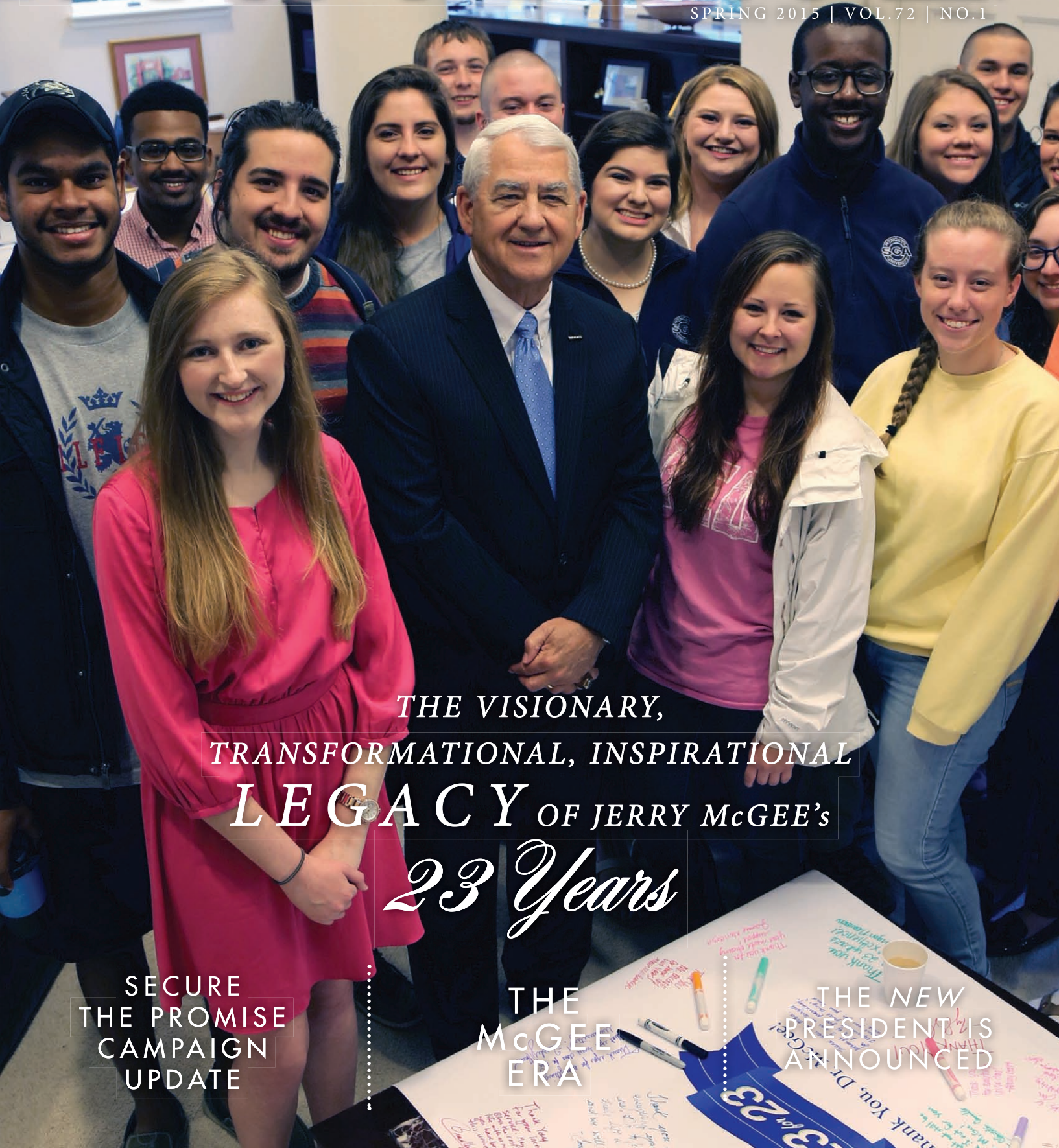


WINGATE

TODAY

SPRING 2015 | VOL.72 | NO.1



THE VISIONARY,
TRANSFORMATIONAL, INSPIRATIONAL
LEGACY OF JERRY McGEE'S

23 Years

SECURE
THE PROMISE
CAMPAIGN
UPDATE

THE
McGEE
ERA

THE NEW
PRESIDENT IS
ANNOUNCED



MUCH HAS CHANGED IN THE PAST 23 YEARS.
BUT WINGATE UNIVERSITY'S CORE VALUES OF
FAITH, KNOWLEDGE AND SERVICE REMAIN AS
STRONG AS EVER.





THIS EDITION OF WINGATE TODAY

HONORS

RETIRING PRESIDENT

Jerry E. McGee

When Jerry E. McGee was named president of Wingate University in the summer of 1992, most of today's WU undergraduates had not been born yet.

Half of WU's current classroom space had not been built yet.

Even the institution's name in 1992 was different: Wingate College.

After only a few weeks as president, Dr. McGee wrote, "I intend to give all I can to make Wingate College the best possible place it can be for its students, faculty and staff, and a place for its alumni to be proud of." He added that he planned to "embrace the best, improve the rest."

In 2011, reflecting on his 20 years as president, Dr. McGee noted many accomplishments at Wingate University including "moving from obscurity to prominence, a true success story of transformation."

Much has changed in the past 23 years. But Wingate University's core values of faith, knowledge and service remain as strong as ever.

The pages of this edition of Wingate Today highlight the university's transformation under Dr. McGee. You'll see how Wingate University has grown and changed to serve its students and meet the demands of a fast-changing world. The words and photos may evoke nostalgia and pride—as well as excitement about what lies ahead.

May we all continue to embrace the best, improve the rest.



"INSTEAD OF TRYING TO BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE, WE MUST BE WHO WE ARE, AND WHO WE WANT TO BECOME."

DR. JERRY MCGEE, 1992

WINGATE TODAY

SPRING 2015 | Vol. 72, No. 1

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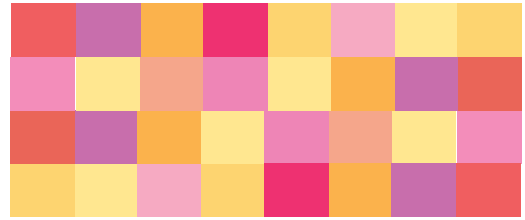
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Wingate Today magazine is a magazine for alumni and friends of Wingate University. The magazine's editorial staff strives to inform, engage and inspire readers through stories about the University's contributions to the world. We encourage you to send your story ideas.

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SAVE *the date*

APRIL 28
CHARLOTTE ALUMNI RECEPTION
> 6-8 p.m.
> CHARLOTTE CITY CLUB

APRIL 30
DEDICATION OF THE
CYNTHIA LeGETTE BULLOCK
CENTER FOR MUSIC STUDIES

MAY 15-16
CLASS OF 1965 REUNION

MAY 16
COMMENCEMENT
> 9 a.m.

JUNE 1-26
SUMMER SESSION I

JUNE 12-23
ALUMNI & FRIENDS CRUISE &
RAIL TRIP TO ALASKA

JULY 6-31
SUMMER SESSION II

OCT. 2-3
FAMILY WEEKEND

OCTOBER 23-24
HOMECOMING 2015

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT:

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WINGATE TODAY

SPRING 2015



THE VISIONARY,
TRANSFORMATIONAL, INSPIRATIONAL
LEGACY OF JERRY MCGEE'S
23 Years

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McGee's granddad,
Will McKinnon



Where

WINGATE UNIVERSITY'S
TRANSFORMATION

BY ROBERT INMAN

Began



McGee in his
granddad's garden



Roberdel Baptist Church, 1953



McGee
Family



In my research for an updated history of Wingate University, I've come to realize one unassailable fact: you can't understand Wingate without understanding Jerry McGee, and you can't understand Jerry McGee without understanding Roberdel.

It's a middling place today, a scattering of modest frame homes and shuttered store buildings on the outskirts of Rockingham, North Carolina. But when Jerry McGee was growing up in Roberdel, it was a robust village of four hundred nestled around a thriving textile mill -- an incorporated town with its own post office, churches, a doctor's office, stores, and a school that went through the eighth grade. It was a close-knit village of hard-working families, a place where you sat on your front porch in good weather, hung the wash on lines in the back yard, fished in the mill pond and didn't bother to lock your doors because there was no crime. Folks looked after each other, especially each other's kids. In Roberdel, you could form lifelong friendships and know that the adults expected good things of you.

McGee would later write of the things he and his fellow students learned at Roberdel School: *They taught us to be responsible, to respect the feelings and opinions of others and to be productive members of our community. They made sure we understood that everyone was equal in the eyes of God, no matter where they lived, who their parents were, or what color their skin was, and that we could do anything we wished to do with our talents and our lives, if we were willing to work fairly and diligently.*

One of the most powerful influences on young Jerry's life was his grandfather, Will McKinnon, a man he remembered with an affection bordering on reverence in his book *The Sitting & Talking Place*. The "place" was a grassy spot between a general store and the community baseball field where man and boy spent long hours together, and where young Jerry absorbed homespun wisdom and family values – honesty, forthrightness, hard work.

Few in the Roberdel of those years had finished high school, but that didn't mean there wasn't a value put on education. When Jerry was in high school his parents began to talk about the possibility of college. Parents and son worked and saved, and Jerry headed off to East Carolina University with the words of Will McKinnon echoing in his ears: *You're going for all of us,*

an example for the younger kids.

In a distinguished career in higher education, Jerry McGee's bedrock has been the lessons he learned in Roberdel. He appreciates how hard families work to make college a possibility for their young folks. He knows how important it is for students to be diligent in their work, go to class, make good friendships and give something of themselves back to the world. Since he arrived at Wingate in 1992, he's been on a quest to make a good school great with hard work, vision and innovation. He's passionate about Wingate and that, coupled with an ability to connect with folks on a very personal basis, makes him a superb advocate and salesman. He surrounds himself with good people, is plain-spoken about his expectations and lets them do their jobs. His twenty-three years at Wingate have been transformative.

"[McGee will] tell you in a heartbeat that it all started in Roberdel, a village that raised its children well and gave them a solid foundation."

He'll tell you in a heartbeat that it all started in Roberdel, a village that raised its children well and gave them a solid foundation. In a vital sense, Jerry McGee has never left the place. ▀

Inman, a novelist, screenwriter and playwright, is writing a book about Wingate University and Jerry McGee. It is expected to be published later in 2015.



Top-Bottom: 1. McGee as a young boy 2. McGee in high school 3. McGee's stepfather and mother 4. McGee in college years pitching at East Carolina University



'BEING INVITED TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF WINGATE COLLEGE IS THE GREATEST HONOR OF MY LIFE.'

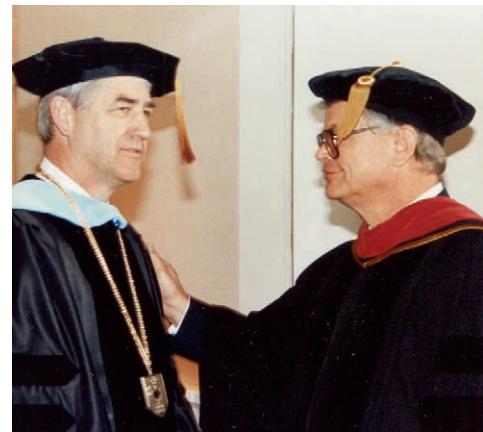
- DR. JERRY McGEE, 1992

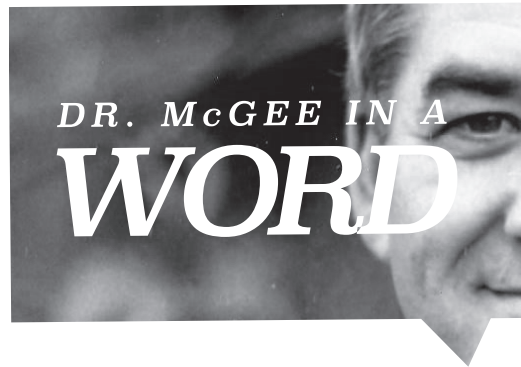
A news conference was held on June 23, 1992 to announce that Jerry E. McGee would be the ninth president of Wingate College. McGee spoke, and with his family he posed for pictures.

Dr. McGee's presidential inauguration was held in the Academic Quadrangle on March 26, 1993. ▀

McGEE'S ARRIVAL

JUNE 23, 1992





VISIONARY
LEGENDARY
LEADERSHIP
REMARKABLE
PERSONABLE
RESPECT
PRESTIGIOUS
CONGENIAL
FRIENDLY
INSPIRATIONAL
GENUINE
LEGACY
TRANSFORMATIONAL

• WORDS SUBMITTED FROM CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMNI RANGING FROM '95-'14 •

“(OUR ENROLLMENT GROWTH) REPRESENTS LONG-RANGE VISION, SUPERIOR PLANNING, TOUGH DECISION MAKING AND SIMPLY OUT WORKING MOST OTHER INSTITUTIONS.”

- DR. JERRY MCGEE, 2013

HOW

THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

TRANSFO

ABOUT 15 YEARS AGO,

Dr. Jerry McGee was at lunch batting around some ideas with Wingate University Vice President Steve Poston and Board of Trustees member Larry Raley, an executive with Eckerd Drug, when the group hit upon an idea. “We were talking about graduate education,” McGee said. “We discussed several things, such as a law school. Larry said, ‘Heck, we need a pharmacy school. We can’t find enough pharmacists.’”

It was a brainstorm that has transformed the school in many ways, raising the profile of McGee’s already-impressive tenure and putting Wingate on solid financial footing as the president retires this spring to a life of spoiling grandchildren and mentoring young leaders.



McGee said that before the Wingate University School of Pharmacy opened its doors to students, “there wasn’t a pharmacy school between Chapel Hill and Memphis.”

Clearly, the need was great. The School of Pharmacy had an impressive total of 61 students in its first year of operation, in the 2003-2004 school year. Now, the program boasts about 400 students and has sister health services programs that are also growing quickly.

“We got way ahead of the curve in our thinking,” McGee said.

“I honestly think the president was more visionary on this than the average guy on the street,” said Dr. Robert Supernaw, whom McGee hired away from Texas Tech to start the program back in 2002. “He saw the need in pharmacy to begin with, ahead of when everybody else saw it, at least five years ahead of where everybody else saw it.”

ADDING MORE HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS

Wingate reinvested the additional revenue brought in by the pharmacy school, creating other health-sciences programs, including a graduate physician assistant program, a doctor of physical therapy, and an undergraduate nursing program.

Those initiatives and the establishment of two additional campuses (in the Ballantyne area of south Charlotte and in Hendersonville) have been a boon to the college. The numbers tell a tale of phenomenal growth in the past decade, as many other small, private universities are struggling.

dents and programs of study. All told, there have been 37 new buildings on campus during McGee's tenure.

Much of that growth lies at the feet of the health-sciences programs, which started with Raley's idea and quickly led to the hiring of Supernaw to oversee the establishment of the program. When he arrived in 2002, Supernaw had just one year to put everything in place: hire instructors, recruit students and revamp the facilities ("on the first day of class, I told the students, 'Don't touch the walls. The paint's still wet.'"). McGee took a hands-off management approach that paid off.

Having another successful graduate program has also raised Wingate's profile substantially. Supernaw said that Chuck Taylor, Wingate's former CFO, talks in terms of the "halo effect" the School of Pharmacy has had. "When you have a program of excellence, it tends to attract students in other areas," Supernaw said.

MORE CAMPUSES, MORE STUDENTS

Expansion has had a similar effect. The Matthews campus was established in the early 1990s to serve working professionals who found it difficult to make the trek out to Wingate for further education. It moved to the Ballantyne area in 2013.

FORMED

WINGATE UNIVERSITY

BY CHUCK GORDON



In 1993, Wingate had 1,324 undergraduate students and 68 graduate and professional students. By 2003, those figures had grown marginally, to 1,394 and 171. Last school year they were a whopping 2,009 and 993.

Likewise, revenue has soared. Overall income has leapt from \$30.4 million in 2004 to \$81 million last year, and tuition income rose from \$19.9 million to \$62.7 million in the same 10-year span. Meanwhile, the school's total assets have nearly doubled, from \$74.7 million to \$144 million. All the while, Wingate has maintained a low debt load (\$14 million in 2013) compared with its peer group while continuing to transform the campus: six new buildings are under construction including a health and recreation center and a new residence hall, helping the school handle the influx of new stu-

"Dr. McGee was completely honest with me that he knew nothing about setting up a school of pharmacy," said Supernaw, Wingate's vice president for graduate and professional programs. "I found that to be a good recruiting tool."

Given a free hand to set up the pharmacy program as he saw fit, Supernaw took a practical approach, putting students in clinical settings in every year of the program, not just the later years. It might seem like an obvious tack, but it wasn't the norm at the time.

"We're preparing students for real jobs in the real world," McGee said. "That's what we're supposed to do. That's why we're here."

The Hendersonville campus, established in 2011, has helped keep strong students in Western North Carolina. "People would come here [to Wingate] and graduate and stay here – which was good, but it wasn't helping Western North Carolina," McGee said. Now, he said, students study at the Wingate campus in Hendersonville and take jobs in that area.

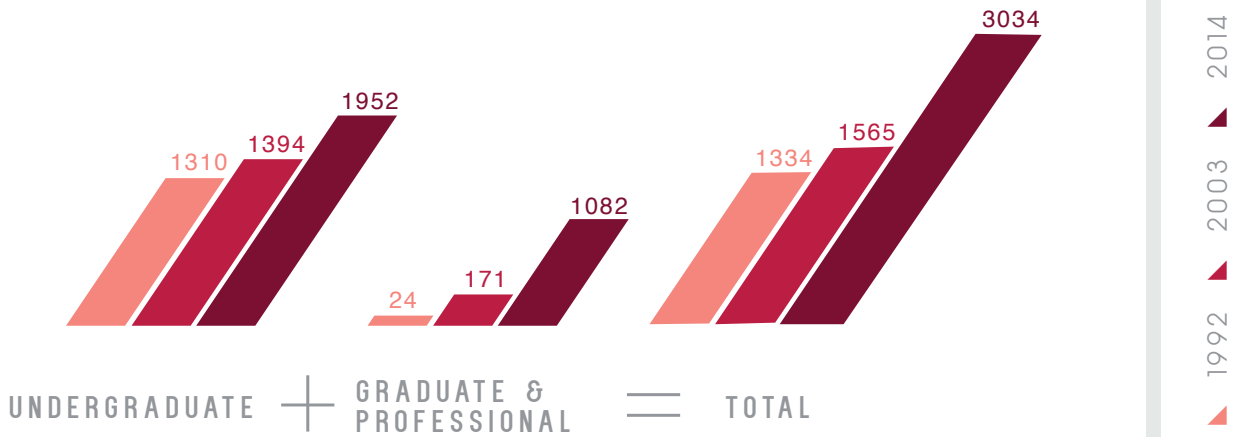
The additional campuses and new graduate programs have Wingate in great fiscal shape as McGee retires after 23 years at the helm. His legacy will in many ways be marked by what his successor is able to accomplish.

"The great news is the next administration is going to have the resources to [grow]," he said. "The biggest frustration my first five or six years was that the team had good ideas but not enough money. I want the new team to dream big dreams from day one." ▀

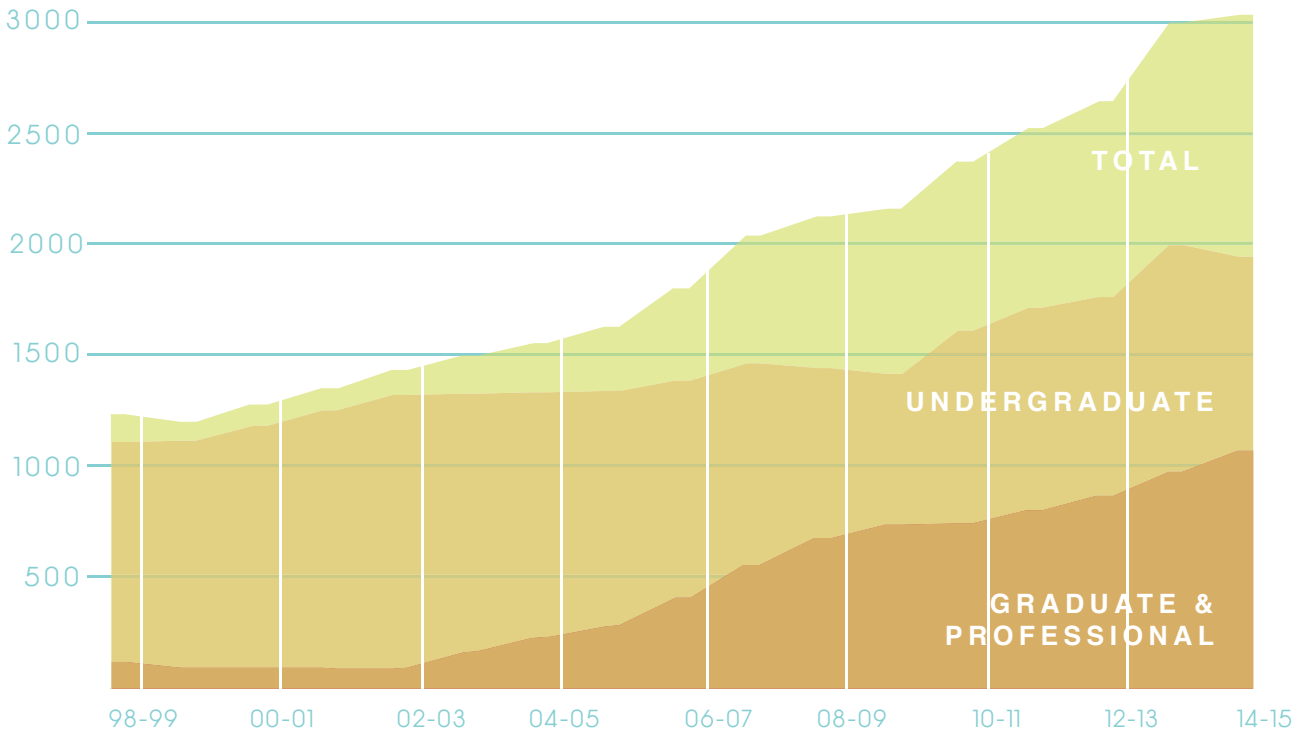
E WU
ENROLLMENT
CHANGES
UNDER
DR. MCGEE



ENROLLMENT GROWTH | SINCE 1992



ENROLLMENT GROWTH | 1998-2014



ENROLLMENT

2X TOTAL ENROLLMENT HAS NEARLY DOUBLED SINCE 2003

FROM FALL 1992 TO FALL 2014

127%

Total enrollment increased 127%

4,408%

Graduate & professional student enrollment increased 4,408%

49%

Undergraduate enrollment increased 49%

MOST POPULAR UNDERGRAD MAJORS

1993

Business Administration
Human Services
Elementary Education
Psychology
History

2003

Communications
Sport Management
Management
Biology
Elementary Education

2013

Pre-Pharmacy
Biology
Psychology
Sport Management
Pre-Nursing

DEGREE INTERESTS

4X FROM 1993 TO 2013, THE NUMBER OF WU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS PURSUING A SCIENCE-BASED OR HEALTH CARE DEGREE MORE THAN QUADRUPLED.

20%

In 2003, less than 20% of WU students were pursuing a degree in science or health care.

40%

In 2013, nearly 40% of WU students were pursuing a degree in science or health care.

CURRENT HEALTH CARE RELATED DEGREES

Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)
Physician Assistant (MPA)
Nursing (BSN)
Physical Therapy (DPT)

UNDERGRADUATE HEADCOUNT INCREASE FROM 1992-2014

WINGATE	22.6%
CAMPBELL	5.8%
DAVIDSON	7.3%
DUKE	2.5%
ELON	7.3%
QUEENS	7.2%
WAKE FOREST	7.6%



Few things are more promising than a pre-game baseball field. The echoing snap of rawhide in a leather mitt, the heady scent of fresh-mown turf hanging in the air, the spring sun on the skin—all brimming with possibility. On a warm afternoon in the spring of 1993, I sat in the stands of Ron Christopher Stadium. Possibility and promise occupied my mind.

I was coaching youth baseball at the time, and along with my assistant coach, a former college basketball referee, we brought our team to the game for a bit of inspiration. We settled our boys on the hillside behind the first base dugout, bought some peanuts, and made our way toward the bleachers. Before we found our seat, my assistant coach, who seems to know everyone, stopped and said, “Hey, there’s someone you need to meet.” He then introduced me to Jerry McGee. Not Dr. McGee, or President of the University McGee, just Jerry McGee. The only descriptor my friend offered was that McGee refereed Division I college football.

Dr. McGee invited us to sit down and we spent the next couple of innings trading sports stories. I immediately found Dr. McGee to be very warm and personable. At some point between stories, my assistant coach mentioned that Dr. McGee was Wingate’s (relatively) new president. And, he remarked to Dr. McGee that I was considering returning to college to complete my degree. I reluctantly admitted that I’d attended Wingate in the late 1970s. Dr. McGee was encouraging, suggesting I consider returning to Wingate. “Think about it,” he said. “Wingate has a bright future; great things are going to happen here. You

could be a part of it. Plenty of possibilities...”

We turned our attention back to the game. If memory serves, Dr. McGee told a great Woody Hayes story. The game ended, our boys got to meet several of the players, and we left. But, I kept thinking about what Dr. McGee said about Wingate.

increases in ENROLLMENT AND in possibilities

BY KEVIN WINCHESTER

“Wingate has a bright future;
great things are going to happen here.
You could be a part of it.
Plenty of possibilities...”

-DR. MCGEE

**from “suitcase college” to
international university**

When I first attended Wingate in 1977, the college was in the midst of transitioning from a two-year to a four-year school. While the designation changed, the mindset didn’t. Many held onto the perception that Wingate was only a school for locals, an exten-

sion of high school, a slightly elevated version of community college where one could spend two years in preparation for transferring to a *real college* elsewhere.

In 1977, the full-time enrollment (FTE) was 1,346. There was no football team, Bridges and Rushing dorms housed the upperclassmen, and you’d better not let Dean Haskins catch you in the women’s dorms after hours. Helms Dorm was...well, Helms Dorm, already complete with all the unique sights, sounds, and smells every male Wingate freshman remembers all too well. Freshmen went to Life Issues seminars once a week but no Wingate students traveled abroad.

When Dr. McGee became president in 1992, the FTE remained about the same, 1334, but now that number included 24 graduate students. On that spring afternoon in 1993, I knew the college had added some programs and buildings since I had last attended a class there. Still, a lot of things hadn’t changed since the 1970s. Helms Dorm still embodied all that Helms Dorm had ever been, Dean Haskins still had a way of knowing everything everyone did, when they did it, and how they

did it, and the perception of being a small, local school—a suitcase college, remained.

But, like the beginning of a baseball game, the future held promise...and as Dr. McGee told me that afternoon, “Wingate held plenty of possibilities.” Those possibilities soon began coming to fruition. I returned to Wing-

SOUTH VILLAGE



SOUTH VILLAGE POOL



HELMS COURTYARD



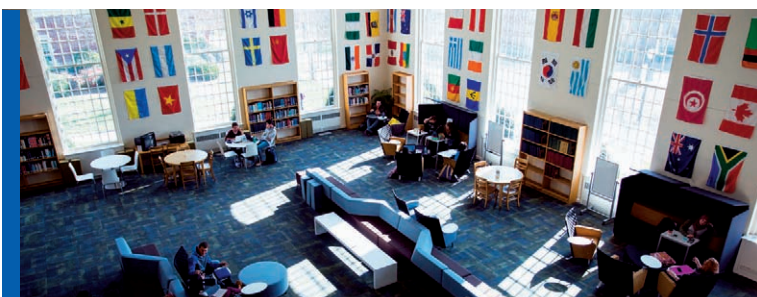
HELMS POOL



PROMENADE



ETHEL K. SMITH LIBRARY



1995 W'INTERNATIONAL

ate in the fall of 1993 and completed my undergraduate degree, which led to graduate school and, eventually, back to Wingate to teach. In 1995, the College became a University. By 2003, the FTE grew to 1565 students; that figure now included 171 graduate students in five different programs. In addition to the W'International program sending students abroad each semester, nearly 70 international students were enrolled full-time. The campus had grown, too. The Ethel K. Smith Library was remodeled, Belk Stadium and Martin Field were completed, several new apartment buildings in North Campus housed students, the Jefferson Apartments—now known as South Village—were built, and the University Apartments were purchased. The Hayes classroom building was completed in 2008. In 2011, the Levine Health Sciences building opened and that same year, Wingate opened a campus in Hendersonville. The Ballantyne campus opened in 2013 with about 400 students.

rallying the crowd to do something special

Now, as Dr. McGee prepares to retire, Wingate University's FTE has grown to 3,034 students, consisting of 1,952 undergraduate and 1,082 graduate students. Of those numbers, more than

140 are international students representing 43 different countries. Cars in the student parking lots display license plates from dozens of states. Signs of growth abound, students mingle on the new Promenade between classes, buy their books and Bulldog apparel at Wingate Outfitters on Main Street, and there's construction fencing around three different locations on the Wingate campus. And Helms Dorm? Completely remodeled in 2013 as apartments for upperclassman with a pool in the courtyard.

In reminiscing the past two decades, that Woody Hayes story Dr. McGee shared back in 1993 came to mind. The years have erased the story specifics, but I remember Dr. McGee saying he was the sideline referee, on the Ohio State side. A call on the field went against Ohio State and, as he was known to do, Coach Hayes ran down the sideline toward Dr. McGee, throwing clipboards, waving his arms, stomping and yelling. Dr. McGee steadied himself for the verbal onslaught, but as Hayes neared, Dr. McGee heard him yelling... "It was the right call, just let me yell a minute. I'm trying to get the crowd fired up. If they get into this, we might be able to do something special yet."

I'm not sure how much stomping, yelling, or arm-waving there's been, but for the past 23 years, Dr. McGee has certainly fired up the crowd. And the crowd has rallied behind him. Something special has happened here. As Dr. McGee's tenure as president draws to a close, anyone who's a part of Wingate knows that he leaves the University poised for something special yet... ▀



LICENSE PLATES FROM STUDENT PARKING LOT IN 2015



Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · May 17
 What a terrific graduation today at Wingate University!! Best looking class ever. So proud of all of our new grads.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Dec 13
 I want to offer my congratulations to all WU students who are completing your studies this semester. It's been an honor to have you here.

“I want to take away all obstacles that get in the way of dreams.”
 DR. JERRY MCGEE, 1996

“The more you learn, the more you earn. It’s that simple.”
 DR. JERRY MCGEE, 2008

“Dr. McGee inspires, challenges and supports his students.”
 GRACE KRAUSER '13

“Dr. McGee’s legacy is one that has forever changed Wingate and the lives of thousands of students; it will continue to live on at Wingate University in the decades to come.”
 RAGAN RIDDLE '13

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Oct 9
 WU Choirs were simply stunning tonight. Thanks and congratulations to everyone!

B A L L A N T Y N E

During Dr. McGee’s presidency, Wingate University’s presence in southern Mecklenburg County grew rapidly.

Wingate College began offering night classes in Matthews in 1991. Most students were adults seeking to complete a bachelor’s degree. In 1993, graduate level studies were added at the Matthews campus for a Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Education and Master of Teaching (MAT).

Additional post-graduate degree programs were added over

the years. After 22 years in Matthews, Wingate University moved these programs to the Ballantyne area of south Charlotte in 2013.

As of the 2014-2015 academic year, about 400 working adults attend Wingate’s Ballantyne campus where they can earn a bachelor’s degree, a master’s degree in one of five areas of study, or one of two educational doctoral degrees. The Ballantyne campus also offers add-on licensure programs for teachers and principals.

400
 WORKING ADULTS
 ATTEND

H E N D E R S O N V I L L E

Wingate University opened its Hendersonville campus in 2011. It now offers post-graduate degrees in pharmacy (Pharm.D.), physician assistant studies (MPA) and business (MBA). About 125 Wingate students attend the Hendersonville campus.

WU’s Hendersonville facility will move to a new building

in the fall of 2016, tripling the amount of classroom space. Pardee Hospital and Blue Ridge Community College will share the new, 95,000 square foot facility with WU. As the partnership between Wingate University and Pardee Hospital continues to strengthen, so will clinical opportunities for Wingate students in health care fields.

125
 STUDENTS
 ATTEND

Family

MATTERS

BY BRIAN STEPHENSON

*Dr. McGee's sons reflect on
the president's personal side*

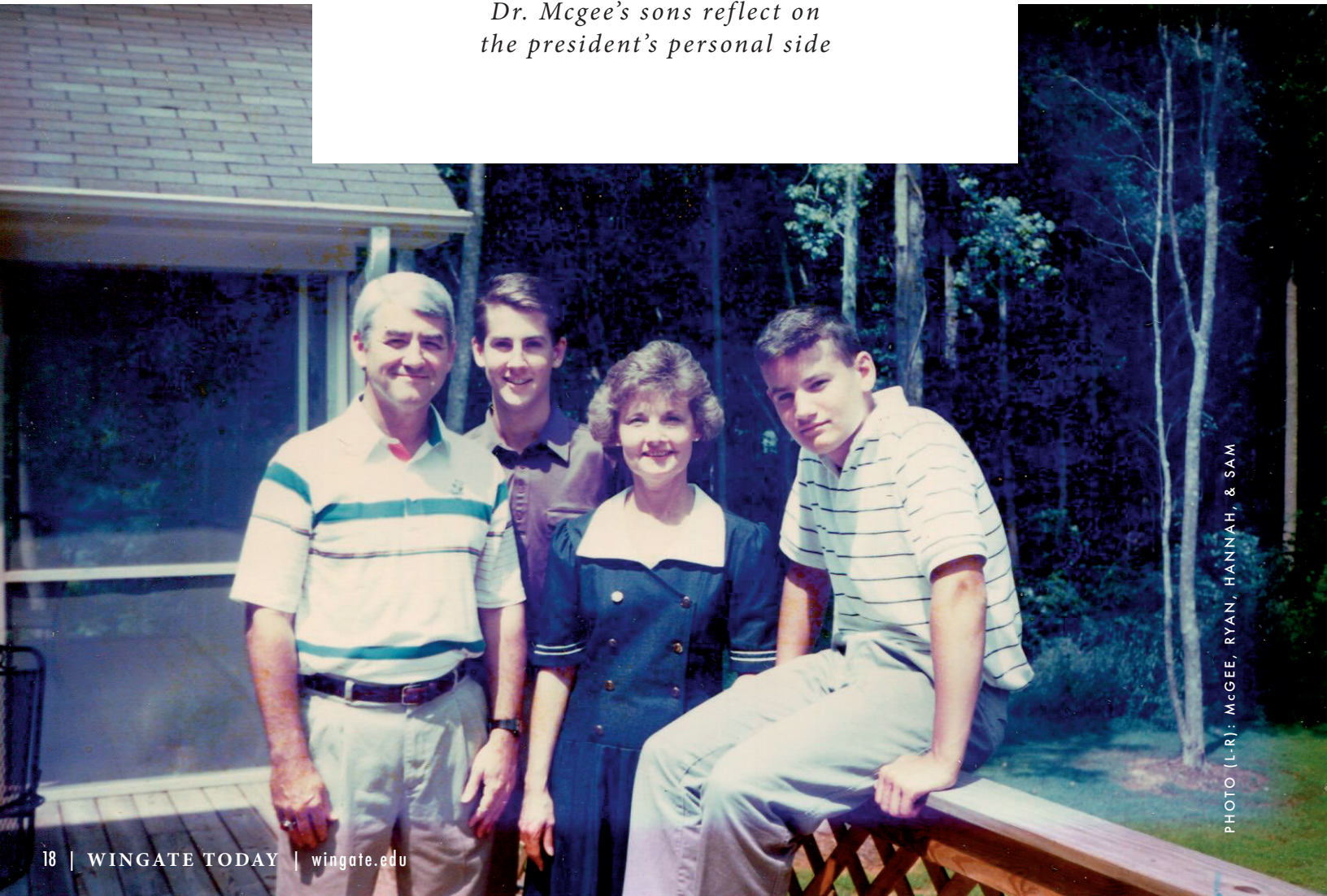


PHOTO (L-R): MCGEE, RYAN, HANNAH, & SAM

There are many words to describe Dr. Jerry McGee, but the men closest to him use words like “hero,” “the man” and “Dad.” Ryan and Sam McGee are the president’s two children and you need look no further than the first sentence of his biography to realize how important his family is to McGee:

Dr. Jerry McGee, a native of Rockingham, North Carolina, has two sons -- Ryan, a graduate of the University of Tennessee, who is a senior writer for ESPN the Magazine; and Sam, a graduate of Wake Forest University and Yale Law School, who is a practicing attorney. He has three grandchildren – Tara, Hannah and Brooks McGee. He was married to Hannah Covington McGee for 33 years before her death in 1999 and married Marcella McInnis in 2009.

Ryan said he and his brother “have to go back every few years and change what’s in between the commas” about them in their father’s official biography. Ryan added, “it’s fun to go back over the years and see, because literally it’s my entire adult life.”

THE EARLY YEARS AT WINGATE

Over the past 23 years, Ryan and Sam have seen the vision their dad had for Wingate University unfold. Ryan, who’s 44, remembers a family meeting in 1992 to discuss whether or not to take the job as president of Wingate. They were sitting in the living room of his grandmother’s Rockingham home. He said there were “very, very honest, frank discussions with obviously my mom, but also with my brother and me.” Ryan said the reason his dad took the job was for “the opportunity to create this center for education, and for culture and for hope, in his backyard, in his part of the state that quite frankly, needed all those things.”

Once Dr. McGee set foot on the Wingate campus, the vision, passion and compassion began to take shape. “Everybody else saw him working with the suit on, walking a thousand miles a day on campus, and eating in the cafeteria and getting on airplanes or speaking. What they didn’t see was him in the sweatpants and the Wingate t-shirt sitting at the kitchen table with the architect’s drawings and spreadsheets. They didn’t see him on the phone until midnight, calling the West Coast to talk to foundations about bringing money to the school.”

Sam, 41, remembers his dad excusing himself from the living room one night to make some phone calls in the bedroom. When he asked his mom, Hannah what his dad

was doing, she smiled and said, “He’s calling every single student who’s been accepted into Wingate.” Sam said he has met students who told him that phone call from the college president made the difference in them coming to Wingate.

WHERE YOU’RE FROM

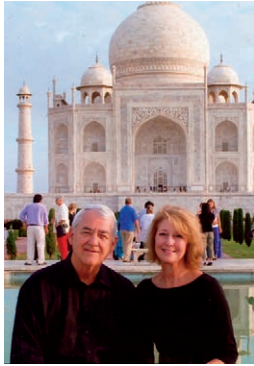
The two brothers spend a lot of time with their dad and Ryan said they never go far without running into someone with a connection to him. “If you give him one minute,” said Ryan, “it doesn’t matter if you’re the Pope, or if you’re the pilot of an airplane, or if you’re the guy working behind the counter at Burger King, it will take dad about five questions to figure out someone you both know. As a result, my brother and I have this kind of running joke and have had it for 30 years. Let’s see how long it takes for dad to run into somebody he knows.”

When they meet someone their dad knows, Ryan and Sam say they can tell where that person is from by what they call him. If they call him “Smokey,” the person knows him from Rockingham where Jerry McGee grew up. If they call him “Dr. McGee,” he knows that person through Wingate. And if they simply call him “Jerry,” it means that person is an old friend.

Sam described a perfect example of this. At Dr. McGee’s first freshman registration day at Wingate, the president was walking across the Academic Quadrangle in his suit on a hot August day. He ran into a woman and her daughter who were in tears. The first words out of her mother’s mouth were “Smokey.” McGee immediately knew that this was someone from Rockingham. As the story goes, the young woman had been accepted to Wingate and wanted desperately to attend, but her family didn’t know how they were going to pay for it. The mother said, “I asked my husband what to do and he said just go find Smokey and he’ll find a way to help us.” McGee instructed them to register, start classes and he’d figure out the rest. Sam said that once grants and scholarship options had been exhausted, McGee went back home to Richmond County. “He went down there and raised the money— door to door more or less— to make sure she could go to school. She did well and she graduated.”

AN EQUAL PARTNER

For the first seven years of his presidency, every major decision McGee made was discussed with his wife Hannah. She was also “mom” to Ryan and Sam. On Feb. 28, 1999 Hannah died unexpectedly of a brain aneurism. She was 54. Both sons agree that even though her life was cut short, she left a large mark on Wingate. According to Ryan, “his partner in all of that dramatic stuff that had to



PHOTOS (TOP-BOTTOM) 1. DR. MCGEE & HANNAH, 2. MCGEE & MARCELLA, 3. MCGEE & SONS AT 1993 INAUGURATION, 4. MCGEE & GRANDKIDS, 5. MCGEE FAMILY 6. MCGEE & SONS

take place in those first seven years, all down to the color of the carpet in the buildings and the paint pallet in the classrooms” was his mom. He recalled how she found out that Dry Chapel was being used to store paint cans. So she went there on a Saturday afternoon and started cleaning out the room. She eventually led the restoration effort of Dry Chapel in the foyer of Austin Auditorium.

Sam echoed Ryan’s thoughts on how much of a partner his mom was at Wingate in those early years. “Her fingerprint is still all over that campus. As far as that beautification of that school and some of that vision, some of those were her ideas.”

Sam said that he learned a valuable lesson from how his dad dealt with the all of the reminders of his wife around

“DAD IS THE TYPE OF GUY WHO WANTS TO BE THE BEST AT EVERYTHING HE DOES, BUT HE NEVER LET THAT TAKE PRIORITY OVER BEING THE BEST HUSBAND, FATHER, AND FOR THAT MATTER UNCLE, BROTHER, SON AND NOW GRANDFATHER...”

-SAM MCGEE

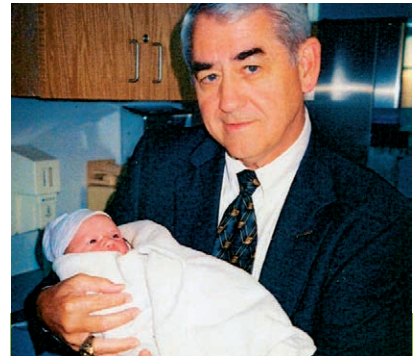
campus. “I think a lot of people might have had the instinct to run from those memories, somehow they empowered him. And in that way I think she’s continued to be part of everything he’s accomplished.” The 554-seat auditorium in the George A. Batte, Jr. Fine Arts Center is named the Hannah Covington McGee Theatre.

In 2009, Jerry McGee remarried. Marcella McInnis McGee carries on the role of Wingate’s first lady. She can be seen at musical and athletic events (she is a big fan of the volleyball team), and travels with the president when they go with students on W’International seminars abroad. Whether McGee meets with students, alumni or donors, Marcella is alongside listening and offering support.

FINISHING STRONG

To say Ryan and Sam are proud of their dad would be an understatement. They love their dad dearly and were happy to share him with the Wingate community for all of these years because he never stopped being dad. Sam summed it up this way: “Dad is the type of guy who wants to be the best at everything he does, but he NEVER let that take priority over being the best husband, father, and for that matter uncle, brother, son and now grandfather. The priorities never got out of whack.” And as the days of his presidency wind down, they have not seen their dad take his foot off of the gas. “It would have been easy for him to coast to the finish line, but that’s not his style.”

Ryan knows that years from now, people will still be benefiting from the dreams which started to take shape in a living room in Rockingham. “There were a lot of people that didn’t see the potential in the place and Dad is the one that did. Thankfully the people with the board of trustees at that time saw that he saw that and they had the vision too.”

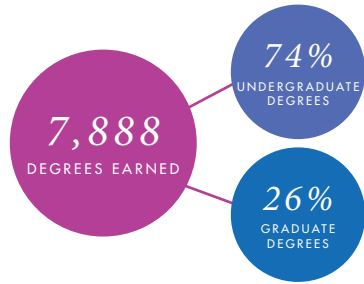


“SIX YEARS AGO, my oldest grandchild was born. I stood holding her in my arms, looked into her beautiful eyes and thought to myself, ‘How in the world could I possibly love someone so much when they didn’t exist an hour ago?’ At that moment, I would have given my life for my granddaughter because I had so much love for her and I’m telling you that’s the kind of the relationship we would like to have with you (our students).”

- DR. JERRY MCGEE
2011 OPENING CONVOCATION TO STUDENTS

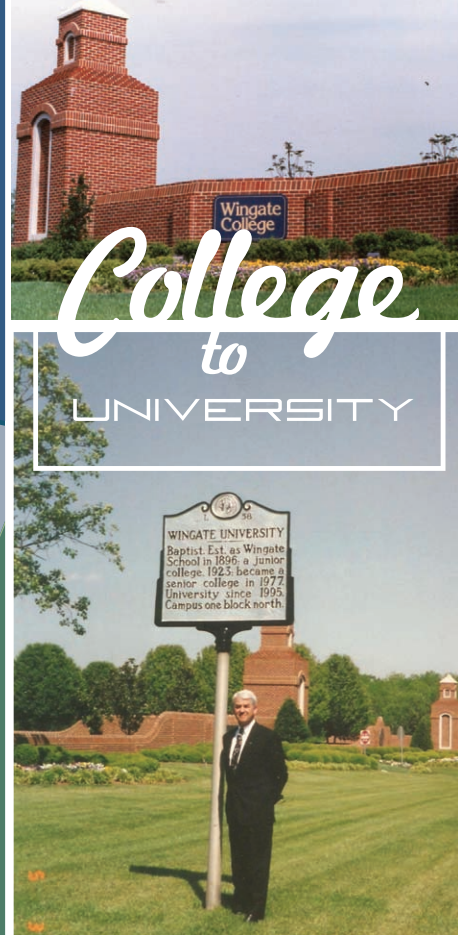
STATS

DEGREES EARNED DURING MCGEE'S TENURE



"I REALIZE WINGATE IS A COLLEGE WITH RICH TRADITIONS AND A LONG COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE."

- DR. JERRY MCGEE, 1992



With the addition of post-graduate programs in education and business, Wingate College changed its name to Wingate University in 1995. ▲

Secure the promise. Create a legacy.

Unprecedented accomplishments.

An expanded mission.

Reaching students of promise and allowing them the opportunity to unlock their potential.

As we celebrate Dr. McGee, we also celebrate Wingate's alumni, family and friends who have displayed generosity that has seen transformational academics and capital projects become a reality.

Now, you have an opportunity to Secure the Promise for generations to come by **Creating a Legacy** through planned giving.

By including Wingate University in your estate plan, you provide a financial resource for scholarships and academic programs for generations to come. You also demonstrate an example of philanthropy for your own family.

Everyone who provides for Wingate University through a documented planned gift becomes a member of the prestigious **Legacy Society** and receives recognition annually on campus along with access to special events.

Create a legacy, for you and for Wingate University.

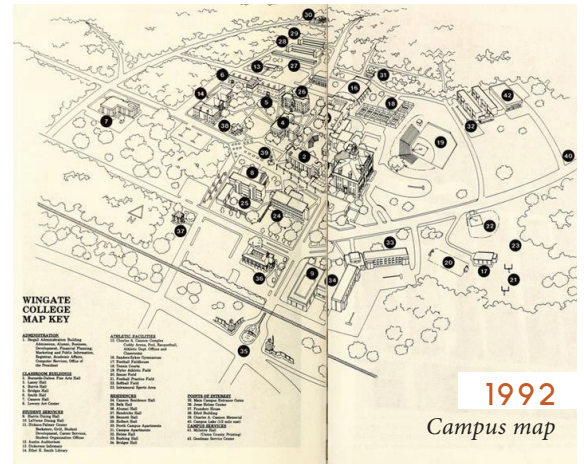
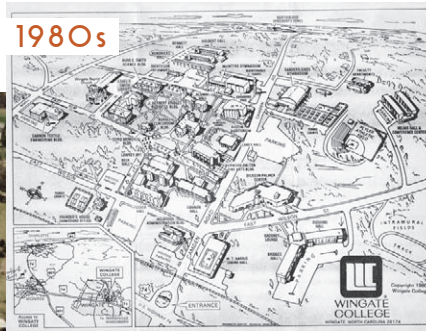
WINGATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1896

For more information Contact Ted Johnson Director of Gift Planning (704) 233-8105 tjohnson@wingate.edu www.wingatelegacy.org

Campus before Stegall, Belk Stadium, Batte Center, Hayes Building, South Village Apartments, Levine College of Health Sciences building or JM Smith Residence Hall were built

BEFORE 1991



AMONG THE MOST VISIBLE EXAMPLES OF CHANGES UNDER DR. MCGEE WOULD BE CAMPUS BUILDINGS.

Since his arrival in 1992, every existing facility on the Wingate campus has been either refurbished or demolished. During his tenure, 37 new buildings have been built. The amount of classroom space has nearly doubled from 680,000 square feet to 1.14 million square feet.

As a result, the sight of construction crews with hard hats and heavy equipment is as familiar on campus as seeing students eating quesadillas from the Klondike and seeing TP on the Quad at homecoming.



1993
Ethel K. Smith Library renovation began (top) - completed 1995 (bottom)



1994
McIntyre Gym (right), Wingate College's first gym, was demolished. JM Smith Residence Hall (above) was completed 2013 in that spot.



1994
Stegall Administration Building finished



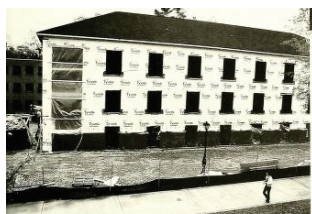
1994
Efrid Library renovation and building rededication



1998
Irwin Belk Stadium was built. First home game September 1998



1997-99
George A. Batte, Jr. Fine Arts Center (above) completed in 1999, replacing Laney Hall (left) which was demolished in 1997.



2004
Addition to Cannon Residence Hall

2006
Addition to Burris Hall



2006
Hucks Softball Field House



2007
Watson Village built



2007
Hayes Building, connected to Burris Hall, was under construction in 2006 (right) Hayes Building was complete in 2007 (above).



2007-08
Edward L. West Center for Athletics & Human Performance Lab

"MANY THINGS DO CHANGE. YET THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF A WINGATE EDUCATION REMAIN THE SAME."

-DR. JERRY MCGEE, 2009



2010
Byrum
Apartment
Building finished

2008
Welborn
Apartment
Building finished

2007

Beam Apartment
Building finished



2008

The Gate
constructed



2012

Promenade,
replacing Camden
Street complete



2009

Troutman Baseball
Clubhouse finished



2011

Levine College
of Health
Sciences building
finished - home
to Pharmacy
and Physician
Assistant Studies
programs



2013-14

Cynthia LeGette
Bullock Center
for Music Studies



2013-14

Dickson-Palmer Center
Renovations



2013

Einstein Bros.
Bagels opened in
EKS Library



2013-14

Burnside Dalton
completely renovated
for Doctor of Physical
Therapy program



2014-15

Soccer Field
House under
construction

2014

Bridges Building addition with elevator



2014

Bookstore (Wingate Outfitters) moved to Main St. across from the town of Wingate's Post Office



2014

W.T. Harris Dining Hall renovation



2015

The Old Well Spring by the amphitheatre under construction



"THE MOMENT HAS COME TO CELEBRATE THE FACT THAT TOGETHER WE HAVE DEVELOPED WINGATE UNIVERSITY INTO ONE OF THE BEST INSTITUTIONS AROUND."

DR. JERRY MCGEE, 2011



2014-15

Hinson Art Gallery built



2014-15

Wilson Street Residence Hall construction



NEW in 2016

NEW in 2016



2016

The new Health, Recreation and Wellness Center completion date

2016

Expected completion date for Wingate University Hendersonville classroom building (above) on grounds of Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville.

1992

NEW PRESIDENT

DR. JERRY MCGEE BECAME WINGATE COLLEGE PRESIDENT



ED. D.
DOCTOR OF EDUCATION PROGRAM BEGAN



GREEK LIFE
SORORITIES AND FRATERNITIES BEGAN



1993

MBA

PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN MATTHEWS

PA & PHARM. D.
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM BEGAN. WINGATE BECAME FIRST COLLEGE IN N.C. TO OFFER BOTH PHARM.D. AND P.A.



2008

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

VOTED TO ESTABLISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

1995

UNIVERSITY

WINGATE COLLEGE BECAME WINGATE UNIVERSITY

THE DALAI LAMA

OF TIBET SPOKE AT WINGATE UNIVERSITY



2007 1 OF 8

WINGATE WON FIRST OF EIGHT CONSECUTIVE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

1998

STADIUM

IRWIN BELK FOOTBALL STADIUM DEDICATED



1999

BATTE CENTER

OPENED

2003

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

OPENED



2001

MARGARET THATCHER

BRITISH PRIME MINISTER SPOKE ON CAMPUS

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

INTERNET ACCESS AVAILABLE IN ALL DORMITORY BEDROOMS



2011

HAYES
CLASSROOM BUILDING
OPENED

+ **LEVINE COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES**
BUILDING OPENED

HENDERSONVILLE CAMPUS ★
OPENED, OFFERED MBA AND PHARMACY

NEW PRESIDENT
DR. T. RHETT BROWN BECOMES
THE NEW PRESIDENT OF
WINGATE UNIVERSITY

BYRUM

PORTER B. BYRUM SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS NAMED AND DEDICATED

2015
SECURE THE PROMISE
CAMPAIGN PASSES \$100 MILLION



2012

NURSING
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
ADDED AT WINGATE CAMPUS

2014
**DOCTOR OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY**
PROGRAM STARTED



**PA @
HENDERSONVILLE**
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM
ADDED AT HENDERSONVILLE



**BALLANTYNE
CAMPUS** **2013**
OPENED



FINANCIALLY FIT
RATED AS ONE OF THE
NATION'S MOST FINANCIALLY
HEALTHY INSTITUTIONS

**ROAD
CLOSED**

MCGEE PROMENADE
CAMDEN ROAD CLOSED, MCGEE
PROMENADE OPENED IN ITS PLACE

'92-'15
- TRANSFORMATION -
TIMELINE

WINGATE
UNIVERSITY
EST. 1892



F A M O U S

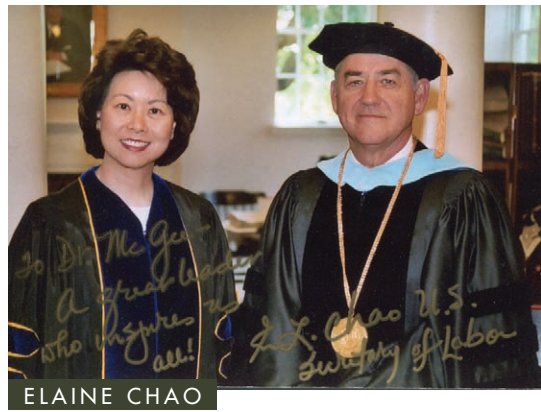
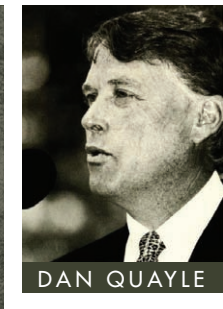
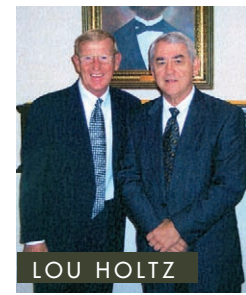
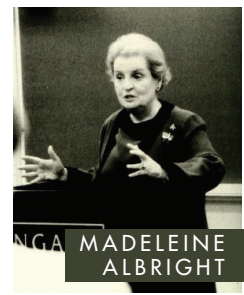
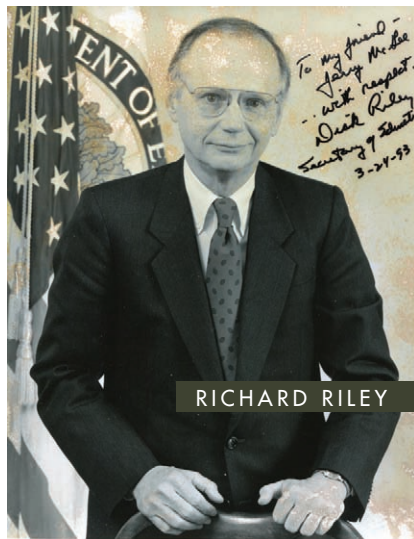
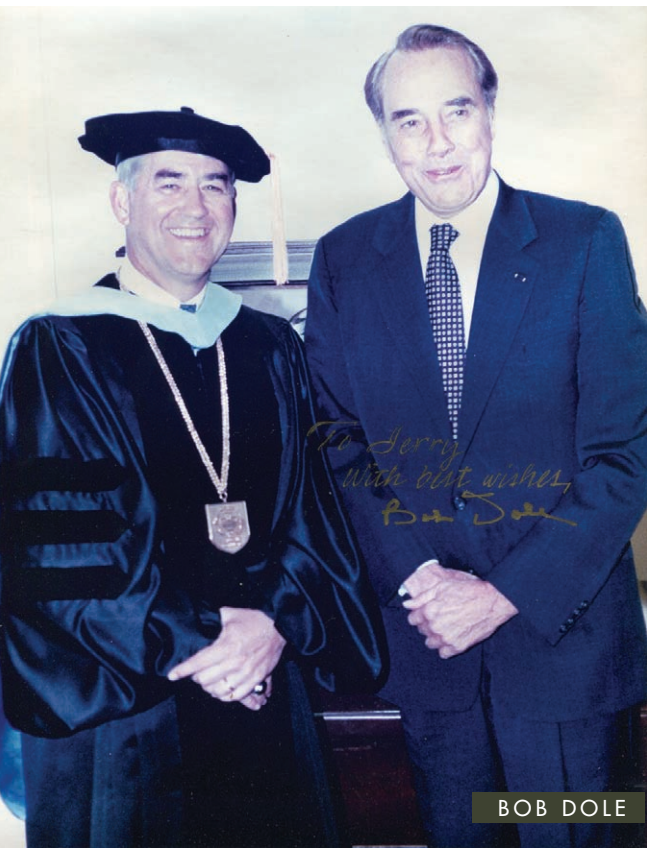
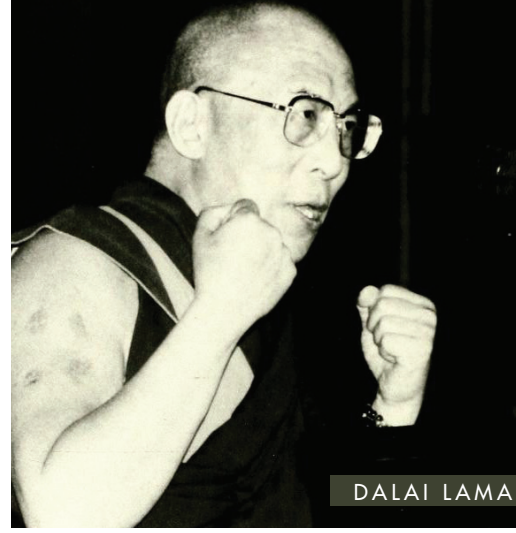
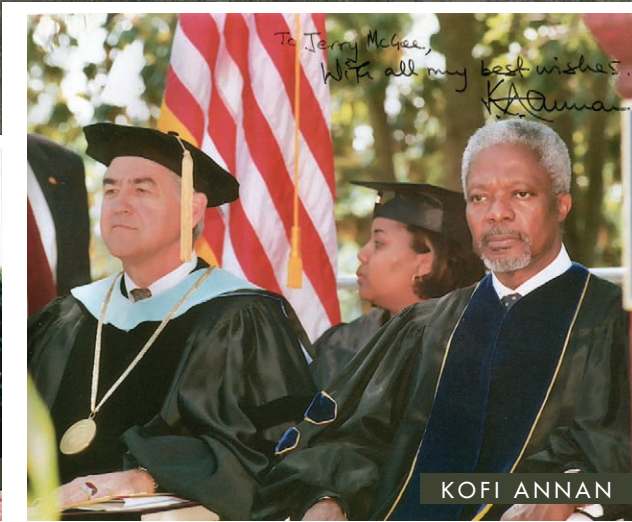
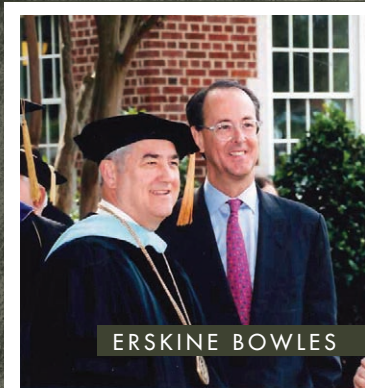
P E O P L E

During Jerry McGee's presidency, Wingate University has welcomed well-known people from politics, religion, sports and entertainment.

Special visitors since 1992 include:

U.S. Vice President DAN QUAYLE
U.N. Secretary-General KOFI ANNAN
British Prime Minister MARGARET THATCHER
U.S. Secretary of State HENRY KISSINGER
U.S. Secretary of State MADELEINE ALBRIGHT
U.S. Secretary of State CONDOLEEZZA RICE
U.S. Senator JESSE HELMS
U.S. Senator BOB DOLE
U.S. Senator WARREN HATCH
U.S. Representative ROBIN HAYES
U.S. Representative and NFL player J.C. WATTS
White House Chief of Staff ERSKINE BOWLES

U.S. Secretary of Education RICHARD RILEY
U.S. Secretary of Labor ELAINE CHAO
U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations DR. JEANE KIRKPATRICK
Buddhist spiritual leader the DALAI LAMA
College and NFL football coach LOU HOLTZ
NFL player JOHN KASAY
North Carolina Governor PAT MCCRORY
Pop and Christian singer AMY GRANT
Country singer CLINT BLACK
Storyteller and radio personality GARRISON KEILLOR
Folk singer JOAN BAEZ
Opera singer SUSAN GRAHAM



\$20.9 million

Byrum's contribution in 2011 is the single biggest gift Wingate University has received.



A man who helped contribute to Jerry McGee's success at Wingate University is a man many people at Wingate had never heard of 14 years ago: a humble, Southern gentleman lawyer named Porter B. Byrum of Charlotte.

"There has never been a single more important philanthropist to any university in North Carolina than Porter Byrum to Wingate University," McGee said in December 2012 at a bust dedication ceremony honoring Byrum. "Mr. Byrum," McGee added, "you have changed everything here. You have made everything better."

Byrum's contribution in 2011 of \$20.9 million is the single biggest gift WU ever received. And it came through the sale of a shopping mall, the Park Road Shopping Center in south Charlotte. The gift and the amount of the sale made headlines in newspapers, TV and radio.

"I never was thinking that my shopping center was worth anything like that," said Byrum, 94, in a recent interview at his home not far from the retail hub.

Byrum earned a living running a successful law practice in Charlotte for more than 50 years and investing in real estate.

The shopping center, on Park and Woodlawn Roads, sold for \$81.8 million. The proceeds were divided three ways among Wake Forest University, Queens University of Charlotte and Wingate. Wake Forest, in Winston-Salem, N.C., was awarded a 49 percent distribution. The other two schools split the majority, 51 percent.

To outsiders, it seemed to make sense for Wake to receive the lion's share. Byrum received his law degree from Wake Forest. And Queens students had shopped Park Road Shopping Center for decades. But why Wingate? That's where the McGee magic comes in.

In 2001, after McGee had been at Wingate nearly a decade, he began sharing with friends and donors a ten-year report of what had been accomplished at the school. It happened to coincide with a time when Byrum was thinking about donating property he owned across the street from his shopping center.

A mutual friend to Byrum and McGee, a retired Baptist minister in Charlotte

“You have changed everything here...”

The relationship between Jerry E. McGee and Porter B. Byrum

BY JEFF ATKINSON



named Allen Laymon, introduced the two men to each other in the summer of '01, and they hit it off.

Byrum and McGee had things in common: both raised in rural North Carolina, families that were poor, the value of hard work. And interesting things to talk about: Byrum fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, McGee was a Division I college football referee for 36 years.

“Mr. Byrum has a keen ability to determine the character of an individual,” said Laymon. “He thought that Dr. McGee was an excellent leader of young people.”

“You ought to do something for your generation besides just live and die.”

- Porter Byrum

In December of that year, Byrum gifted two parcels of land and an office building to Wingate and stunned McGee at what it was appraised for: \$1.45 million. The money came at a crucial time in the university’s history, plugging a budget shortfall.

“He (McGee) was so nice, saying that was the biggest thing that ever happened to Wingate,” Byrum said. “He made me feel like I really did do something good.”

Thus began a 14-year friendship.

In May 2002, Byrum received a Doctor of Humane Letters, an honorary degree the university awards at Commencement. He became a member of the Wingate University Board of Trustees and continued contributing to the school.

Byrum said he doesn’t know how much he’s given to WU, but venture onto the 400-acre Wingate campus and travel to campuses in south Charlotte’s Ballantyne community and Hendersonville in the North Carolina mountains, and Byrum’s impact is felt.

Never one to seek the limelight, Byrum nonetheless relented and allowed his name to be placed on two campus buildings: The Byrum School of Business and Byrum Hall, part of Watson Village Apartments across the street from the Levine College of Health Sciences.

Byrum money has enhanced the student experience at Wingate and helped McGee dream big. Through his generosity, the university has increased its endowment, constructed buildings, added programs, provided faculty enrichment and established the Byrum Scholars.

The scholarship generously funds students who are bright and have financial need. About 50 freshmen were chosen in the fall of 2012. The university adds one class each year intending to reach a total of about 200 students across four classes by the fall of this year. McGee says it will continue for as long as the school’s in existence.

Nathan Spitler was in the inaugural class of Byrum Scholars. Now he’s a junior. “It’s definitely really thoughtful. It means a lot to me that he would be willing to help me out like that,” said Spitler.

The university brings the scholarship recipients together each fall to pose for a photograph of them holding a banner that reads, “Thank you, Mr. B.” The picture is framed and sent to Byrum. He keeps it in family room at his home in south Charlotte.

Byrum never married or had children, but he’s leaving a legacy that few can match.

“Pick out a bunch of students and give them a scholarship, or help the college, help a worthwhile cause. I feel that way,” he said. “You ought to do something for your generation besides just live and die.” ▴





SECURING THE PROMISE

Dr. McGee's Unparalleled Legacy of Fundraising

BY VINT TILSON
The impact of fundraising at Wingate University is profound. And the University's top educational fundraiser is its president, Dr. Jerry McGee. During his tenure as president, over 19,000 donors have contributed more than 77,000 gifts in excess of \$170 million to meet strategic student, faculty and campus needs.

Secure the Promise—Building Excellence Today to Best Serve Tomorrow—a Campaign for Wingate has been the most ambitious and successful comprehensive fundraising campaign in school history. Gifts to the Campaign have exceeded \$100 million, more than doubling the original Campaign goal of \$46 million. It is fair to say that every dimension of University life has benefited from this stellar Campaign.

The President's decision to launch the ***Secure the Promise Campaign*** in January 2009 speaks volumes about his bold and intuitive leadership. The nation was two years into the Great Recession.

Household assets dropped significantly. There were record declines on Wall Street, bank failures and

federal bailouts. Four million mortgages were three months or more in arrears. Nationwide, home values dropped 33 percent. New home construction virtually came to a standstill. Giving to colleges and universities declined.

And Wingate University launched a campaign when no other college or university we knew was planning a campaign, much less starting one. Alumni and friends responded to ***Secure the Promise*** with record levels of support to secure the promise of the many academic and campus achievements in recent years for future generations of students. The Campaign gave strategic University initiatives and opportunities the means to reach their full potential for an unparalleled legacy of stewardship from one administration to the next for the benefit of the students we serve.

Another decisive fundraising moment for Wingate came in the fall of 1993 when Dr. McGee called on the Cannon Foundation whose trustees' commitment to then Wingate College had waned in the aftermath of the previous administration's failed attempt to change the institution's name to Cannon University

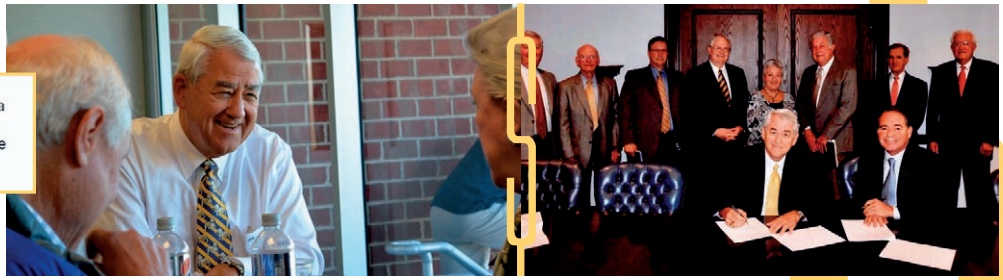
after its deceased major donor and patron, Charles A. Cannon. At the time, the Foundation's support of Wingate was at a low point in the historic relationship.

Today, Dr. McGee points to his visit with the Board of Trustees of the Cannon Foundation in October 1993 as one of the single most important fundraising calls of his presidency. The result was a mutual commitment to look forward to a progressive Wingate future. What is today the Charles A. Cannon Charitable Interests group increased its annual support of Wingate to the point of significant financial backing to ease the loss of revenue when the University transitioned from a legal to a fraternal relationship with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The change in relationship with the Convention strengthened fundraising because University trustees were no longer limited to members of churches affiliated with the BSCNC. Trustee support of ***Secure the Promise***—the first campaign after the relationship change—increased dramatically over support from Convention-elected trustees to launch the School

IN THE PAST 5 YEARS
ANNUAL GIVING TO
WU HAS INCREASED BY
\$1 MILLION
EACH YEAR.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Nov 7
 THIS WEEK I have been to South Florida AND New York trying to raise money for WU. Missed my own birthday party. I love this place!



STATS DURING
 MCGEE'S TENURE
 AS PRESIDENT ↓

19,000
 DONORS

77,000
 GIFTS

\$170+
 MILLION

of Pharmacy. The University continues to receive scholarship aid from the BSCNC and enjoys a free and clear covenant relationship with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina which also provides scholarship grants to students.

A landmark decision was made early in 1998, six years into the McGee presidency. Convinced of the president's fundraising effectiveness to capitalize Wingate for enrollment growth, the Board of Trustees authorized the University's first long-term construction loan to build South Village Apartments, Irwin Belk Stadium and George A. Batte, Jr. Fine Arts Center. Fundraising reduced

borrowing to build the facilities and accelerated repayment of the construction loan.

The president's recommendation for trustee approval to invest in new and renovated facilities was pivotal to Wingate's growth and development. This first of many building phases established a hand-in-glove partnership between fundraising and finance and began what would be 17 years of continual upgrading and expansion that would lead to a campus of 400 acres and 1.2 million square feet under roof in 2015 compared to 600,000 square feet under roof in 1998.

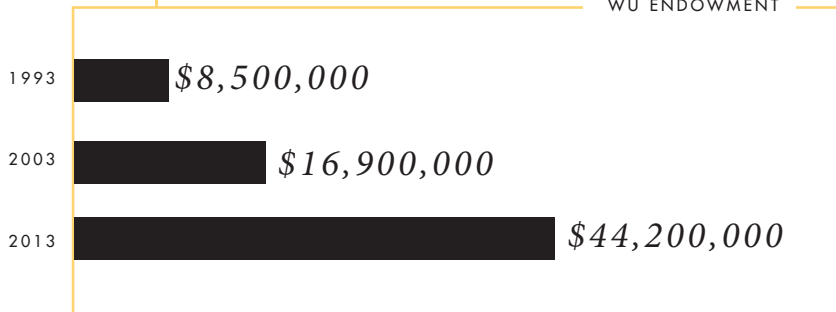
Fundraising to begin health sciences programs and expand graduate education has been especially noteworthy. Fully 75 percent of construction costs for the Levine College of Health Sciences was subscribed through cash gifts and fulfilled pledges from a diverse body of donors. Fundraising for pharmacy education has been particularly gratifying, drawing investment by a broad

range of donors from international corporations to retail pharmacists, Main Street, USA. The response of the pharmaceutical community to launch the School of Pharmacy more than a decade ago when few universities the size of Wingate with fewer than 2,000 students would ever dare such a venture was transformational for the University financially. It was the first step in building a graduate and professional program enrolling an unprecedented 1,100 adult students.

Reflecting upon his 23 years of fundraising achievement at Wingate, Dr. McGee said, "We were successful securing major gifts early and often which created expectations. We started academic and student programs, and we built buildings and facilities. We were positive and optimistic. We were enablers.

"Our fundraising results convinced faculty, staff and students to dream with us when we talked about where we were institutionally and where we wanted to go and what we wanted to be. You couldn't help but notice then, and you can't help but notice now that gifts from alumni and friends keep expectations high on campus as we talk and consider the next best thing for our students and their futures after graduation in a world of immense opportunity." ▀

WU ENDOWMENT



“ATHLETICS PREPARES OUR STUDENTS FOR LIFE...[THEY] ARE IMPACTING THEIR CHURCHES, THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CAREERS...”

-STEVE POSTON



More
 THAN A
 FAN

Dr. McGee has taken a personal interest in the lives of Wingate's student-athletes

BY DAVID SHERWOOD '85

WINGATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. JERRY MCGEE BELIEVES ATHLETICS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE TOTAL COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.

As a college student-athlete himself, McGee knows the lessons he learned as a student-athlete have transcended sports, helping him as he makes decisions in his leadership role at Wingate.

During McGee's tenure, Wingate University Athletics have grown from 14 sports to 22 sports. New or significantly upgraded facilities have been constructed for Wingate's baseball, softball, soccer, football, lacrosse, track and field, and tennis student-athletes. The Bulldogs have won the South Atlantic Conference Echols Athletic Excellence Award for the past eight years.

Wingate's athletic success is not limited to the playing field. Wingate is first among NCAA Division II Academic All-America®-producing colleges in the 2000s with 72 selections. Among North Carolina's colleges and universities, Wingate's 72 Academic All-America® honorees are number one during the past 15 years. Duke is second with 63 during the same time frame.

"Certainly, Wingate University Athletics would not enjoy the success we enjoy without Dr. McGee's support," Wingate vice president and director of athletics Steve Poston said. "As a student-athlete himself, Dr. McGee understands the value of the student-athlete experience."

"Athletics prepares our students for life," Poston said. "Of course, there is a physical impact, but our student-athletes are impacting their churches, their communities and their careers... thanks to their involvement in athletics... and Dr. McGee's constant support."

It is not uncommon to see Dr. McGee and his wife Marcella in the stands at Wingate home events. They are engaged. Bulldog fans see them darting from event to event on a busy Saturday. Dr. and Mrs. McGee do not limit their interest in students to the athletic realm; they are always present at concerts

and other events, spreading love through their presence.

"I have learned firsthand Dr. McGee takes a personal interest in everything we do," Wingate head men's soccer coach Gary Hamill said. "He genuinely cares about our athletes and our coaches and takes the time to let us know this. Even though he is retiring, Dr. McGee will always be part of Wingate Athletics. He has certainly been and will continue to be a great ambassador for our University."

Dr. McGee, Poston and their predecessors have assembled a top-notch coaching staff. Wingate's current head coaches have more than 125 years invested in the school, a statistic unrivaled in NCAA Division II.

"I have enjoyed a great personal relationship with Dr. McGee over the past 20 years," Hamill said. "I have seen firsthand his love and dedication to student-athletes at Wingate. One must only look at the current facilities and our new ones being constructed, and one will realize we have some of the best facilities in the country. This fact is directly attributable to Dr. McGee's vision and drive."

Dr. McGee is not a passive observer of the athletic landscape. He officiated at more than 400 college football games during a glorious 36-year refereeing career. McGee's involvement on the conference and national level is lengthy. He served as a member of the NCAA Presidents' Council and twice served as the national chairman of the Football Issues Committee for NCAA Division II. McGee also served as chairman of the South Atlantic Conference Presidents' Council.

McGee is a member of the Wingate University Sports Hall of Fame, the South Atlantic Con-

"PERHAPS HIS [MCGEE] GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS THE TIME HE HAS INVESTED IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS."

-STEVE POSTON

“AS THE THIRD RANKING NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA SCHOOL THIS MILLENNIUM, WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON OUR STRONG EDUCATIONAL AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS”

-DR. MCGEE, 2011



ference Hall of Fame and the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. He is humbled by these recognitions, but McGee would rather talk about the accomplishments of his student-athletes. He celebrates when they receive an award or promotion, and will let them know he is proud by reaching out through social media or email.

“To be sure, Dr. McGee’s accomplishments are numerous,” Poston said. “Perhaps his greatest accomplishment is the time he has invested in

the lives of others. Dr. McGee has served as a mentor and friend to countless Wingate University coaches and student-athletes alike.”

“I know of no greater contribution one can make than to be seen as a mentor to others,” Poston said. “I am appreciative that Dr. McGee has been a mentor to me.” ▲



“ANYONE WHO KNOWS DR. MCGEE KNOWS HE IS A DIE-HARD BULLDOG FAN.”

-GRACE KRAUSER '13

>>TWEETS FROM MCGEE

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Sep 27
Big day in WU athletics! Everybody turn out to support the Bulldogs. Best of luck to all teams. Believe in the Bulldog.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Dec 3
Congratulations to three time All-American Jade Montgomery! Well deserved.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Dec 4
There are simply no words adequate to express our appreciation to WUVB for one of the greatest seasons in WU sports history. Thanks.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Sep 19
R U ready for some football? First home game at 1:30pm tomorrow. U only have about 20 home games during your college years. Don't miss any.

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Nov 16
We have just witnessed some of the greatest soccer ever played by WUMSOC and WUWSOC. These past few years have been truly exceptional. Thanks

Jerry McGee @mcgeewingate · Jan 3
Great win by WUWBB! So proud of this team.



The Referee

BY JEFF ATKINSON

He's the only college president in the United States who knows what it's really like to play in the big leagues. In addition to a 44-year career in higher education, Jerry McGee spent decades as a Division I college football referee. In May 2012, he was inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

"Jerry McGee is an exceptional person," said Don Fish, executive director of the sports museum in Raleigh. "First of all not many people have officiated at the highest level that he has. He's done all the big games." And there have been many: a total of 404 games, 20 of them bowl games, three national championships.

McGee's officiating career began in 1973 with a small college game attended by fewer than 1,000 fans. He retired from officiating six years ago ending with the 2009 BCS National Championship Game which featured #2 Florida and top-ranked Oklahoma. The Gators upset the Sooners 24-14 in front of a record crowd and viewed by nearly 30 million on TV.

"I think of Dr. Jerry McGee as one of the finest officials ever in the history of our game," said Grant Teaff, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association.

His 36 years as a football referee will likely never be broken.

McGee is the only college president who's doubled as a football official and university president. For 16 of his 23 years at Wingate, McGee held both jobs. ▴

FAVORITE

MEMORY

OF
DR. MCGEE

On my freshman move-in day he came into my room and personally welcomed my family and me to the university. He shook my father's hand and told me that he was so happy that I was here. At the time I had no idea who he was and when I found out I was honored that he would come to my room just to welcome me.

Emma Detomo '16

The first time I met Dr. McGee at a basketball game, the first thing I said to him was, "you're short."

Cynthia Thomas Cooper '95

Unfortunately, I haven't had the pleasure of meeting Dr. McGee, but I look forward to shaking his hand as I graduate this May. I am not only proud to be a Bulldog, but proud to have attended Wingate University under Dr. McGee's reign.

Samantha Allen '15

Being a student-athlete I love seeing him and his wife in the president's box at the game it shows how much he supports every part of the University.

Alex Tomlinson '17

The Yule Log burning is a Wingate tradition. This this past December I went and I remember him and his wife shaking every single person's hand and telling everyone "Merry Christmas." That made me feel like he valued every student equally.

Ashly Cassaro '17

Seeing Dr. McGee and his wife in the stands of the Wingate University Volleyball matches is one of my fondest memories. I was inspired every time I saw the President of Wingate University cheering with passion and excitement for my team.

Grace Krauser '13

My favorite moment with Dr. McGee was at his house for Christmas and he asked me about going to graduate school and I respond with an adamant "No." However, God had other plans when I was called to be a pastor and went to Duke Divinity School. Maybe Dr. McGee was a visionary in more ways than one.

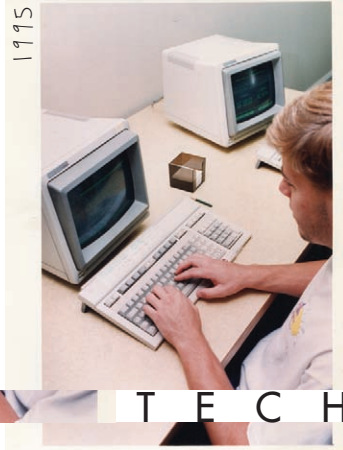
Mike Carr '03

Sitting in his office talking about life in general and what I wanted to do and how he and Wingate could help me get there. His care, concern and guidance were so genuine.

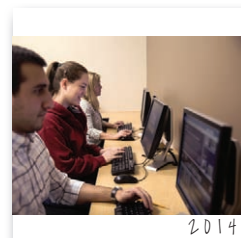
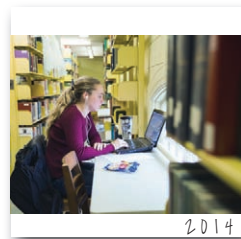
Tyson Webber '00

My favorite memory of Dr. McGee involves a short conversation he and I shared my sophomore year. It was the week after spring break and I saw Dr. McGee on the sidewalk. I said hello, he responded, and I was satisfied. However, he went further and asked me, "How was the weather up in New York?" He had seen a picture I posted on Facebook and had remembered it well enough to ask me about my spring break trip with my family. I'm sure his Facebook feed is very full, and out of all the social web noise, he remembered me well enough to ask about my experience. This simple question he asked had a profound impact on me, and I have remembered that moment ever since. Dr. McGee cares about individual students, which encourages the intimate atmosphere that makes Wingate such a roaring success.

Kevin Logan '15



T E C H N O L O G Y



T Technology has changed considerably from when Jerry McGee became president of Wingate College.

In 1992, the college did not have a website and no employees or students had Wingate email addresses. The Ethel K. Smith Library had only two computers with Internet access, which meant dial-up modems.

COMPUTING FACILITIES

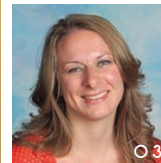
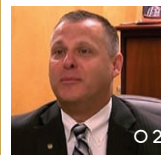
Bridges Hall houses microcomputer labs. The IBM laboratory contains 29 IBM personal computers plus printers, and the Apple Lab contains 22 Apple IIe personal computers plus printers. Both labs are open and available for student and faculty use twelve hours a day.

FROM 1992 WINGATE COLLEGE CATALOG

But most students didn't have computers at home, either. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that in 1993, only 22 percent of households had computers. That was up from only eight percent of U.S. households with computers in 1984.

Wingate faculty and students got email accounts in 1996. Internet access became available in Wingate University dormitory bedrooms in 2001. ▀

Wingate-educated Educators *Win* awards



Being named an “Educator of the Year” is a distinctive honor. And six students who graduated from or are currently enrolled in Wingate University’s programs for educators recently won such noteworthy awards:

Russell Booker, B.S. ’91, was named 2015 Superintendent of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. Russell is Superintendent of Spartanburg (S.C.) School District 7. *(Photo 1)*

Adam Auerbach, Ed.D. ’11, was named the 2014-2015 Wells Fargo Regional Principal of the Year. He was also chosen as Wells Fargo’s Cabarrus County (N.C.) Principal of the Year. Adam is principal at Wolf Meadow Elementary in Concord, N.C.

Kevin Plue, Ed.D. ’11, was named the 2014-2015 Wells Fargo Principal of the Year for Union County (N.C.) Schools. Kevin is principal at Forest Hills High School in Marshville, N.C. *(Photo 2)*

Erin Anderson, currently in the Ed.D. program, was named the 2014-2015 Kannapolis (N.C.) City Schools’ Principal of the Year. Erin is principal at Jackson Park Elementary.

Carrie Tulbert, Ed.D. ’12, was named 2013-2014 Wells Fargo Principal of the Year for the state of North Carolina. Carrie is principal at Mooresville (N.C.) Middle School. *(Photo 3)*

James E. Ford, pursuing his Educational Leadership Certificate from Wingate University, was named the Burroughs-Wellcome 2013-2014 Teacher of the Year for the state of North Carolina. James was also named by The Charlotte Observer as one of “Seven to Watch” in 2015. James teaches World History at Garinger High School in Charlotte. *(Photo 4)* ▀

FUTURE BULLDOG DAY

What do fifth graders think college is like? More than 1,000 elementary students from 10 area schools toured Wingate University and enjoyed a women's basketball game on December 9, 2014. They were asked what surprised them about college life and here are some of their answers.

WHAT SURPRISES YOU ABOUT COLLEGE LIFE?



AIDAN, AGE 10
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC

I thought it would be just one big building. They have different buildings for everything. A building for arts. A building for math. A building for everything!

MAREN, AGE 10
PROSPECT ELEMENTARY
MONROE, NC

I didn't know you have a roommate.



PRESTON, AGE 10
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC

The architecture of the buildings is exquisite.



The library and a lot of buildings are named after people I guess they gave a lot of money or something

RYAN, AGE 10
PROSPECT ELEMENTARY
MONROE, NC

I LOVE it here! There are so many choices. I think it would be hard to decide what classes to take.

Students have to share the SAME bathroom.

MADDIE, AGE 11
WAXHAW ELEMENTARY
WAXHAW, NC

JAKE, AGE 10
PROSPECT ELEMENTARY
MONROE, NC

SMALL CLASSES can be a good or bad thing. If they had bigger classes they could lower tuition. But students wouldn't get one-on-one attention.

MY SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE A BOOKSTORE. THEY JUST GIVE US OUR BOOKS. AT COLLEGE, YOU HAVE A BOOKSTORE BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO BUY ALL OF YOUR BOOKS.

CYRUS, AGE 10
INDIAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY
INDIAN TRAIL, NC

Did you know, this is a fact, you can have unlimited food at the cafeteria if you attend here?

PJ, AGE 10
INDIAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY
INDIAN TRAIL, NC

I DIDN'T KNOW THERE ARE ALL THESE THINGS YOU CAN LEARN.

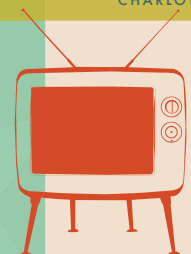
IT SEEMS FUN TO GO TO COLLEGE.

BLAKE, AGE 11
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC

TYLER, AGE 10
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC

You can skateboard on campus. I saw people on long boards doing cool tricks near the library.

I'd like to study in a room with a TV. That looks like fun.



KASHISH, AGE 10
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC

ELLA, AGE 10
INDIAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY
INDIAN TRAIL, NC

SEAN, AGE 11
POLO RIDGE ELEMENTARY
CHARLOTTE, NC



SOCIAL MEDIA AND **McGEE**

>>MADELINE COLEY, senior | 2014



>>BRANDI PIERCE, freshman | 2014

>>DILLION PAYNE, senior | 2014



>>PRESTON LEE FLOWERS, freshman | 2014



>>BRANDON HATHAWAY, senior | 2014



>>MARTA ARELY, junior | 2014



>>RONALD PRIOLEAU '14 | 2014



>>KEVIN LOGAN, senior | 2014



>>CAREY FIKE WILLIAMS '99 | 2014



FOLLOW
McGEE

>> @mcgeewingate | TWITTER
>> facebook.com/jerry.e.mcgee | FACEBOOK

I THINK DR. MCGEE PUT WINGATE IN MOTION.

- Cody Flowers '14 -

TAKING THIS SCHOOL FROM A SMALL JUNIOR COLLEGE TO A VERY SUCCESSFUL AND WELL-KNOWN UNIVERSITY.

- Alex Tomlinson '17-

THE HOME-LIKE ATMOSPHERE THAT EVERYONE FEELS WHEN THEY STEP FOOT ON CAMPUS;
THE VALUES HE HAS INSTILLED IN THE UNIVERSITY.

- Zach Broadway '17-

ALL THE VISIONARY THINGS HE KNEW WERE NEEDED AND WERE POSSIBLE
IN ORDER FOR WINGATE TO BE THE BEST IT COULD BE.

- Mike Carr '03 -

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
DR. MCGEE'S
LEGACY
AT WINGATE
UNIVERSITY
WILL BE ?

HE MAKES EACH STUDENT FEEL VALUED AND APPRECIATED,
WHICH IS A RARE ATTRIBUTE COMING FROM SOMEONE IN HIS POSITION.

- Ragan Riddle '13 -

DR. MCGEE'S LEGACY WILL NOT ONLY LIVE ON IN THE HISTORY BOOKS, BUT
ALSO IN THE MINDS AND HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE HE POSITIVELY IMPACTED EVERY DAY.

- Kevin Logan '15 -

HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH STUDENTS AND HIS STRONG LOVE FOR THE UNIVERSITY,
WINGATE UNIVERSITY WOULDN'T BE WHAT IT IS TODAY WITHOUT HIM.

- Samantha Allen '15 -

THE PRESIDENT LEAVES A GREAT LEGACY OF INTENTIONAL LEADERSHIP AT WINGATE
AND WITHIN ALL OF THE STUDENTS HE HAS SERVED DURING HIS TIME THERE.

- Grace Krauser '13 -

STEADFAST LEADER.

I MOST APPRECIATE HIM TAKING THE TIME TO GREET ME AND OTHER STUDENTS BY NAME.

- Benjamin Davis '15 -

CONNECTING WITH STUDENTS, HE IS ALWAYS FRIENDLY TO ALL STUDENTS.

- Andrew Muzon '15 -

HIS GENUINE INTEREST IN HIS STUDENTS' WELL-BEING.

- Iris Brewer '16 -

HOW INVOLVED HE WAS WITH THE STUDENTS AND WITH PROGRAMS ON CAMPUS

- Emma Detomo '16 -

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAMPUS.

- Cynthia Thomas Cooper '95 -

HE BROUGHT THE UNIVERSITY FORWARD TO NEW AREAS AND PLACES
THAT UNIVERSITIES LIKE WINGATE TYPICALLY DON'T GET TO BE.

- Tyson Webber '00 -

OUTSTANDING KNOWLEDGE AND SERVICE

- Ashly Cassaro '17 -



THE MCGEE ERA

- A FACULTY PERSPECTIVE -

By Dr. Sylvia Little-Sweet

A BOLD ACADEMIC CHANGE OF DIRECTION...
HAS PROVED TO BE VISIONARY.

When approached to write an article for *Wingate Today's* commemorative issue on the McGee era, I wondered what I could add. However, before I could plead the Fifth Amendment or defer to someone else, I was told how uniquely situated by tenure and circumstance I was to accept the assignment. I had, after all, taught for four presidents of Wingate University and had lived long enough to write *Wingate's* centennial history, *The Chalk Dust Chronicle*.

Since 1896, thirteen principals or presidents have led the institution. Of those, Dr. Jerry McGee holds the longest tenure (23 of the 109 years), remarkable in itself, when anyone maps the institution's development from academy, to junior college, to senior college, to university. All chief executives have found distinct challenges, set different goals and chosen unique plans of action. Unprecedented growth of the

[MCGEE] HAS PROVEN HIMSELF TO BE ONE OF WINGATE UNIVERSITY'S FINEST AMBASSADORS.

campus in the late 1950's would set a standard for the next three administrations. In addition to refurbishing and maintaining the main campus, Dr. McGee has continued to build new academic, residential, performance, recreational and maintenance space, thus making Wingate University a major contender for students throughout the Southeast and beyond.

Each president has also chosen a special vision for Wingate—a legacy to leave future constituencies. Except for M.B. Dry, successors have built upon the dreams and accomplishments of their predecessors. In 1993 Wingate was already a senior college with international programs, a sound curriculum, and technological capabilities. Under Dr. McGee's leadership, Wingate is now a recognized university that grants graduate degrees, operates on three campuses, and mandates global awareness and diversity. His vision has been directed toward second-century excellence. Professional programs and degrees in Pharmacy,

Physician Assistant studies, Nursing and Physical Therapy have become timely options in an otherwise more traditional liberal arts curriculum. Many small private colleges are foundering, but a bold academic change of direction—though to some controversial—has proved to be visionary.

All of Wingate's presidents have also adopted different leadership styles. Some have been more authoritarian than others; some have delegated authority and asked advice of others; and some have customized their own strategies for success. Nonetheless, they have all been leaders—unequivocally and unquestionably—securing positions, staying in office and leaving their individual marks upon the institution at retirement. Only as Wingate's history is written and rewritten will assessing a particular president's leadership be exact or even lasting. As leader, Dr. Jerry McGee's list is long and impressive.

He leaves for his successor an improved physical plant, a competitive curriculum in today's Higher Education market, a strong development record, higher student enrollment and more qualified professors with terminal degrees. With the help of many others—as

he would be the first to admit—he leaves Wingate University a better place than he found it in 1992.

Finally, many of Wingate's presidents have established personal relationships during their tenures. The last four have differed greatly in this respect, as well, since the presidency of a college or university comes with its own hazards and fulfillments. Still, some choose authority over friendship; some allow a few close friendships; and some seek friendships across institutional ranks. Dr. Jerry McGee has been my friend, not just my boss. I have found him to be personable and supportive as a friend. Moreover, he is a friend of many students, showing them respect, sincerity, personal warmth and charm. He knows their names and inquires about their families. Precisely, because he makes such good public impressions, he has proven himself to be one of Wingate University's finest ambassadors. ▀



Dr. McGee presenting Dr. Sylvia Little-Sweat an award in 2013.

NEW WINGATE PRESIDENT IS
★
ANNOUNCED
DR. T.

**RHETT
BROWN**

ALUMNUS & CURRENT VP



BEEN ON CAMPUS FOR
MOST OF THE PAST
30 YEARS



BY SHARON FOOTE

The name of Wingate University’s next president should be very familiar to many WU alumni, faculty and current students. Rhett Brown has been on the Wingate campus for most of the last 30 years.

On March 18, 2015, the University announced Brown will take over as president on June 1, when current president Jerry E. McGee retires. Brown first came to Wingate in 1986 as a transfer student. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1989, he began working in Wingate’s campus service office. He earned his MBA from Wingate in 2001 and completed work for his doctorate at the University of Alabama.

Over the years, Brown has held a variety of positions at Wingate University. He has interacted with students, faculty and staff as Wingate’s director of the office of career services, associate dean of students, university planning officer and dean of enrollment management. Since 2009, Brown has been vice president for student life and enrollment services.

Brown said he is “deeply humbled and tremendously excited” about being named Wingate University’s 10th president. He described Wingate as “an institution of higher education that embraces the depth of practical application, enriched by the breadth of the liberal arts.”

**“ [I A M]
DEEPLY HUMBLLED
AND TREMENDOUSLY
EXCITED. ”**

-RHETT BROWN

He is quick to credit Wingate University with his success, saying “Wingate and its professors believed in me and in my potential.” He added that he is still working off a debt to his Wingate teachers, mentors and classmates who “taught (him) about life and how it should be lived.”

Brown recognized Dr. McGee for his “years of visionary leadership” and said he looks forward to building upon the retiring president’s “profound legacy and great work.”

As Wingate’s next president, Brown says his immediate plans are to focus on strategic planning for developing the University’s programs and facilities, fostering a collaborative leadership team, and strengthening the school’s ongoing efforts for resource development and community relations.

Brown’s wife, Nicci, will step down from her position as Wingate University’s registrar. The couple and their two children, Wyatt, 14 and Isabelle, 11, live in Monroe. ▀

Legacy

the
gift
of
a

BY DONALD C. TAFT

In 1992, as a relatively new trustee, I was asked to join the team charged with finding a new president for Wingate College. We had millions of dollars in deferred maintenance with many campus buildings in need of repair and upgrading. We had older dormitories, a very modest endowment and we struggled hard with enrollment goals. We boasted that there was no debt, but many of us secretly believed that a modest amount of debt might actually be good for us, spent in ways that would attract students, of course. We were just another small, undergraduate, liberal arts school with nothing to distinguish us from “the pack.”

Then, a smiling, confident Dr. McGee came on board and immediately, things began to change. He knew how to raise money and his warm, personal touch with everyone he encountered added to his abilities. As the years passed, buildings were repaired, deferred maintenance was gradually eliminated, new buildings were built, and academic course offerings were refined, some new and some eliminated entirely.

not
an
inheritance

Looking back, four “game-changing” decisions were made with Dr. McGee’s leadership, a dedicated senior staff and a sensitive and far-sighted trustee board:

1

Student Housing

A small amount of debt led to new dormitories that attracted students and encouraged them to live on campus, something that the school had struggled with as many students either commuted daily to class or went home on the weekends leaving a quiet campus behind.



2

Baptist Heritage

Dr. McGee led the way among the five Baptist colleges in North Carolina proposing what turned out to be a creative solution allowing the school to choose its own trustees and eliminating the funding from the Baptist State Convention. Thus, a new, much broader, and less restrictive policy of trustee selection began.



3

Pharmacy

This was the first step in offering a doctoral degree. It started with the naming of a special task force, then the hiring of an outstanding dean and faculty, and finally the construction of a state-of-the-art facility. Wingate has led the way with an outstanding, nationally recognized Pharmacy program.



4

A School of Health Sciences

I remember a visit to Pacific University in 2006 with Dr. McGee and Steve Poston. We were investigating opening a School of Optometry and Pacific had this new concept of a School of Health Sciences. After a full day of interviewing the staff and ending with an hour-long discussion with the school’s President, Dr. McGee quietly said to me, “Do we dare do this?” As the board chair, I answered, “I think the question is, ‘what happens to us if we don’t?’” Of course, it was his responsibility to make it happen, and make it happen he did, adding Physician Assistant studies, Nursing and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs and more recently a Respiratory Therapy major (pending accreditation approval).



4

GAME-CHANGING
DECISIONS
UNDER MCGEE’S
LEADERSHIP

A huge difference exists between a legacy and an inheritance. Anyone can leave an inheritance. An inheritance, usually financial, is something you leave to your family or loved ones, and it generally fades with time. A legacy is something you leave in your family and in loved ones and endures with time.

Dr. McGee has left a legacy in Wingate University and in those of us who worked alongside him, which will not die out in time. The remarkable progress which this school has seen over the last 23 years,

took leadership of course, but it also demanded courage and persistence when the outcome was anything but sure. In the future, some may marvel at the noteworthy progress that was made during Dr. McGee’s years as President. But his real legacy lies not in progress, buildings, programs or endowment, but in the changed lives of countless young men and women who have passed through the doors of this school and have gone on to make real accomplishments in their own communities. ▀

CLASSNOTES



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Wingate University Alumni Association

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Has your information changed? Update it. | www.wingate-alumni.org/update-information

60s

Elizabeth Silance Ballard Ungar '63 has now published her sixth and seventh books. "The Fourth Wife of A. Markham Gillespie" was published in October 2014 and "Welcome Home, Teddy Stallard" was published in November 2014. She publishes under the name of Elizabeth Silance Ballard. She also had one book published under the pen name Minerva P. Shaw.

80s

Ben Bailey '85 was elected chairman of the Regional Organized Crime Information Center Board of Directors representing sworn law enforcement officers in 14 southern states.

90s

Randall E. Robinson '99 received a "40 under 40 Leadership Award" from the Triangle Business Journal in Raleigh, North Carolina.

00s

Alicia Martin '01 is the head audio engineer with the touring production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Matt Blair '01 has started Limitless Church, a non-denominational church in Tampa Palms, Florida.

Jenny (Lamprecht) Simon '05 of Huntersville, North Carolina and her sister opened a business. The Cocoon Company sells anti-microbial baby bibs and a car seat swaddle. <http://www.thecocoonco.com/>

Mark Gray '05, recently moved to Austin, Texas to become manager of the Eli Young Band. He also is now engaged to Monica Papuga.

Ben Reed '05 and **Becky Reed '08** endowed a \$25,000 scholarship at Wingate University. Ben is producer and director of Blazing Bull Productions, LLC. Becky is chief pastry chef at Matthew's Restaurant in Jacksonville, Florida.

Beth Voetsch '06 is director of ticket operations and services at Stanford University in Stanford, California.

AJ Huff '07 was named Salesman of the Year at Hendrick Chevrolet Cadillac in Monroe, North Carolina.

Greg Keziah '07, a current offensive line coach and academic coordinator at WU, is engaged to **Abby Coffey '12**. A June 2015 wedding is planned.

Lindsay Roycraft '09 is director of community relations for the Charlotte Knights triple-A baseball team.

10s

Jordan Lowder '10 and **Matthew David Esposito** are engaged. Their wedding is set for May 23, 2015.

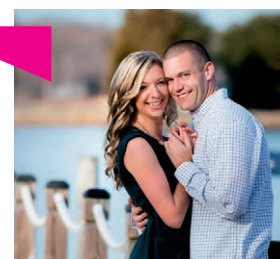
Kim Andrews '11 (Ed.D.), **Stephi Bowman '09** and **Rayna Moorer '04**, left to right, work at Myers Park High School in Charlotte. They were on hand to congratulate Myers Park lacrosse player Anna Harbacevich on Feb. 4, 2015 when Harbacevich signed her letter of intent to attend Wingate University.

Heather Hamilton '12 was awarded the AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) of the Year for the state of Florida. Heather serves as Stetson University's (Florida) community organizer coordinator.

Marlena Lawson '12 and **Matthew Jones '12** are engaged. They will get married in July 2015.

Lane Bass '12 was married to Susan Spencer on December 13, 2014. Lane is a ministry intern at First Baptist Church in Dunn, North Carolina.

Shawn Greeson '14 was elected as a Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor for Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.



M

MARRIAGES

Erika Scocco '04 and **Patrick Niland** were married on Oct. 25, 2014. ▲

Bridget DuPre '10 and **Trevor Brandt '10** on May 10, 2014. ▲▲



B

BIRTHS

Gregory O. Brown '08 and **Kendra Brown**, a girl, **Amelia Winter Brown** on June 27, 2014. ▲

Kim Jinorio Swanson '09 and **Dave Swanson '09**, a girl, **Marley Elaine Swanson** on June 27, 2014. ▲▲

Matt Trent '05 and wife **Emily Trent**, a boy, **Everett**, on Dec. 11, 2014. Everett is welcomed by big brother, **Jude**, born Aug. 9, 2012. ▲▲▲



O

OBITUARIES

friends

Bob Sabin on Jan. 11, 2015. Bob was a long-time friend of Wingate University. Throughout his life, he gave back to his community through various charities and donating his time. He is survived by his wife, **Marion**, and three sons, **Kyle**, **Ryan** and **Sean**.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.
Email s.foote@wingate.edu by June 1 to be included in the next *Wingate Today*.

DR. MCGEE

Thank You

FOR **23** YEARS



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YOU HAVE
but what you are willing
TO GIVE.

- DR. JERRY MCGEE, 2010