Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix ’74 named 16th President of Shepherd University
Shepherd University: Strategic Funding Initiatives

In spring of 2015, Shepherd University engaged in an exercise to identify a comprehensive list of projects in need of funding. Last summer, University Advancement undertook an extensive series of meetings with campus, community, and faculty leaders to learn more about what makes Shepherd such a special place and the resources needed to continue our unique mission. Those meetings helped to identify an initial list of priority funding projects that can have an immediate strategic impact on Shepherd.

All five of these Strategic Funding Initiatives have a positive impact on the university in multiple ways. They all directly enhance the experience of Shepherd’s current students and advance the university’s future by helping to attract new students to Shepherd.

Community Engagement Outreach

Shepherd’s institutional priority is to increase student retention across campus, with an initial emphasis on commuter students. Community Engagement Outreach events create a temporary “student lounge” close to the parking areas most utilized by commuter students. This temporary and informal lounge space is a place for students to connect with each other, the community, and Shepherd University staff. Students are welcomed by food, drinks, chairs, music, and helpful engagement with faculty and staff. Funding support is greatly needed to continue this strategic student retention effort.

Model United Nations

The Model U.N. project introduces college and high school students to global problem solving and international diplomacy through participation in Model U.N. conferences. In these conferences, students represent a United Nations country and through role play negotiate a resolution for problems posed to them. Participation in Model U.N. conferences provides students with an international experience that mimics real-life situations requiring the application of research, critical thinking, public speaking, negotiation, writing, and social skills. Students are exposed to cultural diversity and differing points of view, often having to defend an opinion they may not personally share. To ensure that Shepherd’s Model U.N. team can participate in competitions, these worthy students need financial support for travel and program development.

Music Department

In the past decade, the Shepherd Department of Music has emerged as a program of distinction. The National Association of Schools of Music has accredited Shepherd’s music program since 1993. Our faculty and staff have dedicated their lives to creating a transformative educational experience that takes young people who are passionate about music and leads them to successful careers as artists and musical educators. In the past year, however, a supporting organization has refocused its interests toward music in the community, leaving the Shepherd Department of Music to seek new sources of support. Without sufficient scholarship support, Shepherd cannot recruit talented and needy students to have the Shepherd music experience. The department also seeks support for its Guitar Festival and Shepherd Music Showcase events that advance the musical experience for our students and community.

Student-Athlete Performance Center

Shepherd’s student-athletes currently train in a facility that was built to house teams with much different roster sizes than today. This facility can no longer effectively meet the needs of our 346 student-athletes. A new Student-Athlete Performance Center will be a signature facility that demonstrates Shepherd’s commitment to the health and wellness of our student-athletes. This facility will send a powerful message—to student-athletes, to prospective student-athletes and their families, to coaches, to the surrounding community, and to alumni—about the commitment of Shepherd University to the very best overall student-athlete experience. In the Mountain East Conference, Shepherd’s facilities are among the best—with the exception of where our student-athletes train. In order to remain an elite program, a transformational investment is required from our 1,500 proud alumni athletes and countless friends who believe in Shepherd University athletics.

Washington Gateway

Since its founding 25 years ago, the Washington Gateway Program at Shepherd has provided life-changing experiences to thousands of students. Taking advantage of Shepherd’s proximity to the Washington, D.C., metro area, Gateway creates access to academic, cultural, and career experiences in the region through four key programs: the Summer Academy, Gateway courses at Shepherd, the Washington Semester, and Gateway bus trips. State funding for Gateway has been curtailed, and private support is required to continue this vital program. Our most immediate need is funding for the Gateway Summer Academy, a weeklong residential college immersion program held on the Shepherd campus. The Academy has prepared more than 2,000 students to experience, plan, and prepare for college through field trips, mini-classes, and recreational activities. The Gateway Summer Academy succeeds in changing learning habits, improving grades in school and increasing the possibility of college attendance for participants.

Support these important projects

These five Strategic Initiatives offer Shepherd alumni, friends and business partners with an immediate opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Shepherd students. To find out more about how you can help, contact Chris Sedlock, vice president for University Advancement at csedlock@shepherd.edu or 304-876-5378.


Shepherd Today

From the President

Excellence, Innovation, Opportunity

Returning to West Virginia, especially Shepherd University and Shepherdstown, is a dream come true for a proud Shepherd alum. I feel extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to receive a solid liberal arts education from an institution whose faculty and staff care deeply about the well-being and career aspirations of its students. Because of the special academic environment at Shepherd, diversified and interdisciplinary in nature, my fellow classmates and I benefitted greatly from exposure to the arts, sciences, humanities, and athletic programs. These curricula have been remarkably enriched through public-private partnerships, philanthropy, campus expansion, and close ties to a vibrant community that shares in the vision of achieving success together.

During a time of noteworthy financial challenges, I feel a tremendous call to duty—to give back to my beloved alma mater through hard work, leveraging my diverse academic and leadership experiences, and embracing the vision of excellence, innovation, and opportunity. It will be my privilege to work with all of you to train the next generation of leaders, innovators, and model citizens. I cannot think of a more noble goal than to help all students who desire a college education to achieve their dream. Our students are the future, and Shepherd University is proud to be the gateway to success in the Eastern Panhandle.

Thank you to the many wonderful individuals who have warmly welcomed my husband and me back home. You are the essence of what makes Shepherd and Shepherdstown truly special.

Fine arts, design, art ed programs accredited by National Association of Schools of Art and Design

The Department of Contemporary Art and Theater has been approved for membership in the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). The B.A. in art education and the B.F.A. in graphic design, painting, photography, computer imagery, printmaking, and sculpture were approved for accreditation. Shepherd’s program is only the second in West Virginia to receive the accreditation.

“It establishes what the art department has known for a very long time—that our programs are unique and that they offer a really good learning experience for our students,” said Rhonda Smith, chair of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater. “That has been validated by this accreditation, so we’re really, really pleased.” Dow Benedict, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, said earning accreditation from NASAD has been a long and demanding process that involved a thorough evaluation of facilities, faculty, curriculum, students, and graduates.

“Accreditation of the visual arts program at Shepherd places us in a highly unique respected category of school,” Benedict said.

Smith said she often fields questions from prospective students and their parents asking if the program is accredited, and she hopes the fact that it is will make coming to Shepherd a more attractive option for students interested in pursuing art.

“I think for lots of people, accreditation becomes one of those things they’re looking for in a college,” Smith said.

Accounting, social work students score well on licensing exams

Accounting

Shepherd accounting students had the highest pass rate in the state of West Virginia on the 2014 certified public accountant exam administered by the American Institute of CPAs.

Seven Shepherd students took the exam in 2014 and 75 percent passed. Their average score was 81.7 percent, which is the highest pass rate in the state. Of the students who took the test for the first time, 66.7 percent passed, earning an average score of 81.1—the highest rate in the state for first-time test takers.

The exam is given in four sections: auditing, business environment and concepts, financial accounting and reporting, and regulation. Shepherd students had a 75 percent pass rate in auditing, a 100 percent pass rate in business environment and concepts, a 66.7 percent pass rate in financial accounting and reporting, and a 50 percent pass rate in regulation.

Roger Hamood, chair of the Department of Accounting, said he’s seen a lot of changes in the department since he started teaching at Shepherd in 1978 that have translated into making students better prepared for the CPA exam.

“Since the early 1990s, we have not employed full-time or adjunct faculty members who are not certified public accountants with some type of practical experience,” Hamood said. “I truly believe the added experience that is related in the classrooms has strengthened the accounting program at Shepherd. The success of our students, as can be seen in the statistical results of the CPA exam, is one of the main reasons I remain at the university. Shepherd students succeed.”

Social Work

Students who have earned a bachelor of social work degree from Shepherd have scored well over the past eight years on the national licensing exam administered by the Association of Social Work Boards.

Dr. Doug Horner, chair of the Department of Social Work, said between 2006 and 2008 Shepherd students had a pass

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Veterans Center opens in Free School

Shepherd’s new Veterans Center, located in the Free School on Princess Street, was officially opened on February 10 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The center, which has five computers, a printer, a lounge area, and a kitchenette, will give student veterans a place to meet with other veterans and a place to study. The Veterans Center is one of the most visible demonstrations of Shepherd’s commitment to meeting the 5 Star Challenge, an initiative that encourages all of West Virginia’s two- and four-year institutions to adopt a set of standards to help veterans achieve an education.

Support for renovation of the Free School and its equipment was provided by the members of the Shepherd University Leadership Circle.

Evanisko named finalist for W.Va. Professor of the Year award

Sonya Evanisko, professor of art and coordinator of the painting and drawing program, is one of five finalists for the 2015 West Virginia Professor of the Year.

Evanisko, who has worked at Shepherd since 1993, teaches courses in painting, drawing, visual thinking skills, and professional practices with an emphasis on empowering students to have successful careers.

“I’m not going to assume every student I work with wants to produce art to show in a gallery,” she said. “My students are future educators, some are future web designers, some will be fabricators, and some will be commercial and fine arts photographers. They are also future professionals who will work in creative nonprofits, or who will run community art centers and galleries.”

In 1995, Evanisko developed the curriculum for and taught the first art business course at Shepherd.

“Sonya views each student as a soon-to-be professional and works to prepare them for that eventuality,” said Dow Benedict, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities. “In addition to providing them with the skills and knowledge required as a producing artist, she is equally devoted to preparing them to be a professional and in her courses combines information and experience about the business side of the art world in addition to the work required to be a skilled artist. Her success shows in the variety of directions her students take upon graduation.”

The five finalists for professor of the year went through an in-person interview in late January in Charleston after submitting a lengthy application last fall that included a 1,000-word essay.

“Even though I’ve been teaching the past 23 years, putting my teaching philosophy in 1,000 words was a little daunting,” Evanisko said.

For the past 19 years, Evanisko has served as the art department’s academic advisor during summer orientation and the registration of new students. In 2015, she earned the Outstanding Advisor Award, which is given to a faculty member whose work demonstrates that advisee retention and success are linked directly to advisor support, guidance, and exemplary knowledge of campus resources.

“I love my first-year students,” Evanisko said. “I love being the point of first contact for the department for them.”

Evanisko said many of the students she works with are the first in their family to attend college, so they often face challenges that students whose parents went to college don’t have.

“Whether that challenge is financial, which causes them to have to work while they’re going through school, or a health issue, or they’re helping to care for a family member, there are real challenges,” Evanisko said. “But I think that they’re very eager to learn and earn a degree and that they have a good work ethic.”

When she works with incoming students, Evanisko, a self-described nurturer, tries to learn as much as possible about their backgrounds so she can assist them with some of the challenges they face and individualize the classwork to help them find success.

“I feel there’s this broader role that an educator can play as a mentor, a role model, sometimes a counselor, and a friend,” she said.

“Sonya has been an outstanding member of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater,” said Rhonda Smith, department chair. “She is a passionate teacher and mentor who focuses on the needs of the individual student while understanding the importance of delivering timely and effective instruction and information as both an advisor and an instructor.”

Evanisko also believes it’s important to give students firsthand experiences. To that end, she’s organized many trips to places like New York City, Baltimore,

Evanisko named finalist for W.Va. Professor of the Year award

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Mary J.C. Hendrix ’74 returns to Shepherd as the 16th president

When Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix ’74 accepted the job of Shepherd University’s 16th president, her lifelong dream of coming home to help make a difference for her alma mater and community was fulfilled. Hendrix, who is the first alum to lead the school in its 145-year history, graduated from Shepherd in 1974. She went on to earn a doctorate and become a leading scientist in cancer research.

Hendrix, who most recently served as president and scientific director of the Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago and Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, said she’s always been interested in the direction Shepherd is taking. She’s been involved with the Shepherd University Foundation, establishing several named student scholarships, and has followed Shepherd’s progress closely in the years following her graduation.

“I was so excited,” she said. “I just have to tell you, I have many friends who sent me articles that appeared in the local newspapers here announcing that this position was going to be open. I started thinking, wow, maybe this is the time when I could come back and contribute—where I could leverage my national and international contacts, my love of research, and my fundraising abilities. I have a global vision—it’s big, and I could bring that to Shepherd.”

Hendrix was born in La Jolla, California. Because her father, Charles Nelson Grant Hendrix, a retired U.S. Navy captain and World War II Silver Star recipient, was active duty military, the family moved frequently when she was young, living in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. When Hendrix was in fourth grade, they moved to Springwood, the family farm outside of Shepherdstown where they raised sheep, Hereford cattle, and hogs.

“It was great growing up on our farm on the Shepherd Grade, a major portion of which is now the home of the National Conservation Training Center, thanks to Senator [Robert C.] Byrd,” Hendrix said. “I had responsibilities for mowing the lawn and also for raising sheep.

“My father was very interested in farming and learned from many good neighbors how to farm the land and how to raise livestock,” she said. “What was so interesting about that was that his day job was in Annapolis, Maryland, where he started the oceanography department at the U.S. Naval Academy. He traveled back and forth every day so my mother and I could live in Shepherdstown on this beautiful farm while he commuted.”

For Hendrix, “an interesting part of raising sheep was learning how to castrate the male sheep. I always thought that procedure trained me for life’s challenges—how to survive while letting people know that I was adept at castration, very important,” she said with a smile.

Hendrix belonged to the local 4-H Club and was a Girl Scout. She showed the sheep at local and state fairs and was responsible for having them shorn and selling the wool. “It was just a wonderful background to have,” she said. “Raising sheep, selling them, and selling the wool was supposed to contribute to my college fund and this would teach me responsibility. It really did.”

Becoming a Shepherd Ram

Hendrix attended St. Joseph’s School in Martinsburg. After the class of 1971 graduated, St. Joseph’s closed its high school, Hendrix, a junior at the time, was able to pass her college entrance exam, finish high school early with a certificate from St. Joseph’s, and enroll at Shepherd.

“I was 16 years old and so it was important, I believe, to all of us that I remain closer to home, and Shepherd College was kind enough to allow me to start early,” she said. “Not too many colleges or universities would have been that generous, so Shepherd really distin-

guished itself as reaching out and allowing me to do that.”

Hendrix’s mother, Jessie, worked at Shepherd for 32 years as a secretary for Dr. James Moler ’30, who at the time was an education professor and coordinator of educational field services. Hendrix and her mother were able to carpool from the farm to campus on many occasions, and she believes she inherited a strong work ethic from her mother.

The Shepherd University of today is very different from the Shepherd College Hendrix attended in the early 1970s. The campus and enrollment are both larger—with a 323-acre campus and almost 4,000 students, which is roughly double the number of students enrolled in 1971.

There are many buildings that didn’t exist when Hendrix was a student, including the Frank and Butcher centers, Erma Ora Byrd Hall, Center for Contemporary Arts, Robert C. Byrd Science and Technology Center, Wellness Center, West Woods residence halls, and the apartment-style Dunlop and Printz residence halls. The
only buildings on West Campus in the early '70s were Miller, Shaw, and Thacher residence halls. Students today also have many more fields of study from which to choose.

“There’s a level of sophistication in education that has occurred here and I love it,” Hendrix said. “It’s very important that our students know they are getting the same kind of education as their colleagues throughout the country. I see that here, and that’s very exciting.”

But Hendrix said in many of the most important ways, Shepherd hasn’t changed much at all since her days as a student.

“What I remember about Shepherd College I believe is still true today, and that is the people and the environment were so friendly and so supportive,” she said. “People greeted each other. That’s just something I’m used to. And I would say, you don’t always find that kind of interaction, that genuine friendliness, where people would go out of their way to help you.”

A biology major, Hendrix was on the swim and tennis teams. Hendrix feels she received an excellent education at Shepherd that prepared her for her future studies and career. She gives credit to faculty members who went out of their way to help her while she attended Shepherd and who invited her back after she graduated to make presentations. They also wrote letters of recommendation to help her throughout her career.

“But I will share this with you, there’s one faculty member in particular—Professor Paul Saab. I will never forget what Paul Saab did to help me,” she said.

Hendrix recalls that when she was a junior faculty member at the University of Arizona, she came home to work on her first major grant proposal to the National Institutes of Health.

“I was working right down to the very last minute preparing this large document, and Professor Saab helped me copy and collate the massive proposal, and then drove me to Dulles airport to meet a Federal Express truck that would deliver my work to the National Institutes of Health,” Hendrix said. “That’s special dedication by a Shepherd faculty member, and you don’t find that everywhere. I was lucky to be awarded the grant. It was unbelievable.”

Nurturing a passion for research

Hendrix said her interest in medicine, biomedical research, and research in general came from both her father and her paternal grandfather, Dr. Nevins B. Hendrix, a Martinsburg surgeon. It was her grandfather who purchased Springwood farm in 1941, and she recalls accompanying him on home visits to see some of his patients.

“I was very young at the time and very impressionable,” she said. “I would always ask him, when we would finish with a home visit, what caused that person to be sick? What are the cures? He impressed upon me that we didn’t have a lot of information, at least at the time, about what caused many diseases. We didn’t know how to cure many of them. It was about the unknown. I was very curious. He was very honest and transparent with his answers. He would say ‘we just don’t know. You need research to be able to discover much of the unknown.’”

Hendrix said those conversations with her grandfather, coupled with influence from her father’s work mapping the oceans, led to her interest in medical research. She finished work on her degree at Shepherd in December 1973, and served as a substitute teacher in Jefferson County, in addition to working as a ward clerk in the emergency room at Martinsburg’s City Hospital. Following graduation from Shepherd in May 1974, she attended graduate school at George Washington University where she engaged in biomedical research, which at that time focused on understanding the causes of different heart malformations.

Hendrix graduated in three years with her doctorate, and from 1977 to 1980 she was a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School in the department of anatomy and cell biology. Hendrix said her mentor at GW recommended she receive postdoctoral training at Harvard because he said it would set her up for the rest of her life.

“I didn’t appreciate what he meant until I went there,” she said. “When you go through a system like Harvard, they train you to think differently. They train you to be very businesslike. They train you to be entrepreneurs and survivors and to be very competitive.”

After finishing at Harvard, Hendrix accepted a starting position as an assistant professor at the University of Arizona, where she worked from 1980-1993, and rose through the academic ranks to professor and associate head. At that point, she had the opportunity to establish her first research laboratory, which required her to learn how to raise the money needed to buy equipment and pay for the research. Hendrix said one goal was to address melanoma, a big problem affecting Arizonans.

“My laboratory and I have focused on melanoma research ever since,” Hendrix said. “It has taken a long time in this particular area to make some fundamental discoveries that have led to patents that have now allowed us to work with the pharmaceutical industry in trying to develop new therapeutic approaches in the treatment of cancer.”

Hendrix, who holds seven patents in the field of cancer research, said these discoveries have not only advanced the melanoma field, but also hold promise for other forms of cancer as well.

“Whenever scientists make a discovery in one area of cancer, it means a lot more if you can take that discovery and apply it to various forms of cancer,” she said.

“We’ve taken our discovery in melanoma and applied it to breast cancer, prostate cancer, and several other cancers. From the viewpoint of a pharmaceutical partner, your work is more interesting if it can eventually help and affect many individ-

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Fifty years ago, Shepherd University opened its newly built library—now known as the Scarborough Library—and thanks to the help of many hands, about 40,000 items were moved from the old library in Knutti Hall, which was housed in several adjoining rooms that stretched along the back of the first floor, down the hill to the new building.

Classes were canceled the afternoon of October 28, 1965, for a well-organized book walk. In about four hours, 500 students and 65 faculty, administrators, and staff worked together to move everything to the newly constructed library. The collection included 39,000 volumes, 370 phonograph records, 300 filmstrips, 135 microfilm reels, and 276 periodical subscriptions.

Two alumni, the Rev. and Mrs. John Link, carried the ceremonial first books. The Links had been students at Shepherd in 1904 and helped that year when the library was moved from McMurran Hall to Knutti. They began the 1965 book walk by carrying the first three books from Knutti to the new library. Then the process of moving the rest of the library collection began.

“There is a November 10, 1965 issue of The Picket with a headline that says ‘School Spirit Moves the Library,’” said Christy Toms, staff librarian in charge of special collections and digital initiatives. “And that’s exactly what moved the library because I can’t even imagine moving approximately 40,000 items one afternoon without teamwork and organization, which is what they had to do, which is amazing.”

Among the students who participated were Barbara Maxwell ’66, associate librarian emerita, Walter Duke ’69, Wallis Snyder Magaha ’67, Mary “Betsy” Wysong ’66, and Betty Teets Hutsler ’72. Jean Elliott ’54, librarian emerita, was on staff at the time. They all remember the book walk took place on a sunny and somewhat warm fall day with a band from the music department playing lively tunes on the front porch of the new library. Classes were canceled for the afternoon and refreshments were served in the Student Center Ram’s Den.

They describe the atmosphere as “ jovial, festive, fun, and like a party.”

Betty Teets Hutsler ’72 said she was a first-year student “ complete with freshman beanie” in 1965 when the book walk took place. “I probably had just relinquished my beanie around Homecoming before the walk. I was a work-study student because I was paying my way through school. So I was actually being paid to help with the book walk. I wasn’t a volunteer.”

Betty was a student assistant at the library circulation desk. She remembers being primarily in Knutti Hall during the book walk, and her job was to check boxes off the list when they were moved out of the old library.

“I was so brand new as a freshman, I still had that awe of the whole process and my mouth spent most of the time gaped open over just being on the campus of Shepherd. I do remember the row of people and the boxes being passed down because occasionally we’d have to run down to the other library to see if everything was going okay. Or we would deliver messages because there was no cell phone and texting. It was quite an undertaking. What I remember most is the organization that had to be done to make it run smoothly.”

“I remember so many people being involved. I had never been involved in anything that large before. It was just the coming together of the sorority and fraternity people, the faculty members, and students. I remember the camaraderie we had then,” she said.

“One thing that stuck out in my mind when we got the new library is that we had a West Virginia room up on the second floor. It was so neat to have a room dedicated to all the books about and by West Virginians. Of course, the bookcases were under lock and key, but you could see the books and it just fascinated me. I even now have a small collection of West Virginia books, so I have my own little blue and gold room on one shelf.”

Betty said participating in the book walk benefited her years later when she worked as a school library supervisor in Frederick County, Virginia.

“I had the privilege while I worked for Frederick County Schools of opening eight new school libraries. I was in charge of getting the books, getting the people together to unpack the new book collections, and organizing everything. That skill set that I learned during that whole process at Shepherd came in handy later in life. The biggest thing I got from the book walk was the organizational skills I used later in my career.”

Wallis Snyder Magaha ’67 was a junior majoring in history and minoring in library science at the time of the book walk. Wallis lived in Turner Hall and had worked as a student assistant in the library 10 hours a week for three years. She remembers everything had to be labeled in preparation for the book walk.

“As they took the books off the shelf, they put them in the boxes and they had a label as to where they went. When the books went to the new library, they went right on the shelf. That’s why they moved it in three and a half hours and why the library opened the next day. I was down in the new library, helping direct people to the...
correct shelves and helping them put the books back on the shelves.

“We did a lot of things before the book walk happened. We helped label the shelves in Knutti. I remember coming to the new library doing that. They had teams unloading the boxes, and they took the empty boxes right back up the street because there were only so many boxes. Everybody had a really nice time and just pitched in. It was very amazing. You don’t normally have a student body that will pitch in like that and they did.”

Wallis remembers thinking the new library was nice, especially compared to the old one, and points out that having a bigger library allowed Shepherd to buy more books and offer much more studying space.

“It was a real boost to the college at the time to have a new library. That was one of the highlights that year. It was just something that everybody came together and did—in three and a half hours we moved a library, and that’s almost impossible. It was just one of those moments in the school’s history. Just like the same year, later on, we had a big blizzard and it was the first time they closed Shepherd ever for a snowstorm. We were snowed in the dorms because it was such a big snow, and we didn’t have classes for the first time.”

Walter Duke ’69 was a 17-year-old sophomore living in the old Boetler Hall, which was on East Campus next to Kenamond, and majoring in business and social studies. Walter said he happened upon the book walk after leaving class that day.

“A friend of mine and I were walking down the street and saw this string of people carrying books and wondered what in the world was going on. We put our books down in the lawn close to the library and started carrying boxes of books. We made several trips. It was a festive atmosphere. We just got involved. It was one of those once in a lifetime things because you don’t move college libraries very often.”

Walter recalls he and his friend arrived in the middle of the process. “We went back up to Knutti Hall where the action was starting and picked up boxes there. We carried them the half a block or so down to the new library and then went up and got more boxes full of books and brought them down. I remember during one of the trips, the pep band showed up to play while people were still in the line of ants moving all these boxes of books.

“It’s my recollection that when we picked them up at the old library, they already had them boxed up so we’d just pick up a box and take them down to the new library. They would direct you where to place the box. Somebody else was on that end that knew where the books went. I didn’t do any of the loading of the boxes, or unloading, or shelving. I was just a mule. After we made several trips, we headed on to the dorm and to the dining hall. It was a big deal.”

Walter said the new library was a huge improvement over the old one in Knutti. “It was an impressive building. It was brand new with lots of space. When you first walked in, you had on the first floor a large reading area on the right with newspapers and magazines. You had a tremendous volume of shelves on the ground floor and upstairs. It was a typical library in the sense that you were shushed. It was quiet and conducive to study and very well used. There were large tables that would seat four people, and quite often all or most of those would be full. There were little study carrels along the edge of the walls and downstairs individual rooms that students could use for study or to work together on some project.”

Walter spent a lot of time in the new library while he was in college and afterward. When he became a public school teacher, he often borrowed material from the library to supplement the advanced classes he taught at Hedgesville High School in Berkeley County.

Mary “Betsy” Wysong ’66 was a senior when the new library opened. She was a library science minor and had worked as a student assistant in the library during her freshman and sophomore years. One of her jobs as a student assistant was to catalog the periodical holdings from the Storer College collection that dated to the 1860s. During the book walk, Betsy helped in the new library where she directed people and shelved books.

“One of the things I remember is how organized it was and how Professor [Floyd] Miller [librarian and associate professor of library science] worked so hard ahead of time getting every last step organized. The other thing I remember is that the whole college just shut down so this goal could be accomplished.

“Probably from the air it looked like a little line of ants down there because it was one after another going down the hill to the new library then turning around and coming back. But it was just so well organized and choreographed that it went very smoothly.

“It was obviously an all-college effort. It was something everyone was involved in because everyone had a stake in getting it done correctly. We were just so happy to be in this new, beautiful building with so much space,” Betsy said.

“Because you had a stake in it, you could say ‘I moved that section of books.’ I think it gave everyone ownership. We didn’t speak in those terms in those days, but today we would say it gave them ownership of it because they participated in that event. It was something that I look back on and am glad I had a chance to participate in.

“There was just an air of jubilation and excitement because number one: no classes, and number two: you were out with your friends. There was a lot of camaraderie among the participants as well, and again that sense of getting some-

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Mary J.C. Hendrix ’74 returns to Shepherd as the 16th president

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Hendrix said Shepherd is in the business of training the next generation of leaders, innovators, and model citizens. She wants to ensure they have as much opportunity as they need.

Hendrix hopes Shepherd can arrange public/private partnerships so students could spend the summer in apprenticeships that would allow them to see firsthand what a career in a particular field might be like. She said local employers would benefit by gaining student workers, and the students would have the opportunity to learn if a particular field suits them as a lifelong career.

“My job as president is to help find the funding, working with our extraordinarily talented fundraising team here, for these kinds of apprenticeships,” she said.

Over the years, Hendrix's work has taken her all over the world. She has written more than 250 publications on biomedical research and is the recipient of numerous awards, including a MERIT Award from the National Cancer Institute, the 2004 Australian Society for Medical Research Lecturer and Medal Recipient for research and advocacy, the 2006 Henry Gray Award from the American Association of Anatomists that recognizes unique and meritorious contributions to the field of anatomical science, the 2008 and 2012 Princess Takamatsu Cancer Research Lecturer Award in Japan, the 2012 Princess Takamatsu Memorial Lectureship from the American Association for Cancer Research, and the 2014 Vision and Impact Award from the Regional American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Hendrix said she will continue serving on three national boards while at Shepherd. She is on the board of directors at the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences, based in California; she chairs the National Disease Research Interchange board, which is funded in part by NIH and is based in Philadelphia; and she serves on the board of ResearchAmerica, based in Washington, D.C., a nonprofit public education and advocacy alliance working to make health research a higher national priority.

Hendrix said she and her husband, Charles E. Craft, a retired commercial airline pilot with a law degree from the University of Iowa, had always intended to move to her family home near Shepherdstown one day.

“Because we’ve had this wonderful home in Shepherdstown to come back to, it never occurred to me that we would not come home,” she said. “So then the question remains ‘do you come home after you retire or do you come home before retirement and try to contribute to the community?’”

When Shepherd's presidency opened up, Hendrix's question was answered. She would move home with the hope of contributing to the community and her beloved alma mater.

Accounting, social work students score well on exams

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rate of 93 to 100 percent, and from 2011-2014 the pass rate was 92 to 100 percent. Statistics for 2009 and 2010 were not reported to the program.

“The pass rate average in the United States from 2006-2014 has been either 70 or 71 percent,” Horner said. “We’re very pleased that our students have done exceptionally well throughout eight years of taking the exam.”

Students who want to become licensed social workers must pass the exam. Horner credits the program’s rigorous curriculum with helping them succeed.

“The program is time consuming and very demanding,” Horner said. “Our field experience, called the signature pedagogy of social work, helps prepare the students. That’s where everything comes together.”

Horner said it’s gratifying to know that Shepherd social work students do so well on the national exam.

“We hear from the students routinely who have come back to the area or who have remained here,” Horner said. “They have been very supportive of the younger generation with supervising them in field placements and assisting the program financially.”

Cecelia Mason
Entire campus carried books from old to new library 50 years ago

(continued from page 9)

thing done and doing something above and beyond for the college. It was a fun day with a lot of hard work thrown into it and a lot of planning ahead of time. I’ve thought of it over the years because it was a unique experience.”

After graduation, Betsy worked for three years at Charles Town Junior High, eventually pursuing a master’s degree in library science from Florida State University. She took a job in South Florida at an elementary school where she worked for 30 years until retirement.

Betsy said she learned something from the book walk that benefited her years later when the school where she worked got a new media center facility. She and a volunteer had to empty the library in a week. They put the books in boxes that were clearly labeled—just like what was done for the Shepherd book walk.

Barbara Maxwell ’66, associate librarian emerita, was a senior at Shepherd when the book walk took place and worked in the library as a student assistant. Barbara worked in the library all four years she attended Shepherd.

“I worked for Mr. Miller doing a lot of stuff for acquisitions, and Jean Elliott was there. She did the reference work. We watched the progress of the new library being built. Harley Miller’s company built the building, and Mr. Bennett was the architect. It was a lot of fun because documents were on display in the main reading room of the old library, and we could all look at the plans. It was interesting how it came from paper to building.

“There were several colleges and universities building libraries at the time that we were building ours. That’s where we got the idea of a book walk because a couple other libraries had done it with the idea that you bought these boxes and they fit a library shelf. So each shelf transferred. The boxes at that time were kind of expensive, so you had to plan it out so you could rotate the boxes and keep the process going and try to do it all in one day, which is quite a feat. Several other student assistants were working and each of us was assigned different areas. I was assigned to help work on moving the reference and West Virginia collections. I worked for Margaret Hughes, who was the other librarian at the time, and I helped move the stuff that went upstairs.”

Barbara recalls working in the old library for a while, then heading to the new library to help. She said the main circulation collection went on the top floor of the new library, and the reference collection and periodicals were on the main floor. The basement floor had storage and a space that could be divided into two classrooms.

Barbara said it took a lot of planning that began in the summer to organize the event so the books could be immediately shelved in the right order when they were brought into the new library.

“We tape measured the collection, and then we figured out how many inches we had in the old building and how many inches we had in the new building we could use. Then we figured out how many inches per shelf would go on each shelf. Then we put the movable bookends on the shelf so when people came with the box they could shelve the books.”

Some items and books were passed down a line; others were carried from Knutti to the new library with groups working in shifts. “It was hard work, and the books were pretty heavy. It was sweatshirt weather. It was a good thing too because when you’re trudging along and keeping things going, it’s easier to do that when it’s cooler. It was a lot of fun. We were very tired at the end.”

Barbara, who ended up spending most of her career working in the new library, thought it was great. “We were all hoping it was going to be super duper and it was. It was pretty state of the art.”

Jean Elliott ’54, librarian emerita, was reference librarian, working in the library from 1961 until her retirement in 1996. Jean said Margaret Hughes, assistant librarian, was in charge of organizing the book walk. “She had it so well organized. Everything was done. It was a fun time, I think, for everybody.

“It was exciting to get a new library. It took a couple years to plan. The consultant was the librarian at the University of Maryland at the time. It was nice to be able to have the room and to be able to have places to do things that you didn’t have before. The basement was not used by the library. It was a big classroom. The business department was located there. When White Hall was built, the business department moved out and went there which helped us a lot because we got rid of all those accountants studying and making so much noise,” Jean said with a chuckle.

“I worked at night and had to close up, so it was real nice to have just one area to close up. All the windows were sealed shut so we didn’t have to listen to them playing tennis like in the other library [the tennis courts were located behind Knutti at the time]. It was nice to be able to have the circulation desk area and the book drop, which we didn’t have in the old building. It was nice to have room.

“The kids were having a grand time. They just thought it was fun. And it was all the student body basically. Most of the kids who were involved talked about it long afterward, about how much fun they had.”

Cohongoroato yearbook photos used in this story are courtesy Scarborough Library. Funding to digitize Shepherd yearbooks and catalogs was provided by the Shepherd University Foundation’s Scarborough Society.

All other photos are by Cecelia Mason.
W hen Wayne Wilson ’81, the 2015 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, finished riding in the Homecoming parade last September, he jumped off the truck and rushed to the football field to help coach the team to a victory. Wilson recently finished his 11th season volunteering as an assistant coach, and he’s looking forward to his 12th.

Wilson grew up in Howard County, Maryland, the sixth of seven children who were raised solely by their mother. Wilson said he didn’t know his father, so he found mentors in his high school and college coaches and the father of a friend from his childhood baseball team.

“I was surrounded by a whole lot of positive people with my eyes wide open watching every move they made and the things they did and asking questions to find out how they became a success,” he said. Wilson also learned lessons from childhood experiences. One he recalls as being particularly sobering but valuable happened when he was in third grade when one of his older brothers died of a heroin overdose.

“I remember going to Baltimore to the morgue with my mother to identify the body,” he said. “So that steered me away from drugs. That was an educational moment for me at a younger age.”

Wilson’s football career began while he attended Howard High School. He was on the team that won the Maryland State Class B championship in 1974 and was the runner-up for the championship in 1975.

Wilson said he considered going into the Army after high school because one of his older brothers had done that. But during his senior year he decided he wanted to go to college. He knew he would be eligible for financial aid because his mother only made about $100 a week.

“So basically Shepherd got me almost for free, really, because my financial aid package paid for everything for me to go to school,” he said. “And whatever that package didn’t pay for, Shepherd took care of it. They promised me they would take care of it all four years, so I had four years to graduate under that package.”

Because his high school team was so successful, Wilson said he was highly recruited and could choose from several college opportunities. But there was something about Shepherd that enticed him.

“When I first came on the campus to visit, it seemed like a very nice place to get my degree,” he said. “The classrooms weren’t large and the student to teacher relationship I felt suited me. The coach that I played under, Walter Barr ’62, was like a father figure to me as I was going through college here. It was like I was home but was away from home.”

Wilson, who is in the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame, was a running back for the Rams from 1975-78. He was named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletic All-America team in 1978. And even though he was recruited to play football, Wilson also participated in track and field as a freshman and sophomore.

“That was fun,” he said. “I remember we made the states. They were held at the University of Charleston. We had a lot of guys on the football team who were on that track team.

As a matter of fact, I set records that will never be broken. I had the record for the 100-yard dash and the record for the 220. So it will never be broken because Shepherd doesn’t have track anymore.”

In 1979, Wilson was about five credits short of graduation when he was picked by the Houston Oilers in the 12th round of the NFL draft. He spent nine years playing professional football for the Oilers, New Orleans Saints, Minnesota Vikings, and Washington Redskins.

“I enjoyed playing in the NFL,” Wilson said. “I had a very good career for nine years. That’s a long time. Really the life expectancy for an NFL running back is three years. So I tripled it.”

Wilson is still ninth on the all-time rushing list with the New Orleans Saints, the team he played for from 1979-86. But Wilson did not let his success in professional football get in the way of his dream to achieve a college degree. After his first season in the NFL, Wilson came back to Shepherd, paid out of pocket, lived in Kenamond Hall, and began taking the classes he needed to finish his recreation administration degree. That degree gave him the credentials to pursue a second career after his professional football days ended.

When Wilson played in the NFL, it was common for players to have a second job to supplement their salaries, which were much lower than they are today. He worked as a substitute teacher at Howard High School, his alma mater. He also did stints at the Chesapeake Center for Youth.

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Milestones

Anna Zawacki '10 and Jonathan Skinner were married July 25, 2015 at the Mansion at Valley Country Club in Towson, Maryland. Bridesmaids included Jaimee Dolberg '11, Chelsea Humphries '10, and Lisa Dundas '10. Friends in attendance included Stephanie '11 and Mitch '09 Maines, Kristi McAleese '09, Jamie Dundas '09, Bobby Humphries '11, and Brian Taylor '11.

Sarah Hale '13 and Keenan DeLawder '13 were married May 23, 2015. Both graduated from Shepherd with bachelor of science degrees in business administration.

Pamela Smulovitz '07 and Trey Burke were recently engaged. Pamela received her master’s degree in organizational leadership in May 2014 from Shenandoah University, where she is also employed. They are planning an October 2016 wedding.

Rachel Crum '08 and Jose Moreno '13 M.A. were engaged in Shepherdstown on January 21, 2015. The couple is planning an April 2016 wedding in Frederick, Maryland. Rachel is coordinator of community service and service learning at Shepherd, and Jose is Shepherd’s assistant dean of students.

Timothy Dalley Haines '95 and wife, Kathryn, welcomed a son, Tristan Conor, on December 24, 2015. Tristan joins half-sister Una Medea, 13, and half-brother Max Phineas, 10.

Mary Hall-Krum '02 and husband Jeremy Krum welcomed a daughter, Ava Marie, on March 30, 2015. Ava joins siblings Jonathan and Alexa.
Alumni

Class Notes

’70 Roger Engle, author of Stories from a Small Town: Remembering My Childhood in Hedgesville, West Virginia, was recognized on West Virginia Day 2015 for the work he has done to promote both the town of Hedgesville and the state of West Virginia through his writing. The ceremony took place at the Hedgesville Public Library, where Roger was presented with a certificate of recognition and a legislative citation from the Senate and House of Delegates of the West Virginia Legislature. Presenting these to Roger was West Virginia State Delegate Walter Duke ’69. Others in attendance included Kelly Tanksley, Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Libraries director of development, Mary Sue Catlett-Donaldson, mayor of Hedgesville, and residents of Hedgesville and Martinsburg.

’83 Thomas C. Gilbert received his second set of Achievement Medals for Civilian Service for being elected the Citizen of the Quarter at the Fort Detrick Engineering Directorate (FDED) in Second Quarter 2014. Tom is pictured with Ted Hendy, civilian executive assistant for FDED. Tom retired from the Department of the Army with 30 plus full years of civilian service on May 29, 2015.

’94 Dr. Jennifer Shank was named dean of the College of Education at Tennessee Technological University on July 1, 2015. Jennifer graduated with a B.A. in secondary education from the music department at Shepherd. Prior to her new appointment, she was the chair of the music department at Tennessee Tech and associate director of the School of Music at the University of Southern Mississippi.

’00 Dr. Rob Bell, a prominent sport psychology coach, released his fourth book, Don’t “Should” On Your Kids: Build Their Mental Toughness, in November 2015, along with co-author Bill Parisi. Rob is the author of several books on sport psychology and owner of DBR & Associates, where he works with athletes, coaches, and teams on achieving peak performance. His new book celebrates toughness over trophies and guides parents in strengthening and affirming their young athletes’ capabilities. Along with his co-author, Rob explores and explains why it is best for parents to refrain from critiquing, creating expectations, and telling kids what they should or should not do and what approach to take instead.

’09 Bryan Dawley, who grew up in Leesburg, Virginia, and fellow Virginian Rachel Beuregard formed the duo Native Run, which debuted on the Grand Ole Opry July 18, 2014. Native Run is also in the lineup for the 30th annual Country Fest, June 16-19, in Cadott, Wisconsin. Bryan credits the education he received at Shepherd with helping him pursue his dream in Nashville. “A lot of what I learned there was discipline,” he said. “That discipline to get up, do the best, and be the best musician that you can is why I’m where I am right now.” Bryan married Karrie Hardwick October 10, 2015, in Nashville, Tennessee.

’14 Kevin Pawlak has written his first book, Shepherdstown in the Civil War: One Vast Confederate Hospital, published summer 2015 by the History Press of Charleston, South Carolina. The book examines the experiences of Confederate soldiers and Shepherdstown residents in the wake of the Civil War’s Battle of Antietam in 1862. Kevin, a native of upstate New York, graduated from Shepherd with a bachelor’s degree in history with a concentration in the Civil War. He used his experience working as a seasonal park ranger at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, as a certified guide at Antietam National Battlefield, and his current position as an education specialist at the Mosby Heritage Area Association in Middleburg, Virginia, as first-hand sources for his writing. His book is available at Four Seasons Books on German Street in Shepherdstown and online at Amazon.

Dr. Katharine S. Shaffer ’04
Ray Alvarez ’62 named philanthropist of the year

Ramon “Ray” Alvarez ’62 was honored as individual philanthropist of the year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Tri-State Chapter. The annual event recognizes individuals and organizations for their contributions to charities and causes in the tri-state area. Ray is an active member of the Shepherd University Alumni Association (SUAA), Ram Gridiron Club, and a founding member of the Leadership Circle. He is vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation and has raised almost $500,000 as Foundation president for the university’s Scarborough Society. A reception was held in his honor at McMurran Hall on October 29, 2015 where Stephanie Landes, AFP Tri-State Chapter president, presented Ray with his award.

Left: Ray Alvarez ’62 wears his philanthropist of the year medallion while his wife Mary Alvarez holds the plaque presented to Ray by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Tri-State Chapter at a reception in McMurran Hall October 2015. Ray is vice president of the Shepherd University Foundation.

Dennis Frye ’79 wins Nevins-Freeman Civil War award

Dennis Frye ’79 received the 2015 Nevins-Freeman Award from the Civil War Round Table of Chicago during a ceremony on October 6, 2015, in Chicago. Dennis, who is chief historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, received the award for his work in helping the public understand Civil War history.

The author of nine books and many articles about the Civil War, Dennis is the co-founder and past president of the Civil War Trust, is a sought-after battlefield tour guide, serves on the advisory board for Shepherd’s George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, and has appeared in documentaries about the war on PBS, the History Channel, the Discovery Channel, and A&E.

The award is named for Allan Nevins and Douglas Southall Freeman, two Pulitzer Prize-winning writers and scholars of Civil War history.

Right: Dennis Frye ’79, pictured with his wife Sylvia Frye, holds the Nevins-Freeman Award he received October 9, 2015, from the Civil War Round Table of Chicago. Dennis received the award in recognition of his accomplishments as a writer, lecturer, guide, and preservationist.

Betty Lowe ’55 honored by Phi Sigma Chi

Betty Lowe ’55 was honored at the annual Phi Sigma Chi picnic meeting held in July 2015 for being named the 2014 Outstanding Alumna at Shepherd. Betty has served as president of Phi Sigma Chi alumnae of Shepherd for more than 44 years. She also continues to maintain the sorority’s scrapbook.

Left: Betty Lowe ’55 (standing, second from right) is pictured with members of Phi Sigma Chi sorority, who honored her in July 2015.
Alumni

Obituaries

WILLIAM SIGURD “BILL” JORGENSEN ’49, of Marshalltown, Iowa, died October 2, 2015. Before attending Shepherd, he was a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps and served as a sergeant in World War II. After graduating with a degree in secondary education, he had a career in sales, marketing, and consulting until retirement. He was an active member in his church, serving as elder and deacon in various congregations. He traveled throughout the U.S. and Canada and internationally.

CARROLL E. KLINE ’50, of Martinsburg, died July 4, 2015. He graduated from Shepherd with a degree in secondary education and attended Indiana State University and Shippensburg University, where he received his master’s degree. He retired from South Hagerstown, Maryland, High School as a social studies teacher in 1984. A World War II veteran, he was a fighter and bomber pilot with the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was a member of the Maryland Wing of Civil Air Patrol and owned his own airplanes. As a Civil War buff, he participated in reenactments of the Battle of Antietam as a Confederate colonel, as well as participated in the cavalry honor ride on horseback from Martinsburg to Mergusburg. He had a passion for writing poetry and was a published writer and the co-founder of the poetry club, Athens Swan Pond Greensburg area of Berkeley County, died November 10, 2015. He earned many awards throughout his teaching and athletic careers, including the Ram Award for most outstanding football player at Shepherd in 1964 and the Health and Physical Education Department Outstanding Senior Award in 1965. He was named the Young Educator of the Year in 1976 and named Administrator of the Year in 2003 by the Chamber of Commerce. That same year, he was also inducted into the Maryland State Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame. Among his survivors is daughter KELLI L. DEITERICH ’93.

IRENE YURISH ’66, of Martinsburg, died August 22, 2015. She was a retired teacher for Berkeley County Schools and had been employed for eight years with Shepherd in the Regents Bachelor of Arts Office as a part-time program assistant.

THOMAS E. SHEELY ’70, of Holtam City, Texas, died in August 19, 2015. Graduating from Shepherd with a degree in business administration, he was a life member of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter of Delta Sigma Pi and served as a regional and northern provincial vice president for the international business fraternity. He
Walter “Bud” Hersh ’75, of Martinsburg, died August 31, 2015. A summa cum laude graduate and McMurran Scholar, he previously attended Potomac State College and worked full-time for the B&O Railroad. He completed his bachelor’s degree as the first in his family to graduate from college and was hired by Fairchild Industries in Hagerstown, Maryland, where he was a senior cost estimator before rising to senior-level management positions including director of finance for Fairchild, senior vice president of programs for the Boeing 757, and quality control manager of commercial aerospace engines for Rohr Industries. Alumni among his survivors include sons Brett Hersh ’92 and Brian Hersh ’98.

Suellyn S. Small ’76, of Martinsburg, died August 14, 2015. Graduating with a major in medical technology, she was employed with Berkeley Medical Center for 39 years. She is survived by her husband of 28 years, Joseph C. Small ’78.

Lisa M. Wesley Fox ’87, of Canadigua, New York, died July 18, 2014. She graduated from Shepherd with a degree in social welfare and was a social worker at Rochester General Hospital. She was active in her local dance community and loved sailing.

Dr. James K. Leverett ’96, of Harpers Ferry, died June 22, 2015. He graduated from Shepherd’s R.B.A. program and earned his master’s degree in counseling and doctorate in education from Bowie State University. He was employed at the U.S. Job Corps in Harpers Ferry as lead counselor. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and had served in Vietnam. A member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Shepherdstown, he was president of the Martin-Leverett Association, Inc.

Sara E. Tresselt ’01, of Jefferson, Maryland, died September 11, 2015. She played softball at Shepherd and was involved with soccer and basketball before college. A recreation and leisure major, she found an interest in criminal justice and became a deputy sheriff for Loudoun County, Virginia. She was a detective with the Sex Crimes Unit of the Criminal Investigation Division and had reached the rank of sergeant. She volunteered at local soup kitchens and homeless shelters.

Brian J. Filon ’13 M.A., of Dorchester, Massachusetts, died August 17, 2015. Originally from Norristown, Pennsylvania, he completed his bachelor’s degree in communications and journalism at Shippensburg University before attending Shepherd to earn his master’s degree in college student development. At the time of his death, he was employed by Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts, in student academic services.

Outstanding Alumnus Wayne Wilson

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Dr. Walter K. Hanak, professor emeritus of history, of Shepherdstown, died January 28, 2016. He joined the faculty in 1970 and retired in 2004 after 34 years of teaching. He served as a navigator for the Douglas B-26 Invader during the Korean Conflict and continued to serve in the U.S. Air Force Reserves until he retired with the rank of colonel in 1989.

Jay Neil Stenger, assistant professor emeritus of music, of Shepherdstown, died November 10, 2015. He was director of choirs at Shepherd, during which time he established the Masterworks Chorale. A pianist, organist, singer, and conductor, he retired from Shepherd in 1998 after a 28-year teaching career. 

Outstanding Alumnus Wayne Wilson

Development in Baltimore, a nonprofit organization that focuses on remedial education, social development, and workforce training, and the Charles H. Hickey Jr. School, a Maryland Department of Juvenile Services facility in Parkville, Maryland.

After he retired from the NFL, Wilson spent 13 years working for the City of Baltimore, running a program for kids ages 13-18 who were committed to the department of juvenile justice.

After he left the job in Baltimore, Wilson’s path once again led him to Shepherdstown. For 11 years he has volunteered to help coach the Ram football team, helping wherever head coach Monte Cater needs him. Wilson said he’s served as coach for the running backs, wide receivers, and tight ends.

“Shepherdstown is a homey place. It’s somewhere where you can relax,” he said. “It’s the foundation for my success, because if it weren’t for this foundation at Shepherd, I wouldn’t have been able to attain all the things I’ve received. I see it as a thing where I’m giving back. It keeps me grounded. I’ll never forget where I came from and what has given me my success. So I wanted to come back here and share with the students who are trying to get to where I went, or to where I am, and help them.”

Wilson is proud that this year’s team made it all the way to the national championship. “The stage was huge for our guys,” he said. “When they walked out there [on the field in Kansas City, Kansas], their eyes were huge. But it was a good experience, and I was so happy for them. It was very emotional to see the joy, the happiness of getting there and being a part of something that was going to be seen nationally. The next time they get there it will be different because they’ll know what to expect.”

Wilson has fond memories of his years as a student at Shepherd, and he’s glad he’s able to give back to Shepherd by working with today’s students as they create their own good memories.

“The family atmosphere here is just so overwhelming,” he said. “When I go out to recruit athletes, I tell them ‘all you need to do is visit the campus. You visit the campus one time, and you’ll be overwhelmed with how friendly the people are.’ That’s why I’m here now. I’ve been here going on 12 years. I’ve had many opportunities to either scout for professional football or to go to another college, but my calling is here at Shepherd, to see that every athlete and student is successful.”  

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Fred Phillips ’64 and roommates remain friends for half century

It has been 51 years since Fred Phillips ’64 graduated from Shepherd University, and he made his first trip back to campus in October 2015 with his wife, Beverly.

“I was pleasantly surprised to find that a lot of the town and school looked exactly as I remembered. It will always be a special place to me,” he said. He shared stories of his time on campus with two of his closest friends, James (Jim) Millar ’64 and Steve Clem ’64. The three were roommates and shared a basement apartment in town.

Fred Phillips earned his master’s degree in European history from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He taught at Shenandoah University (then College) in Winchester, Virginia, before returning to Pittsburgh to teach in his hometown school district. He joined Canteen Corporation in a management program and was moved to Detroit, Michigan, and then Louisville, Kentucky. He retired in 2004 after 31 years with Canteen.

Jim Millar enrolled in the M.B.A. program at West Virginia University following his graduation from Shepherd, after which he taught for a year before continuing with his doctorate in finance at the University of Oklahoma. He taught at the Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas, where he was named the Dillard Endowed Chair Professor and held that position until his retirement in 2013. He taught accounting and finance at the university and in many foreign countries during that time.

Steve Clem continued in a graduate studies program in economics at the University of Delaware, after which he taught at Shenandoah in Winchester, Virginia. Steve spent 30 years in the labor union movement, working on the international staffs of the Communication Workers, United Rubber Workers, and United Steelworkers, primarily in economic research, serving as director of research and international affairs. He retired in 1998 and began working with the Ohio Employee Ownership Center at Kent State University for the next 15 years before retiring permanently.

Alumni Weekend at CATF in July

The Alumni Association invites Shepherd graduates back to campus July 22-23 for a celebratory weekend with the Contemporary American Theater Festival. Hailed by the New York Times as one of 50 Essential Summer Festivals, CATF draws thousands of people to Shepherdstown each July. In addition to presenting five fully produced plays, the festival offers free lectures, stage readings, and late-night salons. Alumni will receive discounted tickets for Alumni Weekend, and there is a special reception for SUAA members planned.

The 2016 Season features Christina Anderson’s maritime epic, pen/mon/ship; Allison Gregory’s funny and fierce, Not Medea (world premiere); Chisa Hutchinson’s stunning spectacle, The Wedding Gift (world premiere); Susan Miller’s witty and captivating, 20th Century Blues (world premiere); and Ronan Noone’s caustically funny, The Second Girl. Visit www.catf.org for more information on the plays.

For more information about CATF’s Shepherd Alumni Weekend, please follow the Alumni Association on Facebook or visit shepconnect.shepherd.edu.

Fred Phillips ’64 visited Shepherd in 2015 for the first time since he graduated. He is pictured with his wife, Bev, at McMurran Hall.

Marinoff Theater
Athletic Hall of Fame inducts four in October 2015

Four new members were inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame during a banquet held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in October 2015.

Golfer David Bradshaw ’06 and Tim Ready ’00 (football) joined three-sport athlete Cheryl Roberts ’80 and Chris Stambaugh ’95 and ’07 M.A. (tennis player and coach) as the 30th class to be inducted. The “fabulous four” bring the total number of members in the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame to 140.

Former Shepherd assistant director of athletics Joan Pope ’74 was honored as the Medallion recipient for her contributions to Shepherd athletics.

Pictured above (l. to r.) are Cheryl Roberts ’80, Chris Bradshaw ’04, who accepted the award for his brother, David Bradshaw ’06, Chris Stambaugh ’95 and ’07 M.A., and Tim Ready ’00.

Cavey ’14 named interim women’s lacrosse coach

Shepherd University director of athletics B.J. Pumroy recently announced that Jenny Cavey ’14 has been named interim head women’s lacrosse coach at Shepherd. Cavey replaces Meghan Keelan, who resigned to accept an assistant coach position at Arizona State.

Cavey, a 2014 Shepherd graduate, comes back to Shepherd after serving as an assistant coach at Hood College and most recently at McDaniel College.

Cavey was a two-time team captain who played at Shepherd from 2011-14. She started every game for the Rams over her final three seasons. The midfielder tallied 51 goals and 28 assists for 79 points for her career. Also a standout in the classroom, Cavey garnered IWLCA, WVIAC, and D2 ADA academic honors.

Cavey replaces Keelan who left Shepherd after serving as head coach for four years. Keelan departs Shepherd as the program’s all-time wins leader with a 43-21 (.671) mark. Keelan’s tenure includes Mountain East Conference regular season and tournament championships in 2015.

Jenny Cavey ’14

Chip Ransom
Athletics

Jim Taylor ’59, Shepherd’s first African-American football player, recounts his days as a trailblazer

At the beginning of the season, this year’s Ram football team, which was undefeated in the Mountain East Conference, heard a talk from a historical figure who played on Shepherd’s first-ever undefeated team in 1955. Coach Monte Cater invited Jim Taylor ’59, Shepherd’s first African-American football player, to speak to the players.

“I told them what we went through 60 years ago and how we were able to not only integrate but to be successful by going undefeated,” Taylor said.

Taylor graduated in 1951 at age 17 from Page Jackson, Charles Town’s black high school. He then served in the U.S. Navy. By the time he was discharged in 1955, Storer College, the historic black college in Harpers Ferry, had closed.

Taylor said he might have ended up going somewhere like West Virginia State College, but a lot of the local students he knew transferred to Shepherd.

“The woman who was to be my wife of almost 60 years (DOROTHY “DOT” Taylor ’59) transferred, and I was kind of following her,” he said. “So that made my mind up about Shepherd.”

When Taylor applied to Shepherd, he met with Dr. Donald E. Fuoss, who was the head football coach.

“When I went over to talk to him, he told me ‘if you are accepted at Shepherd and make the team, you will be Shepherd’s Jackie Robinson. I’m just telling you what you’re going to have to go through and what you’re going to have to take,’” Taylor said.

After Taylor left Fuoss’s office that day, he met Dr. Richard T. Mackey, division chair and assistant football coach, who extended his hand and welcomed Taylor to Shepherd.

“I felt pretty good. It seemed like everybody was pretty serious,” Taylor said. “When I was leaving, about seven or eight white football players were waiting for me to come out of the coach’s office, and they introduced themselves. I went home and thought about it and I said ‘I’m going to give it a try.’”

As Taylor recalls, the first day of practice the coach gave a talk about Taylor being a part of the team and how other teams had tried unsuccessfully to integrate. Taylor said throughout that first season, all the coaches and team captains—DICK WIDDOWS ’56, JOHN SHEarer ’56, and George HOTT ’57—kept stressing unity, that the team represented Shepherd College, that what they did or failed to do would impact future Shepherd teams, and other colleges that may be watching them.

“We did it. It was real quiet,” Taylor said. “We went on, we stayed as a unit, played as a unit, went undefeated, untied, and won the conference. I thought the way that whole thing was handled with the coaches and captains that year was very significant.”

Facing racism on the road

While Taylor found support from his teammates and didn’t encounter many problems when traveling to away games in West Virginia, he did face an uncomfortable situation during the 1955 road trip to Newport News, Virginia.

“The entire stadium was white,” Taylor said. “There were no African-Americans, and they started calling me names from the minute I walked on that field through the whole thing. That’s when we really knitted I think. The guys [on the other team] were giving me little extra hits and things. NORM JOHNSON ’58, a guy I knew from Charles Town, was one of the captains so he went to the official and told him ‘if you’re not going to call the game right for him, don’t call it right for any of us because we are a team.”’

But Taylor didn’t let the harassment get to him. Shepherd beat Newport News 46-0 that day.

“Playing football, if you let something like that bother you, it messes you up,” Taylor said. “And I knew that these guys had my back. Just before the game was over, Coach [Jesse] Rigggleman called us and said that to get me to the bus, he was going to be in the middle, and around me would be the backs and so forth, and on the outer side would be the big guys. And that’s how we went to the bus because he was afraid somebody was going to try to hurt me.”

The team rode a bus to Newport News, and they stopped on the way to eat at a Howard Johnson’s restaurant near Richmond, Virginia. Taylor said the coaches went inside to make sure the restaurant could accommodate the team and to make sure Taylor could eat there. The manager said Taylor had to eat in the kitchen. There he saw two African-Amer-
icans, one washing dishes and another helping cook.

“I never will forget this. I ordered pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, and green beans. That was going to be my meal,” Taylor said.

Coach Riggleman came to the kitchen to eat with Taylor.

“He said ‘as long as I am coach at Shepherd or anywhere and in this situation, I will never let one of my ball-players go through what you are going through,’” Taylor said. “And he started crying. He was really serious. Then they were getting ready to bring me my food—this is a true story—there were two pork chops on the plate and when the coach saw those pork chops he said ‘whoa, he’s eating the same thing that we’re having. He’s a member of this team. I want him to have steak, baked potato, and salad.’ I was upset. I was born and raised on pork chops and mashed potatoes. Anyway, I got my steak and all.”

As Taylor was leaving to get back on the bus, the black dishwasher sneaked him a bag full of cake, oranges, sandwiches, milk, and other goodies. Taylor shared the food with the player who sat next him, NORM LINEBURG ’59, as they finished the trip to Newport News.

Taylor recalls encountering another interesting situation that year when Shepherd played the District of Columbia Teachers College, a black college in Washington, D.C. He was the only black player on a white team in an all-black stadium. As the team was walking to the field from the dressing room, he remembers seeing African-Americans standing on each side.

“A little boy about 11 or 12 years old looked at me and said ‘why are you playing with them?’ I didn’t say anything and he said ‘why don’t you play for us?’ He had a jacket thrown over his shoulder, and he took it and hit me. I heard the zipper of the jacket hit my helmet.”

Taylor said that whole game was interesting because it was real quiet. There wasn’t any arguing or fighting or name-calling. He imagined everyone wondered what others were thinking. He and his teammates were quiet most of the trip home.

“It was just strange to be in that situation. It was a very interesting situation,” he said. “Little things like that, as I get older, I think about them.”

Taylor remained the only African-American on the Ram football team until his senior year when a student from Pennsylvania joined the team. Taylor also played one season of basketball in 1958. He was not the only black player on that team because two Storer College players had transferred to Shepherd in 1955. The baseball team was also integrated while Taylor was at Shepherd when an African-American joined that team.

Experiencing discrimination after college
After graduating from Shepherd, Taylor took a job as a teacher and coach at his alma mater, Page Jackson High School, which was closed in 1965 when Jefferson County schools were desegregated.

“That year I received my master of science degree from West Virginia University,” he said. “After they closed the school, my job was to teach physical education at a junior high school, and I thought that at least I would get something in biology because I was the only coach who had a master’s degree. I was at the junior high school and things were miserable, I think, because I was qualified to do more and the system was not ready for me to do anything but teach boys physically in a junior high school. It was really a major setback in my life. The principal did everything he could to make it miserable for me.”

Taylor left the Jefferson County school system for six years to work at the Harpers Ferry Job Corps. When the county built Jefferson High in 1972, Taylor was encouraged to apply for a job there. He taught biological science and anatomy and physiology and coached track, cross country, football, and basketball until his retirement in 1995. He is also a co-founder and the current president of the Jefferson County Black History Preservation Society, an organization that documents the county’s African-American history.

Taylor said he considers it “a great honor” that Coach Cater invited him to speak to this year’s Ram football team.

“There was something about that team that was special it seemed like,” Taylor said. “When I finished talking, they clapped and formed a line, and I shook each and every hand of each and every football player. That is one of the real highlights of all of my almost 82 years—to be able to talk to them and for them to respond. It just seemed like a good group of young men.”

– Cecelia Mason
The 2015 Shepherd football team recorded arguably the greatest season in program history as head coach Monte Cater guided the Rams to a record-setting 13-1 mark and a trip to the Division II national championship game. The Rams won their 20th conference title and 15th under Cater as they captured their second NCAA II Super Region One crown.

Shepherd recorded a 13-1 mark with a 10-0 record in conference play. The 13 wins are the most by a Shepherd team. The Rams reeled off three postseason wins at Ram Stadium en route to the national championship game.

**Highlights of the 2015 season**

- Head coach Monte Cater reached the 250-win mark for his career and earned conference Coach of the Year honors for the 11th time in his career at Shepherd.
- Twenty team members garnered All-Mountain East Conference honors. Junior quarterback Jeff Ziembia, Newark, Delaware, garnered MEC Offensive Player of the Year honors and senior defensive end Shaneil Jenkins, District Heights, Maryland, earned MEC Defensive Player of the Year accolades. Other first team selections for the Rams include junior wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland; senior fullback Jon Hammer, Jarrettsville, Maryland; sophomore defensive lineman Lavonte Hights, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; sophomore offensive lineman Shaneil Jenkins, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; sophomore defensive end Myles Humphrey, Upper Marlboro, Maryland; senior running back Jon Hammer, Jarrettsville, Maryland; and junior return specialist CJ Davis were named to the second team.
- Senior kicker Ryan Earls set single season records for kick scoring (109 points), field goals (18), and field goal attempts (23). Earls completed his career as the Shepherd all-time leader in kick scoring (305 points), field goals (41), field goal attempts (61), extra points (182), and extra point attempts (199).
- The Rams posted a perfect 8-0 mark at Ram Stadium. Included in those eight wins were playoff victories over Indiana (Pennsylvania) (17-13), Slippery Rock (28-16), and Grand Valley State (34-32).
- The 2015 senior class posted a 40-7 (.851) mark over the past four seasons. The 40 wins tie the mark set by the 2013 (40-8) senior class.
- Shepherd’s No. 2 final ranking in the American Football Coaches Association Division II Poll is the best in program history.

**Shepherd’s postseason run**

NCAA DII Playoffs, Second Round  
**November 28, 2015**

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<td>Ram Stadium (5,007 attendance)</td>
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Junior quarterback Jeff Ziembia teamed with junior wide receiver Billy Brown on a 28-yard scoring pass with 2:08 remaining to lift Shepherd University to a 17-13 win over Indiana University of Pennsylvania in second round action of the NCAA II playoffs at Ram Stadium.

Shepherd took a 3-0 lead when senior kicker Ryan Earls connected on a 30-yard field goal with 13:31 left in the first quarter.

IUP tied the game on a 42-yard field goal by Ryan Stewart with 9:42 left in the first quarter.

The Crimson Hawks took a 6-3 advantage when Stewart connected on a 41-yard field goal with 9:50 left in the second quarter.

IUP increased its lead to 13-3 when Ethan Cooper recovered a fumbled return of a blocked field goal for a touchdown with 12:32 left in the third quarter.

Shepherd scored on a five-yard run by junior running back Jabre Lolley, and Earls added the extra point with 12:13 left in the fourth quarter to cut the lead to 13-10.

After Shepherd took a 17-13 lead, IUP drove to the Shepherd 46-yard line, but a fourth down pass fell incomplete with 39 seconds left to seal the win for the Rams.

Ziembia completed 14-of-27 passes for 175 yards for the Rams. Lenny Williams connected on 8-of-19 passes for 126 yards for IUP. He also ran 18 times for a game-high 84 yards.

Brown led the Shepherd receivers with 11 catches for 159 yards.

Senior running back Allen Cross had 15 carries for 54 yards to pace the Rams. Chris Temple added 25 carries for 66 yards for IUP.

Shepherd gained 264 yards of total offense while IUP had 274.

Junior linebacker Octavious Thomas led the Rams on defense with nine tackles (four solo).
NCAA DII Playoffs, Super Region One
December 5, 2015
Shepherd 28
Slippery Rock 16
Ram Stadium (5,321 attendance)

Shepherd recorded a 28-16 win over Slippery Rock in Super Region One Regional football at Ram Stadium.

Slippery Rock took a 7-0 lead when Shamar Greene scored on a two-yard run with 7:55 left in the first quarter.

Shepherd tied the game when junior quarterback Jeff Ziemba teamed with junior wide receiver Tony Squirewell on a 16-yard scoring pass with 4:39 left in the second quarter.

The Rams drove 99 yards for the score after an interception by senior Keon Robinson at the Shepherd one-yard line.

Shepherd took a 13-7 lead when Ziemba teamed with junior wide receiver Billy Brown on a 74-yard scoring pass as Brown broke a would-be tackle near midfield and raced to the end zone with 10:23 left in the third quarter.

Senior running back Allen Cross rambled 10 yards for a score with 10:06 left in the third quarter to give the Rams a 25-7 lead.

Dante Nania fired a nine-yard scoring strike to Jaimire Dutrieuille to cut the lead to 25-14 with 4:32 left in the third quarter.

The Rock recorded a safety when Cody Conway tackled Ziemba in the end zone with 45 second left in the third quarter to cut the deficit to 25-16.

Shepherd took a 28-16 advantage when senior kicker Ryan Earls connected on a 27-yard field goal with 8:47 left in the game.

Robinson had a 72-yard punt return to set up the field goal.

Ziemba completed 15-of-26 passes for 255 yards for the Rams.

Brown led the Shepherd receivers with two catches for 89 yards, while Squirewell added seven receptions for 61 yards.

Cross had 13 carries for a game-high 82 yards to pace the Rams.

Ziemba gained 352 yards of total offense while Slippery Rock had 320 total yards. Each team recorded seven sacks.

Robinson led the Rams with a game-high 11 tackles (10 solo). Junior linebacker Octavius Thomas and junior cornerback CJ Davis each added nine stops.

NCAA DII Playoffs, National Semifinal
December 12, 2015
Shepherd 34
Grand Valley State 32
Ram Stadium (5,321 attendance)

For the first time in school history, Shepherd advanced to the NCAA Championship game after defeating Grand Valley State, 34-32, at Ram Stadium.

Shepherd played most of the game without starting quarterback Jeff Ziemba, who was injured on the first series. Connor Jessop came in and went 15-of-20 for 173 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions.

Allen Cross had a big day on the ground with 16 carries for 156 yards and a pair of scores. Wide receiver Billy Brown was tough to stop once again with nine catches for 132 yards and two touchdowns.

The Rams defense came up with three interceptions and held Grand Valley State to just 66 rushing yards. CJ Davis had a pick and nine tackles and broke up five passes on the day. Keon Robinson and Shaneil Jenkins each added a sack.

Shepherd grabbed a 14-3 lead in the first quarter after a Brown touchdown and a Cross 55-yard TD tote. The score remained that way until after halftime when the Lakers’ Urston Smith hauled in a touchdown pass and Marquez Gollman took a fumble in for a touchdown to take a 17-14 lead.

Cross once again gave Shepherd the lead, this time from 36 yards out. However, the PAT was blocked and GVSU returned it for two points to make it 20-19. After a Shepherd interception, Brown caught his second touchdown of the day, and then on Grand Valley’s next possession, Davis picked it off and returned it 29 yards for the score to put the Rams up 34-19.

The Lakers had one last surge scoring a touchdown with 4:38 to go and then got the ball back on downs deep in their own territory. Matt Williams caught a 35-yard touchdown pass with just 54 seconds left, but the two-point conversion was knocked away. Shepherd recovered the onside kick and took the knee for the win.

Northwest Missouri State downed Shepherd, 34-7, to capture the 2015 NCAA Division II Football Championship.

Shepherd ended its season at 13-1, while Northwest Missouri completed its season at 15-0.

Northwest Missouri State took a 7-0 lead when Jordan Grove scored on a one-yard run with 14:13 left in the first quarter.

The score was set up when Shepherd had a botched snap and the Bearcats recovered at the Shepherd five-yard line.

The Bears took a 14-0 lead when Brady Bolles teamed with Shane Williams on a one-yard touchdown pass with 6:44 left in the second quarter.

Northwest Missouri State took a 24-0 lead into the break as Simon Mathiesen booted a 38-yard field goal with 30 seconds left in the half and Bryce Enyart raced 59 yards with an interception for a score with 20 seconds left.

Shepherd got on the board when junior quarterback Jeff Ziemba teamed with (continued on page 25)
Athletics

Fall sports round-up

Men’s Soccer
The men’s soccer team finished with a 3-14 overall mark with a 1-11-0 mark in conference action.
Shepherd posted wins over Washington Adventist (3-2), Concord (1-0), and Pitt Johnstown (1-0).
Sophomore forward Jeff Kammerer, Woodstock, Maryland, led the Rams with five goals for 10 points on the year.

Women’s Soccer
The women’s soccer team finished with a 7-7-5 overall record with a 6-6-4 mark in conference play. Shepherd advanced to the MEC semifinals and battled to a scoreless tie with eventual champion West Virginia Wesleyan. Wesleyan advanced to the finals on penalty kicks.
Four Rams gained All-MEC accolades. Senior midfielder Lexi Vondrak, Harrisonburg, Virginia, garnered first team honors. Senior defender Kelsey Fletcher, Frederick, Maryland, and sophomore defender Taylor Harwood, Capon Bridge, were second team selections, while sophomore defender Regan Stout, Williamsport, Maryland, was an honorable mention selection.
Vondrak appeared and started in 18 games. She had three goals and four assists for 10 points on the season. Vondrak had one game-winning tally and a game-tying goal.
Fletcher appeared and started in 17 games. She had one assist on the year for one point. Fletcher helped anchor a Shepherd defense that posted six shutouts and allowed only one goal on six occasions.
Harwood appeared and started in 18 games. She posted one goal and four assists for six points on the year.
Stout appeared and started in 17 games. She recorded one goal for two points on the year. She was also a key component on the Shepherd defense.

Volleyball
The volleyball team finished the season with a 16-17 overall mark with a 9-7 record in conference play. The Rams advanced to the MEC Tournament semifinals before falling to eventual national champion Wheeling Jesuit.
Senior outside hitter/right side Grace Simmons, Centreville, Virginia, was named to the MEC All-Tournament Team. Simmons recorded 21 kills with a .313 attack percentage as Shepherd advanced to the tournament semifinals. She added four block assists and a pair of digs. Simmons had 13 kills in a five set win over UVa-Wise in the quarterfinals and added eight kills in a semifinal loss to 12th-ranked Wheeling Jesuit.

Men’s Golf
The men’s golf team fired a three-day total of 911 (+47) to win the MEC Men’s Championship at The Resort at Glade Springs. The Rams edged Charleston (913) by two strokes to capture their first conference title.
Junior Ryan Crabtree, Williamsport, Maryland, placed second individually with a total of 220. He was followed by junior Robert Fleming, Charles Town, (225, 4th), junior Erik Williams, Frederick, Maryland, (234, 13th), junior Joey Burkinshaw, Germantown, Maryland, (235, T-14th), and sophomore Brandon Dang, Berryville, Virginia, (238, T-20th).
Burkinshaw was named MEC Men’s Golf Player of the Week for September 23. He fired a two-round total of 143 to finish one stroke behind individual champion Evan Cox of Virginia Wesleyan at the Shenandoah Fall Invite as he led the Rams to a second place finish.

Women’s Tennis
The women’s tennis team recorded a 3-7 overall mark with a 1-5 record in MEC action. The Rams recorded wins over Lynchburg (9-0), Concord (7-2), and Hood (9-0).
Kevin Cook wins NCAA II Elite 90 award

Senior wide receiver Kevin Cook, Severna Park, Maryland, was the recipient of the Elite 90 award for the 2015 NCAA Division II Football Championship.

Cook, majoring in business administration, has a 3.95 GPA. Cook was presented with the award during the NCAA II Football Championship football banquet in Kansas City, Kansas.

The Elite 90, an award founded by the NCAA, recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in his or her sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her peers. The Elite 90 is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA’s championships.

Eligible student-athletes are sophomores or above who have participated in their sport for at least two years with their school. They must be an active member of the team, eligible for the championship, and a designated member of the squad size at the championship. All ties are broken by the number of credits completed.

Football earns prestigious Lambert Meadowlands Award

The Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) announced that the Shepherd University football team has been named the recipient of the Lambert Meadowlands Award for Division II after posting a 13-1 record and reaching the Division II Football Championship. This is the first time Shepherd won this prestigious award that is symbolic of supremacy in Eastern college football.

The award was presented at the Eastern College Football Awards Banquet, hosted by the ECAC at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on February 25.

Three Rams gain All-American honors

Three members of the Shepherd University football team were named to the 2015 D2Football.com All-America Team. Junior quarterback Jeff Ziemba, Newark, Delaware, junior wide receiver Billy Brown, Gaithersburg, Maryland, and senior defensive end Shanelle Jenkins, District Heights, Maryland, all earned honorable mention accolades.

Ziemba, a Harlon Hill award finalist and MEC Offensive Player of the Year, completed 235-of-373 passes for 3,414 yards and 30 touchdowns and was intercepted only five times. He was ranked fifth nationally in passing efficiency (163.7), 12th in passing touchdowns (30), 21st in passing yards per completion (14.53), and 24th in points responsible for (188).

Brown led the Rams with 89 receptions for 1,492 yards and 10 touchdowns. He set Shepherd single season marks in all three categories.

Jenkins, who was named a Cliff Harris Award finalist and MEC Defensive Player of the Year, recorded 41 tackles (26 solo). He had team-bests of 23.0 tackles-for-loss (-106 yards) and 13.5 sacks (-80 yards). Jenkins added three pass breakups, three forced fumbles, a fumble recovery, and a blocked kick.

Robert G. Starkey Skybox and Academic Support Center dedicated

Former Shepherd head men’s basketball coach Bob Starkey ’58 was honored at the West Virginia Wesleyan-Shepherd men’s basketball game on November 23, 2015.

Many former players were on hand to see the Robert G. Starkey Skybox and Academic Support Center dedicated to honor one of Shepherd’s coaching greats. Starkey finished his career as Shepherd’s all-time winningest coach with a 360-205 record over his 20-year career (1968-1988). His 1975-76 team posted a 33-3 mark as NCAA III Regional Champions and recorded the most wins of any collegiate basketball team that season. He had nine seasons of 20 wins or more.

Starkey served as director of athletics from 1976-1980 and had stints as an assistant football coach and head baseball coach. As a student, he excelled as a three-sport athlete at Shepherd as he earned varsity letters in football, swimming, and baseball.

Football has record-setting season

Junior wide receiver Billy Brown on a 21-yard scoring pass with 9:49 left in the third quarter. Brown set a Shepherd single season mark with his 10th touchdown grab this season.

The score was preceded by a fumble recovery by sophomore defensive back DeJuan Neal at the Bearcat 32-yard line.

Northwest Missouri State answered back with a 29-yard field goal by Mathiesen with 4:33 left in the third quarter.

Grove scored on a one-yard plunge with 8:47 left in the game to complete the scoring.


Brown led the Shepherd receivers with six catches for 95 yards. Grove had five catches for 104 yards to pace the Bearcats.

Cross had 11 carries for 27 yards to pace the Rams. Phil Jackson had 21 carries for a game-high 109 yards for Northwest Missouri State.

Northwest Missouri gained 462 yards of total offense while Shepherd totaled 97 yards. Sophomore linebacker James Gupton led the Shepherd defense with a game-high 19 tackles (11 solo). Junior linebacker Octavius Thomas added 10 stops (eight solo).
Foundation

Foundation’s donors and scholars reception held November 2015

Shepherd’s interim president, Dr. Sylvia Manning, and the Shepherd University Foundation hosted the biennial reception for donors and scholars on Sunday, November 8, 2015 in the Erma Ora Byrd Hall atrium. Student scholarship and faculty excellence recipients, their families and friends, prominent faculty and staff members, representatives from university leadership boards, and Shepherd alumni and friends who have established awards were among the 250 guests at the event.

The afternoon featured messages from Manning, Shepherd University Foundation Executive Vice President Monica Lingenfelter, and Foundation board member Robert Jensenius ’72. Summa cum laude graduate Bonnie Bailey ’15 also spoke about her experience as the recipient of six Foundation scholarships.

The program was highlighted by two student performances. Junior Malik “Mouse” Harleston, an English major from Washington, D.C., and member of the football team, gave a spoken word performance titled “Student Athlete.” This was followed by a rendition of “Small Umbrella in the Rain” from the musical Little Women performed by Henry DeBuchananne, a junior environmental sustainability major from Harpers Ferry, and Chaste Martin, a freshman vocal performance major from Bunker Hill and a Foundation scholar. They were accompanied by pianist Matthew Jefferson.

More than 500 endowed and annually funded scholarship and faculty excellence awards are provided through gifts to the Foundation. If you would like to learn more about creating a named award, or would like to donate to an existing fund, please contact the Shepherd University Foundation at P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown, WV 25443, 304-876-5397, mlingenf@shepherd.edu, or visit us on the web at www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org.

Scarborough Society Gala to travel to Oz in August

The 15th annual Scarborough Society Gala will be held Friday, August 12 at 6 p.m. at the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown. This year’s theme, inspired by L. Frank Baum’s novel The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, will transport guests over the rainbow and down the Yellow Brick Road to the enchanted Emerald City for an evening of dinner and dancing. For more information about the gala, visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org. To receive an invitation, contact the Foundation office at 304-876-5397.

Foundation’s Joseph P. McMurrnan Society annual dinner scheduled for May 14

Each spring, members of the Joseph P. McMurrnan Society and their guests are honored at the organization’s annual dinner reception. The Joseph P. McMurrnan Society recognizes alumni and friends who have generously chosen to support Shepherd University through estate and other planned gifts.

Sponsored by the Shepherd University Foundation and hosted by President Mary J.C. Hendrix ’74, the annual dinner reception will feature a four-course dinner prepared by Chef Scott Anderson and Shepherd University Catering. The Joseph P. McMurrnan Society dinner reception will be held on Saturday, May 14 at 6 p.m. in the atrium of Erma Ora Byrd Hall.

If you would like to receive an invitation, please contact Monica Lingenfelter at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu. For more information about the Joseph P. McMurrnan Society, visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org.
Attention former McMurran Scholars!

Shepherd will celebrate the 55th anniversary of the prestigious McMurran Scholar award on April 22. The McMurran Scholars Association (MSA) is planning special events to welcome former McMurran Scholars back to campus, including a dinner reception and the McMurran Scholars Convocation.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Brennan at the Shepherd University Foundation at 304-876-5195 or sbrennan@shepherd.edu. To review a complete schedule of events, visit the Foundation online at www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org.

Foundation bids farewell to two board members, welcomes one

The Shepherd University Foundation honored two of its longtime directors at its annual meeting on September 17, 2015. Susan “Sue” Mentzer-Blair ’72 and Ken Boone ’76 both served with distinction on the Foundation’s Board of Directors for many years.

Sue, a guidance counselor at Middletown High School in Maryland, and her husband, Bill, continue to be actively involved with the Shepherd University Alumni Association, Scarborough Society, and Joseph P. McMurran Society.

Ken led the Ram Stadium expansion campaign, during which time the Ken Boone Field House was constructed. As former president of the Alumni Association, he also founded the annual Alumni Golf Tournament. Ken is an ardent supporter of the Ram football and band programs. He is the president of Tidewater Direct, LLC in Centreville, Maryland.

The Foundation welcomes new director Robert “Bobby” H. Chuey II ’91 to the board. Bobby is a graduate of Shepherd’s Regents Bachelor of Arts (R.B.A.) program and went on to co-found LSP Data Solutions in Washington, D.C., where he serves as managing partner. A former member and manager of the men’s basketball team, he was inducted into Shepherd’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. Bobby resides in Washington, D.C.

Second annual Seeding Your Future event held with WISH Grant support

Shepherd University hosted its second annual Seeding Your Future Conference on Saturday, October 3, 2015. Directed by Dr. Jordan Mader and Dr. Sytill Murphy, both professors in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, the Seeding Your Future Conference strives to increase girls’ interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) areas by hosting a one-day event for students in grades 5-8. The free conference had participants from Jefferson, Berkeley, and Morgan counties, as well as some students from Virginia and Maryland. Led by Shepherd faculty members and student volunteers, the student participants experienced several fun and educational activities, ranging from launching a weather balloon to learning how to type blood.

The Seeding Your Future Initiative received the inaugural Shepherd learning project WISH (Women Investing in Shepherd) grant in the amount of $26,250, which allowed the conference to expand the number of registrants to more than 100 last year. Through the WISH Grant, the program has also been able to offer monthly workshops to high school students. Topics for these workshops have included Dangerous Drugs on Your Money, which examined the contamination of currency by drug molecules, and You Spin Me Right Round, which explored how to build an efficient and functional wind turbine.

Please visit www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org and click on Get Involved for more information on the 2015 WISH Grant recipients or to learn how to apply for future grants.
The Shepherd University Foundation announces new named funds which recognize donors for their contributions to Shepherd University or offers them the opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one. The awards provided through these funds will support the educational future of Shepherd students.

**Samuel O. Legreid Student Research Presentation Award**

Dr. Ann Marie Legreid, dean of Shepherd’s School of Business and Social Sciences, established the **Samuel O. Legreid Student Research Presentation Award** in memory of her father, Samuel Oliver “Sammie” Legreid, who passed away in November 2014. The middle child of five siblings, Sammie, as the eldest son, left school at age 14 to work on his family’s Wisconsin dairy farm after his father died unexpectedly from a blood clot following surgery on the eve of the great stock market crash. The Depression and war prevented Sammie from attending college, but he was a resourceful person who went on to farm continuously for the next 75 years. Sammie served on his township and church boards, delivered children by carry-all to the local school, and sang bass in his church choir all while tending his fields. Though he loved farming, he was also a lifelong proponent of education at all levels, encouraging his daughter, Ann Marie, to pursue the higher education that eluded him.

Dr. Legreid discovered her love of geography while backpacking around Europe for an independent study project as an undergraduate in college. “I realized geography was my calling,” she said, adding that even as a child she enjoyed studying maps and atlases.

Legreid believes her training and career as a cultural and urban economic geographer has prepared her well for the work she does as a dean at Shepherd due to the interdisciplinary nature of the role. As an advocate of community outreach and civic engagement within the campus community, she chose to designate this award in her father’s name to undergraduates at Shepherd whose student projects have been advised primarily by faculty in the School of Business and Social Sciences.

**New address? New email?**

To update your Shepherd record, please contact Sarah Brennan at 304-876-5195 or sbrennan@shepherd.edu.

**Rob Bradford Memorial Scholarship**

Shepherd University Athletic Hall of Fame inductee Rob Bradford ’87 was a powerful presence both on and off the football field. The Germantown, Maryland, native played for the Rams on two WVIAC championship teams in 1983 and 1986, the latter of which saw him complete 51 catches for a school record of 1,121 yards. That same year, he had nine touchdown receptions, tying a school record.

Off the field, Rob had a passion for coaching youth sports while working as an RVP for Crothall Healthcare, Inc. for more than two decades. In 2004, Rob was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, to which he succumbed in December 2014. Following his diagnosis, he planned a nonprofit golf tournament and casino night he called Coach Rob’s Benefit Bash, which he continued annually throughout his decade-long cancer battle to raise money for multiple myeloma research and patient care.

In 2015, Robert “Bobby” Chuey ’91 and Greg Cooke ’87 spearheaded an effort to create the annually funded **Rob Bradford Memorial Scholarship** as a way to honor their former teammate. “Rob’s competitive nature and toughness on the football field was second only to his battle against cancer,” said Cooke. “This scholarship was set up to honor his willingness to give everything he had on the football field and in the way he lived his life.”

The Rob Bradford Memorial Scholarship is designated for members of the football team with preference given to West Virginia and Maryland. To contribute to the scholarship fund, contact Aaron Ryan at 304-876-5327 or aryan@shepherd.edu, or make an online gift at [www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org](http://www.shepherduniversityfoundation.org).

**McMurran Scholars Association Endowed Scholarship**

The annual **McMurran Scholars Association Scholarship** was established in 2011 in honor of the 50th anniversary celebration of the prestigious McMurran Scholar award, the highest academic honor granted by Shepherd University. Created by the McMurran Scholars Association (MSA) and designated for McMurran Scholars who are pursuing graduate work at Shepherd, it holds the honor of being the first privately funded scholarship for Shepherd's graduate program, having funded a $1,000 scholarship each year in the four years since its inception. In celebration of the McMurran Scholar award’s 55th anniversary in April, the MSA has challenged all McMurran Scholars to make gifts to endow the McMurran Scholars Association Scholarship so that it may continue to financially assist deserving graduate students in perpetuity. As always, the MSA welcomes all McMurran Scholars interested in donating their time and talent to the organization.
Charles Victor Perry Memorial Scholarship

The Charles Victor Perry Memorial Scholarship was established by Dr. Doris Burkey '88 and her husband, Michael, in memory of Doris’s son, who passed away in 1976 at 11½ months old from viral meningitis. His passing inspired Dr. Burkey to pursue a career in nursing, despite being a young single mother at the time. “I was determined that if I wanted nursing bad enough, I could do it,” she said. “And I wanted to do it in his memory. That’s how my career started. I love nursing; it’s my life.”

After receiving her L.P.N. in 1981, Burkey went on to earn her associates degree in nursing from Shepherd in 1988, followed by her bachelor of science in nursing (B.S.N.), master’s of science in nursing (M.S.N.) with nurse family practitioner, and finally her doctor of nursing practice (D.N.P.). Over the years, she has taught nursing at both Shepherd and West Virginia University, in addition to working in clinics in West Virginia in Morgantown, Weeville, and Berkeley Springs and in Maryland in Cumberland and Hancock. She recently returned to her alma mater full-time to serve as an assistant professor of nursing in Shepherd’s new doctor of nursing practice program, the first doctorate-level program offered by Shepherd. She also coordinates the family nurse practitioner track of the program. As soon as she learned of the position, she thought it would be a perfect fit, both professionally and personally.

“Establishing a scholarship in Chuck’s memory is something I’ve always wanted to do, but I couldn’t decide where to do it,” she explained. “When I came to Shepherd, I decided this was the perfect place.” The annually funded Charles Victor Perry Memorial Scholarship is designated for nursing students with financial need, with preference given to residents of West Virginia.

Brickstreet Scholars Program

In December 2015, the BrickStreet Foundation designated a generous and transformational gift of $500,000 to endow the BrickStreet Scholars scholarship program through the Shepherd University Foundation. Since 2005, BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company has been assisting West Virginia workers and employers by improving the medical and compensation benefits for workers who are injured on the job while reducing costs for employers.

The BrickStreet Scholars fund will provide 10 scholarships each year in perpetuity. Greg Burton, president and CEO, said, “Helping families of injured workers in West Virginia is something our board feels very strongly about, and we want to give back to the communities in which we live and work. This is a fundamental part of our core values at Brickstreet.”

BrickStreet’s generous donation will permanently endow the BrickStreet Scholars Program, providing 10 academic scholar-
Leave a legacy

Rubye Clyde McCormick passed away in 1993, a quiet and unassuming retired school teacher. So, it came as somewhat of a shock to the local community to learn, upon the settlement of her estate, that she had actually been quite affluent.

Rubye died only a few months after her husband, Robert. The couple had lived modestly in Charles Town for many years. Robert was a member of the same McCormick family that owned the historic spice company, McCormick & Company, Inc., based in Baltimore. He had, in fact, worked for the organization in his younger years before moving to a Jefferson County farm.

While Rubye was not as active in the community as her husband, an avid outdoorsman, acquaintances say she was nonetheless fond of it and often gave money to local organizations that contributed to the quality of life in the Eastern Panhandle. This philanthropic spirit became especially clear when she and her husband willed their estate to local schools, fire departments, libraries, and other area organizations—including a sizable gift to Shepherd University.

More than two decades later, Rubye Clyde McCormick’s legacy lives on through the scholarships created through her bequest. Her endowed fund supports annual scholarship awards designated as prestigious for students in the Honors Program. These awards provide a high level of financial support to scholars who demonstrate extraordinary academic and leadership potential.

As an undergraduate, Shepherd alumna Cathleen “Cate” Johnson ’07 embodied the very essence of the Rubye Clyde McCormick scholarships, as well as Rubye’s own civic-minded spirit. A four-year recipient of the McCormick Prestigious Scholarship, Cate was a member of the Honors Program as well as a campus leader throughout her time at Shepherd. Ultimately, she was named a McMurran Scholar, the highest academic honor granted by Shepherd.

The summer before her senior year, Cate, a political science major with a minor in history, traveled to Uganda with the Global Youth Partnership for Africa. There she witnessed the effects of the country’s 20-year-long civil war, including refugee settlements known as Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps, and became interested in focusing her senior thesis on the government’s post-conflict resettlement and reconstruction efforts. And so with the aid of her scholarship money, Cate returned to Uganda on her own several months later during Shepherd’s winter recess to conduct interviews and collect information for the project.

“I could have never gained the information I needed for my research without traveling to Uganda,” she said. “Being there, I was able to see the action firsthand and meet personally with the major players.”

But Cate’s trip proved enlightening on a more personal level as well. “Traveling to the developing world gave me an opportunity to use strengths and talents I didn’t know I had,” she said. “It was intimidating, but it also taught me about my own self-sufficiency. And it sparked my love of international travel. I learned that I thrive on it.”

So strong was the lure of her newfound passion that Cate set off for the Southeast Asian nation of Timor-Leste with her husband immediately following their graduation from Shepherd in 2007. Together they spent several months volunteering in a children’s home from which they would go on to adopt two daughters, both teenagers in high school now. The eldest wants to attend Shepherd next year.

Over the years, Cate has continued to invoke Rubye Clyde McCormick’s legacy of helping communities in need, particularly in Timor-Leste, where she often focuses her charitable time and talent. While working toward her master’s degree in human geography from West Virginia University, she returned with her two daughters to their birthplace to live for six months as she conducted research on her graduate thesis, which focused on empowering young women and challenging gender norms.

Though she continues to travel extensively, Cate now calls Morgantown home. As a program coordinator in WVU’s ASPIRE Office, she helps students win nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships, many of which include study abroad opportunities. She also works administratively under the Honors College, teaching geography and conducting study abroad trips.

The fact that she, as a former recipient of a scholarship established on the premise of leadership and civic-mindedness, now helps undergraduate students earn similar scholarships is not lost on Cate. “I feel like it’s really come full circle,” she said.

Kristin Alexander
Foundation announces new named funds

(continued from page 29)

Mark H. Curley Endowment

When Dr. Mark Curley first became aware of the Canadian Parliament Internship Program in 2007, he immediately thought it would be an excellent fit for Shepherd University. “I had the occasion to visit Shepherd some years ago and was impressed by the faculty, students, and the rich environment,” he said, noting that he felt Shepherd’s landscape, history, programs, and proximity to D.C. were all conducive to motivation in the context of higher education. Since then, the longtime friend to Shepherd has annually funded political science majors to travel to Ottawa, Ontario, during summer recess to participate in the workings of a parliamentary form of government, giving them a unique opportunity to learn about Canadian political affairs.

A native Canadian, Dr. Curley is a former banker turned college professor who spent 40 years living and working in Cleveland, Ohio, before returning to Quebec to teach English at a two-year college in the small, sub-Arctic town of Chibougamau. He has now chosen to establish the Mark H. Curley Endowment, a deferred gift that will support the Canadian Parliament Internship Program in perpetuity.

“I wanted to ensure that it will continue long beyond my lifetime,” said Curley, who takes a personal interest in every student he sponsors. In 2015, Graham Scott was one of two students selected by Shepherd’s political science faculty to travel to Ottawa as part of the Canadian Parliament Internship Program. Upon learning that the experience inspired Graham to pursue a career in foreign policy, Curley said, “It’s gratifying to learn that it can help solidify students’ decision-making about their future.” (Read more about Graham Scott’s experience with the Canadian Parliament Internship Program on page 34.)

Brian J. Filon Memorial Scholarship

Patricia Filon established the Brian J. Filon MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP in memory of her son, a 2013 graduate of Shepherd’s College Student Development Administration (CSDA) master’s degree program. Brian went on to work in student affairs at Tufts University outside of Boston. “He just liked being around the students,” said his mother. “He liked the involvement and the entire collegiate atmosphere. It was in his heart.”

After Brian’s untimely death in 2015, Patricia began visiting Shepherdstown with Brian’s beloved pitbull-mastiff mix, Rueben, whom he adopted from the Humane League in Hagerstown, Maryland, where he worked throughout college. She says both Rueben and spending time in the community her son so loved help to keep his memory alive. She also chose to create the annually funded Brian J. Filon MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP in support of Shepherd students in their second year of the CSDA program, a 36-credit-hour graduate program for those who are interested in pursuing or advancing a career in collegiate student affairs or enrollment management. “I’m trying to do positive things in his memory,” she said.
Scholarships further the mission of business fraternity

For the Epsilon Kappa chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, Shepherd’s co-ed professional business fraternity, promoting scholarship is first and foremost in its mission to teach and exemplify professionalism.

“Professionalism is the key goal of our organization,” said Denise Wells, senior vice president of the chapter. “We want to help our brothers advance in their individual careers.”

It is a testament to the enduring success of the small but mighty chapter that three student scholarships have been established through the Shepherd University Foundation in support of Delta Sigma Pi. All three—the Richard A. Keplinger Scholarship, Tony Del-Colle Endowed Scholarship, and Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association Scholarship—were created as a result of the impact the fraternity has had on its members.

Because academic enhancement is the fraternity’s highest priority, the Epsilon Kappa chapter appoints a scholarship coordinator to disseminate information about the scholarship awards. Kayla Dillon, a senior accounting major from Richmond, Virginia, acknowledges that it’s an atypical office for a Greek organization.

“We’re definitely more focused on professionalism and advancing our brothers in the business world,” she said. “We’re here to serve our community.”

Being the recipient of a privately funded scholarship herself has increased Kayla’s awareness of the significance of her office.

“I recognize the importance of scholarships and taking advantage of those opportunities when they’re offered,” she said. “I feel like that has translated into my role as scholarship coordinator and made me more passionate about it.”

In addition to promoting scholarship opportunities, Delta Sigma Pi focuses the majority of its efforts as an organization on professional events and community service. Professional events are scheduled twice a month on average and include presentations about résumé building, interview skills, and business communication and etiquette.

At 19 members, the chapter is small compared to its national brethren, but it is active and thriving, thanks in part to the support of its dynamic alumni chapter. “They’re our lifeline,” said Denise. “They’re interested in our events, they give us ideas—they just really help us keep the aim and goal of our chapter.”

Despite having a near equal number of male and female members as of the fall 2015 pledge class, every member is referred to as a brother.

“I like the term ‘brothers’ because it shows the connection and unity of the group. We’re all different, but that term is the one thing that ties us together,” said scholarship recipient Keani Chinn.

Kristin Alexander

Every gift tells a story

It is a testament to the enduring influence and camaraderie of the Epsilon Kappa chapter of Delta Sigma Pi that three student scholarships have been named in recognition of its alumni.

Richard A. Keplinger Scholarship

Richard Keplinger ’01 graduated cum laude from Shepherd with a double major in marketing and political science. He served as president of the Delta Sigma Pi Epsilon Kappa chapter and learned many important life and leadership skills as a result of his involvement with the organization. After his untimely death in 2004, Richard’s mother, Nancy Keplinger, and grandmother, Katherine Cyr, established the Richard A. Keplinger Scholarship in his memory. The application-based award is designated exclusively for members of the Delta Sigma Pi based on demonstrated leadership and actions.

Tony Del-Colle Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Michael and Carol Del-Colle established the Tony Del-Colle Endowed Scholarship in memory of their son, a nontraditional business student at Shepherd who lost his life in a car accident in 1990. Michael and Carol felt strongly that Tony’s involvement with the brothers of Delta Sigma Pi ultimately encouraged him to succeed in school and wished to honor this commitment to education by establishing a scholarship to assist other nontraditional students. The award is intended for nontraditional students from Jefferson County who do not go directly from high school to college and who exhibit financial need.

Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association Scholarship

The Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa chapter was originally established on a trial basis under skepticism from the international fraternity that an institution the size of Shepherd would be able to sustain a chapter. The organization not only survived, it prospered. Shepherd has since gone on to graduate many regional directors, district directors, and provincial vice presidents of the Delta Sigma Pi organization, all of whom share the common bond of brotherhood. It was this bond that led to the establishment of the Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association Scholarship using funds from the sale of the organization’s property in Shepherdstown. The application-based award is intended for members of the fraternity. Recipients are selected by the Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association.
Keani Chinn
Richard A. Keplinger Scholarship

A senior double majoring in accounting and business administration, Keani Chinn joined Delta Sigma Pi in the second semester of her freshman year. She has since held numerous offices before her current role as chapter president. The Honolulu, Hawaii, native learned of Shepherd through a family friend who lives in Charles Town and ultimately chose to enroll due to Shepherd’s proximity to Washington, D.C. She credits the fraternity with broadening her professional horizons and now hopes to attend the West Coast-based Financial Academy for Charles Schwab following her May 2016 graduation.

“Being in DSP has helped me find these types of opportunities,” she said. “It’s helped me grow in the business world and learn how to effectively communicate and network.”

Keani is the recipient of the Richard A. Keplinger Scholarship. Established in memory of a beloved former Epsilon Kappa president, it is a merit-based award with a competitive application process.

Michael Rouse
Tony Del-Colle Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Michael “Mykie” Rouse enrolled in Shepherd in 2013 after retiring from a 21-year career in the Navy. “I figured it was time to get my degree so I could start the next chapter of my life,” said the Canton, Ohio, native, who chose to settle in Kearneysville to be near his godson.

A business major with a focus on human resources, Mykie hopes to work in protocol or public policy following his May 2016 graduation. As a nontraditional student from Jefferson County, Mykie was both flattered and humbled upon learning he had been recommended for the Tony Del-Colle Endowed Memorial Scholarship by Delta Sigma Pi faculty advisor Dr. Gordon DeMeritt.

“It’s definitely given me a bit more breathing room financially,” he said. “I’m not working right now—school is my full-time job. Because of this scholarship, that’s all I need to focus on.”

Denise Wells
Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association Scholarship

For Denise Wells, Delta Sigma Pi was a haven at Shepherd. “I was a freshman economics major trying to find my niche in college,” she said. “I attended a few DSP recruitment events and just knew that this was where I was supposed to be.”

Having been an active member of the student body in her large Catholic high school in Hagerstown, Maryland, the junior from Falling Waters was eager to become involved in the fraternity upon her initiation and immediately took on the leadership position of vice president of pledge education. As the current senior vice president of the undergraduate chapter, Denise said being named the recipient of the Delta Sigma Pi, Epsilon Kappa Alumni Association Scholarship is especially gratifying.

“I feel it’s recognition that I do a good job in my role in the chapter,” she said, adding, “Because it’s from the alumni chapter, there is a personal connection. It really means everything to me.”
Graham Scott was a senior in high school when an AP government class he was taking inspired him to pursue a political science degree in college. Four years later, the senior from Buckhannon, who plans to graduate in May, says it’s the best decision he made upon enrolling at Shepherd University—followed closely by two opportunities he pursued outside the classroom that were made possible, in part, by private gifts through the Shepherd University Foundation.

“My educational experiences at Shepherd have provided me with many opportunities, as well as challenges,” Graham wrote in a 2015 letter expressing gratitude for having been awarded the James S. Hafer Memorial Scholarship in his junior year. Established by the Hafer family and contributed to by former students, the scholarship honors the late James Stanley Hafer, a beloved history and political science professor at Shepherd. It is designated specifically for political science majors.

For Graham, the scholarship helped fund a professor-led study abroad trip to Europe that spanned three weeks and six countries and ultimately proved to be a life-changing experience. As a political science major with a minor in history, the excursion appealed to both his personal and educational interests, and piqued his curiosity in international studies and foreign politics.

Back home, Graham learned of Shepherd’s Canadian Parliament Internship Program, created by Dr. Mark Curley, a native Canadian and friend of Shepherd University. Since 2007 the program has annually funded students to travel to Ottawa, Ontario, during summer recess to participate in the workings of a parliamentary form of government. In 2014, Curley made a deferred gift to establish the Mark H. Curley Endowment, which will continue to support the Canadian Parliament Internship Program in perpetuity. (Learn more about the Mark H. Curley Endowment on page 31.)

Participants in the Canadian Parliament Internship Program are selected by Shepherd’s political science faculty. Excited by the prospect of another chance to study abroad, Graham decided to pursue the internship and was one of two Shepherd students selected to take part in summer 2015. The experience once again proved pivotal.

“It was a good time to be there because an election was taking place, so there was a lot of political activity,” said Graham. In addition to gaining invaluable knowledge and skills working in a Canadian parliamentary office, Graham also had the opportunity to visit the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa, where he listened to a presentation by U.S. diplomats. Professional inspiration struck again, as Graham began to consider going into foreign civil service.

“I feel like it possibly helped shape my career,” he said of his visit to the Embassy. “I like the idea of working to facilitate positive communication and relations between the U.S. and other countries.”

Upon his return to the States, Graham sent Dr. Curley a note of thanks, along with some pictures of his travels. In return, his benefactor invited him to visit the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C., which Graham looks forward to doing. He also plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master’s degree in international politics before setting forth on his chosen career path.

“The Canadian Parliament internship...
Graham Scott
(continued from previous page)
and study abroad trip] have furthered my education outside the classroom,” Graham said of the two defining experiences in his college career. “It’s because of my scholarships that I was able to take advantage of these opportunities.”

Kristin Alexander
Privately funded gifts help shape students’ lives
In an age of rising college tuition costs, the financial benefits of student scholarships are clear and demonstrable. But less tangible are the many ways in which these privately funded gifts help shape the overall lives of the students who receive them—their experiences, their careers, even their fundamental ideals.

If you would like to make a gift of any size to Shepherd University and help make a difference in the lives of deserving Shepherd students, the Foundation stands ready to help. Please contact Monica Lingenfelter, executive vice president of the Foundation, at 304-876-5397 or mlingenf@shepherd.edu.

Sonya Evanisko
(continued from page 5)
Pittsburgh, and Washington, D.C., so students have the opportunity to see art and experience culture in person. Evanisko has taken students abroad numerous times to Europe, Africa, China, and South America to visit museums. She organized three trips to Peru that involved hiking the Inca trail and trekking through Machu Picchu.

Throughout her career, Evanisko has had to balance her roles as a parent, professor, and working artist. Aside from her teaching and advising duties at Shepherd, Evanisko contributes to the community by serving as a juror and helping organize community art exhibitions, helping select films for the American Conservation Film Festival, and starting the Town Run Community Garden, a one-acre native woodland garden that provides green space for the community and campus. Evanisko runs her own art studio, and her work has been exhibited in New York City, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and all over the East Coast.

Evanisko was an invited exhibiting artist representing America in the 1999 Biennale of Contemporary Art in Florence, Italy, and most recently her work was included in the Brooklyn Library Sketchbook Tour exhibit that traveled throughout the United States and Canada.

The Faculty Merit Foundation was created in 1984 to recognize and reward innovation and creativity among the faculties of West Virginia’s public and private colleges and universities. Win or lose, Evanisko said she is excited to be one of the five finalists.

“I do what I do here because I feel like it’s my life’s calling,” she said. “I feel so fortunate for the sheer fact that I’m able to do this for a living—something I’m so passionate about. So when someone is highlighting you, thanking you for what you do, it’s rewarding.”

Cecelia Mason

“An M.B.A. from Shepherd University helped me get the job of my dreams.”

Amanda Vance ’11 and ’14 M.B.A.

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Rams defeat Grand Valley State in DII semifinal, appear in national championship game for the first time

For the first time in school history, Shepherd advanced to the NCAA DII Championship game after defeating Grand Valley State, 34-32, at Ram Stadium, December 12, 2015. Ram Stadium was packed with 5,321 Ram fans in attendance. Shepherd recorded a 13-1 mark with a 10-0 record in conference play. The 13 wins are the most by a Shepherd team. The Rams reeled off three postseason wins at Ram Stadium en route to the national championship game in Kansas City, Kansas, where they fell to Northwest Missouri State, 34-7.