

AVERETT

magazine

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF AVERETT UNIVERSITY | 2018 EDITION



10 Years
OF POSITIVE CHANGE

2018 Edition

Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Buddy Rawley '75

Editor

Cassie Williams Jones

Art Director/Designer

Travis Dix

Lead Writer

Danielle Staub

Contributing Writers

Ashley Bowman '18

Jenny Gregory

Drew Wilson

Editorial Assistants

Marion Breen

Diane Gosney '03, '15

Donna Gourley

Sherry McDowell '12

Photography

Alternative Minds Photography

Kenneth Bond

Michelle Dalton Photography

Travis Dix

John McKeith

Drew Wilson

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AVERETT
 UNIVERSITY
 SINCE 1859

Vision Statement:

Averett University will be a premier student-centered University renowned for innovative teaching and engaged learning.

Mission of Averett University:

Averett University prepares students to serve and lead as catalysts for positive change.



Welcome Home!

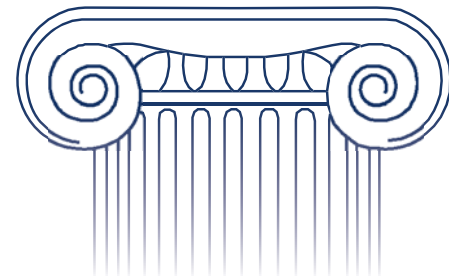
Mark your calendars for Averett's
2018 Homecoming Weekend
September 28-30.

Join your fellow classmates for a weekend packed with activities that include:

- the Homecoming Hometown party
- men's and women's soccer games
- volleyball games
- Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony
- Athletics Hall of Fame induction
- tours of the newly renovated Main Hall
- Saturday afternoon tailgate before the football game at night

For the full schedule of events,
visit averett.edu/homecoming.

Averett Alumni



Alumni Association Executive Board

The Alumni Board works to help alumni take full advantage of their affinity with the University by setting up events and leading alumni in giving back to Averett through recruiting, activities, events and giving.

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Let us know if you, or someone you know, would be an excellent addition to the Alumni Board. Terms are for three years. The rewards and ability to make a difference are endless!

AVERETT
HOMECOMING 2018
Welcome Home
Sept. 28-30, 2018





THREE COUNTRIES, TWO STATES, AND ONE AVERETT ALUMNUS:

HOW KEVIN JANG FOUND HIS WAY

By Danielle Staub

From a couch at Averett's Riverview Campus, to an office in Folsom, California, Averett alumnus Kevin Jang '15, '17, attributes his success to three things: the values his parents instilled in him at a young age, being a student in the Averett GPS program and his work at Infinity Global.



“Never lose the hustle. If I wasn’t going to school, and working here (at Infinity Global) at the same time, I would have never developed the hustle that I have. I attribute that to the MBA program at Averett and this company. That work ethic and gumption will always stay with me.”

He calls it his transformation process in which he learned his potential.

Kevin Jang was born and raised in South Korea. As a young boy, he says his parents asked him if he wanted to go to middle school in China. At the time, Kevin dropped out of elementary school to chase his passion of becoming a pro gamer; however, Kevin’s parents were so worried that he was making such a big decision at a young age that they wanted to broaden Kevin’s perspective by giving him more opportunities in another country. Instead of questioning his parents, he trusted them, and as a 12-year-old boy he left home.

“I simply noticed the importance both countries, China and Korea, put on learning English and realized that there is no escaping it regardless of where I went. That really opened my eyes and I knew that, from my experience of learning Chinese, the best way to learn a language is to completely immerse yourself in that culture.”

Jang says all the children in China already knew the English language, something he was behind in and that made him feel inferior.

“I thought to myself, I should be able to speak English as well but at the time, I barely knew the alphabet.” That pushed him to work harder.

“My objective of going to America was quite simple: to learn the language, English. But during my journey, I gained much

more than just that. I loved the freedom and the diverse education it provided. I was able to blossom in the right culture and assimilate in a positive way. I was learning English at that time, without knowing the full benefits it would bring later in my future, such as being able to lead international projects involving European, American and Asian clients, helping manage distribution centers in 11 different countries and more.”

“
Without Averett’s
love for diversity,
I would not be
here.”

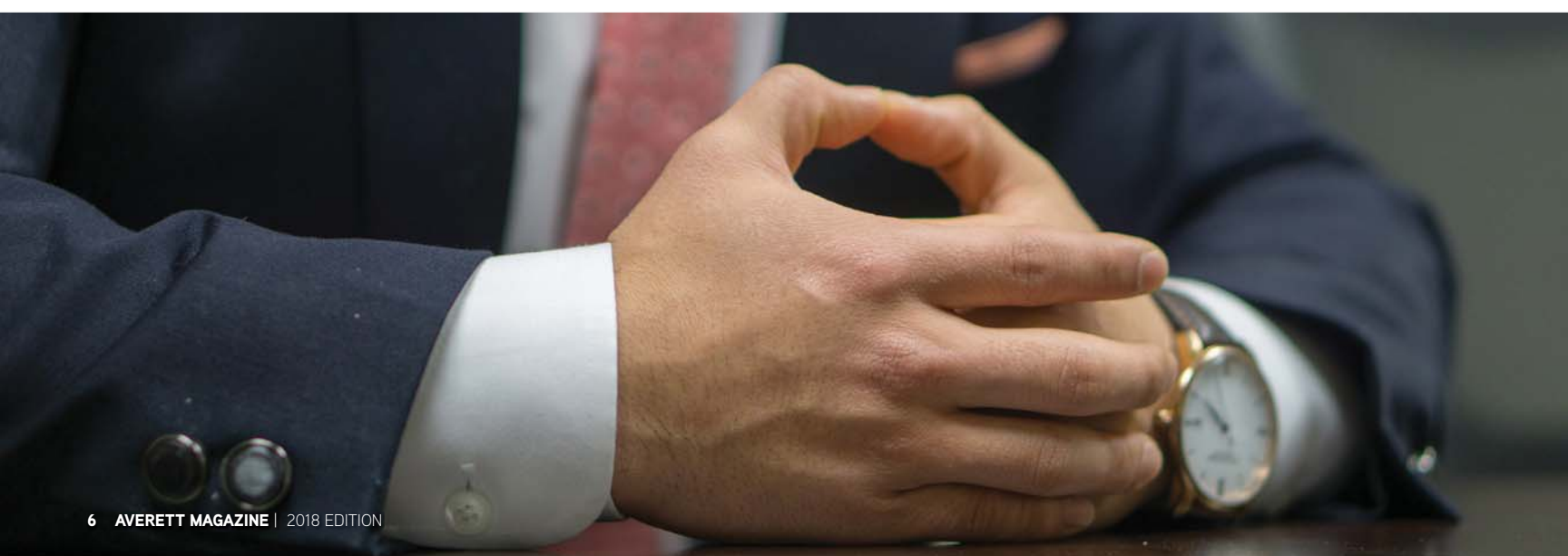
Jang came to America in 2007. He attended Broad Run High School in Ashburn, Va. from 2008-2012. Starting high school, he could speak Korean and Chinese, but barely any English. So he enrolled in an English as a Second Language (ESL) program with other international students. He took one year of the three-year program and tested out to graduate early.

Always looking towards the next step, his higher education journey led him to Averett for its “love for diversity.”

“I received the Presidential scholarship and without that, I would not be here,” he said. “Without Averett’s love for diversity, I would not be here. After receiving the scholarship and researching the University, I found that Averett really embraced not only domestic diversity, but international diversity as well.”

He did not obtain his green card until his second semester in Averett. This was an important and timely goal for Jang, because as a permanent resident, he could obtain working status, which was crucial for him to stay and excel at Averett. He wanted to have a full-time job while being a full-time student because it was important for his family.

“This meant that I was able to legally work to finally support my parents financially. They have been struggling economically for a while and it had been weighing on my heart for quite some time. It was a huge relief for our family.”





It was in his second year when he landed his first job as a marketing analyst at a start-up company, AllergEase, which later proved to be a crucial stepping stone for his future. He said it was his academic advisor at Averett who helped him get an interview with AllergEase.

“Without this opportunity, I’m not sure where I would be now.”

Working and going to school full-time, Kevin occasionally utilized one of the empty classrooms at Averett’s Riverview Campus to catch some rest during his break.

“I often felt sleep-deprived. So during my break at AllergEase, I would walk across the street, turn off the lights and put my head down for a minute at Riverview.”

Just trying to rest one day between school work and work, on a couch in one of the classrooms, Jang woke up to a conversation that would change his life.

That’s when Carly Pearce, executive director for Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS) student services, found Jang. She realized his work ethic and potential, and offered him a job as her graduate student teaching assistant. This meant he would be able to get his master’s degree.

“The fact that I was able to earn my master’s degree without the financial burden is what really meant a lot to me personally, as my family has been struggling monetarily.”

Jang started working for Pearce after receiving his undergraduate degree. Around that time, he got a new job at Infinity Global because AllergEase was leaving the area.

That summer, Jang had quite the busy schedule.

“I would work daily from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Infinity Global, on Tuesdays I had class from 6-10 p.m., and Monday through Friday, I also worked as a GA from 6-10 p.m. From Monday

through Friday, I couldn’t do anything. I didn’t have time nor energy to go out or network. I barely made time to go to the gym to decompress and recharge, just to get home right around midnight to repeat the same hustle the next day.

“I told myself that you have to do it, you don’t have an option. On the weekends, all my time was dedicated to working on my academics - writing papers, preparing presentations and collaborating with classmates on group projects - and catching up on sleep. I do remember going to sleep Saturday morning and waking up Sunday morning, saying to myself, ‘did I really lose a day? I’ve got to put in extra work to make up for the lost time!’ I was focused.”

It was that focus that now has Jang promoted to a new job with Infinity Global in California, working directly with the senior vice president as a business operations analyst.

“At Infinity Global, we look for people that possess three key things. We are looking for people who are hungry, humble and smart. Kevin possesses all three of these things and it is why he has been successful in his various positions at Infinity Global. Having Kevin in California allows me to work with him on a more frequent basis and will help him develop his career with us more quickly,” said Kevin Palmer, senior vice president.


Kevin’s position as Business Operations Analyst was designed to help Infinity Global improve its departmental reporting and create key performance indicators that will allow departmental managers to improve the management of their workload, their direct reports and projects.

“I’ll look back to the experience I had at Averett and will always be grateful.”

The Court and The Classroom

Samm Chandler's Record-Breaking College Career

by Drew Wilson



Samm Chandler '18 had the ball with a defender guarding her closely. As time ticked away, her teammates yelled at her to shoot. The then-senior guard tried crossing over with her dribble, but she and her opponent made contact, sending Chandler down on one knee. She gathered herself and the ball, stood up and, with toes behind the 3-point line, fired up what would be a milestone moment.

The ball hit off the front of the rim twice before falling in to give her 1,443 career points — a new Averett University women's basketball program record.

It seemed only fitting that a knee would have a small part in Chandler's memorable play that Sunday in January. A little more than four years earlier, a knee injury cost Chandler her original freshman season. Yet, it helped shape the 2018 Averett graduate's legacy on and off the court.

It was a normal fall weekday as Averett head coach Liz Hickey leaned back in her chair at her desk, discussing the upcoming 2013-14 season. Hickey, entering her third season at the time, was detailing the members of her incoming class to a colleague. One particular freshman — Chandler — had Hickey rather excited. Then Hickey made a bold statement. Chandler could be one of the best players in the program's history by the end of her career.

"I knew pretty early," Hickey recalled. "I think from the very beginning, I knew she had the potential and the drive to be the best player."

During the team's first scrimmage that preseason, Chandler remembers scoring about 17 or 18 points. She also remembers her knee hurting. She ignored it and kept playing on it in the following days, but her knee kept giving out. She knew it was time get it checked out. Chandler then heard those three letters that many athletes fear: ACL.

"I immediately started crying," Chandler said as she thought back to that day in the doctor's office.

Chandler had torn the anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee, immediately ending what was supposed to be her freshman season and sending her on a date with surgery.

"It was rough. I was depressed for a long time," Chandler remembered. "When you're coming in and you're excited, you feel like you're going to have a good season and rookie year. And then the first scrimmage you tear your ACL."

For Chandler, even in darkness there was light.

"People say things happen for a reason," she said. "Looking back on it, it did happen for a reason."

On the court, Chandler remained a big part of the team — even if she was sidelined from playing. She attended every practice and cheered on her teammates during games. Midway through the season, she was named a team captain despite not being able to log a minute.

"How am I supposed to lead as a freshman? I can't even play so it's not like I can lead by example," Chandler thought. "That's what I always did in high school. So being injured helped me become more vocal and got me out of my comfort zone. Looking back at it, I'm thankful — not that I got hurt, but there's a lot of good things that came out of it."

As Chandler coped with her injury, she tried to stay busy and engaged off the court as well. In high school, Chandler was always involved in something. It's in her personality. She began attending Averett's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) meetings as a representative for women's basketball. Chandler also became an Averett student ambassador giving tours to prospective Cougars. She also continued to explore her faith through Christian Student Fellowship. Eventually, she would add student tutor to her resume during her second year and also played a season of softball during her third year.

"I just really liked the whole idea of it," Chandler said. "I just kept getting more and more involved in it. The same thing with anything I was involved with. It wasn't enough for me to just sit back and chill. I wanted to be more and more involved."

Chandler positioned herself as a leader on campus during her five years at Averett. Her involvement with SAAC, particularly, set her apart. After serving a year as the vice president, Chandler was voted the SAAC president for her final three years. The group, which serves as a voice for student-athletes on campus, also participates in a number of community service initiatives through the USA South Athletic Conference. With Chandler's leadership, Averett SAAC has won three consecutive USA South Cans Across the Conference competitions and the last four Pennies for a Purpose contests.

"We educate our student-athletes to

take advantage of all the opportunities they can during their time in college," Averett Director of Athletics Meg Stevens said. "Samm is the perfect example of a student-athlete who has made the most of her opportunities on campus."

In high school, Chandler was primarily a post player in a solid program that only lost six games between her junior and senior seasons. Although she handled the ball some, she was intrigued when Hickey approached her about playing guard during her recruitment to Averett.



"I shot one 3-pointer in high school, I made it and that was it," Chandler said with a laugh.

Knowing Chandler's potential, Hickey's thought process was simple.

"I knew she could be a good player at any position that we put her in on the court," Hickey said. "She was always able to handle the ball well and had some outside shots, but if we could get her game to be a little more inside out, it would give her more touches in a game and it would make her more of a well-rounded basketball player."

Although the ACL injury temporarily sidelined Chandler, it didn't stunt her basketball development completely. She was as committed as ever. Chandler

worked hard to rehab her injured knee. And she put in more time shooting in the gym, doing form shooting while sitting in a chair to help extend the range of her offense as a guard.

When the 2014-15 season came around, Chandler was ready. In her first collegiate game, she registered a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds. Midway through the season, she showed a glimpse of how special and versatile her skills were in a game at Mary Baldwin University. Chandler became the fourth player in program history to record a triple-double with 22 points, 11 rebounds and a program-record 10 steals.

With Chandler still a work in progress at the time — especially defensively — Hickey shared a funny story about the triple-double game.

“I was upset with her because I thought she was gambling too much,” Hickey recalled, with a smile. “She was either getting the steal or giving up a layup. I was trying to teach her that doing that doesn’t necessarily help us win. You have to learn when to go for that steal, or if you gamble and you lost and didn’t get that steal, it puts us in a bad spot defensively. I can remember pulling her out of that game and telling her that. She was upset. And then my

assistant coach told me that she had nine steals and needed one more for a triple-double. So I told Samm, ‘Forget everything I just said and go back in there and get one more steal.’”

For all her scoring accolades, Chandler may be most proud of how far her defensive skills have come during her time at Averett. Hickey noted that a young Chandler struggled at times in man-to-man defense, especially keeping up with quicker guards. As a result, Chandler tended to defend weaker players. Not anymore.

“I always hustled, but sometimes I struggled keeping people in front of me and closing out on shooters,” Chandler said. “It clicked and so now I’m usually guarding their best players. To me, I’m proud of that because it took a lot of working on it constantly.”

The statistics don’t lie. Career points isn’t the only category in which Chandler has etched her name into in regards to the program’s record book. In the same game that she broke the all-time scoring record on Jan. 7, Chandler became Averett’s career blocks leader. In addition to owning the program’s career scoring and shot-blocking marks, Chandler set the Averett record for games played and finished second all-time in steals.

Chandler departs Averett as arguably the best player in program history. Not bad for someone who originally wasn’t planning to continue her playing career beyond high school.

A native of Burnsville, N.C., Chandler originally applied to colleges closer to her hometown just to go to school. It wasn’t until her high school coach encouraged her to create a recruiting page online — just in case so she didn’t regret it — that Chandler considered becoming a collegiate student-athlete. That’s when Averett came calling.

Chandler knew as a junior in high school that she

wanted to become a doctor. She had gone on a mission trip with her church and realized she wanted to help others in some way. She also loved science. The medical field was a way to incorporate both.

Hickey understood Chandler was looking for more than just basketball in a college. She was aware of Chandler’s career aspirations, so during the recruiting process Hickey connected Chandler with Dr. James Caldwell in the biology department. When Chandler came to Averett for a visit, it happened to be on the same day that the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (known as VCOM) was on campus meeting with current Averett students. Hickey sent Chandler to the session, even if it made Chandler feel “a little awkward” as the only high schooler there.

“I knew that for her, as competitive as she is on the court, picking a college wasn’t just about basketball,” Hickey said. “We needed to show her we were the right academic place for her as well.”

Averett has an agreement with VCOM that allows direct entry to the program should the student meet certain criteria. Without having to take the Medical



Chandler receives the USA South Postgraduate Scholarship from Commissioner Dr. Tom Hart.

College Admission Test (MCAT), Chandler was accepted to medical school at VCOM, where she began the four-year program in July. She matriculated with a 3.97 cumulative grade point average while double-majoring in biomedical science and wellness/sports medicine.

Chandler was honored for her success in the classroom just as much as she was on the hardwood. Chandler earned Academic All-America honors in each of her final three seasons — culminating with the highest national academic honor her senior year as she was named the 2018 Division III Women's Basketball Academic All-America® of the Year as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). She also received the USA South Athletic Conference's post-graduate scholarship award and was a top-10 national finalist for the prestigious Josten's Trophy.

The studious Chandler already got a first-hand glimpse of the medical profession last summer when she was selected to do a four-week program with Project Atlantis in Portugal. Chandler was able to observe a different specialty each week and gain valuable insight.

"Here in America, it's really hard to get any shadowing hours because the rules are more strict," Chandler said. "So it was cool to see real surgeries and be in the operating room and look in from two feet away from the person. It excited me for med school."

Chandler could have graduated last spring after four years at Averett and foregone her final year of athletic eligibility. But the opportunity to come back and finish what she started was important to her, and medical school would still be waiting.

"I just love basketball. To me, it was like if you don't stay, you're going to regret it," Chandler said. "Especially when everything worked out to where I could stay. I didn't want to regret not playing. I love Averett, and I love the team. And it actually helped because I got to take more classes like Spanish that I would

have liked to take for med school that I may not have been able to take if I had to squish it all into four years."

It has certainly worked out for everyone involved. In addition to her individual accomplishments, she helped the Cougars match the program single-season mark for overall wins as Averett finished 18-9 overall this past season and set the program record for conference wins with 13. She's also continued to make a positive impact on her teammates.

"On and off the court, she's always where she needs to be, doing exactly what she should be doing," teammate Amani Ajayi said. "She's very dependable and everyone feeds off her positive energy. Her presence on the team and here at Averett in general will definitely be missed."

Everything has fallen perfectly into place for Chandler, much like that day where she became Averett's all-time leading scorer. The Cougars were playing their last home game before a three-game road trip, and after a low-scoring game the day before, Chandler needed 36 points to match the all-time mark held by Michelle Warner. At the time, Chandler's career-high was 34 points. She was certainly capable, but even to her it seemed like a stretch.

After pouring in 21 points by halftime, Chandler inched closer to the record. She needed nine points in the fourth quarter to break it, and early on she was busy assisting her teammates for baskets in a blowout win. Then she hit a 3-pointer. Then a few layups. With the coaches keeping tabs on her point total on the bench, they and her teammates begin pushing for her to keep shooting. Still, Chandler wasn't aware how close she was. She just knew she was in the flow that game — that feeling every shooter dreams of where the hoop looks like the size of an ocean. With 34 seconds remaining, Chandler got the ultimate shooter's bounce on the front of the rim and set the scoring record

with the 3-pointer, which also set a new personal career-high. Hickey quickly called a timeout so that the team could celebrate the accomplishment and that Chandler could be recognized by the public address announcer. In the stands, her parents clapped with tears of joy.

Chandler was excited to set the record at home, but even more so because both her parents, Frankie and Karen, were there to witness it in person.



Chandler with her parents, Karen and Frankie.

It meant a lot for Chandler to have her dad on hand. Had she not hit the milestone that day, her dad likely wouldn't have been able to attend the next game — a midweek contest at Methodist University — because of work.

"It was a really great moment for her and her family, and also for our team to be able to celebrate that with her," Hickey said.

It was hard for Chandler to reflect on her achievements while she was still in the moment. But she is proud.

"It shows hard work goes a long way," she said. "I worked really, really hard for it, especially when I was rehabbing my injury. I know I put in a lot of work for it. I'm also thankful for God blessing me with the ability to play basketball."


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ALUMNI AWARDS 2019

WHO WILL IT BE?

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YOU COULD BE THE NEXT RECIPIENT



Visit www.averett.edu/alumni/alumni-awards or scan the QR code for more information on the awards that are presented each year and to fill out the nomination form.

ARTS @ AVERETT

2018-19 SCHEDULE

"Pinkalicious"

September 13-14, 2018, 7 pm
September 15, 2 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 adults,
\$8 students/senior citizens (60+)

Flute and Piano Recital by Janet Phillips and Michael Rowland

September 21, 2018, 7 pm
West Main Baptist Church
Free Admission

"Caesar & Cleo"

October 18-20, 2018, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 adults,
\$8 students/senior citizens (60+)

Fall Student Art Show

October 26-November 26, 2018
Jut's Café and Blount Library

Russian Renaissance

October 26, 2018, 7:30 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$25 adults, \$10 students

AU Cougar Band POPS Concert

November 9, 2018, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

Cabaret

November 16-17, 2018, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 adults,
\$8 students/senior citizens (60+)

Averett Celebrates Christmas

November 29, 2018, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

"Our Town"

February 21-23, 2019, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 adults,
\$8 students/senior citizens (60+)

Winston-Salem State University Singing Rams

February 28, 2019, 6 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

Little Bread Hen Puppet Show

March 15, 2019, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

Spring Student Art Show

March 18-April 21, 2019
Jut's Café and Blount Library

"First Date: The Musical"

April 4-6, 2019, 7 pm
April 7, 2019, 2 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Tickets: \$10 adults,
\$8 students/senior citizens (60+)

AU Cougar Band Spring Concert

April 12, 2019, 7 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

Averett Singers & Handbell Concert

April 14, 2019, 2:30 pm
Pritchett Auditorium
Free Admission

1859+ Coffeehouse Lecture Series

October 2, 2018, 7 pm

Dr. Marc Muneal

Student Center Multipurpose Room

Dr. Marc Muneal, associate professor of English, originally hails from Chaguanas, Trinidad and Tobago, will present a multi-disciplinary take on the history of East Indians in the West Indies, interweaving a short cooking demonstration with information about music, literature and performance.

December 11, 2018, 7 pm

Linda Lemery presents

The Dr. Betty Heard Christmas Readings for Children

Student Center Multipurpose Room

This year, the Betty Heard Christmas Readings for Children will focus on international Christmas tales.

February 5, 2019, 7 pm

Carly Pearce

Student Center Multipurpose Room

Carly Pearce, executive director of student services for Averett's Graduate and Professional Studies program, was born and raised in Brighton on the Southeast coast of England. Pearce will present on cultures and customs from her home country.

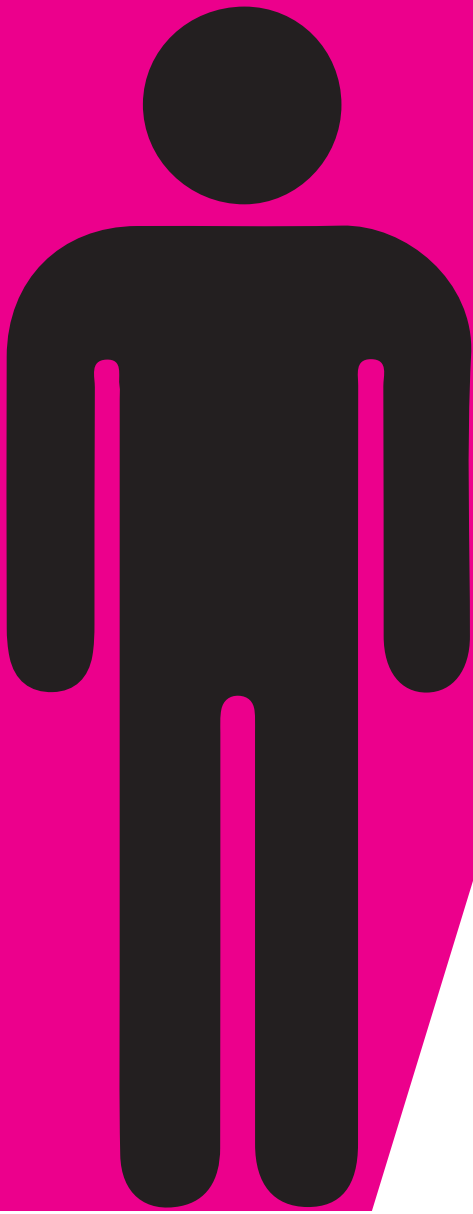
April 9, 2019, 7 pm

Dr. Michelle Liu

Student Center Multipurpose Room

Dr. Michelle Liu's home is Miaoli in Taiwan, R.O.C., and she will share insights on cultures and customs from her home country

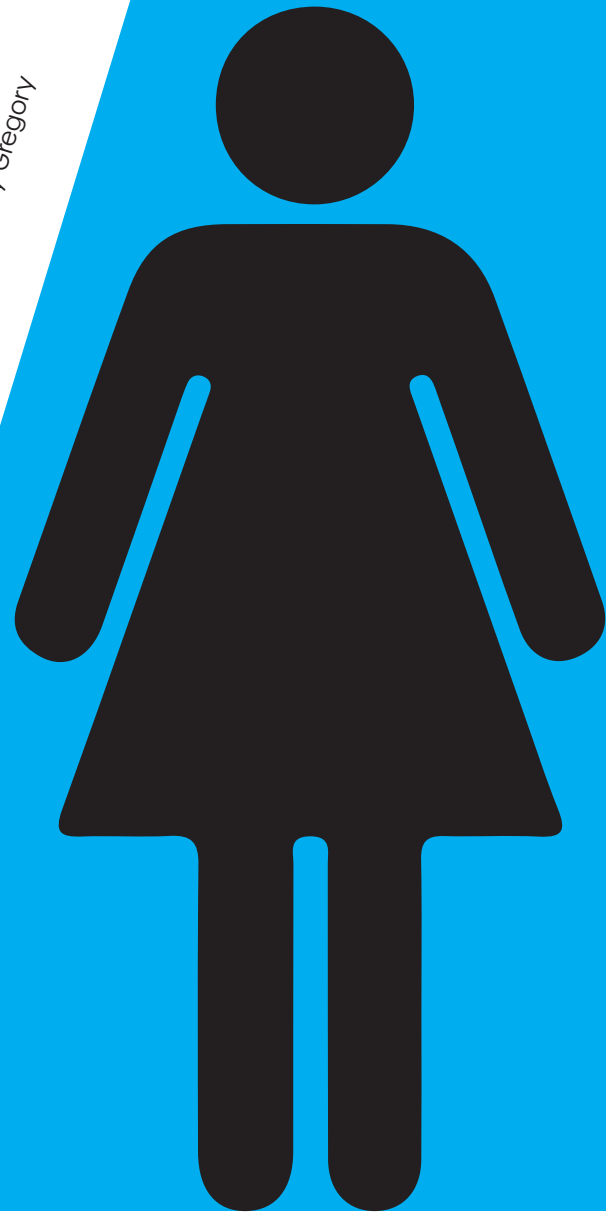
For more information about Arts@Averett, please call Averett Central at 434-791-5600.



Pioneers in their Field:

A Closer Look into Participation in Heavily Gender-Specific Majors

By Ashley Bowman '18 and Jenny Gregory



When applying for colleges, students may choose their future university based on athletics, proximity to home or a particular program they're interested in. However, students often feel tension when trying to select a major. They want to find a great job after graduation, to please their parents or other influential family members, or they feel the need to meet expectations set by society.

Studies have shown that even things such as gender, race or ethnicity can influence someone's selection of a major. While no one is prohibited or steered away from a particular major, there are some areas that are dominated more by male students while enrollment in other majors is predominately female.

Education

Senior Averett University education major, [Cameron Stone](#), is currently student-teaching at Chatham Middle School. During his first education classes, Stone felt out of place and intimidated by being the only male in his classes.

"I've had kids in high schools ask two or three times, 'Why are you going to be a teacher when you're a guy?'" Stone said.

Out of all the student teachers this semester, both elementary and secondary, Stone is the only male. He has always held a passion for history and hopes to instill this in his students.

"I feel like the main reasons kids don't like history is because they have had bad teachers, so I want to be a good teacher and make people like history," Stone said.

Dr. Sue Davis, chair of Averett's Education Department, has been on both sides of the educational spectrum as a teacher and as a former superintendent of Danville Public Schools. From her experience, Davis has noticed a majority of female educators in the elementary and middle schools contrasted by an equal ratio of men and women educators in high schools.

Davis is proud that in the undergraduate and graduate education programs at Averett, there are more than 40 males enrolled.

"Students need role models and father figures due to so many different family configurations," she said.

Equestrian Studies

Another major that typically has a female majority is equestrian studies. Currently at Averett, there are only two men in the equestrian program, compared to about 30 women currently enrolled.

Brandon Lummus, a junior from Lexington, N.C., noticed the difference in the departmental makeup, but noted that even as one of only two men, he doesn't feel uncomfortable at all.

"Since my freshman year here at Averett, there have only been two to three men in the equestrian program. Once second semester began, there were only two of us," Lummus said. "I personally feel like a brother to all of the ladies of the equestrian department. We are a giant family, and nobody is treated differently."

Growing up, Lummus' mother never wanted him around horses. He notes that because of his mom's apprehension, he wanted to be around them even more so.

"I started volunteering at the barn my freshman year of high school," Lummus said. "This volunteering experience made me fall in love with horses even more and that was when I decided to go to school to become a veterinarian."

Nursing

Nursing is often a female-dominated profession. It is no surprise that enrollment in Averett's School of Nursing and pre-nursing programs reflect that. Dr. Pamela Giles, associate professor and dean of Averett's School of Nursing believes that it is important to have a mixture of men and women in any field.

"Men and women have a different perspective when observing or being part of the same situation," Giles said. "That depth and breadth of perspective is what helps nurses become better and better at what they do."

There are currently only a few male nursing and pre-nursing majors as opposed to a majority of female majors. Giles also points out that there could be improvement in how we encourage men to enroll in nursing programs.

"To date, we haven't done anything special to encourage men to enroll in nursing, however, many campuses have a chapter of Advancing Men in Nursing - which I think would be a great idea," Giles said. "Professor Leslie Waller began teaching with us last fall, and he has been a great addition to our faculty."

Computer Science

There are also majors that are typically male-dominated. Examples of majors at Averett that tend to have a majority of male students enrolled are aviation and computer science.

Rosa Morales, junior two-sport student athlete (soccer and lacrosse) and triple major (communication studies, computer information systems and computer science) with a minor in sociology, is one of three women currently enrolled in one of the three computer science centered programs at the University.

Morales is surrounded by a majority of male classmates on a daily basis.

"After being enrolled in several information systems, math and programming courses, which all happen to be male dominated, it became evident that I had to prove myself to them that I was capable of being in the same field," Morales said.

She has aspirations of changing the face of computer science and information systems to encourage more diversity in the field of study.

"When you think of computer science or engineering fields, you think of these geeky kids with square glasses and social awkwardness," Morales said. "I think that the more women are exposed to these fields, the more we will be able to minimize this stereotype."

While she is excelling in the program, Morales does worry about her future job prospects.

"I am going to have a leg up on my male competitors because I am a woman and I'm bringing a different perspective to the table. However, I think that being a woman in the field could limit me," Morales said. "I think that some employers and even coworkers will expect me to not be as deserving of the position. I think it is going to be extremely competitive and that men are going to want me to prove that I am capable of hanging with them."

These students continue to push boundaries every day as they pioneer the path for others in these fields and erase stereotypes. They are living proof that no matter who you are, your dreams are within reach, and your worth is not determined by what your gender identity might be.

Editor's Note: This piece ran in the Averett student newspaper, The Chanticleer, in the April 2018 issue.

MAIN HALL MAKEOVER

Just in time for our new students to move in, we wrapped up renovations of our coveted Main Hall!

The renovations were the focus of the University's Campaign for Main – the first, public phase of a multi-phased, 10-year, \$28 million campaign to raise funds to renovate existing residence halls and future expansions on Main Campus. The Campaign for Main set out to raise \$5.35 million for renovations to Averett's most iconic building – Main Hall – and we are so grateful that we've currently raised \$5.2 million in cash and pledges from our very generous donors. There are a number of naming opportunities still available, including more than 20 dorm rooms.

Built in 1910, this stately building has been reinvigorated to be made like new again for the next century of students who will live and learn here. This step is just the first of similar renovations throughout Averett's entire residential community.

The students are loving the new space, and we can't wait for you to see it! Watch out for opportunities at Homecoming to tour a newly outfitted dorm room, see the new group study spaces and check out the converted penthouse! Here are a few pictures from the renovation...we look forward to showing you the final outcome!

What We've Done

- Renovated 48 student rooms
- Accommodation for 88 students
- Reconfigured student rooms
- New and expanded bathrooms
- Penthouse suite, kitchen and study group lounges
- Central heating and air conditioning in each room
- Replacement windows throughout the second, third and fourth floors
- Increased broadband, wifi and technology
- Upgraded electrical work and plumbing
- New elevator installation
- Rebuilt infrastructure and lock system
- Relocated stairwell

And that's not all!





We've reached beyond Main Hall and updated a few other spaces for our students to live! Fugate Hall got a new paint job, new flooring and brand new furniture throughout. This includes student rooms and a beautiful new lobby to welcome them home!

What's to Come

As enrollment continues to climb, the renovations to Main Hall are just the beginning. Over the next decade and beyond, several potential phases of reconstruction are proposed to come.

How to Help

The evidence is clear: living-learning environments do have a positive effect on academic performance, critical thinking and persistence and we want to create these experiences for Averett students. We want to honor Averett's history and traditions and take back the Main Hall spaces you remember so well and create new living-learning spaces for our students.



You can help make this dream a reality by:

- Challenging your class year to match gifts and name a 'class' room for students (\$25,000);
- Honoring a professor by naming a room after them and challenge others in your major to match your gift (\$25,000);
- Showing your love for your 'main squeeze' by making a "Sweetheart" gift in their name (\$1,000);
- Getting your teams' sports together and combining resources;
- Or, making a gift for yourself and your time at Averett.

Every gift makes a difference and 100 percent of gifts received will go into the Campaign for Main fund. This is your chance to do something exceptional and be a part of our students' success for generations to come!

To make a gift to the Campaign for Main, send checks to Averett University, Campaign for Main, 420 West Main St., Danville, VA 24541, or visit www.averett.edu/giving.





COUGAR NATION DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Supporting our community is a high priority for Averett University, and we want to do everything we can to encourage our students, faculty, staff and alumni to eat, shop and play locally. To that end, the Cougar Nation Discount Program is designed to (1) increase awareness of local businesses and (2) reward students, faculty, staff and alumni for supporting local businesses.

Discounts will only be made available if you show your Averett ID.

RESTAURANTS

Ballad Brewing, LLC 600 Craghead St.

Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni receive a 10% discount on all glassware and apparel.

Crema & Vine 1009 Main St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 15% discount.

Frank's Italian Restaurant 1959 Memorial Dr.

Students receive a 10% discount; may not be combined with other discounts or specials and does not include alcohol.

Heartline Restaurant 999 Riverside Dr.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount.

Me's Burgers & Brews 215 Main St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount; excludes alcohol.

Pino's Pizza 618 Westover Dr.

Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni receive a 15% discount.

Santana's Mexican Restaurant 102 Tower Dr.

Student, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount; excludes alcohol.

The Schoolfield Restaurant 1009 W. Main St.

Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni receive a 10% discount; excludes alcohol.

Stateline Diner 1340 W. Main St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount; not available on daily specials.

Sweet Frog 165 Hold Garrison Pkwy. #590a

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount.

SHOPPING

The Brick 410 Main St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount.

Chestnut Lane 531 Main St.

Students receive a 10% discount.

Karen's Hallmark Shop 325 Piedmont Dr. #5k

Students receive a 10% discount; excludes special orders, Yeti, promotional items, local items, hallmark keepsake ornaments, hallmark cards, postage stamps, limited quantities, sale/clearance-see store clerk for details.

Rippe's 110 Years of Fashion 559 Main St.

Students receive 11% off Patagonia, Jack Rogers, Barbour, Southern Couture, Southern Girl Prep and Simply Southern.

River District Artisans 411 Main St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount on in-stock quilts; does not apply to special orders.

OTHER

Danville Science Center 677 Craghead St.

Students receive free admission to our monthly Science After Dark events. These events are held every first Friday of the month from 5:30-9 p.m.

Hot Asana Yoga Studio 541 Bridge St.

Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni receive an \$8 rate for regularly priced classes.

KG Graphics, LLC 311 Court St.

Students, Faculty and Staff receive a 10% discount on their first order, T-shirts or print item.

Live Safe Defensive Training Inc. 444 Wilson St.

Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni receive 25% off of monthly dues or individual course fees.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Cougar Nation Discount Program, please contact Katie Johnston at 434-791-5877 or kjohnston@averett.edu.



LiveSafe

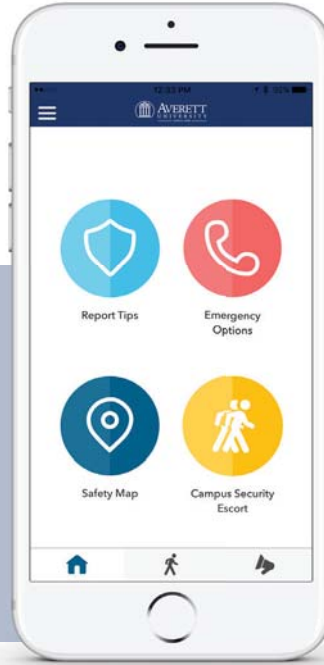
See Something,
Say Something

Students, employees, alumni, parents and neighbors - check out our newest safety tool, the LiveSafe mobile app at Averett!

Report tips, view safety maps, connect with Campus Security, and more!

Get the App

- 1 Download "LiveSafe" for free from Google Play or the App Store.
- 2 Register with your mobile phone number and fill out your profile. Verify your account.
- 3 Select "Averett University."



BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIG

The Averett Society is the premiere annual giving group at Averett. Averett Society members attend exclusive events and are invited to a home football game in the President's Suite.

Did you know, as a recent alumnus (10 years and under post-graduation), you can be a part of the Averett Society for \$500 a year? For everybody else, the annual membership is \$1,000; but, that's still less than \$100 a month to network among Averett's loyal friends and family.

And remember, with a planned gift of life insurance, your premiums count towards Averett Society membership while building a lasting legacy at Averett.

So join us today!



Averett

Thanks for your pledge to Averett University.

Complete your gift here:
<http://averett.edu/give>

Msg&data rates may apply.
4 msgs/mo. Text HELP for help, Text STOP to end

Giving to Averett has a new look!

Text "Averett" to 41444,
or visit Averett.edu/give
to help students today!



Campus News



Israel Excavation

Dr. Ralph Hawkins, professor of religion and department chair, along with a team of students and volunteers from around the world, spent the month of June 2017 excavating an ancient site in the Jordan Valley called Khirbet el-Mastarah, which means the “hidden” site. Early Israelites may have lived at the site around 1200 B.C., where they had an economy based on a mixture of raising sheep/goats and farming wheat. At this hidden location in the desert, early Israelites could live in security despite the presence of a fort at nearby Jericho, just five miles to the southeast.

The successful excavation may lead to a future expedition at a nearby fortified town called Ouja al-Fouqa. After recent surveys, Hawkins says Khirbet el-Mastarah was found to have 54 new sites that may be connected to the early Israelites. The group stayed in Jerusalem - a short walk from the Old City, where the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher are located. Students traveled to the famous biblical sites of Jericho, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, the Mt. of Transfiguration, the Sea of Galilee and Nazareth, the site of Jesus’ baptism.

Largest Entering Freshman Class

Last fall’s move-in weekend saw the largest incoming freshman class on record in Averett University’s history. The class of 2021, made up of 371 new students, surpassed the previous largest class size of 337, and was made up of students from all around the world, including 16 states and 15 countries.



Averett and PHCC Sign Articulation Agreement

Averett University President Dr. Tiffany M. Franks, and Patrick Henry Community College (PHCC) President Dr. Angeline Godwin, signed an agreement in April that will make it easy for students graduating from PHCC to become students at Averett.

The articulation agreement provides a seamless path for PHCC’s Administration of Justice graduates to transfer smoothly to Averett’s Criminal Justice program and enter as juniors. It ensures those with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted to Averett and that the credits they earn for the associate’s degree will transfer directly into credits required for Averett’s Bachelor of Science in Sociology/Criminal Justice degree. They can expect to graduate from Averett with their bachelor’s degree in 60 semester hours - which is the equivalent of four semesters or two years.

New Academic Offerings

In June, Averett announced two new master’s degree programs offered through its Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS) program: a Master of Science in Applied Data Analytics and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Leadership and Administration. The Applied Data Analytics program is designed to provide students with a broad understanding of data analysis in order to develop solutions to organizational problems, and is aimed at the manager who needs to interpret data. With industry standards increasing and further professionalization for police and criminal justice agencies required, the Criminal Justice Leadership and Administration degree program will prepare students to meet today’s amplified expectations to enter or progress into administration and leadership positions in criminal justice.

New Historical Marker

Last September, Averett unveiled its new historical marker issued by the Virginia Department of Historical Resources. At a ceremony in front of the University's Main Hall, a large crowd gathered to hear remarks from college and city leaders, and then students had the opportunity to help pull down the cover. Currently there are more than 2,500 official state markers, most of them maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation.



SACSCOC Reaffirmation of Accreditation

At the December Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges' (SACSCOC) annual meeting in Dallas, Averett University's accreditation was formally reaffirmed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees for the next decade. The endorsement of our University by our regional accreditation agency and its rigorous peer review process is the highest and most significant academic and professional authentication a university can earn. This significant accomplishment, especially in today's higher education environment, is truly a testament to our remarkable faculty, staff and students who make us who we are today and to continue to move us forward.

Renovated Campus Spaces

As part of the Averett 2020 Strategic Plan's focus on brand excellence, many student spaces across campus have been renovated and refreshed. Most recently, the lounge outside of the Student Success Center has been redesigned with all new furniture, lights, rugs and wall color, thanks to a donation from The Alexander Berkeley Carrington, Jr., and Ruth Simpson Carrington Charitable Trust.

Also, the Barkhouser Computer Lounge next to the multipurpose room in the Student Center has been remodeled, funded by The Hughes Memorial Foundation. There is all new furniture, high top tables and a couch. There are several hook-ups for laptops available, as well as five desktop computers for students to use.

We are so grateful to these generous donors for their continued support of our students.



Highest National Rankings

Averett reached its highest ranking yet with U.S. News & World Report in 2017. The University made it to no. 17 on the "Best Regional Liberal Arts College in the South." In addition to this achievement, Averett also climbed in other rankings – the seventh "Best Regional College in the South for Veterans," as well as the ninth "Southern Regional College for Best Value."

Franks Elected to NCAA Presidents Council

Averett University President Dr. Tiffany M. Franks was elected earlier this year to the NCAA Division III Presidents Council, the division's highest governing body. As one of 18 members nationally on the council, Franks will help establish and direct general policies for the 450-member Division III while assisting with the division's strategic plan.

Franks, who served on the NCAA Division III Presidents Advisory Committee last year, is one of two representatives from Region 3 on the Presidents Council. In addition, she also serves as an advocate on the council for the USA South Athletic Conference.





Community Partner Spotlight:

MIDDLE BORDER FORWARD

by Danielle Staub

In a true sense of collaboration, Middle Border Forward (MBF) and Averett University have come together to provide leadership orientation and development opportunities for high schoolers in the region through Junior Leadership Southside (JLS), a one-week, immersive program.

“Each one of the entities has equal investment and equal risk into the success of the program,” said Jennifer Gregory, executive director of MBF.

JLS allows MBF’s mission of community engagement and leadership development to shine for these high school students while exposing them to opportunities right in their backyard.

“We split the week. Some sessions are at MBF and some are at Averett. There may be students, despite living in the region, who have never been on campus – so now they have the opportunity to see that maybe Averett isn’t some ivory tower; it’s accessible. Some may say, ‘Oh there are people on this campus that look like me and I could maybe feel at home here,’” Gregory said.

Gregory praises this accessibility to Averett, which offers graduates of JLS who attend Averett a \$5,000 renewable scholarship, for a total of \$20,000 over four years.

“The master plan for JLS is to give the students a boot camp. We expose them to leaders in the community, help them identify their own leadership capacity and show them places they can plug in – from different job opportunities and internships moving forward – all to get these students deeply rooted in this community,” Gregory said.

The hope is that these students develop such a foundation within this community, that even if they go away for school, it wouldn’t make sense for them to go to another community after graduation. Why start fresh when they already have connections and a network established in this region?

This program is only one example of how the two organizations overlap.

MBF’s fellowship program, now finishing its second year, has seen an Averett influence since the beginning. Five members of Averett’s staff were fellows in the 2017 cohort.

“No one really knew what an MBF fellow was or knew what the fellowship would entail. And so that cohort

– the class of 2017 – was trusting and adventurous to some degree. They were willing to be the guinea pigs, willing to walk into something in the dark,” said Gregory. “That speaks to the caliber of people who work at Averett – that they are willing to take these calculated risks and take these chances to grab opportunities to better equip themselves to serve and become part of the community.”

Tia Yancey, a 2016-17 MBF fellow and coordinator of community engagement and study abroad at Averett’s Center for Community Engagement and Career Competiveness, says MBF has played a huge part in her leadership development.

“My experience as a fellow not only refined my skill set of being a community member, but they educated me to become an active community member. As a staff member at Averett, the fellowship prepared me for personal, professional and educational challenges to use my voice, pull up a seat at the table and share my knowledge with others,” Yancey said.

Gregory thanks Averett for its willingness to make the investment in their new program.

“By Averett allowing its staff to be really actively involved, it leant some credibility to some degree so that other organizations felt more comfortable sending their staff in the following year.”

And for those staff members, who may have moved to the area for Averett, it provides them with a larger regional perspective.

“You hear a lot, as you come to Danville as an outsider, about the ‘Averett bubble.’ It doesn’t just impact the students, but also the staff, because their life becomes Averett-centric,” said Gregory. “So

I think, being a part of a fellowship that was regionally focused gave them an opportunity to see the bigger picture of community and economic development and the state of education across the region. This puts them in a better position to see how and when Averett can make an impact on those things.”

And that was the intent all along.

Calling the two “sister organizations,” Gregory can’t imagine MBF without the “Averett influence.”

“Averett has contributed so much, from the formation of the organization, to its growth and development. We are really fortunate to have them.”



“That speaks to the caliber of people who work at Averett – that they are willing to take these calculated risks and take these chances to grab opportunities to better equip themselves to serve and become part of the community.”



Corey Williams '14

Dr. Michelle Liu, associate professor of physical education

Brian Benitez '16, '18, assistant athletic trainer

25%
OF 2016-2017
FELLOWS WERE
AFFILIATED WITH
AVERETT

DR. FRANKS
SERVED ON MBF'S
FIRST ADVISORY
COUNCIL IN
2016-2017

27%
OF 2017-2018
FELLOWS ARE
AFFILIATED WITH
AVERETT

MBF'S CURRENT
AMERICORPS VISTA
MEMBER IS AN
AVERETT
ALUMNUS

STORIES OF THE MIDDLE BORDER

Stories of the Middle Border, an initiative of the Middle Border Forward Fellowship 2016-17 Class, seeks to celebrate our unique differences while highlighting the common ties that bind us together as a community. The public art project aims to highlight the diversity within the Middle Border region, which includes Danville, Pittsylvania County, Va., and Caswell County, N.C. A series of 25 stories were selected and curated, and were showcased as black-and-white headshots in various locations throughout Downtown Danville's River District, online video interviews and a traveling art exhibit that has been displayed in Pittsylvania County and soon to be in Caswell County.

Two Averett employees were selected as finalists in the project, Dr. Michelle Liu, associate professor of physical education, and Brian Benitez '16, '18, assistant athletic trainer.

"I came to the United States in 2003 to fulfill the American dream and get a Ph.D.," said Liu. "During the years of study, my advisor helped me to see the professional world in sport pedagogy, and later when I received my degree, one of my committee members gave me a congratulations card saying 'With the degree, you can now go to change the world.' As a faculty member at Averett, I still carry the mission through my teaching. I like to show my students the teaching professional world, and with the degree they receive from Averett, they can change the world of their students in the future."

"Being a part of the project was a unique opportunity. It was a good chance to help represent this community in an aspect that not many people have," said Benitez. "I have been here for seven years now and being able to discuss the changes and what makes Danville such a great place is something that I couldn't pass up. This city and university helped mold me into the man I am today, so giving back to it was something I felt like I needed to do."

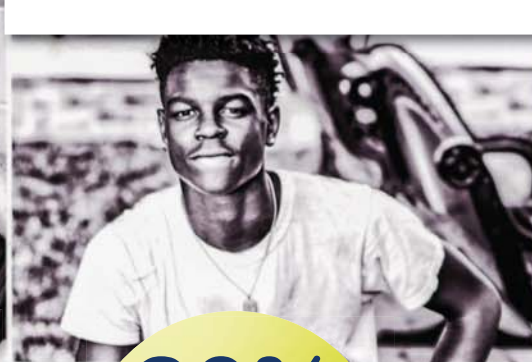
The project also included Averett alumni Shakeva Frazier, Corey Williams '14 and Jeanean Bustamante '18.



Jeanean Bustamante '18



Shakeva Frazier



33%
OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS ARE AFFILIATED WITH AVERETT

20%
OF STORIES PARTICIPANTS WERE AFFILIATED WITH AVERETT



CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CAREER COMPETITIVENESS



#Serve365

The CCECC has launched a new online platform in partnership with the Dan River Nonprofit Network to help residents of the Dan River Region serve the community year-round. Visit serve365.org to see the needs, events and agencies within the community for chances to engage.

Averett University AmeriCorps VISTA Project

The CCECC has been selected by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to act as an intermediary for a local AmeriCorps VISTA project in the Dan River Region. Together with the Dan River Nonprofit Network, they aim to alleviate poverty in the area by placing the VISTAs at specific nonprofit sites to serve for one year. Members serve at the CCECC, God's Storehouse, the Health Collaborative, the Dan River Nonprofit Network and Middle Border Forward.



Angel Tree

In its fourth and largest year yet, the CCECC partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Danville Area for the annual Angel Tree Celebration to sponsor children in need during the holiday season. Averett students teamed up with their friends, clubs and sports teams – faculty, staff and Board of Trustee members, too – to sponsor 70 Angels this past Christmas, ranging from ages 6 to 17.

Career Development Events

The CCECC's Office of Career Development

works closely with the surrounding community to bring employers to Averett's campus. Students have access to these companies as a means of future careers or possible internships while still attending college.

The Office of Career Development provided two major events for Averett University students over the past academic year. In October 2017 as part of Averett's annual Homecoming weekend, 27 local business and industry professionals, many of whom were Averett alumni, met with students at the annual Career Expo. This "speed networking" event allowed students to meet multiple professionals and provided them the opportunity to ask career development questions while making connections. More than 300 students attended and the Career Expo is once again scheduled for September 2018 as part of our annual Homecoming festivities.

Averett University's Spring Career Fair was held in March 2018 with 17 local and regional employers in attendance. Employers represented not only full-time positions for upcoming graduates, but also shared internship opportunities for students. Seventy students were in attendance.

Day to Engage On the Block

Day to Engage On the Block was held on April 3. Volunteers from Averett University worked closely with the Westmoreland Neighborhood Association and CIC Head Start to identify and meet the community's need. Also involved with Day to Engage were Riverview Rotary and After Hours Rotary, and AmeriCorps State and VISTA Members.



The Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness (CCECC) at Averett University houses a vast array of resources available not only to Averett, but also to Danville Community College (DCC), Piedmont Community College (PCC) and the Dan River Region as a whole. The CCECC connects students, faculty and staff from these colleges and the University to community partners for volunteer work and service-learning opportunities. There are also career development resources available for students in the CCECC.

Projects included beautification of the neighborhood, having lunch with preschool children at CIC Head Start and tutoring at Cedar Terrace Youth Center.

Engage Showcase

Averett students had a chance to show off their work from the academic year through service-learning projects, volunteering or tasks they have completed during internships at the annual Engage Showcase on April 9. In addition to displaying their hard work, they had the opportunity to network with the community and share those accomplishments with the Averett family. Awards given out included Engage Student Leader, Engage Faculty Leader, Engage Community Leader and a new one this year - the Engage Intern Award. These awards are also presented annually to DCC and PCC.

MLK Day/Sunday Supper

The National Bonner Leaders held a Sunday Supper for Averett students, staff and faculty members on January 14. University Chaplain Skyler Daniel hosted the event and table discussions included sharing stories about different perspectives, experiences surrounding diversity and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s vision of people of diverse backgrounds interacting on personal levels.

There was also a community Sunday Supper held at Cottontail Weddings & Events in downtown Danville. The theme of the event was "Let's Be Color Brave," and it was moderated by Dr. Monica Motley of The Motley Consulting Group. The discussion focused on color-blindness as it pertains to ignoring racial inequalities and how people

can instead choose to be "color brave," and then feel more comfortable discussing race relations.

On January 15, Averett students and staff helped organize food and clean shopping carts at God's Storehouse in Danville as part of a day of service. Averett's North Campus Facilities Team was in attendance scrubbing shopping carts.

Volunteer of the Year

For the second year in a row, an Averett University student took home the Volunteer of the Year award. The Dan River Nonprofit Network holds a Volunteer of the Year Contest annually to celebrate those throughout the community that go above and beyond with their engagement in the Dan River Region.

Taylor Doss, sophomore business major, won the 2017 Volunteer of the Year award, voted on by the public. Doss is a National Bonner Leader and a cheerleader for the University.

Three students from Averett were nominated for Volunteer of the Year for 2017 – Doss, senior Lindsey Fulcher and junior Kristen Viegelmann. Alumna Erica Skiddle won the 2016 Volunteer of the Year award and donated her winnings to the Danville Area Humane Society. Doss has chosen to donate her winnings to the program she volunteers with, the Danville Church-Based Tutorial Program.



Expectation & Exploration:

National Bonner Leaders
Helping Build Culture of
Service at Averett

By Danielle Staub





It's been a year since Averett added the nationally recognized Bonner Leader program to its campus, and program leaders are calling it a success as they look forward to what's to come.

"It was beyond anything I could have hoped for in year one. I'm really happy that we have a very dedicated group," said Brigid Belko Gorton, director of experiential learning at the Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness who oversees the Bonner program.

Belko Gorton says the focus of year one was twofold. They wanted to help people understand what it meant to actually be a Bonner Leader, as well as what the program was all about.

"Some people said 'Yes, love it, sign me up,' while others said 'That doesn't sync with what I'm doing at Averett.' We had to be very open and receptive to that," Belko Gorton said. "We are so proud and grateful because the group that we have now is completely committed. It is a great core group of people."

Bonner Leaders are campus-wide catalysts for change. Evidence demonstrates that having a Bonner Leader Program positively impacts four main areas in a university: admissions recruitment, employee engagement, connection between teaching and learning and educational practices.

The program works to create change by developing and engaging students' knowledge, skills, values and collective

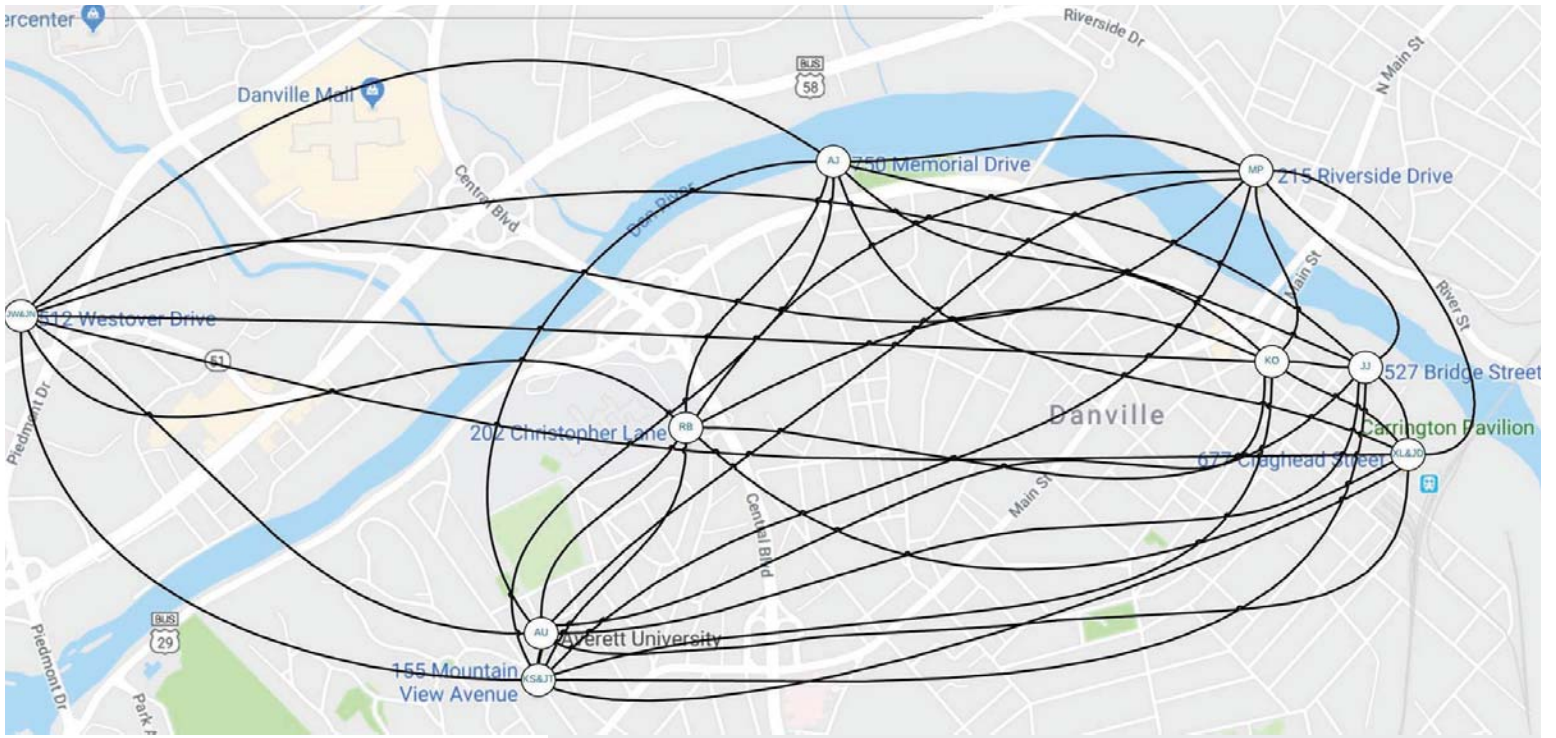
action. While developing and integrating community engagement learning through courses and programs, it builds a campus that leads efforts to make place-based community engagement deep, pervasive, integrated and developmental. It is constructing a greater community of practice with shared goals.

"What I'm very surprised by and impressed with is how protective our current Bonners are of the program. They completely owned the application process during the University's Scholarship Day, and they were so proud and did a wonderful job. We want to ensure we educate everyone about what this program is before they get into it, and we want to make sure we are accepting students that are going to be committed," said Belko Gorton.

The Bonner Program model has five stages of development, referred to as the "5-E's." Over the four years, the Bonner student will complete the five stages, implemented in co-curricular, curricular and integrated ways. In its first year, Averett's Bonner program has completed the first two of the "5-E's:" Expectation and Exploration.

In Expectation, Averett's current Bonners are recruiting other students to become Bonners.

In Exploration, Averett Bonners are currently at nine service sites throughout the city of Danville. These Bonners are connecting their sites to their career goals and will stay at their site all four years.



Community mapping of 28 Bonner service site connections – produced by Bonner Leader Alex Jones.

April Love-Loveless is the AmeriCorps VISTA for the Bonner Leader program at Averett and focuses on everything Bonner. Love-Loveless helps with the groups' meeting schedule, as well as handles one-on-one meetings with them regarding goal development. But she doesn't stop there.

"We make sure they are revisiting their goals. I'll ask, 'Have you achieved them? Okay, let's make new ones and continue moving forward toward career development goals.' I ask them what they want to do when they leave school and how we can bridge that gap between Bonner work and their career goals," said Love-Loveless.

Belko Gorton calls Love-Loveless humble when speaking about her work nationally with the Bonner Network.

"She presented at our spring orientation on the democratic dialogue and she's being seen as an expert now within our network. Other schools are consulting with us about how we have difficult conversations around civil issues," said Belko Gorton.

The two are also able to learn from other schools and bring a new energy from Averett to the group of Bonner Leader schools.

“No one has seen the full potential of the Bonner program at Averett yet.”

"It's been a journey. We have really focused a lot on student leadership. Comparing where we were in January in regards to student leadership to where we are now at the end of the year, the growth and development that's happened, I think it's just awesome," said Love-Loveless.

"The students are now the advocates of this message. I have such faith and confidence in that. We've gotten over the hump of defining what Bonner is," said Belko Gorton.

The Averett Bonner Leader program is welcoming 11 new students in the 2018-19 school year.

"No one has seen the full potential of the Bonner program at Averett yet," said Belko Gorton.

When the students graduate as Bonner Leaders, they will be introduced into a network with more than 100,000 graduates across the world.

Averett Bonner Leaders Statistics

 **2,148**
hours served

 **9**
community partners

 **28**
community connections

Jessica Norcott
Goodwill Industries of
South Central Virginia

“Being partnered at Goodwill Career Center has been such a humbling and rewarding experience. We provide the community with opportunities to build resumes, apply for jobs, learn professionalism, computer literacy and more. Our site is making a positive difference in the employment rate as well as the generational gap in technology.”

- Jessica Norcott,
National Bonner Leader

Jasmin Washington
Goodwill Industries of South
Central Virginia

“Jasmin is a truly caring Bonner Leader; she makes everyone in the Goodwill Career Center feel welcome and capable. Jasmin is working with another Bonner Leader to create a professional development curriculum that they can teach together in the Career Center. I look forward to the next few years of ingenuity with Jasmin!”

- Sierra Petty,
Career Center Coordinator and
Marketing Assistant

Kejuan Shivers
Forest Hills Elementary School

“I love being able to inspire kids and show them that no matter the hardships they face, anything they want to accomplish is possible. Even if I only get through to one kid, I hope my thoughts and light will motivate them to chase their dreams.”

- Kejuan Shivers,
National Bonner Leader

Jasmin Tinnis
Forest Hills Elementary School

“Jasmin was remarkable to work with this year. She learned my routine quickly and jumped in head-first to help my class become more successful. She was always willing to help not only me, but also other teachers in the school. She had an amazing rapport with my students. I thoroughly enjoyed having her this year, and I cannot wait to work with her again next year.”

- Stephanie Haynsworth,
Second Grade Teacher

Jacquelyn Dodd
Danville Science Center

“I hope to further build on my professional skills in the coming years by taking initiative more often. I look forward to helping build a brighter, better future for my community by assisting in the funding process at my site.”

- Jacquelyn Dodd,
National Bonner Leader

Kara Oaks
Dan River Nonprofit Network

“Kara represents the University very well, and she’s always prompt and courteous. She fits in well with the culture of our organization. She has a lot of potential to grow and increase capacity with our organization which is why we are happy the Bonner is a multiple year program, that way it can be mutually beneficial.”

- Evelyn Riley, Executive Director

“He has contributed to the customer service aspect of our job through what we call member engagement. Through engaging members, he has had to learn how to interact with people of all ages. He was challenged with figuring out what a member’s goal was and then helping create the results they would like to see through this program...By him building these relationships with these individuals, it in turn creates the retention aspect of our job...His personality and willingness to work with others help maintain and even boost the family-like atmosphere among co-workers and members.”

- Greg Hairston,
Sports and Wellness Director

Xaria Lewis
Danville Science Center

“Xaria has been a pleasure to work with over the past academic year. Her outgoing personality, coupled with her love for science, becomes apparent any time she is engaging visitors.”

- Adam Goebel,
Executive Director

Rodney Buckland
Danville Life Saving Crew

“Rodney has a true desire. He’s only been with us for a year and he is really engaged. He has already gotten his Emergency Vehicle Operator Certification so he can drive the ambulance. He is also working to get his EMT certification. He is very in tune to what’s going on, is very dedicated to the cause and wants to advance quickly. He is all in, he is good people in my book. He has a heart and desire to do more. We could use more like him.”

- Brian Fox,
Assistant Executive Director

Taylor Doss
Danville Church Based Tutorial
Program

“Taylor is a wonderful success story. She’s turning children’s grades around; one child had D’s and F’s and later ended up almost on the honor roll. The relationships and trust she’s building – it’s amazing...We are very pleased with her leadership and her taking that on. It is making a world of difference with those kids as she mentors them.”

- Kenny Lewis,
Executive Director and Founder

Jordan Jones
Noblis

“Being a Bonner at my service site has impacted the community by allowing me to bridge the gap between communities with first-generation students who haven’t experienced post-secondary options and those who have the resources to make post-secondary dreams a reality.”

- Jordan Jones,
National Bonner Leader

Alex Jones
God’s Storehouse

“Alex is a great asset to our organization. He is motivated, dedicated and is willing to help out in any way that he can to help achieve God’s Storehouse’s mission of providing food to those in need in our community. While volunteering at God’s Storehouse Alex has served in several different capacities, helping to support our overall volunteer program, as well as giving his time and efforts to support the Malcom Huckabee Backpacks Program. Alex is passionate about giving back to the community and works hard to serve whenever and wherever needed.”

- Emily Holder, Assistant Director

AVERETT UNIVERSITY — SINCE 1859 —



A Look Back:

A Decade of Leadership with Averett President Dr. Tiffany M. Franks

By Cassie Williams Jones

With 30 years of senior-level administrative experience in higher education under her belt, Averett's President Dr. Tiffany Franks has passionately and fervently led the University for a decade. And what a decade it has been.

Ten years ago, no one could have guessed what was in store for this University. With the typical American college president serving just six years in their role, Franks has already surpassed the average length of time university leaders remain in the top spot – as well as anyone’s expectations of what she could lead Averett to accomplish.

The Past

The Present

The Future

Averett’s mission is centered on students and aims to prepare them to be “catalysts for positive change.” Anyone familiar with Franks’ time with Averett would agree that there has been no greater catalyst for meaningful, positive change for this institution and its impact on the region than her. Her authentic leadership and selfless devotion to all who work and learn here have driven a multitude of progressive transformations, shifting the position and stature of the University, and catapulting its trajectory for growth.

When first instated as president in the summer of 2008, Franks recalls the pathway to getting to the esteemed position.

“My husband, Joe, and I remember leaving from our campus interviews in April of 2008, and we knew we loved this place and could see ourselves here. Driving down Highway 29 headed back to Greensboro, Joe asked if I would come if they were to invite us. My response was an easy ‘No doubt!’ To come to Danville and realize that this is the Hometown University, I felt a calling and certainty that it was the right place for us, and I’ve enjoyed it much more than I could have ever dreamed.”

College president wasn’t specifically on Franks’ list of next steps in her higher education career back then, but through the encouragement of others, she realized she could take all she had learned and apply it on a larger scale in the role.

“I think it was other people who helped me think about it,” she recalls. “But for me, it had to be at the right place. It wasn’t about being a president; it was about how I could serve.”

Chosen from an applicant pool of more than 120, Franks underwent a multi-step process to evaluate her as the potential next president, but it was the campus interview and visit that solidified it for her.

“Coming on campus was all it took. Then I really knew.

“I still remember it vividly. I just fell in love with the people and the soul of the place. Here, what felt so different was the collegiality, and the care for the institution was unrivaled. It just seemed there was this extra bit of effort in caring for our students,” Franks said.

Franks delivering address at her 2008 presidential announcement.



Dr. Franks speaks with then-student Nic Sturdifen '07, '10 on the front porch of Main Hall.



Over the course of her decade-long tenure at Averett, there's no denying Franks has led the University through a great deal of expansion and change. The list of renovated facilities and new capital projects in that time is quite significant, and an equally impressive review of new academic programs, fundraising campaigns, strategic plans and record-breaking enrollment numbers would leave even the most ambitious among us wondering just from where Franks gets all of her energy.



And while all of these achievements bring her immense pride and satisfaction, it's often the less-noticeable moments and personal takeaways that leave her the most fulfilled.

One very meaningful and significant accomplishment she recalls is the University's reinstatement of its partnership with the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

"I was a product of church-related education, and had served in it my entire career. I believe very much in the fact that we have to meet our students where they are in their faith tradition," she said. "Listening to alumni and donors, as well as how important it was for the Board of Trustees, we knew this was important for Averett. This restoration of Averett's Baptist tradition was significant not only for our students, but also for so many alumni."

For Franks, this was one of those "pinnacle experiences."

Another would be a major move into engaged learning and the establishment of the Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness. This shift strongly aligned with Franks' belief in hands-on learning at the deepest level and its ability to help students find their natural gifts and talents, and she's thrilled it's now pervasive throughout the Averett student experience.

"It's those experiences that are going to shape a student for the rest of their life," she said. "You can't come to Averett and take classes and then not apply what you're learning in some way."

Some other especially proud moments included the creation of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program to meet the needs of the regional workforce and the national nursing shortage, as well as the school's expansion and evolution in Athletics.

"It's just the beginning," she smiled.

A teary Franks moved on to discuss the topic about which she is most passionate: Averett students.

"I want them to know that sometimes the things that you least imagine for yourself, that you cannot even imagine could ever be possible, they are possible. Dream big! I think back to my own career, and I didn't dream of doing what I'm doing now, but we all start somewhere.

"I'm so thankful I had people around me who believed in me, and that I said yes to opportunities. These students can achieve amazing, great things, but it's not in a title or a position; it's what they want for themselves. Go after it, and say 'yes.'"

Difficult to narrow down the many highlights of her presidency, she put simply her feelings around the many accomplishments – she finds joy.

"In what other role does someone get to be part of so much dynamism?" she asked. "I get to witness students' amazing, transformational, life-changing experiences. I get to see their highest,

“It wasn't about being a president; it was about how I could serve.”

most momentous occasions of their lives, as well as watch them overcome challenges. I get to work alongside faculty and staff who come to us with such wonderful visions to help make us better and make things happen. And I get to be a part of a local community that said it wanted to see more of Averett and asked for us to be a bigger part of the community.

"The true joy comes from being able to see what's possible for Averett. The ability to work alongside such talented, devoted, passionate people who work hard, overcome and push through, and with generous friends who help us so much, it's an enormous privilege and joy."

Franks and her husband, Joe, cheering on the Cougars.



New Programs & Strategic Initiatives 2008-2018

2009

Launched the 2009-2014 **Big Dreams BOLD FUTURES** Strategic Plan

2013

Launched four-year **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** program, including pre-licensure and RN-BSN

Initiated first fully **online degree programs** for adult learners

2014

Expanded graduate programs in Education to include the **Master of Education in Special Education** and the **Master of Education in Administration and Supervision**

Opened **Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness**

Launched the **Averett 2020** Strategic Plan

2015

Launched the **Instrumental Music Program** and The **Growing Up Musically Initiative** in Early Childhood Education

Established the **Averett Bonner Leaders Program**

Achieved **10-year reaffirmation of accreditation** from the SACSCOC

2017

Launched the **"Growth Mindset"** Quality Enhancement Plan

Launched **three new NCAA sports teams** (men's and women's lacrosse, wrestling)

Launched a **new esports gaming program**

2018

Launched new graduate programs including **Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration and Leadership** and **Master of Science in Applied Data Analytics**

Renovated Facilities & Capital Improvements 2008-2018

Opened **Schoolfield House Booksellers and Courtyard**

2010



Schoolfield House Booksellers



Galesi Family Student Success Center

Opened **Galesi Family Student Success Center**

2011



Riverview Campus Ribbon Cutting

Opened **Riverview Campus** to serve as the home for the Graduate and Professional Studies program and new Nursing program

Opened **Health Sciences Innovative Practice Center**

Launched first **Comprehensive Campaign** in University history

Established the **George Falk Flight Operations Center**

Opened **Averett Central** in Main Hall

2012



George Falk Flight Operations Center



Averett Central

Opened **Violet T. Frith Fine Arts Center**

Opened **Frank H. Fulton, Sr. Indoor Batting Facility**

Opened **Daly Field** on the North Campus, which included artificial turf and lights

2014

Violet T. Frith Fine Arts Center



Completion of the **Academic Commons** in the Mary B. Blount Library

Completed first **Comprehensive Capital Campaign** - \$29 million

2015

Opened **Frank R. Campbell Stadium**

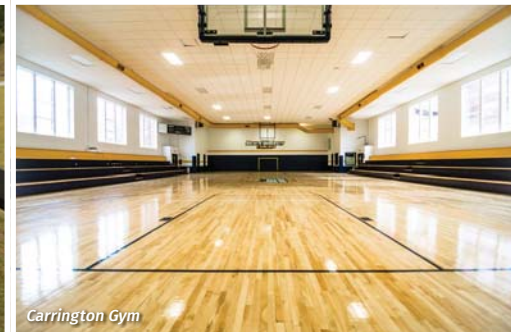
Renovated **Carrington Gym** for student recreation and intramurals

Opened **Carrington Academic Center** at North Campus

2016



Frank H. Fulton, Sr. Indoor Batting Facility



Carrington Gym

Frank R. Campbell Stadium



Announced **\$28M campaign** for Residential Living and Learning

Opened **Student Health and Wellness Center**

2017

Renovated **Main Hall**

2018



Enrollment Milestones 2008-2018

2015

Achieved **highest fall to fall freshmen to sophomore retention rate** on record

Achieved **highest fall to fall all student retention rate** on record

2016

Enrolled **largest number of Aviation majors** in University history

2017

Enrolled **largest entering class** on record

Enrolled **largest overall traditional student body** in past 10 years

2018

Increased traditional student body by approximately 200 students over 10 years (2008-2018)

The Past The Present **The Future**

Looking back brought plenty of fond memories and emotional moments for Franks.

“Have we achieved every single thing we said we wanted to 10 years ago? No. Have we achieved a whole lot, though? You bet!” she exclaimed.

But looking ahead, as focused and energized as ever, she still has plenty of lofty goals and big dreams in mind for Averett.

“We need to lead the conversation. What is it Averett will do to be a signature step to help in economic development and regional improvement?” she questioned. “We’ve gotten our own house in order; we had to get stronger here at home first. Our people now have the vision, the can-do spirit and mindset so that we can be leading a community conversation we couldn’t have led 10 years ago. And it’s our responsibility now.”

For now, she finds comfort and inspiration in knowing there’s more to come for the University.

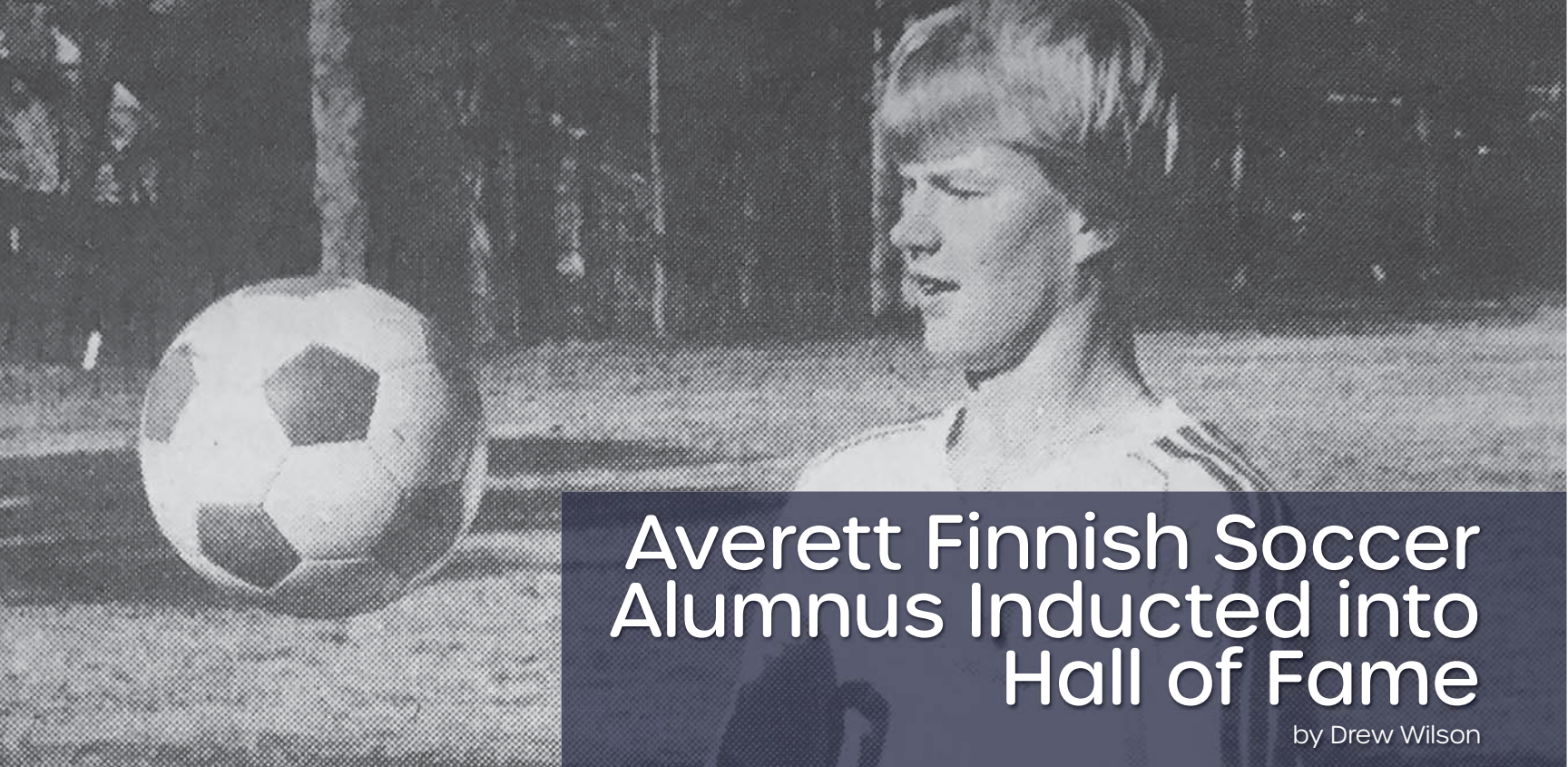
“I can see what needs to come next on the horizon for Averett and I want to help, working alongside our incredible people, to make it happen,” she said. “The day I look out and I can’t see the horizon – what’s next that will move Averett forward – that’s when it will be time to move on. I’m still very motivated to explore and pursue some really exciting opportunities for us moving forward. That’s what keeps me going.

“As long as I can see it, and as long as my leadership is needed and is the right fit, I don’t have plans to go anywhere.”





HOMECOMING 2017



Averett Finnish Soccer Alumnus Inducted into Hall of Fame

by Drew Wilson

When Pekka Kaartinen '82 received an email from USA South Athletic Conference Commissioner Dr. Tom Hart this past January informing the former Averett University men's soccer standout that he had been selected as part of the USA South's 2018 Hall of Fame class, Kaartinen was surprised. After all, it had been 36 years since he graduated from Averett.

"Of course, it felt nice that someone remembers after such a long time ago," said Kaartinen, who resides in Espoo, Finland.

Although it has been more than three and a half decades since Kaartinen finished his storied playing career at Averett, he's far from forgotten. His 67 career goals still stands as the USA South's record, and his 26 goals in 1980 is tied for the conference's single-season bench mark. Kaartinen's No. 20 jersey is no longer worn by an Averett men's soccer player and hangs framed on the wall in the men's soccer office. His name, bio and photos grace the Averett Athletics Hall of Fame interactive display in the Grant Center lobby. And then there are the banners for two conference championship and three NCAA Tournament appearances Kaartinen helped hang during his four years with the Cougars. His imprint on the program and Averett is very visible, even after all these years.

Kaartinen was one of seven members of the 2018 USA South Hall of Fame class, which was inducted during a private ceremony on June 20 hosted by Greensboro College.

Kaartinen was the fifth Averett Cougar to join the exclusive group of USA South Hall of Famers since the conference began its Hall of Fame in 2010. Among those is his former coach Vesa Hiltunen, who was inducted in 2014.

Hiltunen is the sole reason Kaartinen ended up at Averett as a student-athlete, and in Kaartinen's words, "He saved my life." Kaartinen said he struggled in high school to succeed

academically. After graduation and fulfilling his military obligations in Finland, he was playing for a club soccer team when Hiltunen — also a native of Finland — came to a practice while recruiting.

"I had nothing," Kaartinen recalled. "I remember my thoughts that I would apply for a Finnish physical education university and I had put papers in. But in Finland it is very different than here. It's very difficult to get into universities. I had just received a letter that I didn't even qualify for the test. He came to the practice and we sat down and he came to my house and met with my mother. It was three or four weeks later that I left in a plane for the United States going somewhere where I didn't know anything about it."

Hiltunen helped start the men's soccer program at Averett in 1976, and when he added Kaartinen to his roster in the fall of 1978, the Cougars rose to success very quickly. From 1978-81 during Kaartinen's four years, Averett went 55-14-5. The Cougars won conference titles in 1979 and 1980 and made three consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances from 1979-1981. In 1980, Averett advanced to the national quarterfinals.

"Soccer was of course different at that time," Kaartinen said as he recalled his playing days. "It was just growing and the level of the teams varied a lot. Division III teams were easy for us and we played Division I schools and could play evenly with them.

"It was a big experience and it was the first time here that a team made it to nationals," he said of Averett qualifying for the NCAA Tournament. "There was great excitement, but there was also great disappointment after you lose a playoff game. I remember how mad we were and how disappointed we were because they were all close games...I think the best thing was

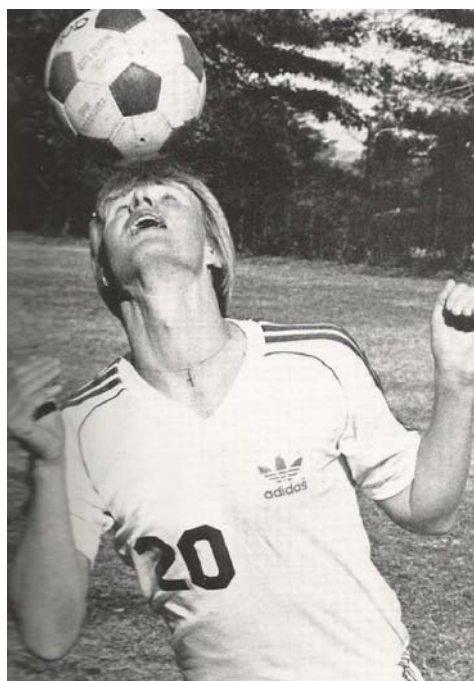
that over our four years, we got better and got to nationals.”

Kaartinen teamed up with fellow Averett Athletics Hall of Famer John “Frenchy” Vigouroux during his four years as a dominant scoring duo at the forward position.

“He was also a strong person like I was and was dedicated,” Kaartinen said. “We always competed for goals. That was a perfect pairing. I think I was a better passer than John but he was straight forward and had speed. It was a great combination for four years.”

After his playing career was over and he graduated from Averett in 1982, Kaartinen continued his education with a master’s degree in business administration at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He decided to return to Finland, where he said he struggled to readjust to society after being in the United States for six years. After working at an advertising agency for a year, he landed a job with ExxonMobil in Helsinki in 1986. He worked there for nearly 20 years, met his wife, bought a house and had two sons. Yet, at the age of 45, he found himself frustrated with his job.

“I realized I’m not really a business guy,” Kaartinen said. “I’m not that kind of tough person to make a tough decision. Money didn’t interest me much. I talked



to my wife that I needed some change. Luckily she supported me.”

After leaving ExxonMobil, his admiration for his former Averett coach made him want to get back into the field of sports. It wasn’t easy. After a few years, he finally found a position as the head of a big sports club in Finland. Yet, after four years there, he found himself looking for another job at age 50. After three jobs in sales, his luck changed in 2013.

“I got a call from the city of Espoo where I live and they knew me from sports because I had coached a lot,” he said. “With my kids, I had put in a lot of voluntary work coaching when they played soccer. The city of Espoo made a decision to buy the Icehearts program for certain kids. They called me in to see if I’d be interested in being the first to take a group of kids in for 12 years. I was in heaven. I said, ‘Definitely.’”

The Icehearts program is an organization in Finland that works with select kids who come from difficult home situations and uses sports to help build organized foundations in their lives. Each kid is a part of the program from the age of 6 until he or she turns 18.

After years of having jobs that he disliked, the Icehearts program was the calling Kaartinen needed maybe as much as the kids he would be helping.

“Since then, my life and my mental side — everything has just been positive and perfect,” Kaartinen said. “I love that job.”

Kaartinen helps use sports such as soccer and floorball — Finnish indoor hockey — several times a week with the kids he works with through the program. Five years in, he has seven more years to go with his group. After that, he plans to retire.

Even when sports wasn’t a part of his work, athletics have always been a part of his recreational life. Kaartinen, who turned 60 on July 3, played soccer every year in Finland until he was 55.

“That’s a lot of games, but then my knees started to hurt,” Kaartinen said. “But it was also a blessing for me. I haven’t been missing it all. I have new



Kaartinen and USA South Commissioner Dr. Tom Hart during the Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

sports. I play a lot of golf, swimming, cycling and walking.”

Although he’s been 4,500 miles away from the campus of Averett, Kaartinen still remains in touch. He tries to attend most Averett alumni events when representatives from the institution travel annually to Finland, and he has been back to Danville a few times — most recently in 2014 when Hiltunen was inducted into the USA South Hall of Fame before making the trip for his own induction this summer.

While in town, Kaartinen walked around downtown Danville and through Averett’s Main Campus. A day before his Hall of Fame induction, he got a tour of the North Campus facilities — which didn’t exist during his time — including the newer Frank R. Campbell Stadium, the home of Averett soccer. Times have changed since Kaartinen’s teams played on Jack Kleindor Field, where the University’s student apartment complex now stands. But Kaartinen loves the positive direction of Averett and its athletics. While back on Averett’s campus, Kaartinen had some time to reflect on the past, making the experience very special.

“All these old memories come back,” Kaartinen said. “I feel honored and really happy that I started something.”



SAAC Again Wins Two USA South Conference Fundraising Competitions, Benefiting Local Community

In November, Averett Athletics and the Student-Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) collected a record-breaking 17,300 canned food items and other nonperishables to win the University's third consecutive USA South "Cans Across the Conference" competition. Averett became the first school to win three years in a row. All the items donated went to God's Storehouse in Danville.

In April, SAAC claimed its fourth consecutive USA South Conference "Pennies for a Purpose" championship. With a record total of \$5,221.94, Averett secured the single-highest total collected by one institution in the 11 years of the competition.

Averett's "Pennies for a Purpose" collection benefited the Danville community through the Head Start program. Other portions of the money raised will go to Victory Junction and to Team Molly. Averett SAAC helped fundraise for the competition through its annual "Pie in the Face" competition, a campus cornhole tournament, a fundraiser at Virginia International Raceway, a Chipotle Night fundraiser, a Team Molly game fundraiser, a tire raffle and faculty office and student dorm raids.

Averett Creates Esports Team

Last fall, Averett joined the national ranks of colleges and universities competing in the explosive collegiate esports arena – a multiplayer video game played competitively for spectators that is becoming increasingly popular on college campuses. The booming program has already received a major gift, hired a new head coach and is expanding its esports facility.




As the only four-year university in the Commonwealth of Virginia to add a varsity esports team, the program has already grown exponentially. Qualifying current students were given the opportunity to participate last school year, and have competed against Division I, II and III schools across the country. The University currently has 11 teams, and the number of players per team varies depending on the game. Teams are overseen by coaches and managers, and are comprised of full-time, traditional, undergraduate students, including males and females, student-athletes and those who do not compete on other athletic teams, and all class levels from freshmen to seniors.

Averett is a member of two conferences, including the only varsity competitive gaming league, the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), as well as the Collegiate Starleague, or CSL, a junior varsity conference.



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Safe Haven:

Averett student with humble beginnings shines locally and nationally

by Danielle Staub

She's a National Bonner Leader and a 2018 Newman Civic Fellow. Watching her walk around campus, she doesn't know a stranger. Jordan Jones has a positive attitude, a desire to learn and a drive to teach others how to be more engaged. Some may say, she is what professors look for in a student and what universities want representing them. But you never know someone's real story until you ask, right? Take a few minutes with me and learn Jordan's because she will inspire you to better yourself and do more in this world to help others. Each of us will leave a better person than when we first came in contact with her.



ed High Perf...uting

Her Reality

When Jones found herself laying her head down for the night inside of a minivan or on a couch, she believed the following.

“At the end of the day, as long as my mom and I were still living and breathing, I felt like we were at our best. At times we may have not wanted to be in those situations, but we were together. And that’s what mattered to me.”

Jones says her mom got divorced when she was in high school and things went south from there. They needed a safe place to live. Those places consisted of cars, couches and eventually a room in a relative’s home. When her mentor in high school found out about the situation, the school stepped up to help them find a safe place to live and get Jones to and from school and her activities.



Jones with her mother, Ericka Garris.

“It was me and my mom in a room by ourselves. At one point it was me, my mom and my older sister – three ladies in one room – with just a bed, a mini fridge and a microwave, so you could say space was limited.”

“We made it work” she says. “Throughout that all, I had to keep up my grades, and my mom wanted to make sure my life was as normal as possible – she supported me, even though she may have felt as though she wasn’t there.”

Telling her story to be published for the first time, a positive attitude continues to flow out of her. Jones says it comes from her mother.

“I’ve seen my mom go through so much, just to know that at any point in time, the odds were against us. We always had a saying: ‘Put an ‘S’ on your chest and handle it – You be your superwoman.’ Even if she was breaking, she was there to pick up my pieces. Even if she was down in the dumps, she would say, ‘I have to give it to God and I have to keep going.’”

When it came to applying to college, it was a guidance counselor who took some extra time and helped guide her

through the process. When she was accepted to Averett, she wanted to come check it out after not feeling welcomed at other schools she had previously visited. She was reluctant, but found that Averett was different.

“We get to Averett, park the car, get out and look around for a minute. Then I looked at my mom and said, ‘this is it, this feels like home.’ After some questions from her mom, Jones affirmed “This is it. I don’t want to go anywhere else. I just fell in love with Averett after that.”

The transition to college wasn’t easy. Jones says she didn’t tell anyone about her homeless experience. And coming from that to having everything she could want on campus, she started to become quiet and overwhelmed within six months.

“When Residence Life found out, they came to me and said, ‘just come talk to us. You’re here now, and your mom is back on her feet. She can come up here and visit on the weekend. Know that you have support here.’ When they did that, I felt like I had a home here.”

Making Changes

Jones came into college as an athletic training major which is still an interest of hers. But during her sophomore year, her passion changed and she knew she had to take a different direction: sociology.

With the help of her mentors at Averett and the National Bonner Leader program, a four-year service leadership program, she says it was something she gradually came to understand.

“At first with the Bonner program, I was going through the motions. Then, at one of our Bonner meanings, someone stated, ‘make sure you’re getting something out of this. Make sure you’re putting your heart into it.’ I’m learning that Bonner is something that you have make that connection with – you need to be doing something you’re passionate about.”

So off she went, now active in regional social justice issues pertaining to education access. As a Bonner, she works with Noblis (a non-profit strategy organization focusing on creative solutions) and Danville Public Schools to make higher education more tangible for seventh graders through college

Jones (far left) with other Averett Bonner Leaders and program staff, during a campus visit with National Bonner Leader President Robert Hackett (center).



Anna Crawly serves as Jones' supervisor at Noblis, her Bonner service site.



visits and mentorships. She also volunteered in Averett's Teach it Forward! program, in which she served as an after-school tutor at a Danville Redevelopment Housing Authority site for a few elementary school students. Additionally, she is working with Danville's chapter of History United to explore and dissect the local Civil Rights history that has subsequently led to the educational achievement gap.

Her hard work did not go unnoticed. When Noblis received the Southern Piedmont Technology Council's Innovation in Education and Community Outreach Award, the company sung Jones' praises.

To follow, Brigid Belko Gorton, director of experiential learning at the Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness at Averett, and Averett President Dr. Tiffany Franks nominated Jones for her service work on a national level for the 2018 Newman Civic Fellow. Jones was selected as one of only 268 fellows across the country, and is representing Averett this year.

The program emphasizes personal, professional and civic growth, and provides a variety of learning and networking opportunities, including a national conference of Newman Civic Fellows in partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate. The fellowship also provides fellows with access to apply for exclusive scholarship and post-graduate opportunities. This is the first year Averett, as a new member of VA Campus Compact, was eligible to nominate a student for the award.

"In only her second year at Averett, Jordan has already exemplified our mission of preparing students to serve and lead as catalysts for positive change," said Franks, who is also a member of the VA Campus Compact Advisory Board. "She exhibits maturity beyond her years, and is passionate about ensuring all students have equitable access to educational opportunities. She is a phenomenal representative of Averett University."

“We get to Averett, park the car, get out and look around for a minute. Then I looked at my mom and said, ‘this is it, this feels like home.’”

"This fellowship will push me toward being an active citizen. I don't want to be a regular member of society; I don't want to be a person who is a volunteer. I want to make sure that I'm giving back and taking in the components from service-learning classes and actually using them in my everyday life. Because this isn't just for what my mom would call 'kicks and giggles,' this is something that I really want to do."

Her Future Impact

"I believe leadership is all about leaving a legacy," Jones said.

A young leader who has now found her passion for good and inspiring others to do the same, she will certainly do just that.

"And that's just one thing I want to take in from my platform as a Newman Civic Fellow - changing the way we as a community think about service. And how we can change the outlook on Averett, because this Danville community is very, very dependent on Averett and looks up to Averett. And we at Averett should put that light on the community's needs and make sure we are doing the best we can and adapt and meet those needs. That's what I'm really excited about."

Wilson Graduates Leadership Southside

Drew Wilson, sports information director, graduated from Leadership Southside and received his award at the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner in May 2017. The Leadership Southside program works to develop leadership skills by providing information, education, experience and exchange of ideas.

Samoilenko Publishes Article and Book, Wins Best Paper Award

Dr. Sergey Samoilenko, associate professor of computer science and information systems, presented his latest research at the International Conference on Information Research Management in Santiago, Chile. Samoilenko's submission titled, "A Methodology for Identifying Sources of Disparities in the Socio-Economic Impacts of ICT Capabilities in Sub-Saharan Economies," received "Valuable Contribution" diploma, as well as overall "Best Paper Award."

Samoilenko published an article, "An analytical framework for exploring context-specific micro-economic impacts of ICT capabilities," in the *Journal of Information Technology for Development* (Taylor & Francis). He also completed his latest book, "Creating Theoretical Research Frameworks Using Multiple Methods: Insight from ICT4D Investigations," which has been published by Taylor & Francis' CRC Group.

Averett at the Virginia Network

Averett President Dr. Tiffany M. Franks participated in the President's Panel at the 2017 Virginia Network Annual State Conference, themed "Frontline to Boardroom: Leading Change in Higher Education," in June 2017. Under the American Council on Education (ACE) Women's Network, the Virginia Network's goal is to promote women's leadership in higher education and throughout society as a whole. The Averett Women's Network is the institutional-level body under the national ACE Women's Network. Several other Averett women attended the conference, including Brigid Belko Gorton, Cassie Williams Jones, Carly Pearce, Meg Stevens and Tia Yancey.

Study Abroad Director Attends Conference in Costa Rica

Dr. Catherine Clark, assistant professor of French and English and director of study abroad, received a professional development grant from The College Consortium for International Studies to attend its 28th Annual Conference on Creating Sustainability in Education Abroad in Costa Rica in the spring. Themes included sustaining education abroad in a changing global environment; creating fiscal sustainability for education abroad; incorporating environmental and social sustainability into programming; and maintaining institutional, personal and professional sustainability.

Moore Completes Doctoral Dissertation

Dr. Will Moore, assistant professor of biological sciences, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at Virginia Tech in September 2017. The title of his dissertation was "Small molecule, kaempferol, a novel regulator of glucose homeostasis in diabetes."

Villarose named Virginia State Co-Director for Region III for NASPA

Lesley Villarose, dean of students, was recently named the 2018–2020 Region III Virginia state co-director for NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, which is the leading organization for student affairs professionals.

McAdams Named President-Elect of Southside Virginia SHRM

Angie McAdams, director of career development at the CCECC, has been selected to serve as president-elect for the Southside Virginia Society for Human Resource Management. Angie will assume the role of president in January 2019.

Harris Honored by Alma Mater with Alumni Award

Charles S. Harris, executive vice president, was honored during Hampton University's commencement ceremony with the 2018 Outstanding Alumnus-at-Large Award in May. He is a 1973 graduate of Hampton University, and was chosen because of his career accomplishments and his support of the university.





Averett Athletics Receives National Recognition for Community Service

Averett University's Department of Athletics was among 18 institutions nationally to receive an Award of Merit for community service from the National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators and Jostens. Averett was one of six Award of Merit recipients in the "One-Time Activity or Project" category for the 2016-17 academic year with its Special Olympics Fun Day event. Averett President Dr. Tiffany Franks and Director of Athletics Meg Stevens accepted the award at the NCAA Convention.

Three Staff Members Complete Community Leadership Development Program

Director of Marketing and Communications Cassie Williams Jones, Head Men's Soccer Coach Philip Wilson and Coordinator of Community Engagement and Study Abroad Tia Yancey graduated from the Middle Border Fellowship Program in September 2017. The year-long program is designed to introduce emerging leaders to the opportunities and challenges within the Middle Border region, to encourage civic engagement and to create a network of grassroots change agents. The fellows met once a month for a year and explored various topics and industries relevant to the region, and finished out the program with the unveiling of their group community impact project, "Stories of the Middle Border." The 2017-18 class of Middle Border Forward Fellows includes Katherine Bishop, coordinator of partnership development.

Yancey Honored with PACE Award

Tia Yancey, coordinator of community engagement and study abroad at the CCECC, received the Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) Award at the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner in May. The PACE Award is given to those aged 25 to 40 who have made contributions to the Dan River Region through achievements and community/volunteer service.

Byrne Selected as Chaperone for the International Young Rider Dream Program

Meghan Byrne, instructor of business administration, was chosen as one of two adult chaperones for The Dressage Foundation (TDF) trip for Young Riders to Aachen, Germany. The chaperones are not only there to guide the group safely through the trip's itinerary, but also to teach the Young Riders during discussions about theory, training exercises and dressage in general. The concept of TDF's Young Rider International Dream Program is to allow four top American Young Riders the opportunity to enhance their understanding of dressage theory through a European tour.

Averett Team Wins the 2018 JeopardBee

Averett's 2018 JeopardBee spelling bee team won this year's competition, held at West Main Baptist Church in April. The JeopardBee is a fundraiser for Project Literacy, an organization committed to helping raise the level of literacy in the Dan River region. This is the fourth time an Averett team has won this event, with this year's team including Jim Verdini, humanities librarian and associate professor, Patrick Wasley, archivist, humanities librarian and assistant professor, and Linda Lemery, circulation manager.

Pearce Graduates Leadership Southside

Carly Pearce, executive director for GPS Student Services, graduated from Leadership Southside and received her award at the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner in May. The Leadership Southside program works to develop leadership skills by providing information, education, experience and exchange of ideas.

Stevens Featured on Women Leaders podcast

Averett University Director of Athletics Meg Stevens was featured on a May edition of Women Leaders podcast. Stevens, a Women Leaders board member, served as a guest on the podcast discussing her journey to the position as Averett's athletic director, her commitment to fairness and equality on her staff, and her "3-2-1" philosophy.





1940s

Virginia Gordon Hearn Whiting '43 of Fredericksburg, was excited to have a recent visit with her daughter, Sherri from Rome, Italy, and sons Charles and Jamey Whiting who live in Nashville, Tenn. After health setbacks in 2017, she is looking forward to 2018 and good times!

Ann Kincheloe Lucy '48 of Longview, Texas, remembers fondly living with her roommate Terry Kerns in Main Hall right over the front door. Ann has been married 59 years and has two sons and two granddaughters.

1950s

E. Vernice Campbell Watts '52 of Piney River, is the 10th District Secretary for the American Legion Auxiliary. She has been a CASA Volunteer, western zone vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary, WMU associate director, a Big Sister and a foster parent.

Helen Simmons Ertman '53 of Roanoke, retired in 2007 and is a proud great-grandmother. She says she will never forget her days at Averett, especially Dr. Bishop, the Fugate sisters, Dr. Lanham's "List of Worthys" and seeing Randolph Scott!

1970s

Don W. Merricks '74, '91 of Danville, was named president and CEO of Virginia Bank & Trust.

Delores Johnson Fitzgerald Davis '75 of Marlboro, Md., works with the Department of the Army as a senior service executive.

Mildred Rigney Johnson '75 of Blacksburg, is the dean of admissions at Radford University.

Brenda Lee '78, '87 of Williamsburg, is now the full-time chaplain at Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center.

1980s

Paul S. Shelton '82 of Gretna, was awarded Educator of the Year by the Danville Scottish Rite Bodies. He has also been named Educator of the Year by his school. Paul currently teaches at Gretna High School.

Carolene Goodwyn-Harris '84 of Suffolk, is director of operations for Affinity Realty and Germel, Inc. She was recently installed as the chair of the board of directors for Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast.

Barbara A. Dameron '86 of Newport News, is the finance director for the City of Williamsburg. Barbara is a certified public accountant and a member of several governmental finance organizations.

M. Ellen Beville '87 of Danville, has been appointed to the Dean's Council on Advancement for the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. The council is a committee of volunteers created to advance the stature of the medical school by providing guidance, assistance, advocacy and philanthropic investment in support of the school's strategic objectives.

Marvin Camacho '88 of Point Lookout, N.Y., is the chef at The Buoy Bar Waterfront Grill and recently was featured in a pilot episode for The Food Network and Cooking Channel.

Brenda S. Baldwin Terry '89 of Alton, is the chief finance and operations officer for the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center.

1990s

Charlie "Chuck" D. Hudson IV '90, '94 of Danville, is an assistant principal for Caswell County Public Schools at Bartlett Yancey High School.

Greg C. Stafford '90 of Philadelphia, Pa., has been named the general manager of Texas A&M Hotel and Conference Center in College Station, Texas.

Andrew Bonham '92 of Mechanicsville, is the president and CEO of Tarkett North America.

Jenny Dawson Eaton '92 of Chatham has been appointed director of Title I and Instructional Programs for Pittsylvania County Schools. Her previous position was principal of Chatham Elementary School.

Cynthia Craig Hall '93 of Bassett, has joined the Forte Buying Group as CEO.

Alice Vande Woude Fens '93 of Berryville, is a physician assistant at WVU Medicine Jefferson Internal Medicine in Ranson, W.Va.

B. Teresa Petty '93, '96 of Danville, has been appointed assistant superintendent of instruction for Pittsylvania County Schools. Her previous position was director of Title I and Instructional Programs.

Joyce Turner Culley '95, '01 of Ringgold, appeared in a video about the top 100 schools that use financial literacy programs with their students. Joyce was also named as Educator of the Year at Galileo Magnet High School.

Robert Fincher '96 of Ridgeway, has been appointed deputy chief of the Martinsville Police Department. He has worked at the Martinsville Police Department for 23 years in many positions, including patrol officer, street crimes officer and criminal investigator, rising to the rank of captain.

Loressa Cole '97 of Peterstown, W.Va., has been appointed CEO at ANA Enterprise. Loressa earned a doctorate in nursing practice from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Sean T. Dardeau '97 of Inman, S.C., has been named the CEO of Porter Health Care Systems.

Betty J. Burrell '98 of North Chesterfield, is the director of procurement services for the City of Richmond.

Juha Latvala, '99 of Helsinki, Finland, is CEO for Sasta, a company that concentrates on the art of creating highly functional outdoor apparel.

Brenda Toone Palmore '99 of South Hill, is the vice president of practice management and business development at VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital.

Vanessa Womack '99 of Richmond, has joined the ranks of LinkedIn Learning Instructors with the launch of her "Managing a Diverse Team" available on the LinkedIn Learning portal.



2000s

Ahmad H. Kasem '00 of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is the acting chief executive officer for United Real Estate Co. in Kuwait.

Martha Eanes Scruggs '01 of Java, is a teacher with the Campbell County Public Schools.

Tuomas R. Waheeb '01 of Helsinki, Finland, is a captain for Finnair.

Charleen Walters '01 of Chesterfield, is a project manager/scrum master for IT software engineering at United Network for Organ Sharing.

LoriAnn Penman '03 of Newport News, is an executive vice president for TowneBank.

Christine S. Baggerly '04 of Danville, is an account manager at Infinity Global Packaging.

Jamie W. Yowell '04 of Charlottesville, has been promoted to vice president at Bank of the James in the mortgage division.

Amy Bracey '06 of Danville, joined Bright Leaf Place senior living in January 2017 as the executive director. She is the vice president of Danville Professional Women's Association. She and her husband, Joe, recently celebrated 32 years of marriage.

John C. Fruit '06 of Virginia Beach, has been promoted to senior vice president for card services and echannel support with TowneBank.

Brandy Morris '06 of Highland Springs, is a foreclosure advisor with Fortis Trustee Foreclosure Services.

Michael P. McGruder '07 of Chesterfield, has joined Kinsale Insurance Co. as the network manager.

Tina M. Englebright '09 of Halifax, was named Halifax Residency assistant residency administrator.

Andy F. Cox, '09 of Evington, is the head football coach at Altavista High School.

2010s

Jessica Beebe '10 of Danville, is the program coordinator at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research and also helps manage the Dan River Year AmeriCorps Program as the member coordinator.

Kelly Clark Jackson '10 of Urbana, joined Middlesex County Public Schools as a fourth grade teacher.

Bruce L. Ermel '11 of Salem, is vice president of operations at Member One Federal Credit.

Brian C. Wallace '11 of Lynchburg, is a regional credit manager for NB Handy.

Marlin A. Reeves '12, '17 of Christiansburg, recently joined Member One Federal Credit Union as the market manager of Hershberger Retail Center.

Chris West '12 of Richmond, is the executive director for Conservatives for Clean Energy Virginia.

Alexander Assefa Bedaso '13 of Las Vegas, Nev., recently won the primary election for the state legislator in Nevada's 42nd district. He is an entrepreneur and small business owner in the Las Vegas area where he and his spouse, Zenash, reside.

Joshua Brumfield '13, '16 of Chatham, has accepted the position of head football coach at Barlett Yancey High School.

Sierra Young Braxton-Sears '13 of Danville, is a workforce development specialist at Patrick Henry Community College.

Kaitlyn Ferrell '14 of Danville, is a surgical assistant at Carilion Hospital in Roanoke.

Melvin E. Garrison II '14 of North Chesterfield, is the sports director at the Waynesboro YMCA.

Shayna N. Keen '14 of Blairs, earned her doctorate in occupational therapy from Mary Baldwin University's Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences.

Ann Moore-Sparks '14 of Danville, was named community engagement and business partnership specialist for the Danville Public Schools.

Corey A. Williams '14 of Danville, was a recipient of a Middle Border Forward Community 500 Grant. Area low-income families were given the opportunity to have professional family portraits taken and framed by Corey free of charge.

Amy Boles '15 of Danville, is marketing and dealer services associate for Davenport Energy.

Elizabeth P. Riddick Davis '15 of Murfreesboro, N.C., is the administrative assistant in the president's office at Chowan College.

Nicole Barringer '15, '17 of Landis, N.C., is the senior women's administrator and head volleyball coach at William Peace University.

Julius J. Noreila '15 of Helsinki, Finland, is a service partner with Nordea Asset Management.

Erica J. Sturkie '15 of Danville, is an association executive at the Dan River Region Association of Realtors.

Kiara Hunt '16 of Chatham, is the director of admissions for Virginia University of Lynchburg.

Jada D. Little '16 of Dover, Del., is the program coordinator for DFRC, the Delaware Foundation Reaching Citizens with Intellectual Disabilities, a private, nonprofit organization that advocates for the acceptance and awareness of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Toney Lee McNair Jr. '17 of Chesapeake, was named 2017 Virginia Teacher of the Year.

Melissa Sanchez '17 of Woodbridge, is employed with the Fairfax County Police Department.

Jessica L. Stipic '17 of Virginia Beach, has recently accepted a position with Carvana in Chesapeake.

Erica R. Skiddle '18 of Spartanburg, S.C., has accepted a position with the Pittsylvania County School System as a sixth grade teacher at Chatham Middle School.

Mitchell K. Smith '18 of Disputanta, is marketing coordinator at VIRginia International Raceway.



WEDDINGS

1980s

Kathy L. Martin '89 and Paul Cheek
June 10, 2018

2000s

Darlene Irena Wheaton '03
and Landon Wade Jenkins
May 14, 2016

Teresa M. Hammer '05 and Joseph Lee
October 28, 2017

Andrew L. Gardner '06 and Lauren E. McCaslin
October 7, 2017

Daniel A. McGregor '07, '10
and **Laura A. Borges '11**
October 7, 2017

Amanda DeBres Falciani '08, '12
and **Andrew J. Falciani '10**
October 15, 2016

2010s

Zack J. Ward '10 and Brittney Rizzo
April 2, 2017

Justine Cherochak '12
and **Steven Newcomb '12**
December 2, 2017

Steven W. Hale '12 and **Sarah M. Jones '14**
September 19, 2016

Darrius O. Bethel '13, '15
and **Samantha L. Williams '15**
June 25, 2016

Josefine Blick '13 and **Andres Prenza '14**
May 26, 2018

Michael Brandon Grogan '13, '14
and Megan Hankins
June 10, 2017

Hannah M. Wetherald '13
and **Jonathan M. Masi '14**
September 16, 2017

Hope Davis '14 and **Kirkland Brown '14, 16**
June 30, 2018

Lisa R. Santos '14 and Carlos Rodriguez
April 15, 2017

Kelsey L. Case '15 and Matthew B. Riddle
May 20, 2017

Erica Sturkie '15 and Kyle Slosek
May 5, 2018

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

1990s

Tracey L. Dalton Allred '96 and **James D. Allred Jr. '97**
a son, Abram Jameson

2000s

Stacy Luckado Swords '02, '11
a daughter, Annabelle - May 19, 2017

Laura E. Vollertsen Harkonen '03 and **Timo J. Harkonen '00, '02**
a son, Iisakki Harkonen - January 6, 2018

Darlene Irena Wheaton, '03
a son, Hudson Lane - March 14, 2017

M. David Jones '05
a daughter, Mikaela Jade - May 8, 2018

Stephanie D. Greene Hankley '06
a son, John Clayton - August 4, 2017

Amy Motley Chandler '07, a daughter,
Hensley May - October 16, 2017

Amanda DeBres Falciani '08, '12 and **Andrew Falciani '10**
a son, Ethan Andrew - February 20, 2018

2010s

Jessica Beebe '10
a daughter, Evelyn - February 24, 2017

Emily Henderson McPeters '12
a daughter, Anna - January 2, 2018

Darrius O. Bethel '13, '15 and **Samantha Williams Bethel '15**
a son, Kingston Makoa - February 7, 2018

Savanna Butts Crews '13, '15
a daughter, Sophia Grace - June 21, 2017

Annika B. Rindestedt '14 and **Xavier M. Siddall '14**
a daughter, Vida - August 18, 2017

Andrew A. Bond '15
a daughter, Olivia Jade - October 6, 2017

Submit classnotes, weddings,
births, deaths and address changes
to alumni@averett.edu.



IN LOVING MEMORY

1930s

Helen Wooding Garrett '32
Elinor "Frances" Graninger Nystrom '35
Edith Galilee Smith Clark '37
Elizabeth Broaddus Hill '37
Thelma Hope Green Paul '37
Cleo Florence Ashworth Barrett '38
Frances Legge Callahan '39, former faculty

1940s

Pauline C. Parris Fitts '40
Irene Elizabeth Franklin Page '40
Jewel Spencer Doering Marvin '41
Josephine Elizabeth Wood '41
Mary E. Wrenn Grizzard '42
Martha Elizabeth "Lib" Lassiter '42
Grace Holshouser Beaver '43
Ruby Lee Jackson Harvey '43
Mary Scarboro Ives '43
Jean Stewart Critz Morris '43
Barbara "Bobbie" Rowan '43
Mary Iverson Wrenn Spooner '43
Iris M. Blair Fournier '44
Dorothy L. Sowers Setliffe '44
Erma J. Davis Hagood '45
Fay Jean Lorraine Huss Anderson '46
Brooks C. Dodson '46
Margie Juanita Stowe Elliott '46
Helen Wright Hinton '46
Dorothy "Dot" Smith Weaver '46
Janie Barker Clark '47
Mary Ware Hunt '47
Rosemary Norair Jaskiewicz '47
Sarah Lee '47
Mary Norma Moss '47
Marilyn Wheeler Spillman '47
Lillian "Lee" Gumm Martin '48
Mary Edness Motley Smith '48
Isla R. Mills Stowe '48
Mary Page Graves Thompson '48
Jerrine Brown Walker '48
Katherine "Kitty" Copenhaver Hirschmann '49
Patricia B. Emory Keith '49
Nancy A. Carter Pollok '49

1950s

Jean Sides Gauldin '50
Dorothy Hawkins Jordan '51
Marjorie Boswell Pierce '51
Ann Marie Skorge Sensbach '51
Mary Lane Stenbridge Travis '51
Cynthia Jane Anderson Hale '52
Maxine A. Sponaugle Haynes '52
Ruby Lee Waller Rich '52
Doris I. Piland Williams '52
Anne Duncan Neal Bailey '53
Patsye Covington Irby '53
Laura L. Hunt Simpier '53
Judith Shields Durham '54
Evelyn Blake Nelson '54
Susan Nock Olds '54
Carol Alcock '55
Frank B. Netherland Jr. '56
Mildred May Hughes '57
Rosalie Vaughan Hoffer '58

1960s

Nancy Ferrell Moore '60
Mary Reynolds Crawford Haltiwanger '61
Barbara Ann Maxwell Hult '62
Dianna Rae Dix '64
Carolyn A. Robertson Ross '65
Brenda Murphy Williams '65
Marilyn Carroll Buckner '67
Lynda Kathleen McFaden Cullipher '67
Suzanne L. Smith Nash '67
Ann Lorraine Whitmore Northington '67
Donna L. Purvis Packard '67
Elaine R. Cross Perrin '67
Mary Ann Pool, '67
Karen B. Ondrusek Sullivan '68
Anne Satterfield Long '69



1970s

Sharon L. Fisher Kanipe '70
 Pamela Irene Herrell '71
 Betty Mabe Maynard '71
 Margaret Jean Bernard Moyer '71
 Lois Adams Byrd '72
 Yvonne Hall Dix '72
 Jo Ann Hunt '72
 Cynthia E. Calvert Parker '72
 Burton Lee Doggett '73
 Hylah Elizabeth Horton Lohr '73
 Nancy Lyle Cheatham Stephens '73
 Patricia E. Yeatts Stowe '73
 Mary Ann Fisher Foell '74
 Robert L. Gaddy, '74
 Carol Ann Heitt Walton '74
 Ronald Morris Burnett '75
 Marion Francis Setliff '75
 Debra Lou Holland '76
 Julia Dias Beale Mahaley '76
 Linda Almond McDaniel '76
 Jerry N. Hazelwood '77
 Linda G. Jones Fetzer '79
 Ruth Ellen Jackson Long '79
 Brenda Rust Parrish '79, '87
 John P. Williams Jr. '79

1980s

Dorothy R. Hubbard Ferrell '81
 Wanda Marie Bostick Jeffress '81, '92, Trustee
 Rosa O. Poole '81
 Markus Veigel Leonhardt '84
 Sydnor Landis Dickenson '85
 Roxie Bowman Hughes '85
 Pauline Lorraine Robinette '85
 Joshua Edward Wallace II '85
 Sandra "Gem" Lee Keen Perkins Dick '86
 Nancy "Anne" White Mitchell '87
 Dan Poteat '89

1990s

Patricia Allison Frenette '91
 Linda Gail Hoskins Cook '92
 Charles H. Stokes Sr. '92
 Mildred Eloise Bolen '93
 Wayne D. Hawker '93
 Suzanne Kemp Jones '94
 Erika L. Mortensen '94
 Timothy J. Wheeler '94
 Gaylord Glenn Conner Jr. '96
 Dennis Keith Myers '96
 Pamela J. Ringel '96
 Lisa Rubino Ethier '97
 Richard Ellis Ziebarth '97
 William "Bill" J. Fallon '99
 Donald Baxter Keesee '99
 James T. Kuhn '99

2000s

Michael T. Boyd '00
 Samuel "Ray" Bellflower '03
 Sean M. Sullivan '03
 Deborah A. Waters Yancey '03
 Roxanne Murphy Noble '04
 Michael "Mike" Reilley '05
 Kelly Bohannon Smith '05, '13
 Jeffrey H. Bragg '06
 Carol D. Still Carter '08
 Ahmed Matthew Shelton '08
 James Anthony Abbott III '09
 Caroline M. Hendrix '12
 Sarah E. Brown Calkins '13
 Lowell Terrence Brooks II '15

FRIENDS

Worth Harris Carter Jr., former trustee
 Brian Coffin, aviation professor
 James "J.T." Earley, maintenance technician
 Clarence Arville Edmonds, former faculty
 Gary Moore Ferguson, former faculty
 Clifford Gaddy, former trustee
 Mary Evelyn Jefferson, former faculty
 Stephen Pribble Larkin, former instructor
 Hilda "Terry" Pickney, former faculty
 H. Terry P. Pitts, former faculty
 Mary "Liz" Elizabeth Richardson, retired staff



PERSONAL PLANNING for your FUTURE

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EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CAUSES YOU CARE ABOUT

More than ever, people are searching for something to make their lives better. You can find great joy and meaning in supporting the causes that you care about while securing your financial future.



What's important to you? We hope Averett is!

You may be surprised to learn just how easy it is to partner with a charitable organization like Averett and help us fulfill our important work. All of the ideas below are ways you can help support our cause while benefitting yourself and your loved ones.

YOUR IRA

Consider naming Averett as a beneficiary of your IRA. All or a portion of your IRA can pass automatically to us and help further our mission. It's easy to call your IRA administrator and ask to change or add beneficiaries to your account. Many account providers now permit you to make beneficiary designations online.

LIFE INSURANCE

Support our cause by designating Averett as a beneficiary of a new or unneeded life insurance policy. Making this charitable gift is as easy as contacting your policy provider to complete a beneficiary designation form or call us for our partnership with Bankers' Insurance.

BEQUESTS AND FREE WILLS KIT

One of the easiest ways to help us is by naming Averett in your estate. These lasting legacy gifts will ensure Averett prospers well beyond our lifetimes for generations to come.

To obtain a copy of our FREE wills kit and create your own, visit:
www.averett.edu/giving
and search Planned Giving.

It's easy (and costs you nothing today) to support our cause! If Averett is a beneficiary in your plans, please let us know. We would like to thank you and also make sure that your gift is used for the causes that mean the most to you.

THANK YOU TO OUR AVERETT SOCIETY LIFETIME MEMBERS

The Lifetime Averett Society includes donors who have given at least \$100,000

for donations received as of June 30, 2018



Founders' Circle (\$1,000,000 +)

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Estate of Helen Conway
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Violet and Ray Frith
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Charles B. Keesee Educational Fund
JT-Minnie Maude Charitable Trust
James and Anne Robertson
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Estate of Garland and Harriet Wyatt

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