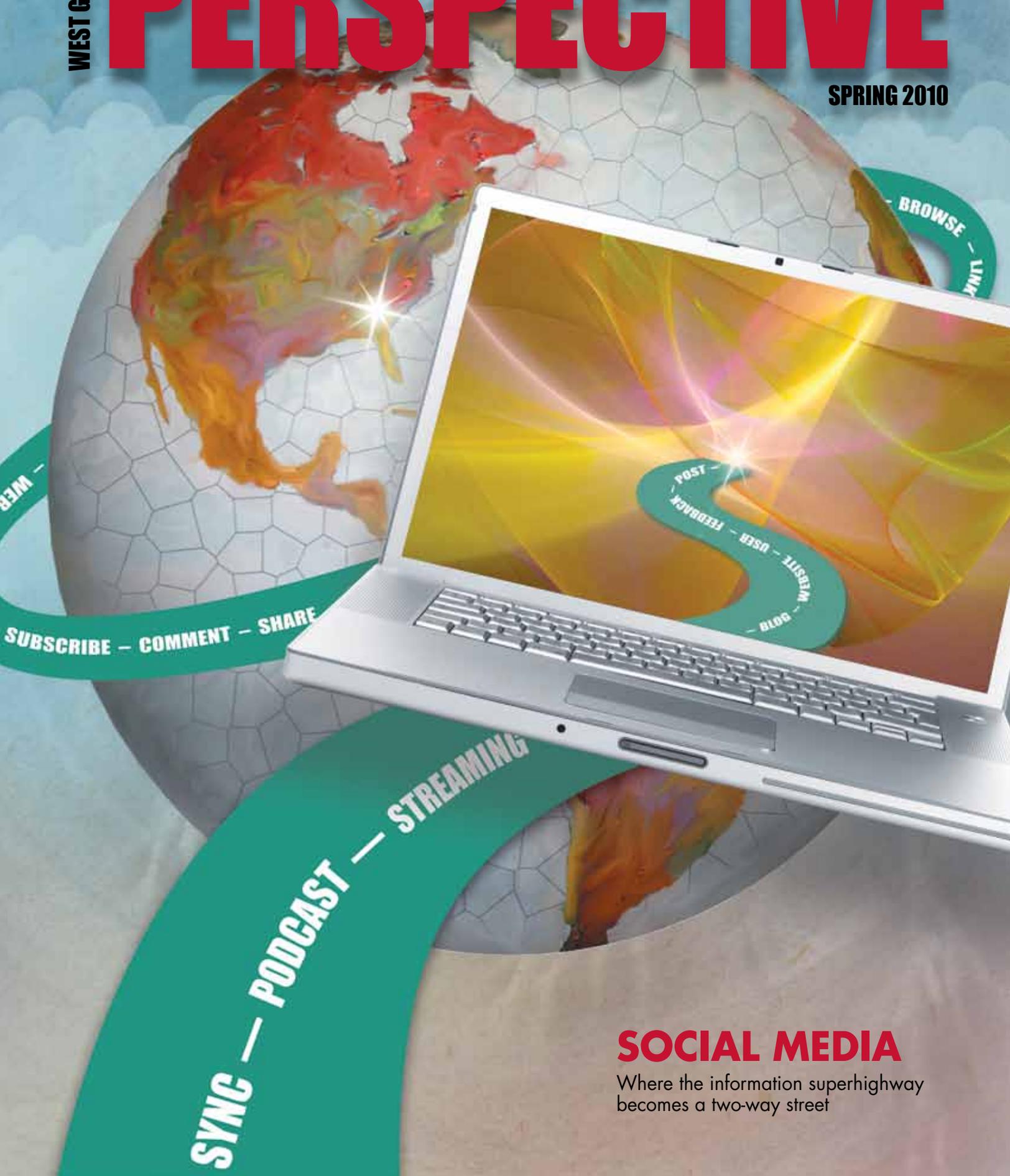


WEST GEORGIA

PERSPECTIVE

SPRING 2010



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SOCIAL MEDIA

Where the information superhighway becomes a two-way street



INGRAM LIBRARY

The Ingram Library is currently undergoing renovations that will create a more modern look, boast greater tools to facilitate student learning and include a recreation of the late Georgia House Speaker Thomas B. Murphy's state capitol office. This rendering offers a look at the completed facility. See related stories on page 4 and page 21 for more details.



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ON THE COVER

Social media has become a crucial method of communication between friends, family, co-workers and businesses. It has also greatly impacted education, from how students do homework to the way they interact with professors. To learn how UWG is adapting to this fast-paced world, check out the feature on page 16.

PARENTS

Help us keep West Georgia graduates well-informed. Forward the *Perspective* to your son or daughter, but first send the correct address or corrected mailing label for your West Georgia graduate to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA 30118-6100.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Beheruz N. Sethna
Professor of Business Administration
and President of the University

Graduates of the University of West Georgia live and work in states across the country and in countries around the world. But I think all alumni will have an interest in how their alma mater is responding to Georgia's goal of becoming the number one destination for entrepreneurs in the U.S.

Rep. Bob Smith and other members of the Georgia General Assembly have promoted this goal through a resolution requesting that four-year colleges and universities of the University System of Georgia develop and expand education for the support of science, innovation, technology, energy and new Georgia entrepreneurs. I think you will be impressed with the following examples of activities on our campus that are in concert with this ambitious distinction.

The Richards College of Business (RCOB) has a long history of providing assistance to regional entrepreneurs and small business owners. The RCOB offers courses in entrepreneurship, small business management and new venture management. In addition, there are numerous other courses that help small business owners and entrepreneurs organize, manage and market their businesses. Our nationally recognized faculty benefit from the Robert J. Stone Endowment for Entrepreneurial Studies and conduct research published in such outlets as *Business Journal for Entrepreneurs*, *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice* and *Journal of Applied Management and Entrepreneurship*.

The RCOB serves as home to one of the 17 Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) in the Georgia SBDC Network, providing training opportunities for entrepreneurs and consulting services in areas such as marketing, business management, financial projections, loan proposals, business plans, technology, business records and more. In the first eight months of 2009, our consultants were instrumental in assisting clients to secure well over a quarter of a million dollars in loan proceeds to help start, maintain or expand area small businesses.

The RCOB has received a pledge of \$1 million from BB&T Corp. to establish the Center for Ethics and Free Enterprise and the BB&T Lecture in Free Enterprise Series. Although the center is in its infancy, one component will be funding the RCOB award-winning Students in Free Enterprise team for campus and community projects on ethics, investment basics, financial literacy and entrepreneurship (see the complete story on the new center on page 19.)

The College of Arts and Sciences continues to make significant contributions to entrepreneurship in Georgia

principally through various academic departments including Computer Science, Geosciences and Physics.

Graduates of the Department of Computer Science are an integral part of the educated workforce that supports information technology companies throughout Georgia. Also, the department's programs provide exceptional opportunities for current workers from various companies in Georgia, regardless of their educational background, to retrain and retool for careers in information technology. These activities provide both training and the technological know-how that help businesses improve efficiency, productivity and the marketing of their products and services.

The Department of Physics' principal contributions to entrepreneurship in the state have been, and continue to be, in the areas of educational training and research. In the area of research, the department has undertaken some interesting projects that will contribute to the areas of energy innovation and technological advancement, such as the use of sunlight to produce hydrogen by electrolysis to operate a fuel cell, and analysis and modeling techniques which are useful for fostering technological innovation in various areas.

UWG hosts the only Board-approved Honors College in Georgia, and has rightfully earned that honor by virtue of its national accomplishments. While research is most often associated with graduate programs, the best universities in America have robust undergraduate research programs. At the annual undergraduate research competition of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), West Georgia has topped the nation in eight out of the past 12 years, establishing national dominance. While all the research papers are not in the STEM disciplines, many of them are, and some of them are in the field of business, assisting small businesses and entrepreneurs to enhance their customer base.

As you see from these examples, we are doing exceptional work, often of national caliber, but also of local significance to further the goal of making Georgia the number one destination for entrepreneurs. By making these accomplishments and those of other USG institutions widely known, the entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs across the USA will know that Georgia has a welcoming and supportive climate for entrepreneurship.

Sincerely,

PERSPECTIVE

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Newnan Center property transfers to University System

By Kylene Cepeda

The University of West Georgia's Newnan Center celebrated a property transfer last August after 11 years of leasing the property from the Coweta County Commission.

Located near I-85, the Newnan Center provides easy access to students enrolled from 46 counties. The center continues to grow, with additional room for buildings and classrooms. So far, the center consists of numerous conference rooms and classrooms, including a nursing skills lab equipped with hospital beds, equipment and simulators; a tiered lecture hall; three computer labs with a total of 74 stations; and a Student Informational Technology Services Lab where students may bring in their personal computers for free repair.

In the early 1980s, the 14-acre property was owned by the Georgia Power Company and used for solar research until 1990. Afterwards, Georgia Power built The Shenandoah Environment & Educational Center for the community, a center that provided educational activities for kindergarten through eighth grade for students. UWG was holding classes in Newnan and was invited to share the classroom and office space rent-free. The arrangement worked for almost 8 years.

In 1998, Georgia Power sold the property to the Coweta County Commission, who created an 11-year lease to keep UWG's growing off-campus center in operation. After the duration of the lease, the property was transferred to the University System. To learn more about the Newnan Center, visit www.nc.westga.edu.

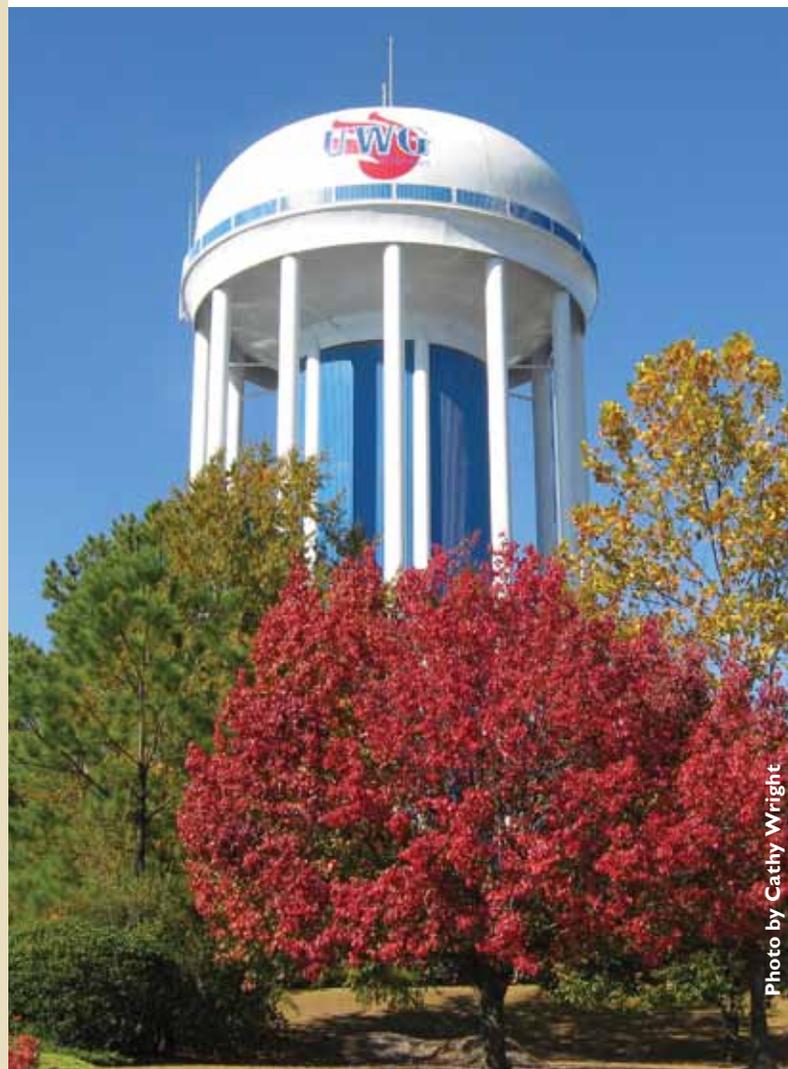


Photo by Cathy Wright

A water tower overlooking the Newnan Center campus proclaims the city's affinity for UWG.

Ingram Library renovation to provide greater resources for patrons



This artist's rendering offers a glimpse at what the new and improved Ingram Library will look like when renovations are complete.

By Duane Theobald

Research, studying and interacting with one's peers: these are just a few ways students utilize the Ingram Library every day at UWG. With thousands of students coming and going throughout the day, the library continues to serve the ever-changing needs of the student body. Now, thanks to both an energy

conservation grant and appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly, the library will receive the much-needed renovation that it deserves.

Originally built in 1968 and expanded in 1980, the Ingram Library has served its purpose by providing the necessary resources and space to allow students to pursue and further their academic careers. Unfortunately, as time progressed, students' needs have changed and the library has struggled to keep up with the demands.

Last semester, through an energy grant secured by UWG Campus Planning and Development, the library made some simple, yet necessary renovations to make the facility more environmentally savvy by replacing ceilings, lights and ductwork on both the second and third floors. This provides better lighting and should result in significant energy savings for the campus.

However, other changes are afoot for

the library, as additional renovations will begin this spring. According to Lorene Flanders, professor and dean of university libraries, the upcoming renovations will allow the facility to forge ahead and become the best resource possible for students.

"Libraries used to be strictly labeled 'quiet zones' where students could only work in isolation," said Flanders. "There has been a need to transform the library into a place for studying and working in collaboration with others and, with this renovation, we hope to accomplish just that."

Among the renovations are plans to integrate and offer more access to technology, particularly for students working on group and shared assignments and presentations. The additional resources will allow the library

"We want to help West Georgia move into a bright future full of possibilities."

— Lorene Flanders

conservation grant and appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly, the library will receive the much-needed renovation that it deserves.

Originally built in 1968 and expanded in 1980, the Ingram Library

to continue meeting the needs of UWG students in a modern way, the ultimate reason for the renovations.

“With the creation of such a technologically-infused environment, it is both my and the library staff’s hope that we foster and emphasize the idea of ‘academic excellence in a personal environment,’” said Flanders.

Additionally, the renovations will also make way for a Starbucks facility that will be housed on the main floor. Along with this special and exciting addition, a second entrance facing Love Valley and the Campus Center will be included near the Starbucks for easier access. With the many changes occurring, the library will seek funding to implement new hours that will allow for more student access and flexibility.

“The potential plan would be to follow a ‘24/5’ schedule,” said Flanders. “Essentially, the library would open Sunday through Thursday in a 24-hour capacity, closing only on Friday and Saturday evenings. We have taken students’ advice and, through everything we do, want to do what they want.”

Possibly the most unique addition to the Ingram Library will be a recreation of the iconic office of late House Speaker

Thomas B. Murphy. With much of the funding for the renovations coming from the Georgia General Assembly as a tribute to Murphy, the office has been planned as a focal point near Special Collections and the Center for Public History, which will relocate to the library from the Pafford Building.

“We have housed the political papers and a collection of memorabilia from the life of Speaker Murphy for some time,” said Flanders. “With this renovation, we can finally develop the office exhibit promised when the university accepted the Murphy collection.” The area will be designed to showcase state and regional political history and inspire civic and political involvement.

Great changes are edging closer for the library, as construction is slated to begin this spring. However, despite the extensive work that will be done, Flanders assures that business will go on as usual.

“We will continue to stay in service during all renovations,” said Flanders. “Students will still have access to study materials and other services that we provide. We also want to help West Georgia move into a bright future full of possibilities.”

UWG FACES



RITA WILSON HARRIS '93 '96

HOME: Douglasville

PROFESSION: Director of Human Resources, GreenbergFarrow

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT: Featured in *The Human Resource*, an official publication of the Society for Human Resource Management, Atlanta.

IN HER WORDS: “I love to help people solve problems. In my job, I’m a generalist. Over the course of a day I handle an array of different things. There’s never two days that are alike. I’m not boxed into a corner doing just accounting or just one part of HR. I’m always learning something new, there’s always a new project and there’s always a different human aspect that you haven’t considered or encountered before.”



New Ground-Floor Library Spaces

- A** Proposed Thomas B. Murphy Reading Room
- B** Thomas B. Murphy Office Re-creation
- C** Exhibit Space
- D** Entry Court
- E** Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections
- F** Special Collections Research Room

National Prescription: More Nurses

By Rob Douthit

America recently held a lengthy and sometimes contentious debate on how to improve its health care system, but one area in which there is widespread agreement is that the nation needs more nurses.

While the nursing shortage subsided somewhat during the economic difficulty of the past several months, projections show the problem worsening in coming years. According to a report in the medical journal *Health Affairs*, the U.S. shortfall in nurses could reach 260,000 by 2025.

In Georgia, there is a 15-18 percent vacancy rate of nurses in hospitals and nursing homes, the Georgia Nurses Association recently reported. The key reason behind the shortage is the aging of the population and the accompanying growth in health care needs. But another important reason is that fewer qualified students can be accepted into nursing programs because of a severe shortage of nursing faculty.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reports that in 2008-09, 49,948 qualified applicants were turned away from U.S. nursing schools. The primary reason? Nearly two-thirds of schools surveyed cited faculty shortages.

“Not having enough faculty members presents a huge barrier to our efforts to address the nursing shortage,” said Dr. Kathryn Grams, dean of the School of Nursing at UWG. “As our need for nurses grows, our ability to educate and train them is held back by not being able to bring an adequate number of faculty members on board.”



More than 175 students, faculty, alumni, friends and university administrators visited state legislators and senators on UWG Day at the Capitol. A key issue for discussion was the funding of a building for UWG's School of Nursing which would allow for an expansion of the program to produce more nurses for the region. Among the representatives visited was Rep. Sharon Cooper, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee.

Nurse educators need a master's degree to teach nursing at Georgia's community colleges, but the preferred degree for faculty at four-year institutions is a doctor of science in nursing or a nursing Ph.D.

“We want to expand, but we need faculty members with

doctorates to do so,” Grams said.

UWG is undertaking an effort to build a new facility for its nursing school to help meet the burgeoning demand of the state and region. Nurse educators are retiring more rapidly than they are being replaced and the gulf between practicing nurses and nursing faculty members is widening.

In Georgia, clinical programs require one faculty member to a maximum of 10 students. The AACN said that enrollment in entry-level baccalaureate programs in nursing rose 2.2 percent in 2008 compared with a year earlier. But enrollment in research-focused doctoral programs – the kind that can produce nursing faculty – rose by a scant 0.1 percent, or three students.

Graduate programs are more financially taxing, which can drive many student nurses to seek their licenses after completing an associate or bachelor degree, rather than continuing with costly classes. But financial considerations faced by nursing students extend to how much they get paid.

Teaching nursing after graduation is less lucrative than practicing it. While a nursing instructor can earn a starting salary in the range of \$45,000 - \$50,000 a year, a registered nurse’s base pay can be around \$65,000 - \$70,000 annually.

“It’s harder to attract candidates to join a nursing faculty when you look at the

“Not having enough faculty members presents a huge barrier to our efforts to address the nursing shortage.”

— Dr. Kathryn Grams

disparity in pay with practicing nurses,” Grams said. “Other factors come in to play when graduates make their career choices also, such as scheduling, but from a salary standpoint, there is a difference.”

In Georgia and other states, a few ideas have been discussed to try to address the nursing faculty and salary shortfalls. In Congress, one proposal would allow for grants for schools of nursing to raise the number of faculty and students.

Other plans involving educational partnerships and external funding sources have been weighed, as well as a program to launch a large-scale recruiting campaign and encouraging institutions to offer more online or evening/weekend graduate degree programs. But nursing school administrators surveyed by the Higher Education Commission overwhelmingly said that requesting higher salaries for nursing instructors and offering retention bonuses would make the biggest difference.

UWG FACES



KERRY GILBERT '88

HOME: Huntersville, N.C.

PROFESSION: Media relations manager, NASCAR Sprint Cup Series sponsorship

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT: Gilbert has taken on the role of representing Sprint in its sponsorship of NASCAR after having spent many years working with individual driver’s teams.

IN HIS WORDS: “After doing team public relations for about 11 years, I was looking for a new challenge. Now I am involved in incorporating the Sprint brand with NASCAR. Sprint has made a strong commitment to the sport, and I think people see that. We are providing the Sprint experience to all of the fans, using different methods such as social media, having a presence in victory lane and making track appearances.

“Fans realize that it takes sponsorship for this sport to work. They are more loyal than the non-NASCAR fan Sprint customers. Sprint NASCAR fans are much more likely to not walk away from our service at the end of a contract because they see more of a connection to our brand.”

Loving what you do

Umminger emphasizes the importance of the art of writing

By Josh Sewell



For six years, Dr. Alison Umminger, associate professor of English, has been helping UWG students understand the value of subjects like literature, creative writing and critical theory. A popular educator among students and peers alike, she has made the most of her time here at the university, teaching numerous classes, co-authoring two novels and mentoring future writers with tough but realistic guidance.

Natalie Brooks, a senior from Douglasville, commented on how Umminger has helped her progress as an English major and aspiring writer. “I’ve had her for several classes now and she’s one of the more interestingly quirky and motivating professors I’ve been privileged to experience while attending UWG,” she said. “She not only instructs in the classroom, but is always open and willing to advise her students beyond class hours. Dr. Umminger has truly pushed me to begin to break through as the writer I am under all of my convolution.”

Shelley Decker, a graduate student from Newnan and budget and personnel coordinator in the Department of English, agrees. “I really enjoyed her class on film noir,” she said. “I appreciated how excited she was about the subject. She was always willing to answer questions, brainstorm with you or just chat. She is a great teacher who thinks beyond assignments to how her class can move students toward their long-term goals.”

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio and raised in Arlington, Va., Umminger graduated from Harvard University in 1992 and went on to earn postgraduate degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia and Indiana University. While at Harvard, she also served as president of the influential Harvard Lampoon, the undergraduate humor publication and social organization founded in 1876.

Notable Lampoon alumni include John

Updike, Conan O’Brien, B.J. Novak and numerous writers for television shows like *Saturday Night Live*, *The Simpsons*, *Seinfeld*, *The Office* and *30 Rock*.

“Being in charge of that organization makes any student I’ve had at West Georgia not a challenge,” she said. “Once you’ve had *Seinfeld* writers giving you their best when they hate your guts, you can deal with anything students throw at you.”

The opportunity to teach at UWG brought Umminger to the Atlanta area, where the warm atmosphere the institution provided for both students and educators took her by surprise.

“I really like West Georgia and I think the students here are great,” Umminger said. “I’m impressed by the demographic. It’s a diverse school and I like that there are a lot of first-generation students because they’re really interested in learning. You go to some schools and all the students look the same. That’s not the case here.”

She also had extremely positive things to say about her peers at UWG. “I don’t know exactly what I expected, but I’m constantly surprised by the caliber of my colleagues,” she said. “The other professors here are so good. I appreciate how committed the other people in the English department are.”

While continuing to teach at the university, Umminger also has some projects on the horizon, including two novels that she is working on. “Writers are always writing,” she said. “I’m constantly throwing stuff out there and seeing what sticks.”

And what advice would she give to students or recent graduates who are looking to break into the publishing world? “Do something else!” she said with a laugh. “I’m kidding, but it’s a really tough business right now. You have to love the craft of writing, but you also have to be willing to do something else at the same time. Fortunately, there are a lot of professions where good writing comes in handy.”

Dr. Alison Umminger, associate professor of English, has established a reputation with students and her peers as an excellent educator.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT gets online boost

Collaborative new UWG website lists community volunteer opportunities

By Kathleen Wagstaff

Anike Ahmed began volunteering when she was in high school, averaging about 10 hours a week. As a UWG student, she has been active on campus with her volunteer work and recently played a part in upgrading a local playground for Hands On Carroll County.

“The most rewarding aspect of volunteering has to be the feeling of accomplishment afterwards,” said Ahmed. “I get to feel as if I am doing something to benefit the community I live in. I would encourage everyone to volunteer. Although it can be time consuming, it allows you to feel like you have helped and it can be both rewarding and fun.”

It is now a little bit easier for those associated with West Georgia to find out how they can make a difference thanks to a new civic engagement website created by UWG faculty, staff and students. The site, located at www.westga.edu/civicengagement, is a collaborative initiative between the Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Department of Political Science and Planning and the EXCEL Center.

The site boasts a centralized database for faculty, staff and students. The campus community will be able to retrieve information on any civic engagement program or project in which departments, organizations and clubs are involved. Communities on and off campus may send in volunteer opportunities to post on the site by sending an e-mail to civiceng@westga.edu.

UWG has also been a participant in the American Democracy Project since its inception seven years ago. Sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and *The New York Times*, the goal of the Democracy Project is to promote



UWG students Jose Gonzalez (left) and Anike Ahmed volunteer regularly in the community. They recently spent their time with a Hands On Carrollton project.

civic engagement.

The multi-campus initiative focuses on higher education’s role in preparing the next generation of informed, engaged citizens for our democracy.

West Georgia’s faculty and staff worked together to revitalize this initiative on campus, said Dr. Sandra Stone, acting Vice President of Academic Affairs.

“A first step in this new initiative was to bring together individuals and groups involved in some type of civic engagement and identify areas of shared interest and potential collaboration to maximize impact,” Stone said. “Civic engagement helps students understand the importance of responsible citizenship in the sustainability of democracy, without which, higher

education as we know it would not exist. Civic engagement also helps in building and maintaining healthy, productive communities on and off campus.”

Dr. Robert Schaefer, chair of the Department of Political Science and Planning, said it is a continuation of the volunteerism spirit already on campus.

“The purpose of the new website is to help facilitate civic engagement on campus and in the community” Schaefer said. “Many different groups are already involved with noteworthy projects and our goal is to make these groups aware of each other’s activities. By so doing, we hope to promote and support these projects.”

Volunteer opportunities listed on the website include contributions of time to a senior community, an animal shelter, a soup kitchen and an assisted living home. It also lists classroom projects that have contributed to a higher quality of life on and off campus.

RED and BLUE through four generations

By Sally Roberts

Faculty and staff have been commenting for years about how often they see children and grandchildren of their former students on campus, and with good reason. West Georgia is now graduating students who represent the fourth generation of their families to attend the university.

Recognized as the first of UWG's fourth-generation graduates is Candice Saylor Swett '06, whose graduation follows that of her great grandfather, Troy Chambers '29; her grandfather, Zane Delano Chambers '52, '60; and her mother, Alice Diane Chambers Saylor '79 '83.

“It was a given that I'd go to West Georgia for my studies.”

— Zane Delano Chambers '52, '60

The family traces its history back to the institutions days as an A&M school, when Candice's great grandfather Troy Chambers tied as valedictorian when he graduated in 1929. In his day, students helped with farm chores on the campus, sometimes tending row crops and milking cows.

Chambers' wife, Ila Eley Chambers, left school during the Depression but returned after their youngest son graduated. She earned her B.S. in education in 1962 and went on to teach in the Heard County school system.

In 1933, West Georgia became a junior college and the second generation of Chambers enrolled. Troy and Ila's son, Zane Delano (named after Roosevelt), received the Associate of Arts degree in 1952. There were 40 in his graduating class.

“It was a given that I'd go to West Georgia for my studies,” he said while visiting in Sanford Hall on a recent winter afternoon.

He remembers his dorm days in Adamson Hall and his student job at the campus post office. Dr. Irvine Ingram, West Georgia's then-president, took an interest in the younger Chambers' education, finding the job for him.

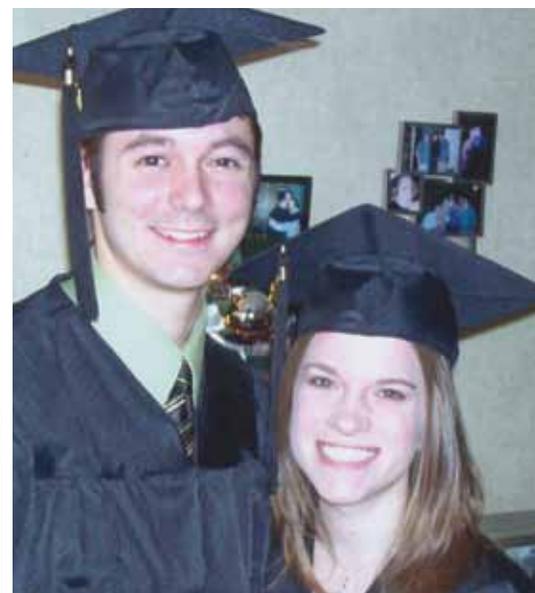
“Dad assumed everyone should work for their spending money,” Chambers said.

When West Georgia became a four-year institution in 1957, Chambers returned for another degree. He still remembers Ingram's words for him at the 1960 commencement.

“When Dr. Ingram shook my hand again, he asked, ‘How many times does this make for you?’”

After teaching elementary school and serving as pastor at a church in Lithia Springs, Chambers has retired and recently published his third book. A resident of Franklin, Chambers and his wife now attend Tabernacle Baptist Church in Carrollton, and he teaches Sunday School at Cottage Landing, a retirement community nearby. He has been a columnist for the *Carroll Star News*, and has continued to take various classes and seminars.

Three generations of UWG grads (left photo) celebrate following Diane Chambers Saylor's (center) 1979 commencement, including her grandmother, Ila Ely Chambers (left), and her father, Zane Chambers (right). Candice Saylor Swett (right photo), seen here at 2006 commencement with her husband, Ryan, represents the fourth generation of her family to attend UWG.





Albert Jones (center) has seen four generations of his family attend UWG, including his nephew Ray M. Jones (deceased), his great-niece, Eleanor Jones Bostwick (left) and his great-great niece, Sheryl Bostwick Marlar (right).

“Never stop learning,” he advises.

Following her father, Saylor received two degrees from UWG and was the first to be recognized by the institution as a third-generation graduate when she received her undergraduate degree in 1979. Her daughter Candice leads the way for fourth-generation grads. Candice received her degree in elementary education in 2006 and teaches in Temple.

J. Albert Jones '36 is another alumnus whose family legacy is tied to UWG through four generations. The youngest of nine brothers and sisters, Jones graduated just three years after the school transitioned from an A&M secondary institution to a two-year college.

Jones, who recently celebrated his 98th birthday, remembers that the A&M school had a dairy and hatchery, raised hogs and grew row crops, and that some of the facilities, including the old barn, were still standing during his student days. Facilities consisted only of those buildings now on Front Campus Drive, and a gymnasium building located further back. Traffic was light; only five or six cars would be seen on campus on a typical day.

“The teachers were outstanding,” he said. “It’s telling that several of them went on to become college presidents.”

He mentioned three professors specifically — Dr. James Boyd, Dr. William Gunn and Dr. Robert Strozier. They should be familiar to today’s students because of UWG buildings that bear their names.

After graduation, Jones taught school for five years and then returned to a successful farming career at the family’s 700-plus-

acre spread. He also became one of the first presidents of the Carroll County Farm Bureau. His endowed scholarships through the University of West Georgia Foundation have helped many students attend UWG since 1985.

His nephew, Ray M. Jones (who died in June 1989), represents the family’s second generation at West Georgia. He attended from 1936 to 1939, when he studied mechanical drawing, but left after being drafted into the Army during World War II. He was among the first ground troops sent into Nagasaki,

“It’s telling that several (of my teachers) went on to become college presidents.”

— J. Albert Jones '36

Japan, after it was hit with an atomic bomb. He later went into the dairy business and retired in 1987.

Ray’s daughter, Eleanor Jones Bostwick '62, became the family’s third-generation student at West Georgia. She graduated with an associate’s degree in business education and spent 30 years with the Carroll County school system before retiring in 2006.

Her daughter, Sheryl Bostwick Marlar '90, represents the family’s fourth generation at UWG, earning a B.S. degree in criminal justice. Currently the coordinator of office services for West Georgia’s Office of University Communications and Marketing, she recently began her 20th year at the institution.

Larrew and Billman make higher education A FAMILY AFFAIR

By Jordanna Christie

Jonette Larrew '07 and her daughter, Constance Billman '07, made the adventure of going to college a family affair. Both began taking classes in fall 2003 at the University of West Georgia. This was an exciting time for Constance who was fresh out of high school and eager to start her college career, and was also a time of joy for her mother, who was restarting her schooling after taking time off for family.

Larrew and Billman both remember their time at UWG as special, and unforgettable. Having the chance to take several classes together was an experience Billman referred to as comforting.

“...she was different from my other peers, in the sense that she was a positive influence always pushing me to do my best.”

— Constance Billman '07

“I always knew she would be there to push me in the right direction,” said Billman. “When we would study for classes together she was different from my other peers, in the sense that she was a positive influence always pushing me to do my best.”

Larrew’s return to college life was not strictly books and studying. She participated in the university’s study abroad program to France, where she spent almost an entire month touring various cities and learning French culture. Larrew even accompanied her daughter to a friend’s house party where she described the event as “interesting to say the least.”

Larrew and Billman both graduated from UWG in spring 2007. Larrew received a Bachelor of Arts in French and English, and Billman received Bachelor of Science in Psychology, with a minor in French.

Larrew and Billman both believe they made the right decision in choosing UWG. The fact that they experienced college with each other was an added benefit.

“Professors like Gregory Fraser [associate professor of English] you just cannot find any where else,” said Larrew. “He is a really special person.”

Billman, also has fond memories of her time studying at UWG, and feels the professors made a difference.

“UWG’s psychology department is different from any other department in the sense that its teaching style focuses on the



Jonette Larrew (right) and her daughter, Constance Billman, look back fondly on the time they spent attending UWG together. The two say they often worked as a team, always pushing each other to succeed.

human experience, instead of just the academic experience,” said Billman.

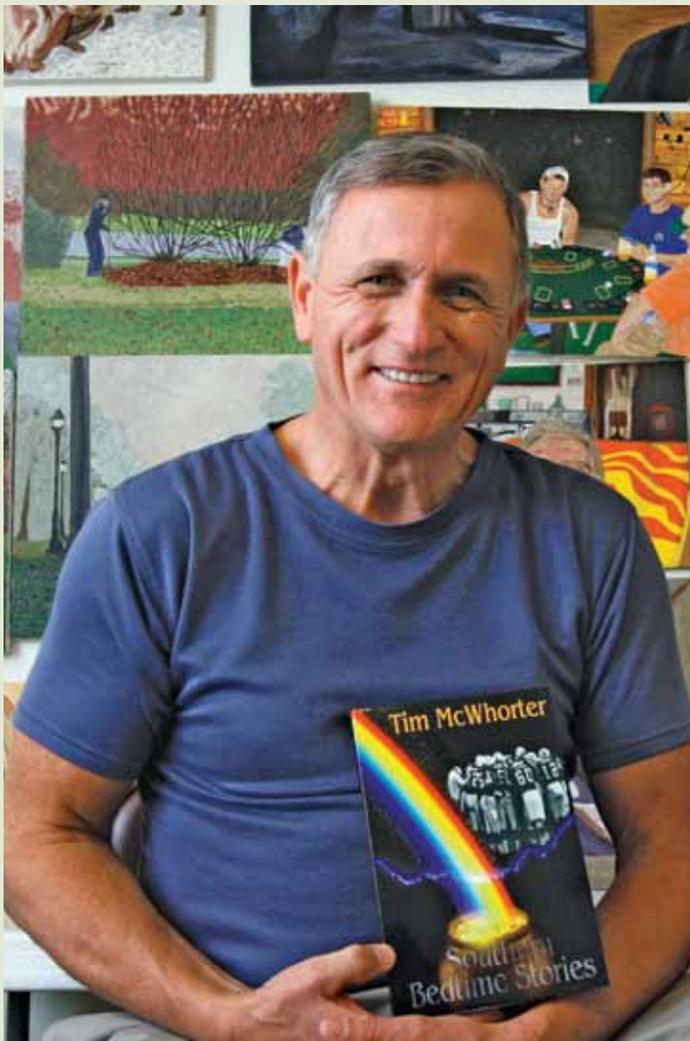
They both have moved on to their future endeavors, but still maintain strong ties to their alma mater. Jonette who is currently enrolled in grad school at UWG, also works for the English department, and Constance currently works at Polk County Department of Family and Children’s Services as a social service case manager, specializing in foster care.

Each still have strong ties to UWG, and reminisce about their times at UWG together. “Our graduation day was one of the best days of my life,” said Larrew.

Tim McWhorter: Renaissance Man

“The gifted men of the Renaissance sought to develop skills in all areas of knowledge, in physical development, in social accomplishments and in the arts.”

— *Encyclopedia Britannica*



By Lisa Ledbetter

Tim McWhorter, project superintendent in UWG’s Department of Architecture, Engineering and Construction Project Services, certainly meets the description of Renaissance man. He is a writer, a painter, a cook, a photographer, an engineer, a minister, a sports enthusiast and an athlete.

His first book, *Southern Bedtime Stories*, weaves these accomplishments together to reveal the fabric of his life. It is not a children’s book as the title might imply. For 12 years, McWhorter has interacted with participants on a sports blog, often late in the evening. To enlighten them about growing up in the South, Bowdon, Ga. to be exact, he started writing them a bedtime story.

“Some things build up in your heart and mind and won’t go away,” McWhorter explained about how he began writing. “I started thinking about how I could paint a picture with words.”

It is not unusual that he would think in terms of painting. McWhorter has no idea how many paintings he has completed since he picked up a brush in 2002.

“I painted a mural on three walls of my son’s bedroom and then painted an angel on a wall in another room. That’s when my wife Kathryn said I had to switch to canvas,” he said with a laugh.

Painting led to photography. He needed to document various projects for his position at UWG and his eye for painting taught him how to arrange and frame a photograph.

“When you spend two to three months on a painting, you learn to transfer that mindset to the camera.”

McWhorter’s professional life has taken him from manufacturing to engineering, from driving an 18-wheeler to the Navy. He is also a certified lay speaker in the Rome/Carrollton District of the United Methodist Church.

“I have had the privilege of preaching, leading Bible studies, facilitating Sunday School classes and speaking at funerals,” he said. It was during his service at a three-day spiritual weekend that he was able to utilize yet another talent — cooking.

“I am the youngest of five children and I’ve been cooking since I was eight or nine years old,” McWhorter said. “When I was assigned to the kitchen crew during this spiritual weekend, I transitioned from my kitchen at home to my first experience of cooking in a commercial kitchen for 110 people. My mother-in-law Susan Mount calls me a gourmet chef.”

McWhorter admits that his love of cooking found him a little overweight. So, as any true Renaissance man would do, he started to sharpen his skills in physical development. In the past year and a half, he has lost 45 pounds through exercise, weight lifting, walking, biking and a change in eating habits.

“I had been wanting to do something about my health for years and it took me over a year to get this desire from my head to my heart and once my heart took over, it was easy,” McWhorter said. “I had high blood pressure, an irregular heartbeat, acid reflux and high cholesterol and now all of these issues have dissipated. My doctor told me I had cured myself.”

With all of these accomplishments to build on, the future should hold a great deal of promise for this Renaissance man.

UWG classrooms extend around the world

By Rob Douthit

Learning outside of the classroom has its advantages — as does learning outside of the country. There is plenty of proof of this at the University of West Georgia, which has a high number of students who study abroad each semester.

Study abroad programs are open to all students at UWG, and the cost is affordable. In fact, most programs cost the same as or less than being on campus. Students who study abroad remain qualified for all scholarships, grants and financial aid they would receive on campus. Airfare, insurance and an application fee are the only extra costs.

Programs include core courses for freshmen and sophomores, along with semester and summer programs that include supporting topics and major courses for juniors and seniors. The amount of time a student chooses to go abroad can vary, from short-term programs of only 10 days to full-year programs. Students can travel during spring break, winter break and Maymester, with programs available at more than 70 universities in 33 countries.

Cheryl Nye, a geography major, traveled last summer to the Balkan region of southeastern Europe. She visited Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro. Her visit provided her with an opportunity to see areas steeped in history that continue to evolve today.

“Everyone was very gracious,” said Nye. “Americans don’t go there very much, but if you go, you have to be open to a totally different experience.”

A survey from the Institute for the International Education of Students showed that studying abroad has beneficial advantages for the individual. Study abroad programs increased students’ self-confidence and enhanced their interest in academics. Programs also had a lasting impression on students’ worldview, helping them to better understand their own cultural values while creating networking opportunities.

Another study, the Georgia Learning Outcomes of Students Studying Abroad Research Initiative, found that students who have studied abroad improve academically upon their return. That study surveyed more than 30,000 students over a 10-year period and found an improvement in skills, grades and four-year graduation rates among students who went abroad.

UWG offers a variety of study abroad programs, with language immersions in Mexico; Tours, France; and Oldenburg, Germany. Other curriculum offered includes an art program in Bayeux, France, a management and marketing program in Britain, a history and culture program in Japan, a business program in China and a global studies program in South Africa.

“The key thing that makes UWG’s study abroad program unique is that they originate from the departments,” said Dr. William Schaniel, an economics professor who leads International Services and Programs. “They all have an academic beginning point.

“For instance, the art program is an extension of all of the phases of the art program here where students are able to paint, sculpt or do ceramics,” he said.

Students attending a Study Abroad Fair held recently at UWG were excited about the possibilities of future experiences.

“I would love to travel around the world and be immersed in different cultures,” said Deni Harling, a UWG student. “The cultural experience of living in another country is invaluable.”

“THE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE OF LIVING IN ANOTHER COUNTRY IS INVALUABLE.”

— Deni Harling



The town of Gdansk, Poland has a beautiful mixture of urban life and history that is popular among tourists.

Photo by Kelsi DuChene

IN HER OWN WORDS



Kelsi DuChene, an Alpharetta senior, describes her experience studying in Finland and how it provided an education tough to get in a classroom.

My father's profound comment is the best way to describe the reactions of my friends and family when I told them I was going to study abroad in Turku. After failing in my attempt to find books of Finland in the two largest bookstores in the city, my father abruptly asked, "Isn't that a sign you shouldn't go there?"

I must have answered the question "Why Finland?" hundreds of times and my answer never varies. To be honest, London was actually my first choice to study abroad in. But once I was in Finland, I discovered there is no other place I would rather have been. It was safe, different, and — most importantly — people speak English!

To describe Turku in words is a creative challenge; the weather is lovely, the people are beautiful, the food is healthy, the air is fresh, the fashion unique, individuality overrides culture trends, acceptance is allowed, history remains, bikes outnumber vehicles and the parties are endless. There is something about Europe that makes it so photogenic. Everything seems more vivid and full of life. My camera often ran out of batteries from attempting to capture the beauty this city radiates.

The weather in August and September was unusually warm and sunny, which created a wonderful introduction to the city and made sightseeing enjoyable. My Finnish tutor, who contacted me months before my arrival, picked me up from the

airport and helped me establish a bank account, a new cell phone, and showed me to my apartment. She was the best resource to have for the insider's view of the country.

Traveling in Europe is convenient and pretty affordable — in a few hours you can be completely immersed in a different country with its own currency, language, history and characteristics. While studying in Finland I traveled to Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Sweden a few times. I loved the flexibility of life and the stress-free environment. People never appeared to be in a rush, and they took the time to enjoy the sunshine and socialize with one another. Another attribute of Turku that I grew to love is that it has few restaurant and clothing chains in comparison to the States. Each café has its own personality and there are a plethora of individual stores to discover.

Participating in UWG's study abroad program has helped me gain confidence, independence, understanding and acceptance of different cultures and customs. Being able to communicate and express myself to individuals who do not speak English as their native language and have dissimilar lifestyles can be both an enjoyable and frustrating process. After so many years in the standard school system, education can get a bit mundane. The opportunity to learn in a new environment

While studying abroad in Finland, DuChene also visited Stockholm, Sweden (left), discovered the affordability of Smart Cars and met her mentor, Joanna (bottom right), for tea in the small town of Naantali.



is exciting and increases my interest in the courses.

I am so thankful for the experience and enjoyed every day I was there. Each morning I had to remind myself to not take the unexpected moments for granted because I had become accustomed to the pure joy of the spontaneous and simple pleasures of life. The important thing to remember is that it is not where you go that matters, but what you learn and experience that makes studying abroad so life-changing.

Communication's Two-Way Street

Social media lets users produce, as well as consume, information

By Kylene Cepeda and Rob Douthit

The information age sure isn't what it used to be. Remember the early days of the Internet, when we were fascinated just to surf, point, click and read? We were spellbound at the notion of having information available at our fingertips, delivered nearly as quickly as we could type, or perhaps as quickly as our dial-up modem could transport it.

Nowadays, though, it's not just about what we can get from the Internet, it's also about what we can give. The era of social media is here. Social media is loosely defined as technologies that allow people to share content online. Text, pictures, sound and video can all be uploaded with tools that let us all be producers, instead of just consumers, of digital content.

Social media brands, such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, have become common terms in everyday language thanks to their widespread popularity. Businesses, social groups, government agencies and even academic institutions have become some of the biggest users of social media in order to reach their audiences in new ways.

"When you're using social media, you are able to communicate with individuals who then communicate with their friends," said Dr. Amber Smallwood, assistant professor of mass communications at UWG. "You are becoming part of a friendship network, and information that you share with individuals gets passed along to their friends instantaneously."

That kind of rapid distribution of a message can be quite valuable to an organization, but it comes with a risk that old-fashioned, one-way message delivery didn't carry.

When you speak to your audiences now with social media, be prepared for them to speak back. And it might not always be exactly what you want to hear.

But communications experts say that in the long run, that's a good thing.



Dr. Amber Smallwood (left), assistant professor of mass communications, talks about social media with student Jordanna Christie.

The ability to receive honest feedback in a timely manner from customers and prospective customers is invaluable, they say.

People have become much more discerning in how they process the many messages they receive from organizations that are trying to sell them something or gain their support.

So when those messages are coming not just from the organization, but also from real people, it seems to carry more authenticity.

"We don't trust advertising as much – we are relying less and less on mass media to help us make decisions and sort through

“WHEN YOU’RE USING SOCIAL MEDIA, YOU ARE ... PART OF A FRIENDSHIP NETWORK, AND INFORMATION THAT YOU SHARE WITH INDIVIDUALS GETS PASSED ALONG TO THEIR FRIENDS INSTANTANEOUSLY.”

— DR. AMBER SMALLWOOD

information on a daily basis,” Smallwood said. “We’re relying more and more on the judgment of our friends, of our peers, or people we see as opinion leaders, and social media will allow universities to start to penetrate those friendship circles and get in touch with those opinion leaders.”

Indeed within the past several months, UWG has embraced social media, starting a Facebook page (on Facebook.com, search University of West Georgia), a Twitter account (log on to Twitter.com, search uwgmedia), a YouTube channel (click on “Channels” and search uwgucm) and a blog (uwgmedia.blogspot.com).

Those tools allow the university to continue to spread its message, and receive messages from current and prospective students, donors, alumni and others in the community.



RECONNECT WITH UWG ONLINE

Online Community (www.alumniconnections.com/westga.edu)

Facebook (University of West Georgia)

Twitter (UWGMedia)

YouTube (UWGUCM channel)

Blog (uwgmedia.blogspot.com)

SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!

As we continue to take advantage of technology as a way of overcoming unprecedented budget cuts, e-mail has become even more vital to communication between UWG and its alumni. To stay informed, send a brief e-mail with your updated contact information to alumni@westga.edu. We assure you that our e-list is not sold or used for other marketing purposes. That's our promise to you!

“I think they allow UWG to see who is interested in the university. Whose interest they’ve already got, whose interest they need to pursue by looking at who follows them on Twitter, or who’s their friend on Facebook,” Smallwood said. “They are able to see who’s following them and who they’re not quite reaching out to and maybe target those future messages, those future campaigns to those groups while still retaining the interest of the folks that they’ve been able to acquire so far.”

Social media allows, or more accurately, encourages, organizations to get away from the idea that everything they do is perfect, experts say. If you lie or exaggerate to the public in a social media forum, you’ll likely get called on it, they say.

The real messages demanded and distributed by social media users are therefore more transparent than those seen in traditional marketing methods.

But in the end, that’s what helps build and maintain a solid reputation and lasting message.

It is no longer possible to write off social media as just another fad. As one of the fastest means of communication out there, it offers benefits that are being put to use by individuals and businesses in many different ways.

In tough times, Annual Fund giving is more important than ever

By Frank Pritchett

Amid the challenges of a nationwide economic recession, the UWG Foundation, Inc. raised more than \$2.2 million during the 2009 calendar year. The money will support student scholarships, capital and program improvements, technology and campus infrastructure at West Georgia. However, this reflects an eight percent drop from the previous year's fundraising total.

Private fundraising has taken on a whole new level of importance as the university's state budget continues to shrink while the student body reached an all-time high of 11,500 in the fall.

According to Michael Ruffner, vice president for university advancement, UWG's state-supported budget has been reduced by 20 percent over the past two years. That is roughly \$12 million. University officials expect the tight budget situation to continue.



Scholarships to support students remain a top priority among the Annual Fund's expanded gift categories.

Expanded Annual Fund Gift Designations

- ▣ Scholarships
- ▣ College of Arts and Sciences
- ▣ Richards College of Business
- ▣ College of Education
- ▣ Graduate School
- ▣ Honors College
- ▣ Ingram Library
- ▣ School of Nursing
- ▣ Newnan Campus
- ▣ University Athletics
- ▣ Young Alumni \$10 for 10

“It is imprudent at best for universities to rely on single source revenue streams,” Ruffner said. “All financial avenues — tuition and fees, state allocations, grants, intellectual capital, federal appropriations — must be explored and developed.”

To become more efficient and effective, Ruffner has worked with his staff to retool the UWG Foundation's Annual Fund, which is the source for most student scholarship funding. Gifts to the Annual Fund have historically come from alumni and friends, as well as the business community in the greater west Georgia region.

The 2009 Annual Fund, which is reflected in the total fundraising number, garnered more than \$549,000 from approximately 3,000 alumni and friends.

In 2010, there will be a new focus on college-based appeals that will provide alumni and friends more choices as to where they direct their Annual Fund gifts.

“Given the economic challenges facing Georgia now and in the near future, private philanthropy is more important than ever to UWG,” said Ruffner. “Private funding can help offset some of the financial strain on the university in these economic times, and it can help us raise the bar even higher in terms of educational delivery.”

New Ethics and Free Enterprise Center focuses on *DOING THE RIGHT THING*

By Rob Douthit

Is it really possible for a company to do well if it is also doing good?

Business ethicists say so, and despite the numerous corporate scandals of the past few years, they want to continue to spread the message that profitability should not come without the responsibility to play by the rules and make communities better.

That message will surely be an underlying theme of the new Center for Ethics and Free Enterprise at UWG's Richards College of Business.

The center, created thanks to a pledge of \$1 million from the BB&T Corporation, will foster a comprehensive and ongoing discussion of the platforms of capitalism and free enterprise.

"Business ethics are more important today than ever before," said Dr. Faye S. McIntyre, RCOB dean. "People expect more from corporate leaders than just running companies that make a lot of money. They are held to a higher standard."

BB&T's donation, the largest in the history of the RCOB, is intended to teach students that there is more to success in business than what shows up on the bottom line.

"This program will emphasize our shared interest with the University of West Georgia in giving students a hands-on perspective on capitalism and free markets, a better understanding of our economy

and an enhanced ability to make meaningful contributions to the world," said BB&T West Georgia Area executive Tammy Hughes.

The center will generate faculty and student research and new business courses. It will also fund the business college's award-winning Students in Free Enterprise team for campus and community projects on ethics, investment basics, financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

The lecture series, which will be open to the public, will focus on core values and ethical foundations of free enterprise and issues facing business management and policy makers.

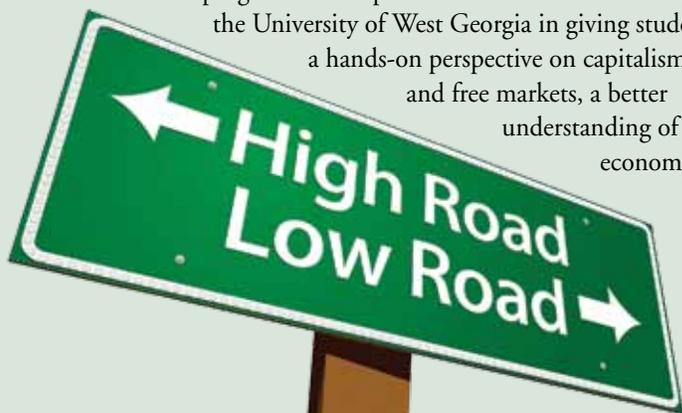
"The scandals of the past few years have been a huge black eye for business," McIntyre said. "They have cast a shadow on a handful of people who did really bad things, while most people in business were doing the right things."

But McIntyre said the scandals have also served as something of a wakeup call to students recently by letting them know that a win-at-all-costs strategy can often lead to trouble.

"Up until the last couple of years, students thought they were going to do whatever it takes to make as much money as possible. They now are much more sensitized to the downside of what happens if you cut corners."

That lesson will be underscored by the curriculum of the new center, she said.

"It will help us teach what business leaders call softer skills – how you operate a good business that is not just successful, but is doing good," McIntyre said.



"IT WILL HELP US TEACH...HOW YOU
OPERATE A GOOD BUSINESS
THAT IS NOT JUST SUCCESSFUL,
BUT IS **DOING GOOD.**"

— DR. FAYE S. MCINTYRE

DEVELOPMENTS

Scholarship established to honor Wagner

Almost 35 years ago, Dr. Donald Wagner was hired as an assistant professor of political science at West Georgia. His tenure has touched thousands of students' lives in teaching, advisement, his personal commitment to their needs, and as Honors College dean. He has also provided dedicated service to the UWG administration and Georgia education.

As Wagner approaches retirement, he is being recognized for his remarkable advocacy in providing academically gifted students an opportunity to grow and excel. UWG is establishing the Donald Wagner Endowed Honors Scholarship, to last in perpetuity. The scholarship will continue to encourage bright students to enroll at UWG and will recognize its most outstanding students.

Wagner began teaching honors courses over 32 years ago and has taught one every year since. He began heading the honors program when he served as its committee chair in the 1980s. In 1994, his title and responsibilities grew to director, and 15 years later, Wagner led the promotion of establishing the University System of Georgia's *only* Honors College, which currently enrolls over 560 students.

He has also been instrumental in leading a staff and Board of Trustees directing the Advanced Academy of Georgia from its original 30 students in 1995 to almost tripling its size today.



During his time as Honors College dean, Dr. Donald Wagner has been a remarkable advocate in providing academically gifted students the opportunity to grow and excel.

Both programs have developed an international reputation, drawing exceptionally gifted students from Asia, Africa, Europe, South America and all over the United States.

Donations toward this special scholarship are tax-deductible. For more information, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 678-839-6582.



Fans cheer on the Wolves during the first season of play in University Stadium.

Chair-back Program at University Stadium to support Athletic Complex

UWG is pleased to offer the Chair-back Program, enabling chairs located in the priority seating section of University Stadium to be named in the honor of an individual, family or business. Donors will have first access to their named seat with the purchase of pre-season tickets.

All naming contributions support the construction and completion of the Athletic Complex, which helps attract students and support the local and regional economy. For more information on available naming opportunities, contact Nicole Worthington at the University of West Georgia Foundation, Inc. at 678-245-0321.

Murphy Memorial Fund to enhance civic programs

UWG's Ingram Library is currently undergoing an \$8 million renovation that includes a re-creation of the late Georgia House Speaker Thomas B. Murphy's state capitol office. The University of West Georgia Foundation, Inc. accepted Speaker Murphy's papers and personal office effects in 2003 and agreed to re-create his office on the university campus.

The office installation and exhibits highlighting Murphy's political career will be part of a dynamic new space that will include the library's Special Collection, the Center for Public History and administrative offices for a proposed Center for Civic Engagement. (See related story on page 4 for details.)

Because of the impact Murphy had on this region,

state and country, UWG is looking to further honor his legacy of public service by developing a means of supporting ongoing programs that encourage active participation in the political and civic activities that undergird American democracy. Many

scholars and politicians have indicated that America's democracy depends on an informed and engaged citizenry, one that acquires the knowledge and skills needed to become politically involved.

All donations to the Thomas B. Murphy Memorial Fund will be devoted to developing and enhancing civic engagement programs and exhibitions at the university. For more information, please call 678-839-6501.



The late Thomas B. Murphy (right), former Georgia Speaker of the House, speaks with civic leader Maxine Goldstein at the opening of the Georgia Holocaust Commission's Thomas B. Murphy Holocaust Teacher Training and Resource Center on June 21, 2001, in Ingram Library.

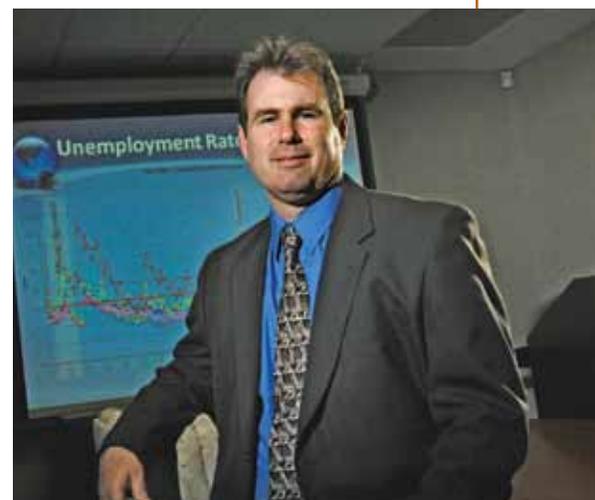
Center for Business and Economic Research offers assistance to west Georgia industry

The Center for Business and Economic Research serves as the core for research, forecasts and impact studies in the five-county West Georgia region. It began an expansion of services to the business community in 2010 with a quarterly newsletter that highlights industry in the West Georgia region and provides an update to the West Georgia Regional Outlook publication.

The West Georgia Regional Outlook is an annual in-depth analysis of economic trends in population, income, employment, manufacturing and housing for the West Georgia region as a whole along with detailed data for Carroll, Coweta, Douglas, Haralson and Paulding Counties. The Center's other programs include an annual

Economic Outlook Breakfast, attended by more than 380 area business leaders last October, and presentations to local civic groups and professional organizations.

The Center also serves as a media source for articles about the West Georgia economy. Financial assistance is needed to enhance the scope of services provided by the Center to business leaders and entrepreneurs in West Georgia. If you would like to be added to the quarterly newsletter distribution list, find out more about becoming a supporter of the Center or sponsor future events, contact Dr. David Boldt, chair of the Department of Economics, at dboldt@westga.edu or Diane Homesley at dhomesley@westga.edu.



Dr. William "Joey" Smith, assistant professor of economics, prepares for last October's Economic Forecast Breakfast.

From the Land Down Under to

THE UWG AUSTRALIAN CONNECTION

By Ron Pryor

After 18 months, three flight transfers and one 25-hour plane ride, Gavin Field stepped into a crowded Hartsfield International Airport. He was unwittingly becoming one of the first pieces of the largest collection of international players in University of West Georgia basketball history. The Wolves began the 2009-10 season with four international players out of a 15-man roster.

Field is a 6-foot-7-inch swing man from South Lake, New South Wales, Australia, in his second season with the Wolves. In his debut season in 2008-09, he averaged 5.5 points and 3.8 rebounds per game, led the team in three-point shooting and played in all 26 games.

Fans who are not familiar with Field and his story may be puzzled as to how someone so young, coming from so far away, could make such a seemingly effortless transition. Talent does play a big role in how well a player becomes acclimated to their new surroundings but Field did have a little help with the move.

West Georgia is no stranger to Aussie ball players, having experienced New Castle, New South Wales native Adam Stanger on the team for four years, with the 2008-09 season being his final year with the Wolves. Stanger, a 6-2 guard, led the team in assists and three-point percentage his senior year setting the bar high for his younger counterpart Field, who was a freshman at the time.

When asked if Stanger playing for the Wolves had any bearing on the decision Field made on joining the team the answer was simple: absolutely.

"It is always easier to come to a new place when you have someone you can identify with," said Field "It helps you feel more like a part of the team than as an outsider coming in."

With that being said, it is no wonder why Field was so eager to meet and make his two new teammates for the 2009-10 season feel welcome and at home.

Freshmen Brett Seljak, a 6-foot-9-inch



UWG's Australian basketball players (from left) Brett Seljak, Ryan Godfrey and Gavin Field are adjusting to their culture shock and doing their part to take the Wolves to the next level.

Wolves Country

center from Geelong, Australia, and Ryan Godfrey, a 6-foot-3-inch guard from Rockingham, Western Australia, are the Wolves' newest arrivals from the land down under.

Godfrey has known Field since they were 14, so when the opportunity for him to play alongside his longtime friend arose, picking West Georgia was a no-brainer. That has also made Godfrey's transition into the college game much smoother. Through the first half of the season, the freshman was receiving significant minutes and proving his worth for the Wolves on and off the court.

For Seljak, UWG was already a high priority when he became eligible for college ball, but the fact that two fellow countrymen were waiting in Carrollton helped cement his decision to join the pack.

"One of the biggest things for Brett was that he had always wanted to play college basketball," said Ray Seljak, Brett's father. "We have been very pleased with the way our son has been treated and taken care of here at West Georgia."

Seljak had one of the biggest transition difficulties that any freshman would have to deal with, as he contracted mononucleosis early in the season. That put him sick, thousands of miles away from home and unable to play basketball, his biggest reason for coming to the States in the first place.

"That time was very hard on Brett," said the elder Seljak. "But Coach Cooney was fantastic through the entire time, giving us updates on his condition nearly every other day and making sure that

Brett would be taken care of while he was sick."

The freshman has since returned to the floor and is proving why he was recruited to play in the paint for Cooney's Wolves, averaging four points and four rebounds per game through the first half of the season.

Seljak and Godfrey both agreed that, so far, the biggest adjustment for them has been getting accustomed to the weather and climate of the states.

"It is summertime in Australia right now, so for us the seasons are backwards," stated Godfrey. "That has been one of the biggest changes for us in coming to America."

Field, on the other hand, said that when he was a freshman, boredom and lack of a family presence were the most drastic changes he had to deal with. The contrast between Field's freshman experience and that of this year's freshmen speaks to the fact that Field has taken the newcomers under his wing and made them feel right at home.

Field averaged 10.3 points and 7.1 rebounds through the first half of the 2009-10 season, extending the Aussie legacy left behind by Stanger. He continues to get better each and every game and has started to cement himself in the Gulf South Conference as a force to be reckoned with at the three-point line.

Based on performances from Godfrey and Seljak, the duo will be ready to receive the torch once Field moves on. But in the meantime, the trio has a lot of work to do to help take the Wolves' play to the next level.

UWG FACES



Photo courtesy of Dallas Cowboys

MARQUIS FLOYD '02

HOME: Monroe

PROFESSION:

Professional football player

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Went to training camp with the NFL's Seattle Seahawks, then signed with the Cleveland Browns and was picked up by the Dallas Cowboys at mid-season.

WHAT IT TAKES TO PLAY

PRO FOOTBALL:

"I started from the bottom, but I always knew that I had the drive and that's what it's going to take to work my way up."

THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON HE'S LEARNED:

"In all my time, I've learned that you can never give up. You have to keep working hard, because all that hard work is what makes your dreams come true."

ON A CAREER AFTER THE PROS:

"I want to eventually go into coaching. I'm interested in working with kids on the high school level, teaching younger athletes the things I learned on my journey. Plus, it will allow me to continue to be around football."

Visit UWG Athletics on the Web
For updates on sports and other athletic events,
check out www.uwgsports.com.

Mark your calendars

for two exciting events for UWG alumni!

UWG Night with the Rome Braves
June 12, 2010



UWG Day at Six Flags
Aug. 21, 2010

For more information
on either event,
including details
on signing up, e-mail
alumni@westga.edu or
call the Alumni Office
at 678-839-6582.

We'd love to hear from you

Have you moved, had a career change, recently married or had an addition to your family? Let us and your classmates hear from you.

- www.alumniconnections.com/westga
- alumni@westga.edu
- 678-839-6582



'60s

Charles V. "Chuck" Hinton '69 (BA chemistry) is president of Ethox Chemicals, LLC and Custom Synthesis, LLC. He earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from Clemson University in 1973. He and his wife, Colleen, live in Greenville, S.C.

initiatives for all Cox subsidiaries. Henke joined Cox in 1981. She lives in Alpharetta.



'70s

Douglas K. Pharr '70 (BBA marketing and management) recently retired from office products manufacturer ACCO Brands as regional sales manager. He enjoys travelling, golfing and playing ALTA tennis. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Smyrna.

Ernie Henderson '71 (BBA marketing and management) and his wife, **Judy Bridges Henderson** '72 '84 (BSED, MED special education) recently celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary by revisiting some of the places they originally toured in Chattanooga on their honeymoon. They live in Palmetto and enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren.

Judy Sanders Henke '77 (MED guidance and counseling) has been promoted to vice president of human resources development at Cox Enterprises, Inc. In this role, she is responsible for leading and managing executive leadership and organizational development, coaching and management development, as well as training



'80s

Gail W. Cowart '80 (BA English) is one of the first 15 individuals in the United States to receive certification as a cymatherapy practitioner. Cymatherapy is sound/magnetic therapy and is practiced worldwide by medical doctors, osteopaths and chiropractors. She has two sons and nine grandchildren, and she lives in Woodstock.

Michael L. Torrance '81 (BS sociology) owns the Galish Group Insurance Agency. He and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters, Chelsey and Taylor. They live in Duluth and attend the First United Methodist Church.

William "Eric" Gowin '88 (BBA accounting) completed his MBA from KSU last year and works at Beaulieu of America. His wife of 22 years, **Wendy Young Gowin** '89 (BA mass communications), is a stay-at-home mom. They have two children, a daughter and a son, and live in Dalton.

Denice Freyne VanCleave '88 (BA mass communications) teaches Pre-K at the Central Learning Center in Springfield and was named Teacher of the Year in 2005. She received a MED from Lesley University and an instructional leadership degree from Nova Southeastern. She and her husband, Michael, have three sons and live in Rincon.

SHINING LIGHT

Bill Bolling '76, founder and executive director of the Atlanta Community Food Bank, is the recent winner of the Shining Light Award.

The award, established in 1963 by Atlanta Gas Light and News/Talk 750 WSB, recognizes outstanding business and community leaders for their individual contributions to build a better Atlanta. Former award winners include President Jimmy Carter and Chick-fil-A Inc. founder S. Truett Cathy.

Bolling was awarded for founding the Atlanta Community Food Bank, an organization that distributes more than 20 million pounds of food and grocery products to feed the hungry.

The organization works with more than 800 local and regional nonprofit groups.

Shining Light awards are given in the form of eternally burning natural gas lamps that are seen in many parts of Atlanta. Recipients choose the site of installation. Bolling's award was unveiled at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on Peachtree Street in Atlanta.

Bolling, who holds a master's degree from UWG in psychology and counseling, is a charter member of the board of directors of Feeding America, a founder of the Atlanta Housing Forum and is a frequent speaker on topics such as hunger, poverty and public policy reform.



Bill Bolling '76



At her studio in Carrollton, Debbie Upshaw Covington captures the spirit of cats, dogs and other animals via watercolor painting.

Two paws up

Many people view retirement as a new chapter in their lives. After spending tireless hours working in their chosen profession, retirees can finally kick back, relax and perhaps find time for that new hobby.

For Debbie Upshaw Covington '74 '79 '91, former teacher and school administrator, retirement helped her uncover a gift she never knew she had: watercolor painting.

"My dad was a professional commercial artist, but I never thought I had the talent. I just never had the time to pursue it," Covington said. "I had never even picked up a watercolor brush until I retired. When I started taking lessons in 2005, I really enjoyed it."

Covington's muses come mostly in the form of animals, from her own pets TJ, a maltese, and Prissy, a rescue cat, to mascots like Uga and Buzz. Since animals usually aren't the most patient of portrait sitters, she works from photographs to produce the artwork.

"I'm an animal lover, and pet portraits are usually quite marketable," she said. "I like the challenge of getting the expression in an animal's eyes. That's my favorite part of painting."

Besides spreading her talents via word of mouth, she has also participated in shows at the Carrollton Visitors Center and the Mecca Arts Festival. A website (www.debbiecovingtonstudios.com) is also in the works. She also hopes to expand her medium to include acrylics and oils.

So does Covington believe anyone could be an artist?

She concluded with a smile, "You never know until you pick up a pencil or a brush and just start trying."



'90s

Thomas R. "Tom" Boutwell '90 (EDS administration and supervision) is the principal at Walnut Grove High School in

Walton County, having completed his 32nd year in education. He and his wife, Pam, also own the Bright Star Learning Center in Winder. They live in Loganville and have four children and three grandchildren.

Todd A. Little '90 (BFA art) and **Jeannie Myers Little '89** (BFA art) announce the birth of a son, Joseph Clay, on Feb. 10, 2009. They have two other children, Lucy Drue and Eliza Trace. Todd is a high school art teacher in Fayette County and recently obtained his MED in school counseling from the University of West Alabama. Jeannie is a graphic artist at Flexocraft, Inc. They live in Senoia.

Angela Grace Harris '92 (BA mass communications) recently relocated to Midwest City, Okla. to begin a new career with the federal government as a budget analyst.

Stephanie E. Lipp '92 (BS political science) has joined Colliers Spectrum Cauble Realty as a senior associate. Her responsibilities include retail leasing and working to best market and position properties in the company's growing retail leasing and management portfolio. She is a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors' Million Dollar Club and lives in Ball Ground.

Paul "Chris" Bridges '93 (BA mass communications) has reached a milestone in his journalism career by overseeing the development of the Barrow Journal and becoming editor of this locally-owned MainStreet Newspaper. He is also responsible for the news coverage, layout and design of the new publication. Bridges' entire newspaper career has been devoted to community journalism, and he has won numerous awards from the Georgia Sports Writers Association, the Georgia Press Association and the National Newspaper Association. He lives in Winder.

William Harvey Scott '92 (BBA accounting) and **Wilma "Denise" Twine Scott '93** (BBA accounting) were married on Jan. 2 at World Changers International Church. William has worked for many years as an accountant, and Denise is a purchasing administrator and buyer for Lathem Time Company. They live in Riverdale.

Robert B. Jennings '93 (BM music education) and **Shelley Gibson Jennings** '99 (MED media), announce the birth of a daughter, Charlotte Marie, on Aug. 14. Robert is employed at UWG as the artistic director of the Townsend Center. Shelley is a full-time mom and home schools their children. They live in Carrollton.

Thomas "Carter" Dunaway '94 (BS geology) and **Jessica Humphrey Dunaway** '98 (BS geology) announce the birth of a daughter, Chloe Joyce, on July 6. They live in Rockmart.

Tracy J. Stalvey '94 (BA psychology) works for Schwarz BioSciences in Raleigh, N.C. as associate director of Global Project Management. He recently received his MBA (global business) from The Georgia Institute of Technology. He and his wife, Beth, live in Apex.

Marva McIver Reed '94 (BA psychology) is the state director of family and child well being for the Department of Human Services. She and her husband, Terry, and their five children live in Lithonia.

Eric M. Barber '96 (BS sociology) and **Ami Jackson Barber** '00 '01 (BSED, MED speech pathology) were married on March 21 in Cave Springs. Eric is a senior parole officer for the State Board of Pardons and Parole, and Amy is a speech-language pathologist for Floyd County Schools. They live in Kingston.

Jeanine Chambers Biron '96 (BBA finance) was recently featured in Georgia Trend magazine in the "Forty Under Forty" section. She is recognized as the executive director of the Angel Flight Soars, an organization that arranges air transport for individuals who require medical treatment far from home. She also serves on UWG's Board of Visitors and lives in Norcross.

David A. Johnson '96 (BBA business information systems) and his wife, Nichole, have relocated to Christiansted, St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. He is a founding partner in Cane Bay Partners VI, LLC, a management consulting firm that specializes in risk management and credit risk scorecard development for financial services companies. He remains involved with UWG's local Kappa Sigma chapter. The Johnsons, enjoying the favorable weather in the Caribbean, often golf, dive, cruise the islands and sport fish.

Robert "Robby" Schultz III '96 '98 (BA history, MPA public administration) was recently named a 2009 Five Star Wealth Manager by Atlanta Magazine and Crescendo Business. He is a partner and financial advisor of Rollins Financial Counseling and lives in Norcross.

Charles "Chuck" Belmore '97 (BS criminal justice) and **Nikki Sanders Belmore** '07 (BSED early childhood) announce the birth of a son, Gauge Harris, on Nov. 7. They live in Buchanan.

Crystal D. Jones '97 (BS sociology) works for Richmond County Department of Family and Children's Services as a social services supervisor. She lives in Augusta.

Karen Watson Pitts '97 '03 (BSED middle grades education, MED media) has been named the Douglas County Media Specialist of the Year. She has been employed with the Douglas County Board of Education for the past 13 years and is currently the media specialist at Alexander High School. She, her husband, and three children live in Douglasville.

Randall C. Curbow '98 (BSED physical education) and **Chassy Kilgore Curbow** '98 (BA psychology) announce the birth of a daughter, Madilyn Juliette, on July 14. They live in Bowdon.

Michael W. Jumper '98 (BS economics) and his wife, Crystal, announce the birth of a daughter, Elliana Cait, on Aug. 26. They live in Olive Branch, Miss.

Brenda Jones Lewis '98 (EDS administration and supervision) is employed by Brenau University as an adjunct instructor and also supervises student teachers. She received her doctorate in ministry from Jacksonville Theological Seminary in 2006. She lives in Decatur.

Brent F. Loggins '98 (BBA marketing), a veteran insurance executive, has joined Turner Wood and Smith Insurance Agency. He has an extensive background in both personal and commercial property casualty insurance and will now serve as a commercial risk specialist at this agency. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children and live in Gainesville.

Anthony "Tony" Bernard '99 (MMUS music education) recently earned his Ph.D. in educational leadership from Capella University. He also directs the Eastvalley Eagle Chorus and plays the horn in the Mt. Bethel UMC orchestra. Bernard and his wife, **Linda Blackmon Bernard** '96 (MED early childhood education) both teach in Cobb County. They, along with their two sons, live in Marietta.

John R. Hart '99 (BA history) and **Lindsay Glisson Hart** '07 (BSED business education) were married on May 30 at Bowdon Baptist Church. They live in Carrollton.

Randa Redden Smith '99 '00 '03 (ASN, BSN, MSN nursing) and her husband, John, announce the birth of a son, Jackson Clark, on Nov. 11. They live in Tallapoosa.

Ericka Bradford Terrell '99 (BSED physical education) and her husband, Adrian, announce the birth of a daughter, Aynslee Nicole, on July 22. They live in Bremen.



'00s

Luke M. Beverly '00 (BBA marketing) and **Elizabeth "Liz" Garriott Beverly** '04 (BA sociology) announce the birth of a son, Palmer Joseph, on July 15. Luke is employed at CED as the general manager and Liz teaches Spanish at Haralson County High School. They live in Carrollton.

Brandi Kaye Nelson Dailey '00 (BSED physical education) and Michael D. Dailey were married on Aug. 22 in Hampton. She is employed as a youth athletic coordinator for Henry County Parks and Recreation. They live in McDonough.

Bret R. Hart '00 '02 (MED, EDS administration and supervision) and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of a son, William George, on June 24. Hart is an assistant principal at Central Elementary School. They live in Bowdon.

Angie Knight Hawkesworth '00 '03 '05 (BSED, MED early childhood, EDS media) and her husband, Joshua, announce the birth of a son, Joshua Warren, on Aug. 4. They live in Carrollton.

Joseph "Bobby" Blakemore '01 (BBA finance) was recently promoted to controller for fleet services at Enterprise Rent a Car in Birmingham. He and his wife, Alma Jimenez Blakemore '01 (BA Spanish), live in Bessemer with their sons, Drew and Cooper.

Jason W. Brown '01 (BSR parks and recreation management) and **Andrea Harper Brown** '00 (BSED early childhood) announce the birth of a daughter, Claire Elizabeth, on June 7. They live in Carrollton.

Joshua A. Browning '01 (BBA business information systems) and **JoAnna McGee Browning** '02 (BSED early childhood education) announce the birth of twin daughters, Blythe Violet and Juliet Rose, on July 21. They live in Carrollton.

CLASS NOTES

Jeremy J. Cole '02 (BS criminology) and **Christine Pritchett Cole '06 '07** (BSED, MED middle grades education) announce the birth of a daughter, Gabrielle Marie, on Nov. 18. Jeremy is a police officer and Christine is a home daycare provider. They live in Carrollton.

Christy Williamson Bass '03 '09 (BS sociology, MA criminology) and her husband, Ben, announce the birth of a son, William Peyton in January 2009. Bass is employed as an investigator with the Georgia Public Defenders Standards Council in Carroll County. She and her family live in Carrollton.

Dana Smith Browning '03 (BBA management) and John Browning III were married on Sept. 27, 2008 in College Park. They live in Seattle, Wash.

Nikki Kirby Henderson '03 (BBA business information systems) and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of a son, Owen Ronald, on June 26. Henderson is employed in the Shareholder Relations department at First Georgia Banking Company. They live in Carrollton.

"Bo" Michael Moore '03 (BA mass communications) and **Kerri Rivers Moore '02** (BSED early childhood), announce the birth of a son, Braydon Michael, on Sept. 14. They live in Temple.

Miranda Adams Parmer '03 (BSED early childhood) and her husband, Josh, announce the birth of a son, Sawyer Reed, on June 22. They live in Franklin.

Bethany Kay Gibbs Riddle '03 (BS mathematics) and William D. Riddle were married on April 4, 2009, at First United Methodist Church in Carrollton. They also live in Carrollton.

Bryan S. Ballew '04 (BSED secondary social science) and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of a son, Luther Scott "Luke", on Oct. 23. They live in Buchanan.

Michael A. Cater '04 (BM music education) and **Elizabeth Lankford Cater '08** (MED media) announce the birth of a son, Colton Nicholas, on Nov. 22. They live in Carrollton.

Brian A. Horton '04 (BSN nursing) and his wife, Laurie, announce the birth of a son, Beau Gardner, on June 15. They live in Bremen.

Katie Holt Mawhinney '04 (BSED speech-language pathology) has completed her doctor of audiology degree from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center and works at an ear, nose and throat physicians' office in Duluth. She and her husband, **James "Zac" Mawhinney '02** (BS criminology), live in Sugar Hill.

Lindsay Miller McKenzie '04 (BSED early childhood) and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of a son, Grant Deckard, on Dec. 21. They live in Franklin.

Jason K. Norton '04 (BS economics) has been named to Waddell & Reed's President's Council, one of its highest honors for the firm's financial advisors. Norton has been a professional in the financial services industry for six years. He has been with Waddell & Reed since 2004 and will soon be opening a company branch in Douglasville. He is married to **Megan Lamb Norton '05** (BSED early childhood), and she is currently a stay-at-home mom with their daughter, McKenzie Grace. They live in Douglasville.



Jason Norton '04

Ellen McGowan Treadwell '04 (BA English) and her husband, T. J., announce the birth of a daughter, Meredith Rebekah, on Aug. 22. They live in Carrollton.

Nichole Dyer Fannin '05 (BA political science) and Cole Fannin were married on Nov. 7 in Armuchee. She is a sales account manager at Southwire and also serves on UWG's National Alumni Association's board of directors. They live in Carrollton.

Scott D. Fortes '05 (EDD school improvement) teaches at Woodstock Elementary School and has published a book entitled, "Social Development and Learning in Physical Education: An Investigation." He lives in Talking Rock.

Carrie Phillips Helton '05 (BSN nursing) and Michael "Les" Helton were married on May 2 at First United Methodist Church in Bowdon. They live in Clem.

Tammy Bloodworth McDaniel '05 (BSED early childhood) and her husband, Jose, announce the birth of a daughter, Adalie Kate, on Nov. 5. They live in Carrollton.

Chadewick "Chad" Blevins '06 (MED business education) and **Mabry L. Blevins '07** (MED early childhood) announce the birth of a son, Benjamin James, on July 11. Chad teaches and coaches at East Jackson High School, while Mabry is a first grade teacher at Gum Springs Elementary School. They live in Jefferson.

Christopher F. Nolin '06 (BBA management) has joined Cape Cod Cooperative Bank as an assistant branch manager. Nolin has worked successfully for the past few years helping area residents with their financial needs and goals. Prior to that, he worked as a retail manager with Abercrombie and Fitch. He lives in Belmont, Mass.

Dustin M. Ross '06 (BFA art) and **Stephanie Norton Ross '04** (BFA art) were married on Oct. 24 at Oak Lawn Farms in Carrollton. Dustin teaches at Villa Rica Elementary School and Stephanie teaches at Bowdon High School. They live in Carrollton.

Candace Lockett Swords '06 (BS early childhood education) and Todd Swords were married on Sept. 26 at the Payne-Corley House in Duluth. She teaches first grade at W. C. Britt Elementary School in Gwinnett County. They live in Monroe.

Amy King Velasquez '06 (BS economics) has joined the Carrollton law firm, Tisinger Vance, P.C., and her practice involves commercial litigation, local government and professional malpractice. While at UWG, she was a member of the International Foreign Language Honor Society, an Ingram Scholar, a student research assistant and a tutor for the Excel Center. She and her husband, Adolfo, live in Carrollton.

Brandon R. Bowman '07 (BSED middle grades education) and his wife, Kerri, announce the birth of a daughter, Taryn Riley, on Dec. 21. They live in Temple.

Clint A. Cannon '07 (BS chemistry) and **Leah Moore Cannon '09** (BSN nursing) were married on Aug. 8. Clint is a quality manager at Southwire, and Leah is a nurse at Southwire Family Medical Center. Clint also serves on UWG's Young Alumni Council. They live in Carrollton.

James R. "Jim" Charles '07 (BBA accounting) and his wife, Lauren, announce the birth of a daughter, Addisyn Day, on Oct. 19. Charles is a plant accountant for Maplehurst Bakeries. They live in Bremen.

Tracy Ammons Robillard '07 (BA mass communications) and Kyle J. Robillard were married on Sept. 19. She is a public affairs specialist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They live in Savannah.

Jade Buchanan Swafford '08 (BBA management) and Devin Swafford were married on Sept. 19. She is the office manager at Buck's Electric. They live in Carrollton.

Melissa H. Tate '08 (BS biology) and her husband, Jimmy, announce the birth of a son, Ryker Donnie, on Aug. 14. They live in Temple.

IN MEMORIAM

Eleanor Brisendine Newman '35 (general), Greenville, S.C.

Jewell Strickland Johnson '36 (general), Carrollton

Margie Thompson Shortley '37 (general), Stuarts Draft, Va.

Lewellyn H. Davis '38 (general), Westwood, Mass.

Geraldine McBrayer Scarborough '38 (general), Rome

William G. Gaines '41 (general), Rome

Weyman "Gene" Callaway '42 (general), Anniston, Ala.

John A. Justice '42 (general), Shalimar, Fla.

Walter Robert Perkins '43 (general), Carrollton

Betty Combs Driver '44 (general), Carrollton

Caroline Hollingsworth Frazier Chappell '45 (general), Carrollton

Meryl Lee Watts '45 '74 (general, MED elementary education), Epworth

Lynette Sharp Gibson '46 (general), Carrollton

Wayne W. Gammon, Sr. '47 (general), Cedartown

William Roy Prescott, Sr. '50 (general), Griffin

Gerald Horne '54 (general), Meridian, Miss.

Helen Traylor Shoffeitt '59 (BSED elementary education), Bowdon

William V. Cain '67 '69 (BSED junior high education, MED special education), Jacksonville, Ala.

John V. Holland '68 (BS business administration), Newnan

Loyd E. Kittle '68 (BSED business education), Calhoun

Benjamin S. Jenkins '69 (BA sociology), Ball Ground

Mirrill Pullen Holmes '70 (BSED early childhood), Bowdon

Judith Williams Kuhlke '70 (BSED early childhood), Augusta

Hermann Teel, Jr. '70 (BA history), Dallas, Texas

Nancy Higgins Dawson '72 (BA history), Jonesboro

Bonnie Newman Garrison '72 (BA sociology), Newnan

John L. Payne, Jr. '72 (MA psychology), Lexington, Ky.

Larry A. Lawrence '74 (BA biology), Wilmore, Ky.

James Harold "Skip" Nalley '74 (BA geography and political science), Carrollton

Joseph W. Drennan, Jr. '75 (EDS guidance and counseling), Moultrie

Jessie Dudley Heard '75 (MED special education), LaGrange

Wiley Hutcheson, Jr. '76 (BS sociology), Macon

Robert "Bobby" Suttles '76 (BBA marketing), Fayetteville

Thurman Donald Waits '76 '78 (MED, EDS administration and supervision), Rome

Sandra Hughley Camp '77 (BSED elementary education), Rome

Mike Ellis III '77 (BA psychology), Bremen

Samuel J. Lawson III '77 '82 (BA, MA history), Gray

James Faron Carter '78 (BBA economics), Snellville

Robert H. Floyd, Jr. '78 (MED secondary education), LaGrange

Pamela Ann Lippert '78 (MA English), Lilburn

Stephanie Dodys Frew '80 (BBA office administration), Atlanta

Walter Keith Maddox '85 (BA French), Tallassee, Ala.

Tim Williams '85 (BS computer science), Carrollton

James M. Eaton III '87 (BA Spanish), Atlanta

Patricia Cantrell Merrell '96 (BSED middle grades education), Carrollton

Terina Hepler Esposito '98 (MED secondary science), Cherokee

Justin M. Kendall '98 (BS mathematics), McKinney, Texas

Margaret Quinn Powell '98 (MED media), Newnan

Stephanie Bomar Fuller '99 (BS sociology), Douglasville

Matthew Walls '07 (BSN nursing), Vinings

Kelli Nicole Smith '08 (BA chemistry), Winston

RETIRED FACULTY/STAFF

Harold Agan, Buchanan

Dr. Leven Hazlegrove, Birmingham, Ala.

Dr. Tom Lightsey, Bristol

Dorothy Loftin, Suwanee

Russ Sharp, Morgantown, W.Va.

Dr. Clarence Sumner Long, Carrollton

Bobby L. Smith, Carrollton

Aaron "Cody" Campbell '09 (BSED middle grades education) and Ashley Jiles Campbell were married on July 9 at Beulah Baptist Church. He teaches at Howard Middle School in Bibb County. They live in Macon.

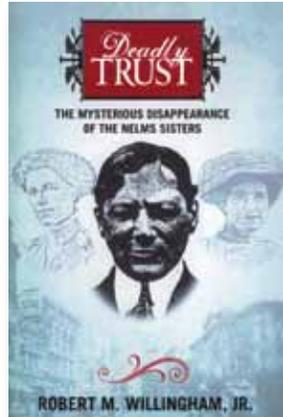
Greg S. Gable '09 (BBA marketing) and **Elizabeth Dittmer Gable** '07 (BSED early childhood) were married on June 27. Elizabeth

teaches fourth grade at Cartersville Elementary School and also tutors on a part-time basis for "Hands of Christ." Greg is currently working at Southwire in the flatwire division. They live in Dallas.

Andrew Peoples '09 (BSN nursing) and **Payton Rabbitt Peoples** '09 (BS sociology) were married on May 23. They live in Newnan.

BOOK NOTES

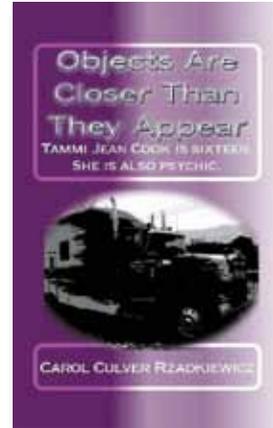
Several UWG alumni and staff have recently published books, each addressing an interesting topic or genre. If you are an alumnus who has become a published author, e-mail Josh Sewell, coordinator of advancement publications, at jsewell@westga.edu to make *Perspective* readers aware of your book.



ROBERT M. WILLINGHAM '68

Deadly Trust: The Mysterious Disappearance of the Nelms Sisters

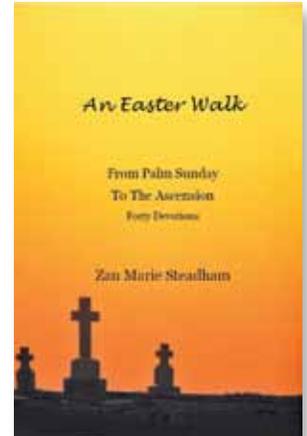
From an Atlanta society wedding to a Frontier West divorce, Willingham's book examines the 1914 murder case of sisters Elois and Beatrice Nelms. From nationwide curiosity to forgotten headlines, *Deadly Trust* resurfaces all the complexities, horror and fascination of this mystery and finally delivers answers for long-awaited, lingering questions. This text examines this historical case of deviance and deception, while also creating a tribute to perseverance and, ultimately, truth.



CAROL CULVER RZADKIEWICZ '92 '95

Objects Are Closer Than They Appear

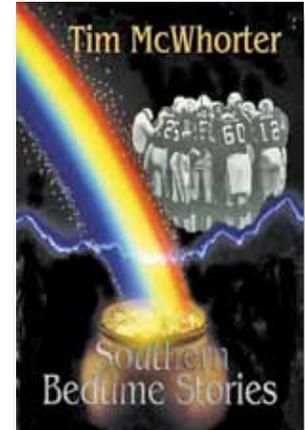
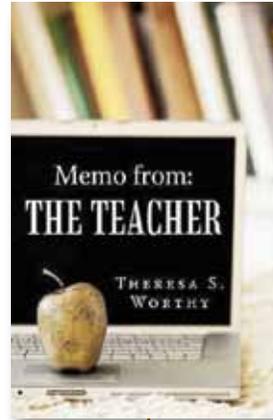
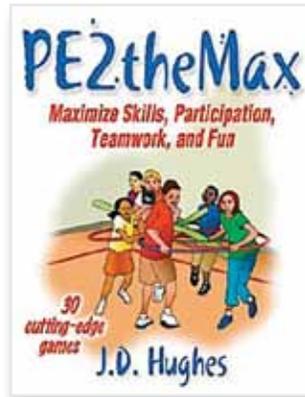
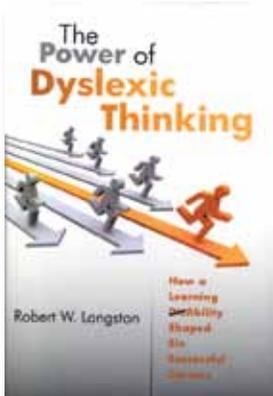
A supernatural coming-of-age tale set in both the Deep South and California, Rzadkiewicz's book tells the story of Tammi Jean Cook, a young woman who learns that she has the power to see into the future. Deciding to seek out her absent father, whom many say has died, Tammi hitchhikes a ride with a long-haul trucker named Elvis P. Boone. Documenting two strangers' journey across America and the characters they meet along the way, *Objects* opens up the realm of psychics and mysticism.



ZAN MARIE STALLINGS STEADHAM '77 '81 '85

An Easter Walk: From Palm Sunday to the Ascension

Along with the new spring clothes, candy eggs and lilies, take a walk with Christ to Jerusalem and the Cross in Steadham's *An Easter Walk*. Through forty devotions, this book provides a great way to contemplate Christ's purpose and mission and asks the reader to consider the importance of following Christ's steps throughout the year. Each devotion provides the reader with an explanation of the event and an invitation to apply the lessons of the Easter season to their lives.



ROBERT W. LANGSTON '93

The Power of Dyslexic Thinking

Nearly 15-20 percent of the American population, as reported by the National Institute of Child Health, has been challenged by a language-based disability. Through profiles on Charles Schwab, Kinkos founder Paul Orfalea and Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Mike Peters, Langston shares the many ways learning-disabled students are well-suited for success. By specifically drawing important lessons for dyslexics from each case study he presents, Langston shows that the dyslexic mind is an asset, not a hindrance, when it comes to achieving a leadership role.

THERESA S. WORTHY '98

Memo from: The Teacher

During a time of change within our nation's public school systems and increasingly lower student performance due to low reading and mathematic skills, Worthy's book features views on education through the eyes of a retired public school teacher. Giving answers to some of education's toughest issues, including ways that parents can become their child's first advocates and teachers, *Memo from: The Teacher* provides an honest and informative perspective from inside the classroom.

J.D. HUGHES '97 '99

PE2theMax: Maximize Skills, Participation, Teamwork and Fun

PE2theMax II: Stepping up the "Game" in Physical Education

Featuring some of the latest and most instructive physical education techniques, *PE2theMax* and *PE2theMax II* feature games and activities that have been tested and assessed through Hughes' personal classroom experiences. Each game provides students of all athletic abilities the opportunity to have fun, be active and acquire movement and sport skills. Additionally, the activities included in both texts emphasize teamwork and steps to improving self-esteem, initiative, decision-making and creative thinking.

TIM MCWHORTER

UWG PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT
AEC PROJECT SERVICES

Southern Bedtime Stories

What started as an exchange of stories from McWhorter's childhood to others on the Georgia Varsity Sports Vent chatroom has now developed into a collection of stories that will captivate readers. Sharing memories of his faith, loves, military duty and just life in general, McWhorter's *Southern Bedtime Stories* provides not only his recollections but also a preservation of history. From the late 1950s through the new millennium, McWhorter provides an account of life that will make readers laugh, cry and feel inspired.

National Alumni Association seeks award nominations



The National Alumni Association's Board of Directors needs your help in seeking nominations for the Alumni Awards.

The following awards will be presented in Spring 2011. Nominations should include the nominee's name and contact information, as well as documentation to be considered by the awards committee.

ALUMNI AWARDS

Achievement

Presented annually to a graduate who has brought credit to UWG and the NAA through career achievement.

Distinguished Service

Presented annually to a graduate who has devoted long-term service to UWG and the NAA.

Honorary Alumnus/Alumna

Presented annually to a person who has demonstrated outstanding service to the university.

J. Owen Moore Faculty/Staff

In memory of J. Owen Moore '40, loyal supporter of UWG, retired faculty member and lifetime member of the NAA, this award recognizes service to UWG, students, and the community. This award is presented in two categories, one to a faculty member (retired or current) and another to a staff member (retired or current).

Outstanding Young Alumnus/Alumna

Presented to a graduate of the past 15 years who has made significant strides in career achievement.

Spotlight

Presented to "spotlight" the efforts of an alumnus/alumna who has made significant contributions to the NAA and UWG.

Thelma Harman Turner Alumni Loyalty

Presented periodically to an alumnus/alumna in recognition of enduring service to the NAA and UWG.

NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There will be 12 positions to fill, with a three-year term of service beginning and ending at Homecoming. Membership requires that the elected party attend quarterly meetings and serve on one committee within the board. The board has 36 voting members and several lifetime members.

Nominations for both categories should include name, contact information for the applicant and supporting documentation as to why you feel this person should be considered. Please also include your name and contact information in case additional information on the applicant is needed.

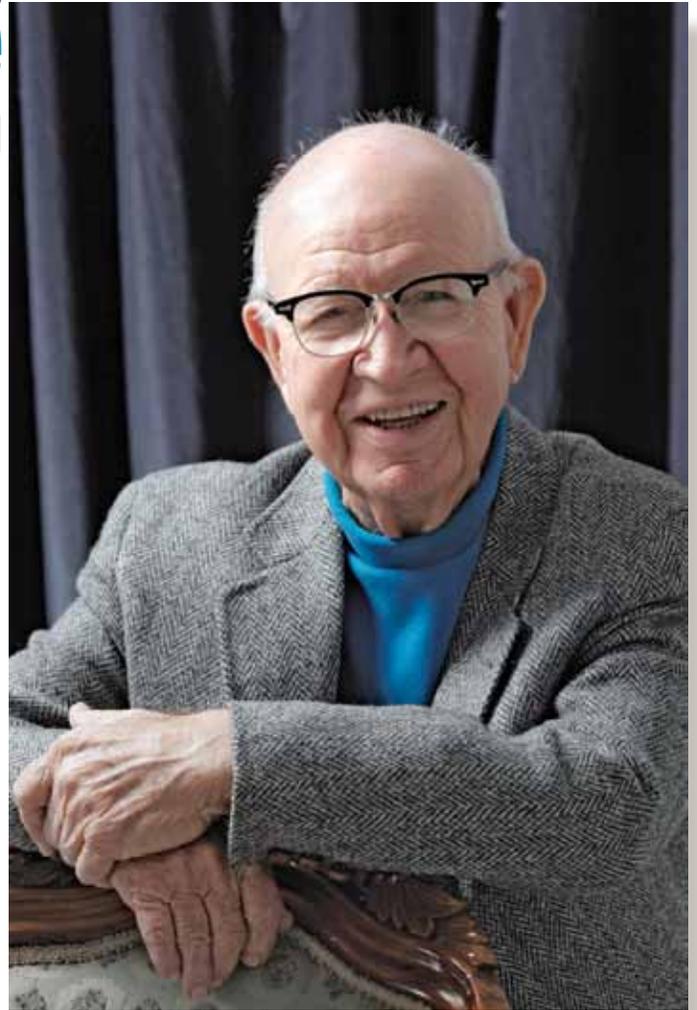
Submit nominations today to alumni@westga.edu or mail to UWG Alumni House, 1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA 30118.

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“We are training the ‘Angels of Mercy’ for the future. One of the reasons I made this gift is to honor the military nurses, especially those I saw in action during World War II.”

Dr. Lincoln DeVillier

Professor Emeritus of
Accounting and Finance
Planned Giving Annuity
DeVillier Family Scholarship in Nursing



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