



MID-ATLANTIC
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Messenger

2015 SUMMER

VOL. 67, NO. 3

*Graduates reach one
goal to begin the next*

COMING
FULL CIRCLE

Counseling graduate hires graduate **2**

Teachers excel **3**

Patience, commitment, rewards

GROWING A PECAN tree takes patience and a commitment to a long-term relationship. Depending on the variety of pecan tree, there will be no fruit for five to ten years, and it takes 20 years and more to fully mature.

Nine years ago when I moved to Elizabeth City I had visions of picking pecans from the trees in my yard, so I planted two trees. Let me just say – we will not have pecan pies from the trees in my yard for years to come. But I am a very patient man. I am committed to long-term relationships. And I love pecan pie!

Those reading this *Messenger* may or may not like pecan pie, but we do share a commitment to a long-term Kingdom investment. We have patience that permits us – year after year – to pray for and give to Mid-Atlantic Christian University because we see the sweet work of our graduates influencing the culture for Christ in the marketplace and in the church in 48 states, District of Columbia, one territory, and 25 countries.

If you need a quick fix for your prayers or

your giving, MACU will not likely be your choice. A Christian university takes patience and a commitment to a long-term relationship, but, boy, does it ever pay off. When you think about preachers and missionaries and leaders in orphanages, schools, counseling centers, police departments, youth centers, and more – both in non-profits and for-profits – it is easy to realize that some of your strongest return on investment for your prayers and giving can be found at Mid-Atlantic Christian University.

In this *Messenger* you will see our newest graduates and will read about some of our graduates serving as teachers and counselors. These trained servant leaders are possible because you have patience and you believe in long-term commitment.

For now I will have to buy my pecans, but Sandra does make fantastic mini



pecan pies. One day my grandchildren will make them with her from pecans in Poppy’s back yard. Patience and long-term commitments reap huge rewards.



Serving those who serve,

Clay

D. Clay Perkins, Ph.D.
President

MACU Prepares Outstanding Teachers to Become Extraordinary Leaders

PREPARING OUTSTANDING TEACHERS who become extraordinary leaders in their schools, districts, and states has been a long-time goal of those who have provided teacher education at Mid-Atlantic Christian University.

Trish Griffin, teacher and MACU’s librarian for over 40 years, recognized the need for training teachers. She worked with Dr. Barbara Johnson at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) on a partnership that allowed MACU students to prepare for state licensure. She named Ginny Gibbs Ambrose ’94 her “pioneer,” being the first one to take the required coursework at ECSU. Mrs. Griffin recalls that Ginny was also one of the first to earn National Board Certification.

In September 2012, MACU’s Elementary Education Program, written by Dr. Barbara Williams, was approved by the state of North Carolina. Dr. Williams’ efforts meant that MACU students were able to obtain their entire teacher training at MACU, graduating with a B.S. in Elementary Education and Biblical Studies.

Many have worked to advance the teacher preparation program at MACU, and the graduates are making a positive

impact in many ways. One way that excellence in teaching is recognized is through Teacher of the Year awards. Many MACU graduates have been honored with this award, and we are proud of the educators they have become.

Our current Director of Teacher Education, Dr. Cheryl Luton, was honored as MACU’s Teacher of the year at the local award ceremony on April 29. She was delighted to find that four of the Teachers of the Year from local elementary schools had been her students.

Every year we hear of alumni receiving teaching awards. Congratulations to these alumni whose honors this year have come to our attention:



Chloe Lackey’s students in Vietnam dress in Indian attire for a school event

- Sheila Jones Hommemma ’84, Oakland Elementary School, Galax, VA
- Rhonda Moore Mebane ’89, Jamesville Elementary School, Jamesville, NC
- Amy Abbott Cain ex’99, Stokes County (NC) Teacher of Excellence (Special Education) 2014-2015



Counseling Comes of Age

Don McKinney — Associate Professor of Counseling and Psychology | Chair, Department of Marketplace Ministry

From the Graduates

MID-ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY has a long history of emphasizing the importance of counseling in ministering to the needs of people. Recent graduates, as well as graduates from the past four decades, currently work as counselors. Here are four of them.

This spring we learned that two alumni who graduated several years apart are now working together.

Connie Morris Jenks ’87 founded Grapevine Counseling and Therapy, located in Mechanicsville, Virginia, in 2012. This past year she hired Renee Yancey ’04 as a part-time therapist.

In a recent conversation, Jenks said that she first “discovered a passion for counseling as a junior at MACU while a student in Dr. [Melvin] Styons’ Introduction to Counseling class.” She said that during that class she found that the skills came naturally to her. “I suddenly realized what God had designed me to do.” She stated further that, “Even 28 years later, I am amazed at how much I still remember and what depth of biblical training I received. I owe Dr. Styons much credit for his guidance and encouragement.”

Jenks received her masters degree in counseling from Old Dominion University. During her time as a counselor, she has worked with most populations. As a school guidance counselor she worked with children and adolescents. In private practice she has helped clients of all ages. When asked if she had a specialty, she mentioned that she especially likes working with young adults. She works with many clients with mood disorders and substance use disorders and enjoys providing workshops and training.

Immediately after graduating from MACU, Yancey enrolled in Cincinnati Christian University where she earned a Master of Arts degree in 2007. She worked in community health agencies until her recent move to Richmond when her husband Rob (’03) became the lead minister at Velocity. When talking about her graduate studies, she said, “Most of my first year courses were repeats [from my MACU education]. I had a good general knowledge and better understanding



Connie Morris Jenks



Renee Yancey



Jim Lilley

Yancey believes she is most helpful when working with cases of depression in adults. She finds that she is able to instill hope in many of these individuals through her counseling and teaching skills. (Learn more at grapevinecounselingandtherapy.com)

In April of this year, Jim Lilley ’86 received the Charles L. Eby Counselor Award, an honor given to a Rehabilitation Counselor in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for service to people with disabilities. It is awarded to a counselor who works for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). Lilley, originally from Washington, North Carolina, works with the deaf. Following his graduation from Mid-Atlantic Christian University, Lilley studied Rehabilitation Counseling and Vocational Evaluation at East Carolina University.

Chris Conley (’05) is currently able to combine all three of his areas of study at MACU as he ministers to people with a wide variety of needs. He is a licensed counselor for Christian Psychotherapy Services in Newport News, Virginia. He also does mental health support assessments for Family Insight Counseling in Virginia Beach, where he helps individuals with low income and debilitating mental health disorders. He is an associate minister at Forefront Church in Virginia Beach.

When talking about his education at MACU, Conley said, “When I was working towards a degree in family ministry I took some counseling classes. The more I studied counseling, the more I found myself enjoying the material. I ended with a degree that covered family ministry, which included a major in Bible and counseling.” Following

his graduation from MACU, Conley earned a masters degree in counseling at Liberty University in 2011.

In speaking of his graduate studies, Conley said, “I was way ahead of the rest of my class due to the education I received from MACU. I took course work in marriage counseling, abnormal psychology, crisis counseling, counseling techniques, and developmental



Chris Conley

psychology at MACU. I found that when I got to this material in my master’s program most of the other students were breaching it for the first time.”

Recognition from Others

MID-ATLANTIC CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY has been ranked 4th among the top 25 colleges and universities for students to study Psychology or Counseling in an article released March 3, 2015 (The Top 25 Small Colleges for a Counseling Degree, by Kirsten Hughes). Colleges and universities with less than 3,000 students were evaluated from the Institute of Education Sciences’ College Navigator on the basis of regional accreditation, graduation rates, retention rates, and net price.

Dr. Clay Perkins, President of MACU, noted that “MACU’s counseling program is one of the finest in the nation. I am extremely glad to see that in the last two months independent evaluating organizations have recognized the high quality of our counseling and psychology program.”

Mid-Atlantic integrates a Christian worldview into the fabric of the academic disciplines. The counseling program prepares students to serve as pastoral counselors, in human and social services positions, and in marriage and family ministry. Students pursuing a degree in counseling are provided an exceptional foundation preparing them for graduate studies in psychology and counseling.

One benefit of studying in a small school is that students develop a deeper connection and interaction with their peers and faculty. This one-on-one connection with a faculty member allows for a mentoring relationship that maximizes a student’s educational experience.



THINKING BIBLICALLY

Lee M. Fields, Ph.D.

Being one of “Them”

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS a hot topic today. Religious freedom existed in the ancient Roman Empire, but only within limits. Their policy was to allow existing religions to continue, but not to allow new religions to begin. Judaism was a legal religion since it had existed long before Rome conquered Judea. When the church began, the Romans (and everyone else) viewed the followers of Jesus as a part of Judaism; therefore, the believers were part of a legal religion. In AD 64, however, Nero needed a scapegoat for the burning of Rome and blamed Christians. Thereafter, Christianity was viewed as a religion separate from Judaism and no longer legal. With this, government-sanctioned persecution of the Faith began.

A student recently reviewed the article, “The Label Χριστιανός: 1 Peter 4:16 and the Formulation of Christian Identity,” by David G. Horrell (Journal of Biblical Literature 126:2 [2007]: 361–81). The word under investigation, Christian, means “one who is ‘of Christ’” and appears only three times in the New Testament. Horrell draws several conclusions. (1) The term likely began to be used in the encounters between Christians and non-Christians not long before AD 64. (2) It was initially used by non-Christians to

bring shame and punishment on Christians. (3) Perhaps beginning with 1 Peter, the label was accepted proudly by Christians. (4) Consequently, the term Christian came to indicate the social identity of Christians both to insiders (Christians) and outsiders.

As later evidence for this consequence, Horrell quotes an early second-century Christian martyr, Ignatius. This aged Christian had been captured by the Romans and wrote letters on his way to execution. In his letter To the Magnesians 4.1, Ignatius expressed his desire for believers “not only to be called Christians, but to be Christians.” Horrell comments, “Here the term is well on the way to being used by insiders as a ‘true’ designation of what they really are” (380).

First Peter was written decades earlier to encourage Christians to remain faithful and moral when experiencing trials because of their faith. The unbelievers by and large regarded Christians as guilty of all kinds of evil. Peter reports, however, that it is the Gentiles who in fact do evil and are surprised when Christians do not join in (1 Peter 4:3-4).

Today in America, many non-Christians view Christians as evil-doers, especially as haters. What should be our response?



Demonstrations? Counter-accusations? Anger? Arrogance? Harsh words? Or should we take a different approach? Should we try to appease? To fit in? To become like them in how we dress, act, think, and speak in order to get along with them?

Peter rejects both of these approaches and instead commands us to excel in godly living to show that we are clearly different from the “outsiders.” We are to be holy because God is holy (1:16), to submit to government (2:13-14), to do right in society no matter one’s social role (2:16-3:7), to walk in humility and love toward all (3:8-12). If it is necessary to endure suffering, it must not be for doing evil, but only for doing good. In this way our good behavior can bring shame on the accusers (2:15; 3:13–18).

May we strive “not only to be called Christians, but [truly] to be Christians,” and through that witness bring some people to Christ.

in her students by having them plan and implement a fall festival in cooperation with Journey Christian Church. She also led them in planning an event that raised money to purchase new books for the Sheep Harney Elementary School library.

Dr. Luton also teaches around the world. She began volunteering with Wycliffe Associates in 2010 in Education Services and continues to help with Bible translation projects in Africa and Asia. She enjoys opportunities to share what God is doing to advance Bible translation in countries where persecution is a way of life and will spend a month this summer in eastern Asia.

She is a member of TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), ASCD (formerly the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), and North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

She and her husband, John, have three children and seven grandchildren.

Congratulations, Dr. Luton!

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Gomez, Mirau Join Faculty in Fall 2015

TWO NEW FULL-TIME faculty members will begin teaching in the Fall 2015 semester.



ASCENCION GOMEZ, Associate Professor of Management, is coming to the university after spending the last sixteen years working with “at risk” students in the Chesapeake, Virginia, public school

system. Dr. Gomez is also retired from the United States Marine Corps, where he earned the rank of gunnery sergeant and served as a Marine Drill Instructor and a Squadron Gunnery Sergeant. Dr. Gomez earned the Doctor of Strategic Leadership degree from Regent University and a Master of Arts degree in Management and a Master of Arts degree in Health Service Management from Webster

University. Dr. Gomez will teach in the university’s Business Administration degree program (which is pending final accreditation approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges).



ABIGAIL MIRAU, Assistant Professor of English Composition, is coming to the university from Rochester Minnesota. Ms. Mirau earned a Master of Arts degree in English and Creative Writing with an

emphasis in fiction from Southern New Hampshire University. Her most recent experience is working in the banking industry, but she has also served as an editor for an author.

Welcome, Dr. Gomez and Professor Mirau!

There’s No Place Like Home!



CHARLEA CORMODE WILL soon be back home in Kansas. Mrs. Cormode, Administrative Assistant to the Registrar, is retiring June 30. She worked in the Academic Affairs office July 2002 to October 2006 and part-time October 2008 to the present. She also earned her bachelor’s degree from Mid-Atlantic in 2002.

Dr. Kevin Larsen, Vice President for Academic Affairs, said, “We have appreciated her commitment to MACU. She has always been a friendly face to greet students and others who have business in the Academic Affairs office.”

She and her husband, Jim, who served the school as Vice President for Finance 1998-2006, are returning to Jim’s family’s farm where they will be near numerous family members. Thank you, Charlea. You will be missed.

Luton Named Teacher of the Year



“SHE IS A positive force for good at MACU. She genuinely cares for students. She lives her faith. She provides a role model for female students.” The words of colleague Dr. Bob Smith summarize what numerous

people said regarding the selection of Dr. Cheryl Luton as MACU’s Teacher of the Year. Luton is Director of Teacher Education and was promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Elementary Education this year.

Senior Amy Isler, an education major, said, “Dr. Luton is one of the sweetest ladies on campus, and I’m blessed that she’s been my advisor and mentor the past two years. She is always available She has made valuable changes to the education program as it continues to grow. She has graciously

helped me with my class work, written me numerous recommendations, and given me plenty of advice in the past two years. I am so excited to continue to work with her through my student teaching next year and see how she continues to change the future of elementary education through our program.”

Dr. Luton, originally from Baltimore, Maryland, has lived in Elizabeth City with her husband and family since 1993. She soon began teaching for Elizabeth City Pasquotank Public Schools and taught there until 2006, when she accepted a faculty position with Western Governors University. In 2009, she accepted a faculty position at Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), where she taught in the School of Education and Psychology and coordinated the Masters in Elementary Education Degree Program.

Starting in 2012 at Mid-Atlantic, she has continued to develop and improve the relatively new Elementary Education major. One way was to develop a course to provide support and guidance for students preparing to take Praxis I. Another way has been to help develop community leadership skills

Outside the Walls



In Washington, DC, waiting to fly to Zimbabwe: Bobby O’Connor, Jeanette Jordan, Wendy Ward, Dr. Claudio Divino, Hannah Swain, Allie Morris, Jameson Lowery, Grace Swain, Amy Isler, Emily O’Connor.

Serving At Home

AMONG THE MANY students in summer ministries are eleven engaged in internships that satisfy a requirement for their program of study. Students testify to the value of these internships as they serve, learn, connect, and grow. These eleven are serving in three states, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina. Three are youth ministers. Four are in preaching, worship, or family ministries.

Four are in positions offering administrative support, counseling, or event planning for non-profit service groups.

A number of others are interns this summer, as well, serving and gaining knowledge and experience that will better prepare them for service after they graduate. Thanks is also due the field mentors who help guide and teach. A sampling of the places MACU interns are found this

summer: child care facility, large and small congregations, fitness center, counseling centers, and Christian university.

Serving Abroad

MACU is sponsoring two summer mission trips. The first team is serving in Zimbabwe, Africa, May 14-29. The second team is serving in L’asile, Haiti, in July. The fall issue of the *Messenger* will report on their trips.

Class of 2015: Use your 'super' powers, gifts



In a surprise conclusion to his message, commencement speaker Steve Hill reveals his favorite superhero.



Valedictorian Tiffany Kriss and Salutatorian Ron Lawrence



First Marshal Paige Roberson and Second Marshal Caitie Goss



Phillip Alligood is recognized for 50 years of service to MACU. He will be honored at a retirement banquet September 25.

GRADUATION SPEAKER STEVE Hill '77 drove his point home faster than any speeding bullet could have when he concluded by revealing his t-shirt naming his superhero – Jesus. He began by referring to his childhood superhero, Superman, which led to a discussion of powers and gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4-7) and the many volunteer superheroes he sees serving the Lord. In the end he challenged the graduates to use their gifts and talents – their “powers” – to be superheroes to others as they are empowered by the greatest superhero – Jesus.

The ceremony on May 9 saw 18 of the 21 members of the Class of 2015 receive their degrees, bringing the total of Mid-Atlantic

graduates to 2,016 (1,259 legacy RBC/MACU and 757 legacy ECI/ECC). Graduate Tiffany Kriss delivered the valedictory address; Ron Lawrence, the salutatory.

Honors and recognitions included service longevity awards: Adjunct Professor Marina Henderson-Bates, 10 semesters of teaching; 5 years – Daniel C. Smith, Enrollment Director; Andrea A. Strawderman, Student Life Director; Nathan A. Stuart, Director of Information Technology; Trustee Caprice J. Hairston. 10 years – Dr. Kevin W. Larsen, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor

of New Testament; Trustee Wyatt C. Colclasure II. 15 years – Donald W. McKinney, Chairman of the Department of Marketplace Ministry and Associate Professor of Counseling. 25 years – Trustee Gene M. Langley. 30 years – Trustee Benjamin H. Allen and Trustee Emeritus James A. Bennett. 45 years – Joan U. Sawyer, Gift Receipting. 50 years – Phillip N. Alligood, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.

The academic processional was led by Juniors Paige Roberson and Caitie Goss, who earned the rank of first marshal and second marshal, respectively.

2015 Honors Chapel Awards

Christian Service Recognition for Community Service: LaVon Cooper
Discipleship Group Christian Leadership: Ariana Avila, Adam Crawford, Tiffany Kriss
Student Body President, Vice President for 2015-2016: Chip Mabe, Morgan Nayadley
Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges: Adam Crawford, Stephanie Empson, Tiffany Kriss, Mark Mann, Daniel Smith
Counseling and Psychology: Tiffany Kriss

Christian Ministry: Ronald Lawrence
Youth and Family Ministry: Mia Amos
Leadership Award: Stephanie Empson
MACU-Zondervan Greek Award: Zach Tanner
MACU-Zondervan Theology Award: Mark Mann
The Stone-Campbell Journal Promising Scholar Award (Biblical Studies): Adam Crawford
Christian Character in Dorm: Paige Roberson, TJ Martin

Theta Alpha Kappa Honor Society: Sarah Bowles, Caitlin Goss, Harley Grice, Amy Isler, Tiffany Kriss, Ronald Lawrence, Sarah Lunceford, Rita Maclin, Michael Moulden, Victoria Petri, Paige Roberson, Wendy Ward, Lauren Witherspoon, Rebecca Woodard
Graduation Honor Cords
Baccalaureate degree Cum Laude (cumulative GPA 3.5-3.69): Ronald Lawrence
Baccalaureate degree Magna Cum Laude (cumulative GPA 3.7-3.89): Tiffany Kriss

2015 GRADUATES

SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:

 Mia L. Amos BS Youth & Family Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 Joshua S. Bueno BA Youth & Family Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 S. LaVon Cooper BS Counseling & Psychology, Biblical Studies	 Adam M. Crawford BA General Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 Stephanie L. Empson BS Entrepreneurial Leadership, Biblical Studies	 Taylor P. Harrison BS Biblical Studies
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 C. Corbin Kuhn BS General Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 Tiffany J. Kriss MAGNA CUM LAUDE BA Counseling & Psychology, Biblical Studies Certificate: Family Life Education	 Evan R. Norris BA Youth & Family Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 Jessica J. Shellman BS Counseling & Psychology, Biblical Studies Minor: Family Studies	 Zachary S. Tanner BA General Ministry, Biblical Exposition	 Sasha N. Holmes AA Biblical Studies
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SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES:

 Azree M. Jones AA Biblical Studies	 Emily L. Whitten AA Biblical Studies	 Alan S. Gordon BS Christian Ministry, Biblical Studies	 Grace N. Jolly BS Organizational Leadership, Biblical Studies	 Ronald E. Lawrence CUM LAUDE BS Christian Ministry, Biblical Studies	 Christopher O. Rivers BS Organizational Leadership, Biblical Studies
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2015 GRADUATES WHOSE DEGREES WERE PRESENTED PREVIOUSLY:

School Of Professional Studies: Mark A. Mann MAGNA CUM LAUDE BS Family Studies, Biblical Studies Daniel C. Smith BS Organizational Leadership, Biblical Studies	School Of Undergraduate Studies: Jacob T. Smith CUM LAUDE BA Cross-Cultural Ministry, Biblical Exposition Minor: Counseling Certificate: Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages Landon B. Efird AA Biblical Studies
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Dean's List Spring 2015 Full-time students (12 or more credit hours) whose semester GPA is 3.5 or above. Students achieving a 4.0 are indicated with an asterisk (*).			
Kelly Ann Anders	Harley Nicole Grice	Caitlin Elizabeth O'Connor	Brandon L. Lewis*
Elizabeth Ashley Bartlett	Amy Lynn Isler	Emily Nicole O'Connor	Sarah Morgan Lunceford
Leslie Paige Brown	James Richard Knight	Jackson Eden Osebreh	Mark Alexander Mann, Jr.*
Taylor Kristyn Carter	Tiffany Jeannette Kriss*	Susan Weathersbee Outlaw	Edmond Ray Matthews
Matthew Todd Cooper	Ronald Eugene Lawrence	Samantha Paige Roberson	Michael Scott Moulden
Whitley Rosa-Leigh Davis	Emily Brook Little	Martin Glen Ryals	Samantha Paige Roberson
David William Dirks	Sarah Morgan Lunceford	Steven M. Simmons	Jacob T. Smith
Stephanie Leigh Empson	James Daniel Matthews	JE Twanna Simpson	Wendy Jo Ward*
Caitlin Dawn Goss*	Grace Gibson Minter*	Desmond O'Bryan Straing	Emily Lauren Whitten
Timothy Scott Gravgaard	Paige Ashleigh Morse	Ronald Eugene Lawrence*	Rebecca Kaitlyn Woodard
Emily Caroline Greene*	Morgan Fawn Nayadley	Courtney A. Leazer	

MUSTANG ATHLETICS

Student Athletes Honored

STUDENT ATHLETES WERE honored at their annual spring banquet. The ones listed below were also presented to the student body at Honors Chapel. The Mustang on Mission Award goes to the student athlete that represents the servant spirit of MACU and best lives out the call from Jesus Himself when He said in Matthew 20:28, “For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.” The Mustang Pride Award goes to the student athlete that best represents MACU as a leader in the community, classroom, on campus, and on the court. The winner represents well the heart of what Mid-Atlantic Christian University is all about.

- TEAM MANAGERS: Jessica Shellman, Terry Burkey
- MEN’S BASKETBALL CAPTAINS: Joe Hill, Wayne Thurber,
- WOMEN’S BASKETBALL CAPTAINS: LaCresha Young, Quan Boyd, Jamie Brown
- MUSTANG PRIDE: Olivia Maxey
- MUSTANG ON MISSION: Alex Whitley
- CHRISTIAN CHARACTER: Brittany Walther, Morgan Nayadley, Whitney Rowe, Alex Whitley, Chip Mabe
- HIGHEST GPA IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SPORTS: Matt Cooper, Micah Ryals, Paige Roberson, Whitney Rowe
- USCAA ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM: Whitney Rowe

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(www.ecsu.edu/rotc/)

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Coach Kendall Williams honors members of the golf team, Chip Mabe, Matt Cooper, and Aaron Warwick.



Coach Charlie Troxell presents Lady Mustangs LaCresha Young (left) and Benita Quan Boyd (right) their jerseys autographed by teammates. Signed jerseys are given to athletes who complete their eligibility for playing college sports.

Harris Named Head Coach



ALLAN HARRIS, WHO HAS served as Assistant Men’s Basketball Coach for the past two seasons, has been promoted to Head Coach of the MACU Mustangs. Harris replaces Neal Alligood, who announced

last month that he would step aside in order to focus his attention on athletics administration and recruiting.

Alligood, who also serves as Athletic Director, says Harris has built a great rapport with the team, and the returning players are pleased that he is taking the reins. “We are excited to be able to have Coach Harris remaining with the program on many fronts,” Alligood said. “His passion, experience and understanding of the game is a bonus for our program, but the fact that he brings so much more to the table is what we really like. Coach Harris loves the Lord and desires our student athletes to understand the bigger picture about life, spiritually speaking. He also demands excellence in the classroom and the campus. He has been instrumental in past coaching experiences in instituting mentoring and tutoring programs to build the academic level of athletes. I am thrilled to know we are getting someone who already understands our culture and characteristics. I am really looking forward to see where the program goes under his leadership.”

Coach Harris has years of classroom and athletic experience, including playing professional basketball overseas aand serving as an assistant coach for the NCAA Division 1 Norfolk State University women’s team. Harris also serves as a pastor in the area.



SUMMER TEAM MEMBERS. Seated: Emily Greene, Whitley Davis, Destini Parker and Samantha Fleury. Standing: Alex Whitley, Cruz Rueda-Lopez, James Matthews, Chris Santaro and Chip Mabe

Summer Teams in Seven States

The Summer Team for 2015 is led by Junior Chip Mabe, the Enrollment intern for this summer. Chip is leading two sub-teams who will help staff Christian camps in North

Carolina, Virginia, Florida, Ohio, and New York. He will also direct the CIY teams who will support middle and high school events in Tennessee, Maryland, and Ohio.

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment Update

THIS SPRING HAS been a time for transition for the Enrollment Office. Enrollment counselors Charlie Troxell and Corbin Kuhn have left to pursue new opportunities in the local community. Brittany Meinsen ’14 was promoted to Enrollment Counselor. She had been giving part-time administrative support in the department. Marty Riley, a retired US Navy recruiter, was hired as Enrollment Operations Manager. Enrollment welcomes his professional breadth of knowledge about the recruitment process and Brittany’s passion for MACU.



Marty Riley
Enrollment Operations Manager

International Soccer Scrimmage Stirs Excitement



IN MAY VISITORS from Brazil and students played soccer to get acquainted and to test their skills. The international scrimmage included MACU faculty and students from other countries, as well. In the fall, Dr. Claudio Divino, a Brazilian by birth and a professor, will coach men’s soccer, the next sport being added to the growing athletic program.

DATES AND EVENTS

Aug. 17-21	Fall Intensives
Aug. 21-23	New Student Orientation
Aug. 24	Classes Begin, 5 pm
Aug. 25	Convocation Chapel, 9:30 am
Aug. 23	Sunday Night Live
Sept. 12	Bike Rally & Charity Ride
Sept. 13	Sunday Night Live
Sept. 24	Grandparents Day
Sept. 26-28	College Preview Weekend
Oct. 12-16	Fall Break
Oct. 22	Foundation Banquet
Oct. 22	Foundation Board Meeting
Oct. 22, 23	Trustees Meeting
Oct. 29-Nov. 1	ICOM, Richmond, VA
Nov. tbd	College Preview Weekend (pending)
Nov. 2	Sunday Night Live
Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 14-18	Final Exams
Dec. 27-31	Urbana 2015
SEMESTER BREAK	
Jan. 17	Sunday Night Live
Jan. 18	MLK Day of Service
Feb. 26	Mid-Atlantic Society Gala
Mar. 17, 18	MACU Rally
Mar. 20	Sunday Night Live
April tbd	Spring Open House (pending)

Mid-Atlantic Foundation News



Sandra Perkins
Foundation Director

THIRTY YEARS OLD IN 2015. The Mid-Atlantic Foundation is celebrating 30 years this year. Since 1985 almost a million dollars has been awarded to the university for student scholarships. These scholarship awards do not have to be repaid by students and help reduce the debt incurred during their education.

CHRISTOPHER T. KNOLLENBERG ELEMENTARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND. Our first endowment for the elementary education program was started in December by Vicki Knollenberg-Simon '86. Vicki wanted to provide students at MACU an opportunity to succeed and be an extraordinary Christian witness in the public schools just as Christopher Knollenberg had been. The scholarship is in memory of Christopher, Vicki's late husband, who exhibited Christian influence on the lives of children everywhere as he taught in the public school system. We hope that future MACU students will be able to multiply the talent and Christian character that was evident in the life of Christopher Knollenberg. If you would like to contribute to this endowment, please make your check payable to the Foundation and note the Knollenberg fund.

SEGroves CHALLENGE CONTINUES. Thomas Joseph has challenged the ECC alumni to put \$10,000 in the J.T. and Addie Maye Segroves Scholarship in the Foundation. This is over a three-year period. Simply send your check noted "Segroves Challenge" written to the Foundation at 715. N. Poindexter St., Elizabeth City, NC 27909. The J. T. and Addie Maye Segroves Scholarship is awarded to a continuing qualified applicant residing in the Northeastern USA pursuing a B.A. in Preaching Ministry and demonstrating exceptional campus leadership.

For more information about the Mid-Atlantic Foundation, please contact Director Sandra Perkins at 252-334-2003 or by email at sandra.perkins@macuniversity.edu. To contribute to the Foundation simply mark your gift "Foundation."

FAMILY NEWS

New Ministries, Service

Greg Dill '71 is evangelist with the Christian Church at Palm Shores, Melbourne, FL.

Jim Stanley '76 is ministering with Haw Pond Church of Christ, Germanton, NC.

Charles Lucas '79 is serving Walstonburg Christian Church, Walstonburg, NC.

Jeff Bennett '94 has been named U.S. Mobilization Executive by the church-planting group Stadia.

Mike McNamara '98 is preaching for Lowland Church of Christ, Lowland, NC.

David Van Buskirk '03 is now serving First Christian Church, Chester, WV, as senior minister.

Chris Brandow '05 has become the family minister with Edgewood Christian Church, Roanoke, VA.

Kyle Hayden '05 is ministering with Bethany Christian Church, Bumpass, VA.

Dan Dodson '08 has been called as student minister for Westerville Christian Church, Westerville, OH.

Kevin McNeil '13 is now youth minister for Edgewood Christian Church, Roanoke, VA.

Doug Francis ex'14 is serving Northampton Church of Christ, Hampton, VA, as associate minister.

Chris Matchem '14 has been called to serve Beulah Church of Christ in Nashville, NC.

Tiffany Kriss '15 is serving East Tenth Street Church of Christ, Washington, NC, as children's director.

Births

Joe '11 and Kristi Pipkin '11 Cartwright: Micah Joseph, Jan. 6

Doug ex'03 and Rosanna **Brothers:** Emma Grace, Jan. 15



John Maurice
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

THE CONCEPT OF a "legacy" is that of leaving something behind for others that will live on or continue to exist. We enjoy a legacy of freedom in our nation. Our families often leave us legacies of love and service or of strong ethical and moral values.

A legacy is also an amount of money or property left to another through a will or trust. Both the bible (Hebrews 9:27) and our experience informs us that all will die. So what becomes of the stuff we have accumulated in life? Obviously we remember our children and grandchildren. But have you considered leaving a legacy to your church, MACU, or other Kingdom enterprises? Clayton Smith in his book *Propel: Good*

Nik '08 and Jena **Safos:** Benjamin Evan Vangelo, Jan. 28

Jason '01 and Carrie **Bedell:** Kinley Jane, Feb. 6

Brian '06 and Hannah **Paris:** Willa, Feb 18

Senior Eric and Nefertiti **Poyner:** Madison Elise, Mar. 9

Josh '10 and Sarah **Curry:** Esther Ann, Mar. 26

Daniel '02 and Kendra **Davenport:** Chloe Nicole, Apr. 13

Anthony and **Jennifer Horner '05 Rhoades:** Elijah Orval, Apr. 21

Dave and **Suzanne Prescott '05 Sanders:** Marley Anne and Emma Jane, Apr. 23

Nathan '01 and Jennifer **Lewis:** Cora Kay, May 10

Weddings

Senior Matt Hughes and **Emily Whitten '15,** May 16

Ordinations

Josh Bueno '15 at Bandon Chapel, Edenton, NC, Jan. 25

Buddy Holloway '12 at his home church, West Park Church of Christ, Portsmouth, VA, Apr. 19

Zach Tanner '15 at his home church, Northampton Church of Christ, Hampton, VA, May 24

Other News 'n' Notes

Lyle Hinsdale '09 was awarded a masters degree in Old Testament from Abilene Christian University this spring.

Dr. Debbie Roach '87 is now an Academic Advisor at East Tennessee State University, College of Business and Technology, Department of Engineering Technology, Surveying, and Digital Media.

LEAVING A LEGACY

Stewardship, Greater Generosity states that "We know that seven out of ten Americans make gifts to charity in their lifetime but only one out of one hundred may think of leaving a legacy gift to their local church."

According to LegalZoom, 55% of Americans have no will or estate plan in place. This means that the courts (a process called probate) will settle your estate for you. However, even if you have a will, upon your death the court will administer your estate through probate.

In Virginia, an estate valued at fifty thousand dollars triggers probate. Let's imagine I have a house, stocks, savings, an IRA, and other assets that would value my total estate at 500K. If I had no will, or had a written legal will, the cost to go through probate would be approximately \$35,000.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

GENERAL FUND

Estelle Abernathy, Charles & Bell Braswell, Leonard & Shirley Clary, Marian Lea Clary, Peggy Rogers Jones, Frances King, Bob & Fran Osmer Magnuson (Honor); Thomas R. Jones, Sr. , Estelle A. Murray, Rachel A. Pearson, Allison Clary Walker (Memory)
by M/M David A. Jones

Lewis & Estelle Allen (Memory)
by Hilda Jones

Bane & Crystal Angles (Honor)
by M/M Edward R. Hasty

Joseph & Kristina Cartwright (Honor)
by Danielle Hortelano

Dennis & Debbie Crehan (Honor)
by Dorlas Riley

Brad & Essie Duncan (Memory)
by Mary Ann Foster

Gerald Dye (Memory)
by Gladys Myers-Dye

Allen Herndon (Memory)
by Corinne Herndon

Christopher & Jessica Hux (Honor)
by Shirley Hasty

Mary Frances Isbell (Memory)
by M/M Michael Isbell, M/M Garrett Lewis

Bud Larsen (Memory)
by Tina Larsen

Linda Lewis (Memory)
by M/M Garrett Lewis

Mack & Clarine Mobley (Memory)
Oak Grove Christian Church (Honor)
by Philip Mobley

Marvin Rose (Memory)
by Dorothy Rose

Joe & Betty Spence (Memory)
by M/M Bruce Dickinson

John D. Winn (Memory)
by Ronny G. Anglin

Ronnie Woolard (Honor)
by Thomas L. Woodward

FOUNDATION

Mary Simmons Abbott (Memory)
by Paw Paw Public Schools, Thomas & Martha McConchie, Dan & Renee Lease, Harold Lease, Beth BonDurant

Eric Allen, M/M Marty Anderson, M/M Scott Askew, Bonita Quan Boyd, M/M Drew Bromm, M/M David Broyles, M/M Joe Burton, M/M Leslie Carico, M/M Josh Curry, Dr. & Mrs. Claudio Divino, M/M Robert Claus, M/M Mike Clear, M/M Shawn Cooper, Jay Crawley, M/M Glenn Crocker, Ryan Dent, Jonathan Duffer, Landon Efird, Rebecca Hail, Judy Hannaman, M/M Jack Horton, Jessica Howery, M/M David Lawson, Craig Layfield, M/M Kyle Layfield, M/M Ray Luyk, Brittany Meinsen, M/M Chris Minton, M/M Royce Newby, M/M Attah Osebreh, Andrew Palermo, M/M Brandon Palermo, M/M Brett Palermo, M/M Ross Palermo, M/M Justin Rose, M/M Rod Sershen, M/M Charles Stephenson, Andrea Strawderman, M/M Ron Stuart, M/M Christopher Williams, M/M Shawn Williams, M/M David Willis, M/M Tony Wolf, (Honor); Sarah P. BonDurant, Grandpa & Grandma Cicco, Bill & MaryHellen Claus, Bobby Claus, Grandpa & Grandma Claus, Richard Collins, Jr., Sadie & Wedo Dulio, Lucille Griffin, Betty Lindsley, Pearl Presley, Jonathan Schipper, Grandpa & Grandma Sowder, John Sutton, Wayne Trueblood, Paul Tucker, Leon Williams (Memory)
by Rich & Cheryl Lindsley

Joseph "Al" Ayers, Jr. (Memory)
by M/M Joseph Ayers

Odis & Ruby Bennett, John West (Memory)
by Bob & Jean Higginbotham

Don Baker, Michael Thornton (Memory)
by Dale & Donna Kendrick

Sarah P. BonDurant , Homer & Ruby Hendricks, Pearl Presley (Memory)
by Beth BonDurant

Vickie Cox (Memory)
by Gene & Alice Andrews

Dr. & Mrs. Lee Fields (Honor)
by M/M Robert Ourada

Fritz/Flint (Memory)
by Denis Fritz, Martin Fritz

Dr. & Mrs. Ken Greene (Honor)
by Robert Allen

Jake Griffin, John & Lucille Griffin, John & Janie Swindell (Memory)
by Bill & Trish Griffin

John & Lucille Griffin (Memory)
by Alan Presley

William & Lucretia Henderson (Memory)
by James Henderson

Mary Frances Isbell, Linda Lewis (Memory)
by Oak Grove Christian Church

Dr. & Mrs. Clay Perkins (Honor)
Mary Frances Isbell, Linda Lewis (Memory)
by Garrett & Melissa Lewis

James Joyner, Sr. (Memory)
by Catherine Joyner

Matthew Knight (Honor), Lawrence (Memory) & Ida May (Honor) Kepler; Edger Earles, Betty Lindsley, Nellie Knight, Bedford Motley (Memory)
by Dr. & Mrs. Clay Perkins

Christopher Knollenberg (Memory)
by Asturian Group, Vicki Simon

Gene Langley (Honor)
by W. P. Barley

Rich & Cheryl Lindsley (Honor)
by M/M Gregory Horace, M/M David Taylor

Edwin Lipscombe (Memory)
by Virginia Lipscombe Smith

Frances Mills (Memory)
by Jerelene Richards, Lewis Mills

Joe Parrish (Memory)
by Sharon Parrish

Jennifer Russell (Honor)
by M/M Jerry Norris

Donna Scott (Memory)
by Elaine Bowen

J.T. & Addie Maye Segroves (Memory)
by Jonita Shoaff

Lamira Slagle (Memory)
by Jimmie Slagle

Virginia Lipscombe Smith (Honor)
by M/M Keith Anderson, M/M William Lipscombe, Jr.

Harley "Tom" Wood (Memory)
by Ruth Wood

Guy & Dot Woolard (Memory)
by Ronnie & Trish Woolard

MATCHING GIFTS

Abbott Laboratories
for Jean W. Bennett

Bank of America
for Alan Presley

Diebold Foundation
for William Lipscombe, Jr.

Dominion Foundation
for Jerry Norris

Eaton Corporation
for Charlene A. Richards

Norfolk Southern Foundation
for Donna Fisher

"The only thing you take with you when you're gone is what you leave behind." ~ John Allston

Also, my assets would be frozen during the process of probate (average time to complete probate is 9 months to 2 years). My family would not have access to those assets and would be continuing to pay electric bills, mortgage payments, etc. until the estate was settled and they could dispose of the property. This is not the burden I want to leave my family.

As Christians, we recognize that God owns everything and that we are to be good stewards of all He has given us. Most of those reading this article tithe to their local church and support Kingdom causes such as MACU or other mission organizations during their lifetime. I believe that the majority of us would want to leave a legacy gift as well, but perhaps no one has ever suggested it to us.

Mid-Atlantic partners with Financial

Planning Ministry (FPM) to serve you and the Kingdom of God. At no cost to you, your church, or to anyone attending, we will present a no-pressure estate planning seminar. If you decide that you would like to establish a Revocable Living Trust, we will work with you confidentially to ensure that your Trust is created. A Trust is different in that your estate is settled without going through probate. Your family can avoid the time delays, expenses, and legal fees of probate, and your wishes will be carried out upon your death by those you have designated to administer your Trust.

A few months ago I attended a lawyer's "free" seminar on Revocable Living Trusts. At the end of the seminar he wanted to set up a Trust for those attending. The price? Between \$3,500 and \$5,000. Even at that price, if you

had that 500K estate mentioned earlier, this would be a bargain because you would not have to pay the 19K probate costs.

But, MACU and FPM can do the same thing at NO COST for you and your church. Why? We believe that good stewards would rather leave a legacy to their church, MACU, or another Kingdom cause than to put a significant amount of money into the court through probate. We do the seminar and Trust documents at no cost, and upon the death of the individual, a legacy gift is given to a ministry that person loves and believes in.

Rarely in life do we get an opportunity for a triple win – but this is that opportunity! You win, the family wins, and the Kingdom wins! If you would like to know more about legacy giving please contact me at advancement@macuniversity.edu



MID-ATLANTIC
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Mid-Atlantic Christian University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and associate and baccalaureate degrees.
Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Mid-Atlantic Christian University.



Visit us in Cincinnati at the
North American Christian Convention
BOOTH #128 | JUNE 23-26

ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION: June 24, 8:30 pm. Hyatt Regency E



The 2015 Macu Bike Rally and Charity Ride raises funds for a student scholarship in the Foundation. Join us September 12 at the campus to participate in a motorcycle ride. Watch our website for online registration coming in July for the DQ and Bob Morton Memorial Ride. MACU students will perform a concert after the ride.

**BIKE
RALLY**



June 2016 MACU Alumni and Friends Western Caribbean Cruise



President Clay Perkins, and wife, Sandra, invite alumni and friends of MACU to join them for a cruise to the Western Caribbean! Bring your family and come with us to relax, enjoy beautiful scenery, and share friendship. The trip leaves the port of Miami, Florida, on June 19, 2016 headed for Honduras, Belize, and Mexico. The seven-day cruise is on the new large ship, Norwegian Getaway, and promises to be packed with great fun for the entire family. Visit the MACU website and register now for only \$500 deposit.

CONTACT SANDRA PERKINS FOR MORE DETAILS:
SANDRA.PERKINS@MACUNIVERSITY.EDU | 252-334-2003.