

LEE UNIVERSITY

# TORCH

FALL 2011



**All the President's Men**

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President Paul Conn has taken Lee University beyond the next level to a new horizon.



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**Scriptural Icons** by Cameron Fisher  
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## OPENING THOUGHTS: Dr. Donald N. Bowdle

**For this special 25th anniversary edition, Dr. Don Bowdle was asked to write Opening Thoughts, an article usually written by Paul Conn. Dr. Bowdle is the senior member of the Lee University faculty, having begun his teaching career in 1962.**

In ancient Roman mythology, the god Janus was identified with open doors, gates ajar, and new, relevant beginnings of any kind. As such, he was depicted with two opposite faces whereby he observed both past and future simultaneously. (Think of the month "January," for example.) Several of us "old timers" on campus have been privileged personally to experience the Lee University story from such complementary angles of vision.

Matters respecting expansion of physical plant and growth in student enrollment continue to be cited publicly—as well they should be, given the general invigoration which they have provided. But let's consider for a moment another perspective of the Lee University presence—that of mood or ambiance or esprit de corps. One can actually "feel" Lee, as well as experience it visually.

This exciting new dimension of Lee life has been generated as well by the twenty-five-year presidential tenure of Dr. Paul Conn, which we gladly and gratefully now celebrate. The nuances of his vision and his hard work in the interests of their actualization have carried a certain contagion. Let me suggest with genuine appreciation several matters most conspicuous and edifying to those of us who have shared long-term ministry at Lee University.

President Conn has been concerned to make the life of the mind a matter of significant priority. Biblical injunctions to that end find frequent and conspicuous place in his public addresses, regardless of the venue. In his judgment, the whole person—body, soul, and mind—has been salvaged by the grace of God in Christ and called into one aspect or another of Christian service. On numerous public occasions, he has prayed that his student charges "may have power...to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" whereby they may "be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:18,19 NIV).

To that end of cultivation of the mind, President Conn has encouraged ever broader curricula wherein to train students for the several purposes and venues of "ministry." The Christian is charged to be a witness for Christ wherever he/she serves and in whatever capacity. Christian witness is both vocal and attitudinal in nature, given the appropriate opportunity to render one's testimony.

President Conn views Pentecostals as Evangelicals in respect to belief and servanthood. No narrow provincialist, he espouses a wide discharge of ministry, with Christ and calling foremost among his several emphases. As evidence of that commitment, he has actively recruited a faculty that represents a broad cross-section of evangelical representation, all scholars in their fields of expertise.

In every sense of the word, Dr. Conn is properly "connecting all the dots" whereby the picture of Lee University is currently being drawn. Thanks, Paul, for your continuing ministry among us, rendering Lee a Christian university of increasing significance in so many ways to so many people.

**Dr. Donald Bowdle is now in his 50th year of teaching and is the longest serving faculty member in the history of Lee University. He taught Paul Conn as a student.**

## Lee University TORCH

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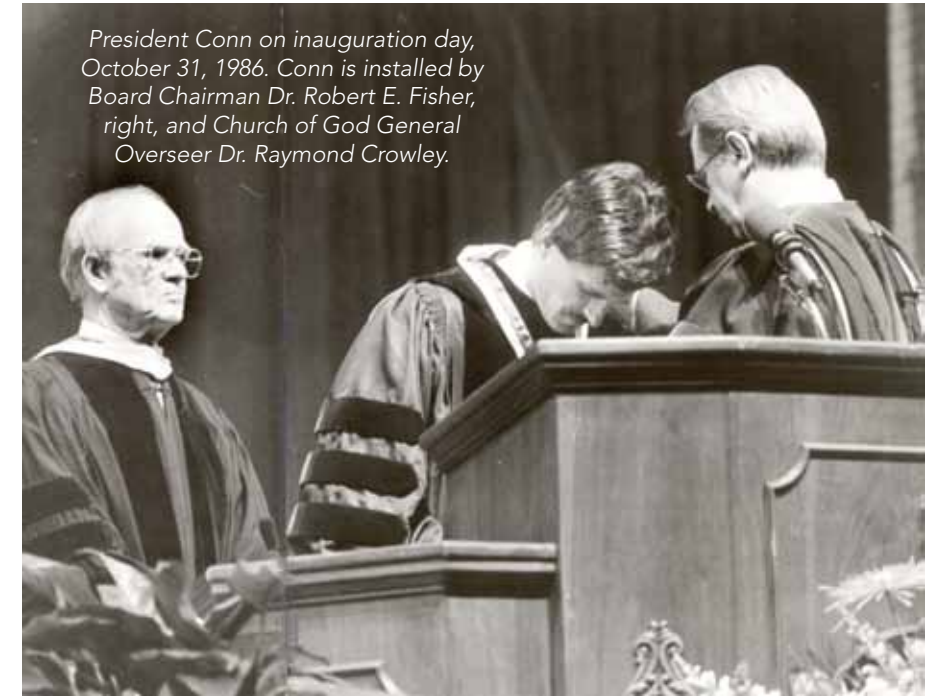
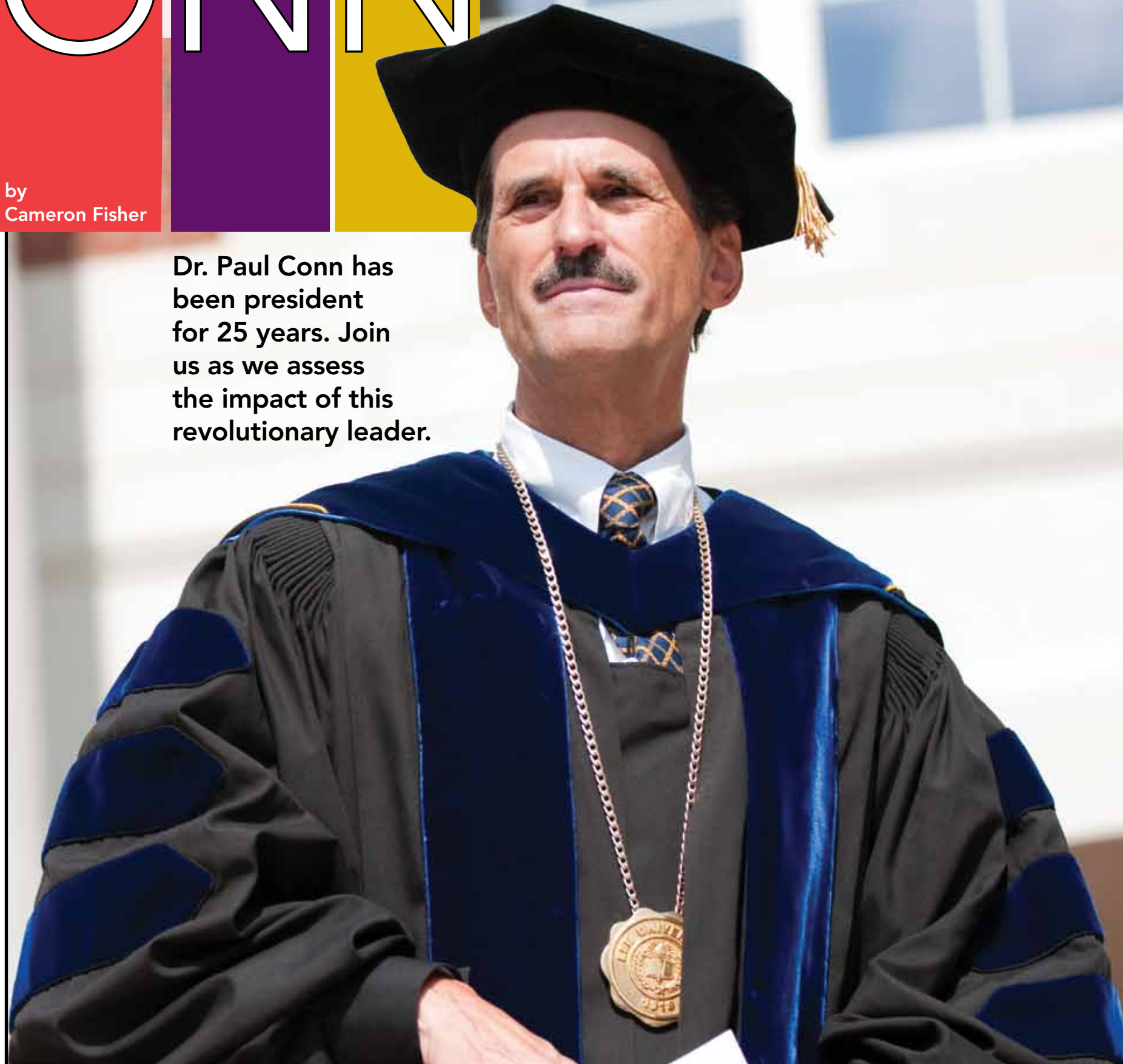
**ON THE COVER** The six men who have served as President Conn's assistant over the last 25 years recently came together for a reunion (photo by Jared Wielfaert).

**ON LEFT** The climactic awards ceremony for Church of God Teen Talent took place on the lawn of the Science and Math Complex on August 6, 2011 (photo by Chad Madden).

# A Quarter Century of



**Dr. Paul Conn has been president for 25 years. Join us as we assess the impact of this revolutionary leader.**



*President Conn on inauguration day, October 31, 1986. Conn is installed by Board Chairman Dr. Robert E. Fisher, right, and Church of God General Overseer Dr. Raymond Crowley.*

Paul Conn's presidency began abruptly. In 1986, he was Lee's Vice President for Institutional Advancement, serving with president Lamar Vest. That summer, after only two years at Lee, Vest was unexpectedly elected to a leadership position in the Church of God denomination, and accepted. Lee was suddenly without a president, and the Board of Directors met in Atlanta in a special session, and voted unanimously to offer Conn the position.

During his vice presidency, I was Paul Conn's administrative aide, a member of the "IA Team." During this period, I had a front-row seat to Conn's innovative leadership style and participated in the start-up or rejuvenation of programs and projects. There was the "one-a-month" endowed scholarship program where, by the end of 1985, we had twelve new scholarship funds in the hopper. All hands were on deck as the annual alumni fund was rekindled with night after night of personal phone calls to alumni. In the first few weeks, the IA Team staged "Homework '85," a cutting-edge conference where Conn secured some of the nation's foremost educators, such as Florence Littauer and Cliff Schimmels. It was Conn who resurrected a quarterly alumni magazine, at the time called the *Alumnus*. It was also in that first year when a goal was realized to triple the number of articles over the previous year in the local newspaper, the *Cleveland Daily Banner*.

The intense nineteen months of his V.P. role, which began on January 3, 1985, and culminated with his presidential appointment by the Board of Directors on August 1, 1986, was a dry run for the presidency of Paul Conn.

\* \* \*

Reporting entirely on the incredible progress of the last 25 years is difficult, to say the least. Over the next few pages, some guest writers and I will attempt to capture the highlights of Conn's tenure. Dr. Mike Hayes, vice president of student development, will address the growth of students from enrollment to programs. Dr. Dewayne Thompson will report on the way the university has matured academically. I will chart the capital improvement of the campus, and Dr. Carolyn Dirksen will wrap it up with a personal tribute from the perspective of someone who has been on the entire journey since Day One ... and before.



President Conn assists donors Mr. and Mrs. John Gregory at the 2007 ribbon cutting of the new Leonard Center.

## The *Cornerstone* OF THE LEE EXPERIENCE

Once they get here, student development programs help keep them here.

By Mike Hayes

Just after receiving the appointment to serve as Lee president, Paul and Darlia Conn, realizing the significance of this call on their lives, pulled away for a few days to chart the course ahead for Lee College. As they planned and reflected, they were drawn to Psalm 90:17: "May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands" (NIV).

This verse, inscribed in the cornerstone of every building constructed over the past 25 years, is readily associated with the physical improvement of the campus. However, God has truly established the work of Paul and Darlia Conn in the hearts and lives of thousands of students during this time.

Lee's enrollment has increased by over 340 percent in the past 25 years—an astonishing accomplishment in itself. What is more important is what happens to these thousands of students once they engage in the life of the campus! Student faith development is still the central mission of Lee. That has not changed under Conn's presidency. What has changed is the way the university goes about achieving its mission.

No longer is there just one chapel experience for students, but a diversity of chapels to experience God in a variety of life-changing ways. Residence halls now feature a cutting-edge small group discipleship ministry that is attended by over 500 students each week. Every student who comes through the university is challenged to understand his or her gifts and how they might be used to meet the world's deep needs.

Students learn how to meet these needs through campus experiences marked by excellence. Twenty-five years ago, the university longed for an inspirational theater

program. Not only is there more student diversity now, but the university seeks to take advantage of that diversity to enrich the life of the campus. The athletics program is recognized as one of the best in the NAIA. First-year students are now guided through that first precarious semester by top-notch faculty and outstanding peer leaders. Students now can choose to participate in programs that intentionally and purposefully develop their leadership. Food service has also experienced an upgrade (see the article "From Canteen to Café" in this issue); for example, Dunkin' Donuts isn't on Keith Street anymore; it's in the Science and Math Complex! And, who could imagine Lee University without Voices of Lee?

While recounting all of the visionary changes in campus life over the past 25 years could prove futile, two of the more significant transformations have been the establishment of the cross-cultural and service-learning programs. As a result of President and Mrs. Conn's dreams, Lee graduates burst the bubble from the inside to feed the hungry and share Christ in a myriad of ways around Cleveland, Tennessee, and the world.

Near the end of the fall 2010 semester, several of our staff and students were at a local Habitat for Humanity house dedication. Many of our student groups and offices provided the labor for this new home at the request of city leaders. As we neared the time to pray and turn the keys over to a single mother and her two-year-old son, we presented them with a framed print that featured Psalm 90:17. God has truly established the work of the Conns' hands, but in ways that extend far beyond the campus. As every student leaves the university, they extend that work. It is being extended and established in thousands of unique ways around the world. This is the cornerstone of their presidency.

Dr. Michael Hayes is vice president for student development at Lee University.



Darlia Conn '68 has been a full partner with her husband in the presidential team for the past 25 years. In this photo, they walk through the "human wall" at Celebration 2010.

## An *Academic Perspective* OF PAUL CONN'S PRESIDENCY

By Dewayne Thompson

Shortly after Paul Conn became president of Lee University, he stated: "If you want to work at a really great university, just hang around here for awhile." Now that might sound trite had he not convinced the faculty and staff that he wanted to be our president and that he was in for the long haul.

What I appreciated about those earlier days was his telling us that he wanted to be our president and he wanted to build Lee University. His was not just a political appointment; his was a calling! He convinced us all that we could "...make permanent the work of our hands"—one student at a time. He knew to be a great university academically that attention must be directed at three critical areas: faculty credentials, instructional facilities, and curriculum. Not only are we subjectively a great university, (just ask any of us), but *U.S. News and World Report* says we are among the best schools in the country.

At the initial stages of Dr. Conn's presidency, mimeograph copies were the order of the day; chalk boards and a few overhead projectors could be checked out from the Media Center; most faculty were known as Ms., Mrs., or Mr.; and religion, behavioral sciences, business, English, history, and education were housed in Walker Memorial, or as it was known then, the Humanities Building. Limited innovation characterized most academic areas, not from lacking desire, but from a lack of resources. To say budgets were tight would be akin to calling the Super Bowl just another football game. While faculty taught with passion, various current foci were missing: faith integration, critical thinking, writing across the curriculum, discipline-specific accreditation, and the technologically enhanced classroom. Certainly many changes resulted from general technological improvements, but these changes occurred more quickly at Lee than at many sister institutions due to Dr. Conn's progressive nature and quest for excellence.

Understanding that we couldn't be the kind of college we wanted to be without recruiting faculty more aggressively, we began to look outside our normal realm of influence and advertised in top-tier venues such as *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. With a focus on higher caliber recruiting sites, active recruiting, and encouraging faculty development, Lee saw a significant improvement in the faculty. With the increased resources from Dr. Conn's efforts, faculty could apply for funds to pursue a doctorate, and many did. As we focused more on recruiting faculty with doctorates and as more of our own earned doctorates, the university's reputation improved. With

the improving reputation, suddenly, Lee was a desired place to be.

Since Dr. Conn became president, the academic departments were separated into four distinct schools: College of Arts and Sciences, School of Religion, Helen DeVos College of Education, and the School of Music. This structural change created five new academic departments. With this change, came greater infrastructural support. While the later point is mundane and boring to outsiders, it must not be overlooked. Significant resources were spent on each academic department with additional administrative support, resources to attend academic conferences, current and relevant office technology, and an improved working environment. I think these combined improvements caused the faculty to take seriously that we really could be a great university.

In the last 25 years, the campus grew with new buildings for communications, science and mathematics, music, religion, education, and humanities. This does not include the upgrades, remodels, and improvements to the Vest Building, Walker Memorial, and Walker Arena. Equipment in each classroom complements and supports the educational enterprise rather than detracting from it as in the "good old days." Classroom equipment is no longer Spartan, but enviable.

Discipline-specific accreditation was not even a dream prior to Dr. Conn's presidency. To have outside evaluators come to our campus and rigorously apply standards and criteria would have terrified any sensible president, but Dr. Conn saw that as a possibility. Now the College of Education has National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education accreditation, School of Music has National Association of Schools of Music accreditation, the Department of Business has Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs accreditation and the athletic training program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). Students may now choose from a greater variety of majors that did not exist before such as programs in philosophy, art, drama, humanities, anthropology, and public relations just to name a few. While undergraduate education improved with enhanced quality and increased offerings, Dr. Conn saw another possibility—graduate programs. Students may now earn advanced degrees in psychology, theology, ministry, education, and music. In education, students may earn the specialist degree, which is just under the doctoral degree in education. Just as in other areas, infrastructure changes were necessary. It is certain that all programs are now better than they were 25 years ago

with the expectation of assessment and planning. Assessment is more intentional and disciplined than in the past. New programs follow a careful planning process complete with research that indicates the need for additional programs.

In summary, students now graduate with a keener understanding of their discipline as well as what it means to be a Christian educator, psychologist, or businessperson than at earlier times. Lee is better academically as a result of Dr. Paul Conn's vision, talent, and passion. He cajoled, encouraged, and urged us to be better. We would not have the improved curriculum, faculty, and facilities we have today were it not for his leadership.

**Dr. Dewayne Thompson serves as professor and chair of the Business Department at Lee University.**



(Above) President Conn's hands-on involvement is demonstrated as he peers from the second story window of an unfinished building.



(Top Right) Rich DeVos claps as the ribbon falls on the first project he funded, the DeVos Tennis Center in 1988. DeVos and his wife, Helen, have been faithful supporters of Lee during Conn's presidency.



(Bottom Right) President Conn walks the aftermath of the Ellis Hall fire in 1993.

## Building A LEGACY

Campus construction has been the cornerstone of Paul Conn's leadership.

By Cameron Fisher

Newly appointed president Dr. Paul Conn didn't waste time announcing his dreams and visions for Lee. Turning to church leaders and former Lee presidents seated on the stage with him on his inauguration day October 31, 1986, he clearly articulated the passion which would guide his presidency:

"I pledge that you are passing the torch to a generation that believes in the magic of this place. I pledge to you that, by God's grace, we will not squander our inheritance."

That day, the Lee inheritance was passed to a 40-year-old son of a former Lee president who grew up in a family of 12 children. Except for a brief hiatus to pursue higher degrees in Atlanta and Boston, Conn is a lifelong resident of Cleveland, Tennessee, a fact that would play into his favor as he began the quest to move Lee forward.

Graduating from local schools and counting political leaders as childhood friends, Conn was able to cast his vision that conveyed a true sincerity to improve his hometown. Unlike most former Lee presidents, Conn had not been a former Church of God official, sending the message that he was here for the long haul.

Conn's background played strategically into his first capital campaign, Carry the Torch, which was launched a few months after his inauguration. A critical piece of the \$5 million campus overhaul was the closing of four blocks

of Church Street, a historic downtown corridor which split the Lee campus. Personally appearing before city fathers, Conn won approval for the closure. The conversion of Church Street into a pedestrian mall, renovation of the former library into the Vest Building, and construction of a tennis center were the primary components of a successful first campaign and set the precedent for things to come.

The first of what has been an unending enrollment record was set in 1988, prompting construction of the V-shaped Sharp-Davis Hall, the first building of the Conn presidency to be constructed from the ground up. Over the next two decades, the unveiling of new housing units would be almost an annual ritual as the need for student housing has gone unabated. The 220-bed Sharp-Davis complex was dedicated in 1990, and this fall, a brand new 124-bed New Hughes Hall opened as the linchpin of a six-building "neighborhood" of residence halls on the east side.

By the year of the third record enrollment, momentum and growth were hitting their stride. Dream projects were now being proposed alongside necessary ones. Between the period of 1990 to 1995, the Higher Ground capital campaign was the fund-raising catalyst which brought about the Dixon Center, Watkins Building, Pedestrian Mall extension, and the DeVos Recreation Center.

By the end of 1995, the Curtsinger Music Building and Livingston Hall were part of campus.

On November 4, 1993, Ellis Hall was destroyed by a tragic fire. An event that could have derailed student and campus growth, actually infused both as Atkins-Ellis Hall was dedicated less than a year later in a celebration of God's provision.

The decade between 1995 and 2005 saw enrollment skyrocket from nearly 2,500 to just short of 4,000. The growth mandated more on-campus bed space which resulted in the construction of Keeble, Storms, and Hicks apartments, Bowdle and O'Bannon Halls, and three units on Brinsfield Row. Along with housing came the significant campus additions of the Deacon Jones Dining Hall, Olympic Field, DeVos College of Education, Paul Conn Student Union, McKenzie Athletic Building, Humanities Center, and a new Walker Arena.

The latest capital campaign, Press Toward the Mark, closed out last year more than \$9 million over its intended goal of \$25 million. Over the course of the five-year campaign, the originally proposed seven projects grew to nine, including three more housing units, adding 150 beds and the purchase of the neighboring Mayfield Elementary School. A \$14 million Math and Science Complex was the cornerstone of Press Toward

the Mark, which also realized a new School of Religion and a home for the Leonard Center and Health Clinic.

In a report of new construction, what cannot be ignored is land acquisition. Finding room for the building projects has meant buying pieces and parcels of property—a process that involved years of negotiations in some cases. Property acquired under Paul Conn's leadership has increased the acreage of Lee University sixfold, highlighted by large chunks acquired in single transactions, including 17 acres of the former Bobby Card property, the former Mayfield School, and the former campus of First Baptist Church.

The totality of construction which has taken place at Lee during the Paul Conn era is nothing short of phenomenal. In a day when most colleges across the country celebrate a new building every decade, Lee has averaged one a year. More times than not, there have been two major building projects happening simultaneously.

The exciting aspect of this incredible run is that just when you think we have arrived, Paul Conn reminds us that we aren't there yet.

Cameron Fisher has been editor of Torch for 23 years.

President  
Conn speaks at  
Celebration 2000



(Left) When all is said and done, President Conn's most rewarding duty is placing a diploma in the hands of a graduating senior.



(Right) President and Mrs. Conn cut the cake during a student celebration of his first five years of leadership in 1991.



## ON THE *Journey* TOGETHER

A faculty colleague reflects on the personal impact of the Paul Conn presidency.

By Carolyn Dirksen

On a stifling summer evening in late July, 1986, I opened the evening paper to learn that Lamar Vest, Lee's president, had been elected to the Church of God Executive Committee. My heart sank. Vest had been president of Lee for two years, following the two-year presidency of Ray Hughes. Now, following 12 years of stability under Charles Conn, we would be getting our fourth president in just over four years. We had been through tough economic times since the early 1980s with layoffs, hiring and wage freezes, program cuts and draconian budgets that left faculty paying for their own classroom supplies and writing exams on the board for lack of money to buy paper. Our enrollment and funding had just started to stabilize after the worst of times, and now, once again, we faced an uncertain future.

I listened intently to the radio and stayed close to the phone waiting to hear what our fate would be. To anyone who had been on campus for the past two years, Paul Conn was the obvious choice as our next president. He had been an active and brilliant vice president under Dr. Vest and was a 14-year veteran of our faculty. He had fought the good fight during the dark times when he, literally, could have gone anywhere, and we all admired his intellectual creativity and his courage. But he didn't fit the profile of any of our past presidents: He wasn't a church administrator at the denomination's highest level;

he was an educator. If our board chose him as president, and if the Executive Committee approved the appointment, they would be changing a well-established paradigm, and I didn't know enough about the inner workings of the church to know whether that was even possible. Sometime late on August 1, I got a call from Dr. Conn asking me to be in his office at 8:00 on Monday morning—the Office of the President.

When I hung up, I danced around my living room in sheer joy and anticipation of what would happen next. Dr. Conn and I were both 40, and we had been faculty colleagues since our early 20s, pushing against our institutional boundaries as young faculty inevitably do. Now, suddenly, we were "the administration." The possibilities seemed limitless. Despite the hard times of the recent past, I knew that Paul Conn believed in Lee and its untapped potential, and I couldn't wait to get on board with whatever bold adventure lay ahead.

Dr. Conn's background at Lee was deep and rich and personal, and when he became president, he had already invested an impressive portion of his life and intellectual energy into making Lee a better place. He knew Lee and had a deep sense of what it could become. That passion, specifically for Lee, has been the source of all our institutional energy. We "true believers" are committed to higher education, and more

specifically to Christian higher education, but what matters most to us is Lee, and we believe that our work at exactly this place is our specific, clear, and personal calling.

Since that Monday morning 25 years ago, not one day has gone by that we haven't worked as hard and as hopefully and as happily as possible to make Lee better. Paul Conn's great gift is the ability to dream an amazing future, build the right team, and put in the hard work to make the dream a reality. We have seen that gift in action across countless projects, resulting in real, measurable institutional transformation. When people who knew about us 25 years ago see our amazing facilities, or hear about our award-winning academic programs, or learn about the accomplishments of our alumni, they find it hard to imagine how we got here from there. The truth is we have been blessed. God has had His hand on us, and we have responded to that blessing with the gratitude of hard work.

Dr. Conn's passion for and deep understanding of Lee has also made it possible for our dramatic transformation to emerge from our core values. Whatever other changes we have experienced, our essential purpose has not changed. Conn's leadership has kept us faithful to our essential, Christ-centered mission of preparing students intellectually and spiritually to make a difference in a needy world. We have built exceptional classrooms and campus-life facilities; we have developed campuswide programs of service and global perspectives; and we have built a world-class faculty—all to that end. All the dreaming and planning and effort have been focused—not on making Lee a different institution, but on enacting its mission in its purest form.

The last 25 years have been a glorious combination of imagining what could be, working hard to make it happen, and feeling God's pleasure in the task. With Paul Conn's bright vision and passionate heart to guide us, we have made a sacred journey. We believe that God has made "permanent the work of our hands," as Paul Conn's favorite Psalm beseeches, and our life's work has laid the foundation for achievements as yet undreamed.

Dr. Carolyn Dirksen has been a member of the Lee faculty since 1968.

Of the 600 full-time employees of Lee, only 26 were here in 1986 when Dr. Conn became president:

**Phillip Barber**  
Assistant Director of Center for Adult and Professional Studies

**Lena Barber**  
Counselor and Instructor in Behavioral and Social Sciences

**Jerome Boone**  
Professor of Old Testament and Christian Formation

**Donald Bowdle**  
Distinguished Professor of History and Religion

**Jimmy Burns**  
Professor of Music

**Alan Burns**  
Assistant Professor of Business

**Paul Conn**  
President

**Carolyn Dirksen**  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Murl Dirksen**  
Professor of Anthropology & Sociology

**Evaline Echols**  
Professor of Business Education

**Robert Fisher**  
Professor of Psychology

**Robert Griffith**  
Associate Professor of Mathematics

**Janie Hand**  
Secretary to the Director of Dixon Research Center

**Ronald Harris**  
Associate Professor of Science Education

**JoAnn Higginbotham**  
Professor of Education

**Jack Higgins**  
Electrician

**Virginia Horton**  
Assistant Professor of Music

**Barbara McCullough**  
Director of Squires Library

**Ann McElrath**  
Director of Human Resources

**Philip Morehead**  
Associate Professor of Music

**Karen Mundy**  
Professor of Sociology

**Debbie Murray**  
Dean, Helen DeVos College of Education

**Milton Riley**  
Professor of Biology

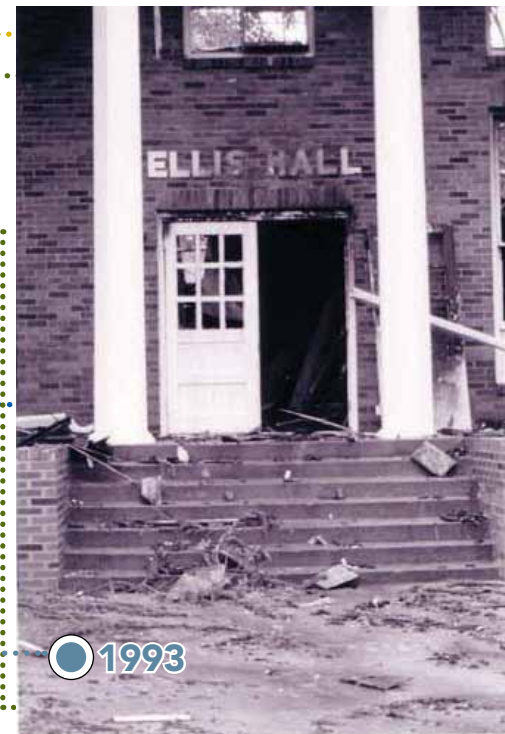
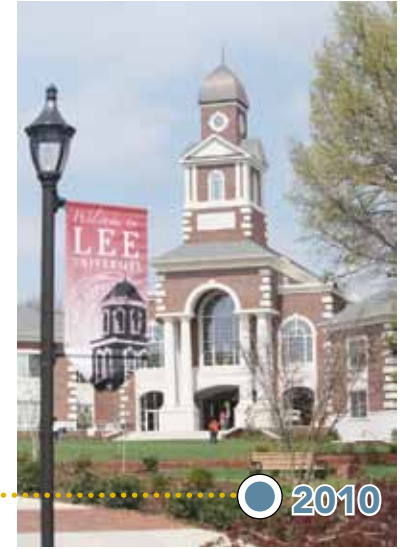
**William Simmons**  
Professor of New Testament

**Phillip Thomas**  
Professor of Music and Department Chair of Instrumental Performance

**Dewayne Thompson**  
Professor of Business Administration and Chair of Business Department

PAUL CONN TIMELINE: 1986-2011

- 1986 – Conn appointed and inaugurated
- 1987 – Carry the Torch campaign launched; old auditorium razed
- 1988 – New enrollment record: 1,534; Pedestrian Mall opens
- 1989 – Sharp-Davis Hall opens; soccer field opens
- 1990 – First "Celebration" event; Higher Ground campaign announced
- 1991 - \$1 million gift from Watkins Foundation
- 1992 – Dixon Center opens; Celebration '92
- 1993 – Student Recreation Center opens; Ellis Hall destroyed by fire
- 1994 – Atkins-Ellis Hall opens; Voices of Lee founded; Celebration '94
- 1995 – Music Building and Livingston Hall open; first master's program launched
- 1996 – Jones Dining Hall opens; Lee hosts Olympic athletes; Celebration '96
- 1997 – Lee College becomes Lee University; Web site launched
- 1998 – College of Education opens; enrollment breaks 3,000; Celebration '98
- 1999 – Keeble Hall opens; Card property is largest land acquisition
- 2000 – Paul Conn Student Union, Storms Hall open; Celebration 2000
- 2001 - \$3 million donation from DeVos; construction begins on dual dormitories
- 2002 – Bowdle-O'Bannon Halls open; \$4 million gift from Lazarus Foundation
- 2003 – McKenzie Building opens; global perspectives and service learning launched
- 2004 – \$10 million Humanities Center opens; Parker St. reconfigured; Celebration '04
- 2005 – Walker Arena enlarged and renovated; reaccreditation by SACS
- 2006 - \$25 million Press Toward the Mark campaign launched; enrollment: 4,000
- 2007 – Leonard Center opens; old Mayfield School acquired
- 2008 – School of Religion and Brinsfield Row open; Science and Math Complex begins
- 2009 – Beach Science Building razed; East Wing of Science and Math Complex opens
- 2010 – Press Toward the Mark completed with \$34 million raised; Celebration 2010
- 2011 - New Hughes Hall and chapel open; Paul Conn completes 25th year





Conn and the men (standing, L-R): Clayton Watson, Jeff Black, Wade Lombard, Matt Carlson. Seated: Kevin Brooks, President Conn, Cole Strong.

remained all these years: "Life is fun when you're under the gun." And the president's staff was "under the gun" more often than not. Of course, sometimes there was enormous stress associated with the tasks involved, but a merry kind of banter developed, with Dr. Conn's influence, and helped to motivate them to see the problems as opportunities.

And there certainly was never a shortage of fun. There are stories of "Omega Red" induction for new student workers. The new guy on the block was told a very carefully worded fable about an attempt on Dr. Conn's life a few years back (the story was totally false), and then he was given ridiculous instructions about how to protect the president in case the situation presented itself again. After several practices to get the technique exactly right, Dr. Conn finally let the newbie off the hook. It's loads of fun, if you don't count the new guy.

In conversation among the six, there is always mention of orange juice served in LU branded glasses and presidential bagels—the very same bagel, from the very same deli (Gardner's),—every single morning of the week. Every month. Every year. World without end.

During late-night work sessions before board meetings or big events when the work extended late into the night, Kris Kristofferson selections, sung in the rough, scratchy voice of a tired college president, provided just the right motivation to make it to the end of the task.

There's even one story of an unfortunate golf-cart ride during which Mrs. Conn was slung from the vehicle. She, ever the kind, good-natured sport, and never faint of heart, got up, brushed herself off, and sat back down in the seat to finish the journey she had begun.

## LESSONS LEARNED

To a person, the men who have worked for Dr. Conn list lessons he taught them as integral parts of the way they function in their current positions, for most of them, years later. These habits for accomplishment weren't acquired from speeches he gave or from sermons he preached or from lectures he taught. They were gleaned by watching Dr. Conn in action and by working closely with him. These men have had the rare opportunity to observe a remarkable man lead a small, private, liberal arts university to significant and unquestionable success.

One of the recurring themes that winds its way throughout the conversations of the six "young guns," as Dr. Conn likes to refer to them, is excellence. They were taught that it was the normal method of operation for them, and that if something had the President's Office name on it, it was his intention that it be first-rate, whatever it was, from the envelope that was addressed to someone just across campus, to the carpet in the car driven to pick up Board members from the airport, to the bells pealing from the Student Union, to the Power-Point for his chapel sermon. In everything, excellence was the goal.

Here, in the words of one of the six, is another invaluable lesson learned:

# ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

by Stephanie Taylor

*If you graduated from Lee University over the past 25 years, or if you've had any interaction with the President's Office during that time, chances are you've bumped into one of these guys. All six of them have served as an assistant to the president during the years Paul Conn has been in that role at Lee.*

The job description for this position lists dull, tedious tasks that, on quick inspection, would seem tiresome and monotonous.

- Act as a receptionist.
- Purchase and stock office supplies.
- Maintain a proper filing system.
- Possess a positive and flexible attitude.

Doesn't sound too exciting, does it? Don't worry. There have been no tears of boredom shed in the Vest Building suite which houses the President's Office! According to the men who've been there, the chance to work with Paul Conn was never ho-hum.

## LIFE IS FUN WHEN YOU'RE UNDER THE GUN

Part of the appeal—or the terror, depending on your viewpoint—of working in the President's Office is that you never know, from one day to the next, what your tasks might be. The most careful planning could be scrapped if Dr. Conn had a new idea or if an unexpected crisis developed. No matter what sort of situation was thrown or lobbed or kicked to them, the team in the President's Office knew to adapt and play ball. This became a sort of mantra for the office that has



Grace. This gift literally changed my life as I studied Paul Conn and how he chose to lead his life, his family, and Lee. Living the life I led (solid Christian family, gas always in the tank, strong sense of responsibility, etc.), judgment always came easy for me. Things were either black or white. Right or wrong. Once I started working for Dr. Conn, I remember getting frustrated when he would let a kid off the hook who should have been kicked out of school, or when he would let a faculty member get away with things that should have (in my mind) landed him or her in the unemployment line. At my young age, I thought that he didn't see the "big picture." However, I quickly realized that is who Paul Conn is. He's loving, compassionate, and forgiving, and truly,

truly wants the best for others. At first, I counted this characteristic as a flaw in his leadership, but by the time I left, I found myself desiring to be more graceful, just like he is. Now, years later, after having lived a little more of life, I fully realize how important grace is and how people truly need it.

There are as many guiding principles from their days in the office as you have time to list. Here are some which they claim to have adopted as their own:

- Trust, but verify.
- Relationships are the key to any successful venture.
- Expect the best in others.
- Always say thanks.
- The answer's always "no" until you ask.

## THE BLUE VASE

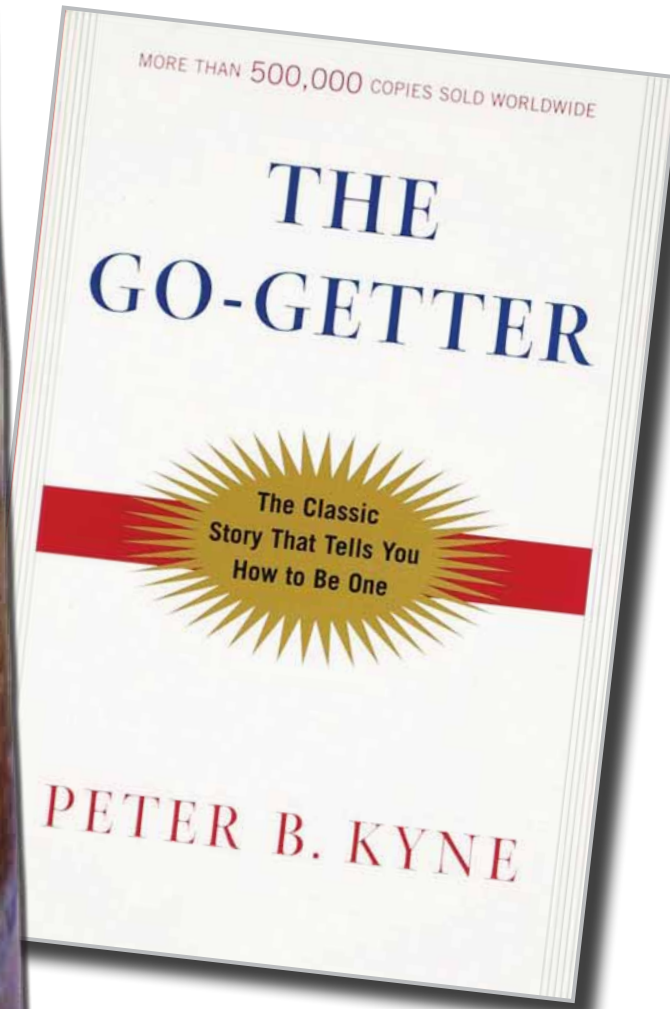
Each person who is hired in the President's Office, from his executive assistant all the way to each student worker, is required to read *The Go-Getter*. It's a short story about a man who is assigned an impossible task—to purchase a blue vase which, unbeknownst to him, doesn't actually exist. The story details the extreme steps he takes to find and acquire the vase. This, in a nutshell, is the basis on which the President's Office functions. Set the goal; achieve the goal—whatever it takes.

Perhaps the definitive illustration of this concept is one of the favorite pieces of office lore. It happened one evening during a visit from Lee's most significant donors, a wonderful couple in their seventies. Everything had gone perfectly right according to plan. The meal was delicious; the atmosphere in the President's Dining Room, warm and intimate. The campus tour on the golf cart was smooth and without mishap. The concert in Squires Recital Hall had been moving and beautifully performed. And now all that remained of the visit was the ride home. On the sidewalk outside the Humanities Center, with its lawn perfectly manicured and its flowerbeds freshly weeded, while walking toward the waiting vehicle, its doors open, its air conditioning already having cooled the interior of the car, the sprinklers sputtered on! The member of the "super six" who was serving at the time, without even thinking about it,



dove onto the sprinkler, shielding our guests from the sure stream of water with his body! As you can imagine, it caused quite a stir then, and the retelling of the story still evokes hearty laughs around the table.

At Dr. Conn's 20th anniversary, there was a reunion of all the team members who have served with him, and for that celebration, he commissioned current Lee students enrolled in a pottery class to create blue vases for each of the guys so that they would have a tangible reminder of *The Go-Getter* philosophy.



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

It is interesting to note that each of the guys credits the lessons learned from Paul Conn for a big part of his success now. It would seem that a job with a salary that is at the starting level for young graduates just out of college wouldn't make such an impact or provide such fertile ground for future fruit, but that's not the case with this particular position. When conducting an informal interview with these men, it's remarkable to hear them talk about the positive influence which has followed them into their own careers. And they have all been successful.

1. **Kevin Brooks** is a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, represents House District 24. He also serves the Church of God in the Department of Public Relations and Conference Management. Kevin, the pioneer of the group, and his wife, Kim, have two children, one in high school, and one a sophomore at Lee.

2. After graduating from Pepperdine University with a JD and MBA, and from Boston University with an LLM, **Jeff Black** became a JAG officer with the U.S. Air Force. He and Allison, his wife, now live in Middleton, Ohio, where he practices corporate law.

3. **Clayton Watson** is lead pastor of "The Sanctuary", a thriving, active church in DeLand and serves on the Church of God State Council in Florida. He and wife Linette just celebrated 20 years of marriage. Clayton is also the founder and lead consultant for Revolutionary Leadership Concepts.

4. **Matthew Carlson** serves as Executive Director of the local Habitat for Humanity and is also president of Tennessee's Habitat for Humanity. He and Heather, his wife, are poised to complete the adoption of children (we're hoping for two!) from the Philippines this fall.

5. **Wade Lombard** began his own moving company—Square Cow Moovers—in Austin, Texas, where he lives with Kimberly and their three children. They've also been part of a church plant with sister and brother-in-law Ashley and Jeremy Self.

6. **Cole Strong**, the person currently serving in the role of Assistant to the President, has raised the bar in his position, and has expanded his portfolio to include duties related to the expansive building projects that have taken place recently on campus, including the School of Religion Building, the Science and Math Complex and now, New Hughes Hall and the Chapel. He is also currently enrolled in Professional MBA program at UT. He and his wife, Ashley, have two boys.



Kevin and Jeff in 1993.



Carlson escorts Lena Barber (left) and Stephanie Taylor in 2000.

## SMALL, EXCLUSIVE CLUB

At this, the 25th anniversary of Paul Conn's presidency, it seems fitting to talk about these six individuals. They are the people who have been in the trenches with Paul Conn, who fought the battles, parked the cars, created the PowerPoints, and hustled around campus paving the way so that he could be able to make his dreams for Lee University come true. These men are a strong picture of the legacy of Paul Conn's influence.

Stephanie Taylor is executive assistant to the president and has worked directly with four of the six President's men.



Paul Conn was there on a frigid evening to congratulate Lee Soccer Coach Matt Yelton on a third consecutive NAIA National Championship.

## President Conn's Impact on Lee Athletics

By George Starr

When Dr. Charles Paul Conn became president of Lee (College) University in 1986, it would be safe to say that the entire athletic program would almost immediately begin to move in a positive direction.

The Flames had fielded successful men's and women's basketball teams for several years, and there was a men's golf team capable of playing with most squads in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Within months, Conn began to add new sports. He quickly converted several club teams into NAIA sanctioned programs. With the addition of men's and women's track teams last year, Lee currently has 17 squads, not just bodies on the playing fields and courts, but teams that annually compete on the highest level of NAIA competition.

Lee athletic director Larry Carpenter is a former player and coach. He speaks with pride when asked about the fantastic progress of the Flames over the past 25 years. "The impact that Dr. Conn has made on the Athletic Department is remarkable," he noted. "Not only have we added 14 sports, going from three to 17, but also the facilities built or renovated during his tenure rival the best in the country."

Carpenter added that Walker Arena received a facelift and now is a wonderful venue to host athletics, as well as other events on campus. Olympic Field was built when Lee reinstated baseball and has been the site of three NAIA National Opening Round Tournaments.

Soccer, softball, and tennis facilities are outstanding and certainly enhance recruiting when coaches bring potential students on campus.

How far have the athletic teams come? The women's soccer team has captured three consecutive NAIA championships. For many years, both basketball teams struggled to earn a bid to the NAIA national tournament. Currently, each squad has made eight consecutive trips to the Big Show, and the women reached the final four two seasons ago. Volleyball is listed among the top four in the nation and is inching closer to a national crown. Baseball is known from coast to coast and has finished second, twice, and third, a couple of times in World Series competition.

Lee athletics completed its best-ever seasons in 2010-2011, producing 17 NAIA All-Americans, 27 Scholar

Athletes, an NAIA Player of the Year, and the national championship in women's soccer. A huge highlight was seeing the Women's Golf Team named the nation's top Scholar-Team on all levels of collegiate sports.

"Dr. Conn has shown his support financially with the addition of venues and sports programs," said the athletic director, "but the thing that impresses me the most is his commitment to watching our student-athletes perform. When he and Darlia (wife) are in town, you can usually find them in the stands. In college circles, that is the exception rather than the norm.

"Most presidents show up to a couple contests a year, but I've witnessed our leader serving pizza to the students in the stands during a volleyball match. What might seem like a minor act makes a tremendous impact on our students and athletes. We are blessed to have a president who understands the role that athletics plays on a college campus."

Coach Andrea Hudson is the senior member of what Carpenter calls one of the best staffs in the NAIA ranks. Hudson will begin her 21st season of coaching the successful volleyball teams. She appreciates the mammoth impact Dr. Conn has had on Lee athletics.

"You really can't put into words what Dr. Conn means to athletics," she said. "On a personal level, he relates to the athletes because he stays physically active himself with running and weight training. His support of their practice efforts are seen by his presence at almost all of the home events.

"The athletes see this and understand that he knows them by name, because he takes the time to get to acquainted them. His support of the coaching staff is seen in how we are able to make improvements in our athletic facilities and equipment as well."

When conference and NAIA polls are released over the 2011-2012 season, Lee programs will be ranked on or near the top in each. Twenty-five years ago very few colleges and athletes took time to give the Cleveland, Tenn.-based school a second thought.

The athletic program, like the overall Lee community, continues to make great strides, and as long as Dr. Charles Paul Conn is directing the university's course, the sky is the limit—that has already been proven over and over.



## From CANTEEN to CAFÉ

Meal and snack options at Lee move to the next level

By Adam Lewis

Just a bit more than a generation ago, three square meals a day at Lee meant breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the cafeteria served by Mom and Pop Muncy. If you missed BLD hours, there was soda fountain fare at the popular canteen in mid-campus. As a last resort, there was always a peanut butter sandwich in your dorm room.

While the peanut butter sandwich option is still around, Lee students of today have many options from which to design their food plan, and beginning this semester, the choices and quality have taken another leap forward.

In 1991, Sodexo Marriott Services was awarded the food service contract for the university. Since then, there has been an evolution of services provided at Lee, and with the company itself. Changing the name and shifting from its Marriott roots, Sodexo is now a familiar name on campus, and a corporate partner with well-known brands.

"In fall of 2010, we asked students their opinions on various retail branding concepts in order to develop a long-term plan to improve Lee's retail dining venues and create new student dining

Vice President for Business and Finance Chris Corine, center, looks over plans for the new Dunkin' Donuts outlet with Food Services Manager Kelvin Tarukwasha, right, and Retail Services Manager Lynn Darling.



experiences," stated Chris Conine, vice president for Business and Finance at Lee. "The information gathered from students was used by Sodexo and the Lee University Cabinet to create a retail dining renovation plan focused on, (1) selecting national brands that meet the wishes, varying tastes, and preferences of our students, (2) improving the flow of traffic in the PCSU, and (3) providing our students with a larger social area."

As the campus has grown, so have the needs of Lee students, and the services of Sodexo have grown to meet those needs. In 2000, with the dedication of the Paul Conn Student Union, Sodexo unveiled, for the first time, national brand food offerings and a state-of-the-art food court. Pizza Hut, Sub Connection, and the wildly popular Chick-fil-A® have been staples on the Lee University campus for the last decade. In addition to the food court, Jazzman's Café & Bakery® opened on the first floor of the Student Union, serving the caffeine needs of students and staff alike.

With more growth, came more food options. The addition of the Humanities Center in 2005 allowed Sodexo to place a small café in the lobby, offering sandwiches, fruit, snacks, and freshly brewed Starbucks coffee. The same Café Ala Carte® concept was installed in the School of Religion Building upon its completion in 2008.

The latest academic building to be constructed, the Science and Math Complex, housed a second location for Jazzman's Café & Bakery®, strategically located on the north end of campus.

This semester students arrived to find some exciting additions to the food services at Lee. Three new national brands—Subway®, Dunkin' Donuts®, and Einstein Bros® Bagels—joined the family of retail dining locations offered by Sodexo on campus.

A significant renovation in the Student Union Food Court took place over the summer and will continue through the year. Subway® is now located on the first floor of the Student Union, allowing Jazzman's to move up to the main floor adjacent to the Food Court. Sub Connection and Pizza Hut have been removed, and their spaces will house an expanded, full service Chick-fil-A® in January of 2012. This final transition will take place over the Christmas break, later this year.

In the Humanities Center, Café Ala Carte® has been replaced by Einstein Bros® Bagels. Offering more than just morning fare in the way of bagels, students can choose between a variety of sandwiches and other fresh lunch offerings throughout the day. Signature coffees and drinks are also on the menu at Einstein's.

Possibly the most anticipated addition is Dunkin' Donuts®, located in the Science and Math Complex, replacing Jazzman's. The outlet is the only location in all of Cleveland and will likely attract customers from off campus.

"We are proud to bring these latest concepts to our retail food family on campus," says Sodexo General Manager Kelvin Tarukwasha. "The additions of Subway®, Einstein Bros® Bagels and Dunkin' Donuts® are sure to excite current and future students, as well as faculty and staff. We look forward to offering these brands to the Lee family!"

Students will also have an even greater number of choices when it comes to purchasing a meal plan this fall. Plans come with a certain number of meals offered each week, and "flex" dollars that work like cash and can be used at any of the dining locations across campus. A new "unlimited plan" will allow students the opportunity to eat in the Deacon Jones Dining Hall as often as they like, and will include \$100 flex dollars.

"As the Lee University campus continues to thrive and grow, so will the services that Sodexo seeks to offer," Conine said. "We are pleased with our partnership with Sodexo and their continued commitment of providing cutting-edge dining options for our students."

Alumni and friends are invited to visit the locations while on campus.

*Adam Lewis is catering manager for Sodexo at Lee University.*



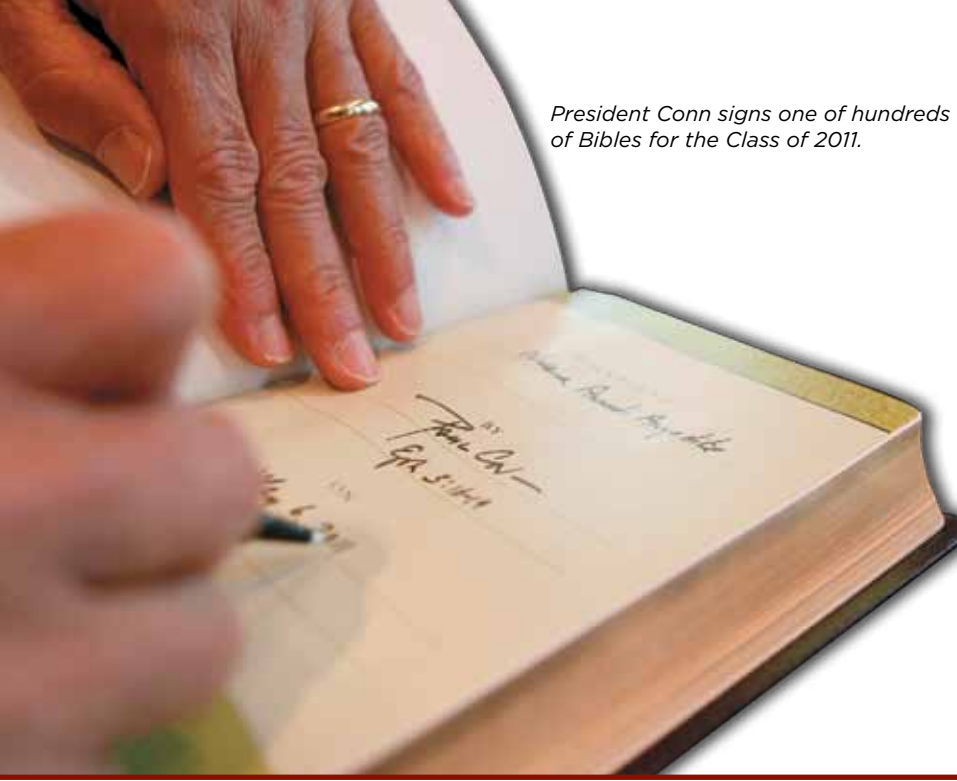
*When Lee College relocated to Cleveland, Tennessee, it inherited the Dixon-McKenzie Dining Hall from Bob Jones University. The building stayed the same until it was virtually torn down and replaced by the Deacon Jones Dining Hall.*



*Students will still depend on the wide variety of choices at the Jones Dining Hall as their primary meal provider.*



*Jazzman's Café will remain the primary breakfast provider in the Student Union.*



President Conn signs one of hundreds of Bibles for the Class of 2011.

# EMBEDDED Scriptures

Passages have become part of campus traditions

By Cameron Fisher

Throughout Walt Disney World are "Hidden Mickeys"—the iconic Mickey Mouse ear logo of the popular theme parks. You find them on manhole covers, backs of benches, on silverware, or in the design of gates and fences.

At Lee, certain biblical passages have become part of campus life. While scripture is read and quoted every day in many forms at Lee, some scriptures have become "embedded" into life at Lee.

## Psalms 90:17

Literally chiseled in the stone of campus buildings across campus is verse 17 of Chapter 90 of the Book of Psalms. President Conn's wife, Darlia Conn, tells the story of how this passage came to be part of more than 25 buildings built during her husband's tenure.

"After Paul was chosen to be president in 1986, we retreated to our place at Big Canoe (Georgia) for about three days to try to absorb the enormity of what had happened, and to pray and seek God's help," the first lady recalled. "This particular scripture was impressed on my mind, and I shared it with Paul. In the *New American Standard Bible* the rendition is:

*Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands. Yes, confirm for us the work of our hands;*"

Mrs. Conn explains an alternative translation says, "Give permanence to the work of our hands," while another says, "Make permanent the work of our hands."

"That is the version that spoke most clearly to me. I told Paul that was my prayer for him in this new position. Of course, the first part must come before the latter; God's favor would ensure the permanence. We thought about it as not just bricks and mortar, but also the hearts and minds of stu-

dents who came to Lee. It is a wonderful promise that we have seen fulfilled many times over! I believe that sometimes God gives us the prayer that we are to pray, and this was one of those times."

## Psalms 19:14

Following every chapel service at Lee, students cite what is referred to as the college benediction:

*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight to you, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.*

It is unclear where or when the tradition started, but it is perhaps the most quoted passage on campus. Taken from the King James Version, at least two generations of Lee collegians have cited the scripture. Most alumni can recite it many years after leaving campus as a staple of their experience.

"There may be other Scripture verses that have been important in the spiritual history of Lee, but I do not know of any that would be as prominent," stated Dr. Rickie Moore, chairman of the Theology Department at Lee. "In terms of grounding our distinctive identity and setting our originating course, there is perhaps no single biblical text as prominent for Lee as this one."

## Ephesians 2:10

Several years ago Lee University received a major grant from the Lily Foundation. The grant was designated for a program which attempts to instill the spiritual significance of "calling" upon students' lives.

"When we began thinking about a name and motto for the project if the Lily Grant would be offered, the committee mused over a variety of things," stated Dr. Terry Cross, dean of the School

of Religion at Lee. "One of the key scriptures I used in my manuscript (*Answering the Call in the Spirit*) to ground the concept of calling within our Pentecostal tradition was Ephesians 2:10: "

*For we are [God's] workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (ESV).*

Cross went on to explain the Greek word for "workmanship" or "masterpiece" or "work of art" is **poiema**.

"It is the Greek word from which we get our English word 'poem.' It refers to a creative piece of artwork that brings the mind of the artist to life in the work. It is precisely this image that took hold of our committee and stuck with us—generating a sense of the biblical rationale for this task, as well as a name for our program (the Poiema Project). God has created us as pieces of art reflecting His intentions and thoughts toward us. Further, He has created us anew in Christ Jesus and thereby has prepared the way we should go (walk) through life, arising from our grace-filled relationship with Him. This is to be our 'way of life.'"

## Ephesians 3:16-19

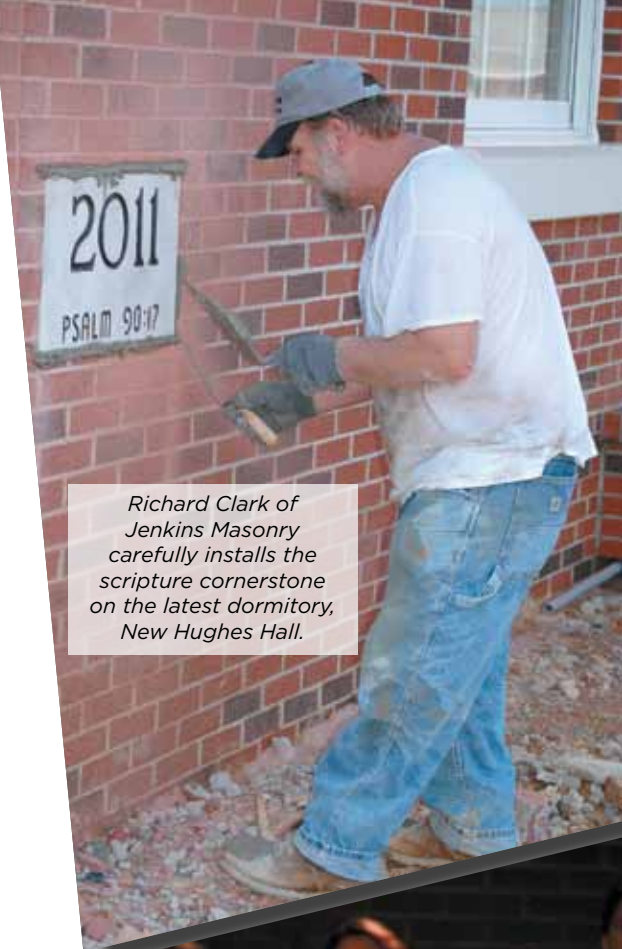
Since his first graduation as president of Lee, Dr. Paul Conn has signed Bibles, which have been given to graduating seniors. He personalizes each one, citing in the flyleaf the scripture from Ephesians, Chapter 3:

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God (NIV).*

"In spring of 1987, as the time approached for my first commencement as president, I felt that something more than the single Saturday commencement service was needed," Conn explained. "I planned a have a 'commissioning service,' which would be on the Friday night before commencement and feature student speakers. To provide a counterpoint to the diplomas, which we would give away the next day, I decided to give each graduate a Bible on Friday night. We bought maroon, leather-bound NIVs, and I found a donor to pay for them. Each was embossed with a graduate's name. I felt it would personalize the gift if I inscribed each Bible with the student's name, my name, the date, and a scripture reference."

"I reflected for several days on the single scriptural passage which I thought best expressed my parting message to these graduates," Conn continued. "I consider Lee graduates to be my spiritual sons and daughters, in a sense, and I selected part of the well-known prayer which the apostle Paul prayed for his own spiritual sons and daughters, found in Ephesians 3:16-19. Then and now, it offers what I believe to be the most important core of God's Word, the reality that we can 'grasp' a love for us that is as high, wide, long, and deep as God himself."

To date, and including the graduates of the Class of 2011, Conn has signed more than 12,500 Bibles, embedding the Ephesians message into the hearts of a generation of Lee graduates around the globe.



Richard Clark of Jenkins Masonry carefully installs the scripture cornerstone on the latest dormitory, New Hughes Hall.



Campus Pastor Jimmy Harper leads the college benediction.



A large fabric mural depicting the Poiema Project hangs in the lobby of Dixon Center.



Frances Arrington was director of the Lee Library from 1978–2002

# Legacies of Lee

FRANCES ARRINGTON  
A LIFE LIVED FOR THE LEE LIBRARY

By Louis Morgan

For anyone who has a long-term connection with Lee University, it seems only natural to think of Frances Arrington when discussing the library. For almost 50 years, she served Lee through the library, including 24 years as director—during some of the library’s most transformative years.

Frances Treadaway grew up during the Depression era near Fyffe, Alabama, where she was taught the value of hard work, education, and faith in Jesus Christ. Attending the Highway Church of God, she accepted Christ at age 12 and became passionate about following His plan for her life. She could not have imagined then the impact her life and ministry would have as a result of her service at Lee.

God’s plan led her to enroll at Lee in 1949. She later reflected, “I was a country girl, fresh out of the cotton patch. My parents had no money to pay for my college expenses and there were no federal grants.” Frances was able to attend college with financial assistance from an older sister and by working three part-time jobs—reading to a blind stu-

dent, grading papers for an English teacher, and as a student assistant at Lee Memorial Library. Thus began her lifelong affiliation with Lee’s library.

In a presentation to her staff in 2000, Frances reflected on her days as a library student assistant: “I had to do the circulation. The books were buried behind closed stacks, therefore, we had to find the books for the patrons as well as check them out. . . . I also had to collect permits from those who came to the library ‘to study.’ Often it was a place to meet their date. Then I had the awesome task of trying to keep the big open Reading Room quiet, so that those who really wanted to study could. For all that, I was paid 40 cents an hour.”

Upon completing her studies at Lee, which was a two-year college at that time, Frances transferred to Jacksonville State College in Alabama to pursue her dream of being a school teacher. There she majored in math and minored in literature. However, her dedication to library work had impressed head librarian, A.H. Myers, who told her, “Frances,

some day you will come back here and direct this library.” Frances graciously disagreed, for it was not her career plan. Yet, she would come to realize the fulfillment of those words as God directed her path back to Lee a few years later.

Returning to campus for a visit following her graduation from college, Frances was convinced by then President R. Leonard Carroll to join the faculty teaching math and English beginning in the fall of 1953. Two milestone events occurred as a result—she met and married student French Arrington and she returned to work at the library. After one year of full-time teaching, Frances divided her work by teaching part-time and supervising the library at night part-time. In 1955, she became the head librarian and, at the recommendation of President Carroll, began pursuing a master’s degree in library science.

While dedicated to her work, Frances was also devoted to her family—husband (and former Lee professor) Dr. French Arrington, daughter Athena, and son Lee—and to her hobbies, which included bird watching and reading the works of C.S. Lewis. She even took a few semesters away from her work to follow her husband when he enrolled in graduate school and to stay at home with her small children. But her return to the library full-time was always anticipated, which she did in 1971 and later was named library director in 1978.

Early on Frances had foresight of the technological changes in how information would be retrieved. The library had the first computer on campus. In 1981, she led the library in reclassifying the collection from the Dewey Decimal System to the Library of Congress, circulation was automated in 1987, and the library catalog was fully online by 1990. She also was instrumental in Lee’s joining a library consortium through the Appalachian College Association that provides thousands of articles and electronic books through online databases. In 1985, Frances supervised the relocation of the library and its collection of more than 113,000 volumes from the old library, in what is now the Vest Building, to its current location.

When Frances retired in June 2002, there were 160,000 items in the collection in a diversity of formats (print, electronic, online, microform, and media) and the library budget had increased to more than \$1 million—compared to an annual library budget of less than \$5,000 and only 9,713 volumes in the collection when she became head librarian in 1955. For her significant contributions to librarianship, she was promoted to Professor Emeritus at Lee University in 2002 and awarded a Life Membership in the Association of Christian Librarians in 2003.

Following her retirement, Frances continued to serve Lee University with her expertise as a library volunteer. For the last two years, she focused on

organizing the archives of Lee, housed in the Dixon Pentecostal Research Center. She worked weekly on this project until the spring of this year, when she was diagnosed with cancer. Even then she was committed to seeing the project completed. Frances died on August 2, 2011, leaving a legacy of a life well-lived and the ministry of serving others without the need for personal recognition.

When speaking recently at Frances’ memorial service, Dr. Carolyn Dirksen explained, “Frances prepared our library for 21st-century technology and the revolution in access that would bring. She assembled and mentored an exceptional team of library professionals, and she led in the development of the electronic and print collection. When she retired in 2002, Lee’s library was ranked eleventh out of 92 libraries in its class. Due to her hard, focused, intelligent work, thousands of students from Lee and the seminary can find what they need in their research and will encounter trained professionals to help them . . . because Frances set the stage for this opportunity.”

Frances once reflected about her library work, “I believe God placed me here . . . I was afraid of much of the responsibility, but I have learned that if God places you somewhere, He will help you do the job.” For those who have been touched by the half-century ministry of Frances Arrington at the Lee library, there is no doubt He placed her there and indeed helped her accomplish her work most effectively. And for this, she has left an enduring legacy at Lee University.

(Editor’s Note: On August 3, 2011, the day following Frances Arrington’s death, Dr. Donald Smeeton—her successor at the Squires Library—died in Lee’s Summit, Missouri. He was director of the library from 2002–2007.)

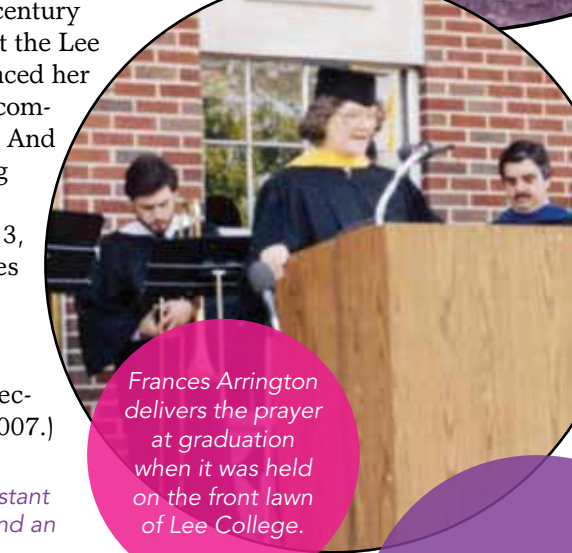
Dr. Louis Morgan serves as assistant director of the Squires Library and an associate professor.



Frances Arrington and her husband Dr. French Arrington in front of the former Old Main during their early years at Lee.



Frances and French attend the Legacy Reunion at Lee featuring the Class of 1958.



Frances Arrington delivers the prayer at graduation when it was held on the front lawn of Lee College.

## New Hughes Hall Completed; Chapel on Schedule



Workers lower the steeple onto the new chapel which will be dedicated at Homecoming.

Excitement was palpable the third week of August as 124 men moved their belongings into the newest residence hall on the Lee campus—the recently completed New Hughes Hall.

Residents quickly discovered this was not the Hughes Hall of a former era. The “new Hughes” comes complete with three floors of suite-style rooms, as opposed to the common restroom of the former Hughes. New Hughes tenants found a large lobby, with common areas on each floor, including lounges, computer rooms, public restrooms and an elevator—amenities which were not part of old Hughes.

Hughes Hall is now part of a six-building residential square on the east side of campus, which is home to over 300 students. It sits between two apartments which opened last year and joins three Brinsfield Row residences. In addition, an eight-bed converted home borders the square.

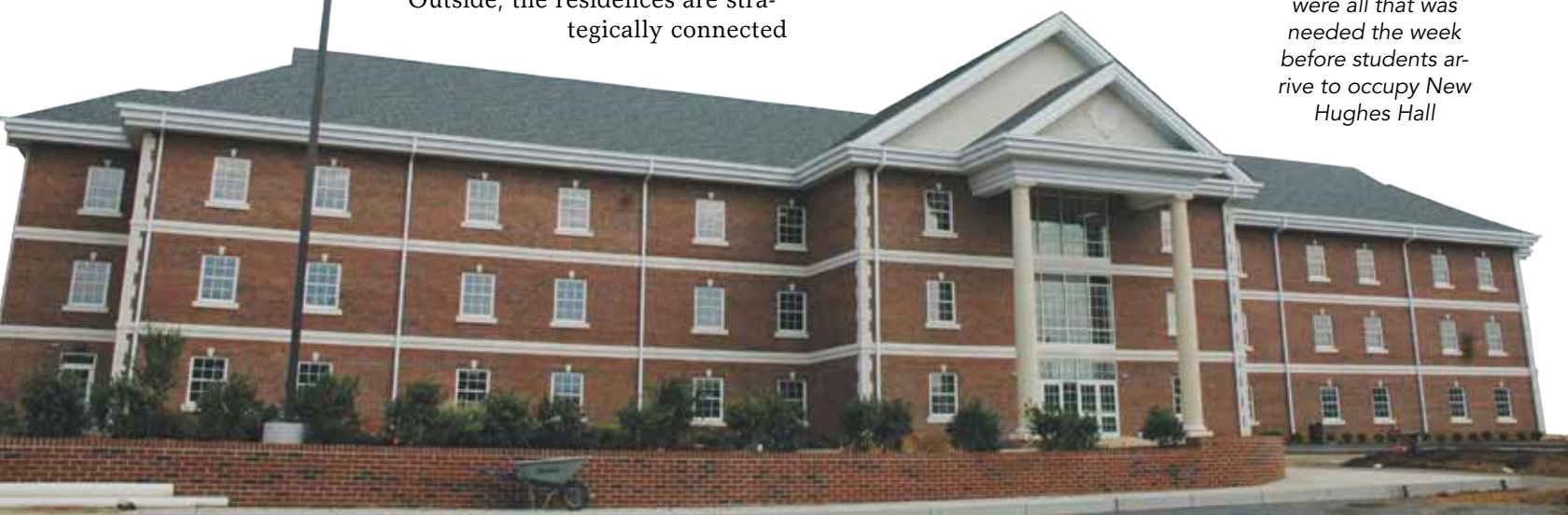
Outside, the residences are strategically connected

by sidewalks, lawn, common parking areas, and a circular drive in front of the new dormitory. An attractive addition is an outdoor pavilion. Other outdoor common areas are planned.

On the corner of Ocoee and 11th Street, one of the most stunning additions to the Lee campus—and downtown Cleveland—is the new chapel, which is nearing completion. The roof, stained glass windows, and intricate stonework are close to being complete. Scaffolding covers the entire front steeple area as craftsmen carefully construct the most intricate part of the project. Indoors, the intimate worship area is being detailed in preparation for delivery of custom-built pews, while work on the downstairs reception and office area keeps pace toward a completion date of early fall.

The chapel will be dedicated during Homecoming 2011, November 4 and 5.

Finishing touches were all that was needed the week before students arrive to occupy New Hughes Hall



## Dennis Estate Gift Pushes Lee Endowment Past \$10 Million

**Brady and Florence Dennis demonstrate how an “ordinary” family can make an enormous impact**

Thanks to an extraordinary gift from the estate of Florence Dennis of Greenville, South Carolina, future generations of Lee students will have help paying for college.

The bequest, designated to the Florence and Brady Dennis Scholarship, is one of the most significant endowment gifts ever given to Lee University and will fund multiple scholarships beginning this fall. “The real story,” says Jerome Hammond, vice president for University Relations, “is how a seemingly ordinary couple was able to make this extraordinary impact on the lives of Lee students.”

After graduating from Lee in 1938, then Bible Training School (BTS), Brady Dennis served broadly in Church of God ministry as a pastor, state youth director, state overseer, and administrator. Florence Dennis would assist by playing the organ, teaching Sunday school, leading children’s crusades, and usually serving as the church clerk. She wasn’t reluctant to admit that being expected to keep the books “gratis” sometimes motivated her to find a paying job.

Throughout their lives in ministry, Brady and Florence Dennis planned well and lived carefully. “Brady thought ahead,” Florence would say. “He was brilliant in that way.” Florence occasionally worked as a bookkeeper for local businesses where Brady pastored. Once she took a job as a secretary in a government office assisting three different bosses. “That wasn’t easy; I don’t mind telling you,” she commented.

They eventually settled and retired in Greenville, South Carolina, becoming faithful members at the Tremont Avenue Church of God where Brady was a member of the Men’s Bible class and chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. Florence taught Sunday school and served in the children’s ministries.

When Brady died in February 2000, Florence started a scholarship in his name. “Brady loved Lee,” she would explain. “He loved to see these young people graduating from Lee.” She remembered how difficult it was for her and Brady to pay for college, so they wanted to see to it that other young people had help making it through. Over the next ten years, Florence brought and sometimes sent her annual gifts to Brady’s scholarship, always reminding people of how proud Brady was of Lee University.

Tragically, on October 17, 2010, after teaching her Sunday school class, Florence pulled out of the church parking lot and into the path of an oncoming car. Suddenly, her journey on earth was over. But in the wake of the grief felt by family and friends, she and Brady



Florence Dennis

The gift from Brady and Florence Dennis will add a new \$800,000 scholarship to our funds. This becomes our largest named fund. It also bumps our total endowment for Lee University past the \$10,000,000 threshold. This has been a goal of ours for the past several years, and marks a pivotal achievement as we move into a new fund-raising period.

left behind a lifetime of planning and saving that would continue their legacy of ministry.

“These were two people who completely understood that death does not have to be the end of one’s ministry,” explains Dr. Hammond. “Florence and Brady Dennis were fully engaged in ministry while they were alive, and at the same time, they were making plans to continue ministering long after they left this world. It’s really amazing. Generations of Lee students will be in their debt because of this foresight.”

For more information about the Brady and Florence Dennis Scholarship Fund, contact the Office of University Relations at (423) 614-8310 or [ur@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:ur@leeuniversity.edu).

## Lee Hosts Church of God Teen Talent



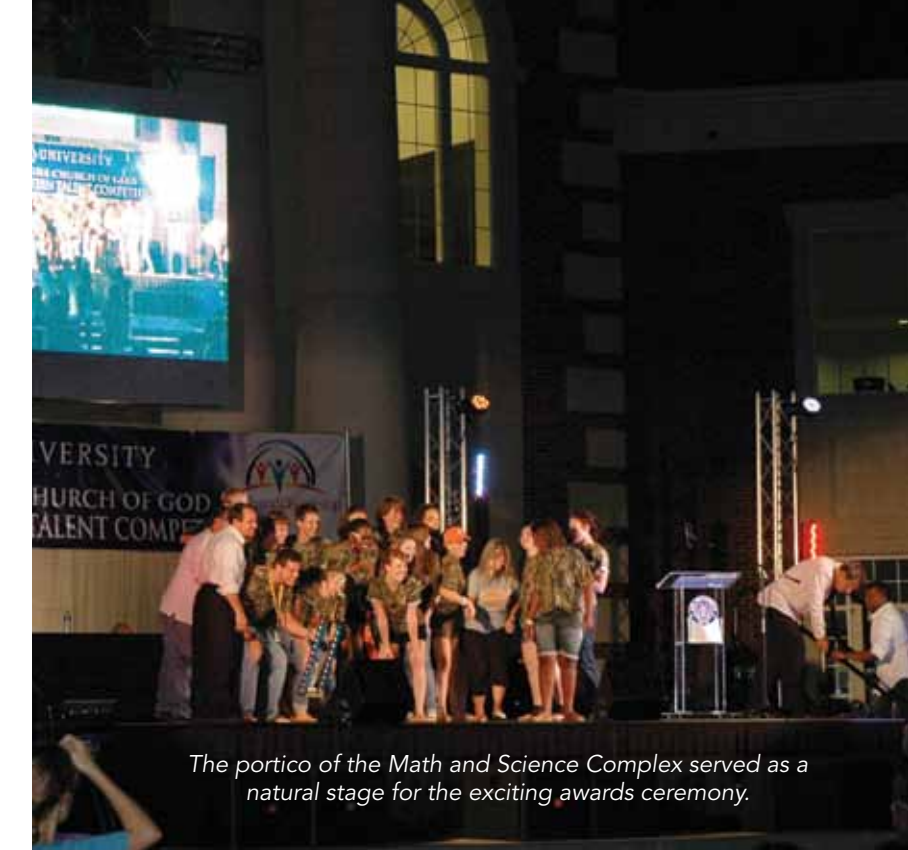
A view of the large crowd gathered on the Science and Math Complex lawn for the awards ceremony.

coordinated by Lee throughout the week, including a block party and a night of worship featuring Voices of Lee and speaker Dr. Paul Conn.

Competition was held at multiple locations across the Lee campus and at North Cleveland. The climactic awards festival took place outdoors on Saturday evening on the lawn of the new Science and Math Complex at Lee.

Dr. Walt Mauldin, chair of the Lee University Teen Talent Steering Committee said, "It was an honor for Lee University to host this competition. Our Steering Committee comprised of faculty, staff, and students worked tirelessly to make it a week to remember on our campus."

"We are extremely excited that Teen Talent was hosted in Cleveland on the campus of Lee University," stated Tom Madden. "This is the 50th anniversary of Teen Talent which has helped produce many gifted musicians, pastors, writers, and leaders. Hosting the event at Lee gave many students and parents the opportunity to see our flagship school firsthand that might not have had the opportunity. We believe this was a win-win for everyone involved."



The portico of the Math and Science Complex served as a natural stage for the exciting awards ceremony.



Voices of Lee entertain during Teen Talent

As a wrap-up to the summer camp season, more than 2,000 students, parents, and chaperones flooded the Lee campus to participate in Church of God Teen Talent 2011. The August 2-6 event was part of a new format for the biennial youth event.

According to Church of God director of Youth and Discipleship, Tom Madden, "Teen Talent is an international program for youth in the Church of God. The competition aims to help young people discover their talents to better serve the Lord." The five-day event featured competition in music, art, drama, multimedia, creative writing, and Bible for youth ages 13-19.

This is the first year since the beginning of the program 50 years ago that Teen Talent has not been staged as part of the Church of God General Assembly—the convention held every two years where business of the Church of God is conducted. In 2010, the announcement was made to hold Teen Talent on the in-between years, which allows more youth to be involved, more focus to be given to the program, and is an overall less expensive venue for the participants.

Competition was held at Lee and neighboring North Cleveland Church of God. Students, parents, and staff were housed in Lee University residence halls with meals offered at the dining hall. Activities for Teen Talent participants were



Teen Talent drama was staged in the Conn Center



Kay McDaniel congratulates some of her star tennis pupils.

## McDaniel Tennis Clinic Marks 20 Years

For the twentieth straight year, the Kay McDaniel Summer Tennis Clinic was a hit for all involved. Hosted by Lee University, 275 children ages 6-13 participated, along with their parents, 33 instructors, and many volunteers. The clinic consisted of free tennis lessons, prizes, certifications, and group photos. Special medals were given all week.

Participants came from twenty cities in Tennessee and Georgia to learn from Director Kay McDaniel, a one-time world-ranked tennis professional and member of the Lee faculty. During the clinics, McDaniel shared inspiring stories of how she overcame difficult obstacles in sports

and in life. The death of her tennis coach, and later an injury threatened her pro career until God miraculously healed it. McDaniel went on to realize her dream by competing at tennis' Grand Slams for six years against legendary players such as Billie Jean King, Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, and Steffi Graf. She rose to the top 35 in the world in singles and held a #20 world ranking in doubles.

This year's theme was based on 1 Corinthians 13: "Let Love Win: We've been given another day to love." Each year the clinic emphasizes dreaming big, setting small goals, believing God, expecting obstacles but pressing through them all."

## Summer Graduation Breaks Record

The Conn Center was filled with anticipation as 227 students received their Lee University diplomas while friends and family looked on.

The 153rd graduation ceremony to be held at Lee was the largest ever for a summer commencement. A total of 140 bachelors, 77 masters, and ten specialist degrees were awarded. The previous record for a summer graduation was 2008 when 189 graduates crossed the stage.

Dr. Alvin "Bud" Austin, university chancellor and former president of LeTourneau University, brought the commencement address on Saturday, July 30. Austin served as president of LeTourneau from 1986 to 2007 when he was named university chancellor. Under his leadership, LeTourneau College became a university, and the quality of the faculty increased as the school continued to combine technology, engineering, and liberal arts with a strong Christian commitment.

Austin's leadership has included serving as chair of the Board of Directors of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities. He has been a member of the Council of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and served on the Board of Directors of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas.

Lee University graduation exercises began on Friday, July 29, with a commissioning service at 6:30 p.m. Bringing addresses on behalf of the graduates were Reagan Daniels, Jessica VanderWilp, Joshua Foggin, Tiffany Brooks, Golden Madume, and Sarah Blake Morgan. Jason Vawter performed a vocal solo. Following the speeches, all graduates received a Bible, personally signed by President Conn.

Summer graduates proceed toward Conn Center from the staging area at the School of Religion.



## Lee Is 13th in the Nationwide List of Community Service Colleges.

USA Today College recently listed Lee University among the 20 colleges most committed to community service.

The Web site, dedicated to blogs, news, and updates for connected students, compiled "a listing of . . . inspiring schools out there," and Lee came in at No. 13.

"Being recognized as a leading institution in service learning is a testament to the life-giving work of our students," says Dr. Mike Hayes, vice president of student development. "Lee University's commitment to service extends to each of its students, who must complete two service-embedded courses and 80 hours of service-learning as a graduation requirement."

The Leonard Center is the student development sector that directs service learning at Lee. Its mission is to prepare students for citizenship as Christians in the world through reflective community interactions and teach commitment to ideals of service, benevolence, civic virtue, and social justice.

Eastern Connecticut State University placed first in the listing, followed by Stanford University. Other notables included St. Mary's University, Loyola University Chicago, Willamette, Emory and Henry, Ohio Wesleyan, and Nova Southern University.



Tiffany Feltner, far right, provided needed repairs to some of the Cuban band's instruments. Symphonic Band Director Dr. Mark Bailey, back row, third from left.

## Symphonic Band: First Collegiate Band to Visit Cuba in 50 Years

The Lee University Symphonic Band completed a missions trip to Cuba from June 5-13. The group was the first collegiate concert band to visit the country since 1958.

The trip included four concerts: two at high school music conservatories in Havana, one with the leading musicians at the Baptist Seminary of Havana, and a joint concert with the National Concert Band of Cuba.

At the rehearsal with the National Concert Band, donated instruments and supplies were distributed to the Cuban band members. The instruments were personal contributions from members of the Symphonic Band and Lee's Department of Instrumental Music.

Tiffany Feltner, a band alumnus and instrument repair technician, went on the trip to perform much needed

repairs on instruments belonging to the National Band of Cuba. Sigma Alpha Iota, a women's music fraternity, donated more than \$500 of repair supplies. In all, over \$5,000 of instruments and supplies were donated to musicians in Cuba.

Moises Hernandez, supervisor of Instrumental Music Activities in Cuba, coordinated the trip with Dr. Mark Bailey, conductor of Lee's Symphonic Band. Hernandez has invited Bailey to return next year to rehearse and conduct a concert with the National Band of Cuba.

According to Bailey, "Lee students were extremely moved by the great need of the musicians in Cuba. The trip was a terrific combination of cross-cultural experience, service, ministry, and education: qualities that are becoming the hallmark of a Lee University education."

## Lee Launches Internet Degree Program

The Internet Degree Program (IDP), a program with the Church of God Division of Education, is now partnering to offer the popular program through Lee University. Previously, the IDP was available only through Patten University in Oakland, California.

Effective this semester, the IDP will offer a bachelor of science degree in church leadership with concentrations in four areas: (1) counseling leadership, (2) ministry (pastoral) leadership, (3) music and worship leadership, and (4) youth ministries leadership. The program consists of a complete 120-semester-hour

degree that is completely online. This program is affordable and available anywhere in the world that has Internet access.

"This initiative is further recognition of the denomination's commitment to support ministerial education and training from a global perspective," stated Dr. Delton Alford, director of the program. "It also provides a valuable new role for Lee University to play in offering fully-online ministerial training in the Church of God."

To learn more about the Internet Degree Program, email [idp@cogdoe.org](mailto:idp@cogdoe.org) or call 1-877-437-6656.





# Welcome, to the Class of 2011-2012 New Lee University Faculty!

## College of Arts and Sciences:

**Richard Albright, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., M.Ed., B.S.—The Pennsylvania State University  
Mr. Albright has been in private professional counseling, a school counselor, researcher, and classroom teacher.

**Christopher Blake, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of TESOL and Linguistics**

Ph.D., M.S., B.A.—Purdue University  
Dr. Blake has been assistant professor at Western Carolina University for the past five years.

**Rebecca Brinkmann, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Communication**

Ph.D., M.A.—Regent University  
B.A.—Saint Vincent College  
Dr. Brinkmann comes to Lee from Saint Vincent College where she has served as assistant professor since 2004.

**Mary Mathias Dickerson, M.F.A.**

**Assistant Professor of Art**

M.F.A.—Bradley University  
B.F.A.—Bowling Green State University  
Ms. Dickerson has been on faculty at Northland Pioneer College in Arizona for the past four years.

**Matthew Fisher, M.F.A.**

**Visiting Lecturer in Communication Arts**

M.F.A.—Savannah College of Arts and Design  
B.A.—Lee University  
Mr. Fisher is a recipient of the Bilbo Student Teaching Award and holds a Tennessee teaching licensure for grades 7-12.

**Sarah Freemyer, Ph.D candidate - Purdue University, M.S. (to begin Jan. 2012)**

**Assistant Professor of Chemistry**

M.S.—Purdue University  
B.S.—Lee University  
Ms. Freemyer has taught high school chemistry and served as adjunct instructor at Indiana Wesleyan University.

**Randy Miedaner, J.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Business**

J.D.—Louisiana State University Law School  
B.B.A.—University of Wisconsin  
Dr. Miedaner is an accomplished tax, business, and investment banking attorney and CPA. He has taught at LSU Business School, Lakeland College, Oglethorpe University, and Birmingham Southern College.

**Jill Shelton, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D.—Louisiana State University  
M.S., B.S.—University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
Dr. Shelton comes to Lee after a postdoctoral fellowship on the aging at Washington University.



**Back row L to R:**  
Brian Peterson, Matthew Fisher, David Smartt, Mary Mathias Dickerson, Randy Miedaner, David Zoetewey, Richard Albright

**Front Row L to R:**  
Rebecca Brinkmann, Nicole Velasco, John Wykoff, Christopher Blake, Jill Shelton

**David Smartt, Ph.D. (to begin in January 2012)**

**Assistant Professor of Business**

Ph.D.—Northcentral University  
M.S.—U.S. Army War College  
M.B.A.—Syracuse University  
M.Div.—Pentecostal Theological Seminary  
B.A.—Lee College  
Dr. Smartt most recently served as commandant of the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School where he provided overall leadership to 110 faculty and staff and was responsible for the training of approximately 2,000 men and women annually.

**Arlie Tagayuna, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Sociology**

Ph.D., M.A.—University of Hawai'i-Manoa  
B.A.—University of the Philippines  
Dr. Tagayuna has been teaching at New Mexico Highlands University since 2007.

**Nicole Velasco, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Political Science**

Ph.D., M.A.—Stanford University  
B.A.—University of California, Berkeley  
Ms. Velasco has been a lecturer at Santa Clara University and Mills College and a teaching assistant at Stanford University while working in her doctoral program.

**David Zoetewey, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Chemistry**

Ph.D.—University of Colorado  
B.A.—Point Loma Nazarene University  
Dr. Zoetewey is a postdoctoral fellow at Auburn University Chemistry Department. His research there is for the development of a potential anticancer therapeutic.

## School of Music

**Robert Bernhardt, M.M.**

**Artist in Residence**

M.M.—University of Southern California  
B.A.—Union College  
Mr. Bernhardt has been the music director and conductor of the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera for the past 19 years.

**Cameron LaBarr, D.M.A.**

**Assistant Professor Music**

D.M.A., M.M.—University of North Texas  
B.M.—Missouri State University  
Mr. LaBarr is completing his D.M.A. in choral conducting. He has served as the conductor of the University of North Texas Men's Chorus and associate conductor of the A Cappella Choir and the Denton Bach Society.

**John Wykoff, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor Music**

Ph.D.—City University of New York  
M.A.—Queens College  
B.A.—Covenant College  
Dr. Wykoff was a chancellor's fellow in music composition at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

## School of Religion

**Brian Peterson, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor of Old Testament**

Ph.D.—Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto  
M.A.—Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
M.T.S.—Beeson Divinity School  
B.B.—Zion Bible College  
Dr. Peterson comes to Lee from Prairie Bible College in Alberta, Canada, where he served as assistant professor of Old Testament.



Arlie Tagayuna



Cameron LaBarr



Robert Bernhardt



## Higginbotham Receives Janet Rahamut Award

Professor of education, Dr. JoAnn Higginbotham, has been named winner of the 2011 Janet Rahamut Award. The award is given in recognition of the faculty member who exhibits the most heart for students evidenced by frequent interaction and positive involvement with students outside the classroom.

The award is named in memory of Dr. Janet Rahamut, a veteran English professor whose tragic death in 2000 shocked the

campus and left a tremendous void in the collective heart of the Lee family. The award was created to honor Rahamut's dedication to her students, in and out of the classroom (see alumni reflection in Who's Where, this issue).

The recipient of the Rahamut Award is chosen by a student committee chaired by the Student Leadership Council chairperson and sponsored by the student development office. The committee reviews faculty nominations from department chairs and deans.



## Thompson Named Council President

Dr. Dewayne Thompson, chair of the Lee University Department of Business, was recently named president of the Southeastern Council of the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). Lee's Department of Business has been officially recognized by ACBSP since 2008.

Since joining the Lee faculty, Thompson has established his reputation as a highly effective professor of business policy and ethics and has served as the department chair for three years.

"It is an honor to serve such an exceptional organization as ACBSP," said Thompson. "It is good to be involved in important work that holds high standards to further quality business education."

Lee will host the 2011 ACBSP Southeastern Council Conference September 22-24, 2011. Delegates will consider important regional issues such as the strategic plan of the Southeastern Council and a number of issues affecting its future. The conference will feature President Conn as the keynote speaker and a performance by the Voices of Lee.

## Freake Receives Research Grant

Lee University biology professor Dr. Michael Freake was recently awarded a grant from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency to support his project, "Conservation and Landscape Genetics of Hellbenders Across Tennessee."

Since joining Lee's Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in 2001, Freake has established his reputation not only as an excellent educator, but also as a meticulous scientific researcher.

For the past several years, Freake's research has focused on the population ecology and conservation of eastern hellbenders, a species of giant salamander. Eastern hellbenders have been declining across their entire range and were selected as a species of greatest conservation need in the Tennessee State Wildlife Action Plan.

His new project will seek to conduct field surveys of the salamanders to determine geographic distribution and population age, as well as the survival of hellbenders across the state. Through DNA testing, Freake's group will assess genetic diversity and connectivity between hellbender populations and provide current status information on this species.

This project is funded through a State Wildlife Grant administered by the TWRA, and is a collaborative effort with the Nashville Zoo, Middle Tennessee State University, Project Orianna, and San Francisco State University.

According to Freake, "The reasons we care about hellbenders is their uniqueness—they are one of only three species of the Cryptobranchid family still in existence. They are the oldest surviving family of salamanders, and also the largest salamanders in the world. Since they are completely aquatic and need clean, cool streams, they are a valuable indicator of water quality. If they disappear from our rivers, it is a clear message that all is not well. Our concern is that this may be the last generation of Tennessee residents that will have hellbenders in the wild."



Lee professor Dr. Michael Freake, center, pictured here with research assistant Sarah Flowers and University of Idaho's Stephen Spear.



## Three Business Faculty Earn Doctorates

Three professors from the Business Department faculty have been awarded their doctoral degrees. Guy DeLoach, Shane Griffith, and Hermilo Jasso earned their degrees earlier this year.

Dr. Hermilo Jasso is an assistant professor of and received his Ph.D. in business administration with a concentration in economics from the Universidad De La Empresa in Montevideo, Uruguay. His dissertation, titled "The Economic Impact of Mexican Illegal Immigration Residing in the South Central Part of the United States," explores the impact of monies received in the United States and sent back to Mexico on the economies of both countries.

Dr. Jasso joined Lee's business faculty in 1987 after a successful stint in the business world. Prior to his arrival at Lee, Jasso worked as a stockbroker for Merrill Lynch and as a financial analyst for Metropolitan Life.

Jasso customarily teaches microeconomics, macroeconomics, international business, and investments. He was the first recipient of the Janet Rahamut Faculty Award, given to the faculty member who exhibits the most heart for students evidenced by frequent interaction and posi-

tive involvement with students outside of the classroom.

Dr. Shane Griffith, instructor in business, received the doctorate in business administration with an emphasis in decision sciences from Nova Southeastern University. His dissertation was titled "The Effect of Heterogeneous Servers on the Service Level Predicted by Erlang-A," and explores the efficiency of queuing models in American call centers. Griffith joined the Lee faculty in the fall of 2002 and teaches business statistics, management science, business finance, and international financial management.

Dr. Guy DeLoach, assistant professor of business, also earned the doctorate in business administration, but with emphasis in strategic management from Baker College in Flint, Mich.

DeLoach's dissertation details the evolution of dynamic organizational learning capabilities in strategic planning, which he feels is "a vital process for creating competitive advantage." DeLoach joined Lee's Department of Business in the fall of 2005 and teaches courses in strategic management, applied research, and operational management.

## Gray Releases Chinese Reference

Lee University Chinese language and culture professor Dr. Phebe Xu Gray recently authored *The Three Character Classic: A Bilingual Reader of China's ABCs*.

Comparable to today's pocket encyclopedia, *The Three Character Classic* overviews Chinese history and important historical works, illustrates the fundamentals of Confucianism, all while teaching the basics of math, sciences, music, and moral lessons.

Gray arrived at Lee as an international student from Henan University in Kaifeng, Henan, China. After completing her doctorate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Gray taught in Oregon before joining the Lee faculty.

*The Three Character Classic: A Bilingual Reader of China's ABCs* was published by Homa & Sekey Books. To see more of Gray's published work, visit [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), or [www.superbookshop.net](http://www.superbookshop.net)



## Women Golfers Named No. 1 Scholar-Team in Nation

On the links and in the classroom, it has been a tremendous year for Coach John Maupin and his Lee University women's golf team.

Maupin was thrilled when his young women's team finished 10th in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament, but those feelings reached an all-time high after his Lady Flames were named the 2010-2011 NAIA Scholar-Team of the Year and the 2010-2011 NGCA All-Scholar-Team GPA Award.

The awards recognize the women's collegiate golf program with the highest collective average team GPA, which includes all of the team's student-athletes. Lee's six team members had an average GPA of 3.864.

Comprised of only freshmen and sophomores, the Lady Flames finished in the top spot with a 3.86 grade point average during a record total of 934 teams who were honored, making the accomplishment loom even more impressive.

Members of the amazing squad are Kristin Bourg, Geandra Almeida, Amanda DeJiacomo, Chelsea Rakestraw, Courtney Shelton, and Sloane Skinner. As a freshman, Almeida was selected as an NAIA All-American. Shelton, also a freshman, was named to the National All-Tournament team and

recently finished second in the prestigious Women's State Amateur Tourney.

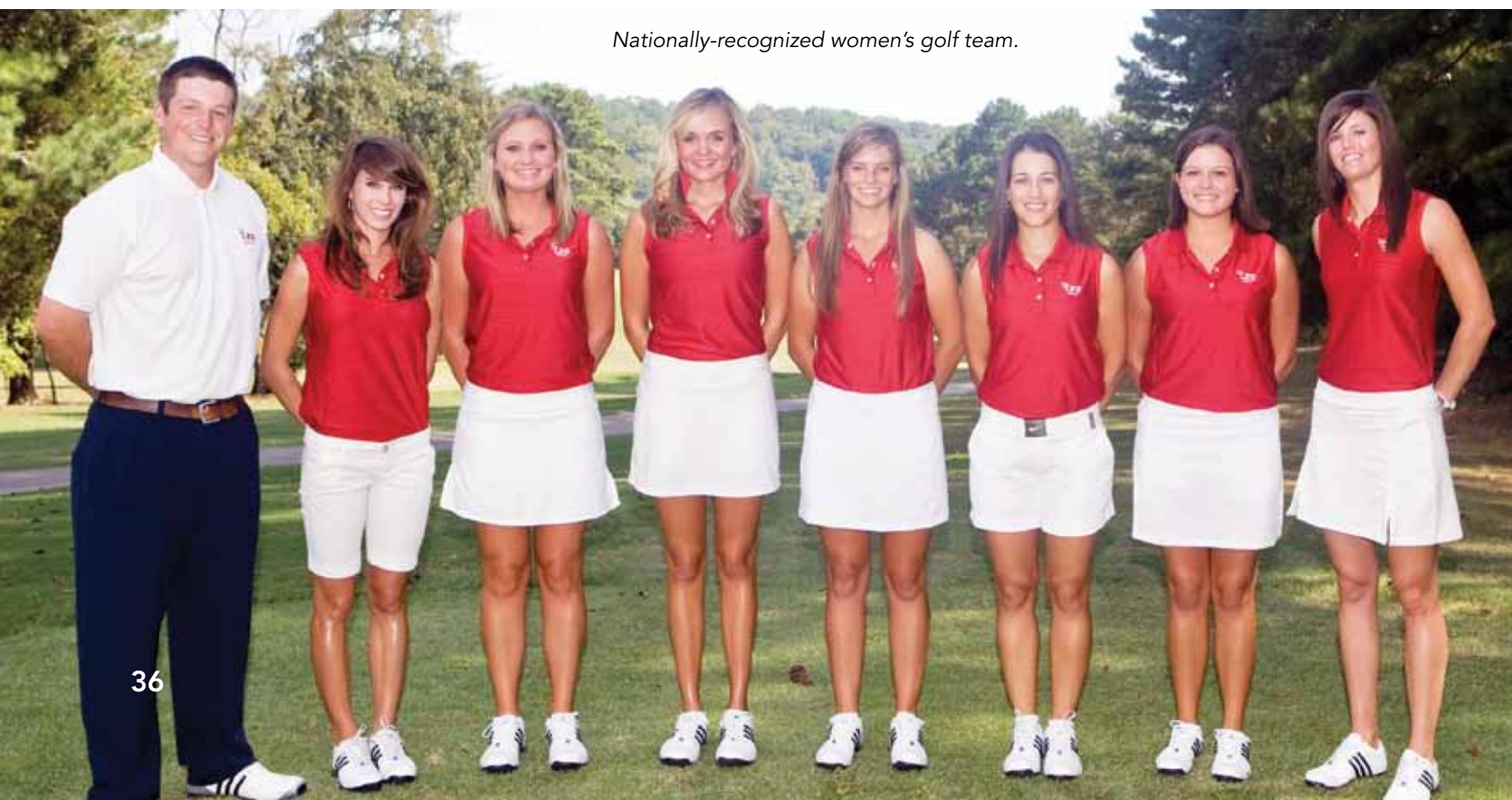
"Our team is so honored to be receiving these awards," said Maupin after receiving the news. "It is certainly something to be proud of. This is really a testament to each of the girls, and just how hard they work in the classroom. It is very challenging to be a student-athlete, but our girls do a great job of balancing both, golf and school."

Lee Athletic Director Larry Carpenter took the opportunity to heap special praises on the women's golf team. "This has been a year of records and firsts for our athletic programs, and this certainly is one of our top accomplishments. We stress academics to our coaches and athletes and take pride in their achievements, but to earn the distinction of being the No. 1 academic team in the country is a tremendous honor."

The AD was quick to point out that eight other Lee teams were honored by the NAIA for their work in the classroom. The list includes Coach Don Jayroe, women's cross country and indoor and outdoor track teams; Coach Andrea Hudson, volleyball; Coach Matt Yelton, women's soccer; Coach Marty Rowe, women's basketball; Coach Emily Russell, softball; and Coach Maupin, men's golf.



Nationally-recognized women's golf team.



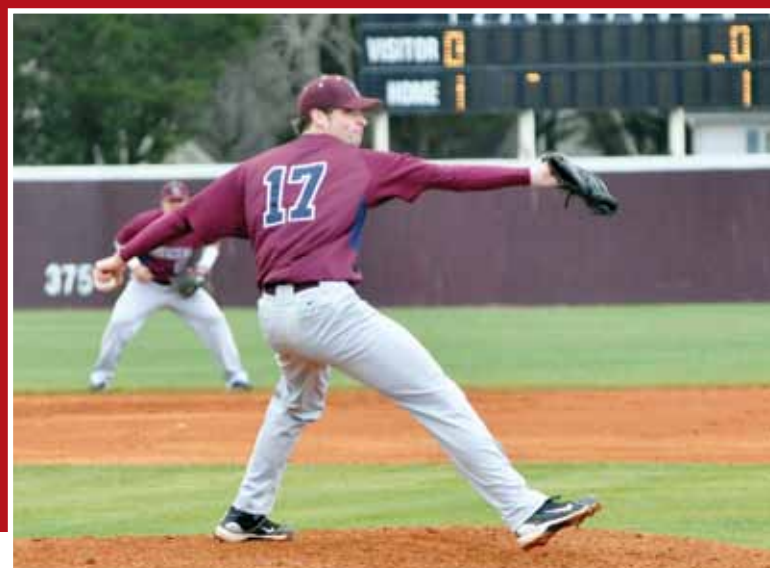
## Lee Graduate Lands College Head Coaching Job

Lee assistant basketball and golf coach, Matt Sanders, has accepted the head women's basketball coach at Truett-McConnell College (Cleveland, Ga.). Sanders, who attended Lee and worked as a student assistant coach from 1995-2000, served as the head boys' basketball coach and athletic director at Heirway Christian Academy (Douglasville, Ga.) for six years. He was the boys' basketball assistant at Ola High School (McDonough, Ga.) for one season before returning to Lee in 2008.

"I'll always be thankful to Coach Brown and Coach Rowe for allowing me to be a part of their programs," said Sanders. "They are two of the best in the business."

Sanders will enter his first job as a college head coach with plenty of excitement and enthusiasm. At the same time he realizes the road to success in the powerful Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) will not be easy. He has two starters returning to a squad that won five conference games in 2010-2011.

"Lee and Southern Poly are two well-established NAIA programs that have set the bar awfully high for us to have to reach," Sanders said. "They are the measuring stick, and Shorter (University) is not far behind. I'm excited. I want to be part of helping Truett-McConnell begin something great in women's basketball."

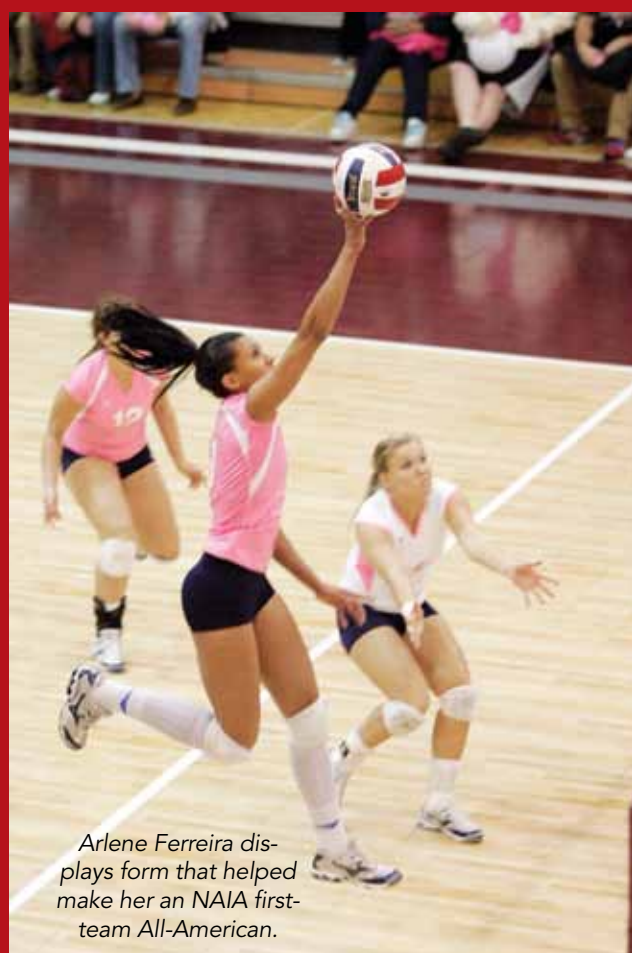


## Baseball Finishes Third in Series; Four Taken in MLB Draft

The Lee University Flames baseball team had a program-best four players taken in the 2011 Major League Baseball draft, and currently, 11 former Flames are in the professional ranks.

Jonathan Clark (13th round, New York Mets) is currently with the Kingsport Mets., and Chris Grayson (Texas Rangers, 17th round) is competing for the Rookie Arizona League Rangers. Pitcher Shay Crawford (41st round, Tampa Bay Rays) is currently with the Princeton Rays, while Maxx Catapano (Seattle Mariners, 46th round) has a 1-1 record in 11 games for the Arizona League Mariners.

Crawford (First Team) and Grayson (Honorable Mention) were both named NAIA All-Americans, after leading the Flames to a third-place finish at the Avista-NAIA World Series in Lewiston, Idaho, their fourth consecutive top three finishes.



Arlene Ferreira displays form that helped make her an NAIA first-team All-American.

## Seven Seniors Returning to Volleyball Squad

Following back-to-back trips to the NAIA Fab Four, the Lee volleyball team returns a strong group of players seeking the program's first NAIA National Championship.

In her 21st season leading the Lady Flames, Coach Andrea Hudson will be approaching her 700th career victory in 2011. Seven seniors return to this year's squad, led by First Team NAIA All-American Arlene Ferreira.

"Our strength is definitely going to be experience," said Hudson. "More than one-half of our roster has been playing the majority of the time."

Hudson called last year's NAIA Fab Four club "something special," but says that this year's unit will rank at the very top. The group toured Israel during the summer months and could be an even closer-knit group as the veteran team attempts to post another high finish in hotly contested NAIA competition.

"We have never had seven seniors in one class. I will have to admit this group is very special," added Hudson. "Each of them holds a special place in my heart as well. Most of them have played all four years and been a vital component to our success."

## Men's Golf Tenth at Nationals

Coach John Maupin, in his third year with the Flames, led the 2011 squad to a tie for 10th place at the NAIA National Championships, the best finish in the program's long and rich history.

Individually, sophomore Tyler Smith earned medalist honors at the Rome News-Tribune Invitational, March 14-15 in Rome, Ga., shooting a 4-under par, 140. For their efforts throughout the season, Smith and sophomore JB Eksteen were both named NAIA Third Team All-Americans.

"I feel like we really turned some heads (at Nationals) and gained a lot of notoriety for our program," said Maupin. "The top-10 finish is a great stepping stone into next season."



JB Eksteen lines up a putt. He joined teammate Tyler Smith in being named NAIA All-Americans.

## Call for Hall of Fame Nominations

The Lee University Athletic Department is soliciting nominations for the 2011 Hall of Fame. Alumni are asked to nominate no more than three candidates and to list nominations with his or her sport, the years played at Lee, along with some of their accolades while members of the Lee men or women's athletic teams.

Please review the criteria before submitting your nomination:

**Athletes**—must be a graduate of Lee College/University; must have demonstrated exemplary character on and off the court/field; must have been a Christian role model on campus; eligible five years from date of graduation.

**Coaches**—must have demonstrated exemplary character on and off the court/field; must have been a Christian role model on campus; must have demonstrated significant coaching contributions at Lee College/University.

Nominations should be made by mail, email, or fax and submitted by no later than noon on September 28. The email address is [gstarr@leeuniversity.edu](mailto:gstarr@leeuniversity.edu) and the fax number is (423) 614-8443.

## Women's Soccer Going After "4-Peat"

The Lee University women's soccer team will take high expectations into 2011, coming off their third consecutive NAIA National Championship in 2010.

New recruits will also be a key in the continuing success of the Lady Flames, with 13 first-year players joining the pool of talented returning players.

"The good news is that of the seven returning players we have, six of them are players with at least two years of starting experience under their belt," said Yelton. "We lost four starters from last year's squad, and it will be crucial to have our incoming class pick up the void that their departure will leave us."

The Lady Flames kicked off the new season with a week-long visit to England and opened the regular season by traveling to Oregon to face two women's soccer powerhouses in Concordia and Azusa Pacific (Calif.).



# Alumni Reflections:

Iconic Tree Symbolizes Loss of Professorial Mentor

By Michaela Rose Barno '00



Sidewalk tree circle in 2000



Sidewalk tree circle in 2010

Once a sidewalk was poured around the majestic tree, a circular bench was added and it quickly became one of the more popular gathering places on the Lee campus.



## I have waited ten years to share this with anyone at Lee besides the group of my friends who were there.

Somehow, it still has taken me several weeks to begin writing.

Recently, the *Burgundy and Blue* (online alumni newsletter) wrote an article about the circle in the sidewalk that leads from the Ped-mall to the backside of the Vest building. As I read the article, I was a little shocked, initially, because it seemed preposterous that someone would not remember the tree that once occupied that circle. My mind began counting the years, though, and quickly realized that a decade of Lee graduates have come and gone without ever knowing that iconic gathering spot. We missed the tree dreadfully and felt that the bland replacement of a circle of bricks didn't do the spot justice. I dug out an old journal from ten years ago, and here's my story.

It was a muggy Saturday night in June. The first summer session had just ended the previous afternoon, and naturally we were restless. For me, the end of that summer class meant the end of every class, and within the next month, I would finally graduate. In the evening, I was with my regular group of cohorts in Apartment 4 in College Arms on Centenary Avenue (people I had known since high school, Summer Honors, Nora Chambers, the semester in Cambridge, and

more). We watched a movie and then headed out into the overcast night to find some five-year-old bread.

That loaf of bread was in some ceiling panels and sadly got demolished with the rest of Hughes Hall earlier this year.

Our mission didn't take us as long as we would have liked, so we made a trip past the Sigma Fountain (on the front campus). We had not been the only rogue ramblers about the still, foggy campus that night, nor the most vagrant: Suds were spilling out as high as our heads around the fountain. We walked through the wall of foam, and I recall the lack of oxygen that surrounded me as I tried to breathe in that atmosphere.

Soapy, but still not exhausted, we explored the gazebo (another replaced icon: the structure currently standing is not the one I saw *Typical Sloan* play from back in 1997). The fog in Cleveland gets trapped by the surrounding mountains, and in the Sarah Conn-Wesson Park, the fog gets trapped even further. I don't remember seeing my friends' faces as we giggled and reminisced that evening. Hopefully, it's not the ten years since then, and it's just the fog.

We were undaunted by Campus Safety, because we encountered none—to our disappointment. It was late

and time to return, but as we crossed the walk where the Bradford Pears had bloomed a few months earlier, we stepped up to the clearing between Administration and Vest. Each of us walked a little slower as we approached the pavement where just the previous fall had stood a grand tree—a beloved tree. Every one of us had been in a class that caused us to circumvent this tree. After three solid years or more of doing so, we continued to step deliberately around the brick which covered the hole left by the trunk when they pulled apart the tree. None of us had ever stepped on the brick, actually. We stood cautiously at its edge, and I felt sorry that I had not sat more often on the bench, which had been built around the old tree. What kind of tree was it? I couldn't remember. I didn't appreciate it enough while it was there.

In unison, the eight of us laid ourselves down onto the brick in a starburst pattern with our heads at the center. We watched the fog move across the moon. Unanimously, the eight of us decided some monument should be built where we lay. Definitely, too, it should have a bench involved. Somehow, we would tell the appropriate authorities of our solution to the odd pavement. But first it was time for bed.

That was a Saturday in June of 2000. The next morning we all awoke to the life-shattering news that our beloved friend, mentor, professor, and mother figure, Dr. Janet Rahamut, had been killed in her home. At the very hour she was attacked, there was a group of kids on campus sensing a loss and a need to remember things past.

For the next week, the eight of us—and more—were nearly catatonic from the news. We sat in the apartment at College Arms and ate every meal together. Sometimes, a local parent came to bring us food. We cried and talked, and at times, laughed hysteri-

cally. It was unconscionable to think about the approaching graduation and Dr. J.'s absence from it. The answering machine there in the apartment had a message from Dr. J. to one of the occupants to call her on Monday; she had a question. Our hearts were broken, and we were enveloped in grief.

Ever after, there seemed an unspoken certainty that the sacrosanctity of the old tree's blank circle was representative of our loss of Dr. Janet Rahamut. We had never walked on the brick, like we owed respect to the memory of the tree, but after that night, we never walked on the brick out of respect for the memory of Dr. J. As I recall these events for this writing, I fear I remember her death better than I remember her. Just like the old tree, I wish I had appreciated her more before she was taken.

When something beloved is lost, the vacant hole cannot remain, or else over time only the hole exists. No monument would ever serve as a worthy substitute for that oak we knew as Dr. J., but it would draw our minds toward her, and what she offered rather than toward a mysterious empty place. Definitely, too, it should have a bench involved.

To read the article that sparked Michaela's musing, type [bit.ly/nFBVMj](http://bit.ly/nFBVMj) in your browser.

# WHO'S Where?

## UPDATE YOUR PROFILE!

There are several ways you can let us know what's new in your life! Log on to to **Lee University's Website** and fill out the **Who's Where form** by navigating there through Lee's Alumni Updates Page. This form can be found by typing the following link into your web browser: [bit.ly/alHjgb](http://bit.ly/alHjgb)

For those of you who keep up with your Lee classmates through Facebook and Twitter, don't you appreciate it when someone posts a fresh new profile or update? Who's Where is the same concept... only in print! If you haven't updated your Lee "profile," in the last year, take a few moments and send us an update. Use whichever method is most convenient for you...but just do it! Find us online and send us a message titled "Who's Where Update."



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Use your smartphone to scan this QR code and connect to the Lee University home page.



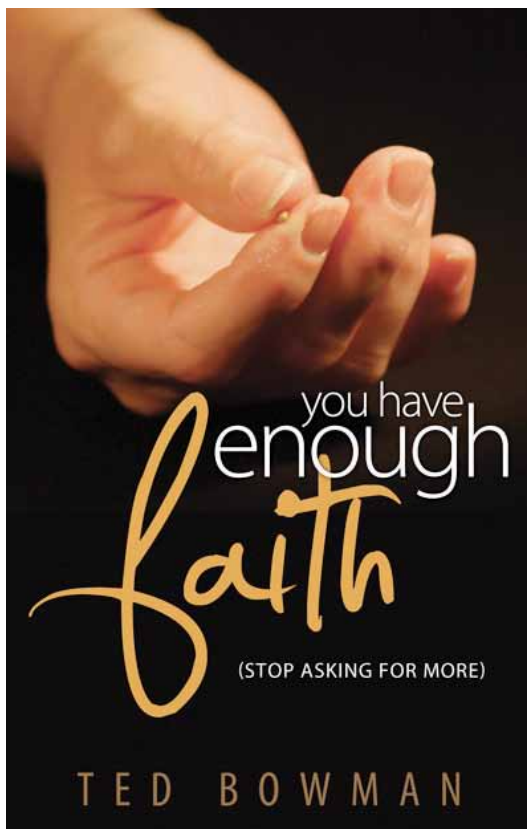
**Max Carroll '51** was honored on August 2, 2011, by the Cleveland (Tennessee) City School System with the naming of the new \$8 million "Max R. Carroll Science Wing" at Cleveland High School. Carroll is a well-known community leader in Cleveland, having served in many civic capacities, including 25 years on the local school board. He is the owner of Carroll and Greene Real Estate in Cleveland and is married to Patsy.

**George F. Johnson '72** is retired from the State Board of Pardons and Paroles in Georgia after 28 years. He is currently teaching part-time at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College as a driver education instructor. He and his wife attend the Fitzgerald Church of God.



**Ted Bowman '65** recently released his new book, *You Have Enough Faith: Stop Asking for More*. Ted writes about the simplicity of the faith God gives to every believer, stating God gives to each of us a measure of faith that will prove to be enough. More faith is not necessary. Ted has served as pastor, associate pastor, evangelist, Christian school principal, seminar and conference speaker, and public school teacher. The book is available at [www.youhaveenoughfaith.com](http://www.youhaveenoughfaith.com) or by phone: 863-875-6071.

**Joan Green Maxwell '65** has three sons, five grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. A graduate of Barry University with a degree in business administration, Joan and her husband, Tom, are now retired and have returned to her hometown, Fort Pierce, Fla.



'83 Alumni



Lee alumnae vacation to Maine in June 2011. They include **Dawn Bailey '83, Lorie McBride '83, Renee Cowart, Sandy Baker Long '83, Betsy Whatley Gilbert '83, Robin Warren Canter '83**. They say collectively, "When we all met as freshmen at Lee College, we never dreamed we were meeting friends for a lifetime."



**Richie Hughes '86** has released, *Start Here: Go Anywhere*, a book about making good choices and recovering from bad ones. He is the founder of RHIC, Inc. and is an inspirational speaker. He formerly served with Jentezen Franklin as the executive pastor of Free Chapel Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and Orange County, California. He now lives in Cleveland, Tennessee, with his wife and their two daughters.

**Andrenna Taylor Smith '89** died on September 23, 2010, after a year-long battle with sickness. She is survived by her mother, Sharon Curvin Davis, her children, Alicia K. Taylor of Newport, Ark., and son Jerald M. Smith also of Newport.

**Velvet Liles '94** graduated on May 8, 2011, with her master of business administration degree (MBA) from Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio. She works as an IT professional and accountant for the Department of Defense Finance and Accounting Services. She is active in the PMP, ITIL, and AGA (American Governmental Accounting) associations. She also sings for many charity events in the Columbus Metropolitan area, supporting Children's Hospital, and she is a featured soloist at nationwide arenas for special events. She resides in Reynoldsburg with her son, and they attend The Potter's House Church of God.



**Ashley Medford '95**, and her son, live in Daytona Beach, Fla., where Ashley was recently promoted to chief of Human Resources and information technology officer at Community Partnership for Children.

**Elizabeth Burns Abee '96** is married to Rev. Samuel Abee, and they have three sons and two daughters. The Abees pastor Cajah's Mt. Church of God in Lenoir, N.C. Elizabeth is the director of Lenoir Christian Academy Child Care Center. Elizabeth says, "Our middle child, Isaac, was born with Down syndrome, and although it was an emotional time for our family, God has truly blessed us since he was born eight and one-half years ago. To God be the glory."

**Craig Smith '96** lives in Clermont, Fla., where he is attending the American Military University pursuing a master's in public administration.

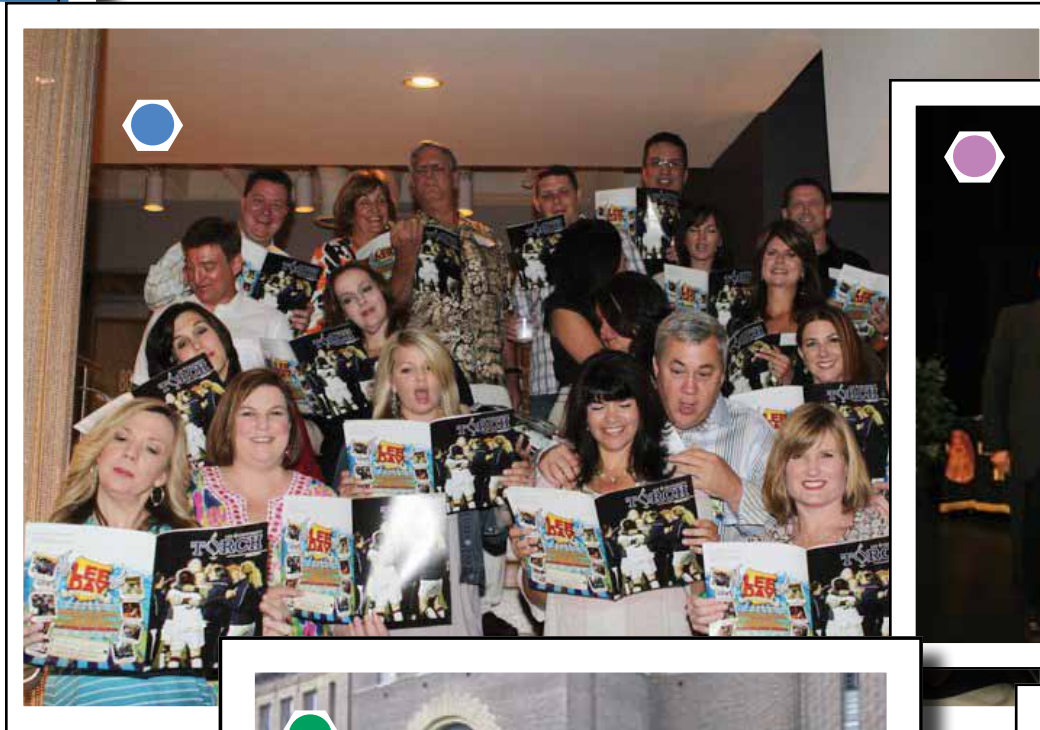
**Peter Burke '98** is married to Jennifer, and he is a new father to Jonah Burke. Peter is the facilities administrator for Hope Haven of Northeast Georgia, a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to provide service to individuals with mental disabilities. He is also the worship leader for the youth of Cornerstone Church of God in Athens, Ga.

**Angela Garland '98** married Daniel Canché in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, on April 16, 2011. Angela is a college professor and missionary in Merida, and she also interprets, translates, and works with missionary groups from all over the world. On May 31, 2011, she interpreted for Nick Vujicic, a Christian, Australian motivational speaker who was born without arms or legs and who travels the world sharing his testimony of, "looking beyond what you don't have; what you do have; thanks to the Lord, Jesus Christ." Vujicic's organization, Life Without Limbs, is known for the award-winning short film *Butterfly Circus* in which he had the leading role.



Garland

**Sharilyn Shipley Fath '98** is married to Tim, and they have two daughters. Sharilyn and her husband own a business specializing in sheet metal, air conditioning and heating. Sharilyn works from home, handling the book-keeping, payroll, taxes, etc. She is heavily involved in musical interests, including teaching voice, singing in the choir, singing in the group Edify, and she is a former member of the Houston Symphony Chorus.



# WHO'S Where? Torch Travels

The Westmore Church of God choir visited the British Virgin Islands in July. Twenty-eight alumni were part of the trip and posed with *Torch* at the old copper mine on the Island of Virgin Gorda. From left to right are **Kelvin Page '84**, **Debbie Schrable Page '84**, **Denise Tyler Jones '83**, **Cameron Fisher '84**, **Donna McCarn Fisher '83**, **Tim Jones '83**, **Melanie Battle Lyon '00**, **Greg Johnson '82**, **Sheila Sheley McElhaney '78**, **Tammy Bilbo Johnson '82**, **Judy Mayfield Walk '73**, **Jason Browning '99**, **Robert Griffith '65**, **Jennifer Thomas Browning '99**, **Wanda Gore Griffith '61**, **Rebecca Sommers**, **Sharon Champion Burgess '91**, **Grey Robinson '67**, **Ray H. Hughes, Jr. '65**, **Linda Lewis Robinson '66**, **Anita Hughes '95**, **Patty Knowles Blackmon '76**, **Andy Blackmon '75**, **Karen Higgenbottom Lynn '73**, **Tera Lynn Joseph '99**, **Tannis Alford Duncan '63**, **Paul Duncan '63**.

**Steven** and **Jessica Sagraves '98** (left) and **Josh** and **Rachel Eisenberg '03** took *Torch* with them for the opening night of the Atlanta Silverbacks soccer team.

Bradley Central High School baccalaureate speaker, President Paul Conn, joins alumni of Lee who teach at the Cleveland, Tennessee school for a photo with several issues of *Torch*. Front row left to right: **Laura Jaber Guyton '06**, **Bonnie Elliott Cretton '07**, **Angela Delozier '09**, **Roger Wright '81**, **Earl Rowan '66**. Back row left to right: **Paul Conn '67**, **Anthony Clukey '11**, **Andrew**

**McMahan '01**, Director of Bradley County Schools **Johnny McDaniel '81**, Vice Principal **Angela Lee Neely '92** and **Kristan Ware '03**.

The second gathering of "The Big '80's" Reunion was held in Atlanta, Ga. on April 30, 2011, where the fellowship and fun were plentiful, as were *Torch* magazines!

Lee alumni traveled to Cambodia where everyone took *Torch* to experience sunrise in front of Angkor Wat Temple in Siem Reap, Cambodia, at sunrise. From left to right: Alumni Director **Mitzi Mew '02**, **Jenn Tollefson '04**, **Jake Stum '97**, **John York '07**, **Andrea Mouser '11**, **Abby Camp '09**, **Stephen Burton '00**, **Ashley Mew '09**, **Abby Fletcher '05**, and **Anna York '06**.

**Alex Sturgill '08** recently traveled to France and Germany with an independent choral group that performed a Fourth of July concert at the WWII cemetery in Normandy, France. He is currently employed by the International Offices of the Church of God where he is a media producer/editor in Communications.

**Kathryn Barton Donev '02, '05M**, along with her husband, Dony, stand in front of the Cambridge Library with *Torch*, after doing research dedicated to the study and translation of the Bulgarian Bible in the archives of the British and Foreign Bible Society in connection with the 400-year anniversary of the King James Bible (1611).



# WHO'S Where?

**Melissa French Haught '00**, and her husband, Benjamin, and their two children, welcomed their third child on February 17, 2011.

The family lives in Wesley Chapel, Fla.

**Barry '02** and **Stacy Walker Myers '03** live in Bristol, Tenn. with their daughter. Barry is a financial counselor, and Stacy runs a frugal living Web site [www.stacymakescents.com](http://www.stacymakescents.com).

**Derrick '02** and **Chrissy Myers Skelton '02** reside in Birmingham, Ala. Derrick serves as the family pastor of Metro Church of God. They have four children.

**Jacob '03** and **Jillian Rice Bentley '04** have lived in the Seattle, Wash. area the last six years where Jacob was attending Seattle Pacific University. Earlier this year, he received his doctorate in clinical psychology and recently began a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

**Shaun Thomas '03** is married to the former Jessica Dickens, and they are currently living in Commerce City, Colo., where Shaun works for the City of Brighton in the Information Technology Department.



Myers

**Lindsay Myers '04** finished a master's degree in mental health counseling in 2010 and works as a youth and children's counselor and program coordinator at Helen Ross McNabb in Knoxville, Tenn. Lindsay recently traveled to Kenya with Compassion International. The purpose of the trip was to meet "Njoki" whom she started sponsoring after the mission of the organization was explained during a chapel service at Lee. Lindsay says, "The picture is from the day we finally met face-to-face after many letters and prayers. God certainly blessed the journey that began stirring in my heart during my time at Lee."

**Rory Davis Jenkins '05** and her husband, DJ, announce the birth of their second daughter, Amelia Rae, born March 16, 2011. The couple and both of their daughters reside in Trussville, Ala., where Rory continues to work as a sixth-grade teacher.



Jenkins

**La'Tina Chanee' Taylor '05**, of Bowie, Md., married **Jahmal D. Rich '05**, also of Bowie, Md. A September 3 wedding is planned at the Memorial Chapel on the campus of University of Maryland College Park.

Taylor/  
Rich



**Josh Bowman '08** was recently awarded a 2011-2012 Richard M. Weaver Fellowship by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI). The award is one of four graduate fellowships offered annually by ISI and is reserved for students committed to a career as a teacher in their given discipline. Bowman recently completed a master of arts (M.A.) degree in politics from the Catholic University of America, and is currently in his last year of coursework toward a doctorate. Bowman is married to Melissa Franklin Bowman '09 who is pursuing a master's degree in public policy from George Washington University. Bowman and his wife live in the Washington, D.C. area.

**Danielle Bryan '08** recently started a new position as case manager at Life Bridges, Inc. in Cleveland, Tenn. She is also working toward a master of business degree in health care management through Davenport University. Danille says, "Lee University is a special place for me. I met my best and dearest friends at Lee and learned the true meaning of community and service."

**Marvin '08** and **Hannah Cook Amos '10** are living in Lexington, Ky. with their two children. Hannah says, "We feel called to start an orphanage and are in the beginning stages of planning now. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers as we endeavor to fulfill this amazing task God has given us!"

**Kristen Pierce '10** and **Cameron Honeycutt '10** were married on June 11, 2011, in Gainesville, Ga. Recent Alumnus of the Year, Marcus Lamb, and Joni attended their wedding and participated in the blessing over the couple during the ceremony. Cameron Honeycutt is now a licensed nursing home administrator, while Kristen continues as founder and CEO of the couple's nonprofit ministry. Cameron and Kristen reside in Atlanta, Ga.

**J.R. Lilly '11** is among five college students in Tennessee named recipient of the 2011 Harold Love Outstanding Community Involvement Award sponsored by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The award recognizes outstanding community service at the college level. Pictured from left are the executive director of THEC, Dr. Richard Rhoda, Lilly, and Charles W. Bone, founder and chairman of Bone McAllester Norton, PLLC.



Lilly

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