



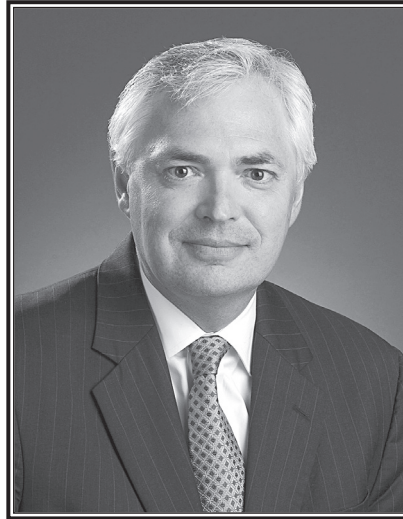
M E R C E R U N I V E R S I T Y

Est. 1833

C O M M E N C E M E N T

2017

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



May 2017

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William D. Underwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William D. Underwood
President

MERCER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS

Approximately 2,000 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 four ceremonies in May. Each ceremony will be unique and will reflect the schools and colleges represented.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Saturday, May 6, 2017 | 2:00 p.m.

Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

Speaker: Peter Thomas Scardino, M.D.

Chair, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

ATLANTA

College of Pharmacy | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | Tift College of Education
James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology | Georgia Baptist College of Nursing
Penfield College of Mercer University | College of Health Professions

Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 8:30 a.m.

Upper Field | Atlanta Campus

Speaker: Hewitt W. "Ted" Matthews

Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean, College of Pharmacy

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 10:00 a.m.

Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

Speaker: The Honorable W. Louis Sands, B.A. '71, J.D. '74

MACON

College of Liberal Arts | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics
School of Engineering | Tift College of Education | Penfield College of Mercer University
Townsend School of Music | College of Health Professions

Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 3:30 p.m.

Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

Speaker: J. Reginald Murphy

Publisher and Business Executive

Student Speaker: Alayna Celeste Williams

International Affairs, Spanish, Women's and Gender Studies; Class of 2017

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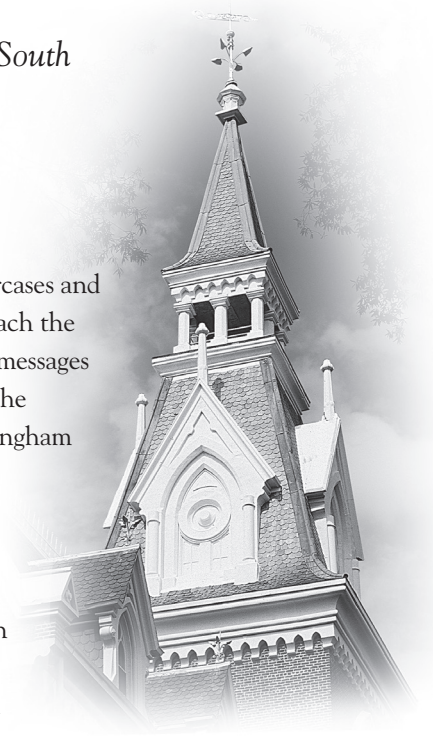
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MERCER TRADITIONS

Mercer University is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the South and over 184 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.



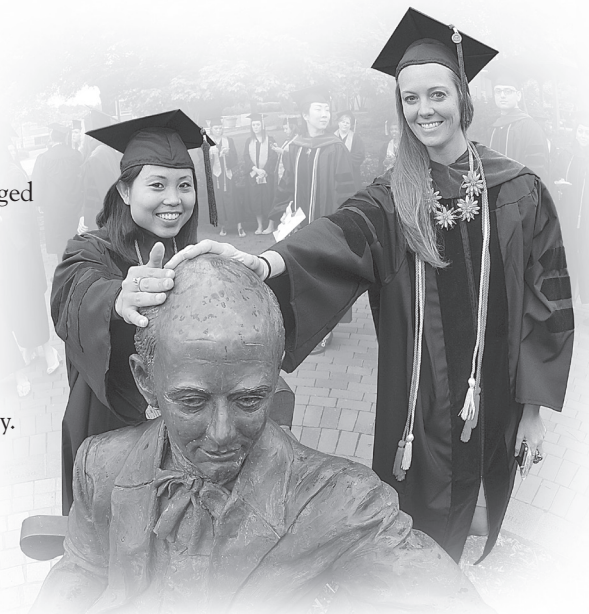
JESSE MERCER PLAZA

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 an 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 Mercer's 17th president, Dr. 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 at the beginning of their academic careers, and at the conclusion of their Mercer tenures.

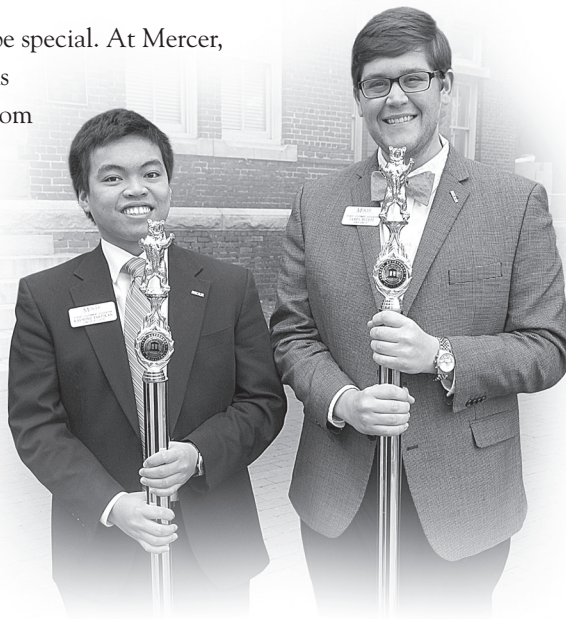
The statue was unveiled in 1995 in conjunction with the re-introduction of the tradition of Founders' Day. The statue was paid for by a Student Government Association fund established specifically for constructing the Jesse Mercer statue.

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.



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.



GRIFFIN B. BELL AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



In 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 12 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.

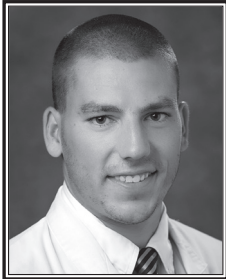
In 1959, while a senior partner at King & Spalding, Judge Bell was appointed Chief of Staff by Georgia Governor Ernest Vandiver. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed him as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. After 15 years of service on the Court of Appeals, 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 President Jimmy 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 recognized as one of the country's great Americans. Judge Bell died January 5, 2009, at the age of 90.

2017 GRIFFIN B. BELL AWARD RECIPIENT

MATTHEW MACKENZIE KAHRMANN

School of Medicine



Matthew Mackenzie Kahrmann exemplifies the attributes of community service and professionalism represented by the Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service. During his time at the School of Medicine, his tireless efforts led to the founding of the Georgia Chapter of international nonprofit myTEAM TRIUMPH Inc.

Entering medical school at the age of 19, Kahrmann successfully navigated its challenges, and his confidence levels soared, allowing his leadership skills to shine through. He volunteered for various student-run community service projects, including Miracle League of Macon, Mentoring in Healthcare and Macon Volunteer Clinic. Additionally, he spent time with Habitat for Humanity, the Methodist Home and Loaves and Fishes while in Macon.

When he opted to attend the School of Medicine campus in Columbus for his third and fourth years, he took on significant and often demanding leadership roles. He wanted to combine his passion for running, biking and swimming with a service project for individuals physically unable to lead active lifestyles. He made contact with the nonprofit myTEAM TRIUMPH Inc., and local chapter myTEAM TRIUMPH — Wings of Columbus, Georgia, was founded in December 2015. The organization provides physically limited children — the “Captains” — an opportunity to participate in endurance races through the assistance of specialized wheelchairs and teams of able-bodied runners — the “Angels.” The mission is “to enhance the health and well-being of individuals with physical limitations by fostering lasting, authentic relationships through the teamwork environment of endurance athletes.”

After successfully overseeing five racing opportunities for 15 Captains and nearly 50 Angels in 2016, he is gearing up with fellow medical students to host 10 racing events in 2017. Acknowledging his success and leadership capabilities, Kahrmann was personally selected by CEO and founder of myTEAM TRIUMPH Inc. Ronald Robb to spearhead and chair the Board of Directors in the creation of a statewide chapter.

When asked about his role in helping others, Kahrmann’s response is always the same, “Medical students are given a platform to serve, and we have a natural instinct to help others. As long as we are able and capable, we should not ignore that.”

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2016 Ebony Jervonne’ Brown <i>Walter F. George School of Law</i>	2012 Chelsea Marie Flieger <i>College of Liberal Arts</i>	2008 Grant Michael Jenson <i>Walter F. George School of Law</i>	2005 John Michael Carroll <i>College of Liberal Arts</i>	2003 Caroline Gary <i>Walter F. George School of Law</i>
2015 Ashley Wilkerson Finney <i>College of Pharmacy</i>	2011 Andi Thomas Sullivan <i>McAfee School of Theology</i>	2007 Chpryelle Carr <i>School of Medicine</i>	2004 Dennis Drummond <i>Tift College of Education</i>	2002 Rachel Gunter Shapard <i>McAfee School of Theology</i>
2014 Gary Wall <i>College of Liberal Arts</i>	2010 Gloria Ann Jordan <i>College of Continuing and Professional Studies</i>	2006 Steuart Hutchings Botchford <i>College of Liberal Arts</i>	2004 Amanda Elaine Meloun <i>Walter F. George School of Law</i>	2001 Stephanie Anne Shelton <i>College of Liberal Arts</i>
2013 Nancy Boore <i>College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences</i>	2009 Shannon Louise Moon <i>Georgia Baptist College of Nursing</i>	2006 Hollie Benet Preston <i>Georgia Baptist College of Nursing</i>	2004 Leah Marie Phanco <i>College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences</i>	2000 Virginia Campbell Leslie <i>School of Medicine</i>

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.

AARON MICHEAL SCHERF

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics



Aaron Micheal Scherf is not only exceptionally strong academically but has visionary leadership qualities. Scherf, who is a triple-major in international business, finance and economics, as well as a minor in global development studies and management, has worked with multiple organizations in an effort to improve the local and global communities. He has worked with NewTown Macon LLC, an urban revitalization and property investment firm; Bloomfield Community Empowerment Center; Tembeka Social Investment Co. Ltd., a South African microfinance institution where he conducted summer research; and the Historic Macon Foundation, a preservation and property development firm.

Scherf exhibits a genuine professional attitude, firmness of purpose, persistence in pursuit of goals and a solid commitment toward achieving his goals. He has the ability to relate well with his peers, classmates, faculty and staff, winning their respect and admiration.

The recipient of a Fulbright Award to conduct research in Germany, he has also earned such honors as the James T. McAfee Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholar research grant, Mercer "Research that Reaches Out" Visionary Student research grant and Knight Neighborhood Challenge Grant, and he has been selected as a Humanity in Action Fellow, International Honors Scholar, Stamps Foundation Leadership Scholar, Mercer University Presidential Scholar and Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout.

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

<p>2016 Joseph Knight Wozniak <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>2012 John Andrew Jones <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>2008 Stephanie Ard <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>2005 AND EARLIER William Arnold <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Blair Cox <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Jimmy Thomas Howell <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Larissa Spell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p>2015 Kaitlin Chance <i>College of Nursing</i></p>	<p>2011 Margaret McCampbell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>James Derek Cook <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Julia Bowen <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Daniel Crager <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Andy Lane <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Eric Trivett <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p>2014 Michael Tekesky <i>College of Nursing</i></p>	<p>2010 Amy Carol Abel <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>2007 Stacey Irene Harwell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Megan Boyd <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Ben Drew Cravey, III <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Adam Neal <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Jamanda Turner <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p>2013 Noah Maier <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>2009 John Christopher Elder <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>2006 Samson Julius Alva <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Michael Bryan <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>John Christopher Elder <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Frank Nelson <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Jamila Wideman <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
			<p>Kala Cartwright <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Rhett Fraser <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Pamela Popwell <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Becky Wilcox <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>
			<p>James Derek Cook <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Crystal Garmon <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Emily Salman <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Megin Lea Williams <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
				<p>Tiffany Gibson <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Amber Sandlin <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Gary Wood <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>

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.

ALAYNA CELESTE WILLIAMS

College of Liberal Arts



Alayna Celeste Williams is a triple-major in international affairs, Spanish, and women's and gender studies — all demanding fields of inquiry — while achieving something that few undergraduates do — a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. Williams brings zest to all she does, from teaching dance at a local studio that caters to minority students to cheering on the Bears as co-captain of the Mercer Dance Team.

Williams has real intellectual passion and a desire to apply her knowledge, often for the betterment of the communities she inhabits. In her research methods course in women's and gender studies, she conducted a service-learning research project where she expertly designed and carried out qualitative research among a predominantly African-American dance company in Macon. She selected this topic because racial and gendered justice are issues she cares about strongly, and she chose to conduct the research at a studio where she teaches, with specific children for whom she cares deeply.

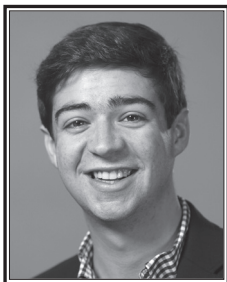
For three years, Williams has applied her growing expertise in international affairs by acting as co-president of the Mercer Model Arab League and serving as head delegate at National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations competitions, both regionally and nationally. She also sought out further international experiences, participating as a Mercer Service Scholar in a Mercer On Mission (MOM) experience to India as a rising junior and another MOM trip to Cape Town, South Africa, as a rising senior, where she worked in racially segregated townships still defined by the structures of apartheid.

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.

TIMOTHY MARTIN LEWIS

College of Liberal Arts



Significant in Timothy Martin Lewis' decision to attend Mercer was a sense that he felt "called" to be here. He wanted to continue to have the opportunity to make a difference in the community, specifically working to improve educational opportunities for public school students like himself in Bibb County. That sense of calling also explains why he has decided to pursue graduate study in higher education and student affairs.

Lewis has invested an enormous amount of positive energy during his time at Mercer as a peer advisor; Mercer Service Scholar; director of student staff, director of campus tours and a member of the special events team in the Office of Admissions; vice president of membership and communication for the Mercer Maniacs; and senator-at-large, campus safety chair and external relations chair for the Student Government Association.

Lewis has a passion and vision for developing the leadership abilities of future Mercer students and was able to make that vision a lasting reality by founding the Leadership Mercer program, which he also directs. His character, outstanding academic reputation and the ongoing energy he gives to Mercer as a student inspired the Office of Admissions to feature him in a recent promotional video, titled "Your Mercer Story: Anything But Typical."

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, senior or 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, College of Health Professions, 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 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 former member of the University's Board of Trustees. A nationally recognized leader in the healthcare 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 member of the University's Board of Trustees.

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

<p>2016</p> <p>Timothy M. Lewis <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p> <p>Emma R. Peel <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p> <p>Aaron M. Scherf <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p> <p>Jessy Togba-Doya <i>McAfee School of Theology</i></p>	<p>2015</p> <p>Andrew T. Eck <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>2013</p> <p>Alison L. Smith <i>School of Medicine</i></p> <p>Ryan C. Bartholomew <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>2011</p> <p>Christopher L. Gaunder <i>School of Medicine</i></p> <p>Matthew G. Townsend <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>2009</p> <p>Chris L. Kiker <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>2006</p> <p>Rebekah Carol Duke <i>McAfee School of Theology</i></p> <p>James Christopher Geiger, Jr. <i>Townsend School of Music</i></p>
	<p>2014</p> <p>Emily Caitlin Dowling <i>Townsend School of Music</i></p> <p>Dalton E. Turner <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>2012</p> <p>Abraham A. Deng <i>McAfee School of Theology</i></p> <p>Kaitlyn T. Schmitt <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>2010</p> <p>Ashley J. Mooney <i>School of Medicine</i></p>	<p>2008</p> <p>Bailey Edwards Nelson <i>McAfee School of Theology</i></p> <p>Susan Elizabeth Yarbrough <i>Tift College of Education</i></p>	

MARYGRACE BENDER

Townsend School of Music



As one of 12 children, MaryGrace Bender arrived at Mercer already possessing many of the skills that the scholarship values. Her musically-inclined family is very important to the cello player. She has been a strong, positive influence on her fellow McDuffie Center for Strings students, modeling a quiet leadership and a sense of shared responsibility. In addition to being a full-time student and putting in the four hours of daily practice time required by the Center, Bender works part-time at Jittery Joe's to help finance her education. Her heart for service is revealed in the time she donates to local schools, where she teaches music and provides cello lessons to underserved students. She approached the schools on her own to offer her time and talents and has been volunteering since her freshman year. She says that music is a gift she wants to share with others, which is why she volunteers not only at local schools, but also at nursing homes. She was accepted to the Meadowmount summer program and raised the money to attend

by creating a summer camp to give horseback riding lessons to children. Bender, who aspires to attend graduate school and work as a performer, has also traveled to Tanzania, where she shared classical music with people who not only had never heard it, but had never seen instruments. She has performed as a young artist at the Rome Chamber Music Festival in Italy, at the Chautauqua Institute in New York and, in February, at Carnegie Hall with the Townsend School of Music.

PARTH NITIN DESAI

School of Medicine



In addition to being an exemplary medical student, Parth Desai is an avid inventor of software and medical devices. During his first year of medical school, he founded a health IT nonprofit organization, ICD-10 Charts Inc., which provides free online software for hospitals and medical practices struggling with a difficult healthcare legislative change called ICD-10. He continued to build unique online tools, educational resources and mobile apps, which were heavily endorsed following several large hospital pilot programs, but because of financial constraints the reach was initially limited. Then, in 2015, Desai was awarded two grants totaling \$100,000. Sleeping only a few hours each night to juggle both medical school and the management of his growing nonprofit, he was determined to aid the healthcare industry during its time of need. He worked tirelessly for three years, and, by 2016, Desai's free online resources had successfully reached more than 80,000 medical personnel nationwide. He has been described in

Forbes magazine as a "brilliant and dedicated medical student." His work has impacted medical practices throughout the country. In the summer of 2015, following the devastating earthquake in Nepal, Desai went on a 10-day medical mission trip to work in a nonprofit hospital. While an undergraduate student, he spent three weeks volunteering at a free clinic in India.

ANDREW J. KELLEY

School of Engineering



Andrew Kelley's strength of character is apparent in how he lives out his faith and love of others through service. He thinks deeply and carefully about human impacts on the environment, and his projects show a dedication to leadership and service to humanity. Kelley worked with the Fuller Center for Housing during a 2016 Mercer On Mission trip to Peru with the Mercer Service Scholars. Knowing there was no running water or electricity, Kelley found a company that produced affordable, collapsible solar lights, called Luci lights, in advance of making the trip. He worked with classmates to organize a fundraiser and, once in Peru, held a "children's day" where local children each received a Luci light for their homes. One grandmother responded, "We have no light at home, and this will be beautiful."

Because he is a visionary leader, Kelley realized during a research project in the summer of 2016 that new environmentally sustainable and innovative energy sources will not be effective until citizens understand them and find them valuable. Since then, he has focused on the idea of "social marketing" — meeting people where they are — to help them to better understand technological innovations. He also worked with Mercer's Student Government Association to support "Greener Mercer" projects on campus, and has worked with Habitat for Humanity and the School of Engineering to install a Gray Water Treatment system to reduce water usage for irrigation at the residential level.

ABIGAIL ELIZABETH PARIS

Townsend School of Music



Abigail Paris has already made a profound difference in the lives of many people, but perhaps her most significant and unique work has come as a counselor with disabled children the past two summers at the Center for Courageous Kids (CCK) in Kentucky. Through music and theatre, Paris has brought the excitement and enjoyment of the arts to children who might not otherwise experience it because of their medically fragile health situations. When she returned to campus, she organized a trip for 23 members of Mercer's Alpha Gamma Delta sorority to travel to Kentucky and volunteer for a weekend at CCK. She received the National Residence Hall Honorary Spotlight Award for this effort. Continuing her vision for what she hopes to accomplish in her professional life, Paris plans to pursue graduate study in community relations for nonprofit organizations and arts administration. She wants to bring the arts to disabled children through organizations such as the Center for Courageous Kids and St. Jude Children's

Research Hospital. She embraces the idea that this type of work will require creation of a new position, even hoping to act as a catalyst for organizations across the country to follow the model she will create. Paris is the first to volunteer for any service — from ticket sales to T-shirt orders to serving as an advisory board member at Macon's Crisis Line and Safe House to something as simple as helping a faculty member sort and organize music. No job is too small or too daunting for her.

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, 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, 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 Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes a full-time teacher in one of Mercer's 12 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.

EIMAD C. HOURY

College of Liberal Arts



Eimad Houry best exhibits the qualities and virtues that were modeled by both Joe and Jean Hendricks. He, too, is an excellent facilitator and guide to Mercer students. As he goes about his work in the classroom, the local community and the global community, Dr. Houry does not seek out the spotlight, nor does he yearn for accolades. However, he always rises to the top to take on numerous leadership roles in the College of Liberal Arts, including the development of 20 Mercer courses and numerous Study Abroad and Mercer On Mission trips to destinations such as Costa Rica, the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Dubai, South Africa and the Republic of Georgia. He is described by colleagues and students alike as an excellent teacher who teaches broadly.

Dr. Houry has supervised multiple undergraduate student research projects. Two of his students recently presented their work at the World Congress of Undergraduate Research in Doha, Qatar.

To junior faculty, Dr. Houry serves as an excellent model. He has created a program and departmental culture of hard work and excellence.

Alongside his exceptional work with students and colleagues, Dr. Houry has been entrusted with a wide variety of administrative roles, and he has executed each with distinction. He has emerged as a faculty leader and trusted adviser to the administrative leadership in the College of Liberal Arts and across the University.

Outside the classroom, Dr. Houry serves as faculty adviser to many student organizations, including the Association of Muslim Students and the award-winning Model Arab League and the Mock World Health Organization. He has sought to culturally educate the Mercer and Macon communities through his organization and participation in seminars such as “Muslims in America” and “Identity in America.”

Dr. Houry has been, and continues to be, an active and productive member in the Mercer, Macon and global communities. Like Joe and Jean Hendricks, Dr. Houry has invested himself most thoroughly in his teaching. He takes great pride in making a difference in the manner in which Mercer students understand the world in which they live. The essence of his teaching philosophy is to “light the fuse of curiosity in students so that they are never content with what they think they already know.” His purpose is “not to persuade them of any specific worldview, but to empower them to become active and independent thinkers who care.”

Dr. Houry's teaching, interactions with students and nurturing of junior faculty members exemplify the ethos that Joe and Jean Hendricks have bequeathed to Mercerians.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
COMMENCEMENT

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 6, 2017 | 2:00 p.m.

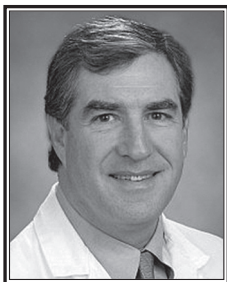
Presiding	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Prelude	Jack Mitchener <i>University Organist</i>
Academic Procession*	Mercer University Pipes and Drums
Invocation*	James Charles Elder, Jr. <i>Pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbus, Georgia</i>
Welcome	The President of the University
Greetings from the School	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D. <i>Dean, School of Medicine</i>
Greetings from the Board of Governors	Jack Hanson Powell, M.D. <i>Chair, School of Medicine Board of Governors, Macon</i> Julius Curtis Lewis, III, J.D. <i>Member, School of Medicine Board of Governors, Savannah</i>
Special Music, <i>Here I Am, Lord</i>	Joy Elise Mote <i>Townsend School of Music, Class of 2018</i> Accompanied by Jack Mitchener
Introduction of Speaker	Margaret Gill, M.B.A. <i>President and Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Health</i>
Commencement Address	Peter Thomas Scardino, M.D. <i>Chair, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>
University Honors	The President of the University
Special Awards	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D.
Conferring of the Degrees	The President of the University <i>Master of Family Therapy Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences</i> <i>Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Doctor of Medicine</i>
Awarding of Diplomas	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D.
Hippocratic Oath	
Introduced by	D. Scott Davis, Ph.D. <i>Provost</i>
Led by	Ramon Vernon Meguiar, M.D. <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Memorial Health</i> <i>Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Savannah Campus</i>
Alumni Welcome	Jennifer Nunn Tarbuton, M.D. '01 <i>School of Medicine Alumna</i>
Benediction*	James Charles Elder, Jr.
Academic Recession**	Jack Mitchener

* *The audience is requested to rise.*

** *The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.*

PETER THOMAS SCARDINO

Commencement Speaker



As chairman of the Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, Dr. Peter Thomas Scardino oversees a department widely recognized for its expertise and innovation in cancer surgery. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he is a surgeon specializing in the early detection, prognosis and treatment of prostate cancer.

In 2001, he received a National Institutes of Health grant to establish an ongoing Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in prostate cancer at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. SPORE has an ambitious research program focused on developing therapies appropriate for patients with different types of prostate cancer at different stages of development.

Dr. Scardino's position at Memorial Sloan Kettering includes appointments as head of the Prostate Cancer Program, a member in the Sloan Kettering Institute's Molecular Pharmacology Program and the incumbent of the David H. Koch Chair. He is also a professor in the Department of Urology at Weill Cornell Medical College and at SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

Dr. Scardino has written many articles and book chapters and edited the *Comprehensive Textbook of Genitourinary Oncology*. In 2005, with Judith Kelman, he wrote *Dr. Peter Scardino's Prostate Book*, a guide to prostate cancer, prostatitis and benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH). He serves as editor-in-chief of *Nature Clinical Practice Urology*, and he is an editorial board member and reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Scardino is an active member of the National Academies' Institute of Medicine and of the American Urological Association. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University and his M.D. from Duke University School of Medicine.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MARSHAL

Martin Herbert Greenberg, M.D.

Professor, Medical Education, Savannah Campus

READERS

George Bowden Templeton, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of
Family Therapy Program*

Susan Dawn Cline, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of Science
in Preclinical Sciences Program*

Richard Olin McCann, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of Science
in Biomedical Sciences Program*

Alice Aumann House, M.D.

Dean, Columbus Campus

William Frank Bina, III, M.D., M.P.H.

Dean, Savannah Campus

Edwin Walker Grimsley, M.D.

*Associate Dean for Clinical Education,
Macon Campus*

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

John Rieves Meadows, M.D.

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Macon/Columbus Campus

David Edward Carney, M.D.

Associate Professor, Surgery, Savannah Campus

STUDENT HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD

Kristen Leigh Kettelhut

Macon/Columbus Campus

Ekta Indra Bery

Savannah Campus

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

◊ Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society | ♦ Gold Humanism Honor Society | † Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

MASTER OF FAMILY THERAPY

Rachel Alerte
Acworth, Georgia

Curnesia Smith Bogans
Albany, Georgia

Megan Calderbank †
Atlanta, Georgia

Andrea Carrima Cooke
Macon, Georgia

Myrtha Despinasse
Jonesboro, Georgia

Sharita JoNetta Everett
Fayetteville, Georgia

Stephanie Anne Gan
Powder Springs, Georgia

Jessica Lynn Glover
Cochran, Georgia

Laura Elizabeth Hamilton
Macon, Georgia

Anna Alexis Hernandez †
Macon, Georgia

Terra Janay Holland
Carrollton, Georgia

Breia Danyelle Jefferson
Liburn, Georgia

Katrina Shantell Jones
Atlanta, Georgia

Britnie Taylor Jordan †
Macon, Georgia

Jordan Samantha Kerben †
Atlanta, Georgia

Ashley Takita Lockhart
Decatur, Georgia

Rachel Elizabeth Lowery †
Toccoa, Georgia

Fatima Tomas Mann
Macon, Georgia

Holly Rochelle Marechaeu
Lithonia, Georgia

James Lotis McAfee, III
Macon, Georgia

Chrystal Nicole McDowell †
Macon, Georgia

Joy Leviya Mitchell
Fayetteville, Georgia

Latesha Shadawn Mitchell
Savannah, Georgia

Daryl Elon O'Bryant
Columbia, South Carolina

Ishita Patel †
Locust Grove, Georgia

Chervell Nicole Twyman
Atlanta, Georgia

Lindsey Anne Whitley †
Macon, Georgia

Toiya Danielle Williams †
Hampton, Georgia

Kathlyn Freeman Wohlrabe
Macon, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PRECLINICAL SCIENCES

Micaela Ompico Alcalá
Stockbridge, Georgia

Cody Michael Atkinson
Macon, Georgia

Sean Paul Brooks
Bonaire, Georgia

Vitaliano Roberto Cama
Peachtree City, Georgia

Grant Michael Capps
Liburn, Georgia

Yeshel Viral Chokshi
Cary, Georgia

Stanton Matthew Davis
Tyrone, Georgia

Alexander Karl Duggan
Appling, Georgia

Ekei Bassey Eyo
Columbia, South Carolina

Andrew Pack George
Savannah, Georgia

Ashelyn Nehcole Green
Waco, Texas

Olivia Camille Harden
Columbia, South Carolina

Kamaree Jon Ross Harris
Acworth, Georgia

Mary Peyton Hughes
Tallahassee, Florida

Dwight Johnson
Brownsville, Texas

Ankita Kanwar
LaGrange, Georgia

Mary Law
Augusta, Georgia

Eric Ni
Decatur, Georgia

Ena Novakovic
Martinez, Georgia

Michael Chukwuemeka Nwilo
Conyers, Georgia

Nikhil Yashvant Patel
Columbus, Georgia

Diana Alejandra Rios
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Ryan Craig Sanders
Charlotte, North Carolina

Clayton Scott Seigel
Warner Robins, Georgia

Hannah Troyer
Senoia, Georgia

Chinyere Ijeoma Uzoigwe
Riverdale, Georgia

Olga Vacariuc
Alpharetta, Georgia

Maria Guadalupe Vazquez
Fairburn, Georgia

Marshall Douglas Williams
Dacula, Georgia

Kyle Jonathan Wilson
Saint Peters, Missouri

Tiara Wynn
Lincolnton, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Elisabeth Ann Carter †
Snellville, Georgia

Brittany Kaye Hill †
Cartersville, Georgia

Terrell Jenrette
Jonesboro, Georgia

Ellie Marie Kornfeind †
Savannah, Georgia

Jenny Hong Pham
Jonesboro, Georgia

Julius Hannibal Svensmark
Copenhagen, Denmark

Catherine Cater Thompson †
Macon, Georgia

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

COLUMBUS CAMPUS

Spencer Robert Anderson ◊
Kathleen, Georgia

Kelly Ferrill Bowman
Tyrone, Georgia

Kirby Nicole Chisholm ◊
Kingsland, Georgia

James Weaver Corley
Marietta, Georgia

Alexandra Michelle Fowler
Covington, Georgia

Shriya Reddy Gaddam
Alpharetta, Georgia

Curtis Anthony Hendrix, II
Waycross, Georgia

Samuel Parks Hughes ◊
Thomasville, Georgia

Matthew Mackenzie Kahrmann
McRae, Georgia

Kristen Leigh Kettelhut ♦
Peachtree City, Georgia

Carmen Elizabeth Lee
Columbus, Georgia

Leland Chester McCluskey, Jr. ◊ †
Columbus, Georgia

Binh Quang Ngo ♦
Duluth, Georgia

Chidi Torree Nwachukwu
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Annalee Joy Wittmeyer
Statham, Georgia

SAVANNAH CAMPUS

Lorien Sunhye Ahn
Duluth, Georgia

Jaime Michele Adams
Hiram, Georgia

Jacob Lyndon Beltz
Augusta, Georgia

Ekta Indra Bery ♦
Roswell, Georgia

Brooke Ashley Bradley
Savannah, Georgia

Jared Wesley Brown ◊ ♦
The Rock, Georgia

Zachary Manus Burch
Savannah, Georgia

Sheritta Chantal Carmichael
Cartersville, Georgia

William Harrison Cheeley
Greensboro, Georgia

Bradley Thomas Corbin ◊ †
Soperton, Georgia

Christopher Stephen Dammeyer ◊ †
Powder Springs, Georgia

Lauren Michelle DuBiner
Smyrna, Georgia

Karman Joanna Duchon
Decatur, Georgia

William John Dugal, IV
Suwanee, Georgia

Blake Kirkland Duke
Adel, Georgia

Heather Nicole Duke
Dacula, Georgia

Nader Fiesal Elkabbani
Athens, Georgia

Richard Warren Farnum, II
Savannah, Georgia

Daniel Vernon Foster
Poole, Georgia

Rhett Martin Grinstead
Cornelia, Georgia

Bradley William Harrison ♦
Dunwoody, Georgia

Dane David Hellwig
Liburn, Georgia

Laura Katherine Jeter
Moreland, Georgia

Merritt Elizabeth Kaluzne
Savannah, Georgia

John Christian Keller
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

Kyle Robert Libbey
Savannah, Georgia

Benjamin Caleb Long
Columbus, Georgia

Leslie Jane Meredith
Savannah, Georgia

Andres Ismael Montes ♦
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Elizabeth Reed O'Connor
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Jason Naresht Patel
Hartwell, Georgia

Misal Minesht Patel
Savannah, Georgia

Owen Scott Richardson
Savannah, Georgia

Carly Winters Ryan
Savannah, Georgia

Abbie Laree Saccary ♦
Savannah, Georgia

Barney Nathan Sadler
Savannah, Georgia

Wesley Reynolds Stroud ◊
Saint Simons Island, Georgia

Lexie Hester Vaughn ♦
Alpharetta, Georgia

Allison Samara Wood ◊ †
Blue Ridge, Georgia

MACON CAMPUS

Jennifer Lehr Anhut ♦
Sandy Springs, Georgia

Christopher Collins Ballantyne
Newnan, Georgia

Taylor Jason Bergman
Marietta, Georgia

Samrath Jai Bhimani
Vidalia, Georgia

Jonathan Russell Brock
Thomasville, Georgia

Jeremiah Louis Bryant
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Robyn Eileen Bryde
Alpharetta, Georgia

Brittany Nichole Chandler
Jefferson, Georgia

Lindsey Hope Cochran
Vinings, Georgia

Edward Alexander Conner ◊
Macon, Georgia

Kristen Blake Corcoran ♦
Marietta, Georgia

Samuel Robert DeVictor
Canton, Georgia

Charles Couch Farmer
Newnan, Georgia

Taylor Thomas Faulk
Kennesaw, Georgia

Constance Renee Franklin
Mount Airy, Georgia

David Adrian Garcia ◊ †
Sparks, Georgia

Michael Warren Gower
Marietta, Georgia

Kelsey Elizabeth Guerreso ◊ †
Duluth, Georgia

Minh Tuan Huynh Hang
Duluth, Georgia

Kaitlin Brooke Harper ♦
Tyrone, Georgia

Leslie Sixten Hilding ♦
Columbus, Georgia

Steven Donald Hotz
Albany, Georgia

Smit Jayesh Jani
Americus, Georgia

Gary Alan Jordan
Gainesville, Georgia

Christopher Lee Kiker ♦
Bremen, Georgia

Joseph Kimani Kinuthia
Douglasville, Georgia

Jacob Alan Kirkpatrick ♦
Rome, Georgia

Kyle Mitchell Lawson
Augusta, Georgia

Michael Todd Lowery ◊ ♦
Rhine, Georgia

Laura Katherine Lowrey
Cartersville, Georgia

Jacob Andrew Matthews
Norcross, Georgia

Dielle L. Meyer ◊ †
Decatur, Georgia

Nicholas Lloyd Morrow
Cartersville, Georgia

Jennifer Aadaugo Onyirimba
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Puja Vijay Parikh
McDonough, Georgia

Akash Ashwinkumar Patel
Columbus, Georgia

Sheetal Patel
Carrollton, Georgia

Kelly Margaret Redlinger
Tifton, Georgia

Edward Richard Mixon Robinson
Macon, Georgia

Rachael Camille Saporito †
Canton, Georgia

Chloe E. Meyer Shenk ◊ †
Decatur, Georgia

Megan Elizabeth Simmons
Savannah, Georgia

Sugandha Singh
Dalton, Georgia

Zachary Tyler Skipper ◊ ◊ †
Gainesville, Georgia

Joanna Jacqueline Smith
Acworth, Georgia

Lauren Elaine Spradley
Springfield, Georgia

Henry St. George Teaford, III
Gainesville, Georgia

Aneasha Thobani
Decatur, Georgia

Devon Rochelle Tobey ◊ †
Kennesaw, Georgia

Matthew Nijem Varn
Valdosta, Georgia

Matthew Davis Warren
Atlanta, Georgia

Nyomi Ruth Washington
Lithonia, Georgia

Lauren Elizabeth Weigel ◊ †
Dublin, Georgia

Gayle-Anne Hendricks Wright
Newnan, Georgia

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

I SWEAR TO FULFILL, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY AND JUDGMENT, THIS COVENANT:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.
I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.



ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

JAMES AND CAROLYN McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

GEORGIA BAPTIST COLLEGE OF NURSING

PENFIELD COLLEGE OF MERCER UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

Upper Field, Atlanta Campus | Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 8:30 a.m.

Presiding	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Academic Procession*	Verdi's <i>Aida: Grand March</i>
Invocation*	James Sidney Netherton <i>Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance</i>
Welcome	The President of the University
Introduction of the Speaker	The President of the University
Commencement Address	Hewitt W. "Ted" Matthews <i>Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean, College of Pharmacy</i>
Conferring of the Degrees	The President of the University
College of Pharmacy	Dean Hewitt W. "Ted" Matthews <i>Doctor of Pharmacy Doctor of Philosophy</i>
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics	Dean Susan Perles Gilbert <i>Bachelor of Business Administration Master of Accountancy Master of Business Administration Master of Science</i>
Tift College of Education	Associate Dean Kelly Elizabeth Reffitt <i>Bachelor of Science in Education Master of Arts in Teaching Master of Education Specialist in Education Doctor of Philosophy</i>
James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology	Dean Jeffrey Guy Willetts <i>Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry</i>
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing	Dean Linda Ann Streit <i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing Master of Science in Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice Doctor of Philosophy</i>
Penfield College of Mercer University	Dean Priscilla Ruth Danheiser <i>Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Applied Science Bachelor of Science in Social Science Master of Science Doctor of Philosophy</i>
College of Health Professions	Dean Lisa Murphey Lundquist <i>Master of Public Health Master of Medical Science Doctor of Physical Therapy</i>
Presentation of Graduates	Readers
Alumni Welcome	Penny Loraine Elkins <i>Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management</i>
Benediction*	Kellie Raiford Appel <i>Senior Vice President for Strategic Initiatives</i>
Academic Recession**	

* *The audience is requested to rise.*

** *The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.*

HEWITT W. “TED” MATTHEWS

Commencement Speaker



Dr. Hewitt W. “Ted” Matthews is senior vice president for health sciences and dean of the Mercer University College of Pharmacy. He has spent more than four decades on the faculty and is the University’s longest-serving academic dean, having led the College of Pharmacy for the past 27 years.

Dr. Matthews began his association with Mercer as a student. He earned a degree in chemistry from Clark College (now Clark Atlanta University) in 1966 while already enrolled in Mercer’s Southern School of Pharmacy, from which he graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in pharmaceutical biochemistry in 1971 and 1973, respectively, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was a National Institutes of Health Pre-Doctoral Fellow and a Fellow of the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education. He completed postdoctoral work at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Hospital

Infectious Disease Program.

Dr. Matthews joined the faculty of Mercer’s School of Pharmacy in 1973. His commitment to teaching excellence earned him the Outstanding Teacher Award. Over the next decade, he held a number of administrative as well as faculty positions, including associate dean for the School of Pharmacy and assistant provost of the University. After serving for a year as interim dean, he was appointed dean of the School of Pharmacy in 1990. Over the years, he has received numerous awards from state and national pharmacy and pharmacy education organizations. In the fall of 2015, the University of Wisconsin-Madison awarded him a Citation of Merit, one of the highest honors given by his alma mater.

Dr. Matthews was instrumental in the establishment of the Mercer Health Sciences Center, and in 2012, he was named senior vice president for health sciences, in addition to his responsibilities as dean of the College of Pharmacy.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Susan Sweat Gunby

Professor, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing

FACULTY MARSHALS

J. Grady Strom

*Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences
College of Pharmacy*

Allison Cobb Gilmore

*Professor of Education
Tift College of Education*

Helen Hodges

*Professor, Georgia Baptist
College of Nursing*

Leslie Taylor

*Associate Dean and Professor of Physical
Therapy, College of Health Professions*

C. Gerry Mills

*Director of Assessment
Stetson School of Business and Economics*

Robert Norman Nash, Jr.

*Arnall-Mann-Thomasson Professor
of Missions and World Religions
McAfee School of Theology*

Fred Bongiovanni

*Professor of Sociology and Religious Studies
Chair, Department of Liberal Studies
Penfield College of Mercer University*

Florence Tang

Division of Library Services

Lynette Robson

Instructor, English Language Institute

BANNER BEARERS

Susan W. Miller

*Chair and Professor of Pharmacy Practice
College of Pharmacy*

Sylvia Y. Cain

*Associate Professor of Education
Tift College of Education*

Cynthia Rubenstein

*Associate Dean for Undergraduate Program
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*

Nannette Turner

*Chair and Associate Professor of Public
Health, College of Health Professions*

Lloyd Southern

*Professor of Management
Stetson School of Business and Economics*

David Gerald Garber, Jr.

*Associate Professor of Old Testament and
Hebrew, McAfee School of Theology*

Kyra J. Osmus

*Professor of Human Services
Penfield College of Mercer University*

READERS

C. Lea Bonner

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, College of Pharmacy

Karen Gwynn Massey

*Associate Dean, Associate Professor of
Christian Education, McAfee School of Theology*

Sharon Lim Harle

*Assistant Vice President, Office of Alumni Services
and University Special Events
Stetson School of Business and Economics,
Tift College of Education, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing,
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Bria Shakéla Dobbs
Carrollton, Georgia

Brooke Bessie Fenn
Macon, Georgia

Mira Chané Ferguson
Grand Bahama, Bahamas

Asia Jermesia Foster
Savannah, Georgia

Emily Virginia Glidden
Batavia, New York

Tracy Lynn Golden-Crawford
Louisville, Kentucky

Eboné Layla-Antonio Grant
Silver Spring, Maryland

Kashaine Akiilah Gray
Chicago, Illinois

Esteban Nicolas Guigou
Atlanta, Georgia

Eric Newsome Honkomp
Canton, Georgia

Dragan Ljolje
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Sylvie O. Kambou
Burkina Faso

Ashley Unique Kleckley
Atlanta, Georgia

Valerie Felicia Levy
Marietta, Georgia

Jamelah Aneasha Martin
Georgetown, South Carolina

Leij Mathew
Liburn, Georgia

Embree L. Moore
Starkville, Mississippi

Omotayo Sikiru Owoseni
Lekki, Lagos, Nigeria

Alvina Ulander Corsia Perez
Douglasville, Georgia

Jasmine Chanelle Phillips
Raleigh, North Carolina

Brittany Renee Reid
Johns Creek, Georgia

Shelbie Denise Richardson
Decatur, Georgia

Lytrice Danielle Salter
Pensacola, Florida

Hamiyda Nabila Scipio
Atlanta, Georgia

Sukai Sillah
Atlanta, Georgia

Ebony Michelle Skinner
Newark, New Jersey

Johane Linda Simen
Bowie, Maryland

Kiara Patrice Smith
Maplewood, New Jersey

Jennifer Wilson
Lawrenceville, Georgia

MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Amy Marie Anderson
Buffalo, Minnesota

Holly Lynn Austin
Orlando, Florida

Kirsten Elaine Baker ~
San Antonio, Texas

Sarah Melinda Ball
Ashburn, Virginia

Katrina Elizabeth Brown
Becker, Minnesota

Shelley Joan Butler
Perth, Australia

Kelsey Fowler Cameron
Dalton, Georgia

Nicole C. Camp
Warner Robins, Georgia

Lauren Marie Chisholm
Omaha, Nebraska

Thomas Ryan Cooke ~
Marietta, Georgia

Kinsley Marie Cowart ~
Macon, Georgia

Susan Lindsey Davies
Marietta, Georgia

Latera Deshawn Davis
Alachua, Florida

Emily Anna Brown Didrick
Calhoun, Georgia

Alexandria Faye Nicole
Ellenburg ~
White, Georgia

Lauren Nicole Eppert ~
Johns Creek, Georgia

Katherine Marie Fatheree
Alpharetta, Georgia

Carlos Juan Garcia, III
Duluth, Georgia

Megan Deanne Griffin
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Hannah Renee Harrell
Lake Park, Georgia

Emily Sain Harris
Marietta, Georgia

Amelia McCane Harvey ~
McDonough, Georgia

Amanda Rose Heller
Lexington, South Carolina

Olivia Irene Janus
Marietta, Georgia

Samantha Teresa Janus
Marietta, Georgia

Magdalena Ewa Kertscher
Torun, Poland

Meghan Nicole Kirby
Pensacola, Florida

Brandon Robert Kryak
Athens, Georgia

Elizabeth Yung Hui Liu
Dallas, Texas

James Matthew Loutzenhiser
Smyrna, Tennessee

Heather Nicole Maffeo
Milton, Massachusetts

Melinda Mastrapa
Miami, Florida

Jeffrey Nicholas McDonald
Sarasota, Florida

Larissa Aleksandrovna Melnik
Buford, Georgia

Eleanor Marie Mentonelli
Johns Creek, Georgia

Ramona Elena Mesinger
Atlanta, Georgia

Erin Nichole Mingleddorf
Duluth, Georgia

Alexandra Jamila Moore
Grayson, Georgia

Kelsey Alden Newberry
Columbia, South Carolina

Courtney Lynn Okerblad
Woodstock, Georgia

Carla Antoinette Perry-Davis
Kittrell, North Carolina

Rachael Leigh Ridge
Liburn, Georgia

Margaret Courtney Sellers
Atlanta, Georgia

Kiara Khrystyna Swanier
Marietta, Georgia

Nathan Ash Terrell
Atlanta, Georgia

Megan Onece Thornton
Monroe, Michigan

Elizabeth Rutherford Thorpe
Atlanta, Georgia

Maggie Leigh Ward ~
Syracuse, New York

Courtney Marie Wedgeworth
Houma, Louisiana

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Hillary Brooke Anderton
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Christopher Chase Aurandt
Snellville, Georgia

Lacy Elizabeth Ball
Apopka, Florida

William Adams Bolt
Anderson, South Carolina

Stephen Daniel Breckenridge
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Marlie Eden Briggs
Lexington, South Carolina

Carly Elizabeth Casazza
Douglasville, Georgia

Michael David Cavanah
Greenwood, South Carolina

Hannah Pei-En Chiou
Dallas, Texas

Bryn Lee Cloer
Canton, Georgia

Martha Tucker Dickson ~
Rome, Georgia

Caleb Martin Elder
Johns Creek, Georgia

Jason Jon Fritz
Tampa, Florida

Courtney Lynn Griffith
Johns Creek, Georgia

Kasandra Anne Grizzard
Carrollton, Georgia

Sarah Kathryn Hicks
Dunwoody, Georgia

Heather Lindsey Jones
Maplesville, Alabama

Megan Alexandra Keams ~
Peachtree Corners, Georgia

Lauren Ashley Kennedy
Melbourne, Florida

Cody J. Klein
Auburn, Alabama

Jenevieve Christine Lackey
Greenville, South Carolina

Raymond Louis Lynch
Columbus, Georgia

Robert Edward Martinusek
Fitzwilliam, England

Victor E. Moran
New Orleans, Louisiana

Nisha Sunil Patel
Summerville, Georgia

Kara Anne Raymond
Birmingham, Alabama

Andrew Kyle Ricks
Dacula, Georgia

Katherine Elizabeth Semones
Alpharetta, Georgia

Victoria Joanne Sheesley
Atlanta, Georgia

Randall William Sides
Loganville, Georgia

Natalie Lauren Slocumb
Macon, Georgia

Jason Kyle Smith
Greensboro, North Carolina

Mary Katherine Smith
Dothan, Alabama

Didi Potrice Thompkins
Sandersville, Georgia

Lindsey Marie Ventura
Naperville, Illinois

Lauren Nicole Whatley
Cuthbert, Georgia

Samantha Nicole Yarc
Snellville, Georgia

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. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication, and may not reflect final honors.

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW
COMMENCEMENT

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 10:00 a.m.

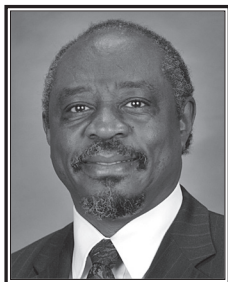
Presiding	Daisy Hurst Floyd <i>Dean and University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation</i>
Prelude	Jack Mitchener <i>University Organist</i>
Academic Procession*	Jack Mitchener
Invocation*	Timothy W. Floyd <i>Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy and Director of Experiential Education</i>
Welcome	D. Scott Davis <i>Provost</i>
Greetings from the Law School	Daisy Hurst Floyd
Introduction of Speaker	Daisy Hurst Floyd
Commencement Address	The Honorable W. Louis Sands, B.A. '71, J.D. '74
Student Awards	Mary S. Donovan <i>Assistant Dean for Student Affairs</i>
Special Recognitions	
George Waldo Woodruff Award of Excellence	Daisy Hurst Floyd
Reynold J. Kosek, Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award	William Edward Collins, Jr. <i>Editor in Chief, Mercer Law Review</i>
Conferring of the Juris Doctor	D. Scott Davis Daisy Hurst Floyd
Charge to Graduates	Daisy Hurst Floyd
Presentation of the Class of 2017	Artavia Shakira Gilliard <i>President, Student Bar Association</i>
Hooding Ceremony	D. Scott Davis Daisy Hurst Floyd
Alumni Welcome	Anton F. Mertens, B.A.'84, J.D.'87 <i>President, Alumni Association Board of Directors</i>
Benediction*	Timothy W. Floyd
Academic Recession**	Jack Mitchener

* The audience is requested to rise.

** The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

THE HONORABLE W. LOUIS SANDS

Commencement Speaker



W. Louis Sands is a senior United States district judge for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia. Born in Bradley, Georgia, Sands received a B.A. from Mercer in 1971 and a J.D. from Mercer School of Law in 1974. He was commissioned second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve Signal Corps in 1971, remaining in the Reserve until 1980 and reaching the rank of captain. After graduating from Mercer Law, he served as Assistant District Attorney for the Macon Judicial Circuit from 1975 to 1978, and later served as Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia from 1978 to 1987. He entered private practice in Macon in 1987 and was a judge of the Superior Court for the Macon Judicial Circuit from 1991 to 1993.

On February 9, 1994, Judge Sands was nominated by President Bill Clinton for a new seat on the United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on May 6, 1994, and received his commission on May 9, 1994. Sands served as chief judge from 2001 to 2006. He served on the Judicial Council for the Eleventh Circuit, both on the Personnel Committee and the Bankruptcy Committee, which he chaired. In April 2011, he was elected as the Eleventh Circuit's district judge representative to the Judicial Conference of the United States, the governing body for the United States Courts, chaired by the Chief Justice of the United States. After serving nearly 20 years on the federal bench, he assumed senior status on April 12, 2014. He has served as a board member for the Mercer University School of Law Alumni Association. Currently, he is a member of the Mercer University Board of Trustees, having previously served from 2002-2007 and 2008-2013.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MARSHALS

Anthony R. Baldwin
Professor of Law

Linda D. Jellum
*Ellison Capers Palmer Senior
Professor of Law*

HOODERS

Richard W. Creswell
Professor of Law

James P. Fleissner
Professor of Law

Patrick E. Longan
*William Augustus Bootle Chair
in Professionalism and Ethics*

Michael D. Sabbath
*SBLI/Walter Homer Drake, Jr.,
Endowed Chair in Bankruptcy Law*

USHERS

Mercer Law Students

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

* Cum Laude | ** Magna Cum Laude | *** Summa Cum Laude

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

JURIS DOCTOR

Anthony Curtis Allen, Jr.
Milledgeville, Georgia

Brian Joel Aplin
LaGrange, Georgia

William Chase Arrington
Lyons, Georgia

Brynn Alexandria Barber
Cumming, Georgia

Tyler Burch Brewton
Screven, Georgia

Milinda Lynn Brown **
Evans, Georgia

Autum B. Calloway-Karcz
Russellville, Kentucky

Kristen Leigh Campbell
McDonough, Georgia

Gabriel Hughes Cason
Valdosta, Georgia

Regan Taylor Cason
Lake Park, Georgia

Kerra Uvonne Castle
Houma, Louisiana

Carson K. Chang
Savannah, Georgia

Kelly Irene Chavis
Marietta, Georgia

Emily Kayla Chiang *
Marietta, Georgia

Robert Harold Childres, III **
Gray, Georgia

Christopher Douglas Childress
Molena, Georgia

Caitlyn Dee Clark *
Macon, Georgia

Anelise Roina Codrington
Nottingham, England

William Edward Collins, Jr. *
Thomasville, Georgia

Brett Evan Conway
Marietta, Georgia

Stacie Lynne Corbett *
Micanopy, Florida

Nathan Preston Corbitt
Atlanta, Georgia

Ana Gabriela Correa
Coral Springs, Florida

Caleb Stewart Davis
Mansfield, Georgia

Graham Wade Davis
Albany, Georgia

Mollie Kathleen Davis **
Fayetteville, Georgia

Talia Brianna Davis *
Conyers, Georgia

Cindy Crystal Delgado
Reidsville, Georgia

Nathaniel Thomas DeLoatch *
Albany, Georgia

Kayci Nicole Dennis
Trussville, Alabama

Samuel James DeRocco, IV
Melbourne Beach, Florida

Benjamin Robert Dinges *
Aiken, South Carolina

Robert Andrew Divis
North Olmsted, Ohio

Caryn Marie Dreibelbis
Duluth, Georgia

Whitney Bly Edwards *
Cartersville, Georgia

David Michael Evans, Jr.
Fitzgerald, Georgia

Daniel Andrew Ficarrotta
Marietta, Georgia

Aaron Deshon Fuller
Stone Mountain, Georgia

Amy Elizabeth Funk *
Birmingham, Alabama

Michael Charles Gay *
Griffin, Georgia

Kinnan Ghali
Chicago, Illinois

Austin Steele Gibson **
Columbus, Georgia

Artavia Shakira Gilliard
Fayetteville, Georgia

Casey Lenora Gray
Homerville, Georgia

Sarah Lynne Gregg *
Monroe, Georgia

Katharine Elizabeth Hall
Macon, Georgia

Amanda Kay Helton
Cleveland, Georgia

Katelynn Nichole Henderson
Brunswick, Georgia

Candice T. Hendrix
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Rebekah Lynn Hogg
LaGrange, Georgia

Sarah Nichole Illg *
Suwanee, Georgia

Lauren Marie Jones
Detroit, Michigan

Landon Alan Justice
Macon, Georgia

Jonathan Michael Kaminsky
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Ruchi Nilkanth Kapadia
Orlando, Florida

Bowen Anderson Klosinski
Augusta, Georgia

Yoojin Lee
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Akilah Rene Ligon
Brooklyn, New York

Elizabeth Hall Manley *
Carnesville, Georgia

Nakeyah Martin
Brooklyn, New York

Bonnie Lindsey McClure-So
Andrews, North Carolina

Leland Joseph McElveen, Jr.
Beaufort, South Carolina

Ian Andrew McIntyre
Rock Hill, South Carolina

Stephanie Teague McKeon
Murphy, North Carolina

Shannon LeVar Mills
New Orleans, Louisiana

Amanda Marie Morejon
Tampa, Florida

Logan Blake Moses
Louisville, Georgia

Kristen Luellen Murphy
Newnan, Georgia

M. Catherine Norman *
Houston, Texas

Kaylie Louise O'Neil *
Indianapolis, Indiana

Jasmine Denise Oliver
Tarpon Springs, Florida

Taylor David Orgeron
Marietta, Georgia

Matthew Wade Padgett
Augusta, Georgia

Chantal Yvette Peacock **
San Antonio, Texas

Christopher Bryan Phillips *
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Joshua Joseph Pico *
Fort Worth, Texas

Matthew Richard Pollard
Kathleen, Georgia

Sarah Anne Powers
Powder Springs, Georgia

Mary Grace Rahm *
Niceville, Florida

Carolee Janet Reed
Manchester, Tennessee

Christopher Kevin Rhodes *
Augusta, Georgia

Amber Michelle Robinson
Mize, Mississippi

Bruna Bretas Rodrigues
Swaainsboro, Georgia

Lauren Wortman Rogers
Evans, Georgia

Savanna Dawn Roughen *
Milledgeville, Georgia

Paul Jeffery Rowe, Jr. *
Atlanta, Georgia

Justin Michael Sanders
Carrollton, Georgia

Brittany Elizabeth Schmidt
Peachtree City, Georgia

Amanda Marie Severino
Boston, Massachusetts

Christopher Travis Shearouse
Savannah, Georgia

Ashleigh Provost Smaha *
Macon, Georgia

Jennifer Kaye Sniadecki
Kathleen, Georgia

Michael Kenny Stone
Statesboro, Georgia

Jonathan Bradley Stoye
Dallas, Georgia

Mandisa Cheray Styles
Queens, New York

Philip W. Subacz
Louisville, Kentucky

Jennifer Catherine Suggs
Marietta, Georgia

Futhum Asmelash Tewolde
Athens, Georgia

Ashley Countiss Thompson
McDonough, Georgia

Kyle Harris Timmons **
Sandy Springs, Georgia

Moses Min-kyu Tincher **
Seoul, South Korea

Megan Lin Truett
Snellville, Georgia

James Travis Tuggle
Americus, Georgia

Jackson Lee Turner
Columbus, Georgia

Trevor J. Vanzant
Ellaville, Georgia

Emily Brooke Varner
Acworth, Georgia

Roland Keith Weekley **
Lilburn, Georgia

Rachel Ellen Welch
Millen, Georgia

Jeremy Wayne Willis *
Nashville, Georgia

Warner Jacob Worthan *
Kennesaw, Georgia

Emily Ruth Wright **
Smyrna, Tennessee

Erica Leigh Burchell **
Macon, Georgia

Stephanie Joane Campbell
Bronx, New York

Bruce Daniel Dubberly, IV *
Glennville, Georgia

Kerry Anne Jordan
Milledgeville, Georgia

Hannah Beth Reynolds
Macon, Georgia

Riley William Snider *
Atlanta, Georgia

John Byron Strauss
Macon, Georgia

JURIS DOCTOR/ MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Frederick Shearouse Bergen, Jr.
Savannah, Georgia

Christy Lynn Brown
Fitzgerald, Georgia

Tyler T. Ellis
Orem, Utah

Josiah Michael Gattle
Melbourne, Florida

Anzhelika Kaminsky
Blagoveshchensk, Russia

Riley William Snider*
Atlanta, Georgia

Final grades for graduates are not due until June. Degrees and honors will not be determined or become final until all grade point averages of students are computed in June. The program reflects those graduating students who, based on grades earned in the first five semesters, are likely to receive honors when final grades are calculated.

SPECIAL HOODING

Frederick Shearouse Bergen, Jr.
Savannah, Georgia

Adelyn Bargeron Boleman **
Macon, Georgia

CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING, RESEARCH, AND DRAFTING

Frederick Shearouse Bergen
Talia Brianna Davis
Amy Elizabeth Funk
Artavia Shakira Gilliard
Candice T. Hendrix

Anzhelika Kaminsky
Jonathan Michael Kaminsky
Akilah Rene Ligon
Bonnie Lindsey McClure-So
Ian Andrew McIntyre

Amanda Marie Morejon
Jasmine Denise Oliver
Justin Michael Sanders
Mandisa Cheray Styles
Jennifer Catherine Suggs

Ashley Countiss Thompson
Moses Min-kyu Tincher
Roland Keith Weekley
Jeremy Wayne Willis



MACON COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

PENFIELD COLLEGE OF MERCER UNIVERSITY

TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

MACON COMMENCEMENT

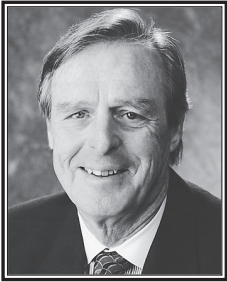
Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 13, 2017 | 3:30 p.m.

Presiding	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Prelude	Jack Mitchener <i>University Organist</i>
Academic Procession*	Jack Mitchener
Invocation*	Craig Thomas McMahan <i>Minister of the University and Dean of the Chapel</i>
Welcome	The President of the University
Greetings from the Board of Trustees	David Hudson <i>Mercer University Board of Trustees</i>
Special Music, <i>Climb Every Mountain</i>	Victoria Grace Yrizarry, <i>mezzo soprano</i> <i>Bachelor of Music Education, Class of 2017</i> Accompanied by Jack Mitchener
Composed by Richard Rodgers	
Introduction of the Speaker	D. Scott Davis <i>Provost</i>
Commencement Address	J. Reginald Murphy, CLA '55 <i>Publisher and Business Executive</i>
University Honors	The President of the University
Student Awards	Douglas R. Pearson <i>Vice President and Dean of Students</i>
Message to the Graduates	Alayna Celeste Williams <i>International Affairs, Spanish, Women's and Gender Studies; Class of 2017</i>
Conferring of the Degrees	The President of the University
College of Liberal Arts	Dean Anita Olson Gustafson <i>Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Science in Health Science</i>
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics	Dean Susan Perles Gilbert <i>Bachelor of Business Administration Master of Business Administration</i>
School of Engineering	Dean Wade Harrison Shaw, Jr. <i>Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Science in Engineering Master of Science Master of Science in Engineering</i>
Tift College of Education	Associate Dean Kelly Elizabeth Reffitt <i>Bachelor of Science in Education Master of Arts in Teaching Master of Education</i>
Penfield College of Mercer University	Dean Priscilla Ruth Danheiser <i>Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Applied Science Bachelor of Science in Social Science</i>
Townsend School of Music	Dean C. David Keith <i>Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Music Bachelor of Music Education Master of Music</i>
College of Health Professions	Dean Lisa Murphey Lundquist <i>Bachelor of Science</i>
Presentation of Graduates	Edward J. Weintraut <i>Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Reader</i>
Alumni Welcome	John Andrew Patterson <i>Senior Vice President for University Advancement</i>
Alma Mater*	Stanley Leroy Roberts, B.A. '84 <i>Arthur Lowndes Rich Professor of Choral Conducting and Associate Dean, Townsend School of Music</i>
Benediction	Craig Thomas McMahan
Academic Recession**	Jack Mitchener

* The audience is requested to rise. ** The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

J. REGINALD MURPHY

Commencement Speaker



Reg Murphy is a renowned journalist and business executive who began his career as a reporter with *The Macon Telegraph* while attending Mercer's College of Liberal Arts in the 1950s.

The Gainesville, Georgia, native went on to serve as political editor of *The Atlanta Constitution* from 1961-1965 before being named editor of the newspaper in 1968. His other leadership roles included serving as editor and publisher of *The San Francisco Examiner* from 1975-1981 and publisher, president and CEO of *The Baltimore Sun* from 1981-1990. He was also chairman of *The Sun* from 1990-1992.

An avid golfer, Murphy served as president of the United States Golf Association from 1994-1995 and held leadership roles at the National Geographic Society from 1993-1998, initially serving as president and ultimately becoming vice chairman of the Society. Among the many boards on which he has served as a member and/or officer are: Board of Visitors, College of Journalism, University of Maryland; Board of Trustees, The John Hopkins Hospital; Board of Trustees, San Francisco State University; Board of Trustees, California Institute of Technology; and the Baltimore Literacy Foundation. In 2012, he served as executive-in-residence at the College of Coastal Georgia, and he currently serves on Mercer's National Journalism Advisory Board and the boards of the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and Coastal Georgia Foundation.

Murphy, who resides with his wife, Diana, in Sea Island, Georgia, wrote a biography of another notable Mercer alumnus, former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell, titled *Uncommon Sense: The Achievement of Griffin Bell*. Murphy has remained a loyal alumnus and supporter of the University, having served three terms on the Mercer Board of Trustees from 1988-1991, 1994-1999 and 2008-2013. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University in 1975.

ALAYNA CELESTE WILLIAMS

Student Commencement Speaker



Alayna Celeste Williams is a triple-major in international affairs, Spanish, and women's and gender studies. It was announced last month that the Mercer dance team member earned a prestigious 2017 Fulbright Award to teach English in South Africa.

She also earned induction into Mercer's inaugural class of the Phi Beta Kappa Society in her junior year. She was awarded the Walter F. Dowling Award for Excellence in International Studies and is the recipient of the Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship for academic achievement in that department.

Williams has not only succeeded in the classroom, but she has been engaged in many co-curricular, service and community activities. She has served as co-captain of the Mercer Dance Team, co-president of the Mercer International Mock Conference Association, a Mercer Service Scholar and a Department of Intercollegiate Athletics tutor. She participated in a Mercer On Mission (MOM) experience in India as a rising junior and another MOM trip to Cape Town, South Africa, as a rising senior, where she worked in racially segregated townships still defined by the structure of apartheid. While in South Africa, Williams conducted a quantitative research study, titled "Intergenerational Differences in Perceptions of Race Relations," at the schools where she served. She later presented this research at the World Congress on Undergraduate Research.

Williams has volunteer experience with Big Brothers, Big Sisters; the Girls Empowerment Program at Alexander II Elementary School; and Model United Nations. She has been accepted to Teach For America.

SPECIAL AWARDS

INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING AWARD

Co-sponsored by the Vulcan Materials Company and Mercer University

Chinekwu Obidoa

Assistant Professor of Global Health, College of Liberal Arts

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

2016 – 2017 SPENCER B. KING, JR.
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

Will R. Jordan, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Political Science

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

2016 – 2017 CLAYTON R. PAUL
TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

André Butler, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Chair of Environmental Engineering

EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

2016 – 2017 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY
MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Tammy N. Crutchfield, Ph.D.

Professor of Marketing

TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

2016 – 2017 OUTSTANDING
FACULTY AWARD

Ian Altman, D.M.A.

Associate Professor of Music

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Gary A. Richardson

*Chair and Benjamin W. Griffith, Jr. Professor of English
College of Liberal Arts*

FACULTY MARSHALS

Kedrick Hartfield
*Professor of Mathematics
College of Liberal Arts*

Tammy Crutchfield
*Professor of Marketing
Stetson School of Business
and Economics*

Behnam Kamali
*Professor of Electrical and Computer
Engineering, School of Engineering*

Sybil Keesbury
*Associate Professor of Education
Tift College of Education*

Fred Bongiovanni
*Professor of Sociology and
Religious Studies, Penfield College
of Mercer University*

Douglas Hill
*Professor of Music and Director of
Undergraduate Studies and Instrumental
Ensembles, Townsend School of Music*

Nannette Turner
*Chair and Associate Professor of Public Health
College of Health Professions*

Theresa Rhodes
*Associate Professor and
Assistant Dean for Collection Services
Division of Library Services*

STUDENT MARSHALS

Elizabeth Ashley McKay

Emily Ann Smith

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

* Cum Laude | ** Magna Cum Laude | *** Summa Cum Laude | † University Honors | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | ° Phi Beta Kappa

TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Katherine Rose Alligood ***~
Dublin, Georgia

April Celeste Arp
Forsyth, Georgia

Amy Leigh Aspinwall *~
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Rebecca Merrell Barber
Fayetteville, Georgia

Paula Neil Barnhart
Warner Robins, Georgia

Shawann Porter Bullington ~
Macon, Georgia

Katina Eleni Cacavias
Macon, Georgia

Amanda Rae D'Auria **
Peachtree City, Georgia

Vontressa Thornton Dickerson
Albany, Georgia

Charlotte Alana French *
Pooler, Georgia

Caroline Kathleen Gibson
Eatonon, Georgia

Molly Kate Lee *
Clermont, Florida

Gabriela Lizbeth Lopez
Hazlehurst, Georgia

Adrienne Felicia Lowe
Macon, Georgia

Angela Mathis ***~
Warner Robins, Georgia

Loni D. McGehee
Warner Robins, Georgia

Morgan Kelley Ingrid Mitchell ***
LaGrange, Georgia

Brittany Marie Mueller *
Kings Park, New York

Emma Taylor Patterson *
Macon, Georgia

Brandey Caroline Potter
Sharpsburg, Georgia

Lauren Elizabeth Pritchard *
Macon, Georgia

Deborah Pate Reeves **
Lake Park, Georgia

Pamela Denise Robinson-Fernandez *
Macon, Georgia

Khushnum Zuben Saana
Gaithersburg, Maryland

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

John Garrett Abernathy
Macon, Georgia

Wesley Steven Adams
Murrayville, Georgia

Catherine Elizabeth Baker
Dahlonega, Georgia

Frances Renee Clay
Broadview, Illinois

Hint Denson
Macon, Georgia

Caitlin Rochelle Hochuli
Macon, Georgia

Xiaojuan Laura Liao
Auburn, Alabama

Shekita Tikori Maxwell
Macon, Georgia

Elizabeth Claire Pirovano
Macon, Georgia

Laura Alice Rogers
Decatur, Georgia

Michael Lloyd Sommer
Bernards, New Jersey

Sara Mae Underwood
Martinez, Georgia

Avery William White
Loganville, Georgia

Khelsea Breana Willis
Atlanta, Georgia

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Tajuan DeShaun Bell
Louisville, Kentucky

Kaitlyn Nicole Cresencia
New Providence, New Jersey

Jason Allen Eaker
Macon, Georgia

Carolyn Thomas Howard
Summerfield, North Carolina

Samantha Jo Jones
Littleton, Colorado

Stephen Patrick Karafa
Locust Grove, Georgia

Avery Mark Lewis
Waycross, Georgia

Jordan Patrick Martin
Hartland, Michigan

Albert Scott Mitchell
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

Christopher Allen Mitchell
Macon, Georgia

Kaci Mari Montgomery
Macon, Georgia

Jared Hayden Myatt
Shreveport, Louisiana

Jean-Jacques Frances N'ganga
Tonkawa, Oklahoma

Matthew James Nicholson
Sylva, North Carolina

Trena Marie Rogers
Kathleen, Georgia

James Luke Samford
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Laura Alyse Stefan
Bonaire, Georgia

Allison Marie Ware
Alpharetta, Georgia

Raquel M. Warrick
McDonough, Georgia

Brittany Charlisha Wright
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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. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication, and may not reflect final honors.

MERCER UNIVERSITY

MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

May 2017

Welcome to the Mercer University Alumni Association! By virtue of your graduation, you join the ranks of more than 76,000 Mercerians in a common fraternity that began over 180 years ago. Like each graduate before you, you will leave here today with aspirations for yourself, your career and your family. Mercer would be honored to remain a central part of your story — especially the new chapter that begins today.

The Alumni Association is a non-dues membership organization. You are a member for as long as you desire to be. We ask only that you stay in touch by keeping your contact information current, and that you support Mercer with your time, talent and resources as you feel led.

We look forward to celebrating the milestones of your life with you, and to being a resource for your lifelong learning.

Go Bears ... but please come back to visit often!

Sincerely,



Jill H. Kinsella
Executive Director



MERCER UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207-1517
(478) 301-2715 | (800) 637-2378 | Alumni@Mercer.edu

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 Godsey 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 that 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.

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	Crimson
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Speech	Silver Gray
Pharmacy	Olive Green
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education	Sage Green
Physical Therapy	Teal
Physician Assistant	Kelly Green
Public Health	Salmon Pink
Science.....	Golden Yellow
Theology.....	Scarlet



PHI BETA KAPPA ZETA OF GEORGIA

THE PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY — THE NATION’S MOST PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC HONOR SOCIETY — CHARTERED MERCER UNIVERSITY TO SHELTER THE ZETA CHAPTER OF GEORGIA IN 2015.

In recommending Mercer for membership, the Society’s Committee on Qualifications described Mercer as a “quintessentially Phi Beta Kappa institution” in its values and mission, in its curriculum and general education requirements, in the variety of opportunities it provides its students, in the quality of its best undergraduates, and in the dedicated engagement of the faculty in all aspects of undergraduate education.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded Dec. 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary by five undergraduates who sought to create a student society that would be more serious-minded than others that had previously existed at the Williamsburg, Virginia, institution.

The first college society with a Greek-letter name, Phi Beta Kappa is derived from the initials for the society’s motto, “love of learning is the guide of life.” ΦΒΚ introduced the essential characteristics of the numerous Greek societies that would follow. These included a badge, mottoes in Greek and Latin, a code of laws, an elaborate form of initiation and a seal.

Phi Beta Kappa is not awarded simply on the basis of high grade point average or class rank, but on a student’s breadth of knowledge and coursework, including foreign language, math and sciences, and humanities and fine arts. An inductee into Phi Beta Kappa has taken a wide range of courses beyond a major. In addition to seeking out a broad range of academic interests, the ideal Phi Beta Kappa member has demonstrated intellectual inquiry and integrity as well as tolerance for freedom of thought and varied points of views. These are the distinctive elements of Phi Beta Kappa that distinguish it from Latin honors such as *summa cum laude* or department honors in a discipline.

Only 10 percent of the nation’s institutions of higher education have been awarded chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, and only 10 percent of its seniors may be inducted, making Phi Beta Kappa one of the most competitive and distinguished honors a student may achieve. Since ΦΒΚ’s founding, 17 U.S. presidents, 39 U.S. Supreme Court justices and more than 130 Nobel laureates have been inducted as members, along with countless authors, diplomats, athletes, researchers, actors and business leaders.

2017 PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Sarah Elizabeth Abney
Senior | Marietta, Georgia

Alexandra Leigh Collins
Senior | Cartersville, Georgia

Abigail Hannah Hundley
Senior | Buford, Georgia

Emma Rutherford Peel
Senior | Portland, Oregon

Natalie Kaye Thigpen
Senior | San Diego, California

Emily Loraine Anspach
Senior | Fort Collins, Colorado

Nora Wilfong Darling
Senior | Peachtree City, Georgia

Anna Lauren Johnson
Senior | Westborough, Massachusetts

Ashley Elizabeth Ray
Senior | Marietta, Georgia

Bristol Paige Thompson
Senior | Doerun, Georgia

Jacqueline Zanne Atchison
Senior | Savannah, Georgia

Sarah A. Estrada
Junior | Tyrone, Georgia

Hyun Min Lee
Senior | LaGrange, Georgia

Abigail Christine Reddig
Senior | Fayetteville, Georgia

Katelyn E. Towe
Senior | Rome, Georgia

Anna Elise Bates
Senior | Houston, Texas

Nicole Alexa Gentile
Senior | Marietta, Georgia

Timothy Martin Lewis
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Teal Baker St. Nicklaus
Senior | Portland, Oregon

Aurora Rose Vadini
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Taylor Nicole Bischoff
Senior | Grayson, Georgia

Andrew Irving Hearn
Senior | Columbus, Georgia

Kaitlyn Mary McBride
Senior | Peachtree City, Georgia

Taylor Amanda Steen
Senior | Peachtree City, Georgia

Andrew Michael Winslett
Senior | Newnan, Georgia

Anna Rose Cizek
Senior | Naperville, Illinois

Abby Marie Henry
Senior | Peachtree City, Georgia

Shannon Marie Merritt
Senior | Douglasville, Georgia

Jamilah Tejan
Senior | Jacksonville, Florida

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

Mercer University is one of America's oldest and most distinctive institutions of higher learning, offering rigorous programs that span the undergraduate liberal arts to doctoral-level degrees. Founded by early 19th century Baptists, Mercer's mission is to teach, to learn, to create, to discover, to inspire, to empower and to serve.

With more than 8,600 students enrolled in 12 schools and colleges on campuses in Macon, Atlanta and Savannah; three medical school sites in Macon, Savannah and Columbus; and at three Regional Academic Centers around the state, Mercer is consistently ranked among the nation's leading institutions by such publications as *U.S. News & World Report*. Our more than 76,000 alumni are making important contributions to their professions and communities throughout Georgia, the Southeast and the world.

While offering a breadth of programs found at much larger universities, Mercer maintains an intimate, student-focused culture more characteristic of smaller liberal arts colleges. Mercer's uniqueness is found in the way the University integrates five defining components of its mission: Liberal Learning, Professional Knowledge, Discovery, Service to Humankind and Community.

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS

College of Liberal Arts (Macon): The oldest of the University's academic units, the College of Liberal Arts is Mercer's cornerstone. The College offers an array of baccalaureate programs in the humanities, fine arts, sciences and social sciences, along with a vast array of interdisciplinary options.

School of Law (Macon): Founded in 1873, Mercer University School of Law 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. Mercer Law School's educational philosophy is based on a commitment to preparing students for high-quality, general practice in a day-to-day learning environment that is both supportive and professional.

Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics (Macon, Atlanta, Douglas County Center and Henry County Center): Established in 1984, the School is named for Eugene W. Stetson, a 1901 Mercer graduate and business pioneer who leveraged the first major buyout in corporate history. Over the past 80 years, Mercer has granted more than 12,000 business degrees, and many of its graduates hold senior leadership positions in companies around the world.

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 continues to be ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top four master's degree-level engineering schools in the Southeast.

Tift College of Education (Macon, Atlanta and Centers): The College prepares more professional educators than any other private institution in Georgia. It offers certificate, baccalaureate and graduate degrees for initial certification, teacher preparation and educational leadership.

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

Penfield College of Mercer University (Macon, Atlanta and Centers): The College is committed to serving adult learners and currently enrolls more than 1,200 students. Undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs are offered to adult students seeking professional advancement into leadership roles in and beyond their communities. Educational programs provide students with distinctive, multidisciplinary programs that integrate theory and practice.

Townsend School of Music (Macon): Townsend School of Music 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.

Mercer University Libraries: The mission of Mercer's libraries is to serve as learning-centered 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 1,400 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): MERC is the non-profit applied research operating unit of Mercer University. MERC's core competencies include electronic, mechanical and electromechanical systems design, development and test; complex system modeling and simulation; information systems technology; structural analysis; reverse engineering and modernization; industrial systems design; materials testing; biomechanics and human factors; and cyber security.

MERCER HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

School of Medicine (Macon, Atlanta, Savannah and Columbus): The School was established in 1982 to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and healthcare 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: Navicent Health and Coliseum Medical Center in Macon, Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, and The Midtown Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital in Columbus.

College of Pharmacy (Atlanta): The College of Pharmacy continues to build on its rich history, tradition of excellence, and legacy of offering quality degree programs that provide students with the necessary education and skills for their careers in pharmacy. Mercer is ranked among the top five private pharmacy schools in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Georgia Baptist College of Nursing (Atlanta): Nationally recognized, 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 exceptional leadership and professional development opportunities.

College of Health Professions (Atlanta): The College is composed of four departments: Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health and Clinical Medical Psychology. In addition to its degree offerings, the College offers post-professional residencies and fellowships. The College seeks to improve the health and quality of life of individuals and society through excellence in teaching, research and service.

ATHLETICS

Mercer is the only private university in Georgia to compete in Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and is a member of the historic Southern Conference. In the 2015-2016 academic year, 74 percent of Mercer student-athletes achieved a grade-point-average of 3.0 or better. The grade-point-average for all student athletes for the year was 3.349. Mercer's 18 intercollegiate teams include: men's baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer and tennis; and women's basketball, beach volleyball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, track and volleyball.

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Douglas County, Henry County, Newnan

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