholas Ryan Fiacco	Mary Anne Hotz	Brandon Patrick Merrill * Moultrie, Georgia	Cynthia Daniele Wear
Acworth, Georgia	Albany, Georgia		Rossville, Georgia
James Russell Fitts, III ❖◆	Sarah Chappell Jarrell	Matthew Thomas Middendorf	Daniel Benjamin Wells
Gainesville, Georgia	Columbus, Georgia	Augusta, Georgia	Macon, Georgia
Christopher David Fontimayor Martinez, Georgia	Joseph Christian Kramer *  Jesup, Georgia	Ryan Jacob Mullins * Calhoun, Georgia	Tali Brenner Wojnowich Savannah, Georgia
Timothy John Fuller Savannah, Georgia	Robert William Krause Rome, Georgia		
	Moreland, Georgia  Adam Kyle Deal Athens, Georgia  Anna Kathryn Deal & Athens, Georgia  Joseph Anthony DePietro Albany, Georgia  Jacob Matt Elkon Atlanta, Georgia  Nicholas Ryan Fiacco Acworth, Georgia  James Russell Fitts, III & Gainesville, Georgia  Christopher David Fontimayor Martinez, Georgia  Timothy John Fuller	Moreland, Georgia  Adam Kyle Deal Athens, Georgia  Anna Kathryn Deal ★ Athens, Georgia  Anna Kathryn Deal ★ Athens, Georgia  Joseph Anthony DePietro Albany, Georgia  Nicholas Ryan Fiacco Acworth, Georgia  James Russell Fitts, III ★ Gainesville, Georgia  Christopher David Fontimayor Martinez, Georgia  Timothy John Fuller  Adam Kyle Deal Augusta, Georgia  Pegah Ghafourian Atlanta, Georgia  Atlanta, Georgia  Maron, Georgia  Mary Anne Hotz Albany, Georgia  Sarah Chappell Jarrell Columbus, Georgia  Joseph Christian Kramer ★ Jesup, Georgia  Robert William Krause	Moreland, Georgia       Claxton, Georgia       Lawrenceville, Georgia         Adam Kyle Deal Athens, Georgia       Daniel Robert Gerry → ◆ Augusta, Georgia       Stephen Michael McConnell Lawrenceville, Georgia         Anna Kathryn Deal → Athens, Georgia       Pegah Ghafourian Atlanta, Georgia       Samuel Shelby McLaurin Macon, Georgia         Joseph Anthony DePietro Albany, Georgia       Patrick Groves Hanson Macon, Georgia       Bonnie Parker McTyre Valdosta, Georgia         Jacob Matt Elkon Atlanta, Georgia       Rhiannon Leigh Holden → Cartersville, Georgia       Emory Richard McTyre → Marietta, Georgia         Nicholas Ryan Fiacco Acworth, Georgia       Mary Anne Hotz Albany, Georgia       Brandon Patrick Merrill → Moultrie, Georgia         James Russell Fitts, Ill → Columbus, Georgia       Sarah Chappell Jarrell Golumbus, Georgia       Matthew Thomas Middendorf Augusta, Georgia         Christopher David Fontimayor Martinez, Georgia       Joseph Christian Kramer → Jesup, Georgia       Ryan Jacob Mullins → Calhoun, Georgia         Timothy John Fuller       Robert William Krause

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I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely and upon my honor.

— The Declaration of Geneva (World Medical Association, 1948, 1968, 1983)

# ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics

Tift College of Education

James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology

Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

College of Continuing and Professional Studies

# ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

Upper Field, Atlanta Campus | Saturday, May 11, 2013 | 8:30 a.m.

Presiding
Academic Procession*
Invocation*
Welcome
Introduction of the Speaker
Commencement Address
University Honors
Conferring of the Degrees
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics
Tift College of Education
James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing
College of Continuing and Professional Studies
Alumni Welcome
Benediction*
Academic Recession**

<sup>\*</sup> The audience is requested to rise.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

# JOHN R. SEFFRIN

# Commencement Speaker Doctor of Science



John Seffrin has been CEO of the American Cancer Society since 1992, but his first encounter with this disease dates to his childhood. His grandmother, who was living with his family at the time, died of cancer when he was only 10 years old. He has since lost his mother to cancer, and his wife of 46 years, Carole, is a breast cancer survivor.

Dr. Seffrin has been on the frontlines of the war against cancer for many years, not only as CEO of the American Cancer Society, but also — for many years before that — as one of the Society's roughly three million volunteers nationwide. Under his leadership, the Society has become the world's largest voluntary health organization fighting cancer, with a billion dollars in resources to save lives by helping people stay well and get well, by finding cures and by fighting back. During his tenure, Dr. Seffrin has made his organization's voice heard in legislatures around this country and in forums worldwide.

In the political realm, Dr. Seffrin has transformed the world's largest voluntary cancer-fighting group into one of the world's most progressive public health organizations. Under his leadership, the American Cancer Society has become a leading advocacy organization. He spearheaded the creation of the Society's nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network<sup>SM</sup>, of which he is also the chief executive officer.

Dr. Seffrin is a contributing author to more than a dozen books and has written over 100 articles and other publications. He is an internationally esteemed speaker who has presented more than 100 invited lectures worldwide and been honored numerous times, including being named the 2010 recipient of the James F. and Sarah T. Fries Foundation's Elizabeth Fries Health Education Award.

Dr. Seffrin holds a B.S. degree from Ball State University, a M.S. degree in health education from the University of Illinois, and a Ph.D. in health education from Purdue University.

Prior to being named the American Cancer Society's top staff executive, Dr. Seffrin served at Indiana University as professor of health education and chairman of the Department of Applied Health Science.

# COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

#### University Marshal

#### Dr. Laurel Ashworth

Professor, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### FACULTY MARSHALS

#### Dr. Stanley Pollock

Professor, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### Dr. C. Gerry Mills

Lecturer and Director of Flexible M.B.A. Program, Stetson School of Business and Economics

#### Dr. Dana H. Lilly

Professor, Tift College of Education

#### Dr. Robert N. Nash, Jr.

Professor and Associate Dean, McAfee School of Theology

#### Dr. Helen F. Hodaes

Professor, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

#### Dr. J. Colin Harris

Professor, College of Continuing and Professional Studies

#### Banner Bearers

#### Dr. James W. Bartling

Associate Dean and Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### Dr. Jordan M. Blanke

Professor and Director of Undergraduate Programs, Stetson School of Business and Economics

#### Dr. Karen H. Davis

Associate Professor, Tift College of Education

#### Tavonda S. Hudson

Student, McAfee School of Theology

#### Elaine Harris

Professor, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

#### Dr. Michael Roty

Assistant Professor, College of Continuing and Professional Studies

#### READERS

#### Dr. Candace Barnett

Senior Associate Dean and Professor, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### Dr. Faye A. Sisk

Professor and Director of Executive Graduate Programs, Stetson School of Business and Economics

#### Sharon Lim Harle

Assistant Vice President, Office of Alumni Services, Tift College of Education, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, College of Continuing and Professional Studies

#### Dr. Karen G. Massey

Associate Professor and Associate Dean, McAfee School of Theology

### SPECIAL AWARDS

#### College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Ajay K. Banga, Ph.D.

Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences

# EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS 2012-2013 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

Faye A. Sisk, Ph.D.

Professor of Management and Director of Executive and Professional Graduate Programs

#### TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

#### CATHRYN FUTRAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Olivia M. Boggs, Ed.D.

Associate Professor of Education

#### GEORGIA BAPTIST COLLEGE OF NURSING

#### 2012-2013 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Brenda B. Rowe, R.N., M.N., J.D.

Associate Professor of Adult Health Nursing

#### College of Continuing and Professional Studies

College of Continuing and Professional Studies Award for Excellence in Teaching

Michael D. Roty, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics

\*Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | + University Honors | ~ Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi | ° Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi | Nominee

#### College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

#### MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Sandeep Anand Grayson, Georgia

Steven Lee Armitage

Tania Rani Aurora

Meredith Rebekah Banks

Negin Akbarshahi Bauer Alpharetta, Georgia

Marissa Kathryn Benist

Robert Cooper Brown

Michael Lee Burton
Fayetteville, Georgia

Rhonda Kay Campbell

Zara Colon

Seneca, South Carolina
Kimberly Lynn Corbitt

Dunwoody, Georgia

Taylor Allan Crowther °

South Jordan, Utah
Amanda Hollie Culhertson

Lawrenceville, Georgia

Beverly Jeani Dorson Orlando, Florida

Ashley Elizabeth Dykes ° Alpharetta, Georgia

Lauren Brooks Foti Roswell, Georgia

Whitney Briggs Greco Alpharetta, Georgia

Amy Kay Gress Peachtree City, Georgia

Sarah Morrison Guthrie Avondale Estates, Georgia Erica Sharon Haberman

Marietta, Georgia
Lindsay Lenoir Hunter

Woodstock, Georgia Emily Joy Jensen

Waterbury, Connecticut

Ashley Ficklen Johnson 

Griffin Connection

Griffin, Georgia

David Alan Johnson

Lawrenceville, Georgia
Amy Nicole Jones

Douglasville, Georgia
Shelly Anne Lloyd

Sanford, North Carolina

Steven Clint Manley Buford, Georgia

Lauren Ann Paulus

Danielle Elizabeth Pelton

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Jessee Taylor Porter

Meyassar S. Robinzine Springfield, Georgia

Nicholas Matthew Rossi Atlanta, Georgia

Hailee Bonner Sanders Tucker, Georgia

Gwendolyn Leighann Shearer ° Austell, Georgia

Gary Spencer Smith Bainbridge, Georgia

Monica Leila Sohani Johns Creek, Georgia

Laura Kathleen Plunkett Stanley Huntsville, Alabama

Jaime Nicole Tarbox Decatur, Alabama

Dan Thanh Ngoc Vo

Ashley Elizabeth Waldrop

Atlanta, Georgia Karen Marie Whelchel

Gainesville, Georgia

Jennifer Claire Yarbrough 

Fort Braga, North Carolina

#### DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Elisha Tamar Alford \*

Emily Marie Allen \*\*
Knoxville, Tennessee

Kimberly Erin Anderson North Lauderdale, Florida Isaac Buafi Assan-Mensah

Kennesaw, Georgia

Jenna Gilbert Bacchus Atlanta, Georgia

Sarah Elizabeth Baggett \*\* Alpharetta, Georgia

Susan Constance Bailey Young Harris, Georgia

Anders Pearson Barr Acworth, Georgia

Evan Paul Boudreau Cumming, Georgia

Dennis Jun Bin Cai \*\*
Muscle Shoals, Alabama

Charity Elizabeth Calhoun \*\*\*
Columbus, Georgia

Jenelle Danease Capehart \* Dade City, Florida

Kevin Wilson Carpenter Phenix City, Alabama

Joanna Elaine Catravas Augusta, Georgia

Vanessa Chan Alpharetta, Georgia

Victoria Chen \* Tainan, Taiwan

Sean David Chitwood

Brian Cho Seoul, South Korea

Ji Yun Choi Houston, Texas

Shu-Hui Chuang Sandy Springs, Georgia

Meredith Claire Cook Griffin, Georgia

Laurie Michelle Copeland \*\*
Evans, Georgia

Melissa Tompkins Crooks Atlanta, Georgia

Janna Marie Curvey \*\* Alpharetta, Georgia

Nelvin Noel Daniel Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Tyler Calvin Davis Fort Myers, Florida

Christiana Rydene DiPlotti Niceville, Florida

Crystal Jing Dong Atlanta, Georgia

Donna Lynn Dove \*\* Tignall, Georgia David A. Drobac

Brookfield, Wisconsin
Lindsey Jo Edwards \*\*

Canton, Georgia

Amy Elizabeth Ely \*\*\* ° Columbus, Georgia

Susiana Mulyadi Eng Sugar Hill, Georgia

Brian Michael Franchio Sebring, Florida Julya Friedman \*\*

Johns Creek, Georgia
Haley Snyder Gay \*\*\* o

Hahira, Georgia
James Bradley Gay

Richmond Hill, Georgia

Justin Pallathu George \*\*\*

Justin Pallathu George \* Lawrenceville, Georgia

Fariborz Ghafoori

Meredith Leigh Gilbert \*

Columbus, Georgia
Christina Marie Gonzalez

Tampa, Florida

Casey Michael Greene \*
Woodstock, Georgia

Benjamin Michael Hammer \*\*\* ° Atlanta. Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia
Stephen Thomas Hammond

Moreland, Georgia

Kristopher Iverson Harrop \*\*

Kristopher Iverson Harrop Murray, Utah

Joshua Glen Hartsell Fayetteville, Georgia Sarah Beth Himic \*

Hoover, Alabama Phuong My Hoang Alto, Georgia Chase Dale Holbrook \*\*\* °
Sylvester, Georgia

Sarah Elizabeth Hosey Sandy Springs, Georgia

Ashley Marie Houser \*
Montevallo, Alabama

Heather Hendrix Hutcheson \*
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Allison Brooke Hutto

Kiet Nhi Tuan Huynh \*

Marietta, Georgia Mina Jun

Roslyn, New York
Robert Kalch
Tampa, Florida

Wendy Kang Chicago, Illinois

Laura Anne Kania

Naples, Florida
Tsedey Kassaye-Betre

Addis Abeba, Ethiopia Sara Khajehei Lawrenceville, Georgia

Sharon Wishin Kim \*\* Seoul, South Korea

William Raymond Kitson Lawrenceville, Georgia

Emily Keith Krix \*\*

Marietta, Georgia

Natalie Long Kurtkaya \*\*\* 

White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Ali Lavassani Alpharetta, Georgia

Spencer Barton LeCorchick \*\*\* ° Cedar City, Utah

Rosetta J. Lee \*\*
Mukilteo, Washington

Mukilteo, Washington

Matthew Jared Leigh \*\*

Warren, Ohio
Ke Liang \*\*\*
Tucker, Georgia

Siam Ou Lieu Lakeland, Florida

Elizabeth K. Lim Lilburn, Georgia

Meagan Rae Logue Dublin, Georgia

Niloofar Nila Mahyari Atlanta, Georgia

Lindsay Kay Malphrus Jacksonville, Florida Monika Maltese \*\* °

LaGrange, Georgia
Brian W. McNeill \*\*\*~

Fort Pierce, Florida

Shruti Mehta \*\*\* °

Philip Sarfo Mensah \*
Mableton, Georgia

Kristina Marie Mindel \*\*

Kyndall Michelle Monroe Franklin, Tennessee

Travis Augustus Morris

Kiet Anh Ngo

An Thien Nguyen

Garden Grove, California

Matthew Hoai-Viet Nguyen

Duluth, Georgia Thao Thanh Nguyen

Norcross, Georgia

Jason Darian Nichols \*\*

Cumming, Georgia

Dora Alexandra Niculas

Buford, Georgia
Eul Noh \*

Incheon, South Korea
Lauren Elizabeth Ogden
Atlanta. Georgia

Reshma Narhari Patel \*
Ocala, Florida

Roshni Pankai Patel \*\*

Danville, Virginia
Tushar Patel \*

Lisa Yang Payton Atlanta, Georgia

Emmanuelle Pierre-Jean \*

Amanda Lauren Pradarits \*\* Bonaire, Georgia Nattima Pranayanantn

Atlanta, Georgia

Jessica Smith Pritchard \*

Flliiav. Georgia

Lauren Ann Puls \*\*\* ° Portland, Oregon

Katherine Rose Rakestraw Miami, Florida Dawud Ameen Rasheed \*\*

Birmingham, Alabama
MaCie Meelon Rogers \*\*
Houston, Texas

Denise A. Ross \*\*

Marietta, Georgia

Erika Danielle Rylee Gainesville, Georgia Myrlande Saintil \*

Oakland Park, Florida

Valerie Sanchez

Jacksonville, Florida

Mark Andrew Sauls \*\*

Panama City, Florida

Katlin Joy Schulz

Peachtree City, Georgia
Amy Marie Sellers \*\*
Tucker, Georgia
Nara Shin

Ivy JoAnna Simmons \*\*\*~

Sale City, Georgia

Whitney Gayle Simmons Burnsville, North Carolina

Andrew Michael Skalka \*
Ellicott City, Maryland

Kevin Joseph Sponsel \*\*\* °

Britta Ann Staubes \*\*

Belivar. Ohio

Kayla Nicole Thornton McDonough, Georgia

Kimberly Nichole Titus \*

Jacksonville, Florida

David Quoc Long Tran

Warner Robins, Georgia
Tiffany M. Trotman

McDonough, Georgia
Erin Leigh Trowbridge

Alan P. Tucker
Orange Park, Florida

Austin Blake Tull Smyrna, Georgia Geoffrev Will-Morris Turner

Crawfordville, Georgia

Meghan McLeod Turner

Carolyn Joan Valle Pensacola, Florida Jason Nguyen Vo Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Anh Quynh Vu Atlanta, Georgia

Shuonan Wang Columbus, Georgia Jodi Lynn Waugh

McDonough, Georgia Adam Woodsmall Flowery Branch, Georgia

Peterson Ira Worrell \*
Macon, Georgia

Jessica Haeun Yoon
Alpharetta, Georgia

Amanda Elyse Zell \*

Cooper City, Florida

#### DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Willie David Beavers, III Ellenwood, Georgia

Nancy Boore + ~ Suwanee, Georgia Rose Ellen Burgett °

Peachtree City, Georgia
Suzanne Elise Chiappone
Marietta, Georgia

Lisette Marie Davila Lilbum, Georgia William James Duncan, IV

Roswell, Georaia

Athens, Georaia

Amanda Catherine Fabozzi Marietta, Georgia Manuel Garcia-Gaona Laura Rose Gold ° Wildwood, Georgia

Gregory Bruce Kaplan Miami, Florida Leopold Binn Kim

Duluth, Georgia Kelley R. Klein

Atlanta, Georgia
Ashley Graham Marchman

Collegé Park, Georgia

Jennifer Lanier McGuffey

Dunwoody, Georgia Kimberly Jean Mello

Lecanto, Florida

Allyce Marie Naeger
Roswell, Georgia

Meaghan Elizabeth Nyman St. Louis. Missouri

Danielle Elizabeth Peifer Columbus, Ohio

Gloria Ronmay Perng Taipei, Taiwan Rehecca Caroline Rice

Marietta, Georgia

Julie Rachel Rich

Atlanta, Georgia

Brittani Lauren Scott Riverdale, Georgia Rvan Carl Skillen

Warner Robins, Georgia
Joshua Allan Swales
Breman, Georgia

Brian Scott Walker Tucker, Georgia Robert Jason Woods

Atlanta Georgia

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Archana Mohan Akalkotkar

Lipika Chablani Farmington Hills, Michigan

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Waco. Texas

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Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Doris Nicole Cox Atlanta, Georgia

Sherrell Monique Cruz Santa Barbara, California

Riann M. Cummings Conyers, Georgia

Jill M. Damon ° Marietta, Georgia

Jillian Nykole Davis Union City, Georgia

Veronica Lyndsey Davis Monroe, Georgia

Mark Thomas Deeb Atlanta, Georgia

Jonathan Robert Demonbreun Tucker, Georgia

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Abigail Sheena Nikki Edwards

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Lauren Elizabeth Erickson

Marietta, Georgia Sharilyn Maria Ferreira

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Catherine Elizabeth Hill Macon, Georgia Saleena Reshae Hinton

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St. Croix, Virain Islands

Robin Lynn Johnston Tallahassee, Florida

Isabelle G. Kaboski Roswell, Georgia

Jennifer Marie Kelly Lawrenceville, Georgia

Ashley Ruth Kirk Lawrenceville, Georgia

Theresa Rose Lande ° Sandy Springs, Georgia Barbara Lemaire \*

Margaret Elizabeth Leon \*
Warner Robins, Georaia

Brittney Shay Loehne \*\*
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Yuliya Lukyan Winder, Georgia

Brooke Elizabeth MacLean

Sara Cheney Maddox \* o Atlanta, Georgia

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Wendi Ray Mathews Acworth, Georgia

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Riverdale, Georgia

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Alisa Diana Owens

Dacia Elaine Parker Atlanta, Georgia Larresia Dionne Parker Powder Springs, Georgia

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Ronan Fermin Cajimat Laoag City, Philippines Mallory Mathis Carroll

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Lauren Eichel
Norcross, Georgia

Lauren Jill Fisher °
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Atlanta, Georgia

Maria Luisa Heck
Huntsville Alabama

Sharea Nakee Howard

LaToya Nicole Jones

Chennel Caprice Key

Kelly Marie McDowell

Christine Lavern McFarlane Stone Mountain, Georgia

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Wendy Lachel Pence

Bonita Michelle Ponder

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Barbara Adams Miller Donalsonville, Georgia Kelly Lynn Rossler °

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# College of Continuing and Professional Studies

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Hampton, Georgia
Vickie Sherell Clark
Doualasville, Georgia

Doualasville, Georgia

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Kamia D. Johnson Locust Grove, Georgia Fredale Cherine Lowe

**Daryl Andre Renolds** 

Atlanta, Georgia

Austell Georgia

Kristy Starr Reynolds

Lithonia, Georgia Linda Danielle Russell Griffin, Georgia

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Toni Rose Treadway \*\*\*~ °

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Pauldina, Colorado

Christina Nancy Childs Jackson, Georgia

Cleveland Heights, Ohio
Cherrise Henrietta Daniel
McDonough Georgia

Samantha Tawana Coleman

Nattacha Clark Delhomme Locust Grove, Georgia FoFo Dente Milton, Georgia

John Michael Earl ~

Dawaon Allen Edwards

Chicago, Illinois

Janelle Altravese
Edwards-White
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Rowdon Georgia

Eric David Hayes Stone Mountain, Georgia Valencia R. Hicks

Stockbridge, Georgia Patricia Nneka Igboneje-Asor

Sheila Jackson-Smith Norcross, Georgia Joseph Anthony Jones

Malaika Monique Jones Stockbridae, Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | + University Honors | ~ Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi | ° Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi | Nominee

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Macon, Georgia

Michael Todd Lewis McDonough, Georgia

Jodi Ann Lindon \*\*\*~ ° Newnan, Georgia

Tameka Sha-ron Mangham Griffin, Georgia

Betty Ruth Phillips \* Griffin, Georgia

Melissa Ann Pollock Decatur, Georgia

Christina Ortiz Robinson McDonough, Georgia

Cleta B. Rush-Germany

**Garfield Armand Stephen** Shuffler McDonough, Georaia

LaTosha Selena Snell-Allen McDonouah, Georgia

Cynthia Andrea Thomas orrow. Georaid

Norman Williams Douglasville, Georgia

Rodney Wilson, II

Andrell Lashawn Wingfield

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Mary Ellen Broughton eston. South Carolina

Deborah Brown Atlanta Georgia

Donna Rene Brown Weldon North Carolina

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Lashunda Evette Colbert Fairburn, Georaia

Sabrina Cooper South Boston, Virginia

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Oluwafunmilayo Kofoworola Adebayo

Busola Sarah Adegunwa

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Andrea Jennifer Appel

Laura Lee Ashby

Mekeda Asnake Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Catherine Dukes Baxter o

Duluth, Georgia Gardenia F Reard

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Summer R Renton G

Atlanta, Georgi Sarah Michela Bigelow

Acworth, Georgia Sherrie Renee Bridges-Sinclair

Frederick Dare Brockington

Christopher Jonathan Brogdon Columbus, Georgia Carol Denise Brown

Johns Creek, Georgia Krystina Noelle Rush

Kristin Cabrera Dallas, Georgia

Carrollton, Georgi

**Bradford Martin Coleman** Athens, Georgia Lanta Lee Cooper

Elias Newton Crosby Pensacola Florida

Pethral Monique Daniels Austell, Georgia

Sharon Daniels West Point, Mississippi Nicole Patricia Daubon

Marguis Sterling Davis

Atlanta, Georgia Carmen Dozier Decatur, Georgia

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Crystal Marie Gladden , Donough, Georg Jessica Anne Graner

Atlanta, Georgia Brenda Carol Hailey

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Calvin Monroe Heard Lithonia, Georgia

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Miami Florida Cho Sandar Htun Taunggyi, Shan State, Burma

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Jasmine JacOuez Hunter Nina Simone Jackson

Atlanta, Georgia Amanda Susan Johnson

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Macon, Georgia Laurie Ann Jones Norcross, Georgia

Margues Dwavne Jones Atlanta, Georgia Toni Evonne Jones

Atlanta, Georgia Walter Ellis Jones, III

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Moroofat Adedamola Kareem o

Vasantha Kasinathan Atlanta Georgi

Michelle Ann Keglev Atlanta, Georgia

Michael Cesar Lecaros Duluth, Georgia Preston Lavaughn Lindsay

Saainaw. Michiga Michela Ebony Link

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Vanessa Tatiana Louis Atlanta, Georgia

Stephanie Michaels Love Phoenix, Arizona

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Shari Bianca Mann Macon, Georgia

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Shenika Nichole Mitchell Lawrenceville, Georgia Lavinia Nell Moore

Musella, Georgia Tayve Suzanne Morgan

Marguita Lashea Moten Chickamauga, Georgia

Shala Marie Nicely Atlanta, Georgia Mercianna R. Oliver

Atlanta, Georgia Eric Christopher Olsen Jonesboro, Georgia

LaSonya Denise Osler Stone Mountain, Georgia

Marie Elena O'Sullivan Montoya Decatur, Georgia William Lawrence Owens

Doualasville, Geora William James Powers, III

Pascagoula, Mississippi Nancy Riesmeyer Pugmire o Atlanta, Georgia

Jason S. Rhoads Marietta, Georgia Lorelei Victoria Robbins

New York. New York Desirée Diane Roberts

Felecia Renea Roberts Fayetteville, North Caroli Deena Jones Sams Covinaton, Georgia

James Compton Sams Favetteville, Georgia William Earl Scales Memphis, Tennessee

**Ronnie Rachel Schechter** Rochester New York

Starlene Antoinette Scott

Doualasville, Georgia Nykeva Simmons Bronx. New York

Charity L. Simpson Christy Tucker Sims

Atlanta, Georgia Kristi Lynn Sims

Christina Racquel Smith White Mesauite, Texas

Mark Edward Stein Warner Robins Georgia Emily Javne Stroup

Michael Todd Stuart Griffin, Georgia

Joseph Cory Tarver Cumming, Georgia Clishe D. Thomas

Glendale Arizona Andrea P Trotman Atlanta, Georgia

Eleanor Marie Vachon Atlanta, Georgia Kara Lynn Davis VanderWier o

DeAna Jo Vivian

Tiffany Ann Voyles Alpharetta, Georgia Jessica Winona Walker

Atlanta, Georgia

Kellen Elizabeth Ward Roswell, Georgia

Christopher Lee Michael Wheeler Macon, Georgia

Takiedra Dionne White Atlanta, Georgia Ashley Harris Whitfield

Gulfport, Mississippi

Georgett Velith Williams Duluth, Georgia Hope Renee Williams

Stafford, Virginia Christopher Dwain Wilson Powder Springs, Georgia Therese K. Wyatt

# SPECIALIST IN

**EDUCATION** Tiffany Greer Austin McDonouah. Georaia

Sorayel Cook Falling Sonja KaTish Lyons Stockbridge, Georgia

#### DOCTOR OF **PHILOSOPHY**

Stacy Garrett Wallace

Locust Grove, Georgia

David Daeson Kim San Jose, California

Walter F. George School of Law

# Walter F. George School of Law COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 11, 2013 | 10:00 a.m.

Presiding	
Prelude	Jack Mitchener University Organist
Academic Procession*	Jack Mitchener
Invocation*	Timothy W. Floyd Professor of Law
Welcome	
Greetings from the Law School	
Introduction of Speaker	
Commencement Address	
Student Awards	
Reynold J. Kosek, Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award	
Conferring of the Juris Doctor and Master of Laws Degrees	
Charge to Graduates	
Presentation of the Class of 2013	
Hooding Ceremony	D. Scott Davis Gary J. Simson
Alumni Welcome	President, School of Law Alumni Association
Benediction*	Timothy W. Floyd
Academic Recession**	Jack Mitchener

<sup>\*</sup> The audience is requested to rise.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

# STEVE BERRY

### Commencement Speaker



Steve Berry is the bestselling author of eight Cotton Malone adventures, four stand-alone thrillers, and four e-book original short stories. His books have been translated into 40 languages with more than 15 million printed copies in 51 countries. They consistently appear in the top echelon of *The New York Times*, USA Today, Indie and international bestseller lists.

History lies at the heart of every Steve Berry novel, and it is a passion that Berry shares with his wife, Elizabeth. It led them to create History Matters, a foundation dedicated to historic preservation. Since 2009, they have crossed the country to save endangered historic treasures, raising money via lectures, receptions, galas, luncheons, dinners and their popular writers' workshops. To date, nearly 2,000 students have attended those workshops. In 2012 and 2013, Berry's devotion to historic preservation was recognized by the American Library Association, which named him their spokesman for National Preservation Week.

Berry was born and raised in Georgia, graduating in 1980 from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University. He was a trial lawyer for 30 years and held elective office for 14 of those years. He is a founding member of International Thriller Writers a group of more than 2,000 thriller writers from around the world — and served three years as its co-president.

# COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

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Linda D. Jellum Scott C. Titshaw Professor Associate Professor

#### Hooders

David G. Oedel Karen J. Sneddon Professor Associate Professor Michael D. Sabbath D. Christopher Wells Professor Associate Professor

USHERS

Mercer Law Students

#### Juris Doctor

Ashley Anne Akins Brooklet, Georgia

Thomas Christopher Allmond Forsyth, Georgia

Martha Farley Andersen Bowling Green, Kentucky

Jessica Anja Applegate

Sabrina Lynn Atkins

Shahrzad Bagheri Roswell, Georgi

Charles McNeil Baldwin Tifton, Georgia

**Brittany Nicole Bates** Duluth, Georgia

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Cov David Beale, Jr. Columbia. South Carolina Macon Georgia

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Lizanne Ferrell Carlson Rock Hill South Carolin

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Linh Ai Do

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Jeremy Leif Ethridge Milledgeville, Georgia

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Thomas Owen Farist Hickory Flat, Georgia

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Tiphani Strickland Gav

William Carey Gibson, Jr.

Cody Blake Gillies

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Bryan Weston Gort Sandy Springs, Georgia

Felicia N. Grant-Mardehow

Keith A. Greaves, II Atlanta, Georgia

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William Gordon Hammill Charlottesville, Virainia David Adam Harper

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Ringgold, Georgia John William Harris

Albany, Georgia Pamela Christine Hartig

Alpharetta, Georgia Eric Jason Hartline

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Hannah Wimberly Hogan Tybee Island, Georgia

Erich Alexander Hok Milledaeville, Georgi Juanita Marie Holsey

Jesup, Georgia

Joshua David Holt Fastman Georgi

Ashlev Linn Hughes Woodstock, Georgic

Olamide Michelle Imoukhuede Marietta Georgia

Jared Harrison Jacobs Atlanta, Georgia

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Macon, Georgia Brittany L. Jones

Matthew Joseph Jones Savannah, Georgia

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Atlanta, Georgi Shania Cherell King

Kyle Julian Knox haretta. Georai

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Richard Phillip McCarthy Marietta, Georgia

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Kristi Marie Winger Minor

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Dacula, Georaid Rhett O'Farrell Moore

Anthony Charles Norton Cummina. Georaid

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Andrew Glen Paradis Atlanta, Georgi

Yane Seo Park

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Saurin D. Patel Vienna, Georgia Meagan Whitney Peacock

Phillip Kyle Perry

Sparta, Georgia **Dustin Keith Peters** 

Madison, Georgia Sarah Michelle Phaff

Suwanee, Georgi Brittany Rose Pharris

Gainesville, Georgia Devin Bryan Phillips Marietta. Georaia

Matthew Allen Pittman Decatur, Georgi

Joel Patrick Purser Brunswick, Georgia Joel Preston Reeves

Jackson, Tennessee Lindsay Leigh Schafer

Dublin, Georgia Lauren Nicole Schultz

Joseph David Shelley

Steven Edward Shields Alpharetta Georgi

Ashlev Tanner Sillav Macon, Georaia

John Walton Sillav Marietta, Georgi Lisa Marie Sledge

Rishon Georgia Jacquelyn Inez Smith

Doualasville Georgi Jennifer Rue Smith

Valdosta, Georgi Manley T. Smith

Nathaniel Jav Smith Alpharetta. Georgia

Minerva Alexandra Steele Atlanta, Georgia

Natalie Diane Stroud Macon, Georgia

Monica Anne Sullivan Macon Georgia

Alveta Alicia Renee Summers Macon, Georgia

Pedro Aleiandro Tadeo Lawrenceville, Georgia

Gregory D. Taylor Eldrick Adam Thomas

Lawrenceville, Georgia Brandon Kyle Thompson Bethlehem, Georgia

Katherine Carroll Thompson Suwanee, Georgia Kathryn Leigh Thompson

Macon, Georgia Richard John Thompson

Swainshoro, Georgia Eric Allan Trudell Virginia Beach, Virginia

John Ashley Welch Reidsville, Georgi William A. Yopp Statesville, North Carolina

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Samuel Josiah Broucek Statesboro, Georgia

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Timothy Craig Head, Jr.

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**Brittany Nicole Smith** Canton, Georgia

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Dane Michael Garland

Michael Brian Magee Athens, Georgia

Jonathan A. Slack Cumming, Georgia Clay Dean Thomas

Lara Todd

Doualasville, Georgia Jared Scott Westbroek

Layton, Utah LaTova Simone Williams Columbus, Georgia

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the dearee Dearees are awarded at the end of the term in which

all requirements are met.

# CERTIFICATES

**C**ERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING. RESEARCH, AND

DRAFTING

Ashley Anne Akins Thomas Christopher Allmond Martha Farley Andersen Shahrzad Bagheri

Charles McNeil Baldwin Roberto Bazzani Timothy James Bennett Roseleigh Reisman Berman Christian Robert Bonet Carrie Elizabeth Bradley Sara Kathryn Brannan Adam Douglas Brown Tamorra Arneé Buchanon

**Edward James Cochran** 

Joseph Marshall Colwell Tamara Natasha Crawford Fleanor L. deGolian **Scott Daniel Dennis** Linh Ai Do Julie Flizabeth Dorchak Fric Patrick Drake Khaled Omar FI-Sawi Jeremy Leif Ethridae

Tinhani Strickland Gav

Felicia N. Grant-Mardehow Keith A. Greaves, II Inshua Todd Hale Christopher Michael Harris Pamela Christine Hartin Mary Elizabeth Head Foss Gilbert Hodges Juanita Marie Holsey Keith Alan Johnston Brittany L. Jones

Matthew Linwood Jones Jacob Morris Kaplan Peter Frank Kellett Shania Cherell King James F. Kurhaijan Kristi Marie Winger Minor Anthony Charles Norton Yane Seo Park **Dustin Keith Peters Brittany Rose Pharris** 

Devin Bryan Phillips **Nathaniel Lamar Phillips** Matthew Allen Pittman Robert Mark Potter Joel Preston Reeves Lindsay Leigh Schafer Jennifer Rue Smith Nathaniel Jay Smith Minerva Alexandra Steele Pedro Alejandro Tadeo

Gregory D. Taylor Katherine Carroll Thompson Kathryn Leigh Thompson Richard John Thompson

BUSINESS CERTIFICATE IN CORPORATE FINANCE

Walter Lee Booth

# MACON COMMENCEMENT

College of Liberal Arts

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics

School of Engineering

Tift College of Education

College of Continuing and Professional Studies

Townsend School of Music

# MACON COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 11, 2013 | 3:30 p.m.

Presiding	
Prelude	
Academic Procession *	Jack Mitchener
Invocation *	Craig Thomas McMahan Minister of the University and Dean of the Chapel
Welcome	The President of the University
Greetings from the Board of Trustees	
Special Music, "Amazing Grace" Arranged by Craig Courtney	
Introduction of the Speaker	
Commencement Address	
University Honors	The President of the University
Student Awards	
Conferring of the Degrees	The President of the University
College of Liberal Arts	
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics Bachelor of Business Administration   Master of E	
School of Engineering	
Tift College of Education	,
College of Continuing and Professional Studies Bachelor of Arts   Bachelor of Science   Bachelor of Applied S Bachelor of Science in Social Science   Bachelor of Scie	Science   Bachelor of Liberal Studies
Townsend School of Music	
Awarding of Diplomas	Eric K. Spears College of Liberal Arts Assistant Professor of Geography, Reader
Alumni Welcome	John Andrew Patterson Senior Vice President for University Advancement
Alma Mater *	Stanley Leroy Roberts, B.A. '84 al Conducting and Associate Dean, Townsend School of Music
Benediction*	Craig Thomas McMahan
Academic Recession **	Jack Mitchener
* T1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	

<sup>\*</sup> The audience is requested to rise.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

## CLAUDE M. KICKLIGHTER

## Commencement Speaker



Lieutenant General Claude M. Kicklighter commanded the U.S. Army, Pacific (Western Command), from July 1989 to his retirement on August 31, 1991. He graduated from Mercer University in 1955 with a degree in biology and later from George Washington University with an M.S.A. in Management of National Resources. He also attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

In Vietnam, Kicklighter served as Assistant Chief of Staff for the 101st Airborne Division from 1970-1971. In 1975-1976, he served as a Logistics Management Staff Officer for the Office of Defense Representative in Tehran, Iran. This was not long before the 1979 hostage crisis.

Kicklighter was appointed in 2008 as Director and Principal Investigator of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Program at the George Mason University School of Law. He served as Inspector General at the Pentagon. In October 2005, he was selected by the Secretaries of State and Defense to establish and direct

the Iraq/Afghanistan Joint Transition Planning Group, a joint Department of State and Department of Defense team that provided analysis and recommendations for coordinating efforts to address transition challenges in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Glennville native served on the Habitat for Humanity International Board of Directors and was chairman for three years.

In 2011, he received Mercer's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He was elected to the Mercer University Board of Trustees in December 2012. General Kicklighter's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal.

# RICHARD WAYNE PENNIMAN

## Doctor of Humanities



Richard Wayne Penniman, better known as Little Richard, helped define rock 'n' roll in the 1950's and has traveled the world as the quasar of that musical genre. However, his beginnings were far from that. Penniman was born in Macon on December 5, 1932, and was one of 12 children. He grew up in a devoutly religious family where at an early age he sang gospel and learned to play piano at a local church.

As a youth, Penniman left home and gave his first performance at Macon's Tick Tock Club. In 1951 he won a contract with RCA after playing at an Atlanta radio audition. He toured small black nightclubs, performing mostly blues. His rock numbers were not well received at that time.

In the mid 1950's, Penniman sent a demo tape to Art Rupe of Specialty Records in Los Angeles. Rupe was looking for a hard-edged voice like Penniman's to front some New Orleans musicians. Penniman entered the studio in September 1955 and cut an old between-song filler piece called "Tutti Frutti."

"Tutti Frutti" set the style for his future hits. The song sold over three million copies by 1968 and its influence is incalculable. Out of Penniman's approximately 36 songs for Specialty Records, seven were gold — "Tutti Frutti," "Long Tall Sally," "Rip It Up," "Lucille," "Jenny, Jenny," "Keep a Knockin'," and "Good Golly, Miss Molly."

Throughout his career, Penniman has maintained his relevance via the various forms of media and entertainment. He has recorded gospel music, appeared in movies, made special appearances on television shows, has been the pitchman in a number of commercials, and has made children's recordings. Penniman appeared in Shelley Duvall's award-winning children's video, Mother Goose Rock 'n' Rhyme, and he sang the theme song to the PBS children's program, The Magic School Bus.

Penniman remains busy and continues to be one of the most recognized and quotable celebrities in the world. His life story was the subject of a made-for-television movie in 2000, starring the actor Leon Robinson, who won an Emmy for the portrayal.

Penniman was among the first 10 inductees into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986. He is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. He performed at Bill Clinton's presidential inauguration. He also received the Rhythm & Blues Foundation's Pioneer Award. In his hometown of Macon he has been honored with a street bearing his name, Little Richard Penniman Boulevard, which borders the Mercer campus. In 2004 Penniman was ranked among the Top 10 on *Rolling Stone*'s Immortals list.

Source: Rolling Stone

# COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

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Professor, College of Liberal Arts

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Reg Murphy Professor of Leadership, College of Liberal Arts

#### Steven McCluna

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#### **Aaron Collins**

Associate Dean and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, School of Engineering

#### Albert Stramiello

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#### J. Colin Harris

Professor of Religious Studies, College of Continuing and Professional Studies

#### Douglas Hill

Professor of Music and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Townsend School of Music

#### Susan Broome

Associate Professor,
Division of Library Services

### STUDENT MARSHALS

Khoi Le

Joshua Lovett

## ALGERNON SYDNEY SULLIVAN NON-STUDENT AWARD

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Non-Student Award recognizes accomplishments in an effort to inspire others to develop similar philosophies in human relationships as an effort, ultimately, to raise the standard of life within the community. The recipient will have demonstrated the close association between the development of a fine character and of a successful business career. Honoring one who works toward building a fine character while achieving material success in life is an encouragement to the University students to endeavour to develop their own character.

# John H. Hiscox



In October 1981, Hiscox became Executive Director of the Macon Housing Authority (MHA), where he remained until his retirement in 2012. His task was to turn a poor public housing agency into one of the best of its type. Hiscox repaired relationships with the agency's customers and community, built internal capacity and used aggressive grantsmanship to raise funds for modernization of obsolete public housing. Despite a virtual shutdown nationwide, he secured funding for five new developments, mostly single family housing.

National recognition followed, but Hiscox and his board became dissatisfied, realizing that a conventional housing authority, even one "the best of its type," would not meet Macon's needs. During the late 1990s, the Macon Housing Authority began a transformation, not just of its housing programs and stock, but even what it means to be a housing authority. Determined to leave the limitations of the

federal public housing programs behind, MHA has used innovative financing techniques, partnerships and organizational structures to create more than 1,000 affordable units in 13 developments totaling more than \$140 million. Many of these developments break new ground in neighborhood revitalization, adaptive reuse and supportive housing for special needs.

One of these developments, the Oglethorpe Homes HOPE VI, had significant impact on Mercer University and the surrounding community. Oglethorpe Homes, a 1940 barracks-style public housing development, was replaced with Tattnall Place, an attractive mixed income apartment complex, a crucial step in revitalization of Beall's Hill and the College Hill Corridor.

True to his early mentoring, Hiscox has brought innovative services to low-income residents as well. Formal agreements with more than 50 organizations combine to focus services, many involving education and job training, into low-income neighborhoods. Two multi-purpose neighborhood services centers, the Family Investment Center and the Buck Melton Community Center, serve thousands of public housing residents and the surrounding community. Upward mobility programs, including homeownership, scholarships and family self-sufficiency, come first.

Hiscox is a nationally recognized expert in federal housing policy and legislation, serving on numerous federal and state task forces. His legislative work includes testifying before congressional committees, state legislatures and a presidential commission.

# SPECIAL AWARDS

### Innovations in Teaching Award

Co-sponsored by the Vulcan Materials Company and Mercer University

#### **Eimad Houry**

Professor of Political Science, Chair of International and Global Studies, Director of International Affairs Program, College of Liberal Arts

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

#### Spencer B. King Distinguished Professor Award

This award commemorates the career of Spencer B. King, Jr., (1904-1977), a distinguished Southern historian and beloved teacher in the College of Liberal Arts for more than 30 years. The award is presented annually to a faculty member who embodies high standards of scholarship and teaching.

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Chair and Professor of Art

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Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

### TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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# **EMBLEMS**

# THE MACE

The mace is carried by the Marshal as a symbol of the authority of the University to confer degrees. Originally a weapon of war, the mace came to be used as an emblem of military power and civil authority. Its use as a symbol of university authority dates from medieval times.

The Mercer mace was designed in 1960 by Marshall Daugherty, professor of art in the College of Liberal Arts, and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris. It depicts a cross atop a globe, symbolizing the spiritual commitment of the University as it seeks to understand the world. Circumscribing the globe are the words, "Mercer University, 1833," symbolizing the influence of Mercer throughout the world. Beneath the larger globe is a smaller one, which represents the microcosm of the University. This, in turn, rests atop a form suggestive of a spire. The mace is made of bronze.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL

The seal is worn by the President as a sign of authority. The seal was designed by Professor Otis D. Knight and Professor Marshall Daugherty and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris in 1960.

The seal, which was carved directly in fine silver and bronze, is a mandola-shaped pendant that depicts the form of the Mercer Administration Building, a riband and a stylized stained-glass window of Willingham Auditorium. The background is in bronze and the window is in blue and red cloisonné enamel. On the riband are the Latin words for science, law, religion and the arts. On the border are inscribed the name of the University in Latin and the date of its founding. The shape of the seal is traditional for early university seals.

# ACADEMIC REGALIA

The practice of wearing academic attire extends back to medieval times and the Renaissance, when it was the custom for teachers and students in European universities to wear gowns, caps and hoods. Although the wearing of the garb is now limited to formal occasions, the garb itself may be called the uniform of the professional scholar and teacher. The style and color serve as symbols of collegiate attainment.

The long sleeves of the gowns and the deep hoods were, on occasion, used to carry books and refreshments. Each European university developed its own style of garb with strict rules for its design. In the United States, however, most American colleges have agreed on a uniform design and color code.

Holders of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees wear black gowns; the pattern and trimming differ for each degree. Originally, the bachelor's gown was made of serge or worsted and the master's of serge, worsted or silk; but now synthetic fibers are also used. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by its long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has long sleeves with a slit for the arm at either the elbow or the wrist. Doctor's gowns are adorned with velvet panels and bars that may be black or of a color distinctive to the wearer's discipline.

Holders of all degrees wear caps, popularly known as mortarboards, to which a long tassel is fastened and which hangs over the left side of the cap. Doctors may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders of bachelor's and master's degrees may wear colors indicating the faculty by which their degrees were granted. Mercer arts and business graduates wear black tassels, and graduates of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences wear olive green tassels.

The academic hood is an ornamental fold that goes around the neck and hangs down the back of the gown. The length and shape of the hood vary with the level of the degree. Hoods are generally lined with the colors of the university which granted the degree and trimmed with the color representing the faculty by which the degree is granted.

The following colors are associated with the various faculties:

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Commerce, Accountancy, Business	Drab
Education	Light Blue
Engineering	Orange
Journalism	
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	Green
Music	
Nursing	Apricot
Speech	
Pharmacy	
Philosophy	
Physical Education	
Public Health	-
Science	Golden Yellow
Theology	

# THE MEDALLION OF PHI KAPPA PHI

The medallion is worn by faculty, administrators and students who are members of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, an organization that initiates members from all disciplines. The cloisonné enamel medallion is decorated with the badge of the Society and is suspended from a blue, grosgrain ribbon.

# ALMA MATER

# MACON CAMPUS

On the city's western border Reared against the sky, Proudly stands our Alma Mater, As the years roll by.

Chorus Forward ever be thy watchword, Conquer and prevail. Hail to thee, O Alma Mater! Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters, Mem'ries sweet shall throng Round our hearts, O Alma Mater, As we sing our song.

# ATLANTA CAMPUS

On the city's eastern border Reared against the sky, Proudly stands our Alma Mater, As the years roll by.

Chorus Forward ever be thy watchword Conquer and prevail. Hail to thee, O Alma Mater! Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters Mem'ries sweet shall throng Round our hearts, O Alma Mater, As we sing our song.

# MERCER UNIVERSITY PROFILE

As one of America's oldest and most distinctive institutions of higher learning, Mercer University's mission is to teach. to learn, to create, to discover, to inspire, to empower and to serve. In fulfilling this mission, the University supports undergraduate, graduate, and professional learning, as well as basic research and its application in service to others. Founded by Baptists in 1833, Mercer is an independent university that remains grounded in a tradition that embraces freedom of the mind and spirit, cherishes the equal worth of every individual, and commits to serving the needs of humankind.

With more than 8,300 students enrolled in 11 schools and colleges on campuses in Macon, Atlanta and Savannah, Mercer has a strong presence in Georgia. However, its more than 68,000 alumni are making important contributions to their professions and communities around the world.

Mercer is consistently ranked among the nation's leading institutions by such publications as U.S. News & World Report, which named the University the No. 1 value in the South in 2012 and No. 6 on its list of "up-and-coming" schools.

### ACADEMIC DIVISIONS

College of Liberal Arts (Macon): The oldest of the University's academic units, the College remains the cornerstone of Mercer's educational programs. The College offers an array of baccalaureate programs in the humanities, fine arts, sciences and social sciences.

Walter F. George School of Law (Macon): Founded in 1873, Mercer's Law School is one of the oldest law schools in the United States and the first in the state of Georgia accredited by the American Bar Association. Its innovative Woodruff Curriculum — which focuses on ethics and practical skills — earned the Gambrell Professionalism Award from the A.B.A. for its "depth of excellence."

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics (Macon, Atlanta, Douglas County, Henry County, Savannah): The School offers undergraduate and graduate (B.B.A., M.B.A.) degrees in Macon and Atlanta, the M.B.A. in Savannah and the B.B.A. degree in Douglas County. The School holds the highest level of accreditation for business education by AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

School of Engineering (Macon): Mercer's innovative and academically challenging engineering-related programs provide students with a comprehensive education, featuring a solid foundation in mathematics and sciences, a core engineering curriculum, a range of courses in engineering specialties and a strong emphasis on communication technologies. The School of Engineering marked its 25th anniversary in 2010 and continues to be ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the top three master's degree-level engineering schools in the Southeast.

Tift College of Education (Macon, Atlanta, Savannah, Regional Academic Centers): The College prepares more professional educators than any other private college or university in Georgia. It offers baccalaureate and graduate degrees. Guided by the conceptual framework of the "Transforming Practitioner," Tift College is dedicated to preparing effective teachers and educational leaders who aspire to grow professionally throughout their careers, while also seeking to transform the lives of students.

James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology (Atlanta): Established in 1996, the School brings Jesse Mercer's founding vision of providing students with a classical and theological education full circle as it prepares students for the ministry

College of Continuing and Professional Studies (Macon, Atlanta, Regional Academic Centers): The College offers undergraduate and graduate programs to working adults seeking professional advancement or transition and leadership roles in and beyond their communities. The College provides students with distinctive, multidisciplinary programs that integrate theory and practice, liberal learning and professional education, and knowledge and experience.

Townsend School of Music (Macon): The School is nationally recognized for its artist faculty, award-winning students, wide range of performance ensembles and state-of-the-art facilities. Specialized music programs include the Townsend-McAfee Institute for Graduate Church Music Studies and the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings.

Division of Library Services (Macon, Atlanta, Savannah, Regional Academic Centers): The mission of Mercer's libraries is to serve as learningcentered gateways of information resources through robust collections and innovative, technology-rich patron services to support the educational endeavors of the University community.

Mercer University Press (Macon): Since its establishment in 1979, Mercer Press has published more than 1,200 titles, generally in the areas of Southern history, philosophy, religion and regional studies. The Press holds membership in the Association of American University Presses.

Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) (Warner Robins): Founded in 1987, MERC provides engineering research services to private industries and government agencies, including the Department of Defense. Since its inception, MERC has exceeded \$300 million in contract revenue.

### Mercer Health Sciences Center

School of Medicine (Macon, Atlanta, Savannah, Columbus): The School was established in 1982 to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and health care needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia. The School of Medicine currently operates two four-year campuses. Following their second year, students participate in core clinical clerkships at the School's primary teaching hospitals: Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon, Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, and The Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital in Columbus.

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (Atlanta): For more than a century, the College has maintained a tradition of excellence and a national reputation for producing leaders in the health care profession and has made notable contributions to the fields of pharmacy and health sciences. Mercer is ranked as the number 4 private pharmacy school in the United States and among the top private and public pharmacy schools.

Georgia Baptist College of Nursing (Macon, Atlanta): Nationally recognized Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, the oldest nursing program in Georgia, is grounded in its heritage of educating students to provide superior nursing care. All undergraduate nursing students are members of the National Student Nurses Association, thus providing them with superior leadership and professional development opportunities.

### ATHLETICS

Mercer is the only private university in Georgia to compete in Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. A founding member of the Atlantic Sun Conference, Mercer fields teams in baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer and tennis for men, and basketball, tennis, softball, soccer, volleyball, sand volleyball, cross-country and golf for women. For the 2011-2012 academic year, the cumulative grade point average for student athletes was 3.264. In fall 2013, Mercer will resume competition in football as a member of the non-scholarship NCAA Division I Pioneer Football League. Women's track and field will become a varsity sport beginning in the 2013-2014 school year and women's lacrosse will begin in spring 2015.

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